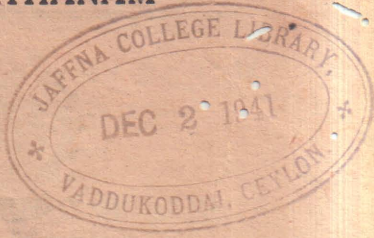


# THE Hindu Organ.

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A. V. Kulasingham, Advocate.

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## TENSION IN FAR EAST

"ANYTHING MAY HAPPEN"

London, Nov. 28.

THE whole of the Far East has been plunged into a state of expectancy by reports that the Americo-Japanese talks have reached a deadlock. Though officials in Singapore decline to speculate on the future, it is clear that the view that "anything may happen" is fully shared.

While the Japanese armies in China and elsewhere have been noticeably inactive in the past few weeks, it is realised that this does not mean that they have not been preparing for action. On the contrary there is every evidence that they are using the lull to take up new positions from which they will be ready to strike quickly should Tokyo give the signal.

The Japanese Foreign Minister, Admiral Togo, laid Mr. Cordell Hull's memorandum on the Washington talks before the Japanese Cabinet at its meeting today. After discussing all phases of the talks for nearly two hours the Cabinet adjourned.

Earlier the Prime Minister, General Togo, conferred with the Vice-Minister for War and various officials, presumably about the memorandum. Mr. Koh Ishii, the official Japanese spokesman, said today that the Japanese-American conversations were still continuing, according to the Tokyo radio. Mr. Ishii said that Mr. Hull's communication was being studied, but he was unable to say when or whether Japan would reply to it. He added that there was a widespread public demand in Japan for the rejection of any proposed temporary arrangement. Mr. Ishii said Mr. Hull's consultations with other interested powers were "on his own discretion".

## WAR INEVITABLE

London, Saturday.

War between the United States and Japan is inevitable. That sums up opinion in both Washington and Tokyo today.

American opinion is contained in a leading article in the "Baltimore Sun" which reflects the views prevalent in Washington. This declares: "The American people must be prepared for war with Japan."

## JUNCTION OF TOBRUK FORCES

### BRITISH FORCES FORGING AHEAD

London, Nov. 28.

AN authoritative British spokesman at Cairo announced that the junction of the Tobruk forces with the New Zealanders had been completed. The Italian Bologna Division, which held positions covering the east end of the Tobruk perimeter, had been practically eliminated. The spokesman declared that the British tank recovery organisation had proved excellent. The Imperial forces, added the spokesman, are forging ahead south-east of Tobruk.

East of Tobruk there are still pockets of resistance which are being engaged, it was stated in authoritative circles in London this afternoon. There is no evidence that German armoured forces have been able to break out of the ring in any direction. West of Tobruk, however, there are considerable Axis forces, now apparently offering resistance to the British advance.

#### Position at Bardia

The position at Bardia appears to be that the town has been evacuated by the enemy, and British troops are now engaged in clearing up pockets of resistance around the town in deep wadis (dry river beds) running seawards. There was similar resistance around the town during the last offensive.

The following is the text of a G.H.Q. communique (Middle East) issued today: "South-east of Tobruk British and New Zealand forces, which yesterday made direct contact, are forging their way westward in the face of determined opposition. At the same time east of their point of junction enemy detachments still in considerable strength are being engaged."

"Meanwhile an enemy raiding column, swelled by German elements, which had joined it from defensive positions between Halfaya and Sidi Omar, started yesterday morning to move westward with the evident intention of trying to rejoin the main Axis forces

engaged in battle west of Sidi Rezegh. This westward movement is being conducted in two main bodies.

#### British Bombers Attack

"Shortly after midday, yesterday, the northern body, which included a number of German tanks, was effectively engaged twelve miles south of Gambut by our bomber aircraft. It was subsequently heavily attacked by British armoured forces, which had been despatched to intercept its return. After two hours' intensive fighting the enemy was reported to have scattered, and a large number of vehicles were observed moving north-west towards Gambut."

## INDIANS IN CEYLON

### OFFICIAL SURVEY OF POSITION

New Delhi, Nov. 26.

A change in the status of the Agent-General for India to that of High Commissioner for India in the Union of South Africa, the appointment of the Broome Commission and extension of the provisions of the Asiatics (Transvaal Land and Trading) Act, 1939, for two more years, in S. Africa, the Indo-Ceylon negotiations, the appointment of the Baxter Commission in Burma and the passage of the Land Tenure Bill in Fiji, are mentioned as some of the outstanding events in the annual review of important events affecting Indians in Empire countries during the period ending March 1941.

A ten per cent increase in the wage rates over the previous rates was enforced in Ceylon from February 1, 1941. Since the outbreak of the war, a period of rising cost of living synchronised with a period of unrest among labourers and to meet the labourers' demand the planters decided to give a war bonus. As the payment of the bonus was entirely at the discretion of the Superintendents without any statutory obligation, the increase in wages was adopted on the recommendation of the Board of Indian Immigrant Labour in place of the war bonus.

Tightening up of the procedure

## CONCILIATE INDIA

COMMENT ON "TIMES" EDITORIAL

London, Nov. 25.

THE recent editorial in *The Times* lamenting the failure of the Government to handle the question of release of political prisoners effectively has provided a number of letters which reveal sharp interest in the matter.

Mr. Carl Heath, Chairman of the India Conciliation Group, endorses *The Times* in placing the responsibility for breaking the deadlock on the Government since, as the Government itself insists, it is still finally responsible for India. Mr. Heath discloses that Mr. Churchill, replying a few weeks ago to representations, said, "The Society of Friends may rest assured that the Government will spare no pains to provide such a measure of agreement among the creeds, races and interests in India as will enable them to give effect to their policy as early as possible."

Mr. Heath remarks, "Clearly it is not sufficient to wait until the problem settles itself somehow in India." Mr. Heath comments that Mr. Amery's Manchester speech unfortunately gave no indication whatever of any new constructive effort or of any present determination that "would pave the way to a reconciliation which both sides at heart equally desire and both equally need."

## STUDENTS AND POLITICS

THE NIZAM'S ADVICE

Hyderabad, Nov. 26.

Writing in a local vernacular paper, His Exalted Highness the Nizam advises students of the Osmania University to refrain from taking part in politics during the prosecution of their studies. This kind of participation would be of no use to them while they were studying. They could certainly play their part in healthy politics after completion of their studies.

for the registration of voters was resolved on by the Ceylon State Council in respect of all new voters for the State Council elections. As considerable apprehension in the minds of the Indians in Ceylon had been caused in this connection, the Government of India have taken the matter up with the Secretary of State for India.





## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1941

### THE LOST OPPORTUNITY

IT WAS IN VAIN THAT MR. S. Samarakkody, in the course of his speech in support of his motion urging the reconstitution of the Executive Committees and the re-election of their Chairmen, deplored the absence of Minority members in the Board of Ministers and reminded the House that the motion gave it an opportunity to reconsider its views with regard to the position of the minority communities. The House rejected the motion by 22 votes to 20, all the Ministers, with the exception of Mr. J. L. Kotalawala, voting against the motion. The European Members too voted against the motion. Among the representatives of the Northern Province, Mr. Natesan was the only person present to give his vote and he voted for the motion. Messrs. G. G. Ponnambalam, A. Mahadeva, and R. Sri Pathmanathan were, according to the press reports available, not present at the division. Their votes would have undoubtedly turned defeat into victory. According to Mr. Samarakkody, there had been a good deal of canvassing with regard to the motion, and there is no reason to suppose that there was any want of publicity in regard to the date on which the motion was to come up for discussion. The absence of the three Tamil Members is, therefore, all the more surprising and regrettable.

It is quite possible that, even if the Council accepted the motion, it might not have helped the minorities eventually, but we have no right to assume that this was bound to be the case. Here was an opportunity for dividing the Council on an issue in which the minorities were vitally interested. The mover of the resolution was quite outspoken in his sympathy towards the claims of the minorities. Unlike Mr. Senanayake Mr. Samarakkody did not indulge in vague appeals and assurances. He accepted the principle that the minorities should be represented on the Board of Ministers and he wanted an opportunity to put this principle into practice. He has taken up a definite and consistent position. Our representatives owed it to themselves and to their constituents to be present in force on an occasion like this and give their support to the motion.

If the absence of the three Tamil Members was unfortu-

nate, the attitude of the Ministers, including Mr. D. S. Senanayake, was worse. Mr. Senanayake came to Jaffna and appealed to the Tamils to trust the Sinhalese and cooperate with them in trying to make Ceylon a better place for all of us. When someone in the audience in the Jaffna Town Hall questioned him as to why the Tamils were left out of the homogeneous Ministry, he made the audience understand that the omission would be rectified at the earliest opportunity. The opportunity was provided unexpectedly by Mr. Samarakkody's motion, but when the opportunity came it found Mr. Senanayake and his friends still unwilling to take the plunge. Even when Mr. Samarakkody appealed to the Ministers to refrain from voting, the only Minister who responded was Mr. Kotalawala.

We congratulate Mr. Samarakkody and those who voted with him on their courage and enterprise in bringing forward a motion like this in the face of Ministerial opposition. We are glad that the mover voiced unequivocally his condemnation of the manner in which the minorities have been excluded from the Ministry. The voting on the motion showed that, if there are Sinhalese leaders whose professions of sympathy and friendship for the Tamils are not quite in keeping with their performances, there are at the same time many public spirited Sinhalese who are sincerely desirous of securing the cooperation of the Tamils and other minorities. Our immediate object should be to strengthen the hands of such men, so that they may be called upon in due course to guide the destinies of the country. The Tamils particularly should not allow themselves to be deflected from this course by the many red herrings ingeniously drawn by the Ministerialists across the trail. We now understand why Mr. Senanayake was so very insistent on the subject of British imperialism, foreign interests, and the like, for, it is easier and much more pleasant to dwell on the sins of the British than to talk about the incredible stupidity of his own group which has all but wrecked the constitutional experiment of the last ten years. The time has arrived for the best elements in all communities to combine effectively, not for the purpose of personal aggrandisement, but in order to preserve the honour and reputation of all thinking men in this country in the face of the impudent attempt now being made by a clique of self-seeking politicians to retain power at any cost. No question of race or community is involved in this matter. What is involved is nothing less than the decency of public life in Ceylon and the ability of the various communities and interests in this island to pull together in a common effort to better existing conditions. These are the two things that have been wanting all these years, ever since the Donoughmore Constitution was thrust on the country, and we must have them before we listen to specious, high-sounding crudities that are absolutely irrelevant.

## Notes & Comments

### Anuradhapura

ELSEWHERE Mr. V. Ramaswamy, Crown Proctor of Anuradhapura, states very fairly and fully the objections of the landowners of the town to the proposed Ordinance. These landowners have made the town what it is. Towns do not spring up in the jungle with a wave of the magician's wand. Mr. Bandaranaike may be able to pile up the bricks in the new town and plan a miniature edition of Paris at the expense of the public, but he will find it difficult to reproduce the conditions, economic and natural, which are indispensable to the evolution of a new city or town. Of one thing Mr. Bandaranaike may rest assured: he has signed the death-warrant of modern Anuradhapura and all the efforts of the pioneers who built up the town during the last 70 or 80 years have been undone with a stroke of the pen. We are not surprised at the feeling that has been aroused in the hearts of those whose whole life has been bound up with the town. As Mr. Ramaswamy says, the application of the new Ordinance will result in the depopulation of the town. What the Ministers have failed to understand is that, in the process of preserving the ancient town of Anuradhapura, they will also succeed in strangling the town. What guarantee is there that the new town is going to make up for the loss of the old? The question is not merely one of compensation. No Legislature can adequately compensate the landowners for the loss of their town and all that it implies. We are afraid that the Ministers have managed to add one more lurid item to the account against them, and we have no doubt that when the time comes for a final assessment of their stewardship the sealing up of Anuradhapura Town will be fully remembered.

### Shop Act for Jaffna

THE last issue of the "Government Gazette" contains a notification by the Minister for Labour, Industry, and Commerce regarding the application of the provisions of the Shops Ordinance to Jaffna. Objections will be received by him on or before January 10, 1942. Under the proposed Order, subject to certain specified exceptions, shops in Jaffna will have to open at 9 a. m. and close at 6 p. m. One curious result of the application of the Ordinance to Jaffna will be that, as most of these shops will be closed at night, the consumption of electric current will be considerably reduced, and the chief sufferer will be the Urban Council a goodly slice of whose revenue comes, we understand, from this source. Another section of our population who will find it difficult to change their habits is the larger number of people from the villages who usually arrive in town to do their shopping somewhat late in the day. The shops on the other side of the Urban Council border will do a roaring business while the shopkeeper in the urban area takes his enforced rest. The shop employees will welcome the Ordinance, which, by fixing the hours during which shops may be open, automatically fixes the hours of work for the employees. The working of the Ordinance in Jaffna will be watched with interest.

### The Vernaculars

SPEAKING at the annual prize distribution of St. Joseph's College, Colombo, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Edmund Peiris, Bishop of Chilaw, had some interesting things to say about the place of the vernaculars in our scheme of education. He admitted that an advanced knowledge of English was necessary for those who aspired to the higher offices in the country or to a more liberal education than what was possible through the medium of

the vernaculars. He urged that provision must be made in any system of education adopted in Ceylon to secure for the pupils a competent knowledge of all the languages of the country. According to Dr. Peiris, we have not as yet standardised the vernaculars, especially Sinhalese. Have we a vocabulary of scientific and technical terms fixed and generally accepted?, he asks. It is interesting to note that the same charge was made more than a decade ago when the question of giving the vernaculars their due came up for discussion. Well, here is work for Mr. C. W. W. Kannangara

### Homogeneity in Excelsis

THE discussion in the State Council on the recommendations of the Executive Committee of Education for the reorganisation of the Ceylon Technical College provided a striking demonstration of Ministerial homogeneity in excelsis. Mr. Kannangara's motion for the approval of the recommendations was seconded by his colleague, Mr. Bandaranaike. The recommendations, if accepted by the Council, will make the College the centre for technological instruction throughout the island; the College is to be separated from the Education Department and constituted as a distinct department under the control of the Executive Committee of Education, and the courses offered will lead up to the London University degree in Engineering and the Associate Membership of the Chartered Institutions of Engineers. So far, there seems to be nothing wrong with these recommendations. But Mr. D. S. Senanayake opposed the motion on several grounds. Mr. Senanayake's chief complaint seems to be that the scheme proposed fails to utilise the technical knowledge and experience now available in the public service and to secure that amount of cooperation between these services and the College which is needed to ensure the success of the plan. Here again it may be remarked that the complaint is reasonable. But the humour of the situation lies in the fact that the Ministers, instead of discussing the matter amongst themselves and coming to an agreement on the essential features of the proposed scheme, had to appear before the Council and precipitate a lively debate which involved the telling of many a tale out of school. It would appear that Mr. Senanayake sent a couple of Indian Engineers to visit the College and find out what was the matter with the instruction given to Irrigation Learners. Mr. Kannangara is disposed to treat this visit as a piece of fifth-column activity in spite of Mr. Senanayake's angry protest that it was not so and there was absolutely nothing surreptitious about the visit. Mr. Senanayake's contention that if they wanted to Ceylonise the services, they should not merely try to get jobs for people but should make the people efficient, will meet with wide approval. The reorganisation of the Technical College will prove a costly failure if in the end the College only succeeds in manufacturing diploma-holders and not real Engineers who will have to build dams when the dams are washed away. Besides, has Mr. Kannangara thought about the University in connection with the reorganisation of the Technical College? He wants the Technical College to be an independent self-governing institution. Then, what is it that the University is going to teach our young men and women? It is quite obvious that the Ministers are divided on a question of vital importance, and the least they can do is to reconstitute the Executive Committees and the Ministry as urged by Mr. Samarakkody.



# PRINCIPLE OF BALANCED REPRESENTATION

By

C. Arulambalam,

Advocate

## What It Signifies

### Need for Weightage

MUCH controversy has arisen on the question of Balanced Representation. By Balanced Representation is meant that system of representation under which, where there are more than one race or community in a state, the different Communities are represented in the State Legislature not on the population basis only, but weightage is given to Minority Communities in proportion to their historical, political and cultural importance or backwardness so that they may not be at a disadvantage as against the Majority Community. Balanced Representation will have its logical application where the population is not homogeneous as in England, but heterogeneous or diversified and divided by differences of race, language, religion or culture as in India or Ceylon.

In a country where there are several races or communities but no single race or community pronouncedly predominates in numbers, equal representation is the natural remedy to unite them politically.

Where there is a single predominant race or community and other communities are smaller in numbers, both individually and jointly, there is a natural tendency, with the human love for power as

it is, for the Majority Community to claim the rights of a majority and rebel against the principle or policy of Balanced Representation.

### Path of Wisdom

But political wisdom will indicate that in countries where there is a predominant Majority Community political representation should not be based on mere numbers. The English people have always been noted for their long experience of democracy in action. In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland as it was before the evolution of Southern Ireland into the Irish Free State (now Eire) the Irish were given representation in the House of Commons far in excess of the proportion of representation they were entitled to in point of numbers only. Similarly in other countries where the population has been heterogeneous the grant of weightage as regards representation for the less numerous communities has been an accepted principle of political wisdom.

### In India

The principle of weightage is recognised in India where the Hindus form the predominant majority with the Mohammedans coming next as an important minority, and where there are also other small minorities as the Parsis, Sikhs etc.

The Indian National Congress

has been conceding to the Minorities the principle of weightage in its avowed policy of a Free United India. The Indian National Flag evolved by the Congress has represented on it, symbolically and equally, the two chief Communities, the Hindus and the Mohamedans, and the other Minorities jointly by the three colours red, green and white respectively. This symbolical representation on the National Flag is itself illustrative of the principle of Balanced Representation.

### The Case of Ceylon

The case of Ceylon is analogous to that of India. We have a predominant Community, the Singhalese, an important Minority Community, the Tamils, and small Minorities such as the Muslims and Burghers.

Balanced Representation is sought so that by its application all Communities may pull their individual and united political and cultural weight in full to achieve the destiny of a self-governing United Ceylon.

Where one Community pronouncedly predominates as the Singhalese do in Ceylon, if there is no Balanced Representation there will be a natural feeling of political helplessness among the Minorities which will stand in the way of their making both an individual and a joint contribution towards the common welfare, in consonance with their historical and cultural importance as Communities.

Balanced Representation will have the natural effect of making the Majority Community adopt towards the Minorities an attitude not of a dominant master towards a subordinate but of a senior partner towards a junior partner or of a comrade towards another.

Under a system of Balanced Representation the Majority Community will be still a majority but a majority not dominating the minorities and pursuing its way heedless of their interests but desendent on them for the formulation and carrying out of a common policy political, social, economic and cultural.

Where there is a heterogeneous population as in Ceylon Balanced Representation cannot but be the sovereign remedy for healing communal ills.

The application of the principle of Balanced Representation in the Legislature and the institution of a composite Ministry for Administration must both find a place and be provided for in the future Ceylon Constitution.

As pointed out by the present writer in a recent article in the columns of the "Hindu Organ" the reformation of the Executive Committees in the State Council and the replacement of the present homogeneous Ministry by a composite Ministry representative of the different Communities in the Island should be undertaken at the present juncture. This should be the preliminary step for the formulation of a Constitution satisfactory to all Communities and embodying the principles above indicated.

## THE PRESERVATION OF ANURADHAPURA

### CITY WILL BE DEPOPULATED

#### A Few Facts

REFERRING to the editorial appearing in the issue of the "Hindu Organ" of the 17th instant and the letter of Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam and your editorial of the 24th instant in the same issue I am obliged to write a few facts touching the subject. I have been living in Anuradhapura for the last 40 years. The Tamils and Muslims were the pioneers of this place, acquired lands and put up buildings. At the time I came here there were a handful of Singhalese living in the Town. About 75 per cent of the lands and buildings within the Urban limits of Anuradhapura belong to the Tamils and Muslims. The proposal to shift the Town does not meet with the approval of the landed proprietors living in the Town of Anuradhapura. It took about 70 to 80 years to make the Town of Anuradhapura habitable having three major tanks on the three sides of the Town and the water channels running throughout the Town. These facilities cannot be found in the New Town. The people here will not consent to take land and reside in the New Town in lieu of the land in the Old Town. As was remarked by Mr. Freeman the New Town will be waterless and shadeless. When some of us saw the Ordinance in the "Gazette" we lost no time in communicating with Messrs Ponnambalam and Freeman and re-

By

V. Ramasamy, J.P., U.M.

(Crown Proctor)

questing them to oppose the passing of the Ordinance.

#### Not Entirely Communal

I do not say that it is entirely a Communal affair but the shifting of the Town affects adversely the interests of the minority community much more than that of the majority community. I do not agree with Mr. Senanayake when he says that the Singhalese have more lands within the limits of the Urban Council. He will be correct if he speaks of the Province. We respect the sentiments of the Singhalese in trying to preserve the historical, religious and archaeological interests of the Town but some thoughtless utterances in and outside the State Council make people suspicious of the honest intention of the Board of Ministers and lend a communal colour to this matter. There is no doubt that this Ordinance will work great hardship to the landowners during the interval between the shifting of the Old Town and the planting of the New Town. The present measure will depopulate the Old Town without the probability of having a New Town. Mr. Goonesinghe speaks of compelling the landowners to accept lands in the New Town. Does

## MINISTERS DECIDE TO REMAIN

### RESHUFFLE MOTION LOST

AT Thursday's meeting of the State Council, Mr. Siripala Samarakkoddy (Narammala) moved: "That in view of the fact that the normal life of the State Council has been extended and as the Leader has openly declared that the Council has become stale, this Council requests the Governor and the Secretary of State to take immediate steps to make provision for reshuffling the Executive Committees and the re-election of their chairmen."

Mr. Samarakkoddy said that a similar motion had been brought up by the Member for Dumbara and fully discussed. The sense of the House on that occasion, exclusive of the Ministers, was that there should be a change. The correct thing would have been for the Ministers not to have voted upon that motion.

He would ask the Ministers to revise their judgment and let the House give a correct decision. Some of the Ministers in particular had taken up a defiant attitude in flouting decisions of the House.

The fundamental fact that members should bear in mind was the impossibility of holding an election after the expiry of the extended two years in view of the present international situation which was bringing the War nearer East. It was for that very reason necessary that there should be a reshuffle of Committees.

He think that the people are mere cattle to be driven to any place regardless of its fitness for dwelling purposes?

He paid a tribute to the Minister of Communications and Works, who he had been told had urged upon the Board of Ministers not to oppose his motion.

The motion in the absence of any comments, was put to the House and declared lost: Ayes 20, Noes 22 declined to vote one.

The division resulted as follows: Ayes:—Messrs. Amarasuriya, C. E. P. de Silva, Geo. E. de Silva, Joseph de Silva, A. P. de Zoysa, Francis de Zoysa, Dharmaratnam, Goonesinha, Hewavitane, Ilangantileke, Jayah, D. P. Jayasuriya, Natesa Aiyar, Natesan, I. X. Pereira, Rajapakse, Ratnayake, Razik, Samarakkoddy and Wille (20).

Noes:—Sir Baron Jayatilaka, Messrs. C. W. W. Kannangara, D. S. Senanayake, Bandaranaike, Corea, Abeywickrama, Aluwihare, Susanta de Fonseka, H. A. Goonesekera, Griffith, D. D. Gunasekera, R. S. S. Goonewardene, R. C. Kannangara, D. H. Kotelawala, Kuruppu, Newnham, Nugawela, Parfitt, Ratwatte, Dudley Senanayake, Taubimuttu and Villiers (22).

Declined to Vote, Lt.-Col. J. L. Kotelawala.

### OPENING OF PUNGUDUTIVU HOSPITAL

The new hospital at Pungudutivu will be declared open by Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, on Thursday the 4th instant at 4-30 p. m. The Colombo Pungudutivu Mahajana Sabhai will hold a reception on the occasion.







## THE ELEMENTS OF SAIVA SIDDHANTAM

### SIDDHIYAR—AN INTRODUCTION

(By a Science Graduate)

#### VII. 'Sri Panchaksharam' and 'Sivohambavana'

(Continued from our issue of 24-11-41)

Our Tamil Tiru-Murais (sacred books) simply teem with praises of this Mantiram. We would just give one or two quotations only and proceed:

காதலாசிக் கசிந்து கண்ணீர் மல்கி  
ஒ துவார் தமை நல் நெறிக்கு உய்ப்பதம்  
வேதம் நான்கினும் மெய்ப்பொருள் ஆவதம்  
நாதன் நாம நமச்சிவாயவே. (Devaram)

With melted hearts and eyes in tears  
Who utters it it leads to heav'n,  
The Truth proclaimed in all four Ved's  
That's NaMaSiVaYa Lord's name.

அஞ்செழுத்தால் ஐந்து பூதம் படைத்தனன்  
அஞ்செழுத்தால் பல யோனி படைத்தனன்  
அஞ்செழுத்தால் துவ் அகல் இடம் தாங்கினன்  
அஞ்செழுத்தாலே அமர்ந்து நின்றானே (Tirumantiram)

With the Five Letters did He create the Pancha Bhasas,  
With the Five Letters did He create the different Yonies,  
With the Five Letters did He support the wide world,  
With the Five Letters did the Lord stand firm.

அஞ்செழுத்தே ஆகமமும் அண்ணல் அருமறையும்  
அஞ்செழுத்தே ஆதி புராணம் அனைத்தும்—அஞ்செழுத்தே  
ஆனந்த தாண்டவமும் அப்பாலைக்கு அப்பாலாம்  
மோனந்த மாமுத்தியும். (Unmai Vilakkam)

The Five Letters form th' Agamas and Vedas rare,  
The Five Letters form the Puranas all of yore,  
The Five Letters form Siva's Dance of Ecstasy  
And th' far far off unceasing calm called Mukti Free.

These quotations are made by way of example. The whole of our Saiva literature in Tamil, Devaram, Tiruvachagam, Tiru-Isaip-pa, &c., simply resounds with praises of the Sri Panchaksharam, not to speak of the literature in the Sanskrit to which Max Muller himself has borne testimony. The great Manicka Vachagar commences his Tiruvachagam with this Mantiram: நமச்சிவாய வாழ்சு..... (Blessed be the Namasivaya). Meykandan says in the 9th Sutram of Siva Gaana Bodham:.....விதி என்னும் அஞ்செழுத்தே and expands this brief injunction thus: இனி இவ்விடத்து ஸ்ரீ பஞ்சாக்கரத்தை விதிப்படி உச்சரிக்க என்றது (contemplate on the Sri Panchaksharam in the prescribed manner). And in Siddhiyar we read:.....பின்னும், ஓசைதரும் அஞ்செழுத்தை விதிப்படி உச்சரிக்க உன்னைத்தே புருந்து அளிப்பன் ஊனம் எலாம் ஓட (If again you contemplate on the Five Letters as laid down, the Lord will enter your heart and drive away all your impurities)

Here we may observe incidentally that Christians include their morning and evening prayers with the word 'Amen.' Being not a student of Hebrew or even of ancient Greek we are not able to say what the original real significance of this word was, but it seems to bear a strange resemblance to our own Vedic 'Aum' with which all Mantras begin and end. Another point worth notice here is that when speaking of creation the Genesis, the first book of the Old Testament of the Christian Bible, states that in the beginning there was word. And this word 'word' would appear to be no other than our 'Vach' (வாக்கு) and 'Vach' in its initial or extremely subtle state (அதிசூக்தம் வாக்கு) is 'Natham' (நாதம்) the prime product of creation as enunciated in Saiva Siddhantam. And Natham is identical with the 'Samasti Pranavam' as we have already seen. All truth as Swami Vivekananda used to say is one and Truth is God. The Vedas are eternal because all truth is eternal and the Vedas represent Truth. In Siddhiyar we read: அருமறை ஆகமம் முதல் தூல் அனைத்தும் உரைக்கையினால் அன்பரிதாம் அப்பொருளை அரன் அருளால் அணுக்கள், தருவாகள் பின் தனித் தனியே தாம் அறிந்த அளவில்.....(The Vedas and Agamas are the prime books as they teach the whole Truth, and individuals morsel out truths from this immeasurable treasure-house according to their lights.....) Yet another point that we wish to note is that Jesus Christ (or Krist, as the word is pronounced) said that he and his Father were one just in the same way that Sri Krishna or (shall we spell the word) Christna said that he was all the world and shewed the Visvarupam (or all-embracing form) of the Lord to his disciple. What do all these and other similarities suggest? Christ must have been a great Yogi like Krishna who was able to practise Sivohambavana and identify himself with God and his religion was a form of Vedantam, only it was garbed in a different set of clothes in accordance with its environments. The Bible was originally written in Hebrew in Western Asia where Christ was born and in reading about his nativity, we are told that some wise men came there from the East, &c, a faint indication perhaps as to the source of his teachings. From Hebrew-land the Bible went further and further westwards and was translated into Greek and from Greek it was translated into English and other languages. What changes or interpretations not intended by its original authors it underwent in the course of these translations and retranslations we cannot say. We are only too aware of the havoc which interpreters and translators with preconceived ideas have played with our Vedas and Vedantas. The translators and retranslators of the Bible too were mortals, and it is only human to err. Even the most learned scholars with the best of intentions in the world are affected by their environments and cannot easily shake off preconceived ideas either inherited from their ancestors or acquired. That is the intrinsic nature of the soul (அது அது பூதல்) as we said before. —(To be continued)

## THE VIVEKANANDA SOCIETY

### SWAMI VIPULANANDA GOLD MEDAL

The Hon General Secretary writes:—

I have much pleasure in announcing the offer of a Gold Medal by a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, to be known as the "Swami Vipulananda Gold Medal", in commemoration of the Swamiji's Editorship of the Prabuddha Bharata. Extracts from the donor's letter will be found below.

The Vivekananda Society, Colombo, has accepted this kind offer. It has been decided after consideration that the competition should be open to all persons of every religion and of both sexes who will not have reached their thirty fifth birthday on the 1st January, 1942. The subject of the essay is "The Cultural Influence of India on Ceylon with special reference to the Lives and Teachings of Sri Rama Krishna Paramahansa and Swami Vivekananda". The essay submitted for the award should reach me, typed, on or before the 1st May, 1942. The words "Essay Competition" should be written on the left hand top corner of the cover. The winning essay, if of a sufficient standard, will entitle the winner to the award of a gold medal weighing about three sovereigns, and will also be published in book form.

#### The Letter Referred to

An event of considerable significance in the intellectual history of our Island of which no sufficient note has so far been taken is that a son of Ceylon has been the distinguished Editor for a number of years of one of the most learned of the journals published in that land of learning—India. I refer to the editorship of Swami Vipulananda Puri of the Prabuddha Bharata, which is a journal of philosophy and religion with a deservedly great international reputation. Swami Vipulananda is one of the most learned men in India today, and he is acknowledged as such in all centres of Indian Scholarship. By his erudition, his achievements in varied fields of research, and particularly research in the field of his own mother tongue, and by his saintliness, he has brought lustre to this small Island which claims to have the honour to be his home. For reasons of health Swami Vipulananda has now relinquished the editorship of the Prabuddha Bharata, and in order to commemorate this phase of his service to India and to Ceylon I suggest that an essay competition might be inaugurated by your Society among all young men and women. I suggest as the subject of the essay: "The Cultural Influence of India on Ceylon, with special reference

## PETAINE-HITLER CONFERENCE

### GERMANY'S MINIMUM DEMAND

London, Nov. 24.

Political observers have begun to speculate on the forthcoming Marshal Petain-Hitler conference which is considered to be most "fateful and will decide many vital issues". Mussolini, it has been reported, will be participating in the conference which suggests that it may settle the broad outlines of the future Vienna 'New Order Peace Conference'. If Hitler succeeds with Vichy, he will probably follow it up by going to Spain and Portugal.

Hitler's minimum demand to Marshal Petain is expected to be the Axis use of the French African ports of Dakar, Casablanca and Bizerta. In return to Marshal Petain, a considerable number of French prisoners of war still in camps in Germany may be released. Free French circles opine that Hitler was attempting to form a front in the West, counter to the A. B. C. D. front in the Far East. They added that Hitler was demanding French warships on a "lease basis".

The above developments pave the way for forming a Franco Spanish 'bloc' in Africa which Hitler has been aiming for sometime past. Trustworthy observers believe that the first step is expected to be a joint declaration by the Vichy and Spanish Governments that they will co-operate in the event of an attack "on their North African possessions". This has given rise to a further report that General Franco also may attend the Conference along with Hitler and Mussolini.

## JOTTINGS ON CURRENT TOPICS

Continued from page 4

their persuasion as to spread their sect by making converts. A Commission of Inquiry stated that the Catholics were the only considerable body of Christians who provided schools to educate those of their own faith. The others were avowedly proselytizing schools and some of them actually refused to adopt the denominational system inaugurated by the department and preferred to forgo the state aid rather than submit to the conscience clause. This spirit was most detrimental to the Buddhist and Hindu inhabitants of the island....."

#### Today's Tale

It is said that politicians live longer than other people. Or at least it appears so to other people.

to the Lives and Teachings of Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa and Swami Vivekananda."

I desire that the fullest possible publicity should be given to this competition in the hope that by that means some real and truly valuable contributions may be made to the theme selected for the essay. I have obtained the kind consent of Swami Pavitrananda Puri, President, Alvaita Ashram, Mayavati, Himalayas, to be the adjudicator of this competition,



## POINT PEDRO MAHA JANA SABHA

The Executive Committee of the Point Pedro Maha Jana Sabha, decided yesterday to make provision for relief to those who sustained loss by the damage caused to their homes by the recent flood at Thumoallai, Point Pedro.

The Committee directed the Secretary to write to the Tea Controller to supply them free Tea and sugar for this season to help the homeless people in this area caused by the recent flood.

Also the Committee decided to call a special meeting on December 7th to consider how to bid goodbye to Mr. Sam. T. Solomons, their President, who is leaving Ceylon on the 16th of December for South India (Madras, Mysore and Trivandrum) on study tour during Christmas holidays to study Cottage Industries such as Sugar from sugar cane, sugar cane plantation and Rural Reconstruction, and who is recommended by the Director of Commerce and Industries and the Government Agent, Jaffna, to the different Directors of Industries in South India. (Cor.)

## THE JAFFNA URBAN COUNCIL NOTICE

Tenders are invited for the supply of stores and materials required for the Sanitation, Works and Electricity Departments such as metal, gravel, Paliaru sand, baskets etc. during the year 1942.

Tenders should reach this office not later than 12 noon on Monday the 15th December 1941, and should be marked on the top of the cover "Tender for supply of Stores 1942."

Tender forms and other informations can be obtained from the abovesaid departments of this Council.

R SIVAGURU NATHER,  
Chairman, U. C.

Office of the Urban Council,  
Jaffna, 26-11-41.  
(Mis. 144 1-12-41.)

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[Q. 115, 23-10-41-22-1-42,]

## ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1087

In the matter of the estate of the late Manicar Sathasivam of Uduvil Deceased.

Navamany widow of Manicar Sathasivam of Uduvil

Vs. Petitioner.

1. Sathasivam Theivanthiran of Uduvil
2. Sathasivam Arichanthiran of do
3. Lankathevy daughter of Sathasivam of do
4. Manicar Sangarappilly of do Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovenamed petitioner coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esquire District Judge Jaffna on the 6th day of November 1941 in the presence of Mr. S. V. Chinniah Proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner having been read.

It is ordered that the abovenamed 4th Respondent be appointed Guardian-at-Litem over the minors the abovenamed 1, 2 & 3rd Respondents for the purpose of representing the said minors and acting on their behalf in these Testamentary proceedings and that the petitioner as the widow of the said deceased be declared entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the deceased issued to her unless the Respondents or any other person shall on or before the 12th day of December 1941 appear before this court and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This day of November 1941  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy  
District Judge

(O. 52. 1 & 4-12-41)

## Urumpirai Hindu College, Jaffna

Wanted an Inter Science of the London University, (with Chemistry as one of the subjects). Previous experience essential. Preference will be given to Lady applicants. Salary according to 'B' Scale. Apply giving particulars, before 1-12-41, to the Manager, Jaffna Hindu College, Jaffna.

(Mis. 141. 24-11-41 & 1-12-41)

## ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 1029

In the matter of the estate of the late Muthupillai wife of Vaithilingam Ponnampalam of Chulipuram Deceased.

Vaithilingam Ponnampalam of Chulipuram

Vs. Petitioner.

Arumugam Saravanamuthu of do Respondent.

This matter coming on for disposal before C. Coomaraswamy Esqr District Judge Jaffna on the 28th day of May 1941 in the presence of Mr. R. Candiah Proctor on the part of the petitioner and on reading the affidavit and petition of the petitioner:-

It is ordered that Letters of Administration be granted to the Petitioner to the estate of the late Muthupillai wife of the petitioner unless the respondents shall appear before this Court on the 2nd day of July 1941 and show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 20th day of June 1941.  
Sgd. C. Coomaraswamy,  
District Judge.

Extended for 10-12-41

It'd. C. C.

D. J.

(O. 51, 1 & 4-12-41)

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(Y. 21 B. 11-8-40—10-8-41.)

(M)

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Mis. 127. 14-11-40—

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