

Mahamana Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya :

A Golden Pillar of India's Glory

By
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Mahamana has contributed much to build India as a nation. He selected Education as means to reach to this goal. His great contribution, The Banaras Hindu University is glorious example of the synthesis of idealism and realism, theory and practice, western knowledge and eastern wisdom. In this respect, he possessed the spirit of Yogeshwara and Dhanurdhar, The man of ideals and the man of action. As pointed out by Dr. S. K. Maitra, a professor of Philosophy of the Banaras Hindu University, that "In Malaviya ji's make up there was something more than the blending of idealism and realism, this was the Bhāgavat (Purāṇa) touch in him, the passionate love of humanity which gave an additional sweetness and grace to his personality". (S. K. Maitra : Mahamana Malaviya Birth Century Volume, 25 Dec. 1961, B.H.U., Varanasi)

Thus one can find in him a dream to build India, through a complete education which will bring value-based leadership to proceed for the full growth. He adopted cultural value systems of Traditional Hindu view of life. He was a firm believer and an activist of high standard to follow the path of tolerance and respect to any faith, to any person and any ideologies which have their roots in helping and enriching not only the knowledge but also the practical way of life style. Among all he honoured purity of mind and dedication to work in true spirit. To achieve such goal, he suggested to go into deep of sense and sensibility of Truthfulness, right conduct, physical fitness, right knowledge, true patriotism and self-sacrifice :

सत्येन ब्रह्मचर्येण, व्यायामेन विद्यया ।

देश भक्त्याऽत्मत्यागेन, सम्मानार्हः सदा भव ॥

It is mentioned that Mahatma Gandhi wrote about him that "Malaviyaji has left an imperishable memorial of himself in the Kashi Vishva Vidyalaya (B.H.U.). To put it on a stable foundation, to secure its revolutionary growth, will surely be the most suitable memorial.....as he spared no pains in making big collection for his pet child. (V.A. Sundaram - Homage to Malaviya ji, Banaras, P. 8, 1949), Dr. Sampurnanand wrote : "he was a rare sensitive soul. He was rare not only in being a man of wide and deep synthesis but is the depth of cultured mind" (Ibid. P.23).

The present form of The Banaras Hindu University may be looked as a holy place of learning, a place for perfect personality growth, a ground for scientific, Technological and Spiritual balance with the various centres in the one campus. This is what Mahamana visualised a hundred years back. He wished to bring the welfare of all mankind and not only the personal gains of achieving state-honour or any thing of a kind which provide personal solace or salvation, the happiness of heaven or a good life of complete worldly comforts that is why he gave a slogan :

न त्वहं कामये राज्यं न स्वर्गं न पुनर्भवम् ।

कामये दुःखतप्तानाम् प्राणिनाम् आर्त नाशनम् ॥

To remove the suffering of whole mankind was his goal of life.

