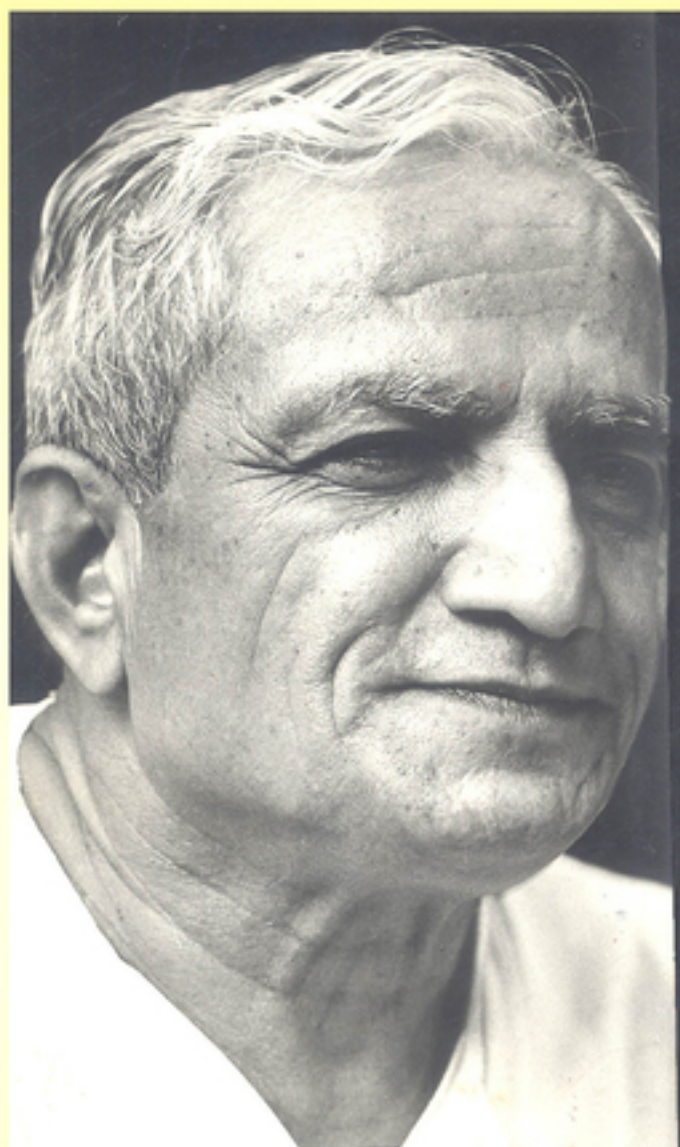




CHANGING HORIZONS

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Changing Horizons & Emerging Challenges Before the Nationalist

❖By Dattopant Thengadi

Our history is replete with conspiracies of deliberate disinformation campaigns executed in order to blur our aims, to weaken our resolve, to lead us away from our culture, our ethos, our Dharma. The real and present danger is that such planned and deliberate campaigns are blatantly carried out in these current times as well. Among these we have some old campaigns containing well presented, seemingly logical arguments designed to misrepresent facts; and some campaigns containing plain lies (Old myths). In the same vein there are some new campaigns which have fresher and newer approach to the above campaigns and they contain New Myths. Which among our present contentions belong to Old myths and new myths?

The Colonial Education Policy which Macaulay thought of, was a deliberate, definite and detailed plan to demolish Hindu self-esteem and to thoroughly synonymous.

- The word Aryan denotes a race. (Juxtaposed to being descriptive of values a person may stand for).
- Nation and state are synonymous.
- Sanskrit is a dead language.
- The Hinduism is a mere "religion" in conventional sense and Hindutva is necessarily anti secular and sectarian or communal.
- Science and technology, cultural ethos, modern civilisation, methods of mass education were the gifts that the English bestowed upon the barbaric and unsophisticated masses in this country.
- Knowledge and wisdom were monopolised by the privileged upper classes. These privileged classes, in order that their dominance and supremacy remain unchallenged, deliberately kept mass in the dark. These upper classes designed disparity into the social structure as a means to keep eternal control of masses. They simply called that social structure which condemned the masses to perpetual slavery as ordained Caste- structure of Divine and Unassailable personal affair, Hindu view of religion is all-embracing, all inclusive, so much so that Mahatma Gandhi once remarked that even Islam and Christianity could be part of Hindu.
- "Charvakism" is materialism.
- Uniqueness about Hindu view of religion may be expressed thus: "either-or-ism is non- Hindu, while "as-well-asism" is Hindu! Hence proper

protocol towards Muslims call for their philosophical and psychological manifestation to purity and not undue favour or appeasement or not even boycott.

"Hindu" and Human" are synonymous right from the dawn of civilisation. We are always identified with entire mankind. Therefore, all our thinking, all our prayers in the Vedas are for the benefit of not due why "all the human beings".

Ancient Sanskrit literature does not mention the word Hindu. There are new consider communities (nomadic, tribal or otherwise) forming who refused to identify with rest of the Human race, wished to be identified distinctly and at times even imposed their will over other self-esteem and to thoroughly demoralise the Hindu Self. Through the means of Education policy, through literature through fabricated theories and by means of distortion of Historical facts this disinformation campaign was injected into education system disseminated in English language. The better educated and higher classes did not pause for a moment to challenge this poisoned pill. They not only swallowed but also enthusiastically distributed it among the general populace. Macaulay had succeeded to his complete satisfaction.

Challenges to these attempts at disinformation, during last several decades, have come from nationalist patriots. These patriots, unsuccessfully initially, tried countering

Macaulay with plain truth. Macaulay's overall game plan due to aggressive theorising had penetrated deeply. The nationalists kept steadily chipping away with great resolve and commendable consistency. Slowly awareness of nationalist effort at first and then the truth contained therein started spreading. Battle in the face of these Challenges continues even today.

Deliberate disinformation is voluminous; and the debates and discussions have gone on for significant period and I am sure will go on for some time more. Since it is my privilege to address this enlightened and aware audience, detailed reiteration is not necessary merely. I am sure, you have heard points and counterpoints, pros and cons a number of times.

It may be pertinent to merely mention what these old myths have been:

- Hindustan is still a "Nation in the Making". It was never culturally a single Nation.
- This never was culturally a Nation and hence it never had its own cultural ethos. This was a melting pot of cultures at best or a cross breed of various national cultures, "a composite culture" in other words.
- Aryans who were aliens to Hindustan, established their sovereignty after vanquishing the ethnic tribes.
- The Aryans were just as much aliens as the later arrivals such as the Muslims or the English. The

Hindus of today are successors to the Aryans and not to ethnic Indians.

- Dravids who are a distinct Nation, distinct culture, who have entirely different languages are the original inhabitants of this land. The Hindus who are as alien as the later arrivals, Muslims and the English, tried to annihilate the Dravid Nation and the Dravid people.
- Dharma and religion are true or Divine and Unassailable Birthright so as to give it moral and Divine sanction. The basic unit of this society was "Caste" rather than the Nation.

Western-educated intelligentsia honoured these unproven and blatantly biased hypotheses as proven theories. They helped propagate them among the masses who unfortunately had looked up to the intelligentsia.

These so called theories which happen to be cleverly packaged and well-presented hypotheses have lately been conclusively demolished by logical and rational evidence. The Western-educated proponents and supporters such "theories" are on the defensive and historical truths have been taking their due place in public mind. Intellectuals and thinkers are veering on the true path. The intelligentsia now realise that;

Bharat has always been and continues to be a multi-state nation. Calling her a multinational state is misrepresentation of facts at best.

Pakistan and Bangladesh are states without Nationhood.

Hindu is a multi-dimensional culture. It is entirely baseless to consider Bharat as a multi-culture nation.

"Hindu" does not subscribe to conventional sense of "religion". Hindus may have many religions, but they view sects and methods of worship as entirely a imposed their will over other communities. When such communities entered India, we had to call ourselves Hindus for distinction. From ancient times however, we have been called Sindhu / Hindus by outsiders.

A shop declared itself simply as Ghee shop when all that was available was pure ghee. However, when vegetable ghee was introduced, the same shops had to change their signs to "Pure Ghee sold here". In ancient times we never had to call ourselves anything specifically since everybody revered same values we considered for all humans to uphold. For us Hindu was synonymous with Human. Traditionally we have always believed that our Divine Law is eternal. Our absolute referent is this Eternal Divine Law.

We do not realise how much this means to us all or how and to what extent it has influenced our minds. Pt. Nehru detested the word Dharma (or Divine Law in the sense of religion). Just a day prior to his death, he wrote foreword for a book by Shrimannarayan Agarwal. He writes, " If we list our priorities, we need to increase our industrial production, we need to increase agricultural production but above all we need to mould man's mind on the basis of Dharma. This shows, no matter whether they accept or

not, thinkers of all hues are deeply influenced by Dharma. Eternal Divine Law manifests in Integrated Humanism in its modern or contemporary role.

Foundations to our philosophy are the same Universal Laws that our sages envisioned and experienced. These Universal Laws are immutable, they are perpetual. Hinduism has always been revising socio-economic order in the light of unchanging eternal universal laws. Hinduism has always, over thousands of years, evolved with times. It has changed the social order as the environment around changed. Hinduism fitted itself to changing world but kept those Universal Laws sacrosanct, unchanging and social order as Contemporary or Eternal Divine Law. This in today's language is Integrated Humanism.

The social order which honours from within the Eternal Divine Law will never be self-contradictory. The social order which chooses otherwise will inevitably be self-contradictory. Such self-contradictions eventually demolish such social orders. Thus we witnessed the demise of Communism, and it is estimated that the Capitalist social order will also destroy itself similarly before year 2010.

Our ancient sages had a heavenly enlightenment (साक्षात्कार) which may be roughly translated as Everything is One Supreme(एकसत्) or All is One (सर्वं खल्विदं ब्रह्मः) not All Are One!

One may not easily attain such enlightenment but we accept it as our Value of life, the basis of our entire thought process. Ultimate Salvation (मोक्ष) or is described as bliss, tangible bliss, eternal bliss and bliss forever. Innumerable are the ways of getting there. There is known as existentialism. In social context we think of Bliss for everyone. We like to consider Social Development as Progress for Everybody; (सर्वत्र सुखिनः संतुः) Uplift of the Lowest. (अंत्योदय)

Western paradigm of Development is Anti-Hindu, contradictory to Eternal Divine Law and anti-environment. We have been nursing for Environment since the Vedic times. Mrs. Indira Gandhi, while addressing International Convention on Environment in Stockholm (1972) had surprised many when she stressed this very thought. Twelfth chapter of Atharvaveda, which is sixty-three verse long, is entirely devoted to Environment.

We believe in quadri-dimensional evolution (चतुर्विध पुरुषार्थ) or Comprehensive, all-round development requires physical, psychological, intellectual and spiritual development which covers both, physical and metaphysical aspects of a personality. This assures consequent and concurrent all-round development of the society. Western-educated intelligentsia now appreciate our view that physical and metaphysical aspects of a personality are simply two sides of the same coin.

Newly planted planned and deliberate disinformation campaigns (New Myths) are at our doorsteps just when we were get to what nationalists and patriots from these very countries would propound in order to awaken the Nation, and accordingly preempted with counter-propaganda. They have been feeding enough lies and in enough volumes to turn the patriots protest ineffective.

Enough discussion on New Myths has been going on in the country and hence I would not like to dwell too much on it. In Pune, you all have heard through a number of meetings held on Swadeshi and on invasion of foreign capital, Swadesh Jagaran Manch has also been active in rekindling public awareness.

Dr. Bevan, Head of the Department of Economics at the University of Southern California enunciated the ideal peak of technological progress. "We wish to take technology to such heights that we would be able run the largest of factories. The two employees would be a man and a dog. All machines would start working on the push of a button by the employer. The Alsatian dog would guard the factory. The man would be required only to look after the Alsatian. This would be the ideal!

In Europe, statistical data shows that even in tiny countries millions of people have lost their jobs due to technological progress. The Chairman of the Science and Technology Committee of the USA, Mr. John Brown, declared in the US Congress that the increase in

unemployment in the USA is due to the progress of technology!

We have no dispute with an ordinary American. He is just like any of us. Our fight is against the American Government, politicians, their agencies and their profit-mongering multination's who only care for their profits. We are so cultured that we are incapable of gauging how evil can evil get. They have seen the victim countries from third world becoming aware of their exploitation. Even the Europeans are not willing corroborators anymore. Till recently, China and Japan sneezed if America caught cold. Today they stand up to USA and raise their voices. The USA and industrialists from advanced countries know that the raw materials and labour both cost less in third world countries. Though the product may be of lower quality, they prefer to invest in these third world countries, in order to gain more profit. In spite of the fact that such action leads to the unemployment of their own countrymen; such nationalist thoughts do not seem to worry these multinationals. Their sole aim is to make profit for themselves.

It was only in the later part of the eighteenth century that we were successful at countering foreign aggression which started in the eleventh century. Just then, even stronger English aggressors were at the door step. It was imperative we repel them. When we are succeeding against the Old Myths, New Myths are at the door steps. We need to realise that it took us 700 years to retaliate the Muslim aggression. This new aggression is frightening in

scope and speed. It will not allow us much time. If not rebuffed soon it will cost us our Freedom and Sovereignty. Hundreds of millions will be unemployed. This is a real threat to our freedom.

The seeds of these New Myths were sown as early as June 1945. At the end of the Second World War, due to international pressures, imperial powers had to release and leave their colonies. These imperial powers found going tough since their economies were based on exploitation of their colonies. It was obvious that these powers would try and continue exploiting other nations in order to maintain their wealth. The patriotic citizens of the newly freed countries would never allow themselves to be exploited in order to sustain the economies of these erstwhile imperialists.

A devious new battle-plan was drawn up by erstwhile imperial powers. Their plan consisted of planting new local leaders who would not only not have any scruples about having their countrymen be exploited by these imperialists but will also aid their endeavour. The plan also required placing these leaders at the helm of affairs even if the course of events warranted bloodshed.

The battle-plan further included making absolutely unfair and blatantly based deals and agreements while keeping the people of those nations in the dark and having the leaders, whose price had been paid for, sign on behalf of their country, all the while highlighting only the advantages through the media. When these deals would

come into operation, and when people realize the real implications, the detrimental clauses, although uneasy, they will be stunned into inaction as if from bolt out of the blue.

Dr. Goebbels said if a lie is repeated a hundred times it will be taken as truth, Hitler went a step ahead and said that a lie will be accepted as truth if it is big enough. Experts from these exploiting countries anticipated as World Trade Organisation, Multinationals. America and other Western countries are all capitalists. They have won over quite a few converts to their cause even from among our own, probably because they have been at it for quite some time. Although misguided, these converts may not be labelled as traitors. They do not seem to have gauged the gravity of the situation. They are given to saying things like "It does not matter much". "What does it matter if there is a slight deviation?", "We can see to it later".

Two of our senior Swayamsevak and I used to discuss as to why do we take up a so-called "outdated stand on technology"? We concluded that national Technological Policy has to be formulated. The nation would progress only as much as technology does. Recently, an article in the Organiser on "Swadeshi and Technology" took note of the progress of technology over a period of time. What is the Capitalists' norm to gauge the progress of technology? Their norm is the size of Profit. Such an obnoxious approach is beyond scope of imagination of our civil and cultured countrymen. These Multinationals are so evil that they do not care to their own countrymen,

they have no mercy not pity for mankind. Why would such devils take care of us? There propaganda has been so effective, that is a major hurdle, that it is difficult to convince our countrymen what lies in their own interest. Our own countrymen presume that the impact of all this is only marginal and hence not at all a cause for worry. This blunder will be of epic proportions. Our industry will go in to foreign hands; our agriculture will also go under their control. Our Sovereignty would be endangered. We would become economic slaves. Wars till 1945, were political. Now they are economic wars. In fact, the Third World War is on. The first two World War were fought with military strength. The Third World War is being fought on basis of the financial might. We need to fight this economic war, which we can call the Second War of Independence, with all we possess. Some who have succumbed to American propaganda, even though they are patriots, have not realized the gravity and severity of this economic war. They must think seriously about Swadeshi. We have reached this pitiable state because of swallowing every morsel of disinformation dished out.

When Congress Government signed GATT and accepted membership of W.T.O. as required by GATT, our sovereignty has already been sold out. Still here a ray of hope. Canada had signed an agreement similarly damaging to her sovereignty, known as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). In order to convince the Canadians, only some superficially attractive clauses were presented to them. They signed the

agreement and as the agreement bared its fangs, Canadians realised the blunder. Protests followed. Just then, General Elections were held. The party in power who had signed this agreement could manage only two seats. The new Government wrote to the President of the USA. Mr. Clinton, stating that "Protocol and ethics would demand that any New Government honours whatever agreements the previous Government entered into, but conditions of NAFTA are one-sided and unjust. We wish to renegotiate and revise the terms of the agreement". This is the first incident of its kind in the history of the world.

Our country has also entered into a similarly unfair and unjust agreement when the Congress Government signed the GATT treaty. Clandestine understanding between the then ruling party here, USA, World Bank and IMF was that we would follow the treaty. Implicitly after re-elections in March 1996 are won, but the treaty was not to be pressed before then. We all are witness to events after Congress party, the signatories, unexpectedly lost the election. But the fact remains that we are signatories to GATT whereby in my opinion, we have become economic slaves. Foreign Capitalists firmly control multitudes of political leaders from a number of parties. A great number of such leaders, it could be anyone of them, are available for a price. The Hawala, the Urea and the Gawala scams are enough to convince us that it is hard to trust anybody now and that our leaders and rulers can be bought out and have been bought out and have been bought out before. These are the dark horizons and the

emerging challenges. If and only if, all of us patriots unitedly fight, we may overcome. The first step is mass awakening of the ways to meet the challenges.

Dr. Ambedkar, the architect of our Constitution, while commenting on its contents, remarked, "The Constitution contains opinions of several other experts too, I have prepared the draft does not mean that I am the sole author. If the Constitution does not serve its mission, I will be the first one to consign it to fire." These days if we even as much as comment on the constitution, some of us deliberately misconstrue it as a slight against Dr. Ambedkar himself. I wish to clarify that we hold great respect for Dr. Ambedkar and our commentary on the Constitution should not be construed as comments on Dr. Ambedkar as such.

Mahatma Gandhi, in his book *Hind Swaraj* (1909), opined that a Constitution in the style of British Constitution would be of no value. Golwakar said, "The present Constitution cannot be a product of this soil." That does not mean we are going to change things instantly. However, we must note the two points he made further. Firstly, territorial representation must go hand in hand with functional representation. Of course, we do not mean that the entire present system should be scrapped but mainly that the functional representation should be introduced alongside territorial representation. Details could be worked out by consensus. Secondly, that the lowest unit in the hierarchy of representation election should be unanimous.

After returning from Thane, I related the above two concepts to a good acquaintance who also happens to be a good Communist. "Non-sensical!" was all he chose to say. But that is the way the so-called liberals and the progressives react!

I said, "Perhaps you are right. I will tell you a story in the life of Prophet Mohammed. When he was thirty-nine, he was jessed with heavenly enlightenment. Subsequent to this, he started spreading the Thought. Islam has spread far and wide and Mohammed was old and nearing the end of his life. In a town far away from Mecca, there arose a dispute between two Islamic factions and some members of one of them came to seek advise. They told the whole sorry tale and request the Prophet to accompany them to the town and help solve the dispute. The Prophet declined and said, "I am too old to make this long and arduous journey and secondly, there will always be differences of opinion among the learned people. Islam has spread so wide that it is impossible for me to go and settle every such dispute. But I will tell you what you can do to solve problem. Get everybody in the village together. Elect an Emir (a leader or chief) unanimously. But remember well, this election must be unanimous! And then accept his decision as my decision."

The members wondered how the election for a leader could be unanimous since the dispute prestates were not professed by him on language as the criteria, they were to be regions with common local characteristics.

Administration there could have one language but that is not the basis they were to be formed on.

There could be 50 such small states. Just as Maharashtra is region with common local characteristics, similarly Vidarbha is a distinct region within this region, so is Kokan, so is Marathwada or Saurashtra and South Gujrat within Gujrat or Telangana and Rayalseema within Andhra Pradesh. We now regret that administration of large states is not effective enough, nor is such administration responsive to the needs of such smaller regions within the state. Intra-regional disputes have their roots in such a neglect. Such regions are what Pandit Deendayalji called "Janapad". Definition of a Janpad could accommodate all such regions where such disputes has brewed in recent past in the name of Khalistan, Jharkhand, Vidarbha, Nagaland, Mizoram or Telangana. After Pandit Deendayalji, our political leadership were too busy to pay sufficient attention to this concept. These valuable thoughts warranted better exposure. Shri Guruji thoughts regarding this aspect as an alternative never got the appreciation they deserved.

Now when there is great concern regarding instability and over precarious situation persisting we need to go further than merely saying that the Constitution is not the product of this soil. All of us here who share the Hindutva Philosophy hardly need to be told how we would meet our aspirations and our goals.

We consider Dharma (The Divine Law), and not the Rulers as supreme authority. Divine Law sets rules even for the Monarch. Western countries consider the State as Supreme. Since we are already called Fundamentalists and Traditionalists I would not hurry into professing the Hindu way just yet. Let us educate the masses before we present the-Hindu Alternative.

We have borrowed another Constitution in the style of British Constitution would be of no value in India. In 1914, Yogi, Aurobindo commented that the only government that works in the country would be a "government of interests". Rajaji, in his autobiography, written in 1936 while in prison, warned if we should choose democracy that splits the majority and the minority votes, corruption will be rampant, and it will not restrict itself to elections, but will percolate into all walks of life. In short, great men who had no selfish political ambitions had warned us a long time ago that British Style Constitution would be most inappropriate for our country.

Manavendra Roy, who just prior to independence, studied the Constitutions of almost all the nations, said that "the British Parliamentary system would be successful only where the general population is motivated and educated towards strengthening the democratic process. The best of the constitutions, in absence of such motivation and education cannot achieve the required goal. Democracy means that every citizen has a right to participate in the decision-making process. Just voting or having a right to vote does not mean Democracy, participation in the

decision making process is essential". Education is of great importance, he thought. It might take a very long time to educate masses when in this country there are crores are illiterate, one wondered, Manavendra Roy answered, "It may be a long way. But if it is the only way, then it will also be the shortest one."

There have been debates on the Federal and Unitary alternatives for political structures. Late Mr. Golwalkar professed that the federal structure would not be advisable. Dr. Ambedkar said, "Ours is not a Federal structure and I have deliberately used words "The Indian UNION" so that the future generations shall not mistake it for being a "Federal structure".

During the early meetings of the Constituent Assembly, Dr. Satchidananda Sinha, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, and even Dr. Ambedkar has expressed their reservations on certain issues regarding the Constitution. Later, Jay Prakash Narayan, Acharya Vinoba Bhave, M.N. Roy questioned very ability of the then political parties to play supplementary and complimentary roles for a healthy Democracy. The book 'Party, Politics and Democracy', does not think that a Political party plays a supplementary role in a truly democratic system. Jayprakashji raised this very issue while leaving Praja-Samajwadi Party. He had no differences of opinion with the party but he did not think that the party could play the desired role in

Democracy. He longed for Democracy Sans Political Parties.

At the Thane meeting the election for a leader could be unanimous since the dispute prexisted election. They asked if the Prophet could guide as to what qualities would qualify such a leader be so elected. He agreed and said, "The Emir should be one who has all the basic qualities to be a good leader but has absolutely no ambition to become one. Even if one has all the requisite qualities but has even a lurking desire to become Emir he should never be elected the Emir". Our communist friend said that there was 'some grain of truth' in the advice after all! Now when Mr. Golwalkar says it, that is "Nonsensical", and when the Prophet Mohammed says the very same thing it seems like "Truth". But then such are the ways of these 'radical liberals' and 'progressives' who are also most irresponsible.

These alternatives offered by Golwalkar would not satisfy all requirements. He gave Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya food for thought when he said, "We must offer an ethnic and original alternative which is entirely in pursuit of national interest alone". Pandit Deendayal proposed Integrated Governance after a lot of deliberation and thought.

When some political parties started debating reorganisation of states, we supported it wholeheartedly. Right then it was suggested that the states be small. Belated though, now most of us accept that states should

have been small. The inter-state problems that we face would never have arisen had we acceded to Pandit Deendayal's Integrated Governance. He had foreseen these problems.

We have, borrowed another myth from the West. Some among us have, paying heed to Western thought, believe that the state is the Supreme Authority and also that the state is all powerful, capable of doing everything. Corollary is, belief makes any and every means to achieve power justifiable. Once in power, this belief makes one think, that everything can be set right, i.e. once in the saddle, by any means, any goal can be achieved through power. Here we ignore that wrong methods cannot lead to right ends. We all seem to be in a great big hurry to get nowhere. Only patience will allow us to see that purity of means is most essential in attainment of the goal. All along, in the West, it was Leftists against the Rightists. Everyone debated what the government should do and what it should not; Communists expected their governments to do everything and the capitalists wanted their governments to do as little possible. However, both agreed that the governments are capable of doing everything.

Now this very premise is being debated in the West. Now the issue is not what governments should do and what they should not, but what they are capable of doing and what is certainly beyond their scope! Even if one agrees that the government should do everything, are they capable of doing everything. Well known Management consultant

Peter Drucker thinks not. In our country we were under the illusion that "Once we are in power we will be able to achieve everything." Hang-over of this illusion still persist. This hangover gathers strength when elections are around and of us support Bharatiya Janata Party to come to power, the only Hindutva-oriented party.

We can clearly separate the functional role of the RSS and that of a political party. This is not the venue to discuss nationalism, RSS politics and their interrelation. I might conclude that issue by saying that some of Mr. Golwalkar's lecture, in a book called 'Dhyeya Darshan', explain in the inter-relationship between the above mentioned trio.

What is the concept the "Sangh" is based upon? We must understand that Sangh is the "entire Hindu Society". Sangh and the society are to be symbiotic. Conviction is that the Sangh and the society are a seamless whole. Conceptually, Sangh and society are coextensive, Psychologically, Sangh is identified with the entire society. Sangh is not a cult or a sect, not a faction and not a political party not even a part of society. Sangh does not want to create an organisation within the society, but makes society an organised state of affairs. This has been our conviction and this is what we have been working towards.

One does not worry when it is all smooth sailing, but when storm clouds gather national interest must take precedence. Wider perspective such as "Sangh is the

entire society" notwithstanding some political priorities had to be considered. This was back in the times of Dr. Hedgewar. During the British rule Ramsay MacDonald, under Government of India Act 1935, regarding reserved constituencies, adjudged communal award. Let us not get into what the award was but let us understand the circumstances. This award put Mahatma Gandhi and Pt. Nehru between rock and a hard place. We rejected the award since it was anti-national. Had Congress rejected the communal award then the Muslims would get upset, and it being against the national interests Congress could not accept it either. Elections were around and Congress officially posed neutrality, that is neither accepting it nor rejecting it. Dr. Munje remarked, "What does Congress mean? They probably would neither welcome nor throw out a burglar who breaks in to their house".

In such a situation, nationalists that they were, Swayamsewaks campaigned simultaneously for Congress National Party of Shri Anay Malviya and Hindumahasabha since both those parties were nationalists and Hindutva oriented. They never issued any declarations on RSS banner. But Swayamsewaks, in their individual capacity, campaigned very effectively to support them.

Those political leaders were very impressed with the Swayamsewaks. They realised that the Swayamsewaks belongs to a good voluntary organisation. They were eager to rope them in as their own supporters- Swayamsewaks declined. They replied, "The Sangh shall

not go along or be included into a political party. We worked this time with a specific objective in a special circumstance, but never veered from our principles."

The Sangh being the entire "Hindu society" was the principle held supreme then, just as it is held even now. One must study Shri Guruji's address guiding the voter, when Janasangh had been founded, at the time of the first general election after Independence. Our erstwhile General Secretary Shri Sheshadriji had published a release before General Elections in 1996, this release is also similarly worthy of studying. Shri Dr. Hedgewar, Shri Guruji and Shri Sheshadriji are perfectly consistent in holding national interest and never political interest paramount. Swayamsevak shall, sheerly out of compulsion and strictly temporarily, cross in to political arena when politicians commit acts which are seriously against the national interest. This sacrosanct border-line for the organisation must be understood by the Swayamsewaks and the others too.

Today we have to take note of another point. Our position in the current world scenario is not very optimistic. This scenario has affected us to some extent. It is time we diagnosed this affliction. The Hindu Way, which we all desire, will establish itself when its time is due, but how's and whys of our immediate concerns and problems have to be diagnosed.

A lot of people are of the opinion that the British Parliamentary Democratic System that we borrowed,

works well there, and can we not even copy it well? They superficially look for answers while wondering why, if we have the same system, similar adult suffrage, women suffrage, similar parliamentary system, similar parliamentary procedure, do we not get similar results? Even the British do not claim their Parliamentary system as the best, they consider their system has least drawbacks among the world's systems.

Have we ever pondered over the history of their system? What transpired there in the past seven hundred years? What were the consequences? What historical course of events of made us bring that system here? Throughout English history the Sovereign remained supreme. Some pressure groups then formed out of politically more aware sections of the society. King Henry -I brought what we may call pre-parliamentary system in the 11th century. In 1215 AD king George signed the **Magna Carta**. The strength of members in the King's Council was raised. Later some vested interests were given representation on the King's Council which later came to be called the Parliament. Even then the king still reigned supreme and the Parliament was only in advisory capacity.

Their Parliament took around four centuries to attain today's stature. The revolution in 1688 is called Glorious Revolution of Britain. It is only after that the Parliament became the Supreme Authority and the Sovereign took a

second place. The Parliament that came into existence in 13th century gained supremacy only after four centuries.

Even then, the voting privilege remained in few hands. In 1832 a Bill passed allowing Tenants and house-owners to vote along with those already holders of this franchise. This Bill made 10% of the British population eligible for voting and that too after hard struggle. It was only in 1929 that adult suffrage along with women was decreed after series of small improvements in 1867, 1882, 1918, and 1928.

Magna Carta was signed in 1215 and Parliament gave women franchise to vote only in 1929, were rather displeased to find that Annasaheb's office was situated in a ramshackle portion of a town temple. To their consternation, they understood that contributions to the tune of Rs. 30,000 to Rs. 40,000 were being collected for temple repair. Over a cup of tea with Annasaheb they expressed their reservation that the money being spent on the temple could have built two school class-room rather than perpetuating superstitions by re-building that temple.

Annasaheb did not take the bait, but after tea, invited them to go and look around the fruit orchards. They were all praise for the orchard and were impressed with efforts made towards greeted yield.

Annasaheb asked them if they noticed anything special. He added further, "Normally, an orchard with so many fruits would demand a guard. This town in the past was not short of its share of thieves and burglars. Now, what

do you think of the fact, that this orchard is safely sporting all these fruits without a guard, indicative of? You were asking me why I would rather spend money on them better, into saints.

I have often repeated that Dr. Hedgewar was born a patriot. He always participated enthusiastically in political as well as other national service. He had studied philosophies from various nations world over. But he was always restless. Mr. Trailokyanath Chakravarty, a senior leader of the Bengal revolutionary Anusheelan Samitee (Bengali Radical Analysis Committee) issued this statement upon Dr. Hedgewar's death-- "Our Dr. Keshavrao founded the RSS in 1925. But then he had been thinking about this for a long while before. Whenever he was in Bengal over some revolution related activity, he used to see me. He would say. "Maharaj-ji, we, like other self-respecting nations are fighting for our freedom which is certainly just and fitting. No nation can remain in abject slavery. We must strive for our national pride and national self-esteem. I do not agree with our Political Freedom will solve all problems automatically and we will be on our path to progress after liberation. I personally do not hold any hopes till the last citizen in this country is enthused with Nationalist spirit and such enthusiasm are well-organised".

Sheer political power does not guarantee national progress, therefore, while identifying the goal, Mr. Trailokyanath Chkravarty Compared Dr. Hedgewar's vision to a bifocal lens, lower part of which allows you to

observe nearer objects better while the upper part affords you far seeing vision. Dr. Hedgewar saw freedom through the lower lens and saw this Nation at the pinnacle of glory it in the upper. Dr. Hedgewar often remarked,

"I do not agree with perception of these leaders that it will all be smooth sailing simply by obtaining self-rule. This country has no future till patriotism is imbibed in every citizen of this Nation".

It is a fact that our country is largely illiterate. There is an important difference between the historical courses of events in England and ours, Even more dismore than 700 years later. The rights that they enjoy today are after a struggle for seven hundred years. They have won them through their historical course of events. Such a struggle makes the populace understand the value of the right to vote, it teaches balance between right and wrong, it creates a positive psyche. This political maturity that they have now is hard won from a seven-hundred-year long struggle.

Now about our course of events in case of suffrage right from the beginning. At the same time, we need to compare differences in historical courses of events in case of Britain and our country. Right in the British rule we started symbolic Parliament in 1920. Our population was then 24 crores, but only 17,000 were allotted the franchise for Council of States voting and 9,09,000 for national Legislative Council. In total, that meant only 9,26,000 out

of 24 crores were eligible to vote; and a just 30 years after that all the adults were eligible voters!

We see in many a case, a self-made man buys a house, a car and his child is born with a silver spoon in his mouth. The father who has earned his wealth, spends responsibly. His child does not have such scruples; he has not had to work hard for his money. We seem to suffer similar difference in approach to democracy, between Britain and us, theirs was hard won; ours not.

That is not saying that adult franchise is wrong. What we must aim for is to make it more effective. The masses need to be educated that has to be imparted keeping current political and national interest at the forefront all times. Our political leaders find such so educated masses will question their leadership itself.

All that is carried out under the guise of mass education is simply party propaganda. Nothing but self-glorification and condemnation of others. This education is imparted to masses. Lessons we have learnt over the years as a Nation and as individuals will also play a part in such education. Current education shows no such promise.

You all have heard of Annasaheb Hazare and his excellent project at Ralegaon Siddhi. Some of the Pune "Progressives" had gone there for a visit. They were happy with the project but would rather spend money on temple repair, than additional classrooms. I do understand importance of education and we spare no effort in providing that, but literacy alone does not guarantee

morality. Some time ago the killers from the infamous Joshi Abhyankar murders in Pune, not only had completed their school studies but some of them were college graduates, they came from well-to-do families. They committed about eight or ten murders in all, and all for fun! They were not concerned with Sin and Rectitude (पाप-पुण्य), they had nothing to do with moral virtue and they were not even cursorily introduced to the cultural ethos of our country. These youths had their inspiration from TV and the movies. Today's school children and college graduates can commit such vile acts against our town, which was eacher infamous for thieves and burglars, today does not need to guard its fruit orchards. This antithesis is the difference. This is the impact of the Temple Institution.

We do not know if the 'Progressives' were impressed but the fact remains that one has to appreciate the difference between education and cultural ethos. The fact of the matter is with current scholastic and collegian education and media like TV we will not stop producing more Michael Jacksons and Killers. On the other hand, infusion of our cultural ethos may turn even the thieves and robbers into good citizens and even Historical courses of events in England and ours. Even more disappointing is the fact that even the educated citizens and the leadership, although highly educated, they are ill-cultured. Till the time they are infused with our own ethos, till the time they are infused with thoughts of sacrifice in National cause, till the time all citizenry is infused with such conviction and

till they are united towards the great cause, it is risky to entrust the future of our Nation into the hands of such leadership. State power may run the country smoothly only when there is sufficient and constant pressure exerted by the people power. Only when such a sovereign power holds the Divine law supreme, sovereign law will be able to function purposefully.

Country will not prosper and everything will not run smoothly after achieving our freedom if the population culturally dormant and lacking favour or in other words if RSS is ineffective! I can assure you that the sovereign power needs people-power to keep close check, the sovereign power is like an elephant, and only if the people-power mahoot (माहुत) guides this elephant on to the right path, then the Nation will prosper. We need scores of selfless and righteous leaders but they are scarce.

Today, people are not strongly united. Value based leadership has not materialised. There are leaders who are individually selfless and righteous but there is no collective moral leadership. Since we lack alert people-power we need Sangh-strength to take its place and grow so strong that party in power, be they anybody even Naxalites, should feel it essential to consult RSS must acquire such strength that the political leadership when thinking on any event must feel crucial need to consult Hedgewar Bhawan at Nagpur. Otherwise the Nation will not attain the desired pinnacle of glory.

We need to keep trying various alternatives till then. We have discussed BJP threadbare, as it is the only political party for Hindutva. We do recognise that they did quit the Janata Party gracefully for the sake of Swaysynsewaks. We have good mutual communications between us. So far so good. But it would not suffice. Discussions take place on the ways that BJP will be more successful, unfortunately the discussions that we hear veer towards ways of gaining BJP will be more successful, unfortunately the discussions that we hear veer towards ways of gaining BJP win more votes, how will BJP win power... Is that the only aim? Is that enough?

To come to power, to maintain power, to ultimately take this Nation to the pinnacle of glory and to meet our goals and ideals need abilities. We do not hear any discussions on how to achieve these abilities. They seem to be under the illusion that all problems will solve themselves when they are in power.

Debates over how to achieve these abilities in BJP must take place when there is a 'talk of power at the earliest'. "They say, 'Power at any cost! We are essential including 'politicking'".

In fact, power is not the ultimate aim and end achieved without scruples does not justify the means. Our publicity chief Mr. Baburao Vaidya has written two articles in the Tarun Bharat (21.7.96 and 28.7.96) which will give direction to all the discussions. They are essential reading for everyone. If cultural and ethical strength is the might

of the Sangh, as I said earlier, even a Naxalite Prime Minister will not only have to visit the Hedgewar Bhavan; and if the Sangh does not have those strengths, even if a person like me gets to be corrupted in no time. If we want our country strong and glorious, the Sangh must grow in strength!

We need to support the BJP, Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh and the ABVP. We must support every organisation where RSS Swayamsevakas are working. But we must understand clearly the different functions and targets of the Sangh and of each of these organisations.

Let me explain with a little but apt example. We must bandage a boil on our body otherwise it will get to be painful. If a particular boil spreads, instead of getting cured as expected, and spreads further even after bandaging, it needs fresh thinking. If bandaging does not seem to be curing it, a proper diagnosis has to be made, and the root cause must be cured. Our various organisations are fulfilling a very valuable function. They are as important as that bandaging. Just as curing the root cause takes time, to experience the effects of the functioning of the Sangh takes time. Only cure is good solid organisations of all the Hindus and making them culturally and ethically strong. That is the only way RSS will gain strength, focal point of all this being the Shakha (branch network) in the Sangh prescribed manner.

Shakha! Shakha! Shakha! The only focus of every thought and action should be Shakha and Shakha alone! The Shakha is the only route to rebuilding of this Nation.

Dr. Ambedkar professed, "Constitution alone or Law by itself will not guarantee smooth governance. We need Constitutional Morality for the true Rule of the Constitution. Morality, honest to this Constitution is the main-stay and it stands on the plinth of absolute moral character which can be built up only through Cultural ethos. (संस्कार).

What, then is the root function? And how do we get there? It is Shakha (Branch network), Rappot, Ethos, Swayamsewak (the volunteer) and Organisation! We are not going to find the way even if we spend a lifetime bandaging. We need to cure the root cause!!
