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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA

Friday, May 29, 1964/Jyaishta 8, 1886
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCE—

DEMISE OF SHRI JAWAHARLAL
NEHRU

The Prime Minister, Minister of External Affairs, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Nanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, we meet today under the shadow of a grievous and overwhelming loss. An unparalleled tragedy has overtaken us. The whole nation is in a state of shock and everywhere men, women and children are numb with a deep sense of personal loss. I confess, I find it difficult to speak on this occasion.

Parliament has met to-day to pay its homage to the memory of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. He had returned in time to be present at the opening of Parliament on Wednesday, but this was not to be. No words of ours can express our grief at the passing away of our beloved leader. The whole world shares this grief and at this moment the words of sympathy which have come to us from lands far and near are a real solace. Jawaharlal Nehru belonged to all mankind as much as to India. Through India he served humanity, and to him India's problems and aspirations were part of mankind's struggle for freedom, for peace, for social justice, for human values and the dignity of man.

He held aloft the torch of freedom given to him by the Father of the Nation. He gave new content and

direction to the national purpose, pursuing through every storm and stress the truth which Gandhiji had taught, that right means shall triumph to the very end.

No words of appreciation, no tribute that we can pay can do justice to Jawaharlalji, to all that he was, to all that he did during his lifetime. He filled the whole horizon of India for so many years, that to be without him is to feel a sense of bewilderment. For him, national freedom and independence were a fragment of a larger vision for the future, and so, this great leader of our days of the freedom struggle, became the great architect of Free India. Through seventeen years of utterly dedicated and selfless service, so unique in every way, Jawaharlal Nehru created the New India. He moulded India's thoughts and aspirations and symbolised the heart of the country, the heart of the millions of India. In his person, he embodied their ideals, their yearnings and struggles. He gave them faith and strength and lighted up new paths. He has left us a noble heritage, the like of which has no parallel. He spent himself in the service of India and of all humanity, and his life itself holds a precious and enduring message for many a generation to come. I hope and pray that we of this generation, to whom he gave all that was humanly possible, will prove worthy of the heritage and the ideals he has bequeathed to us.

He has left us at a critical juncture in the life of the nation and of the world. The great principles for which he stood and the policies based on them in the national and international sphere will continue to be our sheet anchor. We find ourselves face to face with great responsibilities. The people, I am sure, will rise to

[Shri Nanda]

the occasion. This Parliament embodies the will and the mind of the people of India. I hope we shall all bend our energies to the building up of India, to the establishment of a just social order and to the consolidation of our freedom and democracy and, thus, fulfil the goals laid for us in our Constitution. This will be our best tribute to the memory of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

In his view of democracy and the functioning of Parliamentary institutions, he placed the greatest stress on the nation moving forward as a whole and, therefore, on securing a national consensus. But as he himself said, if the masses of the Indian people were to be able to lead a good life, this was intimately tied up with, and dependent on, the maintenance of world peace. Peace was, therefore, of paramount importance and an essential pre-requisite for national progress. The existence of less developed and poverty-stricken nations or peoples was itself an abiding danger to the maintenance of peace. Thus, his own labours in India were part of the larger aim of building up a liberated humanity. This common thread gave unity to all his work and thinking.

The homage we pay today is, for us all, an act of rededication to the service of our people and to the ideals for which Jawaharlalji laboured with singular devotion through all his life.

India is proud of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, India is grateful to him. We shall strive to fulfil his mission.

May I, Sir, add one word more. At this moment our hearts go out in sympathy and affection for Shrimati Indira Gandhi. For her devotion and loving service to her father the nation is in debt to her. We share her sorrow intensely and wish her strength and courage. We extend our heartfelt sympathies to all members of the bereaved family.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Communist Party in Parliament and on my own behalf, I join in trying to express our sorrow which is truly inexpressible at the passing away of Jawaharlal Nehru.

Death, the necessary end, will come when it will come. Yet the void that has descended upon us will never be filled. This Parliament and our country is a bleak and desolate place today without Jawaharlalji and the loss of so many of us who loved him dearly cannot bear speaking about. I fear it will take some time to collect ourselves.

I need not refer to the story of his life. His magnificent role in the fight for our freedom when he was the idol of India's youth, his unique grip on world perspectives which made him realise the link between our fight and the fight of oppressed peoples in Asia, Africa and elsewhere, his dedication to secularism and democracy and people's well-being which drew him strongly towards socialism, economic planning and world peace;—all this and more, is a matter of record, an open book which was his life, and in which, whatever our differences, was in India have all gloried.

A very human and fallible but invariably noble and incessantly active life has come to an end. He was too often lonely but no man in politics has perhaps ever been so beloved. India had clasped him to her heart where his place for all time is secure.

There have been and are formidable figures in world politics, most of them perhaps big in bulk rather than in essence. Jawaharlal was different and of a finer grain. He had charity in the sense in which St. Paul spoke about it to the Corinthians. Even more, he had the quality of compassion which the Buddha had taught us and these are qualities which we hardly see in any other personality that we can think of.

He was the architect of free India, if any single man can be called so. He achieved many positive things for his country and for the world. But his tenure of unchallenged power has not been a mere success story. He leaves crucial tasks and difficult problems unsolved. But he has fought, as no man has fought in his time, for sensibility and neighbourliness at home and abroad, qualities without which our distracted world cannot go ahead, qualities which I hope we shall always cherish.

Who but a Jawaharlal could say incredible things with a beautiful simplicity that none else can match? Who but he could say, as he did some time back, regarding the twin evils of poverty and war, that the tears of mankind today could fill the seven oceans? Who but Jawaharlal carried in his mind and heart that sense of ache which made him, as a true Indian should be, the world's kin—*Vasudhaiva kutumbakam*.

Work was the only worship he cared for, and he has died, as he wished to, in harness, unto the last. He has gone, but life flows on, and his spirit calls on us to shed mere sentiment and sloth. Let all people of good-will join to give effect to the best in his legacy—the struggle for a new India, rid of the blight of poverty and superstition and the vulgarising taint of Big Money, happy in unity and in the pride of achievement, and active in the tasks of world peace and well-being.

Let us pledge ourselves that if revivalism and reaction try to exploit his no longer being at the helm, we shall spare no effort to defeat them.

His successors have a difficult task, for his sceptre was the bow of Ulysses which could not be drawn by any weaker hand. We shall all help if Shri Nanda and his colleagues implement the policies for which Jawaharlalji had an unceasing passion—advance towards socialism, dynamic

non-alignment, friendship with countries that have suffered like ourselves so that India could find her rightful place in a world without war.

We have lost a gem of a man, a man who never stooped to pettiness, who brought more than the breath of poetry and of historic vision to the tasks of politics, a lover of children, of animals, of light and laughter, a gentle Colossus who no longer strides the Indian scene.

Jawaharlalji is dead, but he will live as long as our India endures.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): This is an occasion when we can only remember all that was good in our beloved friend, all that is great, that has come from him. Some of us have had the privilege of working with him for the past forty years, if not more.

On behalf of Rajaji, his seniormost colleague and comrade, the Swatantra Party and myself, I wish to place on record not only our appreciation of the great leader but also our sense of loss on this occasion to our country and to the world.

Jawaharlalji had come into a great heritage left to him by Mahatma Gandhi. He proved an able and sincere follower and colleague of Mahatma Gandhi, worked with him and led us all in our struggle against world imperialism and helped to make India's struggle for freedom a spearhead of the world struggle for freedom all over. To him was given the opportunity to see, help, assist, guide and ultimately achieve, in co-operation with all other national leaders, the end of one phase of imperialism and the advent of freedom of all peoples all over the world. In that success India gloried, and India felt grateful to this great man who used all his influence and power as the Prime Minister of India in achieving that happy consummation.

On the world front, he worked for peace according to his lights, and for

[Shri Ranga]

a long time, most of us agreed with him and helped him too, and he achieved great results. The United Nations would bear testimony to the contributions that he has made in that direction.

When it came to our own country, it was his task to decide whether he should try to mould our people and their lives and help them in their march towards happiness and prosperity through democracy or dictatorship. He chose the democratic means, and he remained consistently loyal to democratic processes. Many other people, great in themselves and in their countries, could not maintain these democratic processes in their own countries, but he continued during all this long period of 17 years of his Prime Ministership and one year more of power, to remain a democrat, to help us develop democratic processes in this country, and it will be certainly a privilege for many of my friends on that side who have been his colleagues on the Treasury Benches. He has made it an equally great privilege if I may say so, for us who are of the Opposition to remain in the Opposition Benches and play our role, criticising, appreciating, condemning, applauding various things that he and his Government made themselves responsible for during all these years.

For quite a long time it would be difficult for us to reconcile ourselves to the fact that he would not be there. For more than 17 years, whenever we thought of Parliament, we thought of him being seated there. Even during these tortuous weeks of his illness, when it was not possible for him to come to the seat there, we thought we had him there, we could have him, whenever he felt like it, certainly he would come back to us. Now, that hope is gone, and our presence here almost becomes a burden, a painful experience. Indeed, I had begun to feel like that even while he was there, trying his best, in his own character-

istically heroic manner, to rise with all the strength that he could command and give us the answers that we could ask for. I will not say we were always charitable to him, sufficiently, adequately; yet, we used to admire that man rising in that place, with all that weakness pulling him down; he had the strength, greatness of spirit keeping him up there. It is indeed a great privilege and experience for us to have heard him for nearly one hour during the last marathon speech that he had made in this House.

Therefore, many things we have to say, we had to say in criticism of his policies; they are there on record. He had many things to say about us and to us also; they are also on record. These records could not have been there and such records would not be there in a large part of the world where there is no democracy; they could not have been there if it had not been for his loyalty to the cause of democracy. That stands to his eternal credit.

This is an occasion when I do not know—I appreciate the charity with which you were good enough to give us yesterday's recess—whether we can really discharge our duties as effectively as we should, with all the fervour and verve associated with parliamentary life and whether we should continue this session. We were to have met in August and we could have met in August but fate willed it that he should insist that we should meet now and we met just on the day when he was to go away from us all, to witness that unhappy event. Therefore, I would like my colleagues to consider whether we should not, whether the interim Government and the new Government to come in, the new leadership to come in, whether we should not, all of us, give ourselves some time before we come back to our labours in the House in the manner in which Jawaharlalji would have liked us to continue. Thank you.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): Mr. Speaker, on this occasion, on behalf of the Praja Socialist Party and myself, to pay our respectful homage to the great leader, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and express our profound sense of grief. With his demise, a natural leader is gone. He was not only the Leader of the House; he was a leader of millions of people all over the world. He was essentially a man of peace, a great living democrat. Sir, he was not only the architect of Indian freedom but he brought into the freedom struggle a wider vision and a broad outlook and always worked for an international brotherhood. He was greatly responsible in this country for bringing this new outlook and even after freedom when he became the leader of the Government it was his earnest endeavour to see that these policies guide our action and all activities of Government as such. His great personality brought a new dignity and respect for the entire nation. We no more find him in this House or in this world to lead the entire humanity for the great purpose and objective he had in view. He had great respect for parliamentary institutions and being a believer in democracy he has established certain traditions which I feel will guide our future greatly for the betterment of the country as a whole. We have often, in the opposition, quarrelled with him; we had disagreed with some of his policies pursued as leader of the Government. At the same time there was something unexpressed—I cannot express that feeling—there was something common, something of a belonging, as if we are one. That sense of belonging was something which was very necessary at a period when the entire democratic life of our country was growing and it will be difficult for anybody to give this country that sense of belonging which can make the entire nation work together for upholding the great ideals which he cherished.

At this hour, a great democratic nation whose foundation has been laid by him has to live and prosper and it

is for all of us here to work together to uphold the ideals of democracy, secularism, nationalism and socialism to which this country is pledged. I join with the thousands of our countrymen again in expressing our profound sense of grief at his death at this hour.

श्री बृजराज सिंह (बरेली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, संसद में मैं भारतीय जनसंघ दल की ओर से और अपनी ओर से मैं अपने नेता की दिवंगत आत्मा के लिए श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ ।

भारत जैसे महान् देश के एक महान् सुपुत्र को हम ने खोया है । ऐसी शोक सन्तप्त अवस्था में किन्तु शब्दों में मैं उन्हें श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करूँ मैं समझ नहीं पाता । जवाहरलाल जी की गोद में खेलने का सौभाग्य मुझे प्राप्त हुआ है और इस आत्मीयता के कारण तो मेरी वेदना की सीमा ही नहीं है ।

तीनमूर्ति के निकट जिनका निवास लगभग १७ वर्ष से रहा है उन जवाहरलाल ने भारत की महान् त्रिमूर्ति “लाल, बाल, पाल” से देशभक्ति की महान् प्रेरणा पाई थी और महात्मा जी जैसे युग युगपुरुष से मार्गदर्शन पाया था । इस कारण भारत माता का सम्पूर्ण मानचित्र उनके आँखों के सामने सदा ही रहता था ।

यद्यपि वे उत्तर प्रदेश के निवासी थे तब भी उनकी दृष्टि बचपन से ही विशाल बन गई थी जिसके कारण वे भारतीयता के सच्चे प्रतीक बन गये थे । आज सम्पूर्ण भारतवर्ष उन को श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित कर रहा है और ऐसा अनुभव कर रहा है जैसे हमारे परिवार का एक व्यक्ति गुजर गया है । यह भावना ही उन की सच्ची भारतीयता की सबूत है जिसे हम को आदर्श के रूप में सामने रखना होगा । भारत माता के वे पुजारी थे । जनता को भारत माता की जय बोलने के लिए प्रेरणा देते थे और यह कहते

[श्री बृजराज सिंह]

समय भारतमाता का अर्थ क्या है यह समझाने की चेष्टा करते थे। भारत की ४८ करोड़ जनता ही उन के लिए भारतमाता थी और वे कहते थे कि भारत के सामने ४८ करोड़ समस्याएँ हैं याने इन सब लोगों की समस्या तथा उनका विकास यही उन के स्वप्न में प्रमुख स्थान पाता था।

भारतमाता के लिये तथा भारतीय जनता के लिये जो "जवाहर" थे वे विश्व के लिये भी एक महान् शान्ति दूत (एपोस्टल श्रीक पीस) थे। गत दो दिनों में संसार के कोने कोने से जो श्रद्धांजलि उन्हें अर्पित हो रही है वह इस की परिचायक है। चाहे जो कीमत देना पड़े संसार की शान्ति बनाये रखना चाहिये। ऐसा महान् आदर्श उन के सम्मुख था। भारतीय सभ्यता तथा परम्परा के अमिट संस्कार जिन भारत के सुपुत्रों को प्राप्त हुए हैं केवल वे ही इतनी शान्तिप्रियता का आदर्श संसार के सम्मुख रख सकते हैं। संसार की राजनीति में तटस्थता तथा पंचशील का नारा उन्होंने बुलन्द किया जोकि भारतीय परम्परा के कारण ही निर्माण हो सकता है। आज उन्हें श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करते समय हम यह दृढ़ संकल्प करें कि भारतमाता की सच्ची सेवा तथा संसार में शान्ति की स्थापना करनी है तो हमें भारत की एकता को अधिक से अधिक सुदृढ़ करना होगा। यही सच्ची श्रद्धांजलि होगी। लाल, बाल, पाल से प्रेरणा प्राप्त जनतंत्रीय जवाहरलाल की आत्मा इस सदन को, देश को तथा संसार को स्थायी प्रेरणा दे, ऐसी प्रार्थना मैं करता हूँ।

Shri Karni Singhji (Bikaner): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Independent Parliamentary Group, we wish to associate ourselves with the profound sense of grief felt by our countrymen and wish to pay our homage to our most beloved departed Prime Minister. The passing away of our beloved leader at this stage brings to an end a

great epoch in the history of our country. This was the time when we needed a man like Pandit Nehru more than ever before. But we must bow to the will of God. Our beloved Prime Minister, along with Gandhiji, was a leading star in the freedom struggle, and it is because of men like Panditji that we today can breathe the free air as free men of a free country. It is difficult to reconcile to the fact that so strong, so virile, so great a man as the late Prime Minister could have departed from the world and left us alone today.

The seething mass of our country paid a fitting homage to our late leader yesterday. And it is a matter of pride to us to know that people all around the world have paid great homage to our late Prime Minister. There is no doubt that the late Prime Minister was a world leader. The fact that he was a world leader is a matter of pride to every single Indian citizen. But it is also a matter of pride to the rest of the world that India was able to give a Nehru to them.

Amongst the many qualities that the late Prime Minister had, what to my mind is standing out as something extraordinary about him and which placed him head and shoulders above the rest of his countrymen was the fact that he had a firm belief in the philosophy of equality between all human beings which he respected all through his life. He further believed strongly in fairplay and justice and he displayed a burning spirit of accommodation. He believed in great humility and kindness. His extreme sense of sacrifice and firm belief in truth and honesty is indeed something to be emulated by every other man in the world. But he also taught us that trust begets trust, that love begets love. Above all, he taught us the philosophy of secularism which we need so badly in our country today.

Prime Minister Nehru was a prince amongst men. He was a big man in every sense of the term. Undoubtedly, his physical body lived in a palatial residence but his mind and thought lived in the hovels of our poor people. One of the greatest tasks before our late Prime Minister was the eradication of poverty. He lived and died to give the people of our country a fuller and better life. This task has been left incomplete and it is now up to us to face the challenge, work unitedly and try to solve the problem of poverty and give our people a happier life.

For us, Members of Parliament, it is indeed a matter of great honour that we can claim to say that we sat in this House as Members of Parliament when that greatest of great men, Prime Minister Nehru, was the leader of this House. And I have no doubt that this sense of pride is not only shared by us but will be shared by our children and our children's children in the years to come.

Today we need unity more than we ever did before. Our late Prime Minister during the seventeen years that he was Prime Minister and forty odd years that he spent as a public man taught us how to unite; he taught us how to face the most difficult situations if we stand united as one country. I appeal to all my friends that this is the time when we can unite and show the spirit of our departed leader that we can rise to the occasion and that we can carry out the work left undone by him.

India is a great country with great traditions. India gave to the world Buddha and Gandhiji. Today we affectionately give to the world our beloved Prime Minister Nehru. Prime Ministers come and go but the like of Jawaharlal may take centuries to see again. It is because of this that we Indians can rightly feel proud of the fact that Jawaharlal was an Indian citizen. I pray to the Almighty that

He may rest the soul of our departed leader in peace.

श्री याज्ञिक (अहमदाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आज सारा भारत और सारी दुनिया पंडित जी के अवनसान से शोकाधीन हो गई है। परसों पंडित जी का अवनसान होने के बाद आकाश भी मेघाच्छादित हो गया और बारिश होने लगी। ऐसा लगा कि आकाश से अश्रु गिर रहे हैं। कल जब राजघाट की ओर पंडित जी की शमशान-यात्रा शुरू होने लगी, तो हम ने देखा कि धरती भी कांप रही है।

पंडित जी का स्थूल देह भस्मीभूत हो गया है, मगर उनकी अमर आत्मा हम को प्रेरणा दे रही है। मैं तो पंडित जी को १९२० से पहचानता था, जब कि आज़ादी की लड़ाई चल रही थी। जब हमारे देश में होम रूल की लड़ाई शुरू हुई, तो वह उस में भी शामिल थे। वह गांधी जी की सत्याग्रह की लड़ाई में भी शामिल थे और फिर असहकार की जो लड़ाई चली, अपने पिता के साथ वह उस में भी शामिल थे। लेकिन हम ने ख़ास तौर से देखा कि जब उत्तर प्रदेश में किसानों की लड़ाई चली, तो उस में पंडित जी पहले से शामिल रहे। पंडित जी का दिल हमेशा किसानों और देहातों की तरफ़ लगा रहा। देहातों में जो गरीबी है, पंडित जी हमेशा उस से तकलीफ़ पाते रहे और हमेशा यह सोचते रहे कि इस गरीबी का निवारण किस तरह से करना है।

यद्यपि आज पंडित जी नहीं हैं, मगर उनकी प्रेरणा से हम को किसानों और देहातों की सेवा करनी है और देहातों में व्याप्त गरीबी और असमानता के दूषणों का निवारण करना है।

जब कामदारों का संगठन शुरू हुआ, तो पंडित जी उस में भी पहले से शामिल रहे। वह ज़िन्दगी-भर कामदारों की तरक्की, प्रगति के लिए उनकी आज़ादी के लिए और

[श्री याज्ञिक]

उनकी तन्त्रवाहों, और हावल्त्र, स्लम्ब्र जैसे उन के मकानों को सुधारने के लिए हमेशा कष्ट उठाते रहे ।

पंडित जी ने कराची की कांग्रेस में भारत के स्वराज्य का चित्र हमारे सामने रखा और उस में किसान, मजदूर और भारत की दरिद्र जनता की प्रगति का आदर्श हमारे सामने रखा ।

आज़ादी के बाद पंडित जी ने हमारे सामने जो योजनाएँ रखीं, सारे देश में उन को पूरा करने में सहकार दिया है और पार्लियामेंट ने भी उनको मंजूर किया है । पंडित जी का स्वप्न था कि लोकशाही और समाजवाद के सिद्धान्त पर चल कर देश की प्रगति के कार्य को आगे बढ़ाना चाहिए ।

शान्ति और तटस्थता के लिए पंडित जी के दिल में हमेशा बहुत दिलचस्पी थी । मुझे याद आता है कि जब चीन का हमला हुआ, तो कई लोगों के दिल चिन्तातुर हो गये और वे सोचने लगे कि इस या उस गुट में हम शामिल हो जायें । मगर पंडित जी ने बड़ी हिम्मत के साथ तटस्थता के सिद्धान्त का मक्का समर्थन किया । पंडित जी पर कई तरफ़ से बड़ा दबाव डाला गया, मगर वह तटस्थता की नीति पर हमेशा दृढ़ रहे । पंडित जी के दिल में यह था कि पाकिस्तान के साथ कुछ समझौता हो जाये तो अच्छा है । काश्मीर के बारे में उन्होंने घोषणा कर दी थी कि हिन्दुस्तान के साथ उसका सम्बन्ध हमेशा बना रहेगा । फिर भी पंडित जी शान्ति के अवतार थे । पंडित जी सोचते थे कि किसी भी तरह से और किसी भी हालत में अपना जो पड़ोसी है, उसके साथ कुछ अच्छे सम्बन्ध और मैत्री के सम्बन्ध हो जायें तो अच्छा होगा । इसके लिये वह हमेशा सोचते रहे ।

पंडित जी अपनी बीमारी के सामने भी लड़ते रहे । कई कष्ट उन्होंने उठाये । उससे उनका अवसान समीप आ गया । पंडित जी ने आराम कभी नहीं किया । आराम हराम है, यह उनका सूत्र था । हमें उन से प्रेरणा लेनी है । उन्होंने जो दीपक जलाया है और उसका जो प्रकाश है, जो सिद्धान्त है, जिनको उन्होंने हमारे देश के सामने रखा है, उनको हमें अपने सामने रखते हुए आगे बढ़ना है । ऐसा होगा, ऐसी हमें उम्मीद करनी चाहिये । यही हमारी प्रार्थना है ।

डा० गोविन्द दास (जबलपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यहां पंडित जी के चरणों में श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करने को, इस सदन के सब से पुराने सदस्य की हैसियत से, खड़ा हुआ हूँ ।

मैंने इस सदन में पूज्य मालवीय जी को देखा है, पूज्य लाला लाजपत राय जी को देखा है, कायदे आज्ञम जिन्ना साहब को देखा है । लेकिन दो महान् व्यक्तियों को जिन दो भिन्न रूपों में मैंने यहां देखा है उस प्रकार किसी को नहीं देखा, वे हैं—पंडित मोतीलाल जी नेहरू और पंडित जवाहरलाल जी नेहरू । बड़े पंडित जी, मोतीलाल जी, उधर बैठते थे उस समय जब स्वराज्य की लड़ाई चल रही थी और उस समय की सरकार को स्वराज्य पार्टी और कांग्रेस पार्टी के सब से बड़े नेता के रूप में उखाड़ने की कोशिश किया करते थे । स्वराज्य मिलने के बाद उन्हीं के पुत्र पंडित जवाहरलाल जी नेहरू हमारी सरकार चलाने को इस देश के प्रधान मंत्री के रूप में इधर बैठने लगे ।

मैं इतिहास का एक छोटा सा विद्यार्थी हूँ । शायद ऐसी घटना इस देश में नहीं, संसार के किसी देश में नहीं हुई । संसार के इतिहास ने बड़े बड़े महापुरुषों को देखा है । गौतम बुद्ध और अशोक से महात्मा गांधी और जवाहरलाल जी की तुलना की जा

सकती है। लेकिन गौतम बुद्ध और अशोक के समय के बीच में कोई ढाई सौ वर्ष बीत गये थे। गांधी जी के बाद तुरन्त अशोक के सदृश व्यक्ति का होना यह इतिहास की एक अद्वितीय घटना है।

कुछ लोग विचारक होते हैं, कुछ लोग कर्मठ होते हैं। पंडितजी में दोनों चीजें मौजूद थीं। कुछ लोग राजनीतिज्ञ होते हैं, कुछ लोग साहित्यिक होते हैं। पंडितजी में ये भी दोनों चीजें मौजूद थीं। इस प्रकार का सम्मिलन एक ही व्यक्ति में हो, यह एक अनोखी घटना है।

व्यक्तिगत रूप से भी वह कितने महान थे, मुझे उसके स्वयं के अनेको अनुभव हैं। ४४ वर्ष से मेरा नेहरू कुटुम्ब से सम्बन्ध रहा है। जब कभी पंडित जी प्रधान मंत्री होने के पूर्व जबलपुर पधारते थे तो हमारे यहां ही ठहरते थे। मोतीलाल जी भी हमारे यहां ही ठहरते थे। उस समय की अनेक घटनायें मुझे स्मरण आती हैं। मैं कांग्रेस दल का एक सदस्य हूँ। व्यक्तिगत रूप से वह कितने उदार थे, इसका गत वर्ष मुझे सब से बड़ा प्रमाण तब मिला जब यहां अंग्रेजी को अनिश्चित काल तक चलाने का एक विधेयक आया। सचेतक नोटिस था। मैंने उसकी अवहेलना की। उसके विरुद्ध वोट देने के बाद जब मैंने पंडित जी को इस बात के लिए धन्यवाद दिया कि मेरे साथ बड़ी उदारता का व्यवहार किया गया है तो हंस कर कहते हैं "और हम क्या कर सकते थे तुम्हारे साथ"। यह एक महानता है।

कितनी बातें उन्हें व्यक्तिगत छोटी-छोटी याद रहती थीं उसका एक ही छोटा सा उदाहरण दे कर और एक छोटी सी घटना सुना कर मैं बैठ जाऊंगा। मैं एक छोटा सा साहित्यकार भी हूँ। कुछ नाटक लिखता हूँ। कभी कभी अपने एकांकी नाटक उनको

सुनाया करता था। मैंने एक नाटक लिखा था जिसका नाम था "उठाओ, खाओ खाना" वुफें डिनर के विरोध में। जब मैं बद्दीनाथ में था तो पंडित जी जबलपुर पधारते। हमारे घर गये। उनको निमंत्रण था। जब मैं लौट कर उनसे मिला तब कहते हैं, तुम्हारे घर में भी मुझे, उठाओ, खाओ, खाना दिया गया था। आप देखें कि इस तरह की छोटी से छोटी बातों में भी वे कितने महान थे। आज देश ने उनको खोया है। केवल हमारे देश ने खोया है यही शोचनीय बात नहीं है, संसार की आज जो स्थिति है, संसार ने उनको खोया है। भविष्य हमारा आज हमें अंधकारमय दिखता है। लेकिन मैं तो बड़ा आशावादी व्यक्ति हूँ। मुझे इस बात का विश्वास है कि उनके पंचशील के सिद्धान्तों, उनके दूसरे सिद्धान्तों से हम को और संसार को जो प्रेरणा मिलेगी उससे संसार सुरक्षित रह सकेगा।

मैं अन्त में उनके चरणों में अपनी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ।

श्री राम सेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, स्वर्गीय श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संग्राम के एक महान सेनानी थे। उनके निधन से सारा राष्ट्र शोक संतप्त है। हम सब दुखी हैं। हम चाहते थे कि वह अधिक दिन जियें। हमारा दुर्भाग्य है कि वह नहीं रहे।

देश महत्वपूर्ण समस्याओं से घिरा है। ऐसे समय में उनका निधन बहुत दुःखदायी है। मैं अपने और अपने दल की ओर से स्वर्गीय प्रधान मंत्री को भावमयी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ और उनके दुखी परिवार विशेषतः श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी के प्रति संवेदना प्रकट करता हूँ।

Shri Manoharan (Madras South): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the DMK Party in Parliament and my beloved leader Shri C. N. Annadurai,

[Shri Manoharan]

I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the hon. Prime Minister.

Nehru is dead; long live Nehru!

श्री मौर्य (अर्लागढ़) : आदरणीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, आज जबकि भारत संकट की वड़ियों से गुजर रहा है, जबकि मित्र शत्रु का रूप धारण कर बैठे हैं, ठाक उसी समय राष्ट्र के प्राण, शोषितों के सहायक, शान्ति के द्योतक हमारी आंखों से ओझल हो गये हैं। आदरणीय पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू के नेतृत्व की आवश्यकता जितनी आज के दिन भारत को है, सम्भवतः उनकी इतनी आवश्यकता कभी नहीं रही है। आदरणीय पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू जी के निधन से एक महान मानव संसार की राजनीति के मंच से ओझल हो गया है। उनके निधन से भारत की जान ही निकल गई है।

महामान्य पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू भारत के प्रधान मंत्री ही नहीं थे बल्कि राष्ट्र के सबमान्य नेता थे। यह मिसाल संसार के लोकतंत्रीय राष्ट्रों में अछूती ही है।

पंडित जी ने परतंत्र भारत में अंग्रेजी साम्राज्य के विरुद्ध एक सबल विद्रोही के रूप में विद्रोह किया और राष्ट्र को परतंत्रता की जकड़न से स्वतंत्र कराया। स्वतंत्र भारत का अनयक चालक के रूप में संचालन किया। उनके निःस्वार्थ तथा निष्पक्ष कार्यों ने उनको सदैव-सदैव के लिए अजर अमर बना दिया है। उनके बताये हुए मार्ग पर चल कर ही हम उनके प्रति सच्ची श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित कर सकते हैं। उनका प्रण था समाजवादी समाज की रचना, उनका निश्चय था लोकशाही। तथागत गौतम बुद्ध के पश्चात् २५०० वर्ष के लम्बे अर्से के बाद, भारत में एक ऐसा महान मानव पैदा हुआ जिसको संसार के सभी लोग जानते थे। आज पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू के बिना देश के शोषित मितवहीन हो गये हैं।

इन शब्दों के साथ भारतीय रिपब्लिकन पार्टी को और म मैं हादिक श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करते हुए पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू के चरणों में प्रणाम करता हूँ।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (बिजनौर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, एक युग पुरुष ने हमारे देश में जन्म लिया और वह हमारा है यह अभिमान करने का सौभाग्य हमें प्राप्त कराया, इस के लिये भारतवासी उसके सदा ऋणी रहेंगे परन्तु वास्तव में वह संसार का था और संसार में एकता, मैत्री, सद्भाव और शान्ति बनाये रखने के लिये ही वह तपस्वी जीवन भर अथक प्रयास करता रहा। श्री नेहरू के उठ जाने से रह रह कर अन्दर बैठा हुआ कोई कह रहा है—आज हमारे सर से कोई मजबूत हाथ उठ गया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप स्वयं भी अनुभव करते होंगे, आप के दायें हाथ पर कोने में जो वह संसद् का प्रवेश द्वार है उससे वह जन नायक जब हाथ में फाइल दबाये हुए इस भव्य भवन में प्रवेश करता था और श्रद्धा के साथ आप को माथा झुका कर अपने स्थान पर बैठता था तो न जाने क्यों सदन में स्वतः ही एक अजीब गम्भीरता छा जाती थी और लगता था हाउस अब भर गया है। संसद् के पिछले अधिवेशन के अंतिम दिन ६ मई को जब इसी द्वार से वह जा रहे थे तब किस को पता था आज बस अपने इस संसदीय परिवार से वह आखिरी अलविदा कह रहे हैं, और अब कभी जीवन में वह इस द्वार से प्रवेश नहीं करेंगे। काश ! कहीं यह सब उसी दिन पता लग गया होता तो जीवन में जहाँ कई बार उन के साथ देश की प्रगति के समाचार सुन कर हंसे थे और दुःख के समाचार सुन कर लड़े और झगड़े थे उन सब की सम्मिलित क्षमा उन से मांग लेते। पर फिर ध्यान आता है, जनतंत्रीय परम्पराओं में विश्वास रखने वाला वह

महान् नेता तो स्वस्थ और जानदार विरोध का स्वागत ही केवल नहीं करता था उसे आवश्यक भी समझता था । उसके पास बालकों जैसा स्वच्छ हृदय था, जवानों जैसा दिल था और बूढ़ों जैसा गम्भीर मस्तिष्क था । संसद् का २७ मई से बुलाया गया यह विशेष अधिवेशन भी अब तो ऐसा लग रहा है शायद इसी लिये बुलाया गया था कि महाप्रयाण के समय उनका संसदीय परिवार पूरा उनके साथ जरूर रहे ।

मैं अपनी और अपने निर्दलीय दल के सहयोगी सदस्यों की ओर से जहाँ उनकी दिवंगत आत्मा की सद्गति के लिये और उनके शोक सतप्त परिवार को धैर्य प्रदान करने के लिये परमात्मा से प्रार्थना करता हूँ वहाँ प्रभु से यह भी प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इस महान् विपत्ति की घड़ियों में उस राष्ट्र-नायक के बताये हुए रास्ते पर चल कर हमारे देशवासियों में और देश के कर्णधारों में एकता और सद्भाव बनाये रखने की शक्ति प्रदान करें ।

इन शब्दों के साथ एक बार फिर उस महान् विभूति को अपनी भावभरी श्रद्धांजलि प्रस्तुत करते हुए यजुर्वेद के शब्दों में कहता हूँ ।

श्रीश्च ऋतो स्मर
क्लीवे स्मर
कृत स्मर

Shri Muhammad Ismail (Manjori): Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first, great and historic Prime Minister of independent India, the foremost fighter in the battle of freedom led by Mahatma Gandhi, and an able and illustrious statesman, thinker and writer of worldfame, has passed away. He was the brightest star in Mahatma-ji's galaxy of shining stars, and with his versatile genius and many uncommon qualities of head and heart, he devoted his entire life to the service of the motherland, first to the all-

absorbing and glorious fight for her freedom under Mahatma-ji's unique leadership, and then to the consolidation and strengthening of that freedom after it was achieved.

Panditji's rare charm of character and superb gentlemanly qualities, his unbounded love of children, his uncompromising and inspiring devotion to the noble cause of the uplift of the poor and the oppressed and of the toiling millions of the country, his holding the balance even for all sections and communities of the people and his magnificent contribution to the great cause of human freedom and real peace in the world, have not only endeared him deeply and indelibly to the people of the country, but have also earned the high appreciation and admiration of the world for him, and have solidly enhanced the reputation of, and respect for, our country in the world.

The departure of such a unique, gifted and beloved leader from our midst has caused a poignant grief which is indeed inconsolable, and a stunning loss which is really irreparable. With these words, I join wholeheartedly in the tribute and the homage paid to the departed leader by the other hon. Members of this House and also associate my party with this homage and tribute.

Shri J. B. Kripalani (Amroha): With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I shall speak sitting.

The sorrow and the grief that we have suffered at the passing away of Jawaharlal is too poignant for many words to be said on this occasion. Yet it is but meet that we pay our tribute of love and respect and homage to the departed dear. My association with him was of more than 45 years' standing. Thousands of memories, therefore, arise in my mind to-day. It was a great grief to me throughout these years of Independence that I could not see, in several things, eye to eye with him. Yet our affection for each other remained

[Shri J. B. Kripalani]

as it was when for thirty years we worked together.

He was brought up in the lap of luxury but at the call of the freedom fight for the nation, he abandoned all the material comforts of his life and associated with the lowly and the lost of India. Only those who had seen him before the Independence movement and also saw him afterwards can realise the great revolution that was worked in his life.

He was a valiant fighter, even a reckless fighter. He considered liberty as the most precious gift from God to humanity. When people lost their liberty, they ceased to be human. That was his idea. That is in accordance with our scriptures where it is said: the highest aim of a man is freedom, *moksha*. While Jawaharlal was fighting for the liberty of his people and his nation, he was not unmindful of the liberation movements that were going on throughout the world. I remember when the Spanish Civil War was going on he said that he felt like taking a gun and fighting with the international brigade that had been organised in free countries for saving the liberty of Spain. If there had been no freedom fight here, I have no doubt that he would have joined that movement because that movement was so important that its failure, the failure of that freedom movement in Spain, gave a fillip to the Nazi and fascist forces in Europe and ultimately brought about the last world war. He was, therefore, a very eminent citizen of the world and he did feel the burden of the world upon his shoulders. After independence, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru advocated the cause of Indonesia and said that his Government would give all the help that the Indonesians wanted to free themselves from the Dutch yoke. His heart automatically went towards the oppressed and the suppressed peoples of the world in any quarter of the globe, whether in Asia or in Africa.

12.00 hrs.

Not only was he concerned with the freedom movement, but he had also an idea like Gandhiji about what free India should be. Of course, it was not the same idea that Gandhiji had. He had his own idea of what free India should be. He wanted that India should be modernised; he wanted the people to have a scientific spirit. He wanted to bring about here an industrial revolution, after the industrial revolution in the West. This was a stupendous task. It was a harder task than the fight for national liberation. Such a social transformation has been attempted in history throughout the world by methods that are cruel, arbitrary and ruthless. But he wanted to bring about this transformation by peaceful methods, by non-violence and through democratic ways. Whether it can be so done or not, only time will show. But he tried his best to see that no violence was used. There were no liquidations in his time as in other countries. Because, above everything else, he was humane and he had been brought up in the best traditions of liberalism and democracy.

It is to be seen how far the tasks that he kept before himself are fulfilled by the nation that grieves his loss today. He was, as I said, a citizen of the world. But in India, he wanted the whole of this sub-continent to be united. He wanted our nation to be consolidated. He wanted here a common citizenship, without distinction of caste, creed, religion or sex. Above all, he was a friend of the minorities in India and they always considered that whenever they were in difficulty, he would come to their help.

Today the task before the nation is of unity and consolidation. That is the biggest task and we will be paying the greatest tribute to his memory if we bend our energies to that great task. More than any other party, I as an old Congressman, can say that it is for the Congress to

unite and consolidate itself before it can unite and consolidate the nation. I hope on this sad occasion and in this critical period they (the Congressmen) will not fail the country.

Sir, our heart goes out in deep sympathy to Shri Nehru's daughter, Indu, and the members of his family. May God give them the strength to bear this great loss in patience.

श्री विज्ञानचन्द्र सेठ (एटा) : आदरणीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, पंडित जी के सम्बन्ध में मैं केवल इतना ही कहना आवश्यक मानता हूँ कि भारत ही नहीं अपितु संसार के महान् कुछ थोड़े से मज्जनों में हमारे आदरणीय पंडित जी का स्थान था। आज एक बड़ा प्रश्न भारत के सामने यह है कि अब तक पंडित जी की छत्रछाया में संसार के मौलिक रत्न के रूप में हमारे नेता की प्रसिद्धि रही है क्या वह आगे भी कायम रह सकेगी ? इसके लिए मेरी आज भगवान से प्रार्थना है कि हमारे बीच कोई ऐसी विभूति जाग्रत हो ताकि हम अपनी उस प्रसिद्धि व प्रतिष्ठा को आगे भी कायम रख सकें।

इसी के साथ-साथ आदरणीय जवाहरलाल जी के निधन का आप सभी ने वह दृश्य देखा जो अभूतपूर्व था। उस सरीखी आज तक के भारत के इतिहास में कोई दूसरी उपमा नहीं किस तरह स्वेच्छा से सारे भारत ने अपना कामकाज वगैरह सब कुछ बन्द कर दिया हो। किसी शक्ति ने कहीं कोई बाजार बन्द नहीं कराया, किसी ने कोई चीज नहीं कहीं तो भी सारे भारत का पूरा बाजार और हाट बन्द रहा। सम्पूर्ण भारत के हर एक क्षेत्त्र में उनके प्रति सज्जावना रही और सम्पूर्ण भारत ने एक स्वर से अपनी श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित की। सब से बड़े आश्चर्य की बात यह है कि हम लोग जैतिक विरोधी पक्ष के नाम से मशहूर हैं, मैं आप की सेवा में निवेदन करूँ कि कोई भी ऐसा नहीं जिसके हृदय को पंडित जी के निधन से ठेस न पहुँची हो।

इसी के साथ-साथ मैं यहां पर यह भी कहना उचित मानूँगा कि विचारों की दृढ़ता ही उनकी शोभा थी। आज जबकि हमारा देश चतुर्मुखी संकटों से घिरा हुआ है, हम अपने आदरणीय शासकों से यह प्रार्थना करेंगे कि जिस दृढ़ता के साथ हमारे देश की सरकार आज तक चली, उसमें किसी प्रकार का कोई चूँच न आये। हम यह आशा करते हैं कि आगे भी सरकार द्वारा उसी दृढ़ता की नीति को जारी रखा जायगा ताकि हम संसार के समक्ष उदाहरण रूप में उपस्थित रह सकें। यही हमारी सब से बड़ी श्रद्धांजलि आदरणीय पंडित जी के चरणों में अर्पित है। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं समाप्त करता हूँ।

Shri Badrudduja (Murshidabad):
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I pay my humble tribute of tears, my respectful homage to one of the greatest personalities of the age, one who left a mark behind never to be effaced by the ravages of all times. There was something so extraordinary and wonderful about this great man who, without any pretence to pomp and power, could so effectively sway the feelings of his countrymen in the dark days of British imperialism and lure them into paths which ordinary human beings would shudder to tread. Some thing so arresting, so fascinating about this great man who created a new orientation, a new urge, new stirrings of life, in combination with a band of patriots, suffering, struggling and bleeding and generating new forces in the country which ultimately led to the emancipation of modern India from British thralldom.

Great as a politician, great as a political thinker, great as a scholar with high scholastic attainments, great as a patriot, greater still as a humanist and nation-builder, he was called upon by the Benign Providence to shoulder the responsibilities of free India during the last seventeen long years. Despite serious challenges, sharp challenges from various quarters to the great values he rep-

[Shri Badrudduja]

resented, to the great ideals for which he lived and died—his anchor still held—he forged ahead to an ever-widening horizon of thought and action, to a brighter destiny for India in future.

Many great men in India and outside had sharp differences—political, and ideological—with this great man, but none had the courage to dispute his statesmanship, his political sagacity and wisdom, his creative vision and imagination, his great sacrifices and services, his positive contributions to the political and social life of the country.

We miss him today; we miss this great man, one of the greatest secularists, one of the great men who believed in democracy and the democratic ideals, one who identified himself with the burning aspirations of India's soul for freedom, for truth, for liberty, for justice and for other nobler considerations of human life.

Only three or four weeks back, while paying my glowing tribute to him for his anxious solicitude for the welfare of the minorities and for resolution of the desperate tangle between Pakistan and India, I appealed to Providence that he might be spared long to guide India's destiny. I said on that occasion: Our Prime Minister has reached the evening of life; the shadows of the evening are fast raising in upon him, but before he retires from the scene, may I appeal to him most fervently, to take courage in both hands and put his foot down upon the reactionary forces that are fast rearing their head and go down to history as a faithful mariner who steered his ship across the raging waves of discontent and despair to a safe and hospitable shore. But before the ship could reach that hospitable shore, our faithful mariner reached a far and distant shore from which no traveller returns.

We miss him today. The loss is very great; the loss is irreparable. It cannot be replaced in a century. It is with the deep sense of sorrow that I associate myself with the sentiments that have been expressed from all sides of the House and pay my respectful homage once again to the memory of one of the most magnetic and illustrious personalities of the age.

Shri Kapur Singh (Ludhiana): Sir, as a representative of the Shiromani Akali Dal, in this House, I associate the Sikh people in the mourning that is ours at the passing away of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

The late Prime Minister was a charismatic leader whose image coincided with the image of India herself, and even though the acclaim of the present is not always the judgment of the future, the future cannot deny him a prominent place in the gallery of fame of the first half of the twentieth century.

He was a sensitive and kind man. He was a generous and indulgent friend. He was a politician with a broad vision and a statesman of no mean order. Though some may have carpied at his intentions, his motives none doubted, and his patriotism remained above reproach at all times. The impact of his political personality extended much beyond the frontiers of his native land, and by all standards, he was a highranking international statesman.

His particular successes and failures in the domestic field are not the true measure of his excellence and stature. It is the quality of his mind and the nature of his ideas that mark him out as a modern man and a bridge that spans the eternal India and the modern world of science and industry. Faith in the scientific spirit, respect for the democratic process and a tolerant humanism that questions and doubts much, but positively be-

lieves in little, were the hallmark of his personality. He was truly a man of his age and the new age which he strove to inaugurate in the independent India was to be characterised by scientific dynamism, democratic dialogue and secularism. For making these forces prevail in India he could have had many aides equal to but none better than the Sikh people with whom a true communication and understanding evaded him. This has been a loss, as much his as that of the Sikhs and their countrymen. May this no longer be so.

Sir, he has died full of honours and full of achievements of a dedicated life. In the words of Guru Nanak:

मरना मुनसा सृतिवां हक है जे होए मरे परवानीं

"It is the privilege of a true and a brave man to die dedicated to good causes."

While mourning his loss, we recognise his privileged position in life as well as in death.

Shri A. K. Gopalan (Kasergod): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I join hon. friends who have spoken before me in paying tribute to our departed leader. I am one of those tens of thousands of youngmen whose political life was shaped by the ideas which were propagated by him. It was under his leadership that we developed ourselves into political workers in the struggle against Imperialism and for freedom, democracy and social justice. He has been, since then, the most powerful leader of our National Movement.

We, therefore, look upon his departure as an irreparable loss to us. This loss can be repaired only by fighting still harder and more earnestly to make the struggle for socialism successful. I desire on this occasion to pledge myself and my colleagues that we would carry this fight forward.

Mr. Speaker: It is with a sad and bleeding heart that I rise to pay my humble tribute to our beloved Jawaharlal Nehru who has left for his heavenly abode. The nation's beacon light has gone out and we are plunged in a dismal gloom. Words fail to express the tremendous loss which the nation has suffered. The loss is beyond repair.

For the present, it is difficult to conceive of this House without Jawaharlal. From my personal experience, I would say it was a pleasure to see him enter the Lok Sabha. He would walk to his seat with elegance. He would show the utmost respect to the Chair. He was the first to rush to the House when the quorum or the division bell was rung provided he was in the precincts of the Parliament.

While in his seat, Jawaharlal used to follow the discussions carefully though sometimes he appeared to be engrossed in his file work. His answers to questions were considered and full of information. He was always eager to give the fullest information and many a time supplemented the answers given by other Ministers if he thought the information was not adequate. He possessed detailed information about the whole administration and was never hesitant to share it with the Parliament. Pandit Jawaharlal kept certain standards and has left many wholesome traditions in democracy. It would be difficult to find a greater democrat than Jawaharlal. He could listen to criticisms of his own self with patience and tolerance and could reply without rancour. In his person he symbolised the country's past greatness, its present struggle and its future ambitions and aspirations.

Jawaharlal has been snatched away from us at a very critical period in our history. We are facing external threats and internal difficulties. We needed him most at this moment. He is not here to guide us but he has an imperishable and abiding place in the

[Mr. Speaker.]

heart of every Indian. Speaking of Gandhiji, he observed that he had left a picture in Indian minds and in the mind of the present age which can never fade away. This would equally apply to Jawaharlal himself. India will always remember him who endeavoured with all faith and will at his command to make this great country greater.

Nehru's span of life in this world was one of dedicated service to the nation's relentless fight for freedom and when freedom was achieved he launched an equally grim fight against economic and social ills which plagued the Indian society.

It is somewhat of a vain attempt to measure up with words a life so rich, so filled and so momentous as Shri Jawaharlal's which happened to coincide with a crucial phase in India's history.

Nehru stood for the dignity of man which to him was dearer than all the riches of the world. His heart moved out to the oppressed peoples beyond our frontiers. He was ever in the forefront of the fight against all sorts of colonialism, political or economic. He was a phenomenon that inspired not only millions of Indians and gave them an ideal and mission but he was also symbol of Asian and African nationalism inspiring and guiding the peoples there groaning under the yoke of imperialism. He championed the cause of the down-trodden in the international arena and his humanist voice charged with passion was listened to with the deepest respect even by those who viewed the situation from a different angle. History yields no parallel of a life of such immense significance.

Jawaharlal Nehru was an architect of the modern India and the whole of his life was dedicated to the nation and he died as he certainly would have liked to serving the causes he cherished most. In his death, India

has lost its great leader and a worthy son of the world, one of its most effective advocates of peace, justice and dignity for man everywhere.

Jawaharlal was a great believer in world peace; perhaps more than any other world leader. He has given expression to man's yearning for peace. In his fearless pursuit of a world free from war and fear, he has served all humanity. In this, he has left behind a name which will be cherished by all humanity in this war-torn world and remembered with veneration by generations to come.

We are too near the post-Independence era to judge his record as Prime Minister, but in the difficult and tumultuous decade which followed freedom and the tragic assassination of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru was the steadfast guide and leader of our people. We are sure that the sign-posts which he has planted will survive, more specially those pointing to democracy, secularism and planned national living.

We mourn him; we shall always mourn him, because we are human and cannot forget our beloved leader. But I know he would not like us to mourn him in this manner, for, in his own words, that is a poor way of doing homage. The only way in which we can pay our tribute to him is to express our determination to pledge ourselves, anew, to dedicate ourselves, to the great task which he undertook and which he accomplished to such a large extent.

There can be no better epitaph to Nehru's qualities of greatness and humanity than what he himself once said, namely:

"If any people chose to think of me then I should like them to say: 'This was the man who with all his mind and heart loved India and the Indian people, and they in turn were indulgent to him and gave him of their love

most abundantly and extravagantly'".

We loved and respected him, and we shall always cherish his memory and revere and uphold the ideals he stood for.

The void that his death has caused is impossible to fill, and we may not perhaps see the like of him for many more years to come. We must, however, find comfort in the thought that he has already shown us the way and his noble ideals and work will continue to guide and inspire us in the difficult years ahead.

May his soul rest in peace, and may the nation have the strength and unity to shoulder the responsibilities!

Shri Nanda: May I move:

"The Lok Sabha, meeting in the shadow of the national calamity of the passing away of our beloved leader and Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, expresses

its profound anguish and grief and declares its firm resolve to strive for the ideals of world peace and progress and national unity, solidarity and prosperity, to which he dedicated himself throughout his life."?

Mr. Speaker: I think the House agrees with this resolution unanimously. The Members may just stand in their places in silence for a short while.

(The Members then stood in silence for a short while)

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 A.M. on Monday, the 1st June, 1964.

2.23 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, June 1, 1964/Jyaistha 11, 1886 (Saka).