



Hindu Organ

FRI. 17, 24-9-82

**PEOPLES'
SUPREME POWER**

Sri La Sri Arumugan Navalar, the Champion Reformer of Hindus, though essentially a religious worker, yet went all out to support the candidature of the great Ceylonese of that time, for the seat in the Legislative Council for the educated Ceylonese stating publicly that his duty as a citizen demanded that he should exercise his vote and his persuasive powers to see that the most deserving educated ceylonese should be returned to the Legislative Council.

We however take a different view in the matter of active participation in political elections particularly because the Hindu Organ as the only Journal of the Hindus in this country would do well to steer clear of party affiliation and confine ourselves to the duty of safeguarding the sovereignty of the voter.

Freedom, that picturesquely word, has become the cry of almost every single individual; so much so that the concern of political parties for the freedom of the individual becomes a fallacy. This wonderful word, among other interpretations, denotes frankness and outspokenness; Certainly it means civil liberty, power of self-determination or in other words liberty of action.

Subramanya Bhartiyan, that patriotic bard who mused in numbers as he began to feel inspired for the freedom of Barata from foreign yoke, meaningfully described the people as their own rulers each one of them. It might be that this inspired poet had thought that every citizen had the right to become a ruler of the country as a whole. Otherwise it would be that there could be as many rulers as there were citizens.

However, the essence of this concept lies in the truth that each individual should be left to one-self in the matter

**Vivekananda Society
President's Message**

I congratulate you and the Hindu Organ that is continuing to do good work

A. G. NADARAJAH
Attorney - at - Law

of making decisions particularly in political affairs. In religious matters, of course, the tenets of the individuals' religion would be the controlling factor.

Sovereignty is a strange word with a still more elusive significance. Political pundits and philosophers have yet to have access to that sanctum sanctorum, that secret abode where sovereignty is said to lie. Without any more quibbling, we would straightaway say that the precious possession of the individual, that power to make and unmake rulers commonly called the vote, has the power of an atom. The voter, to extend the figure of speech employed by Bharatiyan must be deemed to have sovereign powers. His right to decide for himself whether to cast his vote or to whom his vote shall go is supreme and none can question his sovereignty.

If every single individual is to be deemed to have the capacity to become a ruler, then how is it that others, or even political parties can dare think that they can dictate to him what to do

The mass media, now in the plenitude of expansion could well be depended on to give the voter the necessary information, the data, the rules and regulations, the legal issues and all other requirements. Thus fully armed with facts, the voter becomes wholly capable of deciding on what he should do in the case of an election.

In the absence of legal compulsion, the voter may or may not exercise his vote. Should he decide to use his vote his verdict will be for the person of his own choice. That is where he expects that he should be left to himself.

This will be a sure way to search after the Truth of sovereignty. Let the voter be allowed to set out on this voyage of discovery unhindered by any external influence, individually or collectively

**OCTOGENARIAN'S OPINION
Mahatma Gandhi's Ideology**

As is natural, references are made very often to Sri Lanka to the noble and saintly personality of Mahatma Gandhi and his ideals. It is superfluous to add that he is held in very high veneration, if I might say so with the utmost deference. Arising out of this situation, it is important to bear in mind certain aspects relating to Mahatma's procedure adopted in South Africa and in India and his methods of action. It is vital in the interests of Sri Lanka that attention is drawn to some certain aspects of his principles, policy and activities, with this object in view, the following humble submissions are made, the same being but exhaustive on the subject.

Firstly, it is necessary to remember that we do not have and did not have leaders of the calibre to Mahatma Gandhiji. This statement is made with all respect to our leadership. On the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's Centenary Celebrations in Sri Lanka, I considered it a blessing to have been able to quote the following tribute of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Philosopher and World Statesman and President of the Republic of India.

"Possessed and inspired by the highest ideals of which human nature is capable, preaching and practising fearlessly the truth revealed to him leading almost alone what seemed to be a forlorn hope against the impregnable strongholds of greed and folly, yet facing tremendous odds with a calm resolution which yielded nothing to ridicule or danger, Gandhiji presented to the unbelieving world all that is noblest in the spirit of man. He illuminated human dignity by faith in the eternal significance of man's effort. He belongs to the type that redeems the human race....

Such men who are filled with spiritual poise and yet take upon themselves the burden of suffering humanity are born into the World at long intervals.

The spirit in him which is a light from above will penetrate far into space and time and inspire countless generations for nobler living."

The substance of this tribute is too high for

Letter to the Editor

**Special Archanas for
SANEESWARAN**

Sir,

It is reported in the "Hindu" newspaper that His Holiness Sri La Sri Ambalavalai Desika Paramachariya Swamiga, revered Head of the Thiruvaduthurai Atheneum has inaugurated the performance of special archanas for Lord Saneeswaran at Suriyanarayanaswamikovil near Mayuram, Tamil Nad, for the prosperity of mankind. This is a very welcome and elevating event. In this context, it is inspiring to recall with gratitude that the title of Navalar was conferred by the self same Thiruvaduthurai Atheneum decades ago on our Sri La Sri Arumuga Navalar, and that the title so conferred on our illustrious countryman was a source of very great effect and resulted in very meritorious repercussions in the life and career of Sri Navalar (then known as Sri Kandapillai Arumugam) and enabled him considerably to render immense service to the cause of Hinduism (Savism) with the Grace of Almighty Sivaperuman—

Debtless, the performance of the Archanas on the present occasion will prove a blessing to all creation, for which also let us be thankful to the revered Head of the same Atheneum.

(Sri S. Sivasubramaniam)
Life Member,
Jaffna Saiva Paripalana Sabha

local application in Sri Lanka. Hence, along with other reasons, the methods of actions and proceedings followed by him in two other countries and under different set of circumstances cannot be automatically followed in Sri Lanka in the present era

Secondly, in India itself there is practically nobody who could be considered the successor of Mahatma Gandhi, Shri Morarji Desai, one time Prime Minister, one of the worthiest men in the world today, when an American Newspaper representative compared him with Mahatma Gandhi, told the interviewer not to dishonour the Mahatma Gandhi by comparing him (Shri Morarji) with that noble personality. Messrs Acharya Bhave and Sri Jayaprakash Narayan also

HINDU MAMANRAM

Hails Hindu Organ

MESSAGE



It has been given to very few newspapers or journals published in this country to have a span of life exceeding at most a decade or two. Many of them have fallen by the wayside within a few years, if not earlier. To the exceptional category belong the Inthusethanam and the Hindu Organ. It is most gratifying to learn that they will commence their 94th year of publication on the 11th instant

During this period; the two newspapers (which, in recent years, have been consolidated as one, for reason of economy) have played a noteworthy role in the lives of the Hindus of this country especially in the North. The Saiva Paripalana Sabha, under whose auspices the papers are published, have never sought to interfere with the journalistic independence of the papers and the high traditions set by editors of the calibre of Hon. A. Sabapathy, A.V. Kulasingam, M. S. Eliathambiy, V. T. Sambandam and others are being worthily manifested by those in charge at present. It is, perhaps, not well known that the Editors are rendering honorary service.

It is the duty of all Hindus to rally round these papers and give adequate financial support to enable them expand and resume publication as two papers and continue their service to the people, especially as watchdogs of the religious rights of the Hindus.

While conveying to the Management and to the Editors my very warm felicitations on this joyous occasion, I pray for the blessings of the Lord for the continued progress and success of the two papers.

V. Sivasubramaniam
President,
All Ceylon Hindu Congress

disclaimed to be on the same footing as Mahatma Gandhi and exhorted people not to think or say so.

Thirdly, the situations in South Africa and India where Mahatma Gandhi had to contend against the Boers and the British respectively were entirely different

(continued on page 4)

