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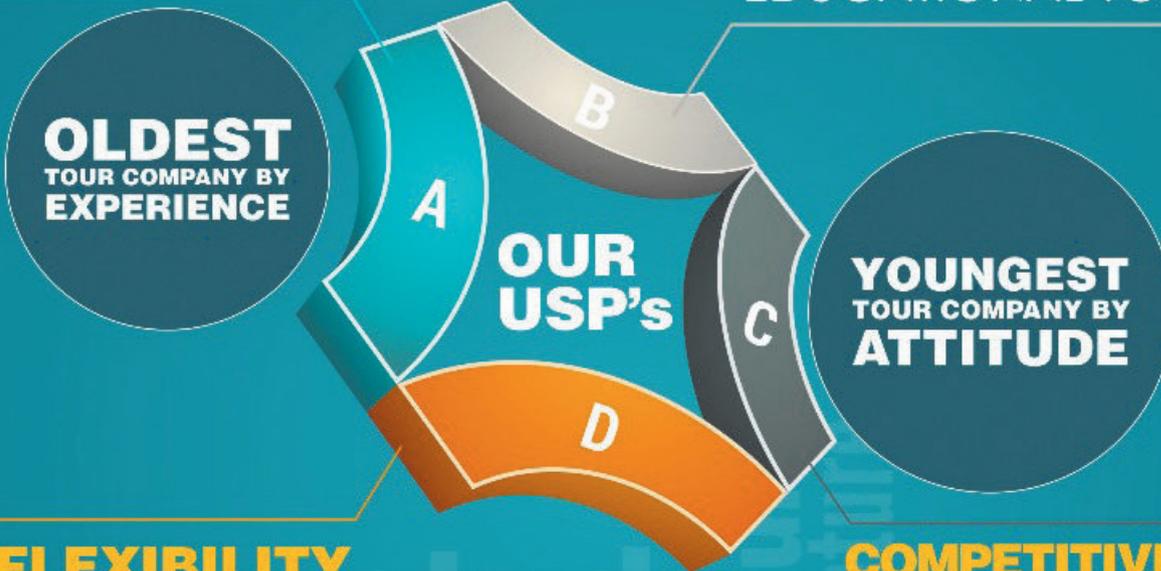
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RNI NO. DELENG/2012/44082

Vol. VIII-NO.3

A Publication of The Indian Federation of United Nations Associations, New Delhi Quarterly : July 2019

PRINTED BY

**Suresh Kumar Srivastava**  
Secretary General, IFUNA

PUBLISHED BY

**Suresh Kumar Srivastava**  
On behalf of  
The Indian Federation of United Nations Associations,  
New Delhi

**PUBLISHED AT**  
IFUNA

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New Delhi-110016  
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Printed at: Pran Printers Pvt. Ltd.  
B-157, Okhla Industrial Area,  
Phase-I, New Delhi - 20,  
Ph. : 011-41664111



**Former Prime Minister of India I.K.Gujral addressing WFUNA 2nd Asia Pacific Model United Nations Conference organized by IFUNA at New Delhi.**

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## TARGET-\$5TRILLION

One should appreciate the anxiety of Prime Minister Modi on 'professional pessimists' in achieving \$5 trillion economy by 2025 and rise to number 3 position in the world. In 2004 India was on the world's 11th biggest economy position. Unfortunately there was no progress and the position remained the same till 2014. It is said 'Professional Pessimism' was also responsible for it to great extent. However situation improved during the five years period of Narendra Modi Government and it jumped to the sixth position between 2014 to 2019 against all the odds. Now the prime minister wants to take the country to 3rd position by achieving \$5trillion economy by 2025.

There are some who have expressed doubts on this ambitious target of \$5-trillion economy. Pessimists speak negative and commented, it is not an easy task, as continuously falling growth numbers and the gathering clouds over the global economy with many warnings that the world is headed to a far deeper recession than what it went through in 2008 spawned by the sub-prime crisis in the US. There is also expectation of plunging corporate sales and profits, and deepening crisis in the shadow banking space. It may be accepted to some extent but it should not be tackled with a negative approach and pessimistic view. "This tendency to stress the negative or unfavorable or to take the gloomiest possible view", Prime Minister Modi, observed, "We have seen too much defeatism, too much pessimism, too much of a negative approach," His view reflects in the statement of the chief economic advisor to the Union finance minister Krishnamurthy Subramanian who exuded confidence in the economy swelling to a \$5-trillion giant by 2025. Subramanian also observed that though the GDP grew to \$1 trillion during the first 55 years of our Independence during the past five years, between 2014 and 2019, it grew from \$1.7 trillion to \$2.7 trillion, and we are on course to be a \$3 trillion economy now. He had also added that to hit the \$5 trillion target, the economy should grow 8 percent in real terms in each of the next five years, saying the high target is "definitely achievable." This progressive policy of the government should be welcome by all concerned in achieving the dream target with determination in the interest of the country. The people have given a massive mandate to Prime Minister Modi knowing well that he is the person who believes in things done. Negativity is not in his dictionary. We believe pessimists will take a note of it and move to the new dictum acknowledged by U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo "Modi hai to mumkin hai."

— Pran Mohan Parvatiyar  
[pmparvatiyar@gmail.com](mailto:pmparvatiyar@gmail.com)



PM Modi in his opening address at the fifth meeting of the Governing Council of Niti Aayog said that the goal to make India a five-trillion-dollar economy

# 'VARANASI'

## Spiritual & Cultural Capital of India

*An Abode of solace and salvation*  
by Suresh Srivastava



**SURESH SRIVASTAVA**  
Secretary General  
– IFUNA

**R**ECENTLY, I got an opportunity to visit Varanasi. Last time when I visited Varanasi was in the year 2013 and before that I had the privilege of visiting Varanasi in the year 1960 when Varanasi was a calm and quiet place. The famous Vishwanath Temple was in a small street and adjacent to a Gyan Vyapi Mosque. There were no big queue and I was able to get Darshan within thirty minutes. In the year 2013 the queue for Darshan of Shri Vishwanath Temple was so big that after in the queue for more than five hours I got desperate, left the place and feeling very sad without Darshan.

Now, when I along with some foreign guests visited in June, 2019 we were all really surprised the Varanasi has undergone a vast change. We registered ourselves online for Darshan of Shri Vishwanath Temple. We were given time for 6.00 AM and Pandit appointed by the management accompanied us after reaching Temple we came out within 30 minute after having Darshan of Lord Vishwanath. What was most surprising that now the temple of the Lord Vishwanath and Gyan Vyapi Mosque are separated and the devotees have no difficulty in Darshan because all the structure in and around temple

has been removed and is in process of further removing the structures around temple. We were informed that a good amount of compensation has been paid to all the land lords and tenants in the vicinity of the temple. It is really surprising to see how Modi Ji has changed Varanasi within five years and Varanasi is on its way to become Kyoto, the Japanese Town famous for its temples.

For the first time in the India's history, river transport has began starting with Varanasi. We had the opportunity to travel in Alaknanda Cruise which gives a vivid picture of all Ghats of Varanasi including the opportunity to see Ganga's Aarti at Dashashwamedh Ghat. This was a mesmerizing experience for all of us. These few lines by Mark Twain say it all: "Benaras is older than history, older than tradition, older even than legend and looks twice as old as all of them put together". Hindus believe that one who is graced to die on the land of Varanasi would attain salvation and freedom from the cycle of birth and re-birth. Abode of Lord Shiva and Parvati, the origins of Varanasi are yet unknown. Ganga in Varanasi is believed to have the power to wash away the sins of mortals. Ganga is also known as Uttarvahini Ganga in Varanasi, though there are several places where Ganga flows northerly but in Varanasi Ganga has a more distinct Northerly flow then at Haridwar. The Ganga here merges with five more rivers like Varuna and Assi which is why this place is also known as Varanasi. It is said that Kashi is set on the Trishul of Lord Shiva and Centre of the Earth that was the reason that Aryabhat a Great Astronomer made Varanasi as his abode of learning. Perhaps this may be the reason of establishment of Manikaran Ghaat as Uttarvahini Ganga here at Varanasi is considered auspicious among Hindus.

The evolution of the city took place from the times of Rig Veda, Atharvaveda, Buddhism, Gahadvala dynasty, Mauryan dynasty, Bhakti movement, Sikhism, Mughal dynasty, Maratha Dynasty, Bhumi-





**Alaknanda Cruise**



**Erstwhile Maharaja of Varanasi**

**VARANASI HAS BEEN A CITY OF HINDU LEARNING THROUGH THE AGES. THERE ARE INNUMERABLE SCHOOLS AND COUNTLESS BRAHMAN PANDITS (LEARNED SCHOLARS), WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTINUATION OF TRADITIONAL LEARNING. THERE ARE THREE UNIVERSITIES, INCLUDING THE LARGE AND IMPORTANT BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY (1915), AND MORE THAN A DOZEN COLLEGES AND HIGH SCHOOLS.**

har (Brahmin) community and British ruling times. Varanasi was the capital of the Kingdom of Kashi during the time of the Buddha (6th Century BCE), who gave his first sermon at Sarnath. The city came through many struggles and tough times in history by the army of Qutbud-din Aibak in 1194 CE who destroyed the actual Vishwanath temple when he won the battle on Raja of Kannaui as a commander of Mohammad Ghori. Later a Gujarati merchant rebuilt the temple. It is an adage that history takes full circle after destruction of Lord Shiva Temple by Mohammad Gouri a Gujarati merchant rebuilt it and now a Gujarati Prime Minister is rebuilding the entire Varanasi City.

Varanasi has been a city of Hindu learning through the ages. There are innumerable schools and countless Brahman pandits (learned scholars), who are responsible for the continuation of traditional learning. There are three universities, including the large and important Banaras Hindu University (1915), and more than a dozen colleges and high schools.

A five-day festival of dhrupad (classical Indian vocal style) in March attracts renowned artists from all over India to the city's Tuls

Ghat along the river.

Much of the daily life in Varanasi takes place on its 87+ ghats - stone steps that descent steeply towards the river and stretch northward into a crescent. Most of these ghats were built after 1700 AD and are associated with legends or mythologies, while others are privately owned.

**AssiGhat** is where the Ganges meets river Assi, and although it is not as popular for tourists and visitors, it is an important ghat for Hindus, as pilgrims bathe here before worshipping Lord Shiva.

**Dashashwamedh Ghat** is one of the oldest and important ghats and is where the famous **Ganga Aarti** ceremony takes place every evening. Each evening, groups of priests line the DashashwamedhGhat, and hundreds of people flock to the shoreline and in boats for the nightly aarti ceremony. The ceremony lasts about 20-30 minutes, during which priests perform rituals involving blowing horns, flower petals, bells, incense and smoking pots. Boats all tie together along the water to watch the ceremony and children and locals hop between boats selling snacks and masala chai. You may find this ritual so fascinating that



**Shri Vibhuti Narayan Singh**

you'll want to attend every night while in Varanasi.

Manikarnika Ghat is the popular cremation ghat in Varanasi. Best seen at a respectful distance from a boat on the water, you'll come face to face with death at this ghat, which will leave you with a strange feeling – one that almost makes you appreciate the traditions and celebrations of Hinduism even more.

Ganga river water was said to be pure which contained medicinal properties that helped the humankind. Mahashivarathri is one of the big festivals celebrated in Varanasi and we can view pilgrims rushing to Varanasi on this auspicious day to witness the ritual homage given to Lord Shiva. Apart from the temples, ghats and Ganga River; Varanasi city has got beautiful culture and atmosphere with people around earning with the tradition of Paan Shops, Cycle Rickshaw, Traditional Purua (kullad) cup Chai and Food Stalls, Chaat Bhandars, Banaras Sweet Shops, Lassi and Thandai Bars and very famous Banaras Silk Saree Shops.

Varanasi is the place where we find master craftsmen of traditional Banaras saree handloom weavers, brass utensil makers, goldsmiths, silver-smiths, terracotta, metal work, Carpet and Durries weavers, Musical Instrument makers and wooden toy makers who have been recognized and appreciated by our honorable Prime Minister Mr.Naren-



**GANGA AARTI**

dra Modi.

There is a huge opportunity of learning and gaining knowledge on Hindu shastras, Sanskrit literature, arts, music and science at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. This university is found by one of the freedom fighters, a great nationalist, a social activist, and educationist with a visualization of growth of knowledge in India called Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya in the year of 1916. Great personalities like Annie Besant, Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi and many others have supported this initiative for the power of education. Banaras Hindu University is also known as “Temple of Learning”. This place covers around 1300 acres of land. This university has produced great scholars, artists, scientists and great citizens for India.

Now, Varanasi is going under grate transformation from Jal Marg Vikas aided by World Bank, Roads, Kashi Vishwanath Temple to Ganga Ghat Corridor, Cleaning of Ganga Project under Namami Gangey Programme has been launched and one can see the result with the clean water flowing in Ganga though much is yet to be done.

We all sincerely hope that GANGA will be brought back to its pristine glory. The medicinal value of Ganga Water will be restored and Varanasi an abode of Shiva learning centre of Aryabhat will again provide a huge opportunity of learning and gaining knowledge on Hindu Shastra's, Sanskrit, Literature, Art, Music, Astrology and Science.

*An Anthology on 'Kashi Vishwanath'*  
by - **Suresh Srivastava**

**NOW, VARANASI IS GOING UNDER GRATE TRANSFORMATION FROM JAL MARG VIKAS AIDED BY WORLD BANK, ROADS, KASHI VISHWANATH TEMPLE TO GANGA GHAT CORRIDOR, CLEANING OF GANGA PROJECT UNDER NAMAMI GANGEY PROGRAMME HAS BEEN LAUNCHED AND ONE CAN SEE THE RESULT WITH THE CLEAN WATER FLOWING IN GANGA THOUGH MUCH IS YET TO BE DONE.**

## “India in the United Nations General Assembly: 1945-2018”

Indian Federation of United Nations Associations(IFUNA)  
in Association with KW Publishers

(IN Two Volumes)



L to r. Mr. Justice (rtd.)Sambhu Nath Srivastava, Mr. Nitin Desai, Former UN Under Secretary General, Mr. Vijay Khanduja, Director, UNES, MEA, GOI Mr.Sitaram Sharma, , Mr. Eric Falt, Director, UNESCO, New Delhi Mr. Suresh Srivastava and Prof. Suranjan Das, Vice Chancellor, Jadavpur University

**UNITED NATIONS WHICH INCLUDES SARDARSWARN SINGH, SHRI KRISHNA MENON, MRS. INDIRA GANDHI AS PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA, SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE, SHRI S.M. KRISHNA , SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE AND LAST BUT NOT THE LEAST SHRI NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA.**

**A**T THE Indian International Centre on 17th June 2019 at Seminar Room – II of the Annexe Building in the presence of Mr. Nitin Desai, Former UN Under Secretary General, UNO; Mr. Eric Falt, Director – UNESCO New Delhi, Mr Vijay Khanduja, Director UNES, MEA, Government of India and Mr. Suresh Srivastava, Hony. Secretary General, Indian Federation of United Nations Associations and Editors Prof. Suranjan Das, Vice Chancellor, Jadavpur University & Mr. Sitaram Sharma, Vice President, IFUNA & Hony. Consul of Republic of Belarus.

The Book is compilation of India’s contribution in the United Nations from 1945 to 2018. Many grate leaders of India contributed by way of their thoughts, their speeches and development of United Nations. India has always been a Champion of Peace, multilateralism and Neutrality. Starting from Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru who participated in the debate in the United Nations General Assembly in September

1946 representing India as a member of foreign affairs committee of Governor General of India. Then as Prime Minister of free India in the year 1948. May other important leaders of the country had given contribution by their speeches in the United Nations which includes SardarSwarn Singh, Shri Krishna Menon, Mrs. Indira Gandhi as Prime Minister of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Shri S.M. Krishna , Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Last but not the least Shri NarendraModi, Prime Minister of India. Though the list is long and our contribution to the United Nations is recognized by all over the world. Particularly, the third world countries who had always looked at India as their leader and had always supported India on the issues of Imperialism, apartheid and hegemony of few nations.

Prof. Suranjan Das, Vice Chancellor, Jadavpur University & Mr. Sitaram Sharma, Vice President, IFUNA & Hony. Consul of Republic of Belarus, Prof. Vivek Mishra, Assistant Professor in International Relations at the Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata and Assistant Editor of Indian Foreign Affairs Journal published by the Association of Indian Diplomats had burnt mid light oil to make this book see light of the day. All the three writers are prominent in their respective field. This book is a tribute to the contribution made by many leaders of India and they all deserve to be placed in the history.

India completed seventy years of her association with the United Nations in 2015. To commemorate India’s association of over seventy years with the United Nations the Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata, and the West Bengal Federation of United Nations Associations initiated a West Bengal Government funded project to document this relationship between the United Nations and India, seeking to bring together speeches delivered by Indian representatives before the various forums of the world body. The first outcome of this project is the



**Suresh Srivastava, Secretary General ,  
IFUNA Welcoming the audience.**



**IFUNA Media Advisor & Senior Journalist Deepak Parvatiyar  
greeting Former U N Addl. Secretary General Mr. Nitin Desai.**

present two-volume compendium – the first part covering the period between 1945 and 1970 and the second between 1971 to 2018. It captures India's association with the United Nations Organization by bringing together the speeches of the leaders of the country's delegations to the sessions of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) from 1945 to 2018. The textual demarcation into two volume, undertaken primarily for making the volumes handy, does not undermine the element of continuity evident in India's stand in the world body on issues ranging from apartheid, disarmament, universal representation of countries in the United Nations and socio-economic development of the Third World. However, India's military success against Pakistan in 1971, leading to the emergence of Bangladesh, did mark the beginning of a new phase in India's leadership in South Asia. The post- 1971 years also marked a shift in India's role in preservation of international stability with her emphasis on the Declaration of the Strengthening of International Security adopted by the UNGA in the preceding year, her support for Strategic Arms Limitation Talks and the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaties between the USA and the erstwhile USSR and later Russia, her advocacy for maritime security, and her enthusiastic participation in the move to ban chemical and biological weapons. The second volume thus coincides with the period of assertion of India's authority in South Asia, the expansion of her global concerns and her bid to weave South Asian regional concerns with that of the world. Subsequent volumes centering round the collaborative project will document the speeches and statements made by Indian representatives on crucial world issues at the Security Council and such specialized organs of the United Nations as the Trusteeship Council, Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

The Introduction to the present two volumes uses the speeches of the leaders of Indian delegations to the UNGA to delineate India's steadfast faith in the United Nations

and to identify the contours of India's foreign policy, especially its attitude to the challenges for the stability of international order and the issues which are critical to make the world a better place to live in. The present documentation will be a crucial source-material for future studies on India's engagement with the United Nations during the past seventy years and beyond. The volumes should attract the attention of the reading public as well as practitioners of Indian diplomacy.

The two volumes have been jointly compiled by Suranjan Das, currently the Vice-Chancellor of Jadavpur University and Honorary Director, Netaji Institute For Asian Studies, Kolkata; Shri Sitaram Sharma, Vice President, Indian Federation of UN Associations, Chairman of West Bengal Federation of United Nations Associations, and Honorary Consul of Republic of Belarus in Kolkata; and Vivek Mishra, Assistant Professor in International Relations at the Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata and Assistant Editor of Indian Foreign Affairs Journal published by the Association of Indian Diplomats.

Prominent Speakers Mr. Nitin Desai, Former UN Under Secretary General, Mr. Eric Falt, Director, UNESCO, New Delhi, Dr. Shruvan Kumar, Ex. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture, GOI, Mr. Vijay Khanduja, Director, UNES, MEA, GOI spoke on the occasion. IFUNA Media advisor Deepak Parvatiyar proposed a vote of thanks.



**The distinguished audience**



## Trilateral Meet at Osaka

### Russia-India-China (RIC) Trilateral Grouping: Is not only hype but also a bridle.

-P.M.Parvatiyar

**RIC AS A STRATEGIC GROUPING FIRST TOOK SHAPE IN THE LATE 1990'S UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF YEVGENY PRIMAKOV AS "A COUNTER BALANCE TO THE WESTERN ALLIANCE."**

**PRIMAKOV, A RUSSIAN POLITICIAN AND DIPLOMAT WHO WAS ALSO THE PRIME MINISTER OF RUSSIA FROM 1998 TO 1999...**

**D**URING THE G-20 Summit in Osaka, Russia, India, and China (RIC) held a trilateral meeting between them. The notion of meeting on the sidelines of the G-20 meeting began last year and many other meetings were held during the G-20 meeting this year as well – the Russia India and China meet nonetheless stole the headlines this year.

RIC as a strategic grouping first took shape in the late 1990's under the leadership of Yevgeny Primakov as "a counter balance to the Western alliance." Primakov, a Russian politician and diplomat who was

also the prime minister of Russia from 1998 to 1999, is credited with the idea for RIC. The group was founded on the basis of "end[ing] its subservient foreign policy guided by the US," and "renewing old ties with India and fostering the newly discovered friendship with China."

But the idea of meeting at the leader's level on a more sustained basis has only surfaced over the past couple of years. The three sides had done so last year at the G-20 meeting in Argentina, where there was also a focus on the trilateral summit between the United States, India and Japan, called JAI (Japan, America, India). And on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meeting in Kyrgyzstan,



Modi Abbe



Modi &amp; Trump

the leaders agreed to meet again in Osaka during the G-20 Summit.

The RIC meeting this year is only the third heads of state meeting of the group, which speaks to the state of the play among the three countries in nurturing this strategic grouping. Nonetheless, in the current period of geopolitical transition, there is an effort to renew and rebuild some of these old initiatives as a way to counter the US led world order.

These efforts started in Bishkek, when Russian President Vladimir Putin, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and Chinese President Xi Jinping held separate bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the SCO Summit. It speaks of great “personal chemistry between Putin, Xi and Modi” that has “worked wonders.” While the Russia-China leg of the triangle has been fairly strong in the last few years, Narendra Modi has also had reasons in recent times to cozy up to Russia and China in the wake of US President Donald Trump’s tariff war with India, especially since the Trump administration has withdrawn India’s Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) and imposed tariffs on Indian goods.

To be sure, India has remained a key partner in the United States’ Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy, and Modi too has sought a close strategic partnership with the United

States in an effort to address China’s rising power. But the recent trade and tariff war may cast a negative shadow on the broader US-India strategic ties, which stands to advantage China and Russia. It is no coincidence that the RIC meeting and the strengthened bonhomie among the three leaders has come amid these difficulties between the United States and India. While US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo was in India in late June to assuage some of the growing difficulties in the India-US bilateral ties, the trip, as well as Pompeo’s statement “Modi hai toh Mumkin Hai” (“Modi makes it possible”), has yet to change the broader strategic dynamics with New Delhi.

In this respect, how the RIC meeting was perceived and portrayed at G-20 in Osaka came as no surprise. Unlike the second edition of the JAI Summit, which did not get much attention, the RIC meeting was trumpeted as a major success for developing economies, emphasising the need for free and open markets, and opposing any efforts at protectionism, all clearly targeting Trump’s America. Clearly, Xi and Putin pitched this at the ideal moment, when New Delhi is the latest of many who have come under Trump’s tariff war.

Modi, in his opening remarks to the RIC meeting in Osaka, underlined the importance of the RIC grouping and the exchange

**AS THE WORLD'S LEADING ECONOMIES, EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN US, ON THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SECURITY SITUATION OF THE WORLD IS IMPORTANT. OUR TRILATERAL MEETING TODAY IS A USEFUL MEDIUM FOR DISCUSSING AND COORDINATING ON MAJOR GLOBAL ISSUES.**



**Modi & Putin**

**THE RIC MEETING THIS YEAR IS ONLY THE THIRD HEADS OF STATE MEETING OF THE GROUP, WHICH SPEAKS TO THE STATE OF THE PLAY AMONG THE THREE COUNTRIES IN NURTURING THIS STRATEGIC GROUPING. NONETHELESS, IN THE CURRENT PERIOD OF GEOPOLITICAL TRANSITION, THERE IS AN EFFORT TO RENEW AND REBUILD SOME OF THESE OLD INITIATIVES AS A WAY TO COUNTER THE US LED WORLD ORDER.**

among the three on the global economic, political, and security situation. He highlighted the usefulness of the exchange of views at the earlier meeting of the RIC foreign ministers in China in February. Modi said that the foreign ministers had discussed all important issues including “promotion of counterterrorism, international hot-spot issues, reformed multilateralism, climate change and cooperation under RIC.”

Welcoming Putin and Xi, Modi said, we three countries had a summit level meeting last year in Argentina. After the useful exchange of views on the major issues of the world, we agreed to meet again in the future.

I am very happy to welcome you to this RIC Informal Summit today.

As the world’s leading economies, exchange of views between us, on the economic, political and security situation of the world is important. Our trilateral meeting today is a useful medium for discussing and coordinating on major global issues. We had exchange of views on many issues in the meeting of our Foreign Ministers in China in February this year. It included promotion of counter-terrorism, international hot-spot issues, reformed multilateralism, climate change and cooperation

under RIC. Friendly nations, futuristic outcomes. The RIC (Russia-India-China) meeting was an excellent forum to discuss ways to enhance multilateral cooperation between our nations and work to mitigate challenges being faced by our planet, most notably terrorism and climate change.

Xi, for his part, is reported to have emphasized the importance of the three countries in the context of upholding multilateralism. He urged the leaders of Russia and India to assume “global responsibility” to defend their national interests while pushing for a multilateral world order. Xi went on to add that “the rise of protectionism and unilateralism has severely affected global stability and economic growth, as well as the existing international order which emerging economies and developing countries have relied on.” Clearly, Xi was trying to muster greater support amidst the ongoing US-China trade war.

It is not clear how Modi will weather the tariff’s issue, and New Delhi may not find much relief by going with the RIC to address this issue. While Modi has to be mindful of the charm offensive by Xi and Putin, which obviously works to their own self-interest because of their own difficulties with the United States, Washington must also play its cards carefully and not let New Delhi fall into Beijing’s lap. The United States and India must ensure their current trade and tariff issues do not lead to serious strategic disagreement. The two cannot afford to miss the emerging geopolitical realities driven by China’s growing power. So far, the United States and India have been able to more or less maintain the momentum in the relationship and it has been mutually beneficial. It is too early to say if the calculations are changing.

However, no doubt, by engaging Trump in JAI (Japan America and India ) and Putin and Xi in RIC (Russia India and China) Modi as a statute politician has kept a string of bridle (Lagaam) in his hand to control overstepping.



**T**HE CHANDIGARH United Nations Association (CUNA), led by Chairman Emeritus, Dr. Harcharan Singh Ranauta, a prominent businessman and philanthropist, recently hosted a private gathering in Chandigarh to launch proceedings of the mega event celebrating "550 years of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji" worldwide. The event was presided by Mr. Suresh Kumar, Chief Principal Secretary to CM, Punjab, and attended by many dignitaries. Dr. N. K. Sodhi, Chairman, Permanent Projects, CUNA and many others graced the happy occasion.

A devotional hymn and the official website for CUNA was also launched on this occasion.

In addressing the dignitaries, Mr. Ranauta unveiled a glittering array of events that CUNA has scheduled from April until November of this year to celebrate the 550th Birth Centennial of Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

The events were unveiled by Mr. Ranauta in the presence of high-ranking Punjab and Chandigarh top-level officials and well-known philanthropists and leadership of Indian Federation of the United States that also attended the event.

In his keynote address, Mr. Ranauta announced the special projects throughout this year hosted by CUNA, such as the following:

#### 13th April 2019

- A. Launching of Website (Done).  
Three Programs
  - B. Release of religious song to be recited for 550 years celebrations.
  - C. Launching of UN Study Courses (Pending)
- By Sh. Suresh Kumar, IAS, Principal Chief Secretary, CM, Punjab in Chandigarh.**

#### 15th April 2019

Paint the Village, Worldwide event (Theme Oneness), where 50 villages around the globe would be painted by various artist, with the event starting from the village around Chandigarh and spreading throughout the globe (Pending).

17th April 2019 Launching of 5.50 Lakh tree plantation drive worldwide starting from Kenya and different villages of Punjab (India) and spreading throughout the Globe (Launched in East Africa).

#### May 2019

- Two Programs
- A. Honouring the education providers.
- B. Conducting awareness tour in Punjab, Haryana & Himachal Pradesh regarding 550th years of Sh. Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

**IN ADDRESSING THE DIGNITARIES, MR. RANAUTA UNVEILED A GLITTERING ARRAY OF EVENTS THAT CUNA HAS SCHEDULED FROM APRIL UNTIL NOVEMBER OF THIS YEAR TO CELEBRATE THE 550TH BIRTH CENTENNIAL OF GURU NANAK DEV JI.**



The events were unveiled by Mr. Ranauta in the presence of high-ranking Punjab and Chandigarh top-level officials and well-known philanthropists and leadership of Indian Federation of the United States that also attended the event.

**17TH APRIL 2019  
LAUNCHING OF 5.50  
LAKH TREE PLANTA-  
TION DRIVE WORLD-  
WIDE STARTING  
FROM KENYA AND  
DIFFERENT VILLAGES  
OF PUNJAB (INDIA)  
AND SPREADING  
THROUGHOUT THE  
GLOBE (LAUNCHED  
IN EAST AFRICA).**

### June 2019

Honouring the doctors.

### July 2019

Launching of the internet radio.

### August 2019

Launching of one-hour daily kirtan on Desh Bhagat Radio till 30th November 2019.

### September 2019

Two Programs

A. Painting competition for school children and essay writing competition for topic Ik Onkar or Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

B. Turban tying competition during which Dastars will be tied to the participants, various contests will be held and prizes will be given.

### October 2019

Two Programs

A. Honouring prominent personalities of Indian origin in East Africa.

B. To flag off 550th years of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji celebrations a Safari Rally organized by our team in Nairobi, Kenya

### NOVEMBER 2019

1st Nov.

Two Programs



A. Aarambh (Start) Shri Akhand Path Sahib at Sector 34 lawns, Chandigarh.  
B. Launching of Art Exhibition.

### 3rd Nov. 2019

Kirtan Darbar followed by langar at Sector 34 lawns, Chandigarh.

### 4th Nov. 2019

Flag off Vintage Car Rally from Lake Club, Chandigarh to end up at Chandigarh Golf Club followed by lunch. Vintage Car Rally would be led by Motorbikes and followed by exotic super cars.

### 5th Nov. 2019

Two Programs

A. Golf tournament at Chandigarh Golf

Club

B. Shabad Kirtan Competition with support of Punjab School Education Board.

6th Nov. 2019

Literature festival at Art Gallery, Sector 10, Chandigarh.

### 7th Nov. 2019

Two Programs

A. Badminton Championship to be held in Sector 46, Chandigarh.

B. Billiards Championship to be held at Sector 7 Sports Academy, Chandigarh

### 9th Nov. 2019

Four Programs

A. Celebrating World Tolerance Day to commemorate 550th years Birth Centennial

**FLAG OFF VINTAGE CAR RALLY FROM LAKE CLUB, CHANDIGARH TO END UP AT CHANDIGARH GOLF CLUB FOLLOWED BY LUNCH. VINTAGE CAR RALLY WOULD BE LED BY MOTORBIKES AND FOLLOWED BY EXOTIC SUPER CARS.**



**In addressing the dignitaries, Mr. Ranauta unveiled a glittering array of events that CUNA has scheduled from April until November of this year to celebrate the 550th Birth Centennial of Guru Nanak Dev ji.**

**CELEBRATING WORLD TOLERANCE DAY TO COMMEMORATE 550TH YEARS BIRTH CENTENNIAL OF SHRI GURU NANAK DEV JI AT SECTOR 34 GROUNDS WITH A SIT DOWN BANQUET OF 32,000 PEOPLE WHERE PROMINENT PERSONALITIES SUCH A UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL, PRESIDENT OF INDIA, PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA, RELIGIOUS HEADS, CHIEF MINISTERS OF ALL STATES WOULD BE INVITED.**

of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji at Sector 34 grounds with a sit down banquet of 32,000 people where prominent personalities such a United Nations Secretary General, President of India, Prime Minister of India, Religious Heads, Chief Ministers of all States would be invited.

B. To release Coffee Table Book commemorating 550th years of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji.

C. To release postal stamp.

D. To release One Rupee coin released with Ek Omkar embossed.

Dr Ranauta and CUNA are extremely grateful to Mr Suresh Shrivastav, Secretary General, IFUNA for his constant support.

Mr Ranauta also stated his gratitude to Dr. N. S. Sodhi, Chairman of Permanent Projects Committee, CUNA Executive Secretary Mr. Lakhinder Vohra, Co-chairman of CUNA 550th Centennial Celebrations Ms. Sarab Sandhu Tiwana, CUNA Architect, Mr. Vasu Bhasin, CUNA Chairman for Arts, Mr. Barkat Singh, Mr. R. K. Sharma, Co-chairman, CUNA, CUNA Web Team led by Mr. Gaurev Kohli and Mr. Karamjit Singh, our media adviser. Mr. Vohra is here from New York City.

*Contributed by:*

**Mr. Ravneet Singh Brar**

*Secretary – General*

*Chandigarh United Nations Association*

# World Population Day



Sitting left to Right Poet Bahadur Patsani, Er. A.K Satpathy, Retired District Judge Durga Mishra , Advocate Manoranjan Pattanaik , Ex-central Minister Bhajman Behera, Dr. Srinivas Hota, Prof. Dillip Nanda.

**W**orld Population Day was celebrated by Odisha UNA (UFUNA) in Odisha on 11th July 2019. This meeting was presided by its President Manoranjan Pattanaik, Advocate. Chief Guest Former Central Minister Sri. Bhajman Behera spoke that a controlled population helps a nation for progress. China had adopted one family one child principle. Retd. District Judge Mr Durga Charan Mishra spoke that if the population is not controlled then it will cross 1200 crores by the year 2035. Everybody spoke that social consciousness should be built to rouse consciousness among people. In this meeting many cross section of the people attended the program. Poet Bahadur Patsani wel-

comed the guest, The Secretary General Utkal UNA Dipayan Pattanaik gave vote of thanks. Linku Pati, Smt Snehaprava Panigrahi, Sarita Patsani, Radhanatha Rath, recited poems on population explosion. Former Chief Er. A.K Satpathy, Dr Srinivas Hota (Eye Specialist), Prof Dillip nanda, Prof. Khirod Nayak, Environmentalist Upendra Rout, Educationist Daitari Parida, Adv. Damayanti Mohanty, Adv Suchismita Rout, Adv Barsha Pattanaik spoke among others. Joint Secretary of Utkal UNA Sri. Soumya Ranjan Pattanaik & Mr Bichrananda Mohanty, Smt Sujata Pattanaik actively associated in organizing the program. Report by :

**Manoranjan Pattanaik**  
Advocate  
President, Utkal UNA

**THIS MEETING WAS PRESIDED BY ITS PRESIDENT MANORANJAN PATTANAIK, ADVOCATE. CHIEF GUEST FORMER CENTRAL MINISTER SRI. BHAJMAN BEHERA SPOKE THAT A CONTROLLED POPULATION HELPS A NATION FOR PROGRESS. CHINA HAD ADOPTED ONE FAMILY ONE CHILD PRINCIPLE .**

## World Environment Day Observed



**MR. A.S. BORA, AN EMINENT ENVIRONMENTALIST HAD BRIEFED ABOUT THE CAUSE OF AIR POLLUTION AND ITS IMPACT TO THE PEOPLE. MR. BORA ALSO DISPLAYED THE AIR POLLUTION HAPPENING AROUND THE WORLD IN THE PROJECTOR.**

**A**SSAM United Nations Association of the Indian federation of UN Association – New Delhi and Don Bosco School Guwahati organized the World Environment Day on 5th June, 2019 at the auditorium of Don Bosco School, Guwahati. Fr. Sebastian Mathew, SDB, Rector and principal of Don Bosco School, Guwahati welcomed the distinguished guests and invitees.

Dr. R.C. Barpatragohain, Advocate General of Assam who was the Chief Guest on the occasion spoke in detail on the protection from the Air Pollution in the society.

Mr. A.S. Bora, an eminent environmentalist had briefed about the cause of Air Pollution and its impact to the people. Mr. Bora also displayed the Air pollution happening around the world in the projector.

Mrs. Pranita Kalita, an academican and also a reputed environmentalist spoke highly on the protection from Air pollution and measures to prevent the Air Pollution in the society.

Earlier, Dr. Aswini Sarma, Secretary General, UNA-Assam read out the message of UN Secretary General, Mr. Antannio Guetterus on the occasion.

Prizes and certificates were distributed to the winners of Quiz, battle of band, photography and doodle art on the theme of World Environment Day.

Large nos. of students, teachers, distinguished invitees from Don Bosco school, Guwahati were present and participated on the occasion.

*Report by: Dr. Aswini Sarma  
Secretary General, UNA-Assam*

## CHHATISGARH UN ASSOCIATION **Rebuilding Democracy**



**C**HHATISGARH UN Association along with Rotary Club of Raipur Heritage organized a Lecture on Heritage Lecture series on 19 th May 2019. Dr. Arfa Khanam Sherwani, noted journalist and Sr. Editor of the wire news channel delivered a lecture on Rebuilding Democracy. The chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Shri Bhupesh Baghel inaugurated this lecture series.

On this a Book '70 Years of UN in India' published by UNIC Delhi was also presented to Chief Minister Shri Bhupesh Baghel. The President of Chattisgarh UN Association Shri Satya Narayan Sharma, Former Minister and M.L.A presided over the function and Shri Sanat Jain, Secretary General of Chhattisgarh UN Association conducted the function. The function was attended by the senior officials and guests in large number.

The learned Speaker Dr. Khanum Spoke on the

subject in present context and followed by Questions and Answers

*A report from Sanat Jain,  
Secretary General Chhattisgarh  
Un Association, Raipur*

**Chief Minister Shri  
Bhupesh Baghel  
receiving '70 Years of  
UN in India' published  
by UNIC Delhi**

# Shimla The Faquir's Hut 'Shyeamalay'



**Chander P Mahajan**

**I**N EARLY days, the visitor to Shimla required Herculean strength to cope with the hardships of uncomfortable, cumbersome and exhausting travel. (The Early Times 1805 -1860)

"..This day's journey I shall always remember, for it reminded me of home, the days of my boyhood, my mother, and the happiest of varied recollections. There was, too, an indescribable something in the breeze, which brought back a comparative

similarity of feeling.." wrote a Brit.

"In hot weather this accent is exceedingly fatiguing, and as there is no stream or boulee between the Nuddee and Semla, a Faquir is stationed at the pass to give water to travelers, from whom he receives a small trifle in return..."

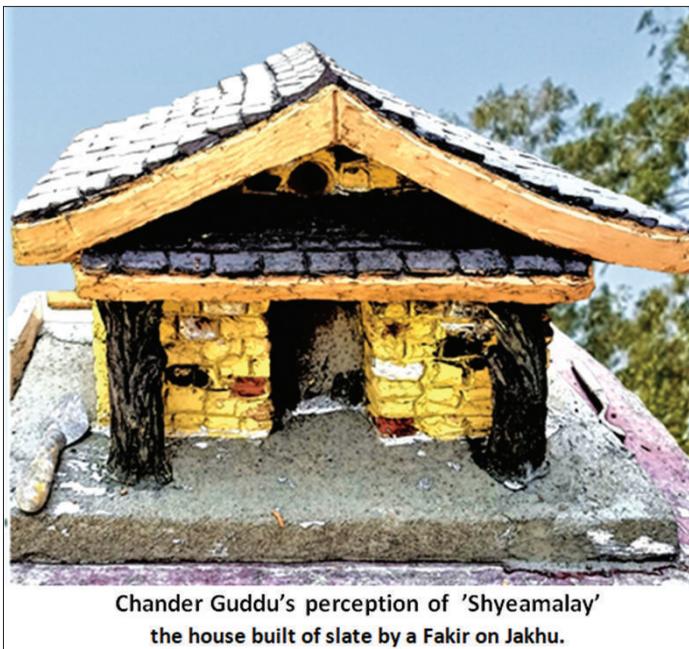
Gerard brothers, two Scotch officers, engaged in the survey of the Sutlej valley, when they encountered the beautiful village of Shumlah described it in their dairy dated 30th August, 1817:-

"This is a resting village for us where a faquir offers water to travelers. .."

Place is space that in some way serves the human need. Sense of place, on the other hand, is a social phenomenon.

From a tiny village whose name is variously reported as Shimlu, Shemalya, Semla, shumla and Shemla, the town went on to officially become the 'summer capital' of British India in 1864. England like climate, emerald green grasslands, and snow-covered peaks, all of it attracted the British Empire to transform this very tiny pool of houses into a Mini England. Presently, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is an area of countryside in England, Wales or Northern Ireland which has been designated for conservation due to its significant landscape value. Areas are designated in recognition of their national importance.

According to a Rev. Mr. Long, whom Mr.



**Chander Guddu's perception of 'Shyeamalay' the house built of slate by a Fakir on Jakhu.**

W. H. Carey mentions in his Simla Guide of 1870, the name came from 'Shyeamalay', 'dark' or 'blue' abode, a reference to the slate house of the faquir who lived on the hill of Jakho, which looms over the town.

Enthralled in to realms of imagination and illusions, I wished to sculpt "Shyeamalay" the faquir's hut. A visit to Jamalpur (Munger) to greet my son who had picked up his rank, came as a God given opportunity. With Guddi (Meenakshi), the lady behind it; and an apt local artisan Ranjan at hand, I worked out the replica of the imagery hut of the legendary faquir, in all my perception.

Today what we have are the remnants of the British town, existing in the midst of post-independence-era mushrooming of habitats. The British left behind in Shimla some aptly carved hilly Estates and specimens of superb edifices. The British era mansions of Indo-Elizabethan architecture add charm to this biggest hill city in the world. Many a grandeur and dazzle has faded as the sheen and luster of the buildings has given way to aging. Even though Shimla's Sense of Time and Place is liberally illustrated with photographs of old buildings and streets, yet for a lack of contemporary history, opinion is divided even over origin of its name.

**'Mahe ni meriey Shimle the rahen  
Chamba kitni k door  
Shimle ni basna kasauli ni basna,  
Chamba jaana zaroor..'**

is doing vibrant rounds on Whatsapp and social media, over the world with an applaud and a deep sense of nostalgia for those engrossed in the romantic realms of love and passion as also for music lovers alike. The character of a place, its identity, and its people's sense of rootedness are shaped by interactions within the place and with other places. This duality affects livability.

The British empire may have ceased to exist, but its echoes linger on in Shimla. A school of thought speaks about justifying the need to shun British legacies – a sign of slavery and follow the trend of renaming Shimla.

It would also ask for change in rhyme and

**"This is a resting village for us where  
a fakir offers water to travelers."**

Gerard brothers dairy, dated 30th August, 1817

rhythm and lyrics of all those pahadi songs that are resounding on the Shimla Ridge maidan, echoing over the city and through the hills of Himachal.

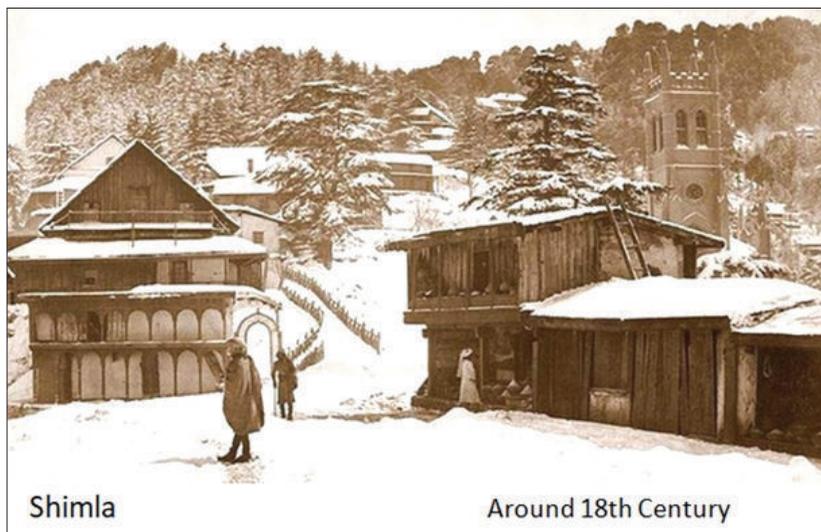
It is no wonder why Rome is one of the most romantic cities in the world, as it is brimming with old-world charm. ... Paris is called the "City of Love" for its sights and its popularity as a honeymoon destination. Shimla is a city of passionate love and romance.

I have fond memories of the youthful days and our honeymooning with my beloved bride Vishav Kirti in hotel Fountain Blue.

It is a feeling held by people (not by the place itself). Places with a strong "sense of place" have a strong identity that is deeply felt by inhabitants and visitors. It is blending of the physical characteristics of the land with memory, art, story, and the inexplicable feel that places leave on the psyche and mind.

My son Manu Maharaaj was asked in an interview 'What is famous about Shimla?' 'Shimla mirich' was his spontaneous reply. God has bestowed up on him success in life.

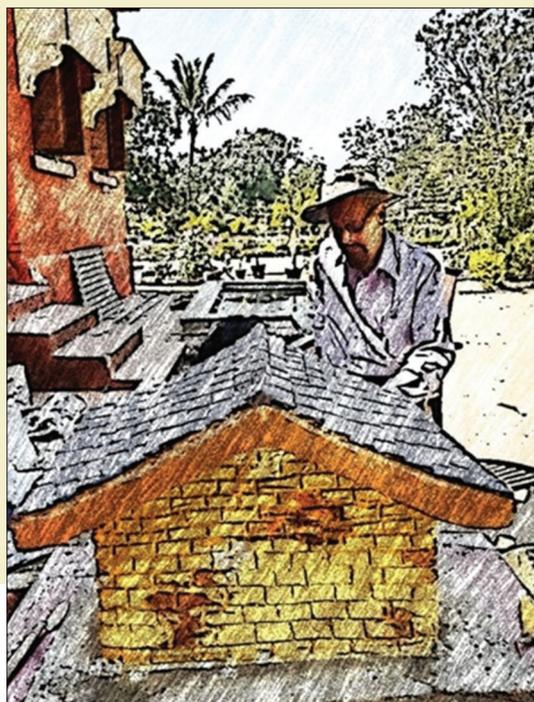
**A SENSE OF PLACE IS  
AN AMALGAMATION  
OF- VISUAL, CUL-  
TURAL, SOCIAL, AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PERCEPTIONS –  
THAT PROVIDE  
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TO TRANSMIT FEEL-  
INGS OF PLACE  
FROM GENERATION  
TO GENERATION.**



A school of thought speaks about justifying the need to shun British legacies – a sign of slavery and follow the trend of renaming Shimla.

**I AM INCIDENTALLY REMINDED OF HAVING READ IN THE BOOK 'MY LAND MY PEOPLE' BY H H DALAI LAMA ABOUT THE 1913, CONFERENCE AT SIMLA (NOW SHIMLA), IN INDIA, WHEN CHINESE, TIBETANS THE BRITISH INITIALED A DRAFT CONVENTION; WHEREIN 'BRITAIN AND CHINA WERE TO RESPECT THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF TIBET, NOT TO SEND TROOPS INTO TIBET, AND NOT TO INTERFERE WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TIBETAN GOVERNMENT.'**

IN HOT WEATHER THIS ACCENT IS EXCEEDINGLY FATIGUING, AND AS THERE IS NO STREAM OR BOULEE BETWEEN THE NUDEE AND SEMLA, A FAQUIR IS STATIONED AT THE PASS TO GIVE WATER TO TRAVELERS, FROM WHOM HE RECEIVES A SMALL TRIFLE IN RETURN..."



A sense of place is an amalgamation of- visual, cultural, social, and environmental perceptions – that provide meaning to a location. Through time; shared experiences, stories, and history, help connecting place and people and to transmit feelings of place from generation to generation.

I am incidentally reminded of having read in the book 'My Land My People' by H H Dalai Lama about the 1913, Conference at Simla (now Shimla), in India, when Chinese, Tibetans the British initialed a draft convention; wherein 'Britain and China were to respect the territorial integrity of Tibet, not to send troops into Tibet, and not to interfere with the administration of the Tibetan government.'

Place is more than just a location on a map. In addition, places evolve over time, so connections across time are also important. Changing the name of Shimla would be a futile

effort to distort all that history.

Place-names speak of the geographical and cultural environment. They tell the cultural values of significance to people's sense of feeling at home.

A place is distinguished by its people, markets, governments, and institutions, transport as much as it is by its landscape and scenery (including streets and roads), buildings, and boundaries.

I can not forget the blissful evenings at Davicos\*, in the cheerful company of my nieces Madhu and Manju, asking farmaish of 'Come September' tune, with live band in attendance, doling out drinks to the band masters till the last call of the bar. Loading my tip-

It would also ask for change in rhyme and rhythm and lyrics of all those pahadi songs that are vibrant on the Shimla Ridge maidan, echoing over the city and through the hills of Himachal.

A place is distinguished by its people, markets, governments, and institutions, transport as much as it is by its landscape and scenery (including streets and roads), buildings, and boundaries.

hand pulled rickshaw in Shimla during British Raj



sy friend Hazrat, out on a hand pulled rikshaw ; back our home in Dogra Lodge, was a startling experience.

The phrase sense of place is often used to refer to the quality that makes somewhere distinctive. There's no language-independent dictionary for

names."A rose by any other name would smell as sweet" is a popular reference to William Shakespeare's play Romeo and Juliet.

*\*(Unfortunately burnt out in fire)*

*With inputs from Dr. Ravinder Kumar Dhiman,  
President, SHIMLA BICENTINAL GROUP*

**THE PHRASE SENSE OF PLACE IS OFTEN USED TO REFER TO THE QUALITY THAT MAKES SOMEWHERE DISTINCTIVE. THERE'S NO LANGUAGE-INDEPENDENT DICTIONARY FOR NAMES."A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME WOULD SMELL AS SWEET" IS A POPULAR REFERENCE TO WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S PLAY ROMEO AND JULIET.**

## Finding Peace Through The Lord

**Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj**



**W**E ARE ALL searching for peace. We all want to lead a life that is fulfilling. As life goes on, we recognize that we are happy when we are peaceful. Any turmoil in our selves, in our families, or in our places of work is difficult to deal with. Thus, we are always looking for a peaceful, harmonious way of life.

A question that has been in front of us from the first day is: How does one get a state of peace? Many saints and mystics have talked about it. When we read the scriptures, whether they are the Jewish scriptures, the Christian scriptures, the Hindu scriptures, the Sikh scriptures, the Buddhist scriptures, or any other scriptures of the world, the great saints and mystics have tackled this problem. They have given us a path so that we can be in harmony, we can be in peace, we can be perpetually happy, and we can deal with the situation. And as we start to understand what the great saints and mystics have said, we become peaceful.

Today, when we read the scriptures, we do not mould our life according to them; we start to analyze them. We say: Why is this thing written and what is the reason? If we are satisfied, then we put it into our life. If we were to make our life according

to what the great saints have said, we definitely would be peaceful, happy, and in harmony with ourselves and with the divine.

None of us wants to be in turmoil with anyone else, whether they are our brothers, sisters, parents, husbands, wives, neighbours, or someone on the street. Deep inside we want to be happy with them. On the outside, we might have problems.

But we need to recognise that everyone is different. Their background is different. Their thinking is different. Their karmas are different. There are many things in the play that we do not understand.

We live in an age where there is so much emphasis on education, and we all think that our IQs are very, very high. We all think we have great knowledge. But we do not recognise that we have no wisdom. There is a great difference between knowledge and wisdom. Knowledge is something we can learn. We can go to a teacher, we can go to a school, we can read a book, and we can get on the Internet and pick up all kinds of information. That is knowledge.

Wisdom comes from experience. Wisdom comes as we pass through life, as we interact, and as things happen in our life. As life goes on, we gain wisdom.

We generally do not differentiate between knowledge and wisdom. That is where we fall down. We think: I did my Bachelor's degree, Master's degree, or Ph.D. in this and this and this, so I am pretty knowledgeable about a lot of things.

We do not realise that knowledge and wisdom do not go hand-in-hand. A person who is uneducated might have a tremendous amount of wisdom. That does not mean you have to be uneducated to have

wisdom, but we need to recognise the difference. Wisdom is gained by experience. It is gained through life. We gain wisdom through recognising right from wrong.

How does one lead one's life to be truly happy and peaceful? Happiness comes through peace. Happiness and peace go together. If there is too much turmoil, we can never be happy. Saints and mystics have talked about being peaceful.

The scriptures of all religions point the way back to God. One of the basic Jewish scriptures is the Old Testament, which is rich in references on how to lead a godly life. Common themes are found in all scriptures. Those who are searching for peace will find the same instructions whether they look in the scriptures of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Sufism, Sikhism, Judaism, or any other religion. The message is that if we wish to find inner peace we must go within.

I would like to take up a passage from the Jewish scriptures. This is from Isaiah in the Old Testament. Isaiah was one of the prophets. Isaiah is known for the vision he had that a day would come when there would be peace. He spoke of a day when people would turn their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. As he said, "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

Another passage from Isaiah is a short one, but it contains within it the essence of finding spiritual peace. The passage says:

Though wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusteth in thee. (Isaiah 26.3)

In a nutshell, this verse is giving us all we need to find peace. It is telling us two things. The first is to keep our attention to the Lord. Second, the verse tells us that we

## Ocean of Grace – Sant Darshan Singh Ji Maharaj

On the occasion of 30th Bansi Bhandara of Gracious Master Sant Darshan Singh Ji Maharaj, thousands of devotees gathered at Kirpal Bagh, Sant Kirpal Singh Marg, Delhi, on May 30, 2019. Commencing the program, Respected Mata Rita Ji rendered a hymn by Guru Arjan Dev Ji Maharaj in her melodious voice, “Darshan Maangu De Pyaare, Tumhari Seva Kaun Na Taarey”.

In his address the Head of Sawan Kirpal Ruhani Mission, Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj, shed light on Sant Darshan Singh Ji Maharaj’s life, which was full of the godly virtues of love, compassion, and service to all. He dedicated his entire life to the betterment and upliftment of his fellow human beings. He wanted us to become good and true human beings, so that we can attain the supreme goal of human life, that is, self-knowledge and God-realization. Maharaj Ji reminded all that to pay true tribute to Sant Darshan Singh Ji Maharaj’s memory, we should follow his teachings, tread the path shown by him, and reach the goal of God-realization in this very lifetime. Many brothers and sisters then shared spiritual experiences from their own lives, depicting how Sant Darshan Singh



Ji Maharaj’s unbounded grace changed their whole life.

Several welfare activities were also organized on this occasion. On this sweltering afternoon, Mission volunteers set up 125 chhabeels of sweetened rose-water in various parts of Delhi as well as many cities of India. On May 31, 2019, 54th Blood Donation Camp was organized at Kirpal Bagh, Delhi, during which 137 people donated blood willingly. In another program on May 31, 2019, at Kirpal Bagh, Delhi, appliances such as wheel-chairs, tricycles, and crutches were distributed by the Mission to the specially-able patients of Safdarjung Hospital. Clothes, books, stationary and other items such as toys, shoes, etc. were distributed to the needy by the Mission. Also on this occasion, the cancer patients at Shanti Avedna Sadan, Raj

Nagar, Delhi, were also given medicines, fruits, and other useful items by the Mission.

Sant Darshan Singh Ji Maharaj established Sawan Kirpal Ruhani Mission in 1974 in the name of his spiritual Masters, Hazur Baba Sawan Singh Ji Maharaj and Param Sant Kirpal Singh Ji Maharaj. A renowned mystic poet-saint of his time, he received prestigious awards by the Urdu Academy in Delhi, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh. After Sant Darshan Singh Ji Maharaj’s departure from this physical world, his spiritual work was carried on by Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj, and today he is spreading the teachings of Sant Mat all over the world. And has been spreading the message of love, unity, and peace through meditation all over the globe, for which he has been awarded several accolades along with 5 honorary doctorates by various countries.

Sawan Kirpal Ruhani Mission has over 3000 centers all across the globe and its literature is available in more than 55 languages. The Indian headquarters of the organization is in Vijay Nagar, Delhi, and the International headquarters is in Naperville, USA.

**Dharam Veer Bhakku,**  
Public Relations Officer

will have peace when we trust in the Lord. If we can understand this, we will find our life will be showered with peace.

How can we keep our attention to the Lord? All saints and mystics have told us that we can keep our attention on the Lord through meditation. Meditation is nothing more than focused attention on God. The outer expression of the soul is the attention. By concentrating all our attention within, we will find the Lord. In meditation, we sit with full attention on the

meeting point where the Lord will come to receive us. That point is the third or single eye, located between the two eyebrows. It seems so simple. What stands in our way?

What makes it hard to focus on the Lord is the way we keep our attention focused on other preoccupations. If we look at our lives, we find our attention focused in so many places. We may find our attention is split into thinking about our job, money, possessions, family, friends, social life, our future, our past, and

all our problems. Each time we focus our attention on any of these areas, we are not focused on God. But, we may ask, these are all areas that press us on each day of our lives. That is true, but we can find time from our busy lives to focus on God as well. If we cannot find time to put all our attention to God, how can we expect to be open to receive the Lord?

Every person who has found God has spent time in meditation. Meditation was a priority in all their lives

# लोकतंत्र का सूर्योदय हो चुका है



## कैलाश खोसला

लम्बे समय से जमे-जमाये वंशवादी ढांचों का बैंड बज गया है एवं भारत में सच्चे अर्थों में लोकतंत्र का सूर्योदय हो चुका है। आपातकाल की समाप्ति के बाद पहली बार किसी दल को पुनः दूसरी बार पूर्ण बहुमत की आंधी नहीं बल्कि सूनामी ने नई राजनीति की शुरुआत का बिगुल बजा दिया है। सभी दलों के लिए इसको समझना आवश्यक है इसको अनदेखा करके वे विनाश की ओर ही अग्रसर होंगे। इसका पहला संकेत यह है कि वंशवादी राजनीति का समूल नाश हो गया है। लंबे समय से यह बात स्वीकार कर ली गई थी कि ताकतवर नेताओं के बच्चे ही अपने माता-पिता का राजनीतिक उत्तराधिकारी होंगे, लेकिन सच्चाई यह है कि दुनिया

के इस सबसे बड़े लोकतंत्र का यह घृणित पक्ष रहा है। कोई चुनौती इसको आज तक नहीं मिली थी। हास्य में कही यह बात की राजतंत्र में राजा अपने पिता का पुत्र होता है, जनतंत्र में ऐसा नहीं होता। घटित हो रही थी। अंग्रेज राजा का पुत्र ही राजा होता है लेकिन जनतंत्र में कोई भी कहीं से उठकर शासक बन सकता है। वंशवाद के चलते इसे कोई बड़ी चुनौती आज तक नहीं मिली थी। लेकिन मोदी जी ने पूर्ण बहुमत से पूर्ण वापसी करके बहुतेरे जमे-जमाए वंशों को संप्रांसगिक बना दिया। खानदानी नेताओं की वंश-परंपरा का सबसे सटिक उदाहरण है। कांग्रेस पार्टी। राहुल गांधी आज जहाँ भी है उसका एकमात्र कारण यही है कि वह किसके बेटे हैं। उनकी माताजी को पार्टी की सर्वे-सर्वा इसलिए बनाए रखा गया कि वह गाँधीवंश की हैं। उनके पति श्री राजीव गाँधी इसलिए पार्टी में



सर्वोच्च पद पर थे, क्योंकि श्रीमति इंदिरा गाँधी के पुत्र थे। यह श्रृंखला पं. जवाहर लाल नेहरू से ही चली आ रही थी। यहाँ तक सुना जाता है कि श्रीमती सोनिया के बच्चे राहुल बाबा और प्रियंका जब छोटे थे तो कांग्रेस के दिग्गज नेता जब इनसे मिलने आते थे तो गोद में उठाकर कहा करते थे कि हम भावी प्रधानमंत्री से खेल रहे हैं।

मगर अब इतनी विशाल हार के बाद राहुल गाँधी जी के लिए जरूरी हो गया है कि वह अपनी पार्टी के पतन की जिम्मेदारी लें और लोकतंत्र की उच्च परंपराओं के अंतर्गत अपने पद से स्व हार जाएं। ना नेतृत्व, नए सन्देश, नए केडर और नई राजनीति की कांग्रेस पार्टी को अविलम्ब आवश्यकता है। इसी प्रकार लालु यादव के परिवार में भी तेजस्वी यादव और उत्तर प्रदेश मुलायम सिंह यादव परिवार में श्री अखिलेश यादव के लिए ठीक यही संदेश है। आर.जे.डी. बिहार में एक भी सीट नहीं जीत पाए फिर भी तेजस्वी पार्टी के नेता बने हुए हैं। तो इसकी अकेली वजह यही है कि वह लालु प्रसाद यादव के अभिषिक्त पुत्र हैं। अखिलेश भी मुलायम सिंह यादव

का बेटा होने के नाते पार्टी पर अपना प्रभुत्व बना सकते हैं। लेकिन खानदान अच्छे प्रदर्शन की गारंटी नहीं देता। परिवार के कई सदस्यों के साथ उनकी पत्नी डिंपल जी चुनाव हार गई।

वंशवाद के अलावा दुसरा प्रथम मोदी की इस जीत ने जाति और समुदाय की जागीरों को अप्रशासनिक बना दिया है। जैसे यूपी में समाजवादी और बहुजन समाज पार्टी का गठबंधन इस मान्यता पर टिका था कि यादव दलित और मुस्लिम वोटर इसकी नैयया पार लगा देंगे बिहार में मुस्लिम-यादव जोड़ को अजेय माना जाता था। मोदी की सुनामी में इस जातियों के किले को ध्वस्त कर दिया है। तीसरा, नई राजनीति ने नेतृत्व के मूल्यांकन का नया तरीका पैदा किया है, पुरानी वफादारियों को भूल कर वोटर खुलकर पुछ रहा है कि कौन है जो देश को वर्तमान हालात में तरक्की के रास्ते पर ले जा सकता है। नरेन्द्र मोदी के अलोचक बहुत हैं लेकिन इसमें दो राय नहीं है कि उनकी नेतृत्व क्षमता का कोई तोड़ विपक्ष के पास नहीं है उनकी वाक्पटुता, निर्णयक्षमता, ऊर्जा और दुरदर्शिता उनके आलोचकों का भी दिल जीत

वंशवाद के अलावा दुसरा प्रथम मोदी की इस जीत ने जाति और समुदाय की जागीरों को अप्रशासनिक बना दिया है। जैसे यूपी में समाजवादी और बहुजन समाज पार्टी का गठबंधन इस मान्यता पर टिका था कि यादव दलित और मुस्लिम वोटर इसकी नैयया पार लगा देंगे बिहार में मुस्लिम-यादव जोड़ को अजेय माना जाता था।

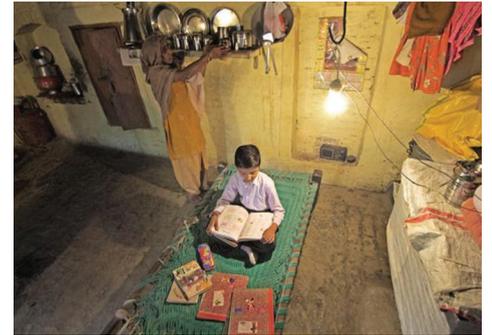


‘नए भारत’ के नारे से इस कार्यक्रम को और मजबूती मिली। भारत युवा-प्रधान देश है। यहां 65 फिसदी लोगों की उम्र 35 साल से कम है व युवा अतीत के बहकावे से पक चुके हैं। उनका मुफ्त के अनुदान के वायदों से मोह-भंग हो चुका है। वह नई संभावनाओं, नई कार्यक्रमों एवं नए मौकों की तलाश में बेसब्र है। बी.जे.पी. ने कोई बारीक ब्योरे देकर विकास तलाश का सपना नहीं दिखाया अपितु सबका साथ - सबका विकास का नारा दिया जिसका अपना आकर्षण था।

सकती है। स्पष्ट है अब देशवासी पार्टी-प्रमुख को उसके वंश से नहीं उसकी नेतृत्व क्षमता से परखते हैं।

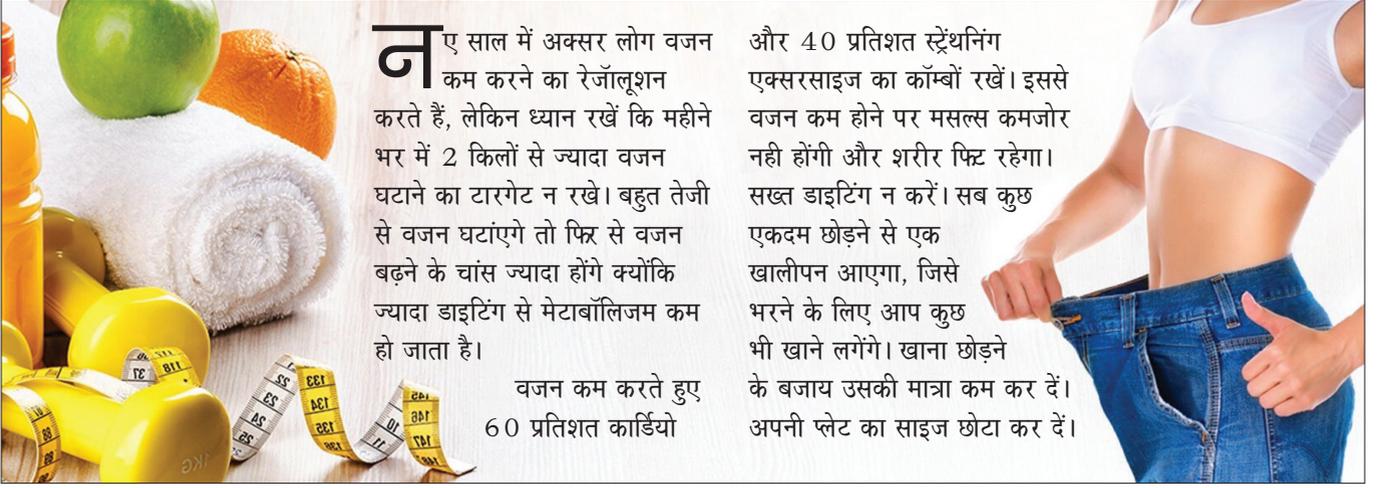
चौथा, 2019 के चुनाव ने दिखाया है कि जनता भरोसेमंद वायदे चाहती है। विकासमूलक, जन कल्याण से जुड़े कार्यों को महत्व देती है जो मोदी ने सफाई अभियान, शौचालयों, गैस कनेक्शन, यह निर्णायक सहायता, बिजली कनेक्शन व लोगों के खातों में सीधा पैसे भेजना आदि कार्यों से प्रकट होता है। जनता में नकारात्मक को नकार दिया व सकारात्मक कार्यों को सराहना की है। विकास सबका एवं सभी धर्मों के प्रति सम्मान की भावना पर ‘वोट बैंक’ की राजनीति हावी हो चुकी है। राष्ट्रवाद इसका अन्य महत्वपूर्ण घटक बनकर सामने आया है।

‘नए भारत’ के नारे से इस कार्यक्रम को और मजबूती मिली। भारत युवा-प्रधान देश है। यहां 65 फिसदी लोगों की उम्र 35 साल से कम है व युवा अतीत के बहकावे से पक चुके हैं। उनका मुफ्त के अनुदान के वायदों से मोह-भंग हो चुका है। वह नई संभावनाओं, नई कार्यक्रमों एवं नए मौकों की तलाश में बेसब्र है। बी.जे.पी. ने कोई बारीक ब्योरे देकर विकास तलाश का सपना नहीं



दिखाया अपितु सबका साथ – सबका विकास का नारा दिया जिसका अपना आकर्षण था। पांचवीं बात यह कि किसी भी राज्य में किसी का भी दुर्ग सुरक्षित नहीं है। बंगाल, उड़ीसा और आसाम से बी.जे.पी. का बढ़ती ताकत ने यह सिद्ध कर दिया है।

आशा करें कि ‘नई राजनीति’ सबका साथ, सबका विकास व सबका विश्वास की सच्ची भावना के साथ काम करेगी और शंकराचार्य व चाणक्य का देश जो कभी लोकतंत्र उच्च शिखरों को चुनता था फिर से अवतार लेगा और अस बुनियाद पर विकास करेगा कि राष्ट्र की शक्ति अन्ततः उसके भीतर की समस्तता पर निर्भर करती है ताकि खोखले वंशवाद या प्रगति कर सकती है।



**न**ए साल में अक्सर लोग वजन कम करने का रेजॉल्यूशन करते हैं, लेकिन ध्यान रखें कि महीने भर में 2 किलों से ज्यादा वजन घटाने का टारगेट न रखें। बहुत तेजी से वजन घटाएंगे तो फिर से वजन बढ़ने के चांस ज्यादा होंगे क्योंकि ज्यादा डाइटिंग से मेटाबॉलिज्म कम हो जाता है।

वजन कम करते हुए  
60 प्रतिशत कार्डियो

और 40 प्रतिशत स्ट्रेथनिंग एक्सरसाइज का कॉम्बो रखें। इससे वजन कम होने पर मसल्स कमजोर नहीं होंगी और शरीर फिट रहेगा। सख्त डाइटिंग न करें। सब कुछ एकदम छोड़ने से एक खालीपन आएगा, जिसे भरने के लिए आप कुछ भी खाने लगेंगे। खाना छोड़ने के बजाय उसकी मात्रा कम कर दें। अपनी प्लेट का साइज छोटा कर दें।

## हारस्य-कथा

# बताओं, क्यों मुड़ी होती है ऊंट की गर्दन

**न**ए साल में अक्सर लोग वजन कम करने का रेजॉल्यूशन करते हैं, लेकिन ध्यान रखें कि महीने भर में 2 किलों से ज्यादा वजन घटाने का टारगेट न रखें। बहुत तेजी से वजन घटाएंगे तो फिर से वजन बढ़ने के चांस ज्यादा होंगे क्योंकि ज्यादा डाइटिंग से मेटाबॉलिज्म कम हो जाता है। बादशाह अकबर बीरबल की हाजिर जवाबी के बड़े कायल थे। एक दिन दरबार में खुश होकर उन्होंने बीरबल को कुछ पुरस्कार देने की घोषणा की, लेकिन बहुत दिन गुजरने के बाद भी बीरबल को पुरस्कार नहीं दिया। बीरबल बड़ी ही उलझन में थे कि महाराज को याद दिलाएं तो कैसे। एक दिन महाराजा अकबर यमुना नदी के किनारे शाम की सैर पर निकले। बीरबल उनके साथ था। बादशाह अकबर ने वहां एक ऊंट को घूमते देखा। बादशाह अकबर ने बीरबल से पूछा, 'बीरबल बताओ, ऊंट की गर्दन मुड़ी क्यों होती।' बीरबल ने सोचा महाराज को उनका वादा याद दिलाने का यह सही वक्त है। बीरबल ने मौके पे चौका मारा, 'महाराज



यह ऊंट किसी से वादा करके भूल गया है, जिसके कारण ऊंट की गर्दन इस तरह से मुड़ गई है। महाराज, कहते हैं कि जो भी अपना वादा भूल जाता है तब भगवान उनकी गर्दन ऊंट की तरह मोड़ देता है। यह वादा न निभाने की एक तरह की सजा है।' बादशाह अकबर को ध्यान आया कि वो भी तो बीरबल से किया अपना एक वादा भूल गए हैं। फिर क्या था, बादशाह अकबर ने बीरबल से महल में चलने के लिए कहा। महल में पहुंचते ही सबसे पहले उन्होंने बीरबल को इनाम की रकम उन्हें सौंप दी। इसके बाद बादशाह बोले, 'अब तो मेरी गर्दन तो ऊंट की तरह नहीं मुड़ेगी बीरबल' और यह कहकर बादशाह अकबर अपनी हंसी नहीं रोक पाए। बादशाह और बीरबल दोनो हंस रहे थे लेकिन बाकी दरबारी कुछ समझ नहीं पा रहे थे।

महल में पहुंचते ही सबसे पहले उन्होंने बीरबल को इनाम की रकम उन्हें सौंप दी। इसके बाद बादशाह बोले, 'अब तो मेरी गर्दन तो ऊंट की तरह नहीं मुड़ेगी बीरबल' और यह कहकर बादशाह अकबर अपनी हंसी नहीं रोक पाए।

## अमरता की चाह

सिकंदर उस जल की तलाश में था, जिसे पीने से मानव अमर हो जाते हैं। इसकी तलाश में उसने दुनिया की खाक छानली। आखिरकार भारत में उसने यह जगह पा ही ली, जहाँ उसे अमृत की प्राप्ति हो। उसके सामने ही अमृत जल बह रहा था, वह अंजली में अमृत को लेकर पीने के लिए झुका ही था कि तभी एक बूढ़ा फकीर जो उस गुफा के भीतर बैठा था, जोर से बोला, रुक जा, यह भूल मत करना।”

सिकंदर ने पूछा क्यों? बूढ़े ने उत्तर दिया, मैं अमृत की तलाश में था और यह गुफा मुझे भी मिल गई थी। मैंने यह अमृत पी लिया। अब मैं मर नहीं सकता, पर मैं अब मरना चाहता हूँ। देख लो मेरी हालत अंधा हो गया हूँ, पैर गल गए हैं, देखो अब मैं चिल्ला रहा हूँ चीख रहा हूँ कि कोई मुझे मार डाले, लेकिन मुझे मारा भी नहीं जा सकता। अब प्रार्थना कर रहा हूँ परमात्मा से कि प्रभु मुझे मौत दे।

सिकंदर चुपचाप गुफा से बाहर वापस लौट आया, बिना अमृत लिए।

सिकंदर समझ चुका था कि जीवन का आनंद उस समय तक ही रहता है, जब तक हम जीवित व स्वस्थ हैं, उस आनंद लीजिये।

हमेशा खुश रहिये।

दुनिया में सिकंदर कोई नहीं, वक्त ही सिकंदर है।

## अमृत-वाणी

स्वर्ग में सब कुछ हैं, लेकिन मौत नहीं है।  
गीता में सब कुछ हैं, लेकिन झूठ नहीं है।

दुनिया में सब कुछ हैं, लेकिन किसी को सुकून नहीं और आज के इंसान में सब कुछ है, लेकिन सब्र नहीं है। राजाभोज ने कवि कालीदास से दस सर्वश्रेष्ठ सवाल किए जिनके उत्तर प्रेरक हैं:-

1. दुनिया में भगवान की सर्वश्रेष्ठ रचना क्या है  
उत्तर - “माँ”

2- सर्वश्रेष्ठ फूल कौन सा है..  
उत्तर - “कपास का फूल”

3- सर्वश्रेष्ठ सुगंध कौन सी है  
उत्तर - वर्षा में भीगी मिट्टी की सुगंध

4. सर्वश्रेष्ठ मियस कौनसी  
उत्तर - “वाणी की”

5- सर्वश्रेष्ठ दूध  
उत्तर - “माँ का”

6 सबसे काला क्या है...  
उत्तर - “कलंक”

7. सबसे भारी क्या है  
उत्तर - “पाप”

8- सबसे सस्ता क्या है  
उत्तर - “सलाह”

9 - सबसे महंगा क्या है  
उत्तर - “सहयोग”

10 - सबसे कड़वा क्या है  
उत्तर - “सत्य”

# STATES IN ACTION

## ODISHA UNA

Honble Governor of Odisha Prof Ganeshi Lal Jee with the members of Odisha UNA At Bhubaneshwar, Raj Bhawan on the eve of International Friendship Day on 30th July 2019.



left to right Dr B D Khandyat Ray, Manoranjan Pattanaik, Advocate, President UFUNA, Dr S K Tamotia, Former CMD, NALCO, Former Chief Engineer. A.K. Satpaty, Honble Governor of Odisha Prof Ganeshi Lal Jee (sitting) UFUNA Secy. General Dr Dipayan Patnaik and Secretary UFUNA poet Bahadur Patsani.

## MAHARASHTRA UNA



International Women's Day 2019 Celebrated by Maharashtra UNA at Mumbai, Secretary General, Maharashtra UNA, A.A. Syed is seen 2nd from left .



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