

59. संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के साथ हमारे आपसी सम्बन्धों में, खासतौर पर तकनीकी और आर्थिक क्षेत्रों में काफी प्रगति हुई है। प्रधान मंत्री ने अमरीकी राष्ट्रपति के साथ अनेक विषयों पर बातचीत की। पाकिस्तान की परमाणु क्षमता प्राप्त करने की लगातार कोशिशों के बावजूद उसे हथियार सप्लाई किए जाने पर हम संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका पर अपनी गम्भीर चिन्ता बराबर व्यक्त कर रहे हैं।

60. सोवियत संघ के साथ भारत के संबंध हमेशा ही स्नेहपूर्ण और मैत्रीपूर्ण रहे हैं। नवम्बर, 1986 के दिल्ली घोषणा-पत्र में अहिंसा और शांतिपूर्ण सह-अस्तित्व के प्रति दोनों देशों की समान प्रतिबद्धता की पुष्टि की गई। पिछले तीन सालों में हमारे संबंधों में विस्तार हुआ है और हमारे संबंध समृद्ध हुए हैं। उच्च स्तरीय यात्राओं में अभूतपूर्व वृद्धि हुई है, व्यापार में अद्भुत बढ़ोत्तरी हुई है, विज्ञान और टेक्नालोजी जैसे क्षेत्रों में नए आयाम जुड़े हैं जिससे हमारे पहले से ही चले आ रहे व्यापक सहयोग में आगे विस्तार हुआ है। दोनों देशों में आयोजित महोत्सवों में हमारे आपसी सद्भाव का सुन्दर दिग्दर्शन हुआ है। वर्ष के दौरान, भारत के प्रधान मंत्री सोवियत संघ गए और सोवियत संघ के प्रधान मंत्री भारत आए।

61. माननीय सदस्यगण, राष्ट्र के संयुक्त प्रयास से हम विश्वासपूर्वक उन चुनौतियों का सामना कर सकते हैं और उन कार्यों को पूरा कर सकते हैं जो हमारे सामने हैं। हम अपने गणतंत्र के आदर्शों और लक्ष्यों के प्रति निष्ठावान रहेंगे। हम राष्ट्रीय हित को किसी भी वर्गगत हित से ऊपर रखेंगे। आने वाले वर्ष में आपके प्रयासों की सफलता के लिए मैं आपको अपनी शुभकामनाएं देता हूँ।

जय हिन्द।

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1.00 P.M.

RESOLUTION ON THE PASSING AWAY OF KHAN ABDUL GHAFAR KHAN

MR. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, with profound sorrow, I refer to the passing away of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, the veteran freedom fighter.

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, affectionately called Badshah Khan or the Frontier Gandhi, passed away on the 20th January, 1988. As the honourable Members are aware, the nonagenarian leader had been suffering from heart ailment when he was specially flown to India last year and admitted in a Bombay Hospital, where after treatment he got over the crisis. When he came to Delhi after his treatment in Bombay, we had thought that he had turned the corner and was on the road to recovery. But he suffered a paralytic stroke and was rushed to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. In August last year he was flown back to Peshawar in an almost unconscious state. On account of his robust constitution, the aged leader struggled for months to regain consciousness, but he had to succumb at last.

The news of his death has come as a personal blow not only to his own people, but to vast numbers here who had developed a mystic bond with the great leader. His life has been one of storm and stress and he has been a symbol of truth and fearlessness. He was a man of profound culture and served those in need and befriended those on whom nobody would ordinarily bestow attention. He was gem of the rarest hue and reflected and radiated light, kindness, moral stature and purity wherever he went. We respected him; we loved him.

Badshah Khan was born in 1890, in a highly religious and respected Pathan family of the Peshawar Valley. He had his schooling in Peshawar. His educational career was cut short when his mother for whom the young

Pathan boy had deep love and regard, did not give her consent to his going to England to study engineering. He, thereupon made up his mind to serve his people. The young Ghaffar Khan and his friends decided to organise the spread of education in his home province. Along with his passion for spread of education he participated in the Khilafat Movement. The sturdy Pathan founded the organisation called the 'Khudai Khidmatgar'. Freedom was their aim and service their motive. He gradually drifted towards Gandhiji. Gandhiji's remarkable way of peaceful action appealed to him the most and nonviolence became an article of faith with him. Befittingly he was called "Frontier Gandhi". He had become a true disciple of Gandhiji and other national leaders of the day. His was a life of prolonged suffering and more than one-third of his life was spent in jails before and after the partition of the country.

The simple but effective Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan has left a mark on the public life of this subcontinent. His life was a saga of sacrifice and simplicity, an embodiment of the principles of secularism and nonviolence. He treaded on the path illumined by the Father of the Nation not only for establishing peace in this subcontinent, but also for bringing about friendly and amicable relationship between India and Pakistan. India conferred on him the *Bharat Ratna*. Indeed in honouring this gentle Titan of the freedom struggle, we have reiterated our faith in the values he stood for, the values Bapu held aloft for us.

In the panorama of our history the life and work of Badshah Khan will inspire generations to come.

I now place before the House the following Resolution which the House may adopt unanimously: —

"The Rajya Sabha expresses its profound sorrow on the passing away of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, popularly known as Frontier Gan-

dhi or Badshah Khan. K.Ean^Abdul Ghaffar Khan was a true disciple of Mahatma Gandhi and fought for the liberation of the country. Being an ardent follower of the Father of the Nation, Badshah Khan had abiding faith in truth and non-violence. Till the end of his life he lived up to these ideals in the service of mankind. As a true servant of God, he started the movement of 'Khudai Khidmatgar' and conveted his people, the Pashtuns, to in itself was a historic achievement. It was indeed a feat to be achieved. He also fought ceaselessly to bring about peace and amity in the subcontinent. In the passing away of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, mankind has lost a visionary and a Messiah of Peace. To such a man we pay our homage and resolve to strive for the high ideals of patriotism, secularism and service to humanity to which he dedicated himself throughout his life.

This House conveys its heart-felt condolences to Khan Abdul Wali Khan and other members of the bereaved family as well as to millions of his admirers and followers in the Indian sub-continent".

Now, I shall call upon the Leader of the House.

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): Sir, in all solemnity we join you in paying our respectful homage to the last of the Titans who led the battle for India's independence.

Sir, you have very rightly and appropriately, in your homage, reflected the sentiments of this august House, the sentiments of the people of India. And as we mourn the demise of the uncrowned Pathan King as he was known as Badshah Khan and as we mourn the demise of 'Fakhr-e-Afghan' as he was known to the people of Afghanistan, and as we mourn the demise of 'Badshah Khan or Sarhadi Gandhi' as he was known to

the people of Pakistan and the people of India, we mourn the demise of an outstanding person, an outstanding leader of this century, who transcended geography, geographical barriers, by stem adherence to the well-known principles of non-violence, of truth, of unity and of secularism.

I had the privilege of watching 'Sarhadi Gandhi' following Mahatma Gandhi in the Balmiki Colony of Delhi. He trudged behind his leader in the path of solidarity. We have seen him trudging through the district of Noakhali fighting communal fanaticism. We have seen him preaching the message of Civil Disobedience. Even after independence he was for 16 years in prison for the sake of unity and integrity, for the sake of his people and for the sake of adherence to the principles that he stood for. Sir, if we all can in our lives and future generations inculcate and imbibe the spirit that inspired and fired Badshah Khan through decades, to stand for principles, to stand for the eternal principles that humanity has stood for then, of course, we can carve out a better life for ourselves.

Sir, I cannot but repeat what O.F. Andrews stated about Badshah Khan. We are all reminded of it.

"A Pathan leader, a king among men by stature and dignity of bearing, practising Ahimsa, enjoining it on his followers, and implacably taking instructions from the Mahatma..."

It reads almost as a legend, a romance. But it is a solid fact of modern history. What C.F. Andrews said many decades ago even today strikes a responsive chord in our hearts who have understood and read Indian history. The annals of Indian history will always remember the immortal name of Badshah Khan. We are also reminded of what Mrs. Gandhi said in her Welcome Address to Badshah Khan.

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"The history of human race is the history of martyrdom of man. Centuries often pass by during which the human spirit remains stifled and dormant. Then suddenly a man rises giving voice to the muted turbulence of the human spirit. Gandhiji was such a man. Badshah Khan is another who still walks the earth beckoning us to remain true to our heritage."

Now, Badshah Khan is no more. I am sure that all of us in this great House, whatever might be the hue or colour of our ideology, will stand together to uphold the principles which were dear to Badshah Khan for the sake of unity of India, for the sake of secularism, for the sake of democracy and for the sake of all those principles which have given glory to our fight for freedom.

Thank you.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed and the homage paid through the Resolution which you have moved and also with the sentiments expressed by the Leader of the House. Badshah Khan has symbolised all the moral values and high ideals which our freedom movement has created in India. Today at a time when all the moral values are collapsing, his stature comes out as an object of emulation by those who want to revive those moral values and it is very very urgent to revive those traditions and values in today's situation. That is why Badshah Khan's life should be elaborated and developed and taken to the masses to impress upon them as to how a man fought against foreign slavery, for the independence of the country, for Indian unity and for developing the country to a higher standard and to a higher level.

Sir, in 1919, when the agitation the Rowlatt Bill started under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, he was arrested and was put in jail in bar

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fetters. Out of revenge, the Britishers made the bar fetters very small and the blood came out from his legs continuously. So long as he was in jail, he was in bar fetters. But his morale did not break down. On the other hand, his fighting spirit and morale further increased. Also, whenever he was put in jail, he was put in solitary cells. We have our experience of the solitary cells. The British Government used to put him in special torture cells very vindictively.

Badshah Khan was opposed to the partition of India. He was very much pained when India was divided on the basis of religion. He was an example of secularism and Hindi-Muslim unity. When he came to India in 1969 to attend the centenary celebrations of Gandhi Ji's birthday, he expressed sorrow at seeing so much revival of communal riots in India after independence. He expressed it publicly saying that his dream had been shattered because he wanted that India should be united with all communities and all the linguistic people. That was his dream. That was the objective of the Indian National Movement. But after independence, with the situation on that has developed, all this dreaming have been completely shattered and his heart was broken because have been completely shattered and years he was there. Out of these 18 years, for 15 years he was in the Pakistan jail. But his morale did not break down. The Pakistan Government tried to purchase him by offering various lucrative posts and concessions. He totally rejected them. Here is a man with so much of loyalty to the ideals, loyalty to the principles and it requires emulation by our entire generation. Sir, when he came to India, he came with a small bundle with some clothes and a bottle of honey, and no VIP suitcase, nothing. Here is a man with so simple a life and modesty and this modesty and simplicity symbolised all through his life. So, a man of this character is very rare in our country today. So, his loss is a very big loss and his life

deserves to be emulated by the entire generation. He set up one school in Pakistan. That was taken over by the Pakistan Government. He was not allowed even to encourage literacy there. Then he set up one Ashram in his own North-West Frontier Province. That was also broken and taken over by the Pakistan Government. Despite that, he was firm in his objectives and principles. So, India lost such a valuable, outstanding figure. His whole movement and activities have been a part of our entire national movement. So, heartily we pay homage to this immortal leader. And, I think, the whole House will fully agree with me, and I request our hon. Chairman to convey our sentiments to his son, to his relatives and to all his admirers.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V.

ARUNACHALAM (Tamil Nadu) Mr. Chairman, Sir, I deeply associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you and the other leaders of this august House.

Sir, paying homage to the departed dignitaries of the country is not a mere customary one but it is a vow to follow their policies and programmes.

Sir, the sudden demise of Dr. MGR has come as a rude shock to the people of Tamil Nadu. He was an outstanding artiste, statesman, humanist and philanthropist. (Interruptions). Dr. Anna once rightly pointed out, see God by serving the poor. Being a true disciple of Anna, MGR proved to the world that he was always for poor, weaker sections and downtrodden. He introduced the mid-day meal scheme with an expenditure of Rs. 300 crores. By one stroke he abolished farmers' loans. He established the Tamil University in Tanjore and Tamil San-gam in Madurai. He was totally opposed to the official language policy of this Government. He was not only for the autonomy of Tamils in Sri Lanka but also autonomy, more power, to the States in India. He was greatly

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inspired by the Dravidian movement. He was the Dravid Ratna.

Sir, the message on the first independence anniversary by Panditji was to wipe out every tear from every eye. Our leader, Dr. MGR carried out the message of Panditji and wiped out every tear from every eye.

Sir, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan was one of the outstanding nationalists and his participation in the struggle against the British is unique in history. He was a close associate of Gandhiji. He was the symbol of secularism. He was the symbol of freedom. He was the symbol of humanist approach. That is why he has got unanimous appreciation from Cape Comorin to Kashmir. So, the demise of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan is the greatest loss to the country. On behalf of Anna D.M.K. we pay homage to Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and other dignitaries.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh); Sir, on behalf of myself and my party, I pay my respectful homage to Badshah Khan. He was not only a contemporary and close follower of Mahatma but he was one of the few who really practised what Mahatmaji preached. He was a great freedom fighter and a nationalist and he was one who felt great anguish on the partition of this country and that anguish and sorrow lingered in him till his death. He believed—and truly believed—in secularism and amity between different religions and he practised it also throughout his life. He suffered long from illness and it was his indomitable will and courage which kept him alive so long in spite of his serious illness. Even in his own country he was put under restraints which also caused a lot of anguish and sorrow in him. And the only way we can pay real tribute to this great man is to follow the ideals which he preached, the nationalist fervour, the patriotic, secular feelings and—to these we can add—our conti-

nuous efforts to [promote friendship between nations on this sub-continent.

Sir, on behalf of my party, I request you to convey our heartfelt condolences to Mr. Wall Khan and other members of his family. ,

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka); Mr. Chairman,

India has produced great men and these great men, in turn, have made India great. In this context, I remember the sacrifices, the ordeals and the tribulations of that great soul Badshah Khan. Sir, the heights of greatness cannot be reached by all people. It is only a rare few who can reach the heights of greatness. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan is one among them. The history of free India is not complete without incorporating the great efforts and the sacrifices made by Badshah Khan. He stood for one India and a secular India; he stood for freedom of the country and the abolition of all vestiges of colonialism. In sum, he passed through baptism of fire to realise these ideals. Sir, words fail me to describe the life and achievements of Badshah Khan. He suffered more than others for fulfilment of his ideals. I do not know what made him to go to Pakistan after the partition because his soul and spirit was in India, not in Pakistan. Perhaps, he went to Pakistan to convert Pakistan and to reunite both the countries, in which he failed. He suffered great anguish and pain because this great country was vivisected. Both the Gandhis suffered great pain because the country was divided.

Sir, we have lost a great soul, a great freedom fighter, a great nationalist and a great man. I remember the famous words of poet Longfellow which I want to state for the benefit of the House:

Lives of great men all remind us; We can make our life sublime, and departing leave behind us footprints on the sands of time.

With these words Sir, I pay my humble tribute to this great person, to this great man, who was passed away.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (मध्य प्रदेश) : सभापति जी, खान अब्दुल गफ्फार खान की पवित्र स्मृति में श्रद्धांजलि समर्पित करते हुये आपने जो प्रस्ताव सदन के सामने रखा है मैं उसका समर्थन करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ। अपनी पार्टी की ओर से, अपनी ओर से मैं उस महान व्यक्तित्व के प्रति श्रद्धा के सुमन अर्पित करना चाहता हूँ। बादशाह खान के निधन से एक युग का अन्त हो गया, अतीत को वर्तमान से जोड़ने वाला एक महासेतु काल के प्रवाह में समाधिस्थ हो गया। हमारे बीच में से एक ऊँचे कद का राजनेता, सब से ऊँचे कद का राजनेता, सबसे ऊँचे कद का इंसान चला गया। एक महान योद्धा थे, जीवन भर जूझते रहे, पहले परायों से जूझे फिर अपनी से लड़े, पहले स्वतंत्रता के लिये जूझे फिर पठानों की स्वायत्ता के लिये, आत्म-सम्मान के लिये उन्होंने संघर्ष किया। भारत स्वाधीन हुआ, हमने स्वाधीनता का त्यौहार मनाया, लेकिन बादशाह खान के शब्दों में हमने उन्हें भूखे भेड़ियों के सामने फँक दिया। यह भूखड़ा आजाद हुआ मगर बादशाह खान को आजादी नहीं मिली। अन्त तक वह लड़ते रहे, मौत के सामने भी उन्होंने आसानी से हार नहीं मानी, मौत से भी वह जूझते रहे। वह एक बहादुर पठान थे, लेकिन स्वेच्छा से उन्होंने अहिंसा का, शांतिपूर्ण तरीकों को अपनाने का रास्ता चुना। उन्हें 'भारत-रत्न' का सम्मान देकर हमने समझा कि हमने अपने कर्तव्य की इतिश्री कर ली है, लेकिन उनके साथ जो विश्वासघात हुआ उसका अपराधबोध अनेक पीढ़ियों तक इस देश की आत्मा को कचोटता रहेगा, कुरेदता रहेगा। जसा कि सदन के नेता ने कहा कि वह बादशाह खान के नाम से जाने जाते थे लेकिन वह बेताज के बादशाह थे, सीमांत गांधी, सीमा पर खड़ा हुआ गांधी, मानो गांधी के रास्ते पर चलने वाला अंतिम गांधी हमारे बीच में से उठ गया। उनका व्यक्तित्व, उनका कृतित्व सदियों तक हमें प्रेरणा देता रहेगा। हम, उनकी स्मृति को कैसे स्थायी रूप दिया जाय, इसके बारे में गंभीरता से विचार करें। मैं पुनः उनके प्रति अपनी और अपने

दल की विनम्र श्रद्धांजलि समर्पित करता हूँ।

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय चेयरमैन महोदय, आदरणीय खान अब्दुल गफ्फार खान जिन्हें बादशाह खान और सरहदी गांधी के नाम से पुकारा जाता है इनकी दुःखद मृत्यु पर भारत का प्रत्येक नागरिक हृदय से संवेदना प्रकट करता है। राष्ट्रपिता महात्मा गांधी और उनके सच्चे अनुयायी, सच्चे साथी, सरहद गांधी एक क्षण के लिये भी अपने आपको सहमत नहीं कर सके देश के नेताओं के साथ कि इस देश का सांप्रदायिकता के आधार पर विभाजन किया जाय। जो नातायज निकले विभाजन के पश्चात्, इन दोनों महान नेताओं को इसका पूर्व से आभास था, कितने करोड़ इंसान तबाह और बर्बाद हुये और विभाजन के बाद ये दोनों देश जो बने हैं, वे मित्त न रह सके। यह दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि सरहदी गांधी ने जितने लम्बे समय तक अंग्रेज के खिलाफ देश को आजाद कराने की लड़ाई में अपने आपको लगाये रखा, यातनायें सहों, उससे कहीं अधिक अपने देश में, स्वतंत्र हो जाने के पश्चात् भी उन्होंने उन्हीं सिद्धांतों और उद्देश्यों के लिये यातनायें सहों, जिनके लिये उन्होंने देश की आजादी के लिये अंग्रेज का मुकाबला करते हुये यातनायें सहों थीं।

कितनी बड़ी क्षति मानवता की है, कितनी बड़ी क्षति इन दोनों देशों की है, पाकिस्तान न माने, लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान न के सुलों पर, उनकी सेवाओं पर नतमस्तक है।

जो प्रस्ताव आपने रखा है, जो विचार सदन के नेता ने व्यक्त किये हैं और जो विचार विपक्ष के विभिन्न दलों के नेताओं ने यहां पर रखे हैं, मैं और मेरा दिल हृदय से उनके साथ अपने आपको संबद्ध करता है और उनके सुपुत्र श्री वली खां को हमारी भी तरफ से संवेदना, हार्दिक संवेदना पहुंचाने की आप कृपा करें।

SHRI N. E. BALARAM (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I fully associate

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my self with the sentiments expressed here on the passing away of Badshah Khan. Badshah Khan was an outstanding leader and his contribution to our freedom struggle and his endeavours to unify our people in this country will still be remembered by all of Us.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I had an occasion to listen to his speech when I was a Congressman. If I remember well, it was in Ramgarh Congress Session when he was moving a resolution and speaking on the question of Hindu-Muslim unity. The content and the message of the speech is still ringing in my ears. He stood for certain high values political and moral values, values like secularism, modesty, Hindu-Muslim unity and clean political life. All these values are still very much helpful to us if we look at the contemporary developments in our country. A couple of years back when he was here, he expressed his anxiety about the development of communal tension all over the country. Throughout his life he propagated the idea of unity, especially Hindu-Muslim unity of the country. I think the only thing we can do at this stage is to follow his ideals. I pay my homage, tribute to the great departed leader.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, rarely mankind comes across a magnificent person like Badshah Khan. He was a colossus amongst men, an apostle of peace and a great disciple of Gandhiji. As our Leader of the House has pointed out, he transcended geographical boundaries in preaching/secularism, peace and humanism. Sir, we all know he was a great lieutenant of Mahatma Gandhi. In fact, to avoid partition When Gandhiji suggested a solution that Mr. Mohammad Ali-Jinnah should be made the Prime Minister of united India, I think the entire Working Committee members rejected it but Badshah Khan alone stood with Gandhiji. Such was his love for united India. As Atalji has

pointed out, he was thrown to the wolves. In fact these were the words of Badshah Khan. When India was divided, when the country was partitioned, he shed tears and said: "Why are you throwing us to the wolves? But history has been made. We cannot change it. But it is a truth that he was thrown to the wolves. Later he wanted freedom for his own nation. In fact, he wanted self-determination for Pakh-toons.

India could have helped his cause, but unfortunately we failed to help him. It was for different reasons. But we recognised his services. We gave him Bharat Ratna.

Sir, as you have said, his ideals are the beaconlight which should guide us. I also wish that his dreams should come true. I pay my respectful homage on behalf of myself and on behalf of my DMK Party.

श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति जी, खान अब्दुल गफ्फार खान उर्फ सीमांत गांधी के दुखद निधन पर जो प्रस्ताव यहां रखा गया है, जो विचार आपने प्रकट किये हैं साथ-साथ अन्य दल के नेताओं ने भी विचार प्रकट किये हैं उनसे मैं अपने को संबद्ध करता हूं। मान्यवर, यह सर्वविदित है कि कांग्रेस की कार्य समिति में जब बटवारे का प्रस्ताव आया तो सीमांत गांधी ने उस प्रस्ताव का विरोध किया और भारत के बटवारे को उन्होंने कभी भी दिल से स्वीकार नहीं किया। लेकिन फिर भी जब बटवारा हो गया तो उन्होंने पाकिस्तान में रहना पसन्द किया। अंग्रेजों की हुकूमत में 14 वर्ष तक उन्होंने जेल में काटे, लेकिन पाकिस्तान की जेल में 15 वर्ष से अधिक उन को अपना जीवन व्यतीत करना पड़ा। सीमांत गांधी का कद सादरमती के सन्त महात्मा गांधी के बराबर था। वे अहिंसा, सहिष्णुता, सादगी और रक्ष के पुजारी थे और अपने दैनिक जीवन में भी इनका वे बराबर प्रयोग करते थे। मान्यवर, 1969 में राष्ट्र पिता महात्मा गांधी की जन्म शती के अवसर पर

जब भारत में उनका आना हुआ था तो उस समय इस देश में धूम-धूमकर उन्होंने भाईचारे का अलख जगाया क्योंकि उस समय गांधी जी के प्रदेश गुजरात में अहमदाबाद और भिबंडी में दंगे हो रहे थे। मान्यवर, उनके जो आदर्श हैं, जो सिद्धांत हैं और जो काम हैं उनको याद करके ही हम इस देश में भाईचारे के अलख को जगा सकते हैं।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं पुनः एक बार उनके प्रति अपनी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, on behalf of my Party, Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, and on my own behalf, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you in the Resolution placed before the House and supported by the hon. Leader of the House.

Bad shah Khan was not only one of the greatest leaders of India but he was also responsible for giving inspiration for the nationalist movement in Jammu and Kashmir. Sir, I remember with nostalgia the river procession in Srinagar and the historic Sopore session of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference in 1940. I, as a young man, went and heard him speak at Sopore. In a very characteristic and unassuming manner, he gave a philosophy of nationalism 'in two sentences. He said that it was not that the Hindu was oppressed or the Muslim was an oppressor. It was only that oppression was there. And when oppression was there, it did not see whether it was a Hindu or a Muslim. He gave this philosophy of nationalism in such a way that the whole audience running into lakhs of people understood it in that language. I am happy that he gave us this inspiration at that time. We are still burning that light in Kashmir and will continue to be inspired by the speeches that he made later on in Kashmir. I also remember, when

he visited Kashmir in 1982 or thereabouts, he was put in a guest house. After two days he felt uncomfortable and with his bundle in his hand he went to the MLAs' hostel and wanted only a one-room tenement for his stay. He was a great man indeed, but the only tribute that we can pay him at this juncture is that we must keep the banner of secularism and democracy flying in the country from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. This is the greatest tribute that we can pay to Badshah Khan.

Sir, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you because Badshah Khan was such a great personality that it is very difficult to say in words how great he was. On behalf of my party and on my own behalf I request you to convey to Khan Abdul Wali Khan and the bereaved family our sense of grief at the passing away of such a great leader who has been the inspirer of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (West Bengal) : Sir, with all humility I join you and the Leader of the House in paying my most respectful and deep homage to Badshah Khan who has passed away recently.

Sir, history has it that Badshah Khan was a legend of our sub-continent. History also has it that for decades together he strode the political stage of the sub-continent like a colossus. Badshah Khan lived and fought for secular ideals and principles. For him, Indian freedom divorced from secularism meant substantial subtraction of the basic essentials of Indian freedom. That is what he meant about Indian freedom. In today's environment of our sub-continent—of rising communalism, religious fundamentalism, revivalism and

obscurantism—the country would do well by emulating the principles, ideology and teachings of Badshah Khan, who, I say, symbolizes the hopes and aspirations of the teeming millions of this sub-continent. He did not belong to India alone but the entire sub-continent for the freedom of which he fought.

Sir, on behalf of my party and on my own behalf, I request you to convey our deepest homage to the departed leader as also our condolences, to the bereaved family

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI (West Bengal: Mr. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my party and On my own behalf, I associate myself with the sentiments that have been incorporated in the Resolution which you have moved and which have been supported by the Leader of the House and leaders of all the parties who are present here in the House.

Sir Badshah Khan was the Last of the Mohicans of the freedom struggle of India, that is, last of a select band of people under whose leadership this country reached the goal of freedom. But our sorrow and anguish at his passing away become a little pointed when we remember the fact that the realities of history and politics separated him from free India, although in spirit he was in India and was one of the great well-wishers of India. He created free India, but he could not be a citizen of this country. That is a fact which we had to accept with sorrow. Anyway, these things will be forgotten, but the great ideals for which he lived and fought will always remain alive. And I again pay homage to the departed soul.

SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA (Punjab): Mr. Chairman, Sir,

on behalf of Akali Dal and on my own behalf, I fully associate myself with the sentiments expressed in the proposed Resolution.

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan was a great man in every sense of the word. He walked tall not because he was tall of stature; he had a stature because he possessed the finest qualities of leadership. Sincere, inspiring, humane, humble and unassuming, his whole life was devoted to fight against tyranny and injustice regardless of odds. Fully committed to the cause of righteousness, he fought throughout his life undaunted and unmindful of the eventual result. He blazed the trail of secularism and justice, which, unfortunately, has not been followed by many of us, and the country had to be partitioned.

He is respected and loved not for worldly achievements, but for his character qualities. His ideals and principles were more important to him than worldly achievements.

I humbly pay my homage to this great departed soul and request you to convey my heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Thank you, Sir.

श्री राम चन्द्र विक्रम (उत्तर प्रदेश) :
सभ्यता महोदय, दुनिया के माने हुये
राजनीतिक सन्त को जब आपके द्वारा
और प्रस्ताव के द्वारा श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की
गयी, नेतासदन और विभिन्न पार्टियों के
नेताओं ने जो अपनी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की
नै उससे अपने को संवद्ध करता हूं।

मैं सन् 1946 में पहली बार बादशाह
खान के मेरठ में दर्शन कर सका और उनके
अंतिम समय तक कभी न कभी किसी न
किसी रूप में उनसे संपर्क बनाये रखा।
यह बात सत्य है कि उन्हें पाकिस्तान का
अस्तित्व स्वीकार नहीं था और न हुआ।

जीवन पर्यन्त वह अपने विचारों पर अडिग रहे । वह भाई-चारे की मूर्ति थे और खुदाई खिदमतगार थे । मानव की खिदमत हो, इंसान की खिदमत हो यह उनके जीवन का लक्ष्य जीवन पर्यन्त रहा । वह जब भी कभी दिल्ली आते थे उनसे मिलता था । बम्बई में बीमारी में और दिल्ली में भी उनसे मिलने गया । दुर्भाग्य से उनके अंतिम दर्शन नहीं कर सका । देश के करोड़ों लोग जो अभिलाषी थे उनके दर्शन के, नहीं कर सके । उन्हें भारत से बहुत प्यार था ।

बम्बई में जब मैं उनका मिलने गया तो मैंने उनसे कहा दिल्ली चलेंगे, बाबा ? उन्होंने कुछ दर्द भरी आवाज में हमसे कहा वह बात मैं साफतौर से कहने में असमर्थ हूँ । कुछ लड़कियाँ, देवियाँ खड़ी थीं । उनको उन्होंने बोला कि तुम चाहो तो भारत को बचा सकती हो । यह अभी बीमारी के वक्त की बात है । मैं उनसे मिलता रहता था । यू.पी. का दौरा भी कराया । लम्बी चारपाई उनकी बनवानी पड़ी थी । वह एक बात बोला करते थे, अटल जी ने भी उस बात को कहा कि हमें भेड़ियों के सामने डालकर राज कर रहे हैं । एक बार की बात सुना रहे थे कि मैं काबुल में दो हिन्दुस्तानी बच्चों से मिला । मैंने पूछा कि तुम कहाँ से आये ? उन्होंने कहा हिन्दुस्तान से । मैंने पूछा कहाँ जा रहे हो ? उन्होंने कहा अमरीका । पूछा क्यों जा रहे हो अमेरिका तो उन्होंने कहा गांधी जी के मिशन का प्रचार करने जा रहे हैं । खान साहब ने कहा कि मैंने उन बच्चों से कहा कि तुम भारत वापस लौट जाओ । उन्होंने पूछा बाबा, क्यों लौट जायें ? उन्होंने कहा कि गांधी जी के मिशन का प्रचार पहले भारत में करो फिर अमेरिका जाना । तुम्हें कोई नहीं सुनेगा अगर गांधी जी के मिशन का प्रचार भारत में नहीं किया । ऐसे अनेक संस्मरण उनके जीवन के हैं मैं कहाँ तक सुनाऊँ । जब वे जहाज से अपनी सादी वेशभूषा में अपने कपड़े हाथ में लिये हुये उतरा करते थे तो सादगी का एक नमूना नजर आते थे । उनकी सादगी, उनकी सच्चाई, सत्य और अहिंसा के प्रति उनका अटूट विश्वास, मानवता की एकता और अखंडता में विश्वास, ऐसे मूल्य थे जिनसे

भावी पीढ़ी और हमें प्रेरणा मिलती रहेगी । अभी अभी समाचार पत्रों में हमने पढ़ा— युगों तक याद रहेगा मरहद पर का गांधी । उनके जो संस्मरण दिये गये हैं वे बहुत अमूल्य संस्मरण हैं । मैं तो अपने भारत की पवित्र मिट्टी से उपजी श्रद्धांजलि अपनी ओर से और अपने साथियों की ओर से आपके पास भेज चुका था । मुझे विश्वास है, आपने वह वहाँ पहुँचा दी होगी । मेरी भी विनम्र श्रद्धांजलि सदन के नेता, सदन के अन्य नेताओं के साथ उनके परिवार के पास पहुँचा दें । वैसे तो सारा भारत ही, सारी मानवता ही, उनका परिवार थी । इसलिये मैं फिर निवेदन करना चाहूँगा कि आप हमारी श्रद्धांजलि श्री बली खाँ जी के पास पहुँचा सकें तो मैं आपका आभारी हूँगा ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now request the hon. Members to rise in their places in approval of the Resolution which I have placed before the House and observe a two-minute silence as a mark of respect to the memory of Badshah Khan.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence For two minutes)

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: I also refer to the passing away of Shri M. G. Ramachandran, Shri Lakshmi Kant Jha, Syed Mazhar Imam, Shri C. D. Pande, Shri V. Venka and Shri Kar-poori Thakur.

Shri Marudur Gopala Menon Ramachandran, affectionately called MGR, was the nation's illustrious son who was a legend in his lifetime. For nearly five decade MGR had been worshipped and adored by the people of Tamil Nadu, first as a stage and film actor, then as Chief Minister of the State. Shri Ramachandran had complete hold over the masses in his State, who were swayed by his revolutionary ideas and charismatic oratory and he became their