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TOWARDS A CASTELESS SOCIETY

Ideal of Human Dignity

There is nothing more powerful in all the world than an ideal whose time has come. Martin Luther King often quoted these words of Victor Hugo, referring to the ideal of freedom and human dignity. Certainly he brought the day for the realization of that ideal nearer by sealing his message with his own life. Chief Albert Luthuli who sacrificed his chieftanship in South Africa and died in detention had vindicated the cause of human dignity in race-ridden Africa. That both Chief Luthuli and Luther King were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize shows how the better conscience of humanity has responded to the assertion of that ideal.

The struggle for human dignity and equity is a world-wide struggle. The inspiration to both the American and African leaders came from Mahatma Gandhi's epic struggle in India. No doubt there are social inequalities the world over. But the crying injustice of caste in India, like that of race elsewhere, is that it stands for unchangeable inequalities and a social stigma based on birth. It offends the more because it is a denial, as Radhakrishnan has pointed out, of the Hindu ideal of the latent divinity of all men. And to add insult to injury, the wicked fiction of caste has not only its touch-me-not practitioners, but its priestly professors and its counterfeited historians as well. It was the new British legal system that began to undermine this unequal social structure. The crowning legal provision had however to await India's Republican Constitution—Fundamental Rights, Article 17: "Untouchability is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden. The enforcement of any disability arising out of *untouchability* shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law". The new ideal has been well expressed by Subramania Bharati:

ஏழை யென்றும் அடிமை யென்றும்
எவரும் இல்லை ஜாதியில்
இழிவு கொண்ட மனித ரென்பர்
இந்தியாவில் இல்லைவே.

It was the life-long crusade of Gandhiji that helped to transform the cause of the down-trodden from being a mere legislative edict into a national conviction. With unerring insight he knew that he must take "the children of God" into the temple before he took the nation to the gates of liberty. He knew too that the break-through in India had a significance for human dignity everywhere. Well did H. N. Brailsford write: "India honours Gandhiji today because he led the fight for independence. Humanity owes him an even heavier debt because he opened the road of the untouchables to freedom".

What Caste Prejudice Costs Us

The great world anniversaries, Human Rights Year 1968, and Gandhi Centenary 1969, would be fitting moment for us too in Ceylon to cross the threshold from being a medieval casteistic society into a modern homogeneous, democratic nation. No part of Ceylon, no racial group, not even the religious orders, are free of the sin of caste. The casteistic attitude is a canker that has spilled over into our entire social relationships and institutions. Witness our

over-peonised offices, attendants-over-staffed hospitals, and the way elders and children address their domestic servants even in otherwise cultured homes.

But, it is society in the North that is weakened most by the unending contradictions of caste. There is individual and social loss when potential exceptional ability is neglected for generations in submerged sectors of the population. But, in the world after Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi and Martin Luther King, men will not anywhere agree to be treated as secondary individuals, second class human beings, partial citizens. Social disorganisation and agitation takes away from a nation's sense of unity and purpose and its developmental effort. Indeed, the old distinctions become the more irrelevant as we step into an age of technology and global history with opportunities for physical and social mobility provided by new occupations unknown to the vocabulary of caste.

False Moves

It is a false position to take for those who enjoy social privileges that they could meet amongst themselves in conference and decide what social and civic rights they are prepared to share with the underprivileged; it is as false a position as that of a racial majority in parliament which arrogates to itself the right to decide what language and other concessions it will offer to the minorities; it is as false as the stand taken by the white minority in Africa that they could decide whether the non-white majority should be given their birthright of the suffrage!!! Fundamental rights do not belong to citizens as members of communities; rights belong to them as individuals and they are equal rights for all. Nor is it a just argument for the privileged to urge that some more time must elapse before the under-privileged can have their rights and they must be patient meanwhile. The time to end an injustice is when you become aware of it. Most false of all is for one to lay down the conditions under which another of the same faith can enter a place of worship; those who go to a place of worship are seeking to enter into a relationship with God, who looks only to the purity of a man's heart and not to external things.

On the other hand, it would be treason to the nation if opportunist groups use the caste grievance in their own journey to power or because they have stakes in promoting divisions in any part of the country. The cause will triumph if it can be approached in a non-party, non-sectarian spirit. At the same time, those who would join in this battle to eradicate the canker of caste from our society would do well to grasp the truth of the Gandhian dictum that means are inseparable from ends. To illustrate, a satyagraha so-called would be a fraud and a failure if participants are not would-be worshippers with genuine devotion in their hearts. When all is said, to use the immortal words of Luthuli: The length of the term of slavery depends largely on the oppressed themselves and not on the oppressor.... We have the key to Freedom, not the oppressor.

Programme for Action

Nothing however would be so effective as action jointly initiated by leaders of under-privileged and privileged groups who share a real concern to end social disabilities. That kind of acting together would itself go a great way towards welding the two groups into a single community. By the same token, it would not do for the natural leaders of the under-privileged to be concerned only with their one battle (just as it would not help the Tamils if they were concerned only with Tamil rights and had no stake in the nation's problems). Nation-building democratic movements, like the Cooperative Movement, provide appropriate opportunities for members of all groups in an area to work together for their common advancement. Likewise, it would help to promote the concept of the village as an organic community if Community Centres and other voluntary associations are inclusive in their membership and not organised on a caste-group basis. Equal access to public places must be taken for granted. There is a case for turning a sizeable portion of the Harijans into a land-owning peasantry, especially in colonisation areas. Reaping the full benefit of this measure also points to observing the principle of integrated neighbourhoods and integrated schools.

New neighbourhoods or old, there is no better place than the school to implant the conviction that a man's a man for a' that. It is the caste-less society of the school that can counter the erroneous ideas that are taught to the child by the caste-ridden home. It is a socially comprehensive school that can strengthen the convictions in children that they are equals and that they belong to one another. A good school is a potent means of building an integrated community in its environs; it makes a no less vital contribution to the freedom of society by placing before the young the freedom of choice of occupation and opportunities of leadership in the sphere of their choice. On the other hand, a school where members of one social group are segregated can be a self-defeating force.

Public Commission to Define Human Dignity

Caste has been so long with us that it will take time to wipe out its many remnants. It is not just enough to eradicate caste disabilities. We must envisage an act of massive reconciliation, and making the community more of a community. The time is opportune to set up a Public Commission to investigate the incidence of social disabilities arising out of caste and to suggest ways and means of removing them. Legislative and administrative measures should follow. Perhaps a permanent Commissioner may have to see to their implementation for some years to come.

A caste-less society can only in part be legislated for. The chief gain in the Commission's report would be a re-statement of the ideal of human dignity that would have meaning for the modern age. If ever we would educate and stir the social conscience of the ancient people of Lanka that time should be in Human Rights Year 1968.

K. NESIAH.



A Browser's Diary

Missionaries, Militancy and Minority Tamils

I have enjoyed close friendships with people of most castes — Brahmins, Vellala, Koviya, Fisher, Washerman, Tapper. None of them though honestly progressive, seemed anxious to eradicate the caste system *in toto*. Their reservation referred especially to marriage. The radicalism of the better-placed stopped just short of marriage. The egalitarianism of the not-so-well-placed also faded when it came to marriage. The former were bent on preventing 'misalliances'; the latter were most eager to promote them.

Inter-dining on public occasions or in public places, equal seating in schools and on public occasions, temple entry, equal access to public amenities, equality of opportunity in the public services both groups endorse most genuinely without any manner of reservation. Although extra-marital relations between the sexes have always ignored caste, formal marriage is another matter. I know recently a few inter-caste marriages have occurred. But they are unions where the bride and groom made their own choices without reference to the families and sometimes in the face of bitter opposition from parents and kin. I am afraid that arranged marriages between people of different castes with the consent and cooperation of family and kin are even today only a distant dream, for every marriage gives one party or the other the chance to do at least a little bit of social climbing. A doctor or an engineer or member of the administrative service is so attractive as a prospective son-in-law that papa, mamma and others are able to overlook minor social shortcomings and the groom's parents may even overlook dowry and polish and looks in their eagerness to enhance their status even fractionally; for there is implicit in Jaffna's social structure an infinite series of gradations where distinctions are worked out to three and four decimal places. It is these intra caste evaluations of high and not so high that sway the scale in marriages, where the elders have a decisive say. This preoccupation with minor shades of difference is not peculiar to the 'higher' castes alone.

Our society is not quite rural, nor quite urban. It seems to me to be much more rural than urban in some respects. Family loyalties and responsibilities are yet strong and family public opinion is more often than not, the decisive factor in the choice of a mate. With co-education in school and university and greater freedom of movement for grown-up girls and the emergence of a growing body of working girls, the pattern is changing. But even when the choice is made by the boy and the girl, seldom do they stray beyond their castes and when parents disapprove, it is not often because of caste differences, but on the score of insufficient dowry or on grounds of high and low within the caste. Therefore as far as marriage is concerned,

the prospects for loosening the bonds of caste seem rather remote.

In other spheres, the chances of improvement seem rosier. Thanks to mass communication, all the world knows what is happening in any corner of the world. The Black Power phenomenon in America and the enduring militancy of Black America have without doubt influenced the attitudes of the underprivileged in our midst. But that is only one part of the story and perhaps not the most significant. Conditions were ripe for the emergence of a militant campaign. Quite a number of Minority Tamils had gone to school and university and in the process their social awareness has been deepened and their economic conditions improved. The tree tax system has enabled large numbers from the tapper castes to cast off their economic shackles and the social philosophy now prevailing in Jaffna is more accommodating than it was at any other time. The concern of Caste Hindus about temple entry may or may not be due entirely to disinterested humanitarianism; but it is real and is not likely to stop with lip service. May be, the threatened invasions of saffron-robed missionaries from the South has heightened local concern. Missionaries also exploit dissensions in the ranks of those whose souls they are determined to save and proselytizers are seldom scrupulous about the means they employ. The would-be converts of today are also canny and would want an adequate *quid pro quo* for their 'change of heart'. I doubt very much whether such an attractive reward will be forthcoming. It did not need Dr. Godakumbara's letter to the press to show that Sinhalese Buddhist society after all is not so very different from its Tamil-Hindu counterpart. Nor does it matter very much that neither the missionaries nor the targets of their benevolence seem utterly indifferent to the relative merits of Saivism and Buddhism as roads to salvation. There are precedents galore for such business-like conversion. The real snag in the proposed deal is that the Minority Tamils want to hold their heads high in their communities. They want to be accepted on terms of equality in their society and in their neighbourhood: every one wishes to cut a figure among the people who know him. To be received on terms of equality by Buddhist Sinhalese is very poor consolation for the alienation that would follow on their embracing Buddhism while continuing to live in the midst of Hindus. This sense of not belonging with one's people will not be compensated for by any recognition bestowed by others whose habitat is hundreds of miles away; and there is no guarantee whatsoever that such recognition would be granted. There are among the Sinhalese today one or two castes which are believed to have been originally Tamil. In course of time their descendants have become Sinhalese Buddhists, but they continue to be known by their old names. And as everyone knows, candidates for full ordi-

Where is the Reasonable Use of the Tamil Language ?

Sir,—Notwithstanding the passing of the Tamil Language Provisions Act many years ago, the reasonable use of Tamil has not been achieved even in the predominantly Tamil-speaking areas. On the contrary, the Government is seeking to impose Sinhala on the Tamil-speaking people in these areas. Administratively heads of government departments who are Sinhalese are endeavouring to impose Sinhala on the Tamil people through subordinate Tamil officials by resorting to threatening measures proceeding from their official superiority.

A few weeks ago, a Tamil officer in charge of a Government Department in the North wrote a letter in Tamil to a Tamil person in connection with his appointment as a minor employee. A superior Sinhala Officer in the head office in Colombo was forthwith alerted to this fact and he thereupon wrote to the Tamil Officer concerned demanding an explanation as to why he did not correspond in the official language viz. Sinhala and reprimanding him for having written in Tamil!

To letters written in Tamil by Tamil people, the Tamil officers in the general post office in Jaffna are sending replies in Sinhala! It is understood these Tamil officers have been ordered by their superior officers of the Department, who happen to be Sinhalese, to correspond with the people in the official language — Sinhala.

Tamil officials in many government departments in the North are experiencing similar difficulties. It is becoming increasingly difficult and bitter for the Tamil officers to transact government business in a language which is foreign and unknown to the people of the area.

The Chief Probation Officer of Jaffna, organised a course of training for Voluntary Agency Personnel at the Jaffna Kachcheri. The training was for Tamil persons who are in charge of Orphanages in the Jaffna District for Tamil children. But the invitation, sent out to

nation to the Sangha who belong to these castes are excluded from the Siamese Order.

To my thinking, the chances of amelioration are more promising now than ever before; underprivileged people do not become militant unless they are utterly desperate or they somehow sense that militancy will pay dividends. This is true of America. It is true of Jaffna also. Along with newborn militancy, they have now acquired greater self-confidence than they possessed ever before. They are no longer dependent on 'high-born' dogooders and are relying on themselves to gain their ends. So their campaign has today an immediacy and urgency that it did not have earlier, and this urgency has infected others as well. The efforts now being made to throw temple doors open to every one are no mere gestures. The people involved mean business.

S. H. P.

Letters to the Editor

these Tamil persons many of whom know only Tamil and their admission forms are only in Sinhalese and English. Even the course of training was not in these languages! It is reliably learnt that many had returned the forms and refused to follow the course of training.

The object of the Tamil Language Provisions Act is to facilitate the Tamil-speaking people to transact all their business with the Government and other institutions in Tamil. Regardless of this, to impose Sinhala on the Tamil people is to inflict grave hardships and injustice on them. It has been our experience for the last decade that it is difficult to obtain justice from the Government and therefore it is for the Tamil-speaking people to work for their salvation by their spontaneous and united efforts.

To secure the reasonable use of Tamil in the administration of the national affairs, the Tamil-speaking people must do the following with determination and faithfulness:—

1. (a) All correspondence with the Government and other institutions in this country must be in Tamil and it must be done without postponement. Even the English educated Tamils must write in Tamil with the assistance of other Tamils. In the exercise of this right, the Tamil-speaking people must use only Tamil forms. If Sinhala or English forms are sent by the Government, they must be returned and Tamil forms obtained. The Tamil people should not repent for the delay or any other consequence that may ensue on account of the use of Tamil forms. Some courage is necessary in this matter.

(b) The Tamil-speaking people must insist that the registration of documents and records be maintained in Tamil in the Tamil-speaking areas for they have the inalienable and fundamental right of knowing and scrutinising the documents relative to their affairs in their own language i.e. Tamil.

(c) The Tamil-speaking people must insist on the proceedings in the Courts of justice in the Tamil-speaking areas and their records be conducted and maintained in Tamil for their convenience. If they are maintained in any other language, they will have to suffer hardships, delay and additional expense.

If the Government does not respond to these just and democratic demands, the Tamil-speaking people must lodge their protests in thousands and it must become a spontaneous movement of the Tamil-speaking people to win their rights.

2. All the Tamil Public Servants must function effectively under one Union for purposes of winning their linguistic rights. They must act with freedom and determination untrammelled by other considerations that came under the purview of other Unions. They must pass resolutions to transact government business in Tamil to Tamil-speaking people. Even the Muslims of Ceylon have a big part to play in this matter and they should not think of temporary advantages.

3. For the purpose of winning linguistic rights for the

Tamil-speaking people, the Tamil-speaking leaders must stand united and act with wisdom and determination and be governed by a sense of duty and devotion to the common cause. The Tamil-speaking people have the right to discard or vote out the unfaithful and selfish politicians.

The language of administration is the language of the people whose convenience and benefit is the most cardinal object of a well-ordered and responsible government. It is sheer injustice and persecution if the administration impose their language on the people.

One may pose the question: "Why not accept Sinhala if you had accepted English earlier?" The ready reply is: "We detest colonial rule. Independence for Ceylon means freedom for both Sinhalese and Tamil and it does not mean change of masters". The imposition of Sinhala must be resisted resolutely by all the Tamil-speaking people and it must be resisted now and we should not leave it to our posterity. Freedom means self-respect and denial of freedom means villainy and slavery!

S. PONNIAH,
Advocate,
Gen. Sec. Jaffna Parents' Association.

The Drink Problem

Sir,—The demon of drink is holding firm sway throughout Ceylon. Alcoholic drink is totally denounced by all religions. Drink is the root cause of all crimes in the country. Many families have been ruined by drunkards. Many landed proprietors and many rich persons have become paupers. Many men have squandered the dowry money on account of drink. Many a housewife have borne patiently the assaults by their husbands. Many a woman have separated themselves from their husbands on account of drink. Many women and children are in constant dread and tears in their houses. Many families have constant quarrels. There is an unholy and detestable atmosphere in a home where the inmates are addicted to drink. Many drunkards cause constant hardships to passers-by. All disturbances are due to people addicted to drink. Murders are committed by persons under the influence of drink. Drivers of cars and buses who are accustomed to drinking behave in such a way that they bring about collisions which in turn cause deaths. Many drunkards speak in obscene language totally ignoring the presence of women and children in their midst.

Alcoholic drink causes untold hardships to those who are addicted to it. Alcoholic drink poisons the nerves. It shatters the nervous system. If a person is addicted to it, he becomes a slave to it. He cannot be without it, "Habit is second Nature". It will be very difficult for him to give it up when he wants, because the nerves and the mind become tuned to drinks; many men have succumbed to drink. The son of a drunkard becomes easily addicted to drink and becomes a prey to diseases of heart and the liver.

(Continued on page 7)

As I See It — by Jay

Let It Go The Way Of The Dinosaur

It is perhaps but natural that we should project our contemporary biases into the past, and view historical institutions through the spectacles of the present. But what we often forget is that our notions of what is right and wrong might seem pretty cock-eyed a hundred years from now. In these matters, therefore, it is better to adopt an attitude of historical relativism and attempt to see the past as it saw itself, before we pass judgement on it.

The institution of caste has become so explosive an issue today that it would be safer for one to play with a hydrogen bomb. But at the risk of being blown up, of being attacked simultaneously as a 'reactionary' and a 'revolutionary', one must attempt to see the present problem in its historical setting.

Whether caste as an institution was divinely ordained or evolved from the division of labour, depends, of course, on your viewpoint. To the modern mind, the first hypothesis looks a suspiciously convenient excuse for the top dogs to always remain top dogs. Whatever may be its origin, there's no denying the fact that, till the coming of our Western masters, caste—far from being a source of certain stability to society. Everyone—whether high or low—had a fixed place in society: I won't say 'due' place, because the adjective will lead to controversy about who determines what is 'due'. Thus traditional societies did not suffer from that sense of restlessness and alienation so characteristic of a modern society marked by a high degree of social mobility. And every caste wished to preserve its 'purity'.

Till the Westerners arrived on the scene, by and large everyone seemed content with the prevailing scheme of things. The attempt of Nandanar to gain entry to the temple cannot be interpreted as an at-

tempt to radically alter the whole system. It was a limited struggle, not an all-out declaration of war, motivated by religious, not egalitarian, considerations. I think it can be shown historically that the resentment against the caste system and the burning desire to blow it sky high—far from being indigenous in their origins—are the product of the ideas of justice and equality sown by the West. And how deep-rooted the caste system is can be seen from the fact that even after so many centuries of the fall-out of Western ideals and ideas, it yet remains to be given the *coup de grace*.

The whole idea of the caste system has become so abhorrent to us that we just can't imagine its 'victims' ever having been happy with it. But strangely enough the evidence of history is against us: even the humblest was regarded—and regarded himself—as a priest performing certain sacramental rites. This may sound pseudo-mystical hocus-focus to this hard-headed, sceptical age but there it is. Traditional societies based on a hierarchical caste system seemed to have got on quite happily, without the underdogs wanting to rock the boat. It is futile, of course, to remark that they had no business being happy and content: that would be to abandon our role as humble students of history and become partisans instead.

But now the time has come to declare under which flag we fight. While recognising the role caste has played in our history, one cannot but feel that caste is a fossil which should have gone the way of the dinosaur. The modern age has no room for hierarchies of any kind even though in practice it has accepted that some are more equal than others. Unless we give this fossil a decent burial, the time is not far off when our society—like White America—will be rocked to its foundations by caste explosions. And then this fossil and those who clutch it to their bosoms will be unceremoniously thrown into the dustbin of history.

JOURNAL OF TAMIL CULTURE

(Formerly Tamil Culture)

It may be recalled that Prof. Xavier S. Thani Nayagam founded the quarterly journal 'Tamil Culture' in 1951 but later transferred the rights of publication to the Academy of Tamil Culture when it was established towards the close of 1954. The Academy has experienced difficulty in publishing the journal regularly and no issue has in fact been published since the last number of 1966. Prof. Thani Nayagam has been, therefore, consulting his colleagues in various countries concerning the continuation of *Tamil Culture* under a different title with a more academic, scientific, and research participation. In accordance with the original arrangement with the Academy of Tamil Culture, Prof. Xavier S. Thani Nayagam has now resumed the rights of publication of 'Tamil Culture', and a reorganization is now possible.

Several delegates, who attended the two International Tamil Conference-Seminars of Kuala Lumpur and Madras have also emphasised the need for sustaining the continued and growing interest in Tamil Studies promoted by these Conference-Seminars through the publication of a scientific journal during the inter-Conference years. With the consent, therefore, of Prof. Thani Nayagam, the International Association of Tamil Research (IATR) propose to continue the publication of 'Tamil Culture' with the altered title of 'Journal of Tamil Studies' to suit the wider international perspective of the IATR. As an experimental measure, it will be published initially as a half yearly issue from India, but later, depending on the supply of suitable research articles, it may be expanded into a quarterly issue, other circumstances permitting.

The problem of being in frequent communication with scholars interested in Tamil or allied studies scattered all over the world is proposed to be solved by nominating *Editors* to cover different parts of the world, such *Editors* working in close cooperation with the *Chief Editor*, the *Managing Editor*, and the *Coordinating Editor* to ensure uniformity of policy and execution. The Editorial Body will hence be structured somewhat on the following lines:

Board of Editors

Dr. M. Andronov, USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow—Editor

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Prof. Xavier S. Thani Nayagam, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur—Chief Editor

Dr. Kamil Zvelebil, Caroline University, Prague—Editor.

The Editors will undertake the responsibility of contacting scholars in the respective geographical areas assigned to them and of securing an uninterrupted supply of research articles, suitable for the Journal.

The Chief Editor will nominate a number of *Editorial Consultants* and *Book Reviewers*, and add to their number as and when necessary. Before an article is accepted for publication, the Coordinating Editor will send it to two or more of such Consultants for opinion as to their suitability for publication and thereafter refer it to the Chief Editor whose decision will be final. The *Review Editor* will similarly send each book etc., received for review to one of the Book reviewers.

The fields of studies for which research articles may be received for publication are listed in an appendix but are by no means exhaustive. Dravidian and Indological studies of a general nature, even remotely allied to Tamil Studies are also welcome; so are articles of general interest relating to any field the principles of which will be applicable to Tamil Studies.

The annual subscription will be US \$2 or its equivalent for all members of the IATR, and this subscription for the Journal will of course be in addition to their subscription to the IATR. For non-members of the IATR, the subscription for the Journal will be Rs. 20/- for India and Ceylon subscribers, an US \$4/- for non-Indian subscribers to the Journal.

Articles for publication should be sent *in triplicate* to

Mr. A. Subbiah, Coordinating Editor, Journal of Tamil Studies, Thamilakam, Sterling Road, Madras—34, South India.

Books etc., for review should be sent *in duplicate* to

Mr. S. Singaravelu, Review Editor, Journal of Tamil Studies, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaya.

Business correspondence should be addressed to

Prof. V. I. Subramoniam, Managing Editor, Journal of Tamil Studies, University of Kerala, Trivandrum, South India.

Sgd. Xavier S. Thani Nayagam
Sgd. Kamil Zvelebil
Sgd. V. I. Subramoniam
Secretaries General, IATR.

Credit Societies—Best Channel for Coop Credit

Cooperative Credit was best channelled through Credit Societies which were the backbone of the Movement, said Mr. R. Rajaratnam, President NDCF, declaring open the Training Class of the Vali North Credit Societies Union. That was why, he stressed, it was imperative that Credit Societies be revived: a scheme had been drawn up for this.

Dr. A. Nadarajah who presided advised members to learn to be self-reliant. This could be achieved through well-planned Savings Schemes.

Mr. T. K. Rajasekaran said that Credit Societies were the home of real cooperation. He advised them to amend the by-laws so that they became eligible to borrow under the New Agricultural Credit Scheme. Stressing the importance of Savings Schemes, he outlined some of the Schemes in operation now.

Mr. P. Coomaraswamy, AC CD Jaffna West said that it was a sad commentary that even after 40 years of existence, societies should yet be dependent on Departmental help. This was largely due to the apathy of the members. The Department was now planning to concentrate on rectifying weak societies.

Mr. M. Ganapathipillai, Hony. Treasurer, NDCF pointed out that if most of the credit societies were languishing, and were only half alive, it was due to the indifference of the members.

Mr. E. R. Benjamin, Range Inspector, cited concrete examples of societies which, by building up Savings, had been able to lend to members, without getting Government assistance.

The following were elected office-bearers: Dr. A. Nadarajah (President), Messrs. V. R. Murugesu (Vice-President), A. T. Subramaniam (Secretary) and A. Kandiah (Treasurer). Messrs. V. Nallathambi, S. Chelliah, V. Sivasubramaniam, S. Sivasithamparam and C. Sinnathurai were elected to the Executive Committee.

AGM

At the Annual General Meeting of the Thampalakamam MPCs Union held recently, the following were elected office-bearers: Messrs. M. K. Sellarajah (President), P. Kanagasabai (Vice-President) and K. Sivasubramaniam (Secretary). Mr. Sellarajah was elected delegate to the People's Bank and the District Union and Mr. Sivasubramaniam was chosen as a delegate to the Trinco Cooperative Bank.

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The Education of Plantation Workers' Children

The International Labour Conference in 1958 adopted a resolution to consider the possibility of a world wide survey of the standard of living and conditions of employment of plantation workers, taking into account all relevant economic factors. In 1962 the budget of the International Labour Organisation made provision for study of the living standards and working conditions of plantation workers, to be undertaken in Africa, Latin America and Asia. Three experts were chosen to carry out the survey, Mr. George Kibedi for Africa, Mr. Jacques Dorselaer for Latin America and Mr. John Johnson for Asia. The survey was carried out in 12 countries beginning from September 1962 to May 1964. It opened in Asia; Ceylon was one of the countries visited.

Education of the plantation workers has been briefly touched upon by the team.

The term 'Plantation', for the purpose of the survey included 'any agricultural undertaking regularly employing hired workers which is situated in the tropical or sub-tropical regions and which is mainly concerned with the cultivation or production for commercial purposes of coffee, tea, sugar-cane, rubber, bananas, cocoa, coconuts, cotton, tobacco, citrus, jute and hemp, pineapple and oil palm'.

Plantations cover much greater areas in Asia than in Latin America or in Africa; recently 24 million hectares in the four Asian countries Ceylon, India, Indonesia and Ma-

The overall position of education in plantation areas is generally depressing. The percentage of 'illiterates' goes up to 70 to 75% in certain areas. Sugar cane plantations in Peru and plantations in Columbia record the highest incidence. But it should be remembered that these workers are very functionally literate in the sense that they are skilled and trained adequately and they form the backbone of the economy of the respective countries, though they are not the recipients of the benefits.

In many of the countries, the children of plantation workers have to attend 'State schools' but as can be seen, these schools are often inadequate. Some large plantations set up their own schools and in some cases employers are obliged to do so by law.

In Columbia and Ecuador, the Labour Code prescribes that employers must set up and run primary schools for their workers if their place of work is more than 5 miles from a town or village, provided the number of children of school age is less than 20. In Peru, plantation and industrial enterprises must maintain free but compulsory primary schools for the children of the workers. The June 1964 Act of Peru would have it that secondary schools providing both general and technical instruction must be set up in centres of sugar industry. In India the Plantation Labour Act 1951, specifies that in all cases where there are at least 26 children between the ages of 6 and 12 the employers must provide educational facilities for them,

Some estates arrange for the transport of their workers' children. Still, Ivory Coast has to travel a long distance to provide adequate education.

The newly independent Mauritius may have to gird up its loins in regard to education of the plantation children. Only few plantations have primary schools, the children from the others have to go to school outside the plantations. Yet, the great majority of the parents wish their children to get their certificate: as a consequence, numerous private schools have been created. All these schools are not officially recognised by the State. Of the 400 private schools, only 100 are recognised by the State. The State has only about 200 schools. All these schools cater to the primary level.

In Tanganyika, the plantation owners encourage the education of their workers' children; the major plantations build their own schools and others provide financial assistance to the other schools. This applies to the sisal, tea and coffee plantations. In the large sugar plantations, adequately constructed schools cater not only for the children of the workers but also for those of neighbouring villages. The Tanganyika Government is evolving a policy of State schools and in fact the necessary authorisation to run private schools is being gradually withdrawn.

In Latin America, even schools geographically located in the plantations are usually run by the State, some large plantations in some parts of the country have set up a few independent private schools.

These are normally fee levying Catholic institutions. The requirement sets a premium on the social composition of the schools: they cater to the 'Propertied Class' of the plantations. In the sugar cane plantations of Peru too there are private schools and some of them well planned comprehensive schools. But many of the schools in the cotton plantations are depressingly ill equipped. One teacher, teaching three classes at the same time is not unusual in these schools. Schools in Ecuador in the coffee and banana plantation are very few, whether run by the employer or the State. Only one plantation in four has even the semblance of a school. As such children often have to attend village schools which themselves are of no standard.

(To be Continued)

The Place of Cooperative Training in the Cooperative Movement

Though the importance of training in cooperative principles for those working in cooperative undertakings is an amply recognised theoretical proposition, it is tragic that more often than not, only lip service is paid to it in Ceylon. Cooperatives are mostly in distress due to the lack of trained personnel in cooperative business. As asserted at a recent international seminar, "goods rot in the warehouses, books are not well kept, rice mills do not run and the grain elevators are not used advantageously," solely due to the lack of properly trained management personnel in cooperative business.

It is significant that the Rochdale Pioneers set apart 2½% of the net surplus for cooperative training and education, thereby initiating a worthy tradition that has found firm roots in the English Cooperative Movement. In Sweden too member societies of the K F dispense about 2½% of their surplus for cooperative educational pro-

Asia, held at New Delhi in 1960:—

".....My outlook at present is not the outlook of spreading this Cooperative Movement gradually, progressively, as it has done. My outlook is to convulse India with the Cooperative Movement, or rather with Cooperation: to make it, broadly speaking, the basic activity of India, in every village as well as elsewhere; and finally, indeed, to make the cooperative approach the common thinking of India.....Therefore the whole future of India really depends on the success of this approach of ours to these vast numbers, hundreds of millions of people. With that naturally come processes of training etc. We cannot just ask them to cooperate. Therefore, we have to train them in a big way..... educate them and give them some special training."

Chief Task

Cooperation in theory and by definition is democratic to the

of employees have often, for that very reason, ceased to exist. Wherever the choices were good the employees have grown with the societies. New cooperatives may be restricted in their initial choices, and once choices are made, there is bound to be a great deal of the trial and error method of approach. This is one of the inevitable and dangerous processes through which young cooperatives very often pass. There are however a few golden rules, the observance of which may help to circumvent these difficulties.....For example, to appoint only the best available to any cadre; to appoint only those who hold the certificate or diploma of a recognised training school etc. Though such observance of rules may not necessarily ensure the desired level of ability it can at least guarantee an optimum level of intelligence.

Straight From School

In most advanced countries cooperatives — even private enterprises — like to recruit young people straight from school and later train them to fall in line with the avowed policies and practices of those establishments to which they are recruited. Even in the matter of selection there are basic rules that are invariably observed, e.g. insistence on specific educational attainments, references, reports of school heads, tests of ability and aptitude etc. Some organisations insist that every employee who has not already undergone a course of cooperative training in accordance with the level of recruitment, should undergo one at the earliest opportunity, that being a condition for confirmation in the post and for future promotions. Much can be said in favour of the principle that cooperatives, as far as possible, should "grow their own men and offer them an attractive "ladder", to reach the top-most rungs. As W. P. Watkins maintains the main task of any cooperative organisation is "to keep an educational road open and unbroken whereby the rank and file co-

(Continued on page 7)

by P. CHANDRASEGARAM

Dept. of Education, University of Ceylon.

laya, as against about 14 million in the five Latin American countries Columbia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru and Brazil and 2 million in four African countries Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Mauritius and Tanganyika.

The plantations of India and Brazil together represent about three quarters of the total area of plantations in the 13 countries surveyed; 46% in India and 28% in Brazil.

On the world scale the areas occupied by cotton and coffee plantations come first and oil palm and coconut plantations last.

The land surface occupied by plantations in comparison with that of cultivated land is proportionately very high, more than half in certain countries like Mauritius, Malaya, Ceylon, Ivory Coast and Brazil, which partly explains the importance of plantations in the first three of these countries given the fact that their cultivated area in itself represents a high proportion of their whole territory.

Most Neglected Territory

It may be mentioned that the question of surveying the educational facilities of the children of plantation workers came to be included as a very incidental and casual aspect of the survey; educational facilities of the children of plantation workers, is one of the most neglected territories of plantation culture universally.

in accordance with the regulations prescribed by the government of each State. The building of the school, the provision of equipment and the wages of the teachers are paid for by the employer.

In Indonesia, the plantation owners provide the buildings and the teaching equipment and also the accommodation for teachers, but the Government pays their wages. In Malaya, the Government collects one Malayan dollar per acre from the employer and the funds thus collected is used to further the education of the children of the workers; in practice this is done at the primary level, in rural areas at the moment.

Facilities Vary

The position of educational facilities and financing of education of the sector vary from country to country, plantation to plantation. Cameroon has done comparatively well. The industrial plantations have large and good schools not only for the children of the plantations but also the children of the region. There are workshops attached to schools; practical instruction is given in technical agricultural subjects. The number of classes are increasing gradually. In Ivory Coast there is an increasing willingness on the part of the parents to send their children to State schools in villages near to the plantations. The large plantations in fact often contribute voluntarily to repairs and even to extensions to these schools.

grammes undertaken by the K F. Fortunately or unfortunately in Ceylon the state is bearing the financial burden of providing training to various levels of cooperative employees and prospective employees. But the truth of the matter is that no adequate programme of training can be formulated, much less implemented, without active cooperation and participation forthcoming from the various organisations in the cooperative sector. A lot will depend on the keenness of organisations to build up cadres that will attract and retain qualified and trained personnel, and it is the main business of those in authority to instil that keenness. To do that it behoves our administrators, in the first instance, to check up their own convictions.

Pandit Nehru observed in his inaugural address at the I.C.A. Seminar on Cooperative Leadership in South-East

core. But the chief task is to make any cooperative enterprise work efficiently. Leadership is the most important ingredient that can make democracy dynamic. In the absence of good leadership there will be only drift and stagnation which will be unbecoming of any great movement. For all to enjoy the fruits of cooperation, a few must take the initiative, make proposals, assume responsibility, effect changes and inspire the rest. "Cooperatives are like dog-teams... they can only work if there are leaders." (Canadian Govt. Handbook for Eskimos).

The guiding principle, therefore, should be, as recommended by the I.C.A. Seminar of 1960, "that cooperative education and training should be organised in appropriate forms at all levels and in every branch of the Movement's activity." Experience has shown that many cooperatives which made bad initial choices

Making Industrial Cooperatives A Success

The need for rural industrialisation is felt by the planners and the leaders. Many steps have been taken to strengthen the existing village industries in order to provide more employment opportunities and reconstruct the rural structure. Organisation of industrial cooperatives is one of such measures taken up throughout India.

Importance :

The importance of co-operation is understood by all. Dr. J.C. Kumarappa has rightly pointed out, "What cement or mortar is to the brick in a building, that cooperation should be in the economic edifice. Just as the adhesive agent keeps the bricks together and converts them into a solid mass, cooperation will also function to consolidate the social order."

The artisans gain more strength by coming into the cooperative fold. As individuals, most of them are not able to carry out their industries more successfully. They have to face many problems in getting finance, purchasing raw materials, carrying out various processes in an economic way, storing finished products and finding timely markets. Due to these handicaps, they are subject to exploitation in every stage.

Wherever there is concentration of artisans, the industrial cooperative society is formed. Funds are provided to the society. The credit worthiness of a member is increased in the society. The society takes the role of a guardian. It tries to solve the problems of the artisans in all the possible ways.

Success :

During the Second and Third Five Year Plans, special efforts have been taken to organise industrial cooperatives. If we look at the number, we may find some steady progress in the organisation of the societies. But if we go into the details and enquire about the working of them, we may be rather disappointed. Most of the societies are not functioning profitably. We may even accept that profit is not the only criteria for success. If a society is able to extend all the necessary help to the artisans and the artisans are able to carry out their industry without any setback and there is notable economic development, that society may be considered as a successful one.

But what do we see in practice? Most of them are not working satisfactorily. Some of the industrial cooperative societies are dormant for years together. The workers have the feeling, in most of the cases, that the societies are not their own. They even go to the extent of exploiting the society. So the observers of the industrial cooperative society very often say that cooperation has failed in the case of Khadi and Village Industries. There may be some truth in the statement. But, understanding the rural problems and the importance of cooperation, we say that the industrial cooperatives should succeed, in order to pave the way for rural industrialisation. For this, we have to critically analyse the existing conditions

of the industrial cooperatives and find out ways and means to multiply the possibilities for the success of the industrial cooperatives.

Organisation :

If an industrial cooperative society has to be successful much care should be taken in organising it. Now the officials are interested in organising the societies only to fulfil the target fixed for them. They are not bothered about the possibilities of successful working of the society.

The working group on Industrial Cooperatives says, "No industrial cooperative society should be registered without an on-the-spot study of its prospects of success. Such a study should find out particulars regarding (i) the market for the articles to be produced, (ii) the availability of the raw materials needed, (iii) the availability of transport facilities, (iv) the need for and availability of financial resources (v) the cost of production per unit, (vi) the price at which the products can be sold and the margin of profit it will give, and (vii) the performance of other units of the same industry in the neighbourhood etc. It should be examined whether the net profits of the society will be sufficient to set apart reserves, declare a dividend of at least 3 per cent on share capital and a bonus of 3 per cent of wages, after paying off instalments on loans, interest charges, rates, taxes etc. and

providing for depreciation. If the study reveals that the society will not pave its way for many years to come, say, even beyond four years, the society should not be registered."

All the above mentioned pre-conditions are not carefully taken in the case of most of the organised societies. If the organisers are questioned, why they are not taking proper care, they mostly point out the 'Target'. The fixation of the target is the necessary evil to make the workers go ahead in their work. But it should not be the only factor in organising the society. As A. F. Laidlaw points out, the workers have to realise that our objective is not simply to organise cooperatives, but to build up a genuine movement of the people.

It is the responsibility of the organisers themselves to ensure the success of the society. They are just like the farmers who are sowing the seeds in the field. The farmer has to take care in selecting the seeds, preparing the field and fixing the seasons in order to get a good crop. Likewise the organisers are to be careful in locating the society, studying the possibilities of success and making preliminary arrangements.

Education of Members :

One of the reasons for the failure of the society is the lack of knowledge and understanding about the society on the part of the members. They are not clear about their rights and duties. Legally, the orga-

nisers have to convene a preliminary meeting to explain and convince the members about the needs of the society. Then the bye-laws of the society are to be read out and explained. All these formalities are not carried out in practice. The signatures of the members are simply collected and the society is formed. This results in much confusion in the relationship between the members and the society.

The members do not consider the society as an association of themselves. They regard it as an organisation which would give them some financial help. The society assumes the role of a master, in the present circumstances, in providing credit facilities and work to the members. It is not functioning as an instrument for progress.

There are societies which are not conducting General Body Meetings and very often the meetings of the Board of Directors. On the contrary these things may be found in record. The present state of affairs will not help members in developing their personalities. In some of the societies wherever departmental secretaries are working, the relationship between the societies and the workers are only the master-servant relationships. In order to change the present position, more steps have to be taken to educate the artisans who are members in the society. Only when the members could watch the working

at the prevailing price of the previous date and sells the bricks at a profit in his private capacity. The reverse may also happen when the price goes down. When the President of the society begins to do this, in course of time, the members will lose their confidence in the society.

If a society is not having sincere leadership, it is bound to fail very soon. There is ample scope for the presidents to exploit the society in its day to day activities. Unless the persons concerned are sincere in purchasing the raw materials, fixing the out-turn and incurring the incidental expenses, the society will fail definitely.

To put an end to these problems the leadership should be created among the artisans themselves. The illiteracy of the artisans may come in the way. But we may find more literate people among the youngsters. The coming generation should be provided with sufficient opportunities to understand the working of the society and take up the responsibilities. Even if they commit certain mistakes in the beginning, they should be allowed to learn a lot by doing things themselves.

The officials have to find out the talented young persons and train them in course of time. Only when such new leadership develops internally, the officials should gradually withdraw their activities from the field. The departmenta-

societies are not having a permanent footing. If the created markets fall down, they will also fail. Such societies should find out permanent markets.

The society has to take more care in bringing down the cost of production. For this, many timely steps have to be taken. First, the raw materials should be purchased at a reasonable rate. One of the deciding factors of quality and cost is the raw material. Wherever the raw materials may be obtained locally and in certain seasons only, the society should be in a position to purchase and store the raw materials in bulk. Necessary scientific and technological improvements should be effected to reduce the cost of production.

Service Cooperatives :

There is some mis-understanding about the functioning of the industrial cooperatives even in the minds of the workers. They want the society to carry out certain productive activity. The workers should be employed by the society and wages are paid to them on the basis of their work. When the work is carried out in the Artisans' houses, the society is purchasing the entire products from the artisans and then finding out the markets for the articles. This is simply placing more burden on the shoulders of the society.

Another point to be noted here in this present mode of work is that the production and marketing are separated by the industrial society. In practice, the society is not able to fully utilise the existing market. For example, before the formation of the society the potters might have been selling their commodities locally by meeting the farmers in person. They might have persuaded them. But now the artisans shed their responsibilities of marketing their products. They simply get money by handing over the products to the society.

In order to overcome all these troubles, the society may function as Service cooperatives. We should not forget that the society is only the means and the end is the welfare of its members. So the activities of the society have either to be limited or enhanced according to the situation and the need of the artisans. The society has to help the artisan in whatever fields he requires its assistance. It should not dominate him in any way.

This can be clearly explained by taking an example of a Potters' Industrial Cooperative Society. If the society has to take up production itself, it will have to look after the varied activities from getting clay to marketing the products. The members will get only wages. Sometimes, this will increase the gap between the society and its members and ultimately bring down the quality of its products. We need not wonder, if the members go on strike one day just like mill workers to get certain benefits. Then the goal, aimed at in organising the industrial cooperative will not be achieved.

But if the society takes up certain activities only to solve

by M. P. GURUSWAMY, M. A.

of the society and correct the committed mistakes now and then, the society would function on proper lines.

Leadership :

Another important factor for the success of the industrial cooperative society is the proper type of leadership. The Committee, which has evaluated the Intensive Area Scheme, after carefully studying the industrial cooperatives in the Intensive Areas has come to the conclusion that "though the industrial cooperatives are not running efficiently, we are hopeful that if properly organised and provided with right type of leadership it is possible to run them efficiently." This is true in the case of all the societies.

It happens, in practice that people with vested interests become presidents and directors of the society. Some time, they are not actual workers. The master artisans, who formerly employed other artisans and got profit, occupy the key positions in the society apart from their own industry. They want to earn profit through the activities of the society.

A concrete example may be cited to explain this point more clearly. There is one brick workers' cooperative society in a village. The President of the society is manufacturing bricks separately and marketing it separately. There are complaints that when the price of the bricks rises, the president transfers the bricks from the Society to his own go-down after making the bill

people have only to guide them in the long run. Only the leaders have to carry out the day to day activities.

Marketing :

Most of the societies meet with failure due to the problems of marketing their commodities. Of course, the society has to explore the marketing facilities for the manufactured goods. But it should see that the articles are produced only to meet the demands of the people.

It is brought to notice in certain places that the members go on producing without considering the availability of market till the society goes on purchasing their products. The society is also purchasing and storing the manufactured articles, as far as its funds permit. Then there will be a stand-still in the working of the society. This type of stagnation is not good for industry.

The principle of regional self sufficiency has to be kept in mind. The people have to be educated to purchase the local products. The competition with the mill sector is an inevitable feature in the case of village industries' products. So the markets have to be found mostly in rural areas.

There are certain rural industries basing themselves on the artificial market. For example, most of the Hand-pounding societies are thriving due to the possibility of supplying rice to the prisons, schools and hospitals, such

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Revolution by Love

(Continued from our last issue)

In a sense, Edgar Allen Poe was referring to eros when he talked about his beautiful Annabelle Lee; in a sense Shakespeare was talking about eros when he said:

'Love is not love which alters when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove,
It is an ever-fixed mark
which looks on tempests
and is never shaken;
It is a star to every wandering
barque.'

That is eros. I can remember that because I used to quote it to my wife when we were courting. That is a significant kind of love. Then the Greek language talks about 'philos' which is a sort of intimate affection between personal friends. On this level, you love people whom you like; you love because you are loved and this is friendship. And then the Greek language comes out with the word 'agape' which is more than eros, more than friendship. It means understanding, creative, redemptive goodwill for all men. It is an overflowing love which seeks nothing in return.

Glittering Daybreak

Theologians would say that this is the love of God operating in the human heart. When one rises to love on this level, one comes to the point of loving the person who does the evil deed, while hating the deed that the person does. And I think this is what Jesus of Nazareth meant when he said 'Love your enemies', I am glad he did not say, 'Like your enemies', as there are some people it is pretty difficult to like. To like is an affectionate emotion and certainly you cannot like people who are bombing your home, people who are threatening your children. But love is understanding, creative, redemptive goodwill for all men, and I believe firmly that, through such love, coupled with an organized, determined struggle to break down the unjust system, we will emerge from the dark and desolate night of man's inhumanity to man, into the bright and glittering daybreak of freedom and justice.

And so, with this approach, we have struggled all over this land, and we have seen the walls of segregation gradually crumble. We still have a long, long way to go in this march ahead, but we know that we have already made significant strides. Using the method I have described I believe firmly that we will come to that brighter day; and it will help those of us who have been on the oppressed end of the old order to go into the new age with the right attitude. Certainly we have been oppressed, we have faced the dark moments of life; and there are great temptations that come to us, temptations to want to rise from a position of disadvantage to one of advantage. If we ever succumb to the temptation, we will do nothing but make the new order a duplicate of the old order. Somebody must have sense enough in this world to see that to attempt to rise from a position of disadvantage to one of advantage will do nothing but subvert justice. We must not

seek to substitute one tyranny for another. This is why I have said all over this land and all over the world that a doctrine of black supremacy is as dangerous as a doctrine of white supremacy in the final analysis. God is not interested merely in the freedom of black men and brown men and yellow men, God is interested in the freedom of the whole human race and the creation of a world where all men will respect the dignity and the worth of human personality and where all men will live together as brothers. Using the right approach I think we can build a new world, a world of understanding, and a world of brotherhood and this is the challenge facing men of goodwill all over the world. If we will only take up this challenge, I believe we will see a brighter day.

There are certain words that are used by every academic discipline and they soon become stereotypes. Every academic discipline has its technical vocabulary. There is a word used in psychology that is probably used more than any other word in modern psychology; it is the word 'maladjusted'. We hear a great deal about it. Certainly, we all want to achieve a well-adjusted life in order to avoid neurotic and schizophrenic personalities. But I say to you, my friends from all over the world, there are some things in our social order and in the world to which I am proud to be called maladjusted, until the good society is realized. I must confess that I never did intend to adjust myself to segregation and discrimination. I never did intend to adjust myself to the evils of colonialism, to religious bigotry, to an economic system that will take away the necessities from the many to give luxuries to the few. I never did intend to adjust myself to the madness of militarism and the self-defeating effects of physical violence.

Non-violence or Non-existence

In an age like ours when Sputniks and explorers are dashing across outer space and carving highways of death through the stratosphere, no nation can win a war. It is no longer a choice between violence and non-violence. It is either non-violence or non-existence. And the alternative to disarmament, the alternative to a full suspension of nuclear tests, the alternative to strengthening the United Nations and thereby disarming the whole world, may well be a civilization plunged into the abyss of annihilation.

And so I say that maybe there is need for a new organization in our world, the 'International Association for The Advancement of Creative Maladjustment', an association for men and women who are as maladjusted as the prophet Amos, who in the midst of the injustices of his day could cry out in words that echo through the centuries: 'Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream'...

As maladjusted as Abraham Lincoln who had the vision to see that this nation could not survive half-slave and half-free

As maladjusted as Thomas Jefferson, who in an age amazingly adjusted to slavery could write across the pages of history words lifted to cosmic proportions: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal and that they are empowered by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness'

As maladjusted as Mahatma Gandhi who, in the midst of his country's adversities could say: 'Non-cooperation with evil is as much a moral obligation as is cooperation with good'

As maladjusted as Jesus of Nazareth who could look into the eyes of men and women of his generation and say: 'He who lives by the sword will perish by the sword'...

Through such maladjustment, we will be able to move forward to a brighter day. I believe that somehow, in spite of the difficulties that we face as a result of the great social revolution taking place in the world, in spite of the darkness around, we will achieve that better day; we will achieve that goal of brotherhood. The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice and there is something in this universe which justifies William Cullen Bryant saying 'Truth pressed to earth will rise again'.

And so, with this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair the stone of hope. With this faith, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our world into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to speed up the day when all of God's children, all over the world, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old negro spiritual:

'Free at last, free at last,
Thank God Almighty,
we're free at last'.
—WAY Forum

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Peaceful Exploitation of Sea-bed

The U.N. Special Committee for Peaceful Exploitation of the Sea Bed opened its first session at New York. Following last year's resolutions of the UN General Assembly the Committee is to search all possibilities of exploitation of sea bed for peaceful purposes only and for the benefit of nations all over the world.

The Committee is composed of 35 members. It will report on the results of its work at the next session of the UN General Assembly. The UN General Assembly included the question of sea bed in its agenda last year on the initiative of the delegation of Malta.

The UN Secretary General U Thant recalled at the opening session that the work of the Committee concerns about five sevenths of the solid surface of the earth and that these are mainly areas not within the jurisdiction of individual countries.

The development of science and technology has achieved such levels that the sea bed becomes more and more accessible that it can thus be exploited for both scientific and economic purposes, and for military purposes too, the UN Secretary General said. He further stated that the UN General Assembly admitted the extraordinary importance of this issue by the unanimous approval of the resolution on the sea bed.

International cooperation in this field is necessary, the Secretary General continued and said that any resolution on this question should be in conformity with the purposes and principles of the UN charter, in the interest of maintenance of international peace and security and for the benefit of all mankind.

According to the UN resolution of December 18, 1967, the Committee is to prepare

Appointed to DAC

Mr. M. K. Sellarajah, President Thambalakamam MPCU Union, has been appointed a member of the Trincomalee District Agricultural Committee, by Mr. C. P. de Silva, Minister of Lands, Irrigation and Power.

Mr. Sellarajah will serve on the DAC for three years.

'Cooperation & Religion Inextricably Linked'

Cooperation and Religion are inter-twined in men's lives, observed Mr. V. S. Ponniah, Rtd. ACCD, during the course of a talk to the students of the Cooperative Training School, Jaffna. His theme was 'Religion and the Cooperative Movement'. He stressed that unless one lived up faithfully to one's religious beliefs, one could not live up to cooperative ideals or help the Movement to progress. While Cooperation helped one's economic development, Religion fostered one's spiritual progress.

Mr. K. Paramothayan, Principal, who presided, stated that the ideals that Cooperation preached were identical with those of Religion. This showed that both were closely linked with Man.

the following for the 23rd session of the UN General Assembly:—A survey on the present activity of the UN and other international organisations in this field;—A report on scientific, technical, economic, legal and other aspects of the issue;—And recommendations on practical measures in favour of international cooperation in the research and exploitation of the sea bed for peaceful purposes and for the benefit of all mankind.

The session lasted about one week.

—Czechoslovak News

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(2) From 1-11-1967, in the case of Institutions, the rate of interest payable will be 4% for the month in which there is a minimum balance of Rs. 5,000/- or over.

(3) For Cooperative Societies, from 1-11-1967, the rate of interest payable will be 4½%.

SECURITY DEPOSITS

From 1-11-1967, the rate of interest payable on Security Deposits of Societies will be 3½%.

PAWN BROKING

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Cooperative Training

(Continued from page 4)

operator, with qualities fitting him for leadership, should be able to qualify himself, stage by stage, for the exercise of its functions right up to the highest level."

The relationship between the cooperative training scheme and the cooperative movement would normally depend on the following factors:

(1) The significance of training in the cooperative movement itself.

(2) The extent to which the cooperative movement undertakes the responsibility to initiate, maintain and develop facilities for training.

(3) The very nature and structure of the movement.

In a number of countries there are cooperative training colleges to train employees and prospective employees for the cooperative sector. Some of them have gone to the extent of offering training facilities to non-nationals as well e.g. in GREAT BRITAIN the Co-operative Union runs a residential school at Stanford Hall, Loughborough, Leicestershire. In Canada the St. Francis Xavier University at Antigonish established in 1960, an International Institute known as the Cody Institute, to train students from all over the world in social leadership, with special emphasis on Cooperation. In France there is the Institute Francais d'Action Cooperative to which many cooperators go for educational training. At a more advanced level there is the College Co-operative attached to the Sorbonne, training cooperative leaders from all over the world.

Collaboration

The Cooperative Movement can no longer depend on the trial and error method. In many countries there is a great deal of collaboration between cooperative departments and federations or unions in the matter of training for cooperative work. In Gold Coast, India and Pakistan the cooperative departments and the unions assist one another in the task and divide the work among themselves. Some countries have gone a step further in that collaboration takes an organised form through the establishment of cooperative education committees on which government departments, the ministries concerned, the cooperative organisations and the various levels of the educational system find representation. Some good examples are Burma, Hungary, India and Jamaica.

The truth of the matter is that governments cannot undertake cooperative education and training without the active participation of those directly involved in the cooperative movement.

A Clear Picture

It is very necessary to have a clear mental picture of the content of courses provided under training programmes. Functional as well as Orientation Courses have to be designed depending on the needs of a particular country the latter being really preparatory courses for functional specialisation. At the same time all such courses should

Making Industrial Cooperatives a Success

(Continued from page 5)

the problems faced by its members, their members may like more to be inside the fold of the society. If members want clay, the society can arrange that. If they want fuel, it can purchase it in bulk and distribute it among the members. If necessary, it can have a common chula to burn the pots. If the members have the possibilities to market their products, it can allow them to do so only on the condition that they have to pay a small percentage of commission to the society. The society can give necessary financial help.

When a society functions as a Service Cooperative Society, there is much scope for success. It can match the demands of the public with the supply of goods by the artisans. Necessary technical help may be given to the artisans whenever the need arises.

The departmental workers should be more careful in watching the utilisation of funds. More care also should be taken in maintaining the accounts. These are necessary things to make a society function on proper lines.

Conclusion:

Our respected late Prime Minister Shri Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru rightly said, "In a democratic society, that is, where there is adult suffrage and some kind of parliamentary government, the means are provided for the change of function and even form to some extent. But old established forms and vested interests resist change till it is forced down upon them by circumstances." This is true to a certain extent in the case of Industrial Cooperatives also. The vested interests will try their best to make the society a failure.

We should not forget our goal of establishing a new social order in which all would have enough opportunities to lead a happy life. This could be done in a democratic country only by education and cooperative effort. These two things are provided by the cooperative society.

The workers have to evaluate their past work. They have to find out the reasons for their failures in certain fields and try to avoid them in the future. The root cause for the disease has to be understood and treatment has to be given only for that. If we do this we will be successful in all our efforts taken to make the society function successfully.

be statutorily recognised for purposes of employment in the cooperative sector. This has been consistently overlooked by successive governments in Ceylon, and that undoubtedly accounts for the utter lack of incentive to undergo cooperative training in this country.

It is high time that serious thought is given to the subject of cooperative training in Ceylon. The hour is indeed opportune in view of the impending Commission on Co-operative Development.

Self-realization for the Householder

Can a married man realize the Self?

Certainly. It is a question of fitness of mind. Married or unmarried, a man can realize the Self, because the Self is here and now.

If it were not, but were obtainable by some effort at some future time, if it were something new to be acquired, it would not be worth seeking, because what is not natural cannot be permanent. What I say is that the Self is here and now and that IT alone is.

A man may be a householder but if he does not think he is one, he is a *sannyasin*. On the other hand, he may wear ochre robes and wander about, but so long as he thinks he is a *sannyasin* he is not one.

To think about one's renunciation defeats the purpose of renouncing.

What do you mean by taking *sannyasa*?

Do you think it means leaving your home or wearing robes of a certain colour? Wherever you go, even if you fly up into the air, will your mind not go with you? Or, can you leave it behind you and go without it?

And why should your occupation or duties in life interfere with your spiritual effort? For instance, there is a difference between your activities at home and in the office.

In your office activities, you are detached and so long as you do your duty you do not care what happens.

Your duties at home, on the other hand, are performed with attachment and you are all the time anxious whether they will bring advantage to you and your family.

But it is possible to perform all the activities of life with detachment and regard only the Self as real.

Again, it is wrong to suppose that if one is fixed in the Self, one's duties in life will not be properly performed. It is like an actor. He dresses and acts and even feels the part he is playing, but he knows really that he is not the character but someone else in real life.

In the same way, why should the body consciousness or the feeling 'I-am-the-body' disturb you, once you know for certain that you are not the body but the Self? Nothing that the body does should shake you from abidance in the Self.

Such abidance will never interfere with the proper and effective discharge of whatever duties the body has, any more than an actor's being aware of his real status in life interferes with his acting a part on the stage.

An accountant working all day in his office and scrupulously attending to his duties might seem to the spectator to be shouldering all the financial responsibilities of the institution. But, knowing that he is not personally affected by the in-take or out-goings, he remains unattached and free from the 'I-am-the-doer' feeling in doing his work, while at the same time he does it perfectly well.

In the same way, it is quite possible for the wise house-

holder who earnestly seeks liberation to discharge his duties in life (which, after all, are his destiny) without any attachment, regarding himself merely as an instrument for the purpose.

Knowledge and activity are never mutually antagonistic and the realization of one does not impede performance of the other, nor performance of one the realization of the other.

The discharge of his duties by a householder such as this, who works for the support of his family, quite unmindful of his own physical comforts in life, should be regarded as selfless service rendered to his family, whose needs it is his destiny to meet.

It is only to the spectator that the enlightened householder seems to be occupied with his domestic duties; for even though apparently engaged in domestic duties, he is not really engaged in any activity at all. His outer activity does not prevent him from realizing the perfect peace of withdrawal, and he is free from the restless urge to activity even in the midst of his activities.

It may, however, be asked what benefit such a householder derives from the family. The answer is that there is no benefit for him from the family as such, since he has made the discharge of his duties to them a means of spiritual training and since he finally obtains perfect contentment by realizing the supreme Bliss of Liberation, which is the ultimate goal of every path and the supreme reward.

—Bhavan's Journal

The Film Festival in Karlovy Vary Again

This year the international film festival at Karlovy Vary will be held from June 5th to 15th. After Cannes, it will be the second largest European Film Festival.

At the same time the Karlovy Vary festival enters its sixteenth year with certain changes. The basic change is that petition films, which are expected to have their premieres at Karlovy Vary, will be reviewed by three independent international juries instead of only one. These juries will altogether award six prizes: the authors' and critics' jury one Grand Prix and one special mention each, and the actors' jury one prize for the best actor, one for the best actress. Apart from reducing the number of awards, the new measure is to contribute to raising the standards and specialization in evaluating the competing films. The criteria for selecting the films will also be stricter. At most twenty pictures will be shown in the competition review at the 16th International Film Festival at Karlovy Vary. This will also make it possible to shorten the length of the Festival from the previous fourteen days to ten.

—Czech Embassy Press Release

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from page 2)

Total prohibition may not be a full success, in view of the fact that men's tastes and temperament are different. From time immemorial some people are addicted to drink from time to time, yet it is the duty of loyal, law-abiding, God-fearing, peace-loving citizens of Ceylon to arrest the number of people who become a prey to alcoholic drinks. The habit of taking liquor is on the increase. People say that some students in the schools and colleges and some university students are addicted to drink—a habit which was totally unknown among students two decades ago. Alcoholic drink is freely used in clubs and hotels and in some dinner parties, yet we talk of independence and national culture.

We cannot ignore this national calamity, simply because democracy must cater to the needs of the people. Surely it is a great responsibility on the part of the authorities to stem the tide of the drinking habit among the students and some teachers. In the name of civilisation, in the garb of progressive attitudes, in the name of economic gain, we should not create opportunities to students to mar the career of the students and bring degradation of character on the part of those who drink. "If the salt has lost its flavour, where shall it be salted", says the Bible.

There is a roaring sale of beer in the buffet in the mail train from Colombo to Jaffna and Jaffna to Colombo. The Government once thought of abandoning it by refusing to give licences to those who trade in beer. National income by way of licences is nothing when compared to the tremendous consequences that have an indelible impact on society. If the government finds that it is a wrong and demeaning practice of drinking liquor in public trains, they must stop this obnoxious habit. It is high time that the tree-tax system must go. Instead taverns may be opened in remote and out of the way places where the people who are addicted to drink can drink to their heart's content. Now every toddy tapper's home is a tavern. There are various avenues of employment for toddy tappers if the tree-tax system is abandoned and if the number of consumers diminishes.

Politicians for the sake of getting votes should not stifle the attempts of those interested in this question. They must allow the people to decide for themselves by ballot whether they are to retain the tree-tax system or not. It is the bounden duty of the government in power and those in the Opposition to direct the people in the right lines. After all they are indirectly doing the work of God. The Government will be responsible for the disastrous effects of alcoholic drink in the country.

C. SINNATHURAI,

Erlalai West.

People's Bank and Coop Movement Closely Linked, says Chairman

The People's Bank is closely linked with the Cooperative Movement, stated Mr. T. B. Panabokke, Chairman, People's Bank, ceremonially opening the new building of the Paranthan Branch of the Jaffna Cooperative Provincial Bank.

Mr. Panabokke went on to say that when he assumed office, there was a lurking suspicion among cooperators that the People's Bank was going to swallow up the cooperative banks. Right from the start he had striven to create better understanding between the People's Bank and the cooperative banks. They had not lost sight of the fact that their prime purpose was to help the Cooperative Movement: this had been impressed on all the officials. The Bank had been established for the express purpose of helping in the economic upliftment of the rural masses: it was through the Cooperative Movement that this credit reached the villages. It was as part of this programme that they had opened up 31 rural banks: this had enabled them to harness Rs. 16 lakhs of savings of the poor peasantry. Referring to the office of Chairman of the People's Bank, Mr. Panabokke said the person was democratically elected, instead of being a political nominee as in the case of certain other institutions.

Record Lending

Speaking about the New Agricultural Credit Scheme, he pointed out that the People's Bank had given out Rs. 78 million under the Scheme, for the cultivation of paddy and subsidiary food crops: never before had such large sums of money been lent to farmers. He was convinced that there would be almost 100 per cent recoveries. Mr. Panabokke concluded by appealing to cooperators to see that every loan was paid up: the People's Bank money was the poor man's money held in trust—hence it was their duty to see that not one cent went unreturned.

Mr. R. Rajaratnam, President JCPB, welcoming the guests, observed that now there were better relationships between the People's Bank and the cooperative banks. The Board of Directors was more sympathetic to the movement: cooperators could now feel that the People's Bank was their apex bank. He felt that the People's Bank should help to train the personnel of cooperative banks. Stressing that it was time that the Cooperative Movement learnt to stand on its own feet, Mr. Rajaratnam pointed out that the Cooperative Movement had not done enough in the industrial sphere.

A Significant Symbol

The Cooperative Flag has become a valuable and significant symbol in Jaffna, said Mr. Vernon Abeysekera, Govt. Agent, Jaffna, who hoisted the Cooperative Flag. Jaffna had pioneered several cooperative ventures which were being watched closely by the rest of the country: as instances he cited the Moolai Cooperative Hospital which was perhaps the first in S.E. Asia, the Cooperative saltern at Kallundai, and the Jaffna Cooperative Provincial Bank.

Emphasising the difference between commercial banking and cooperative banking Mr. Abeysekera said that cooperative banks were meant to improve the welfare of workers and peasants: this was testified by the work done by the Jaffna Cooperative Provincial Bank under the new Agricultural Credit Scheme. The Jaffna Cooperative Bank had distributed nearly Rs. 5 million for paddy cultivation: more than half this amount had been channelled through the Paranthan Branch. These statistics, said Mr. Abeysekera, indicated two things: 1) the intensity of paddy cultivation in the area and 2) the large volume of work handled by the Paranthan Branch. Therefore it was very appropriate that a fine and substantial building should have come up there.

A Landmark

Mr. H. A. Koattogoda, a Director of the People's Bank, said that the new building would serve as a landmark in the history of the economic development of the area. Even after 20 years of political independence, Ceylon had yet to attain economic independence. The vast majority of the people, he pointed out, didn't possess the basic amenities. He stressed that no amount of spoon-feeding with foreign aid would help us to develop economically: much of it was given half-heartedly. The only way, emphasised Mr. Koattogoda, of getting out of this rut was to band together for self help: the cooperative system was the finest system evolved by man for his advancement.

Jaffna's Example

Mr. D. Hettiarachchi, President Galle District Cooperative Union, recalled his first visit to Jaffna and how he had been amazed by the Jaffna Cooperative Provincial Bank: that was a time when there were no corresponding banks down South. It was the example of the Jaffna Cooperative Bank which had led to the formation of the first Cooperative Bank down South: one was grateful therefore for the pioneering steps taken by Jaffna in the cooperative sphere. As far as Jaffna was concerned, it was far from being cooperatively underdeveloped. Mr. Hettiarachchi also commented on the close association the Govt. Agents of Jaffna had with the Cooperative Movement. The present G.A. Mr. Abeysekera—he was glad to note—was following in the footsteps of his predecessors. This was something high officials in other areas should emulate.

Mr. D. W. Kannangara, General Manager, People's Bank, said that the functions of the People's Bank were quite clearly laid down and it was their duty to carry them out faithfully. Of course difficulties arose but they would face them realistically and tackle the problems as they arose. Any difficulties that cropped up between the People's Bank and the coopera-

tive banks could be solved with a little goodwill. He pointed out that any awkward questions they asked were in the best interests of everyone. It was easy to distribute funds at will but this would not help anyone.

Mr. A. Sivasunderam who proposed the vote of thanks, pointed out that the rate of interest charged under the New Agricultural Credit Scheme was too high. He said there was something wrong with Government machinery, otherwise private traders would not be paying more for paddy. Loan recoveries too, he pointed out, were not encouraging.

Bank Loan for Building

At a Special General Meeting of the Vavuniya District Cooperative Union it was decided that the Union should obtain a Bank loan to put up a building. The MCL was fixed at Rs. 4½ lakhs.

Mr. K. S. Ponnuthurai SAC (NR), advised the members to contribute at the rate of half a bushel of paddy each and put up the building with their own money. He also appealed to the affiliated societies to extend their full cooperation to the Union.

Mr. R. Rajaratnam, President NDCF, stressed that an independent Movement like the Cooperative Movement should not be dependent on the Government. They should start various Savings Schemes if they wished to preserve the independence of the Movement. He appealed to them to take a keen interest in the affairs of the NDCF and cooperate with it fully.

Mr. R. V. Vilvarajah presided and Mr. K. Ganeshalingam, Administrative Secretary Vavuniya District Coop Union, proposed the vote of thanks.

Economic Development Through Cooperation

Speaking at the Annual General Meeting of the Chulipuram West MPCSS, Mr. R. Rajaratnam, President NDCF said that the economic development of the area depended on Cooperation, on the joint efforts of the people. Stressing that the prosperity of the land depended on the peasantry, he said that MPCSS could help cultivators to increase production and thereby stimulate the economic development of the country. He advised farmers to make good use of fertilisers: these should be made available to them in good time. Similarly there should be no delays in granting them loans.

Mr. E. Marimuttu presided.

The following were elected office-bearers: Messrs. P. Ambikaipahar (President), M. Tiruchelvam (Vice-President) and K. Sellathurai (Secretary).

The following were elected to the Committee: Messrs. E. Marimuttu, K. Sivasithamparan, K. Arichandra, K. Sellathurai and V. Ponniah.

'End This Discrimination'

The Parents Association of Jaffna has pointed out to the Minister of Education that Tamil students are greatly handicapped as the Tamil text books published by the Government are priced much higher than the Sinhalese text books. It has requested the Minister to put an end to this discrimination immediately.

The Association has also informed the Minister that it is prepared to undertake the publication of text books and sell them at a lower price, if he hasn't sufficient facilities to ensure that the Tamil publications are priced at par with the Sinhalese texts.

Centenary Volume

Regarding the Centenary Volume to be published by the Dept. of Education it was felt that the Centenary of the intervention of the State in Education should be regarded as a National Anniversary and the projected Centenary Volume as a National History. It

has, therefore, requested the Prime Minister to appoint a high level National Committee, fully representative of all groups and sectors, to be in charge of releasing the Centenary Volume. It was however emphasised that as much useful spade work had already been done by the Departmental Committee, the new National Committee could be asked to take over the project from where the Departmental Committee had left.

The Association also resolved to take steps to see that the proposed Junior University is set up at a more suitable site than Palaly and that no discrimination is shown against any Junior University that may be set up in a Tamil-speaking area, as regards its size and the scope of its curricula.

When the discussion turned to the reorganisation of schools, it was pointed out that the present set up was geared to discrimination against the minorities.

'Follow India's Example'

Mr. R. C. S. Cooke, Vice-President NDCF, who recently visited the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Union, strongly feels that we should follow India's example and de-officialise the Cooperative Movement.

This, he states, is the policy of the Government of India. It is in keeping with this that the training of cooperative personnel (both official and non-official) has been entrusted to the National Cooperative Union of India.

The National Union runs altogether 13 Training Colleges in various States in India, with a special Sub-Committee of the respective State Cooperative Unions in coordination with its Special Committee for Training in the National Union. Besides these 13 Training Colleges, the National Union runs a Higher College at Poona called the Vakunthu Meta National Institute of Cooperative Management: this is intended for senior officials of the Cooperative Movement like Joint-Registrars and similar ranking officers. At the State Training Colleges run by the National Cooperative Union of India, only Graduates and Intermediates with Cooperative experience are eligible for admission. The entire funds to run these institutions are provided by the Government of India.

Central Institute

The Tamil Nadu Cooperative Union also runs a Central Institute for training Government Cooperative Inspectors and other allied members of Development Departments: the Principal and Lecturers are Government Cooperative Officers seconded for service.

Besides these, there are seven Junior Cooperative Training Institutes in the Madras State: these are autonomous bodies but affiliated to the TNCU. These Institutes are registered under the Cooperative Act as a Cooperative Society: the members are Central Banks of the area and big marketing societies. The Government subsidises these Institutes by seconding the services of a Deputy R.C.S. as Principal and Sub-Registrars as Lecturers. Fees are collected from the students. These Institutes train employees of societies and prospective employees.

Mr. Cooke feels that our Government should follow India's example by entrusting the training of all cooperative personnel (both official and non-official) to the Cooperative Federation and the District Unions, as a first step towards the de-officialisation of the Movement.

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மக்கள் வங்கிக்கும் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்கும் நெருங்கிய தொடர்பு இருக்கிறது

கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்கு உதவுவதே மக்கள் வங்கியின் கடமை

“மக்கள் வங்கிக்கும் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்குமிடையே மிகவும் நெருங்கிய தொடர்பு உண்டு” என மக்கள் வங்கியின் தலைவர் திரு. T. B. பண்பொக்கே யாழ்ப்பாண கூட்டுறவு மாகாண வங்கியின் பரந்தன் கிளையினது புதுக்கட்டிடத்தைத் திறந்து வைத்துப் பேசுகையில் குறிப்பிட்டார்.

அவர் மேலும் தொடர்ந்து பேசுகையில் கூறியதாவது: “நான் பதவி ஏற்ற காலத்திலே கூட்டுறவாளரிடையே ஓர் அச்சம் நிலவியது. கூட்டுறவு வங்கிகளை மக்கள்

வங்கி விழுங்கப் போவதாக அவர்கள் அஞ்சினர். மக்கள் வங்கிக்கும் கூட்டுறவு வங்கிகளுக்கும் இடையே நல்லெண்ணத்தை உருவாக்குவதற்கு நான் தொடக்கத்திலிருந்து முனைந்

தேன். கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்கு உதவியளிப்பதே மக்கள் வங்கியின் தலையாய கடமை என்பதை நாம் மறக்கவில்லை. இதனை அங்கு கடமையாற்றும் எல்லா அதிகாரிகளுக்கும் உணர்த்தியுள்ளோம். கிராம வாசிகளின் பொருளாதார நிலையை உயர்த்துவதற்காகத் தான் மக்கள் வங்கி நிறுவப்பட்டது. கூட்டுறவு இயக்கமூலம்தான் கிராம வாசிகளுக்கு மக்கள் வங்கி கடன் வசதிகளை வழங்கி வருகின்றது.

இப்பொழுது 31 கிராம வங்கிகள் நிறுவப்பட்டுள்ளன. இதன்மூலம் கிராம வாசிகள் 16 இலட்சம் ரூபாவை சேமிக்கக்கூடியதாக இருந்தது.

மக்கள் வங்கித் தலைவர் தெரிவு செய்யப்பட்ட பிரதிநிதிகளாலேயே குடியாட்சி முறையில் தெரிவு செய்யப்படுகின்றார். ஏனைய நிறுவனங்களைப்போன்று தலைவர் அரசாங்கத்தினால் நியமிக்கப்படுவர் அல்லர்.

புதிய விவசாயக்கடன் திட்டத்தைப் பற்றிக் குறிப்பிடுகையில் திரு. பண்பொக்கே பின்வருமாறு கூறினார். “இத்திட்டத்தின்படி 780 லட்சம் ரூபாவை மக்கள் வங்கி நெற்பயிர்ச்செய்கைக்கும் உப உணவுப் பயிர்ச்செய்கைக்கும் விவசாயிகளுக்கு வழங்கியுள்ளது”. இதுவரை காலமும் இவ்வளவு தொகை பணம் விவசாயிகளுக்கு வழங்கப்பட்டதில்லை. என தெரிவித்த திரு. பண்பொக்கே, விவசாயிகள் இப்

பணத்தை திருப்பிக் கொடுப்பார்கள் என்று தான் திடமாக நம்புவதாகக் கூறினார். அப்படி திருப்பிக் கொடுப்பது கூட்டுறவாளரின் முக்கிய கடமை என்று சுட்டிக் காட்டினார்.

மக்கள் வங்கிக்கும் கூட்டுறவு வங்கிக்குமிடையே நல்லெண்ணம்

வ. ஜி. மே. சபைத்தலைவர் திரு. இ. இராசரத்தினம் பேசுந் தினரை வரவேற்றுப் பேசுகையில் “இப்பொழுது மக்கள் வங்கிக்கும் கூட்டுறவு வங்கிகளுக்கும் இடையே நல்லெண்ணம் நிலவுவதாகக் குறிப்பிட்டார். இதற்குக்காரணம் யாதெனில் மக்கள் வங்கியின் நெறியாளர் குழு கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்தினை அநுகாபத்துடன் அணுகுவதேயாகும். ஆதலால் மக்கள் வங்கி தமது உச்ச வங்கியென கூட்டுறவாளர்களால் இன்று உணரக்கூடிய தாய் இருக்கின்றது” என்றார். தொடர்ந்து அவர் பேசுகையில், கூட்டுறவு வங்கிகளில் பணியாற்றும் ஊழியர்களுக்கு தகுந்த பயிற்சியளிப்பதற்கு மக்கள் வங்கி முன் வர வேண்டும் என வேண்டிக்கொண்டார். கூட்டுறவு இயக்கம் தனது சொந்தக் கால்களிலே நிற்கப் பழகிக் கொள்ள வேண்டும் என்றும், கைத் தொழிற் துறையிலே இவ்வி யக்கம் மேலும் முன்னேற்ற மடைய வேண்டும் என்றும் அவர் மேலும் குறிப்பிட்டார்.

கூட்டுறவு

வடபகுதி ஐக்கிய மேற்பார்வைச் சபையின் வெளியீடு
யாழ்ப்பாணம், 1-5-1968.

அன்பு பொங்கும் இன்ப உலகம் காண்போம்!

மனித உரிமை ஆண்டு என இவ்வாண்டு மதிக்கப்படுகின்றது. அடுத்த ஆண்டு உலக உத்தமர் காந்திஜியின் நூற்றாண்டாகும். இந்த இரு ஆண்டுகளையும் அனைத்துலகமும் மனித உரிமைகளை; தர்மத்தை வலியுறுத்தும் பேராண்டுகளாக, புனிதம் பொருந்திய ஆண்டுகளாகக் கருதுகின்றது.

உலகம் மறைந்த செம்மல்களுக்கும் மகான்களுக்கும் விழா எடுக்கின்றது. ஞாபகச் சின்னங்கள், சிலைகள் எழுப்புகின்றது. அவர்களின் அருள் மொழிகளை மேற்கோள்களாகக் காட்டுகிறது. மனித உரிமைகள் பற்றிப் பேசுகின்றது. இவ்விதமாக வருடக்கணக்காகச் செய்து வருகின்றது. ஆனால் அத்தகைய உலகம் அமைதியுடன் இருக்கின்றதா?

இல்லை, மாறாக அமைதியின்மையினதும், போரினதும் விளைநிலமாக உலகம் விளங்குகிறது. இதற்கு அடிப்படைக் காரணம் தலைவிரித்தாடும் இனப்பாகுபாடும், சாதிப்பிரிவினையுந்தான் என்பதை எவரும் உணர்வர்.

எல்லோரும் ஓர் குலம், எல்லோரும் ஓர் நிறை என்ற உத்தமர்களின் தத்துவங்களை விரும்பாதோர் பலராயிருந்தால் அத்தத்துவங்களைப் பேசுவதிலும் கேட்பதிலும் மாத்திரம் மிகழ்ச்சியடைந்து விட்டு அவற்றைத் தமது சொந்த வாழ்க்கையில் கடைப்பிடிக்க தயங்குபவர்கள் பலராயிருக்கிறார்கள். இவர்களைப் பாரதியார், “நெஞ்சில் உரமுமின்றி நேர்மைத் திறனுமின்றி வஞ்சனை சொல்வாரடி கிளியே—வாய்ச் சொல்லில் வீரரடி” என்று சாடுகிறார்.

போராட்டங்கள், கொலை, கொடுமை தவிர்ந்த உலகத்தையே நாம் விரும்புகின்றோம். இத்தகைய உலகத்தை நாம் அடைய வேண்டுமானால் சாதி, இனபேதங்கள் மறைய வேண்டும். இதைவிட வேறு மார்க்கமேயில்லை. அறிவால் மனிதன் வளர்ந்துள்ளபோதிலும், அவன் தனது இனத்தை தன்னிப்போல் மதிக்கதெரியாத நிலையில் இருக்கிறான் என்னும் போது மிகவும் வேதனையுண்டாகிறது. மனிதன் மனிதனைத் தாழ்த்துவதும், ஒதுக்குவதும், அடிமையாகக் கருதுவதும் பெரிய அறியாமையர்கும். இந்நிலையில் மனிதனுக்கும் மிருகத்திற்கும் வேறுபாடே இல்லை. மனிதர் நோக மனிதர் வாழும் வாழ்க்கையைத் தவிர்த்து நாம் எல்லோரும் ஓர் குலம், எல்லோரும் ஓர் நிறை என்ற கோட்பாட்டின்படி வாழ்வோமேயானால் எல்லோரும் இங்கு அமரர் சிறப்பைக் காணலாம். இதை இந்த மனித உரிமை ஆண்டிலும், மகாத்மாகாந்திஜி ஆண்டிலும், எல்லோரும் நன்கு உணர்ந்து பழங் கொள்கைகளையும், மூட நம்பிக்கைகளையும் உதறி யெறிந்து மறுமலர்ச்சியான அன்பும், அமைதியும் பொங்கும் உலகை உருவாக்க திடங்கொள்ள வேண்டும். அப்போதுதான் இப்பேராண்டுகளைக் கொண்டாடும் உண்மையான பயனை அடைய முடியும்.

பெளர்ணமிகலைநிகழ்ச்சி 4வது ஆண்டு விழா

தொடர்ந்து நான்கு வருடங்களாக பெளர்ணமி நாட்களில் பொதுமக்களுக்காக யாழ்ப்பாண மாநகரசபையாழ். திறந்தவெளி அரங்கில் இலவசமாக நடத்தி வரும் மேற்படி நிகழ்ச்சிகளின் நான்காம் ஆண்டு நிறைவு விழாவை எதிர்வரும் 11-5-68, 12-5-68, 13-5-68ம் திகதிகளில் சிறப்பாகக் கொண்டாட நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கப்பட்டுவருகிறது. ஆண்டு நிறைவு விழாவையொட்டி பெளர்ணமி நாளை முன்னும், பின்னும் அடுத்த வரும் மேற்படி இரு நாட்களையும் சேர்த்து இம்மாதத்திற்கான கலை நிகழ்ச்சிகளை மூன்று நாட்களுக்கு நீடித்து நடத்த உத்தேசிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது.

பாடசாலைகள் கலந்துகொள்ளும் நாடக விழா!

மேற்படி நான்காம் ஆண்டு நிறைவு விழாவின் முதல் இரு நாட்களும் பாடசாலை மாணவருக்கான நாடக விழாவாக அமையும். சிறப்பாக மாணவருக்கென ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் இந்நாட்களில் ஆண் பாடசாலைகள் மேடையேற்றும் நாடகங்கள் முதல் நாளிலும், பெண் பாடசாலைகள் மேடையேற்றும் நாடகங்கள் இரண்டாம் நாளிலும் இடம் பெறும்.

மாணவர் நாடகவிழா நாடகத் துறையின் பால் மாணவரது கவனத்தைத் திருப்புவதற்காகவே சிறப்பாக ஒழுங்கு செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளது. சென்றவருட நிகழ்ச்சிகளின்போதுதான் மாணவர் மேடையேற்றும் நாடகங்களுக்கென சிறப்பாக இரு தினங்கள் முதன் முதலாக ஒதுக்கப்பட்டது. ஆயினும், சென்ற ஆண்டில் நடைபெற்ற பாடசாலைகளுக்கான நாடக விழாவில் யாழ். மத்திய கல்வாரி, கனகரத்தினம் மத்திய மகா வித்தியாலயம், யாழ். வேம்படி மகளிர் உயர்தர பாடசாலை, இந்து மகளிர் கல்லூரி ஆகிய யாழ். நகரின் பிரபல பாடசாலைகள் கலந்து கொண்டதைத் தொடர்ந்து மேற்படி விழாவில் கலந்துகொண்டு நாடகங்களை மேடையேற்ற வேண்டுமென்ற ஆர்வம் ஏனைய பாடசாலைகளையும் இன்று பீடித்துக்கொள்ளுள்ளது. பாடசாலைகளை

யே ஏற்பட்டு இருக்கும் ஆர்வத்தை அவதானித்து, பாடசாலை நாடகங்களை மேடையேற்றுவதற்கு மீண்டும் ஒரு வாய்ப்பை ஏற்படுத்து முகமாகவே இந்த ஆண்டும் பாடசாலை நாடகங்களுக்காக இருதினங்கள் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டிருப்பதோடு, கல்லூரி அதிபர்களுக்கு அழைப்பும் அனுப்பப்பட்டுள்ளது. இவ்வாண்டு நிகழ்ச்சிகளில் கூடுதலான பாடசாலைகள் கலந்துகொண்டு நாடகங்களை மேடையேற்ற முன்வரக்கூடுமென நம்பப்படுகிறது. மூன்றாம் நாள் நிகழ்ச்சிகள் கதம்ப நிகழ்ச்சிகளாக அமையுமெனவும், கலையுலகில் முன்னணியில்திகழும்கலைஞர்கள், நடன, இன்னிசை நிகழ்ச்சிகளை நட

உணவு விநியோகத்திலுள்ள சிக்கல்களை நீக்குக!

உணவு விநியோகத்திலே கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கங்களுக்கு ஏற்பட்டுள்ள சிக்கல்களை நீக்க உதவுமாறு உணவு அதிகாரியை இலங்கைக் கூட்டுறவுச் சம்மேளனம் கேட்டுள்ளது. இம்முட்டுக்கட்டைகள் அகற்றப்படாவிடின் தொடர்ந்து சங்கங்கள் உணவு விநியோகத்தை செய்ய முடியாத நிலை ஏற்படலாம் என சம்மேளனம் உணவு அதிகாரியை எச்சரித்துள்ளது.

அரிசிப் பங்கீட்டினாலே சங்கங்களுக்கு ஏற்படும் செலவுகளை நேரத்திற்கு உணவு அதிகாரி செலுத்தாததினால் சங்கங்களும், சமரசங்களும் வங்கியிலிருந்து வட்டிக்குக் கடன் பெறவேண்டியிருக்கின்றது என சம்மேளனம் தனது மகஜரிலே சுட்டிக் காட்டியுள்ளது. இத்தொகைகள் நேரகாலத்துடன் சங்கங்களுக்கும் சமரசங்களுக்கும் செலுத்தப்பட வேண்டும் என்று சம்மேளனம் மேலும் வற்புறுத்தியுள்ளது. அரிசிப் பங்கீட்டினால் ஏற்படும் சோக்கு வரத்து இதர செலவுகளுக்காக அரசாங்கம் செலுத்தும் தொகை போதாதென்றும், இதனால் சங்கங்கள் பலத்த நட்டம் அடைகின்றன எனவும் சம்மேளனம் மேலும் குறிப்பிட்டுள்ளது. குறைந்தது ஒரு இரூத்தல் அரிசிக்கு 1 சதவீத மாவது கூட்டிக் கொடுக்கப்பட வேண்டும் என சம்மேளனம் கோரியுள்ளது. போக்கு வரத்து வசதியற்ற இடங்க

த்த ஏற்கனவே ஒப்புக்கொண்டிருப்பதாகவும், மூன்றாம் நாள் இறுதி நிகழ்ச்சியாக வண்ணை “கலைவாணர்” நாடகம் நடித்தினர் தயாரித்து அளிக்கும் ஒரு மணி நேர நாடகம் ஒன்று மேடையேற்றப்படுமெனவும் அறியப்படுகிறது. நேரில் நிகழ்ச்சிகளைக் கண்டு களிக்க இயலாத நேயர்களைத் திருப்பிப்படுத்து முகமாக சம்பந்தப்பட்ட நிகழ்ச்சிகளை வாடுவி மூலம் அஞ்சல் செய்வதோடு, நிகழ்ச்சிகளைச் செய்திப் படத்தில் சேர்ப்பதற்கும் சம்பந்தப்பட்டவர்களுடன் சிறப்பு ஆணையாளர் தொடர்பு கொண்டு வருகிறார் எனவும் நிகழ்ச்சிகளை உதவ முன்வந்துள்ளவர்களுக்கு அறிவிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது.

ளிலுள்ள சங்கங்களுக்கு கூடுதலான தொகை வழங்கப்பட வேண்டும் எனவும் சம்மேளனம் கேட்டுள்ளது. மா விநியோகத்தைப் பற்றிக் குறிப்பிடுகையில், ஒவ்வொரு சாக்கிலும் 8 அல்லது 10 இரூத்தல் குறைந்திருப்பதாகவும், இதனை உடனடியாக நிவர்த்தி செய்ய வேண்டும் எனவும் சம்மேளனம் வற்புறுத்தியுள்ளது. மேலும் பல தடவைகளில் நல்ல ரக மா வழங்கப்படாததால் அதனை விற்கமுடியாது சங்கங்களும் சமரசங்களும் நட்டமடைந்துள்ளதாகவும் சம்மேளனம் சுட்டிக்காட்டியுள்ளது. உணவு விலைக்கட்டுப்பாடும் அவற்றின் திருத்தமும் அரசாங்க வர்த்தமானியில் வெளியிடப்பட்ட போதிலும் அவை கிராமங்களிலேயுள்ள சங்கங்களுக்கும் சமரசங்களுக்கும் உடனடியாக அறிவிக்க வழிவகுக்க வேண்டும் என சம்மேளனம் அரசாங்கத்தைக் கேட்டுள்ளது.

பனையின் கொடியேற்றமும் பிழா விழாவும்

“பனை கொடியேறி விட்டது” என்ற பேச்சு வழக்கு வடமாகாணத்தில் பலகாலங்களாக இருந்து வருகிறது. இவ்வழக்கில் வடபகுதியின் மண் வாசனை வீசுகிறது. சிலர் இதில் கள் வாசனை கமழ்கிறது என்றும் சொல்லக்கூடும். கோயிலில் கொடியேறியால் திருவிழாக்களை நாம் அங்கு பார்க்கலாம். ஊரெங்கும் திருவிழாக்களைப் பார்க்க வேண்டுமானால் பனை கொடியேற வேண்டும்” பனை கொடியேறியபின் நடைபெறும் விழாவை பண்டிதர் இளமுருகனார் ‘வேனில் விழா எனப்படும் பிழா விழா’ என்னும் நூலில் அழகாகக் கூறியுள்ளார்.

எழிற் கோலம் பூண்டு இன்னிவேனில் ஆட்சி செலுத்தும் இக்காலம் பனை கொடியேறிய ‘அமளி’யான காலமாகும். இக்காலத்தில் ஆண்பணைகள் பாளை என்று அழகுடன் மிளிர்வதையும் அவற்றில் கள்ளு முட்டிகள் தொங்குவதையும் நாம் காணலாம். தை தொடக்கம் சித்திரை வரையும் ஆண்பணைக்களுக்காலம். இக்காலத்தில் கள் மலிவாக விற்கப்படும். சில இடங்களில் இரண்டு போத்தலுக்குமேல் கள் வாங்கினால் மேலதிகமாக ஒரு போத்தல் இலாமாக ‘வார்த்து’ விடுவார்கள். ஆண்பணைக்களுக்காலத்தில் யாழ்ப்பாணத்திற்கு வருவதை தமது பெரிய தவப்பயன் என தெற்று கொடுப்பவர்கள் பலர் கருதுகிறார்கள். கூவிலுக்குப்போய் விட்டு, கிரிமலையில் ஒரு ‘தோச்சல்’ தோய்ந்து எழாவிட்டால் அவர்களுக்கு யாழ்ப்பாணம் வந்ததில் திருப்தி ஏற்படாது.

இத்தகைய ஆண்பணைக்களுக்காலம் எப்போது வரும் என்று ஆவலுடன் இருந்த கட்டுடியர் ஆண்பணைகள் பாளை என்று நிற்கவும், அவற்றில் முட்டிகள் தொங்கவும் நித்திரையிலே இன்பக் கனவு கண்டு விழித்தபின்பு அக்கனவை நினைத்து நினைத்து இன்புற்று, “பூலோக கற்பத்தரு பூம்பாளையினைப் புத்தமும் வைத்தபல பொற்கலசம் மான மேலான வட்டுகளில் முட்டியினும் மேல விடியினும் காணாத கனவென்ன கனவே வேறாக காண்பார்தம் கனவென்ன கனவே!”

என நாலுறப்புக் கழந்தாரர்கள் என்று பண்டிதர் இளமுருகனார் பாடியுள்ளார். பெரிய உத்தியோகத்தர், கல்விமான்கள், பணக்காரர், பரம்பரை வழித்தோன்றல்கள், ஏழை எளியவர்கள், தொழிலாளிகள் அனைவரும் கள்ளுக் கொட்டிலில் சரியானதில் இருந்து பேதல்களை மறந்து ஒருவர் குடித்துவிட்டு உவந்த பிழாவில் மற்றவர் குடிப்பார்கள். பரிட்சை எடாத பண்டிதர்களையும் இங்கு காணலாம். இந்த ஒரு வகையில் பார்க்கும் போது சமரசம் உலாவும் இடமாக கள்ளுக் கொட்டில் விளங்குகிறது.

மக்கள் வாய்மொழியாக வழங்கி வரும் ஒரு நாடோடிப் பாடல் கட்டுடியரை ஆறுபருவங்களாக வகுத்துக் கூறுகின்றது. “காசம் கொக்கு கண்களி அனுமான், பேச்சினில் இராவுணன் பின்னுக்குக் கும்பகர்ணன்”.

கள் குடிக்கவேண்டும் என ஒருவர் வெளிக்கிட்டார். கள் கிடைக்கவில்லை, கள் குடிக்க வேண்டுகிறால் அவர் அலைந்து திரிகிறார். காசம் பறந்தடித்

துத் திரிவதுபோல அவர் நிலை இருக்கிறது. ஒரு இடத்தில் கள் இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் சீவி வரவேண்டும். சீவலகாரன் முட்டிகளுடன் போய்விட்டான். அவன் வருமளவும் அவர் நடந்துதிரிந்த களையில் சோர்ந்து போய் இருக்கிறார். அவரது நிலை கொக்கு குளக்கரையில் சோர்ந்து போய் இருப்பதுபோல் விளங்குகிறது. கள்ளுக்காரன் வந்து கள்ளைக் கொடுத்துவிட்டான், குடித்த அவருக்குப் போதை உண்டாகி விட்டது.

அவர் பேசத் தொடங்கி விட்டார். கொட்டிலில் இருந்த தவர்களுடன் பேசாது சோர்ந்து கொக்குப் போல ஒதுங்கி இருந்தவர், அங்குள்ளவர்களுடன் கலந்து தத்துவப்பிரசங்கம் தொடங்கி விடுகிறார். சீவிவந்த கள்ளை அங்குள்ளவர்களும் குடித்தால் அவர்களும் பேசுகிறார்கள். எல்லோரும் ஒரேமுறையில் தங்கள் தங்கள் போக்கிலே பேசுகிறார்கள். மிளகாய்த் தோட்டத்திலே கூட்டமாய் வீழ்ந்த கிளிகள் ஒவ்வொன்றும் ஆரவாரித்து ஒரே முறையில் கீச்சிடுவது போலிருக்கிறது. அவர் மேலும் கள்ளைக் குடிக்கிறார். பின்பு தள்ளிக்கிட்டுத் துடிப்பாடி அநாமான் சேஷ்டைகளைச் செய்கிறார். இன்னும் குடிக்கிறார். தத்துவமாகப் பேசுவதிலோ, ஆடிப்பாடுவதிலோ, வேறு எந்த வீர தீரங்களைச் செய்வதிலோ தன்னை ஒருவரும் மிஞ்ச முடியாது; தனக்கு நிகர் தானே என்று ஆணவம் பேசுகிறார். இது இராவணப் பருவம். இதன்பின் போதை அதிகமாகியதால் அந்த இடத்திலேயே நீட்டி நிமிர்ந்து படுத்துவிட்டார். எப்படித்தான் தட்டி எழுப்பினாலும் அவரை எழுப்ப முடியாது. வெறி முறிந்து அவர் தானாகவே எழும்ப வேண்டும். இதை பின்னுக்குக் கும்பகர்ணன் என்று கூறப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இவ்விதமாக குடிக்காரனின் ஒவ்வொரு பருவத்திற்கும் கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் ஒவ்வொரு உவமாளும் இலக்கியச் சுவை நிரம்பியதாக உவட்டாத உயர்ந்த ரசனையை வாரிவழங்குகின்றன.

ஆண்பணைக்களுக்காலத்தில் குடிக்காரருக்குக் கொண்டாட்டம் என்று குறிப்பிட்டேன். இந்தக் கொண்டாட்டக் காலத்தில் சண்டைச் சரவுகள் நடைபெறுதல், கோழி, ஆடு, மாடு களவு போதல், விதியோரத்தில் நிற்கும் தார் வண்டிகள் நடு ரோட்டில் இழுத்து விடப்படல், ஓலைவேலிகள் கொழுத்தப்படல் முதலியன இடம் பெறும். இவைகளெல்லாம் அநாமானின் சேஷ்டைகள். அநாமானின் சேஷ்டைகளாலும், இராவணனின் பேச்சுக்களாலும் குற்றங்களும் நஷ்டங்களும் அதிகரித்துவருகின்றன. இராமாயண புத்தமே நடந்து விடுகின்றது! ஆதலால் ‘இலங்கா தகனம்’ நடக்காது பார்த்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டியது எமது கடமை. முன்பெல்லாம் ஆண்டளைக் கள்ளுக்காலத்தில் கள் விடப்படாததால் விதியில் ஊற்றிவிடுவார்களாம். இப்போதெல்லாம் மாணவர் தொடக்கம் எல்லோரும் நல்ல ‘குடிமக்களாக’ இருப்பதால் அவர்கள் கள் விதியில் ஊற்றப்பட்டு அசுத்தபாவத்தைத் தடுத்துவிடுகிறார்களாம். அவர்களின் தொண்டு மகிமையால் எந்தக் காலத்திலும் கள்ளுக்குத் தட்டுப்பாடுதலும், இதுகுறித்து செயற்கையாகத் தயாரிக்கப்படும் கள் எங்கும் விற்பனையாகிவருமா. இதை நாளாந்தம் குடிப்பவர்கள் பல்வேறு பட்ட கொடிய நோய்களைத் தேடிக்கொள்கிறார்கள்.

சிறுபாத்திரங்களின் புகழ்

இலங்கை கலைக்கழகமும், யாழ்ப்பிரதேச கலாமன்றமும் அணிமையிட்டு நடாத்திய நாடகக் கருத்தரங்கில் இக்கட்டுரை வாசிக்கப்பட்டது.

ஒரு நாடகத்திலே பங்கு கொள்ளும் கதாபாத்திரங்களை மூன்று வகையாக வகுத்துக் கொள்ளலாம். கதாசம்பவத்தின் இயக்கத்திற்கு உயிர்நாடியாய் உள்ள கதாநாயகன், கதாநாயகி, எதிர்நிலைத்தலைவ தலைவியர், கதாநாயகநாயகியின் பெற்றோர், உற்றோர், நண்பர் முதலானோரை நாம் முதல் வகையான பிரதான பாத்திரங்களுள் அடக்கலாம். இவர்களுள்ளும் முதலில் கூறிய நாயகநாயகியர் எதிர்நிலைத் தலைவர், தலைவியர் தவிர்ந்த மறையோர் கதாசம்பவத்திலே பிரதான பங்கு பெறுவது திரைகள் என்ற இரண்டாவது வகையினுள்ளே, சேர்த்துக் கொள்வதில் தவறில்லை. இவர்கள் தவிர்ந்த, ஓரிகு காட்சிகளிலே தோன்றி மறைகின்ற பாத்திரங்களை நாம் சிறுபாத்திரங்கள் என்ற மூன்றாவது வகையிலே சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளலாம்.

இவ்வாறு வகைப்படுத்துவதில் சிரமங்கள் இல்லாமல் இல்லை. சிறந்த நாடகாசிரியன் ஒருவனை நோக்கி, “உனது நாடகத்தில் வருகின்ற பிரதான பாத்திரங்கள் எவை?” என்ற கேள்வித் தொடர்களை நாம் அடுக்கிச் சென்றால் ஒருவேளை அவன் மிளரமிளர விழித்தலும் கூடும். ஒரு தந்தையைப் பார்த்து, “உன் மக்களிலே மிக முக்கியமானவர் யார்?” என்று கேட்பது போன்ற அசட்டுத்தனமான கேள்விகளாய் இவை அவனுக்குத் தோற்றவும் கூடும். காத்திரமான ஒரு கதையமைப்பில் எந்தப் பாத்திரமும் முக்கியத்துவம் பெற்ற பாத்திரமாய்த் தான் விளங்கும். கதைத்திரும்பங்களாகும், குணசித்திரங்களின் எழுச்சி வீழ்ச்சிகளுக்கும் ஏற்ப அமைக்கப்படும் பாத்திரங்கள் யாவும் முக்கியமானவை தாம். சில வசனங்களைப்

பேசுவனவற்றைச் சிறிய பாத்திரங்களென்றும், அதிகமான வசனங்களை அள்ளிக்கொட்டுகின்றவற்றைப் பெரிய பாத்திரங்களென்றும் நாடகக் கலையுணர்ந்தோர் கருதுவர் என நான் நினைக்கவில்லை. ஆனால் துரதிருஷ்டவசமாக மேடை நாடகங்களைத் தயாரிக்கும் துறையிலே ஈடுபட்டுள்ள யாவரும் இத்தகைய மனோபாவத்துடன் தோன்றுகின்றது. இதனாலே தமிழ் நாடகங்கள் பலவற்றிலும் ஒரு மூழித்தன்மையை—அங்கவின்மான தன்மையை—நாம் காணக்கூடியதாய் இருக்கிறது.

சிலவேளைகளில் இத்தகைய அலட்சிய மனோபாவத்தால் துணைப்பாத்திரங்களும், சிறிய பாத்திரங்களும் நாடகத்தின் மூலக்கருவையே சிதைத்து விடுதலும் நாம் கண்கூடாகக் காணும் ஒன்றாகும். சமீபத்திலே ஒருபுராண நாடகம் பார்த்தேன். ஏழாம் நூற்றாண்டிலே வாழ்ந்த ஒரு சமயகுரவரின் வரலாற்றைப் பின்னணியாய்க் கொண்டமைந்த நாடகம் அது. அந்த நாடகத்திலே விசுடன் என்று ஒரு பாத்திரம் அறிமுகம் செய்யப்பட்டது. அந்தப்புராண நாடகத்திற்கு இப்படிப்பட்ட ஒரு சிறுபாத்திரம் வேண்டியதில்லைத்தான்; எனினும் சிக்கல் நிறைந்த, மேடையேற்றச் சிரமமான நிகழ்ச்சிகளைக்கொண்ட ஒருவரின் கதையை—மேடையில் நகர்த்துவதற்கு அத்தகைய ஒரு பாத்திரம் தயாரிப்பானருக்கு வேண்டியிருந்ததால் ‘விசுடன்’ அறிமுகம் செய்திருந்

தார். அந்தப் பாத்திரத்தை ஏற்றவரிடமிருந்து விகடத்திலும் பார்க்கக் கதைத்தொடர்புதான் அதிகமாக எதிர் பார்க்கப்பட்டது. ஆனால் நாடகம் பார்த்தோர்க்குக் கிடைத்ததென்னவோ வெறும் விகடந்தான். அந்த விகடமாவது பிரதான கதையின் காலத்திற்குப் பொருத்தமானதாய் இருந்ததா என்றால் அதையும் இல்லை. அவருடைய பேச்சில் இந்தியக் கொச்சை, யாழ்ப்பாணக்கொச்சை, இரண்டுங் கெட்டான் தமிழ் யாவும் கலந்துவாடின. தாம் சென்றிருந்த தலம் ஒன்றிலே சாப்பிட்டதைப்பற்றி அவர் வருணிக்கும் கட்டம் வருகின்றது. ஆறு அடி நீளமான இலை

யிலே போண்டா, லட்டு அது, இது என்று என்ன எல்லாமோ வைத்து அடி அடி என்று அடித்தாராம். எழுந்திருக்கவே முடியவில்லையாம். இது அவர் உதிர்ந்த ஒரு நகைச்சுவை வேடி. கி. பி. 7 ஆம் நூற்றாண்டிலே யார் அடி அங்குலக் கணக்கை அவருக்கு யார் சொல்லிக் கொடுத்தார்கள்? அந்தத் தீர்க்கதரிசனக் கணக்கு மன்னரை நினைத்து மானசீகமாய் அஞ்சலி செய்வதைத் தவிர வேறுவழியில்லை. சாப்பாட்டை 7 ஆம் நூற்றாண்டவர் சாப்பிடாமல் அடித்து நொறுக்கிவை நினைக்கச் சிரிப்பதா? அமுலதா?

இது ஒரு சிறிய உதாரணம். ஆனால் பெரும்பாலும் பிர

தானசம்பவத்தின் கதையிலும் சிறுபாத்திரங்களும் பெரும்பாலானவற்றில் யம ஊர்வலத்துகின்றன என்பது கருவியாகும். இதே சமயத்தின் வரலாற்றை ஆண்டு ஒரு கல்லூரி நடத்தியால் நாடகமாய் யேற்றியது. அங்கு கூத்துத்தான். சைவமேற் கொண்டு தத்துவப் பெருந்தகையார் ‘தவணங்காய்’ என்ற திணைத் திருத்தலம் நெடுக்கருகப் பாடுவல்லையில் கோய்சகர் திருபுண்டரத் திணைத்திலே நின்று வாழ்த்து கண்டாய்’ என்று வாழ்த்து வாழ்த்து நகைச்சுவை வெடிக்கிறதுக் கோணங்கிச் சைவநடத்திக் கொண்டு நாடகாசிரியரும், த

★ சொக்கன் ★

யிலே போண்டா, லட்டு அது, இது என்று என்ன எல்லாமோ வைத்து அடி அடி என்று அடித்தாராம். எழுந்திருக்கவே முடியவில்லையாம். இது அவர் உதிர்ந்த ஒரு நகைச்சுவை வேடி. கி. பி. 7 ஆம் நூற்றாண்டிலே யார் அடி அங்குலக் கணக்கை அவருக்கு யார் சொல்லிக் கொடுத்தார்கள்? அந்தத் தீர்க்கதரிசனக் கணக்கு மன்னரை நினைத்து மானசீகமாய் அஞ்சலி செய்வதைத் தவிர வேறுவழியில்லை. சாப்பாட்டை 7 ஆம் நூற்றாண்டவர் சாப்பிடாமல் அடித்து நொறுக்கிவை நினைக்கச் சிரிப்பதா? அமுலதா?

இது ஒரு சிறிய உதாரணம். ஆனால் பெரும்பாலும் பிர

மதுவின் தீமை

“உட்கப்படார் ஒளிஇழிப்பர் எஞ்ஞான்றும் கட்டாதல் கொண்டொழுவுவர்”

களின் மேல் விருப்பம் கொண்டு நடக்கும் அரசர்க்கு எக்காலத்திலும் பகைவர் அஞ்சமாட்டார் என்பது வள்ளுவரின் வாய்மொழி. உண்மைப்பஞ்சமாதகங்களில் ஒன்று. இதனை எல்லாச் சமயங்களும் ஒதுக்கி உள்ளன. ஆயினும் அனாதை காலம் தொடக்கம் மதுவை மக்கள் அருந்திவருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் இக்காலத்தில் மதுவைப் பலர் அருந்தத் தொடங்கிவிட்டனர். முற்காலத்தில் மதுவை ஒருசிலர் அருந்தினர். இப்போது பல ஆண்களும் பல பெண்களும் கூட பல மாணவர்களும் ஆசிரியர்களும் கூட நாசிக்கத்தின் பேரால் அருந்துகிறார்கள். களியாட்டு விழாக்களிலும், சந்தோசமான நிகழ்ச்சிக் கூட்டங்களிலும் மது பரிமாறப்படுகின்றது. சமுதாயத்தில் அமைதியே கிடையாது. எங்கு பார்த்தாலும் கொலைகளும், சண்டைகளும், கொந்தளிப்புக்களும் நிகழ்ந்து கொண்டு வருகின்றன. இவற்றிற்கு முக்கியமான உட்காரணம் மது அருந்துதலே. மது போதையினால் கொலைகள் நடைபெறுகின்றன. மது போதையுள்ள சில பஸ் சாரதிகளினால் விபத்துக்கள் நிகழ்கின்றன. மது போதையுள்ளவர்களினால் சிராமங்களிலும், நகரங்களிலும் கலகங்கள் நிகழ்கின்றன. இத்தகைய பேரால்தான் தனி வழியே ஆட்கள் போக்குவரத்துத்

துணிவாகச் செய்ய முடியாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். ஒழுக்கமுள்ளவர்களே ஐக்கிய நாயக சங்கங்களில் அங்கத்தவராவதற்கு உரிமையுள்ளவர்கள். மதுபானம் அருந்துபவர்கள் சிலர் ஏதோ ஒருவிதமாகச் சேர்ந்து அங்கத்தவர்களாக இருக்கிறார்கள். சிலவேளைகளில் அவர்களினால் வாக்கு வாதம் சங்கக் கூட்டங்களில் நிகழ இடமுண்டு: குடும்பங்களில் மதுவினால் சச்சரவுகள் உண்டாகின்றன. சில வேலைகளில் வாக்குவாதம் கொலைகள் நடைபெறுகின்றன.

உண்டாகும் தீய வி அனேச மரவரி வழங்கும் மும் நிறுத்தப்படவே அதற்குப் பதிலாக ளின் வாக்கு மூலப்பதர் போக்குவரவுக்குள் இடங்களில் தவறான வலாம். இப்போது கள் வோர் விடு ஒவ்வெ தவறானயாகக் கா கின்றது; மதுவைப் நிறுத்த முடியாது. அதனை கூடுதலாக அருந்துவதற்குச் சந் கூடா அரசாங்கம் உண் களது. மரவரியினால் வருமானத்தினால் பி னமில்லை. கூடுதலாக அருந்துவதால் அளபு கள் நோய்வாய்ப்பட்டி கள். அதிக மதுவை வதால் ஈரல் சேதம இறந்தோர் அநேகர். நோய், இரத்த கு முதலியவற்றால் இற அநேகர். மது நரம் தளர்ச் செய்யும். மயக்கும். தூய என் மனதில் தோன்று. த னங்களே மதுபோன னவனுக்கு மனதில் றும். மதுவே ஒருவ ளாடி நடக்கும் செய டாகும். மதுவினால் வியாதிகளால் பீடிக்க வர்களை சுகமடையச் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு மருத்துவச் செலவு ஆகையினால் மதுவினு வருமானத்தை அலசி தால் அது வருமான மேலும் மதுவெறியி ழும் கொலைகளினால்

சி. சின்னத்துரை

வில் போக்குவரவு செய்யும் புகையிரதவண்டிகளில் பீர் (Beer) ஏராளமாக விற்பனையாகிறது. இதனால் போக்குவரவு செய்யும் சில இளம் வாலிபர்கள் - மது அருந்தி அங்கும் இங்கும் புகையிரதத்தில் நடந்து திரிவார்கள். இதனால் மற்றவர்களின் அமைதிக்குப் பங்கம் விளையிறது. பீர் விற்பனவு புகையிரதத்தில் நிறுத்துவதாக ஒருமுறை அரசாங்கம் தீர்மானித்தது. அரசாங்க வருமானம் ஒன்றிற்காக நிறுத்தாமல் தொடர்ந்து விற்பனவு நடைபெற அனுமதிக்கிறது. இவ்விற்பனவை அரசாங்கம் கட்டாயமாக நிறுத்த வேண்டும். இவ்விற்பனையால் சமுதாயத்தில்

மனோஜர் தேவை

கூட்டவேலி பலநோக்குக் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கம் மேற்படி பதவிக்கான விண்ணப்பங்கள் கோருகின்றது.

தகைமைகள் : 1. க.பொ.த. பத்திரம்(குறைந்தது சாதாரணம்)
2. கூட்டுறவுப் பயிற்சிக்கலாசாலைத் தராதரம்
3. கூட்டுறவுப் பண்டசாலை அனுபவம்

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சம்பளம் : ரூபா 150/- தொடக்கம் ரூபா 200/- வரை,
(வருடம் ரூபா 5/- படி ஏற்றம் எல்லாம் உட்பட)

முடிவு திகதி : 7-5-68.

சா. வி. பொன்னையா,
தலைவர்
கூட்டவேலி ப. நோ. கூ. சங்கம்
கரவெட்டி.

சிறு பாத்திரங்களின்...

[10-ம் பக்கத் தொடர்ச்சி]

என்கு ஆண்டுகள் வனவாசம் முடித்துத் திரும்புகையில் நீயும் அவர்களோடு திரும்பு. அவர்களுக்கு ஏதாவது தீமை விளையுமானால் நீ உன்னைக்கொடுத்து அவர்களைக் காப்பாற்று. இல்லையேல் அவர்களுக்கு முன்பு நீ முடிந்துபோ. இனி இங்கு நிற்பதும் தவறு. உடனே இராம, சீதையரைத் தொடர்வாயாக". இங்குச் சிறிய பாத்திரமாகிய சுமித்திரை தன் தியாக வாசகங்களால் கைகேயியையும், கோசலையையும் முந்திக்கொண்டு மேலெழுந்து விசுவரூபம் கொள்ளக் காண்கின்றோம். சிலப்பதிகாரத்தில் வரும் நெடுஞ்செழியனின் மனைவியாகிய இராசமாதேவி, வார்த்தை பேசாமலே நாயகனுக்கு இறுதி வந்ததும் தானும் முடிந்து கண்ணகியை விஞ்சி நிற்பதையும் நாம் கண்டிருக்கின்றோம். பாரதத்தில் ஆங்காங்கே கேட்கும் விசுர்ணனின் தர்மாவேசகருவோ நாம் மறந்துவிடக் கூடுமா?

வும் நன்மையே' என்று தம்மை அறிமுகம் செய்துகொண்டு வரும் மந்திரவாதிகள் 'மாக்பெத்' நாடகத்தின் சோகத்திற்குப் பின்னணி சேர்த்துக் களைகட்டச் செய்வதை நாம் அறிந்துள்ளோம். சுந்தரம்பிள்ளையின் தமிழ் நாடகமாகிய மனோமணியத்தில் வருகின்ற பலதேவனை-நாம் மறந்துவிட முடியுமா? ஆக நாடகாசிரியர் பாத்திர அமைப்பில் எத்துணை விழிப்பாயிருத்தல் வேண்டும் என்பது இந்த உதாரணங்களால் நன்கு புலப்பட்டிருக்கும் என்று நம்புகின்றேன்.

ஆனால் இன்று தமிழில் எழுதப்படும் நாடகங்கள் பெரும்பாலானவற்றில் இந்தப் பொறுப்புணர்ச்சியைக் காண முடியாதிருக்கின்றது. அதிலும் மேடைநாடகங்கள் இலக்கியத்தரம் பெற்று விளங்கல் வேண்டும் என்று கருதுவோரும் மிக அருகியே காணப்படுகின்றனர். பின்னடைந்திருக்கும் எமது நாடகமேடையமைப்புக் காரணமாக, ஒருகாட்சிக்கும் மறு காட்சிக்கும் ஏற்படுகின்ற இடைவேளைகளைச் சரிக்கட்டவே பெரும்பாலும் சிறுபாத்திரங்கள் அறிமுகம் செய்யப்படுகின்றன. இவற்றை உருவாக்குவதில் நாடக ஆசிரியரின் பொறுப்பு மிகக் குறைவு. பெரும்பாலும் தயாரிப்பாளரே இப்பாத்திரங்களை உருவாக்குபவர் என்று கூடச் சொல்லிவிடலாம். எனவே, மூலநாடகத்தின் வசனநடைக்கும், இவ்விசேட தெருக்காட்சிப்பாத்திரங்களின் வசனநடைக்கும் ஒருமைப்பாடு இருப்பதில்லை. இதனால் நல்ல நாடகங்கள் கூடப்பிள்ளையார் பிடிக்கப்போய்க் குரங்கான கதையாய் முடிந்து விடுகின்றன. (தொடரும்)

சமய நெறி

"மக்கள் சமய நெறிகளில் நங்களை வழிப்படுத்தி நடத்தாவிடில் கூட்டுறவுக் கொள்கை வழியே சிறப்பாக ஒருக முடியாது" இவ்வாறு முன்னோள் கூட்டுறவு உதவி ஆக்க ஆணையாளர் திரு. V. S. பொன்னையா யாழ். கூட்டுறவுப் பயிற்சிக்கலாசாலையில் பேசுகையில் கூறினார். மேலும் அவர் தொடர்ந்து பேசுகையில், "கூட்டுறவு மக்களை பொருளாதாரத் துறையில் முன்னேற்றமடையச் செய்கிறது. சமயம் மக்களை ஆத்மீகத்துறையில் முன்னேற்றம் அடையச் செய்கிறது" என்று குறிப்பிட்டார்.

"வாலிபர்கள் கூட்டுறவு அடிப்படையில் ஒன்று திரண்டு அரசாங்க உதவி பெற்று காடுகளைத் திருத்தி களனிகளாக்க வேண்டும்" என்று தொடர்ந்து உரையாற்றுகையில் அவர் கேட்டுக்கொண்டார்.

இக்கூட்டத்திற்கு தலைமை வகித்த மேற்படி கலாசாலை அதிபர் திரு. க. பரமோதயன் பேசுகையில் "மறுமலர்ச்சியும், அறிவும் சமயத்தை வாழ்க்கையோடு இணையப் பண்ணி விட்டது" என்றார். "சமய வழிபாடு மக்களிடையே இல்லாவிடில் மக்கள் மக்களாக வாழ முடியாது. சமயம் போதிக்கும் நெறிகளை கூட்டுறவும் போதிப்பதால் சமயம் எந்த அளவுக்கு மனிதனுடன் ஒன்றுபட்டுள்ளதோ அதே யளவு கூட்டுறவும் ஒன்றுபட்டுள்ளது" என மேலும் அவர் பேசுகையில் கூறினார்.

மாணவன் திரு. M. கந்தவனம் நன்றி கூறினார்.

சொந்தப் பலத்திலே இயங்கவேண்டும்

"கூட்டுறவு இயக்கம் அரசாங்கத்தை நம்பி இயங்காது தனது சொந்தப் பலத்திலே இயங்க வேண்டும்" இவ்வாறு வ. ஐ. மே. சபை தலைவர் திரு. இராசரத்தினம் வலுவியா மாவட்டக் கூட்டுறவுச் சமாசத்தின் விசேட பொதுக்கூட்டத்தில் பேசுகையில் குறிப்பிட்டார்.

தொடர்ந்து அவர் பேசுகையில் "கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்தைச் சயமாக இயங்கக்கூடிய இயக்கமாக்குவதற்கு கூட்டுறவு வங்கிகளிடம் போதிய முதல் இருக்க வேண்டும். அங்கத்தவர்கள் சேமிப்பு முறையைக் கைக்கொள்வதால் கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்கும், தங்களுக்கும் பெருநன்மை புரிபவர்களாவர்" என விளக்கினார்.

இக்கூட்டத்திற்கு திரு. R. V. வில்வராஜா தலைமை வகித்தார்.

கூட்டுறவு சிரேஷ்ட உதவி ஆக்க ஆணையாளர் திரு. K. S. பொன்னையா பேசுகையில் மாவட்ட சமாசங்கள் கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கங்களின் தாய் என விளக்கினார். நிருவாகக் காரியதரிசி திரு. க. கணேசலிங்கம் நன்றி கூறினார்.

வருடாந்தப் பொதுக்கூட்டம்

அணிமையில் தெல்லிப்பளை யூனியன் கல்லூரியில் நடைபெற்ற வலிகாமம் வடக்கு ஐக்கிய நாணய சங்கங்களின் சமாசத்தின் வருடாந்தப் பொதுக்கூட்டத்தில் பின்வருவோர் உத்தியோகத்தர்களாகத் தெரிவு செய்யப்பட்டனர். தலைவர்: கலாநிதி A. நடராசா, உபதலைவர்: திரு. N. R. முருகேசு, செயலாளர்: திரு. A. T. சுப்பிரமணியம், தகுதிக்காரி: திரு. ஆ. கந்தையா, திருவாளர்கள் V. நல்லதம்பி S. செல்லையா வே. சிவசுப்பிரமணியம், க. சிவசிதம்பரம், சின்னத்துரை ஆகியோர் கொண்ட ஒரு நிருவாகசபையும் தெரிவு செய்யப்பட்டது.

சிக்கனமான செலவில் சிறப்பாக வாழ்வதற்கு வலி. மேற்கு. ப. நோ. கூ. ச. சமாசம் (வலுவள்ளது)

தொலைபேசி: 525, மாண்பாய். முகவரி: சங்காலை.

* உண்ணவேண்டிய உணவுப்பொருள்கள்
* உடுக்கத் தேவையான துணிவகைகள்
* இருக்க விடமைக்கும் பொருள்கள்
வேறென்ன வேண்டும்?

"அல்கன்" சீனியர் யூனியர் மண்ணெய் பம்புகள், "சீரோ" யேமன் எலக்ட்ரிக் பம்புகள்

அனைத்துக்கும் உப உறுப்புக்கள்

ஆணைமார்க் "அஸ்பெஸ்ரோஸ்"

அதிக பலமிக்க பராக்கிரமா ஓடுகள்
அல்கத்தீன் எஸ்லோன் பைப்புவகை

வெடி மருந்துப் பொருட்கள்

யாழ்ப்பாணத்திலிருந்து கொழும்புக்கு லொறி மூலம் பொருளேற்றி இறக்கும் வசதியும் எப்போதும் செய்து தர்ப்போம்.

வீரும்புவோர் கேரிலோ, தொலைபேசி மூலமோ, கடித மூலமோ தொடர்பு கொள்ளவும்,

இது உங்களுடைய ஸ்தாபனம்.

கோவிலப்போன்று

இன்றியமையாதது

"ஒரு கிராமத்திற்கு கோயில் அல்லது பாடசாலை அவசியமாக இருப்பதுபோல கூட்டுறவுச் சங்கமும் இன்றியமையாதது" இவ்வாறு வ. ஐ. மே. சபைத் தலைவர் திரு. இராசரத்தினம் தென்மராட்சி கிழக்கு ப. நோ. கூ. ச. சமாசத்தின் கருத்தரங்கில் பேசுகையில் கூறினார்.

அரசாங்கம் தனது கொள்கைகளைச் செயற்படுத்துவதற்கு கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்தை ஓர் ஆயுதமாக உபயோகித்து வருதலைக் கண்டித்த திரு. இராசரத்தினம், கூட்டுறவு இயக்கம் அரசாங்கத்தின் கையாக இருக்குமேயானால் அதை மக்களின் இயக்கம் என்று கூறமுடியாது என்றார்.

மேலும் அவர் பேசுகையில் கூட்டுறவு ஆக்க ஆணையாளரைச் சில மாதங்களுக்கொரு தடவை மாற்றிமாற்றி வருவதைக் கண்டித்தார். இது கூட்டுறவு இயக்கத்திற்கு நிச்சயமாகத் தீங்கு விளைவிப்பதாகும் என அவர் சுட்டிக்காட்டினார்.

அவர் தொடர்ந்து பேசுகையில், "பொருளாதார வளர்ச்சியைக் கூட்டுறவு இயக்க மூலமே விரிவுபடுத்த முடியும்" என வலியுறுத்தினார். கூட்டுறவு இயக்கம் திருடர்களது குகை என ஒதுங்கி நின்றிருகரை கூறுது நேர்மையானவர்கள் இவ்வியக்கத்தில் சேர்ந்து

அதைச் சீரிய வழியில் நடாத்த வேண்டும் என வேண்டிக் கொண்டார். விவசாயிகள் விவசாயக்கடனுதவித் திட்டத்தில் பெற்ற கடனை திருப்பிக் கொடுக்க வேண்டும் அல்லது இயக்கம் கடுமையாகப் பாதிக்கப்படும் என மேலும் வலியுறுத்தினார்.

இக்கருத்தரங்கிற்குத் தலைமைதாங்கிய திரு. J. R. இராசரத்தினம் வரவேற்புரை நிகழ்த்தும்போது சங்கங்களிடையே சேமிப்பின் அவசியத்தை வலியுறுத்திப் பேசினார். இக்கருத்தரங்கிலே பெற்ற அறிவை சங்கங்களிடையே பரப்பும்படி அவர் கேட்டுக் கொண்டார்.

கூட்டுறவு இயக்கம் வளர்ச்சியடைய வேண்டுமானால் நேர்மை அவசியம் என யாழ். கிழக்கு கூட்டுறவு உதவி ஆக்க ஆணையாளர் திரு. V. கனகசபை சுட்டிக்காட்டினார். நேர்மைவினமும் அறிவினமும் கூட்டுறவின் வளர்ச்சிக்குத் தடையாக இருக்கின்றன. கூட்டுறவுக் கருத்தரங்கம் அறிவினத்தைப் போக்கும் என தொடர்ந்து பேசுகையில் அவர் கூறினார்.

இதன் பின்பு நடைபெற்ற கலந்துரையாடலில் கூட்டுறவு ஊழியருக்கு ஒப்புரவு செய்யப்பட்ட சேவை அவசியம் என பலர் வற்புறுத்தினர்.



MILK WHITE SOAP
V.M.K.
527, K.M.S. ROAD, JAFFNA

மில் க் வைற்
நீலசோப்
பார்சோப்

பட்டு, பருத்தி, கைலோன், ரொர்லின் துணிவகைகளையும் பிரகாசமாகச் சலவை செய்கிறது. எப்பொழுதும் மில்வைற் நீலசோப்-பார்சோப் பாவியுங்கள்.

உலகப் பிரசித்திபெற்ற கிரும் நாசினிகள் பொலிடோல்

லெபேசிட்: 50%

எலுமிச்சை, மா, பூசனிவகைகள், விவசாயப் பயிர்கள் ஆகியவற்றைப் பழக்களிடமிருந்து மிகவும் நல்ல கூட்டுப்பாட்டுக்குக் கீழ் கொண்டுவரக்கூடிய பூச்சி நாசினி.

மட்டாசிட்: 75%

பூச்சி வகைகளையும், அறக்கொட்டியான், கம்பளப்புழு, இலை அருவிப்புழு ஆகிய பூச்சிகளை அறவே அழிக்கும் வல்லமை வாய்ந்த மிகவும் சிறந்த பூச்சி நாசினி.

டிப்டரெக்ஸ்: 5%

நெல், மூட்டுப் பூச்சி அழிப்பதற்கு மிகவும் சிறந்தது.

ஹெலீஸ் கம்பனியாரின் வடபகுதி விநியோகஸ்தர்:

வடபகுதி விவசாய உற்பத்தியாளர்

கூட்டுறவுச் சமாசம்

111, பிரதான வீதி, யாழ்ப்பாணம்.

சங்கங்களுக்கு விசேட சலுகைகள் உள.

தந்தி: அப்பீஸ்

தொலைபேசி: 504

வடபகுதி ஐக்கிய மேற்பார்வைச் சபைக்காக யாழ்ப்பாணம் கூட்டுறவு அச்சத்தில் பதிப்பிக்கப்பட்டு வெளியிடப்பட்டது.