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Greatness of Hindu Philosophers

THEY DEFIED MIGHT

Glowing Inspiration To All

(By DR. RAMESH CHANDRA MAJUMDAR M. A. PH. D.)

WE know a great deal of Indian philosophy, but not of Indian philosophers, of old times. Authentic biographical details of most of them are lacking, and we have no means to ascertain the extent to which they lived their lives according to the tenets preached by them. The literary account, even when available, is of little use in this respect for its date is often unknown, and hence its authenticity is extremely doubtful. Besides, being written by disciples or followers, it is scarcely likely to be free from exaggeration naturally inspired by faith and devotion. Any information, therefore, in this respect, which comes from a contemporary source of unimpeachable authority, is of inestimable value in forming a judgement upon the character of Indian philosophers. I have come across two such statements in the writings of the Greeks which, though already noticed by others, are not generally known to Indian readers and would therefore bear repetition. The first is a statement of Eusebius which runs as follows: "Aristoxenus the musician tells the following story about the Indians. One of these men met Socrates at Athens, and asked him what was the scope of his philosophy. "An enquiry into human phenomena," replied Socrates. At this the Indian burst out laughing. "How can a man enquire into human phenomena," he exclaimed, "when he is ignorant of divine ones?"

Aristoxenus was pupil of Aristotle and lived in 330 B. C. He might, therefore, have heard of the dialogue between Socrates and the Indian philosopher from some of their contemporaries. The short remark, attributed to the Indian philosopher, reveals to us the true spirit of Indian philosophy, and the dialogue is highly characteristic of the differences in the attitude of Greek and Indian philosopher.

The other Greek passage gives an elaborate account of an Indian sage and philosopher, known to the Greeks as Dandamis. King Alexander the Great, in the midst of his ruthless military campaigns in India, heard of the great reputation of the sage, and being desirous to meet him, sent a trusted official, named Onesikrates, to bring him. The account of the interview has been given, in almost identical words, by several Greek writers all of whom evidently drew from a common con-

temporary source. One of these versions is reproduced *in extenso*.

Onesikrates was therefore despatched to fetch him, and when he found the great sage he said "Hail to thee, thou teacher of the Bragmanes (i. e. Brahmins). The son of the mighty god Zeus, King Alexander, who is the sovereign lord of all men asks you to go to him, and if you comply, he will reward you with great and splendid gifts, but if you refuse, will cut off your head"

"Dandamis, with a complacent smile, heard him to the end but did not so much as lift up his head from his couch of leaves, and while still retaining his recumbent attitude returned this scornful answer:—"God, the supreme king, is never the author of innocent wrong, but is the creator of light, of peace; of life, of water, of the body of man, and of souls, and these he receives when death sets them free, being in no way subject to evil desire. *He alone is the God of my homage, who abhors slaughter and instigates no wars.* But Alexander is not God, since he must taste of death, and how can such as he be the world's master, who has not yet reached the further shore of the river Tiberobas, and has not yet seated himself on a throne of universal dominion? Moreover, Alexander has neither as yet entered living into Hades, nor does he know the course of the sun through the central regions of the earth, while the nations on its boundaries have not so much as heard his name. If his present dominions are not capacious enough for his desire, let him cross the Ganges river, and he will find a region able to sustain men if the country on one side be too narrow to hold him. Know this, however, that what Alexander offers me, and the gifts he promises *are all things to me utterly useless;* but the things which I prize, and find of real use and worth, are these leaves which are my house, these blooming plants which supply me with dainty food, and the water which is my drink while all other possessions and things, which are amassed with anxious care, are wont to prove ruinous to those who amass them and cause only sorrow and vexation with which every poor mortal is fully fraught. But, as for me, I lie upon the forest leaves, and, having nothing which requires guarding, close my eyes in tranquil slumber;

(Continued on page 5)

India's Sympathy

A message received by the Board of Ministers states that the Government of India is grieved to hear of the extensive damage caused to Ceylon by the floods and offers their sympathy to the victims. As a mark of their sympathy they have decided to contribute Rs. 3 lakhs to the Governor's Flood Relief Fund. Arrangements have been made to make the payment immediately.

In the act of complete surrender to Him the ego must vanish just as a piece of camphor in fire.

The development of a childlike, innocent and pure personality is the outcome of a life dedicated to God. It is now that Love in all its glory reveals in his heart granting him an experience of ineffable peace and joy. Now all his actions become a spontaneous expression of the soul one with God. In fact, the devotee and God are not different.

Just as the fruit is the consummation of a tree, so Love is the ultimate gain of a life lived in tune with God. It is this Love that gives itself away freely. It is this Love that suffers nobly. It is this Love that sanctifies and purifies everyone who comes into its contact. It is this Love that makes the possessor blissful transmitting it at the same time to all the world.

Self - Dedication

(SWAMI RAMDAS in the Vision)

When you have handed your self over to God and made him your own, you become conscious that He dwells within you and inspires all your thoughts, emotions and actions. This is the first step in the path of self dedication. It is clear that this state is achieved through continuous remembrance and meditation of God. Thereafter gradually the devotee merges his entire individuality into the Universal being of the Divine. The sense of separation from Him is now lost and a perfect identity with Him in all His aspects is realised.

To release life from its shackles, the above described path is the simplest and easiest. The approach is direct just as the approach of a child to its mother in its distress.

Everybody knows that the object of human life and for that matter all lives is to attain permanent or unfading joy and peace. This object can be fulfilled only when the river of life joins the ocean of Divine Existence. What obstructs the soul in its struggle to obtain this supreme felicity is the ego or individual sense which keeps him separated from the Divine Being

A GOVERNOR—HIS QUALITIES

Mahatma Gandhi's Exposition

Under the caption "An Indian Governor" Mahatma Gandhi writes in the *Harijan*.

AN Indian Governor should, in his own person and in his surroundings be a teetotaler; Without this Prohibition of the fiery liquid is well-nigh inconceivable.

He and his surroundings should represent hand spinning as a visible token of identification with the dumb millions of India, a token of the necessity of break labour and organised non-violence on which the society of today seems to be based.

He must dwell in a cottage accessible to all, though easily shielded from gaze, if he is to do efficient work. The British Governor naturally represented British might. For him and his was created a fortified residence—a palace to be occupied by him and his numerous vassals who sustained his Empire. The Indian prototype may keep somewhat pretentious buildings for receiving Princes and Ambassadors of the world. For these, being guests of the Governor, should constitute an education in what "even unto this last"—

equality of all—should mean in concrete terms. For him no expensive furniture, foreign or indigenous, Plain living and high thinking must be his motto, not to adorn his entrance but to be exemplified in daily life.

Must Be A Citizen Of The World

For him there can be no untouchability in any form whatsoever, no caste or creed or colour distinction. He must represent the best of all religions and all things Eastern or Western. Being a citizen of India, he must be a citizen of the world. Thus simply, one reads, did the Khalif Omar, with millions of treasure at his feet, five; thus lived Janaka of ancient times; thus lived, as I saw him, the Master of Eton in his residence in the midst of, and surrounded by, the sons of the Lords and Nobles of the British Isles. Will the Governors of India of the famished millions do less?

He will speak the language of the Province of which he is the Governor and Hindustani, the *lingua franca* of India written in

(Continued on page 5)



Hindu Organ

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1947.

THE PUNJAB

THE TWIN DOMINIONS OF India and Pakistan were born on August 15. The joy and jubilation, with which Independence has been celebrated, have been marred by news from the Punjab where over 200,000 people are said to have lost their lives. The damage to property is colossal. The root cause of the trouble appears to be communal hatred. When the Muslim League insisted on Pakistan and the Indian National Congress was unable to persuade the League to consent to India remaining united, a formula was arrived at whereby it was agreed that the demand of the Muslim League for Pakistan should be conceded but that the two provinces viz. the Punjab and Bengal should be partitioned. Accordingly, a Boundary Commission was appointed and the Commission has made its award. Even before the award was announced communal troubles existed in the Punjab. Neither the ushering in of Pakistan as a Dominion nor the Boundary Commission's award has had any effect in mitigating communal strife in the Punjab. During the past few weeks events have taken such a turn that it has caused great alarm to both the Dominions. Several allegations have been made against the Muslim National Guards and the Police in West Punjab. The complaints are being investigated. The non-Muslim population in West Punjab has suffered very heavy losses. A village of 15,000 non-Muslims has been completely wiped out. Both Dominions are taking all precautions to put an end to mass killing and massacre which communal fanatics indulge in. Events in East Punjab were not better but it is gratifying to note that India has succeeded in persuading the people there to desist from any action hostile to the Muslims.

Mahatma Gandhi's stay in Calcutta has had a sober influence in Bengal. Muslims and Hindus are living in peace and Bengal is on the whole, reported to be quiet except for some disturbances in the district of Sylhet which has been lately ceded to East Bengal. Noakhali and Tipperah gained a notoriety during the disturbances that occurred in and after August 1946. It speaks well of both Muslims and Hindus of Bengal that they should be able to forget their past and live in peace. The tragic happenings in the Punjab are infinitely worse than what happened in Calcutta, Noakhali

Another T. Congress Victory Independent Loses Deposit

In the Kopay Constituency Mr. C. Vanniasingham, the Tamil Congress Candidate defeated his rivals a U. N. P. nominee and an independent by 4353 votes. This is the fourth victory scored by the Tamil Congress. So far, the Tamil Congress contested 5 seats, won four and lost in only one constituency.

Mr. C. Ragunathan loses his deposit. The results are as follows:-
Mr. C. Vanniasingham (T.C.)

	9619 votes
.. S. Rajaretnam (UNP)	5266 "
.. C. Ragunathan	"
(Independent)	1447 "
Spoilt	276 "
Majority	4353 "

Eisenhower Warns of Two Camps

General Dwight Eisenhower, United States Chief of Staff, bluntly declared that the world was already divided into "two great camps."

He was speaking at the convention in New York of the American Legion, when he urged to support universal military training, as the only way to ensure world peace, through a strong America.

"We must face the hard fact that during the two years since hostilities ended, the co-operative spirit has lost ground" General Eisenhower said.

"The world is now grouped on one side around dictatorships, which subject the individual to absolute control, and on the other democracy, which provides him with a free and unlimited horizon.

"As long as deliberate aggression against the rights and the existence of free government may be part of the international picture, we must be prepared for whatever this may finally mean to us."

The Palestine Tangle

The UNO Special Committee on Palestine based its final recommendations for a solution of the Palestine problem on the principles that the British mandate should be ended as early as possible and independence should be granted as soon as practical.

Other points recommended by the committee were: The UNO should be responsible for the maintenance of order in Palestine during the transition period; the holy places should be preserved and access for worship and pilgrimage should be ensured with existing rights; the General Assembly should initiate and execute an international arrangement whereby the 250,000 Jews now in the Assembly centres should be dealt with as a matter of urgency; the solution of the world Jewish problem cannot be found in Palestine.

The last recommendation was objected to by Guatemala and Uruguay. The others were adopted unanimously.

These "basic recommendations" are understood to be of such a general nature as to be acceptable to all the Committee members—even those who differ as to whether the solution of the problem is to be found in a Federal State or in two independent States having only certain economic relations in common.

or Bihar. Some Muslim Leaguers are reported to have said, "Laughing we got Pakistan, and fighting we shall get India". India did not attain independence to surrender to Pakistan.

INDIAN NEWS FRONT

The Punjab Massacre

Leaders Tour Areas

Joint Peace Programme

A Four-day programme for Ministers of India and Pakistan to tour areas affected by communal disorders in the East (India) and West (Pakistan) Punjab has been arranged following Friday's meeting of the joint India-Pakistan Defence Council. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, and Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, visited the East Punjab areas while Sardar Abdur Rab Nishtar, the Communications Minister of Pakistan, visited the West Punjab areas. Each party was accompanied by one Minister each from the East and West Punjab Governments.

British Planes Arrive

It is learned that 40 planes belonging to the British Airways Corporation have arrived in India to help in the evacuation of people from the troubled areas in the Punjab where the situation has not improved. In the West Punjab communal riots have not so far abated. Harrowing tales are being told by refugees from West Punjab (Pakistan) of looting, killing, abduction and forcible conversion. Meanwhile, the Joint Defence Council has decided to abolish the Punjab Boundary Force from mid-night on August 31—September 1. The areas at present covered by the Force has been handed over to direct and individual control as opposed to present indirect and joint control of the respective Dominion Governments.

Shoot to Kill

An order to shoot to kill was given on Sunday last to the Pakistan Army by General Sir Frank Messervy, Commander-in-Chief, Pakistan, in a special order of the day for all ranks. He declared it was their duty to maintain law and stop bloodshed. At the same time Mr. Mohamed Ali Jinnah, Governor-General of Pakistan, in a broadcast over the Lahore Radio, called on the people of Pakistan to abide by the boundary award and not to besmirch their achievements by resorting to a frenzy of savagery and butchery.

Moves In The Frontier

The Faqir of Ipi's eerie caves and inaccessible hills of Waziristan bid to become a nursery of Pathanistan propaganda, a Muslim Leaguer told Globe. "According to advices from Waziristan, the Faqir of Ipi, who has come to regard himself as the King of Waziristan now that the British quit India, is doing active propaganda in favour of Pathanistan. He expressed the fear that the end of Ramzan may see an outbreak of anti-Pakistan trouble in Waziristan, which may spread to the whole Frontier area. The Faqir of Ipi, it was disclosed, seems to have met with one rival. He is Mulla Qandhari. This religious man, accompanied by his relative, former King Amanullah, is enlisting tribesmen for doing propaganda for restoring King Amanullah to the Afghan throne. How far he has succeeded, or hopes to succeed in what seems to be a mad man's dream is not known. The Afghan Government, however, seems to have taken a serious view of the affair and asked the Faqir of Ipi to dissuade him from his action or, failing that, to turn him out of Waziristan. The Faqir of Ipi does not seem to have succeeded so far."

Coalition Ministries

The Sind Premier, Mr. M. A.

Khuhro, speaking at a Press conference, last week referred to the question of forming a Coalition Ministry in Sind and said a Coalition Government could be formed in the province only when such Ministries were set up in East and West Punjab as well as in East and West Bengal. Mr. Khuhro said that he had appealed to the minority communities to co-operate with his Government and he would give them representation in his Cabinet. This offer, he said, was always open. Mr. Khuhro said that if the minorities, including the Depressed Classes, were given representation in the Cabinet, it would help not only in the smooth running of the administration but also assist in the preservation of law and order. The Premier said that he had not offered any terms to the Congress for the formation of a Coalition Ministry in Sind. He also said that at present he would not expand his Ministry from four to six.

Constitution of India

The Indian Constituent Assembly has appointed a committee to scrutinise the draft of the text of the constitution of India and to submit to the Assembly for consideration the text as revised by the Committee. The Committee will consist of Mr. Alladi Krishnawami Aiyar, Mr. N. Gopalaswami Iyengar, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, Mr. K. M. Munshi, Syed Mahomed Saadulla, Sir B. L. Mitter and Mr. D. P. Khaitan. The President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, explained that the idea was to place before the house at its next session a draft in a more or less complete form. Ordinarily, the House would try to conform to its previous decisions and not alter them unless it found that there was something which called for a revision, but in regard to items which had not yet been discussed, the House would naturally scrutinise the draft with a greater degree of latitude or freedom. "I am anxious", said the President, "that the constitution should be completed but, at the same time, I am equally anxious that we should do nothing in a hurry and that every clause, every sentence to a clause and every word of a clause should be weighed carefully by all members. Therefore, when the draft comes before us in the final form, we shall take as much time as is considered necessary for giving the fullest possible consideration. Members will then have an opportunity of considering every word that is used in the draft."

Responsible Govt. For Cochin

The Maharajah of Cochin has announced the establishment of full responsible government in the State with effect from Friday last, under the premiership of Mr. Panampalli Govinda Menon. The Maharajah promulgated an act entitled the Government of Cochin (Amendment) Act under which for the first time all administrative control has been transferred to an elected Ministers' Council. These powers were hitherto exercised by the Dewan.

FOR SALE

Austin 12, 6. Good condition. X 4174 can see after 6 p. m. Nadarajah Grand Hotel, Jaffra (Mis. 126-2.)

A New Political Party

WITH SOCIALIST AIMS

(By Our Staff Reporter)

It is afoot to start a new political party in Jaffna. The sponsors of the new party include prominent lawyers and teachers and they are hopeful of good response from the public.

According to the sponsors of the new political party, the parties which are contesting the elections at the present moment cannot be truly representative of the people even if one or other of them wins in the elections, for they (the sponsors of the new party) aver that, as things are at present, considerations other than the merits of a particular party also play an important part in the victory of a candidate belonging to a particular party. The organisers of the new party hope to usher it in January next when the heat of the present elections would have abated.

The party will be based on Socialism. It will be Socialism to suit the ingenuity of the people and not of the brand imported from Russia. It will be organised on the model of the Socialist Party of India the leaders of which are Messrs Jai Prakash Narain Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali and Achut Patwardan. From what I understand, the new Party will align itself with all leftist organisations of the country and all other progressive institutions to ameliorate the economic condition of the people as a whole. Unlike the Communist Party and the Sama Samaj Party this new party will endeavour to obtain the help and co-operation of all religious heads too to further its aims and objects, for it feels, according to a prominent sponsor, that politics devoid of the sobering influence of religion is not suitable for Ceylon and India and that Religion and Politics should go hand in hand to ameliorate the condition of the masses.

According to a prominent gentleman who is closely connected with the move, the Tamil Congress is purely a communal organisation inspite of the hot denial of some of its adherents, while the U. N. P. is a clique of capitalists keen on preserving the *Status quo*. A change is inevitable; in the new set up of things in the present day world. The Lanka Sama Samaj Party and the B. L. P. inspite of their socialist ideals draw their inspiration from Russia while the Communists inspite of their loyalty to Russia cannot see eye to eye with the Sama Samajists. The rift between these leftist organisations and their immoral alliance against the cultural heritage of the land, call for a new party truly socialist and respecting the tradition and culture of our land.

The new party will be open to all Ceylonese.

PERSONAL

Among the passengers who arrived by S. S. "Worcester" from Europe on Sunday, the 24th August was Lt. M. Rajanathan who is on a short visit to his parents, Mr. S. Mailvaganam, Retired Civil Servant, Tanganyika and Mrs. Mailvaganam of Jaffna.

Jaffna Hindu College Building Fund

	Rs.	Cts.
Amount Previously Acknowledged	2982	87
Mr. V. Rasa	5	00
" K. Thamotherampillai	5	00
" R. S. Arunasalam	5	00
" K. Sinnadurai	5	00
Through Mr. T. Ramasamy	16	00
Mr. A. Sambulingam	5	00
" P. Kanagasabai	5	00
" S. Kasiah	5	00
" S. Kanapathipillai	5	00
" V. Sivapatham	5	00
Dr. V. T. Pasupathy	50	00
Miss. S. N. Saraswathy	100	00
A Well-wisher	5	00
Mr. M. Chellappapillai	5	00
" A. M. Chinnappah	5	00
" A. R. Thevarajah	10	00
" S. Thambydurai	5	00
" P. Rajaratnam	5	00
" K. Tharumalingam	5	00
" S. Yogavadeivel	5	00
" N. Thananayagam	5	00
A Well-Wisher	5	00
Mr. T. D. Kumaraswamy	5	00
Through Mr. K. Selladurai	10	00
Mr. S. Veerasingam	5	00
" P. Veluppillai	10	00
Through Mr. P. Veluppillai	8	00
Mudlr. S. Candiah	20	00
Mr. A. Pakthavatsalan	25	00
" V. Apatharatnam	10	00
" S. S. Nadarajah	9	50
All Ceylon Malay Relief Committee	1350	00
Mr. S. Thambydurai	10	00
" N. Kumarswamy	5	00
Mrs. Paramsothy	5	00
" S. Thillaiampalam	5	00
Mr. V. Rasaratnam	5	00
Through Miss. M. Chelliah	11	00
Total	4742	37

V. BALASUNDARAN,
Treasurer,

J. H. C. Building Fund
31.8.47. Committee.

A Novel Pocket Thermometer

A novel pocket thermometer, designed for the personal use of engineers and chemists, has been put into production by a U. K. firm which specialises in this type of equipment.

The instrument, which can be easily carried in the vest pocket, has a head and stem of stainless steel, and an easily-read dial with permanent scale markings. When the instrument is not in use the stem is screwed into the protective ebonite sheath fitted with a pocket clip. This sheath has a secondary use in that it can be used as a holder when making tests, by screwing the stem of the thermometer through the cross hole at the end.

The thermometer head is under one inch in diameter and the overall length, including the protective sheath, is about 3 inches.

Racial Cry Decried

Tamil M. P.'s Speech

Mr. K. V. Nadarajah, the newly elected M. P. for Bandarawela addressing a gathering at the Badulla Town Hall on Friday last, said that those who created racial barriers were traitors to the country's progress. In an electorate where two-thirds of the voters were Sinhalese he had obtained more Sinhalese votes than either of his two Sinhalese rivals, which fact alone proved the greatness of the Sinhalese people, who preferred human values to false racial propaganda.

A noteworthy feature of the Bandarawela poll was the way in which the Tamil labourers cast their votes. They had been taught to mark the ballot papers while the Sinhalese villagers spoilt many ballot papers.

At one polling station, some voters marked crosses on a card-board which was hanging close by. What they did with the actual ballot papers is not known.

In some cases, where the voters seemed artistically inclined they had tried to draw the symbols of the candidates on the ballot papers!

Leftists Score

Three More Victories

Two more leftists (one a Sama Samajist and the other one a member of the B. L. P.) have won at the elections held on Thursday last. They are Messrs. D. F. Hettiaratchy (L. S. S. P.) who defeated his rival Mr. Jayaweera Kuruppa a former member of the State Council who was the U.N.P. nominee by only 24 votes, and C. de F. Gunawardane of the B. L. P. who defeated his rival Mr. Upali Batuwantudawa by 1970 votes. Mr. Batuwantudawa was the nominee of the U. N. P. and was a member of the State Council.

A U. N. P. candidate Mr. R. G. Senanayake came out successful in the Dambadeniya contest.

At Ambalangoda, which is a two member constituency Mr. P. H. William de Silva of the B. L. P. and Mr. G. Arthur de Zoysa (U. N. P.) were elected. Mr. P. de S. Kularatne, the noted educationist who was a former member in the State Council along with five others was defeated.

Elections to the Batticaloa and Kopay constituencies were held yesterday.

DISPUTE BETWEEN BROTHERS

Respondent Files Answer

Mr. C. Sittambalam, retired Civil Servant is suing Mr. C. Ponnampalam his brother, and Chairman of the Urban Council, Jaffna for the recovery of Rs. 50,000 which he claims as damages sustained as a result of alleged defamatory statements in a petition sent to the Government Agent, Northern Province.

Mr. Sittambalam, in his plaint, states that he was a senior member of the Ceylon Civil Service and was Assistant Government Agent of Matale. He was entrusted with the duty of assessing the value of lands and arbitrating on claims for compensation made in respect of lands acquired by the Government in that district.

He was the owner of a house known as "Selvamuthu Allyam," situated at Navalar Road, Jaffna. He advertised the house for sale. The Education Department agreed to buy the house from him for Rs. 35,000. On January 16 last, Mr. Ponnampalam sent a petition to the Government Agent, Northern Province, in which he stated that the house was not worth Rs. 35,000, and that the Government was wasting its money, and made certain other allegations.

Mr. C. Ponnampalam, in the course of his answer, stated that he addressed a communication to the Government Agent, N. P., and Director of Education, and that he abided by the document as a whole.

He further states that the contents, including the passages quoted in the plaint of the petition, are true in substance and in fact, and that it was his duty and in his interest to address the petition to the officials who were concerned with this matter. He asks that the plaintiff's action be dismissed with costs.

The case was fixed for February 18, 1947.

New Theory about Cancer

Recent experiments in the field of nutrition have brought to light new findings in regard to possible causes of cancer.

In animals, the findings are very clearly established, but there is little information at present regarding the human problem. Work done by W. D. Salmon and D. H. Copeland at the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station has thrown a startling light on the origin of at least one type of tumorous growth in standard laboratory rats. The vitamin, choline, occurs in meat, egg yolk, yeast, milk and some of the legumes, such as soyabean and peas. When choline is reduced substantially in the diet of laboratory animals, tumors of the liver and changes in the kidneys frequently develop. So powerful is this vitamin that some change occurs in the kidneys within forty-eight hours after the choline deficient diet has begun.

Ceylon Thanks India

Replying to the Government of India's message of sympathy with Ceylon's flood victims the Chairman of the Board of Ministers has informed them that their message will be placed before the Board of Ministers at its next meeting and will be submitted to the Governor.

In the meanwhile, the Chairman of the Board of Ministers on behalf of the Government and people of Ceylon expresses very deep appreciation of the Government of India's message of sympathy and of the very generous donation which the Government of India was making to the Governor's Flood Relief Fund.

Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy

His Services to Ceylon

(I. DURAI RAJA SINGHAM)

Special to the "Hindu Organ."

(From the issue of 29-8-47)

Writing on "Vegetarianism in Ceylon" in the *Ceylon National Review*, Dr. Coomaraswamy showed how spineless imitation of the West was damaging the principle of Ahimsa which had been always an ideal of Indian culture. Of meat-eating and drinking, imitated from the West, he wrote:-

"The Ceylonese are painfully given to the imitation of European customs, and those of eating meat and the use of intoxicating drinks have spread far and wide among them. Besides those Buddhists who, while remaining Buddhists, have taken to a meat diet, we have also to consider the Christians. Very few Missionaries are themselves vegetarians, or encourage vegetarianism amongst their flock and their converts, and but few native Christians remain vegetarians.

The Ceylonese suffer terribly in their attempts to live in the European way, the minor clerk earning fifteen or twenty rupees a month endeavours to dress and feed his family in European style, and it is small wonder if debt and ruin are the ultimate result.

"The spread of meat-eating, then, amongst Ceylonese, is regrettable on ethical, economic, aesthetic and hygienic grounds, and it would be vastly to their advantage could they be persuaded to retain their older abstemious diet and simpler life. The strange thing is that it seems to be impossible for Indians and Ceylonese to change or 'progress' without throwing over everything of the past, good and bad together, and taking on the outer life of a European in its place, also good and bad together. If they could keep the many excellent features of their own culture and civilization, of others, they might make real progress instead of progressing, as so often happens, backwards".

Yet another aspect of his multifarious interests was his study of Hinduism. Here too his profound scholarship was not confined to theory but extended into the field of practice. He was a liberal but determined critic of the Mission schools in Ceylon which concentrated too much on conversion to the detriment of education. Of them he said:-

"It is needless to remark that the primary object of Missionaries is to convert and their schools are conducted with a view to this object. The teaching which they give cheaply is really an inducement to us to allow our children to come under their influence. If we allow ourselves to be attracted by this bribe can we complain if our children are Europeanised and converted or still taught to be hypocrites by assuming a religion which they disown on leaving school or on leaving position to qualify for which they become nominal Christians? I say it is not honourable, not dignified for us to rely upon Mission Schools to do our own work for us. It is our duty to leave no stone unturned until the education of our country is entirely in the hands of disinterested persons not prima-

rily concerned with conversion and perversion".

But, far from being a bigot, he qualified this statement thus:-

"I know there are a few Missionaries who are superior to the faults I refer to, and instil character into their pupils without being bent on their conversion, but they are few and are not the normal product of Missionary activity. We have admiration and welcome for such men as the Principal of Trinity College, Kandy, but yet we should not rely upon others, for, however excellent individuals may be, they come and go, and we are at the mercy of some thing like chance as to who will succeed them".

Nationalism runs like a red thread through all his speeches and writings. In spite of his Western training it is in fact his inspiration. Speaking at the reception in Jaffna, he said:-

"When I came to Ceylon for the third time nearly four years ago I was still to all intents and purposes an Englishman; but, while I have lost nothing of my affection for what is truly loveable in English literature and art, I have been reborn as a child of India and have in some measure returned to the ancestral home as a child to its parents".

Speaking of India (of which, he always stressed, Ceylon had been a cultural complement and must become so again), he said:-

"When I survey the life of India during the last 3,000 years and bear in mind her literature, traditions and ideals, the searchings of her philosophers and the work of her artists, the music of her sons and daughters and the nobility of the religions they have evolved and when from these elements I form in my mind a picture of an ideal India and an ideal earthly life, I confess it is difficult to imagine a more powerful source of inspiration a deeper well of truth to draw upon".

As far back as 1906, in his opposition to foreign control of Ceylon's education he was as fiery as any present day nationalist.

"Now our rulers are of an alien religion and almost all believe in the superiority of their own race and religion", he thundered. "Did not Lord Minto say that his heart would be in a little corner of England though his body went out to India? Our ways of thought, our national traditions all that inspires and moves us is foreign to our rulers who may indeed be conscientious enough to laboriously acquaint themselves with things, or they may not. With the very best of intentions our rulers cannot really be fathers to us. All they can do is to be our policemen and our lawgivers and our accountants. They cannot lead in religion and in literature. A very few are able at best to sympathise with our ideals; and what then? They are with us but a year and then gone. Our late Colonial Secretary Sir Everard Im Thurn was as cultured and sympathetic as well as might be; yet at the end of his stay in Ceylon he asked me, 'what is a Jataka'".

At the same time he was firm in his criticism of the lack of interest among Ceylonese to create a system

of national education. Of Ceylon schools and Oriental scholarship he said:-

"But in most Ceylon schools to which our young men go there is not so much as one 'Teacher' qualified to teach Ceylon History and literature. As a result the people's intelligence is not developed and progress is at a stand still. What have Ceylonese done to promote oriental scholarship? Almost nothing. The lonely important work on the Mahawamsa is, for example, in German and is being translated into English by an English lady. Meanwhile half the Ceylonese hardly know of the books in existence".

Nor did Dr. Coomaraswamy wish to limit national education to boys. He looked not so much to the standards of the West but to the rational structure of ancient Tamil Society:-

"If we read", he said "the *Chillapa-thikaram* and *Manimekalai*, we will find that things were extraordinarily different 1,000 years ago. The fact is that our fatal imitative tendency led us to seclude our women in coping the Mohammedan conquerors".

From all this one may run away with the impression that Dr. Coomaraswamy was a narrow nationalist, a glorifier of the good in the orient. But has set whatever doubts there may be on this issue at rest by his exhortation:-

"Let it be our endeavour to be grateful to all that is best in our traditions and at the same time not be unwilling to learn what others can teach us".

Were it not for such an internationally cultured outlook this tribute by T. A. Oppenheim formerly of Jaffna College, the premier American Missionary institute in the island would not have been paid to him:-

"It is to Ananda Coomaraswamy and his book 'of Essays'... that I owe a sharpened analysis of Jaffna and the East, a keener perception of what to look for in the Eastern scene, of what I have failed to look for with diligence; Coomaraswamy, (whom why the way, most of us know by reputation and by family connections rather than by that deeper way of intellectual understanding and sharing of ideals) insists as his central point that true Indian and Ceylonese Nationalism is not political in essence, but is a matter of culture and art and literature. And that assistance has been of tremendous value for me. It has given me a fundamental insight into and an analysis of the values I might look for in the Jaffna scene, and these in turn have started me on an intellectual pilgrimage whose only end can be the end of life itself, for I have now gained a permanent and undying interest in things Eastern, and things Jaffnese."

What is most remarkable is that Dr. Coomaraswamy did most of this work within the all too brief period of three years (1905-1907).

When the history of Lanka's national renaissance comes to be written the name of Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy will figure large as one who not only pioneered the movement but also laid down in this inspired and inimitable language, the guiding principles which hold good even today and which, unfortunately, have yet to be implemented in their entirety.

To sum up one can do no better than quote the summary of the interview which he gave to the *Times of Ceylon* on his departure

from Ceylon. It reads:-

"He has worked strenuously during his three years in Ceylon to bring about a national reaction and he believes that the work he has done will bear fruit in due-time. A national reaction is, he thinks inevitable in the East, a wave of feeling akin to the Celtic revival in Europe. There are three ways in which a small nation may meet the influence of a more powerful one. It may surrender its own individuality and simply imitate the larger nations culture—a despicable thing to do; or it may remain rigidly conservative resting upon its own prejudices—a more manly but a futile attitude; or lastly it may make its own contribution to cosmopolitan culture holding the individual idea...in the world idea. This is the only worthy position which Dr. Coomaraswamy believes is bound to be assumed by the nations of the East. Dr. Coomaraswamy condemns the present system of education in Ceylon which neglects the boys' own vernacular languages and crams them for examinations. He thinks the way preferable. He builds his hopes of an improvement upon the proposed Ceylon University. He lays stress upon the value of home influence and scathingly condemns the senseless, tasteless, methods of furnishing their homes which characterizes the Ceylonese. They cannot furnish their houses in a style acceptable to cultured Europeans and all that they do is to fill their houses with a multitude of cheap and tawdry articles of use. His farewell message to Ceylon is:-

The Ceylonese will neither respect themselves nor win the respect of others so long as their own attitude towards the West remains one of abject imitation."

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA
(held at Point Pedro)

Testamentary Jurisdiction
No. 350/P. T.

In the matter of the intestate estate of Sivapakkiam wife of Nadasapillai of Puloly West. Deceased.

Paramsothy pillai Nadasapillai of Puloly West. Petitioner.

1. Sethuratnam daughter of Nadasapillai of Puloly West a minor by her Guardian-ad-litem the 2nd Respondent.
2. A. Sithamparapillai Nagalingapillai of Do. Respondents.

This matter coming on for disposal before G. C. T. A. De Silva Esquire Additional District Judge on the 27th day of June 1947 in the presence of Messrs. Kandaiya and Mailvaganam Proctors on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated the 6th day of March 1947 having been read. It is ordered that the petitioner is and he is hereby declared Administrator of the estate of the deceased Sivapakkiam and that he is entitled to have Letters of Administration issued to him unless the respondents or any other person shall on or before the 17th day of July 1947 show cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

This 27th day of June 1947.

Sgd. G. C. T. A. De SILVA,
Additional District Judge.

17-7-47 Order-Nisi is extended for review returnable 4-9-47.

Sgd. G. C. T. A. De Silva,
A. D. J.

(O. 57. 29 & 2-9-47).

Food Relief Work

Hindu Bodies' Move

The Hony. Secretaries, the Ramakrishna Mission, and the Colombo Vivekananda Society write:

The Ramakrishna Mission and the Vivekananda Society, Colombo have jointly started flood relief work in the Colombo City area. They are co-operating with the Government Agent, Western Province, and the Charity Commissioner in distributing cooked food at a Relief Centre at Maradana. Attempts are also being made to extend relief activities to the suburbs and outstation areas as well.

Representatives from the Ramakrishna Mission and the Vivekananda Society visited the flood-stricken areas at Kelaniya, Wattala, Hendala and Hanwella, and arrangements have been made for distributing cooked food at Hanwella in co-operation with the Government Agent and other organizations. At present foodstuffs are being distributed from a centre at Hanwella.

Contributions in cash or kind (food clothes, hut-building materials etc.) will be gratefully received and acknowledged by the Secretaries.

'Hitler' Kandasamy's Case

An order made by the Point Pedro Magistrate for the surrender of R. A. Kandasamy, also known as "Hitler" Kandasamy, to the Indian police on an extradition warrant, was set aside by Mr. Justice Dias.

Mr. Justice Dias also directed that Kandasamy be freed from further restraint so far as the present proceedings were concerned.

Kandasamy was tried in the Court of Sessions, East Tanjore Division, Negapatam, for criminal intimidation and was sentenced to two years' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 1,000 in default a further six months rigorous imprisonment. The High Court affirmed the conviction but set aside the fine. The term of imprisonment was, however, confirmed.

Kandasamy failed to appear before the Indian Court to serve his sentence and the Indian police commenced extradition proceedings. An earlier attempt by the Indian authorities to secure the surrender of Kandasamy proved abortive as the proceedings were defective.

On the second attempt, the warrant was endorsed by the Point Pedro Magistrate and Kandasamy appealed to the Supreme Court.

OBITUARY

G. R. OLLEGASAGRAM

The death occurred on Monday the 11th inst, of G. R. Ollegasagram second son of the late Henry C. Ollegasagram and Mrs. Ollegasagram of Manipay at the Sanatorium Kankasanturai. The deceased was an old boy of Jaffna College and got through his B. A. He was also a teacher at St. Henry's College Rangoon, and then he was attached to the tutorial staff of St. Thomas' College, Colombo for some time. The funeral was held at his house at Manipay, and tributes were paid by Revs. S. Sevaram, S. T. Aseerwatham and Arch-deacon J. A. R. Navaratnam. He leaves behind his mother, two brothers and a sister and a host of relatives and friends to be mourn his loss.

Greatness of Hindu Philosophers

(Continued from page 1)

whereas had I god to guard, that would banish sleep. The earth supplies me with everything, even as a mother her child with milk. I go wherever I please, and there are no cares with which I am forced to cumber myself against my will. *Should Alexander cut off my head, he cannot also destroy my soul. My head alone, now silent, will remain, but the soul will go away to its Master, leaving the body like a torn garment upon the earth,* whence also it was taken. I then, becoming spirit, shall ascend to my God who enclosed us in flesh and left us upon the earth to prove whether when here below we shall live obedient to His ordinances, and and who also will require of us, when we depart hence to His presence, an account of our life since. He is judge of all proud wrongdoing; for the groans of the oppressed become the punishments of the oppressors."

"Let Alexander then, terrify with these threats those who wish for gold and for wealth, and who dread death, for against us these weapons are both alike powerless, since the Brahmanes neither love gold nor fear death. Go, then and tell Alexander this: 'Dandamis has no need of a gift that is yours, and therefore will not go to you, but if you want anything from Dandamis come you to him.'

Alexander, on receiving from Onesikrates a report of the interview, felt a stronger desire than ever to see Dandamis, who, though old and naked, was the only antagonist in whom he, the conqueror of many nations, had found more than his match etc.'

The comment of this passage is superfluous. It shows an Indian philosopher at his best, living his life according to the principles of his teaching. It gives an admirable example of how the teaching of the Gita and the Upanishads (cf. the italicized lines) formed a living inspiration and transmuted the human life to a life divine. No wonder that even Alexander the Great, then ruler of an empire extending over three continents, admitted his inferiority to the mighty spiritual force typified by this Indian philosopher.

55,000 Acres Damaged

According to Mr. D. B. Ellapola, Controller of the Internal Purchase Scheme, approximately 55,000 acres of paddy had been completely damaged; in the Kandy district alone about 9,500 acres have been damaged. The estimated total loss of crops is 650,000 bushels of paddy which, according to Mr. Ellapola, will cause a shortfall of 13,000 bushels in respect of the Internal Purchase Scheme.

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(Std. 31, 19-8-1-41-47)

A Governor-His Qualities

(Continued from page 1)

the Nagari or Urdu script. This is neither Sanskritised Hindi nor Persianised Urdu. Hindustani is emphatically the language which is spoken by the millions north of the Vindhya range.

This does not pretend to be an exhaustive list of the virtues that an Indian Governor should represent. It is merely illustrative.

One would expect that the Britishers, who have been chosen by India as representatives as Governors and who have taken the oath of fealty to India and her millions would endeavour, as far as possible, to live the life an Indian Governor is expected to live. They will represent the best that their country has to give to India and the world.

ORDER NISI

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 733

In the matter of the estate of the late Kanapathy Iyer Sathasivakurukkal of Koray South

Deceased, Raja Rajswariammal widow of Sathasivakurukkal of Koray South

- Vs. Petitioner.
1. Thuraswamy Iyer Kumarasamy Sarma
2. Sivakamasundariammal alias Laithambal widow of K. Thurasamy Iyer

Respondents
This matter coming on for disposal

before R. R. Selvadurai Esq. District Judge Jaffna on the 21st day of June 1947 in the presence of Mr. M. Ratnasingham proctor on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner and that of the witnesses dated 23rd June 1947 having been read.

It is ordered that the will of the late Kanapathy Iyer Sathasivakurukkal of Koray South deceased dated 17th July 1945 and numbered 832 be and the same is hereby declared proved unless the respondents or others shall on or before the 25th day of July 1947 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of the court to the contrary.

It is further declared that the said Sivakamasundariammal alias Laithambal the 2nd respondent be appointed guardian and litem over the 1st respondent and that the said Raja Rajswariammal widow of K. Sathasivakurukkal, petitioner is the executor named in the said will and that she is entitled to have probate of the same issued to her accordingly unless the respondents or others shall on or before the 25th day of July 1947 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this court to the contrary.

It is further ordered that the said petitioner do produce the said minor respondent in court on the said date.

This 24th day of June 1947.
Sgd. R. R. Selvadurai
District Judge.

Time to show cause is extended to 8-9-47

Sgd. R. R. Selvadurai
D. J.

(O'9. 29 & 2)

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