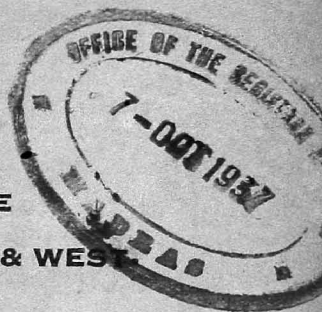


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INDIA A GREAT NATION.

OPINION OF SOME
GREAT MEN OF THE EAST & WEST



By

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1936.



PRINTED BY

HAKKEEM PRESS, THENI.

1937.



INDIA A GREAT NATION.

Gentlemen & Friends,

Although this article is not aimed at to describe in detail the greatness of India, I beg to express a few points that strike me as a lay man. As such I request the learned public to forgive me for the mistakes, if any, noticed in this article.

As regards the greatness of India H.H. Sri Sankaracharya of Puri says:—

“ If a comparative study of all the empires of the ancient world is made, we find that all the great empires like the Greek, the Roman, the Syrian, the Assyrian, the Persian, the Egyptian, the Babylonian etc., etc., have not only gone out of existence, but have been wiped off the map. None of the above mentioned glorious empires survives today. It is India alone that survives and that is due to her greatness. We have read in Indian histories that when people were following their ancient customs of Dharma they were more prosperous, contented and useful to humanity. Even Lord Curzon while Viceroy of India said in his address at the great Delhi Durbar in 1901 “Powerful empires existed and flourished here (in India) while Englishmen were still wandering in the woods and while the British

colonies were still a wilderness and jungle." India has left a deeper mark upon the history, the Philosophy and religion of mankind, than any other terrestrial unit in the Universe".

RELIGION.

Besides the reality of the supremacy of Sanathana Dharma there is also reason and there are facts to prove that Sanathana Dharma (which India possesses) is the most ancient religion and began from the very beginning of the world, whereas we find that the other religions such as Zoroastrianism, Jainism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Shintoism and Mohamadanism, have appeared in the 10th, 5th, 6th, 5th century B. C, and 7th and 6th century A. D. respectively. H. H. Sri Sankaracharya of Puri clearly makes the world understand and says:—

" Sanathana Dharma has made all necessary provisions for and everything needed by mankind here as well as hereafter. It is in absolute harmony with and contained within itself all the truths of Theology, of Philosophy (including Psychology, Metaphysics, Ethics and Logic) of politics of economics, and even of what the western world proudly speaks of as the modern positive sciences. The greatest philosophical minds of the western world from Plato of ancient Greece down to Carlyle, Emerson, Immanuel Kant, Hegel and other great giants of modern philosophy have all been constrained to pay their hearty tribute to India's idealistic philosophy

in spite of their natural temperamental predilection in favour of western realism".

"He pays the highest possible tribute to Sanathana Dharma in the following speech, "At present we are concerned merely with the propounding of the undeniable fact that not only according to our beliefs and according to our experience, but also in the considered opinion and estimation of the greatest souls, not merely of the eastern but even of the western world in the region of Metaphysics, Psychology and so forth, today, Sanathana Dharma alone gives us that system of thought, that mode of life, that frame of mind, that outlook, that ideal and those details of policy and procedure in all things, which are calculated to further the highest interests of humanity Prof. Mackenzie of university college Cardiff has declared openly that in his considered opinion there is no system of thought superior or even equal to Sanathana Dharma".

The scriptures of Sanathana Dharma contain Arthasastra (Politics & economics) Jyothisha (astronomy) Ayurveda, Gandharva veda (music) Vyakarana (grammar) Chandos Nirukta (dictionary) Tharkasastra or Smiriti and Sthapathya veda (science of architecture) etc,. Philosophy has been cardled in science in the west while in India it has been nurtured on religious experience As Prof. Mackenzie says, religion in India has been rather the soul in which philosophy has grown than the seed from which it has germinated As regards the other

religions of the world we can say that besides their very recent birth, they are not eternal. They do not recognise the merit in every religion but try to bring people into their own particular grooves by coercion and other methods. Sanathana Dharma is the only religion for the enquirer while the other religions are for the blind believers and accepters. Hence Sanathana Dharma is the only religion that can satisfy the human intellect and can bring peace to the human soul. Regarding the heavenly voice (அசுரீரி வாக்) mentioned in our puranas, some westerners say it is superstition etc, and never believe, the same whereas it is not understood how the same westerners now in this century write that "something in the nature of a radio "miracle" has occurred in Aylmer (in Canada) for a new cooking stove when started for that purpose suddenly began to talk etc." and also say similar instances had also been noticed.

CULTURE.

The natural intellectual ability and moral character of the Indian people are equal to or rather higher than the western nations. The Indian culture is far older and in some respects higher than that of any other western nation. It is India that has revolutionised Mathematics long ago and contributed to the world, its important decimal system which is the very foundation of all modern systems of mathematics and sciences. India has been for thousands of years pre-eminently the intellectual and spiritual teacher of Asia. India was self ruling and one of the most influential and illustrious nations of the world. India has produced great religions, great

philosophical systems, great literature, great arts, great men in every department of life, great rulers, great poets, great warriors, ship builders, great skilled artisans and craftsmen of every kind, industrial organizers, leaders, etc.. The able administration, the flourishing condition in trade and commerce, and the high degree of excellence of arts and crafts, during the glorious age of Chandragupta and Asoka, are even now highly spoken of.

Vyasabharatham containing a king's duties, law and order, legal matters etc, Manu's penal code, Agasthiyar's Aharathi and Ayurvedic sciences etc, poet Kalidasa's works like Meghasandeham Kumarasambhavam, Sakuntala etc. Alwar's Prabandhams and moral teachings, Thiruvyanasambandar's work, Pattinathar's philosophic poems, Sankaracharya's Bashyams on vedanta sutras, and works of swami Vivekananda etc, bear testimony to the excellence of Indian culture and philosophy.

Recently India has produced great scientists like Bose, Acharya P. C. Ray, Sir C. V. Raman, mathematicians like Ramanujam etc, poets like Tagore, Sarojini and Iqbal, spiritual men like H. H. Sri Sankaracharya of Puri mutt etc, Maharishi Devendranath Tagore Ramana Maharishi, leaders like Tilak, Gandhi, Gokhale, C. R. Das, Motilal Nehru, Pal, Patel brothers, and statesman like Madhava Row, Seshayya Sastriyar etc.,

Among the literates many graduates of even today commit to memory the great poems of even western poets like Shakespeare, Milton, Goldsmith, and Tagore of east etc, by heart. Even at present many Indian boys who have

never been to school are capable of repeating many passages from the Ramayana, Mahabaratha, Vedas, koran etc., We have in India the sanskrit language which is the finest and most wonderful form of language ever fashioned in the world. Lord Curzon who would be the last man to praise the Indians, after retirement became Lord President of council and Secretary of state for foreign affairs in the British cabinet, and his sense of justice compelled him to declare, in a speech in 1906 at London:

“The Indians have a facility in language incomparably greater than that possessed so far as I know, by any branch of the Anglo-Saxon race I know, Indian speakers in India who could address meetings with an ability which might well be the envy of many members of Parliament.”

In an another memorable speech addressed to Englishmen Welshmen Scotamen and Irishmen he said:-

“If you want careers for your sons and daughters send them to India etc,.....”

In a speech made in the British house of commons during the Indian debate Mr Ben Spoor one of England's best informed men, says about India:—

“At the present moment, over 20,000 political prisoners are in jail in India. They include men of high character, men whose character has never been questioned, they include men of profound culture- of a culture- I submit probably greatly in excess of that of the average member of this house of commons”.

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Prof. Edward E. Ross (University of Wisconsin) says:—

“The intelligence of Indians is greater than that of the American”.

Late Prof Metchnikof of Russia, a brilliant scientist of modern Europe and a great scientific authority says:—

“Modern science especially modern medical science is in its infancy, so much so that it will be no exaggeration to say that some people are cured by medicine, many without it and most in spite of it”.

Whereas we have the supreme Ayurveda from time immemorial. Even as regards surgery which the westerners are proud of at present, it was being practised by Indians thousands of years before the Christian era. To cite one instance, it was said that king Boja when suffering from a curious headache, sage Agasthiar who attended him removed the skull and a disciple of the sage cleverly removed a frog from the brain and thus cured the disease.

Prof. De Morgan a great mathematician has shown that mathematical science like arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, astronomy etc, come to Europe from India through Arabia, Egypt and Greece. And in a book of Prof. Carter, in Egypt passages are found showing that electrical apparatus was first introduced into Egypt by two Brahmins from India.

The theory of Karma is embodied in our puranas and stories whereas it is not so in the western literature.

As Mr. M. V. Sambamorthy-Iyer says, it is a noteworthy feature of our puranas that we cannot find in any of the myriads of stories, even one instance, of the failure of eternal justice and the victory of the vicious over the virtuous. If at all there is any, it is only momentary and transient allowing vice to play itself out, so that the mace of divine retribution may fall terribly and with deadly effect/ It appears that the appreciation of the moderner for the tragedies in western literature like Macbeth Othello and Hamlet, is altogether meaningless, since Shakespeare, does not explain why it should have been, that innocent persons should be slaughtered and divine justice denied and that the conclusion of the plays should lead nowhere but to a sea of despondency, pessimism and cynicism. A hindu purana would have depicted the previous lives of Macbeth, Hamlet and Othello and of all the murdered in these plays, so as to account with the theory of Karma, the deplorable fate that descends and blinds their sanity and eggs them on to slaughter, as is found in the beautiful historical play of "Kovilan" and the entrancing lyrical Epic of "Kadambari".

ARTS AND CRAFTS.

India has created and today possesses the finest architecture in the world for example, Taj Mahal, Pearl Mosque, Kutub minor the temples at Abu, rock cut temples at Ellora and Ajanta and temples at Madura and Srirangam etc. the doom of speech at Bijapur. Further to demonstrate the excellence of architecture which no other nation has hither to reached there is the art of astronomical engineering which we see in the temples of Vidya Sankar in Sringeri. It is unique in the world.

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Our ancient kings have maintained many Chithra-salas and innumerable private picture galleries in olden days (which can prove the arts beauty.) For instance there is the portrait of Leelavathy (wife of Boja) written by an artist. It was said that the intelligence of the artist was so great that he wrote the picture of queen Boja even though he was allowed to see only her left hand. The artistic talent of Raja Ravivarma's paintings and pictures which we see today is so great that no other foreigners except one or two can compete with him.

As Mr. Sivaramamorthy says, we have the very early Indian theory of the six essential factors of painting quoted by Jayamangala in his commentary on the Kamasuthra of Vatsyayana, Viz variety of form, proportion emotion, lustre or irredeseence, truth of portrayal etc. etc. We need not go with it in detail now. Further he says that,

"If India was great in anything it was in rich decorative design. The last lingering vestige of this rich art is vested in women folk of India. Our silpa texts have laid down special rules for house decorations and in temples we now see the fine Makara, Naga etc, decorations in stone and wood giving imposing appearance. In household vessels and in the jewels worn by our women the carvings are wonderfully done".

Verily European art seems to be the creation of yesterday when compared with that of Asia especially India. Besides the frescoes at Ajanta for example the age of the so called "old masters" of Europe fades into

insignificance as the latest Ajanta paintings were completed hundreds of years before the 14th century when Flemish and Italian artists commenced to paint. It is also evident that for 10 years or more Major Gill worked at Ajanta and copied the paintings on behalf of the directors of the East India company. The early Ajanta excavations date from the 2nd century B. C. Paintings attained their high watermark of excellence in cave 18 known as the cave of the Zodiac by reason of a circular picture at the left end of the veranda in Ajanta. Thus the art beauty of the Brahminical, Buddhist and Mohamadan ages is even now an eye witness. Further arts and crafts reached a high excellence during the rule of the Mauryas.

CIVILIZATION.

The population of the Indian nation is more than one sixth of the world's entire population. When all the so called civilised European nations were barbarous, living in huts and eating uncooked food, India was trading with the then civilised world and every nation has accepted it. India is a highly civilised and the oldest nation in the world with a high culture much earlier than any nation of the west and possesses a civilisation far older and higher than any western nation.

Even in the 17th century the catholics were deprived of voting by the fanatic protestants and by about the same period in India the most progressive and great Mogal emperor Akbar set a glorious example in religious toleration and freedom of conscience towards people of all religions. Religious intolerance prevailed in the Christian countries until modern times. K. F. Nariman

points out that the people of Ireland had to leave their home for good to escape religious and comunal persecution and explains by records that in one district alone about 1400 families mostly peasants were expelled and driven out of their hearths and homes by a protestant overlord because they belonged to the opposite creed, viz catholicism. Such expulsion was very common and some of them took refuge in other districts but most of them migrated to other lands eg. American colonies. Regarding the comunal clashes in the so called civilised England etc, there were very many for example, Lord Deputy Chichester who has in a boasting manner described how he established the foundation for protestant Ulster writes as follows:—

“I brushed all along sparing none, and killed people regardless of age or sex. Besides many were burnt to death, and we killed man, woman, child, horse, beast, and whatever we could find.”

The atrocities at Belfast municipal corporation clearly showed their disunity. The fate of the marble bust of Gladstone (at Tyrone castle) which was tarred every year reveals the comunal harmony that existed. In the case of India even though there would have been one or two Rajas who committed idiotic acts, we cannot find any instance like the above malicious and wicked eccentricity of this lunatic Irish protestant lord as K. F. Nariman says. The cause of french revolution itself reveals to us the bad govt & chaotic condition of France then. As a matter of fact even the present system of western democracy is not working efficiently & is unsuitable to the

majority of population. We point out below one example of the Hindu mind of even today towards the other Religionists, ie, when a new church was proposed to be built in a village in Kristna Dt., besides many Hindu donors the chief donor was a Hindu (Mr. Venkatasubba Row) Such is the tolerance and magnanimity of Indians. In India we find in the native states ruled by Hindu or Mohamadan rulers, the majority of the population belongs to the other community holding high positions etc, We can say without mentioning numerous instances that in the so called western christian countries the religious zeal and fanaticism is worse than in India. Further K. F. Nariman points out that:—

“ Irish history and chronicles of events refer to hanging, suspending one arm, burning of the victim, house burning with the inmates inside and whole sale massacre of people including women and children etc ”

Even two decades ago the law and order was worst in Ireland. The Spanish inquisition is an indelible blemish on the history of Europe and reached its zenith in the 18th century and the comunist murders of today in Spain are sufficient for our purpose now

The considered opinion of the westerners themselves is that Europe boasts of its superiority over India in civilisation and especially in science. But to what use does it put its civilisation and particularly its science? The scientists of Europe and America are actually devoting more of their time money and efforts to creating

instruments for killing people than to any other single object. Who invented all the immensely effective and fast growing engines of modern war to make it more and more dangerous and pitiless, instruments for the wholesale slaughter of human beings, improved rifles and revolvers, murderous machine guns, cannons to shoot tens of miles deadly dynamites and still more deadly T. N. Thorrible bombs, armed war tanks and battle ships which are monsters of destruction submarines which turn the oceans into hells; poison gas and germs of the most horrible diseases, to be vained from aeroplanes to destroy whole cities, men, women, and children, every living thing; who invented these fiendish agencies for wholesale human slaughter? It is not the people of India, but it is the civilised people of Europe and America.

Further consider the latest ie 1918 German invention of cannon which can shoot a distance of nearly 70 miles, and 1935 invention of aerial bomb that can destroy thousands of people in a minute even at a distance of hundreds of miles, and the French guns which can fire 450 rounds a minute etc, Can all these be called civilisation? No.

The Indians are for the protection of the human race and are not in the habit of robbing another nation's wealth, They condemn the factories of the God of death (which manufacture crueld fire arms and war like weapons) like the Vicars Ltd, Imperial chemical industries, swallowing several crores of rupees in great Britain and Sheeder Gresso in Paris, Skoda in Jokoslovakiya, Krap factory in Germany etc,. These are not the signs of civilisation and do not exist for the well being of the

human race. The records of the last 20 years make as Trust that every nation is preparing for war and strengthening the military system (including aerial fighting) not with good intention but with avarice of annexing other lands and dominating other nations with pride. These are the emblems of the so called western civilisation. It is India that dislikes such a false and adharmic civilisation. Italy's mission in Abyssinia of today is said to be a civilising mission and it is needless to say that the same is the most uncivilised, brutal, and inhuman one which Vained bombs from air destroying innocent women, children, hospitals, churches etc. What effective steps did the other nations take to prevent the slaughter.

/ In ancient India there were no worst diseases and in fact as Mr. Frederic Tice M. D. Says, Syphilis the worst of venereal diseases does not seem to be really Indian at all, but foreign, brought into the land by foreigners. / So the western shiboleth about the march of civilisation is absurd and it is all a miserable perversion of the truth. There is no doubt that India having in possession a high civilisation unlike the modern miserable and inhuman western civilisation, can rule herself or say can rule even the whole world in a right manner. The essential elemental of civilisation should not mean material prosperity alone consequent on the acquisition of wealth and property, power of domination over others and freedom of action like the beasts of forests, good drink etc. The tendency of Indian civilisation is to elevate the moral being, and that of the western civilisation is to propagate immorality. The latter is godless and the former is based on a belief in God. The well known

philologist and research scholar, Prof. Maxmuller and Dr. Macdowell have pointed out how aryan civilization was the oldest one in the history of the world as testified by the beautiful hymns of the holy Rig veda for an understanding of which several illustrious scholars of Germany and other countries of the west had laboured and done considerable research work etc.

We Indians should not be intoxicated by the so-called modern civilization. Some of us may think that Railways, doctors, hospitals and lawyers etc are most useful to humanity and are really essentials.

Though we presume some benefits are being derived there by, we dont get real happiness and enjoyment which are needed to mankind for real up lift and prosperity. Today it is due to excess of machinary and many factories U. S. A. has over a crore of unemployed, is closing hundreds of factories and besides thousands are hunger stricken, while tons of food steuff are being destroyed. Hence merely increasing the number of factories alone will not serve humanity better. Ghandi's considered opinion regarding civilisation, machinery, doctors, and lawyers, is as follows

"Civilization does not depend on Railways and telegraphs or law courts and hospitals or medicine and machinery. On the other hand these are shackles which bind the human spirit to slavery and reduce man to a degree of impotence which his maker did not contemplate... Women who should be the queen of households wander in the streets or slave away in factories. For

the sake of a pittance $\frac{1}{2}$ a million women in England alone are labouring under trying circumstances in factories or similar institutions. Hospitals are institutions for propagating sins, men take less care of their bodies and immorality increases. European doctors are the worst of all. For the sake of a mistaken care of the human body they kill annually thousands of animals. They practise vivisection. No religion sanctions this. These doctors violate our religious instinct. Most of their medical preparations contain either animal fat or intoxicating liquors, both of which are tabooed by Hindus and Mohamadans To study European medicine is to deepen our slavery. We become doctors so that we may obtain honours and riches. I have endeavoured to show that there is real service of humanity in the profession and that it is injurious to mankind. Doctors make a show of their knowledge and charge exorbitant fees.....etc."

On the other hand the Indian Ayurvedic system of treatment is more suitable and effective in the long run, cheap and easily accessible to one and all, besides being harmless and our Vaidias do not rob people. As regards machinery and lawyers Ghandi says:—

"It was not that we did not know how to invent machinery, but our forefathers knew that if we set our hearts after such things we would become slaves and lose our moral fibre. They therefore after due deliberation decided that we should only do what we could with our hands and feet."

- They saw that our real happiness and health consisted in a proper use of our hands and feet.
- They further reasoned that large cities were a
- snare and a useless encumbrance and that people
- would not be happy in them, that there would be
- gangs of thieves and robbers prostitution and
- vice flourishing in them and that poor men would
- be robbed by rich men. They were therefore
- satisfied with small Villages"

And as regards lawyers and railways Gandhi's opinion is as we also know that railways and lawyers are also partly responsible for the impoverishment of the country. There are as many and even more disadvantages arising from Railways. The lawyers instead of repressing quarrels create them to enrich themselves. They will on the other hand be glad when people have disputes and some lawyers are even manufacturing disputes so as to live a luxurious life. It is due to lawyers that some families are ruined besides causing enmity between brothers and relatives. Where as in India of the pre British period the disputes were being settled and compromised by the best brains of the villages.

• Of course we are not against the introduction of Railways and western system of medical treatment. The real difficulty arises due to the capitalistic mentality of railways, the partial and different kinds of medical treatment (according to the rich and the poor) by doctors of western thoughts with the habits of plundering the wealth to lead a luxurious life etc.

As regards machinery we had smaller types or rather handi crafts best suitable to the poor people giving no anxiety for food & clothing

If India be an independent country, naturally the mentality of Indians will be to have such an amount of machinery that is required for the nation and which other nations demand from her.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, AND JUSTICE, ETC.

Indian history bears out that the Indian people had unique social customs and manners, and are very highly spoken off especially regarding the purity of women. It is a known fact that the moral character and purity of the ancient and the modern Indian women, are exceptionally high except perhaps a few instances of those who had fondly adopted the western manners and customs. Where as if we turn to the west and take statistics we come to know that sex diseases, sex crimes and prostitution are rampant even today. In the west a beauty competition is being held every year and in it many women take part and thereby become immoral besides causing crimes like murders for love affairs. For the first time in India a beauty competition took place in 1934 and the following is a press report about it:—

“Though a beauty competition had been arranged for on the ladies day (during the Dasara at Mysore) the modesty of the Mysore ladies prevailed and nobody took part in the competition. It speaks highly of the Mysore ladies who though far advanced in education, decided not to exhibit themselves in public and allow their beauty to be judged. the spirit of India is still in them.”

As regards the ideals of the marriage there is a higher ideal of unity of interest between husband and wife in the east especially in India than in the west. In the west the highest ideal for women is that of equality with men; but in the east the highest ideal is that complete unity of interest of husband and wife and the wife forms a part and parcel of the husband who could not therefore afford to neglect or ill treat his wife who is his very self. In India there is not the unhealthy spirit of competition or rivalry between husband and wife in the name of equality and liberty but there is a healthy co-operation between husband and wife who form compliment of each other and who there by conduce to the highest good of each other as well as society. We regard our women as queen of the household and they possess a high education needed for them by being modest and following the dharma. It is best known to one and all that by making girls graduates in the so called modern arts or law etc, they are not benefited materially for they are unfit for the professions which are the sole monopoly of men. We find statistics that every year about 15000 women are filing divorce cases in Great Britain and 3500 husbands prefer jail life to bearing the hardships of paying maintenance. India is not in that wretched position and if India had followed this kind of education and civilisation where would India be now? Can we be able to talk of the greatness of India? Sir Lepel Griffins who was a member of the Indian Civil Service has said

“The women of the east are not so much in evidence as those of Europe, but their influence within...

The legitimate circle of their domestic relation is quite as great their manners are as good and their morality is as high"

Mr. Natesa Iyer writes in this connection that:—

"Our civilisation does not allow women to appear half naked in public places, to drive yelling motor cars, make joyous rides in monoplanes, paint the face with powder and lips with the lipstick, to wear bobbed hair and high healed shoes, or to figure as hollywood and London film stars, and talented opera girls, musicians and dancers. But the real culture for women of our ancient days and even of today, is that which will make her a wise and stern mother, a loyal devoted thrifty and helping wife, a loving sister and an affectionate and good daughter, which nature has ordained every women to be"

And Sir Thomas Munro a former administrater in India has said:—(as a gentleman points out)

"If above all a scrupulous respect and delicacy towards the female sex are among the points that are the signs of civilisation then the Hindus are not inferior to the nations of Europe and if civilisation is to become an article of trade between the two countries. I am convinced that England will gain by the imported cargo."

The women of the west, for example taking U. S. A. —the so called modern civilised country, we quote below the

authentic information obtained by the present Hon. member K. L. Gouba from U. S. A. ie.

- “At least 45% of the high school girls have had intercourse with men before they leave school and in the years following the proportion is much higher. In America, therefore, it is practically impossible to marry a girl who has not already conferred her favours on other men. For instance out of 495 girls of high school age though not all of them were in a high school who admitted to me that they had sex experiences with boys, only about 25 became pregnant. The others avoided pregnancy, some by luck, others because they had a knowledge of more or less effective contraceptive methods etc. Judge Lindsay paints a terrible picture of Denver where chastity is almost unknown. Denver is just a normal town and there are many Denvers in the states.”

K. L. Gouba points out from statistics obtained from reliable sources that over nine million young men and women are directly involved in illicit intercourse. 15 lakhs of illegitimate children are put away every year in unmarried unions. There are at least 35 millions such unions in the United States on the ratio that 5 million acts of prostitution are committed every day in U. S. and that 98% of prostitutes are venentially affected. The average for every woman engaged in prostitution is about 10 to 15 patrons per working day and there are about 3,00000 prostitutes in U. S. A.

If we turn to England we understand that more than 50000 girls disappear every year there, as per Scotland yard's list of missing persons.

Socially we Indians have stood for all that is noble in ethics from ancient days. Where as the western terrible social evils of even the 19th century were cruelty and terror unequalled in world's history and for some crimes of a trivial nature the punishment was death. The cruel slave trade carried on by England and U. S. A. the horrors connected with the tower of London and the bastille of Paris etc. are still green in our mind. An article written by Dr. Sudhindra Bose under date Jan 1935 from U. S. A. is as follows:—

"A murder occurs in U. S. A. every 40 mts of the day and night. Every 3 years nearly as many Americans are murdered as there were American soldiers killed in action in the world war 37,541. 1,40,000 Americans are in prison the very day. 4,00,000 Americans are regularly engaged in the business of crime. Briefly put the U. S. today leads all other countries of the world in the extent and lawlessness of its underworld".

3000 kidnappings, 50,000 robberies, 5000 cases of arson 1,00,000 assaults and 4000 burglaries occur annually in U. S. A.

In ancient days there were village panchayats in India and all the disputes of a village were settled there alone by the best brains of the village with the least delay and with least expenses, and the ancient kings took personal interest especially in meeting out justice to the

people and there were no such crimes as in the present days under foreign rule. In ancient days the judgements were delivered quickly taking into account the peoples customs and manners. There existed in every village magisterial powers, police etc, etc., The note worthy feature was even-handed justice to one and all. To quote out of thousands, the judgement delivered by Manucholan who ordered his son to be put to death for an offence of causing death to an animal was one. It is only due to a foreign rule, that Indians are put to much difficulties in settling their disputes. If India rules herself she can adopt her own best methods as above stated.

In civilised America there still exists the butchery of negroes by Americans without being tried in a law court, and that has been tolerated by the officials. For example we are informed that 94 negroes were hunted and put to death between the years 1930 and 1934.

If we take another civilised nation of Europe for example Italy it has even as late as 1932 treated political prisoners inhumanly and barbourously, by beating them with hammers and allowing scorpions to sting them in stomachs, simultaneously boasting that they have framed laws, against butchery and barbarous treatment. But in India there would not be even a single instance of injustice and torture of a similar kind.

Further an individual's greatness is not known by his colour but by his character, sacrifice and religion, and a nation should not be greedy of another nation's wealth.

It is only India that was not greedy of territorial acquisition and of material wealth. Such is the greatness of India, Mr. N. B. Iyer of Melamangalam writes in this connection:—

“Excepting India, history proves that there is no other nation in the world, which did not try for territorial acquisition and material wealth. India produced only Arjunas but never Clives. We never wanted kingdoms for our own selfish enjoyments, or else the whole world would have been ours. In short India has never been a conquering nation in the modern political sense. Our kshatria dharma ordains that on no account there should be fought a battle either for territorial acquisition or for personal gains. Hence if any ruler misrules the people he is punished through a war, and afterwards if he makes an apology he is again made to rule the kingdom. Can any other nation in the world boast of such selfless warriors?”

To prove the above fact, Mexican history itself reveals that, the land was conquered by Arjuna and it was restored to them. The westerners especially Britishers are even now celebrating the birth days of (wretched and unworthy people) like Lord Warren Hastings Clive etc. Was it not proved that Warren Hastings was a corrupt Viceroy who has committed atrocities and done injustice to a nation? On the other hand Indians are celebrating the birth days of people not of the stamp of Clive, Warren

Hastings, and Dyer, but of Gokale, Tilak, Vivekanandha, Ramakrishna Paramahansa, saint Thyagaiya, Sivaji, etc, whose charter and noble deeds are highly spoken of all over the world.

The teachings of the religions of India are against the evil habits of drink and drugs and they are to totally condemned by Hinduism. The striking features of an Indian village are the sobriety and contenment of the people, their simple hospitality and deep religious spirit. In the villages of India drunkenness was almost unknown except where they have been contaminated by the west. It is only after the Britishers landed in India this drink evil caught the crazy minded followers of the west. Before the British came, the Indians considered Opium consumption as a vice and India has not produced opium in large quantities. In olden days the death rate of infants was nil due to opium usage, but the present death rate of infants in cities like Bombay, Calcutta etc, due to opium consumption is increasing every year. Therefore we can root out this evil habit practised today if we Indians rule our country.

NATURAL WEALTH, TRADE & COMMERCE.

India is a vast land almost a continent rich in resources of every kind, agricultural products, forests, fisheries and minese etc, and has the natural facility for producing grains and pulses, food stuffs and provisions including milk, butter, ghee etc. In one word she has the facility to produce what is wanted for the nation or rather even in excess quantity. This is not found in the case of other nations. It is the wealth that attracted the

Britishers to plunder India and this they have been continuing for the past two centuries. There fore, is it not evident that India has been the wealthiest country till now, and can it not regain its glorious condition if the exploitation of India under the British rule comes to an end ?

Regarding the industrial progress and international commerce prior to the British period the westerners themselves say that India was a far greater industrial and manufacturing nation than the rest of the world (nearly every kind of creation of man's brain and hand existed anywhere and prized either for its utility, or beauty had long long been produced in India,) her textile goods, the fine products of her looms in cotton wool linen and silk, were famous all over the civilised world, and India had produced exquisite, jewellery, precious stones cut in every lovely form, pottery, fine works in metals etc. Therefore India became rich only on account of her above mentioned manufactures and the manufactures of cotton goods silk goods, Dacca muslins Brocades of Ahmedabad porcelains lapidary etc. H. H. Sri Sankaracharya of Puri in this connection says:—

“Books of industrial and commercial history of the ancient western world bear testimony of a most surpraising and at the same time gratifying charactor to the effect that in ancient times, Indian ships laden with Indian merchandise, carried on enormous trade with the western most known corners of the western world ie, of Europe and Africa of those days. And we are told that

in Spain, in Morocco, and in Cardova in particular (ie, in the farthest westward end of the earth as known to the western world during those days) the public appreciation of and demand for Indian clothing, spices and other commodities were so great and universal that local merchants had to palm off all their local materials as Indian; otherwise there was no possibility of a sale therefor. Thus the indigenous manufactures were destined to remain indigent manufactures for ever. It was a well understood rule that whenever and wherever Indian material was available the buyers of the west invariably bought Indian material. Indian clothing was very highly honoured in the courts of England during the time of Queen Anne".

DEFENCE PROBLEMS.

India is so located that there is probably not another country in the world better situated for natural security, for safety from invasion or aggression by other nations. In times of need there are scores of millions of people who can face war, people several times greater in number than Great Britain, Germany, or Japan or Russia. The fighting race in India consists of the famous Sikhs, Rajaputs, Gurkas etc, in millions.

The conquests of Asoka, Chandragupta, Akbar, and Sivaji etc, bear testimony to the martial characteristics of the people. So far as the real side of the picture of the famous great Indian mutiny is concerned it alone will

do to prove the efficiency of the Indian soldiers in times of war or disturbance. We have not forgotten the last great war of 1914 in Europe. Indians fought very bravely in it and almost all the great nations like U. S. A. have a great regard for the bravery and fighting power of the Indians. It was the Indians that saved Paris, and a foreign nation, in the battle of Marne. And above all we can say that the Britishers have conquered India not with the help of British soldiers but with the help of Indian soldiers. One of the highly cultured men has in a speech said:—

“And now comes fresh evidence from a most undreamt of quarter, namely from the ancient books of history contained in the ancient aboriginal language of the Mexican and containing description of the great Indian warrior Arjuna who went and conquered Mexico. They mention that he was a great warrior and express their enormous surprise at his military prowess, and warlike exploits, because say they, single handed or rather double handed (because he was a
ie, could discharge arrows simultaneously with both hands) defeated thousands of them. And it is interesting to note that their references to him include a description of this unique peculiarity of Arjuna's that he was a savyasachi (exactly as the Mahabaratha and other historical works

- of India have actually described him, This recent discovery not merely throws light upon
- the historical character of our Ithihasas and
- puranas but also shows beyond possibility of
- doubt that even from the purely political point of view".

It was India that was first able to check and turn back Alexander the great in his world conquest. The Greek writers of those days have appreciated the Indians and we are informed that Flavins Arrian, the greek historian of the campaigns of Alexander, wrote of the Hindus as "They are remarkably brave, and superior in war to all Asiatics. They are remarkable for integrity; they are so reasonable as seldom to have recourse to law suits and so honest as neither to require locks for their doors nor writings to bind their agreements. They are in the highest degree truthful". We can conclude by saying that Indians are not weeklings and inferiors to others but capable of defending their country in times of need, and it is needless to give more historical evidence as it is a known fact that Indians are warlike, besides being honest in wars. As Dr. Tagore says:—

"There was a time when Asia saved the world from barbarism. Then came a night he did not know how; when they were roused from their stupor by the knockings at the gate they were not prepared to receive Europe; for she came not to

give of her best or to seek the best in them, but to exploit them for the sake of material gain. Europe overcame Asia not through the latter's admiration of her message of freedom, of her services to humanity but through her overpowering greed and the racial pride that humiliated her. Asia did not meet Europe on equal terms".

VELLANUR,
1936.

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