



PERPETUATING GREAT IDEALS AND A GREAT PERSONALITY

The perpetuation in some permanent manner of the memory of the life, career and services to the common weal rendered by any great personality at any time in the history of our country, is an effective method of rendering service to present and future generations. It is also at the same time a token of gratitude, a virtue enjoined by all religions. We in Sri Lanka are rightly having permanent organisations to perpetuate the cherished memory of some of our national leaders including Venerable Anagarika Dharmapala, Sri La Sri Arumuga Navalar, Mr. F. R. Senanayake, Mr. D. S. Senanayake,

Our country has been, for sometime, experimenting in all spheres of activities to devise suitable means of meeting the extending demands of an ever increasing population. The pressure on the Authorities who preside over the functions of the Ministries of Education, ordinary and higher, has been such that it has become absolutely necessary for innovations to be introduced. Hence the scheme of an open University in this Island of historic repute.

Mr. S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike. It is appropriate that a permanent organisation be set up to perpetuate the memory of the late revered Sir Ponnampalam Ramathan, a doughty leader who laboured with rare courage, zeal and ability for Sri Lanka for generations in several spheres of activity including Religion, Education, Politics, Agriculture and International Peace and Harmony. His greatness and achievements and religious devotions have been acclaimed by leaders of all Communi-

The rush for the Gold of the Middle East, the Silver of the Western Countries and the Mint of Malaysia and Singapore extending to the far East in which the middle-aged and the youth of this country are enthusiastically engaged, clearly proves the need for full educational provision for the youth. Education both primary and secondary could be said to have become a massive structure annually producing a large number of students qualified for proceeding to the University.

unities in our country and foreign leaders, as well from time to time, including Mahatma Gandhi both of whom disagreed on certain occasions as is unavoidable in human affairs; Leaders like the late Venerable Anagarika Dharmapala, Sir Paul E. Peiris, the Jayawardena brothers, the Senanayake brothers, Sir James Peiris, the Corea brothers the Obeysekera's, the Bandaranaiakes and the Ratwatte's, the late Meedeniya Agigar, Sir T. B. Panabokke, Messrs. Allen Drieburg, J. A. Maartinez

The development of the University has been equally big. Yet the demand for more universities has not been fully met. Thus the scheme for providing all those who have not been able to find places in Universities with some means that would enable them obtain degrees, merits the full support of not merely the Government but also the people. This novel institution must, therefore, be a University unique in every sense. Deviating from the traditional description of a University, the new open

University "is destined" to bring within its compass all those unfortunates who have been denied the plum of graduation and to give them the fullest scope for development of their capabilities.

It is, therefore, to be hoped that this new open University will be wide open to all to whom the existing Universities are out of bounds and thus open out a new source of hope for reaping the benefits of their efforts, though belated.

M. T. Akbar, Mr. D. R. Wijewardenes Mr. A. Ratnayake Mr. J. W. R. Illangakoon, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, Mr. H. V. Perera Mr. Francis Molamure, Mr. Francis de Zoysa, Sir Marcan Marikar, Mr. T. B. Jayah, Dr M. C. M. Kaleel are a few of the innumerable leaders who have on various occasions paid tributes to this scholar, sage, patriot, humanist and internationalist

There were Committees that were formed in connection with the Statue erected at the State Council (present National State Assembly) in his honour of which the late D.R. Wijewardene was originally a very important office - bearer. The Committee was dormant for a time and again revived. A further Committee to commemorate Sir Ramanathan's Centenary was formed and it duly functioned. (I happened to be connected with both Organizations) It is eminently desirable that a permanent Committee be now formed in memory of this son of Sri Lanka who according to the great Sinhalese Leader Sir Paul E. Peiris Deranlyagala stood up for his country almost alone against the armed might of the British Empire for decades and who personified great ideals for the betterment of all mankind, and who was called "the Grand Old Man of Ceylon during his life time for his disinterested service to the public" in the words of another eminent Ceylonese, the late Nevinas Selvadurai, a pious Christian who functioned as Principal of Jaffna Hindu College and Head Master of Trinity College, Kandy. Member, State Council and one of the leading educationists and orators, Sri Lanka has produced.

The Hindu Organ and the Ithuusthanam have often reminded the reading public both in the editorial and general columns of the great ideals of Sri Le Sri Arumanga-Navalar and Sir Ponnampalam Ramanathan and of the necessity to follow the same. To abuse this objective permanent organisations are required; We have already an organisation after the name of Sri Le Sri Navalar Avargal; what is wanted in addition is an organisation to perpetuate Sir Ramanathan and his ideals; inspiring to recall

For The Better Understanding of Indian Classical Dancing KNOWLEDGE OF SANSKRIT A MUST

Sri Dhananjyan Shanta fined language. Therefore, and troupe internationally be urged that everyone reputed artistes of Bharata who wished to study In-Kalanjali Madras, who dian dancing and music were in Jaffoa recently should study Sanskrit. He gave an interesting and emphasized the universalism of Indian dance.

dancing especially the Kathakali at the Ramanathan Academy of Fine Arts on the 8th of May. At the outset, Sri Dhananjayan gave a brief but illuminating lecture on Indian dancing in English and later explained it in Tamil. In his brief survey of the history and evolution of Indian dancing, he explained as to how dance originated as imitatalation of nature. At the same, he stressed following the lecture he explained with art demonstrations the differences between Bharata Natyam and Kathakali in namaskaram, mudras, foot movements etc. He demonstrated very beautifully the navarasas and also rendered a short scene from Mahabharata in the Kathakali style. Srimati Jayalaksme Iswar gave a short demonstration on some aspects of the Odissi dance.

In conclusion Sri Dhananjayan emphasized that all Indian classical dances had one and the same basis and the differences were regional.

•••••

வான்முகில் மூது பெய்க
 மலிவளு சுரக்க யண்ண
 கோளமுறை ராச செய்க
 குறைவிலா துயிர்கள் வாழ்க
 நான்மயதை யறங்க ஜோங்க
 நற்றவம் வேள்வி மல்க
 மேன்மைகொள் சைவதீ
 வீளங்குது உலக மெல்லாம்.

*Printed and published by the
Proprietors, the Saiva Paripa-
lana Sabhat, Jaffna at their
Saiva Prakasa Press, 450,
K. K. S. Road, Vannarponnai,
Jaffna (Telephone 336) on
Friday, 16-5-80*

Editor-in-Chief:

The Natyastra was written in Sanskrit. The study of Sanskrit is very important for the understanding of all Indian dances and music. At this point, he added a personal note saying that he was able to do well because of his knowledge of Sanskrit. Language is no barrier to art. The rich heritage of India had come down to us in this re-

that Sir Ramanathan's entry into politics was sponsored by Sri La Sri Arumuga Navalar himself

S. Sivasubramaniam
Life Member, Saivaparipalan Sabai