

I
JOINT SITTING OF THE HOUSES
OF PARLIAMENT

Saturday, May 6, 1961/Vaisakha 16,
1883 (Saka).

The Houses of Parliament met in joint sitting in the Central Hall of Parliament House at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

WELCOME ADDRESS

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur):
On a point of order....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. There can be no point of order before the proceedings commence.

Members of Parliament, I welcome you all to this Joint Sitting of both the Houses of Parliament. This is a unique occasion in the annals of, in the history of, our Parliament since its inception. I hope and trust that goodwill will prevail among all sections during the deliberations, that they will be conducted in a spirit of harmony and peace, and that as far as possible, an attempt will be made by all sections to arrive, if possible, at an agreed solution.

TRIBUTE TO MEMORY OF PANDIT
MOTILAL NEHRU

Mr. Speaker: Before we proceed further with the work assigned to us for the day, I would like to pay my humble tribute, along with you, to the memory of one of the most illustrious

sons of our land, Pandit Motilal Nehru.

Today, his centenary is being celebrated all over our country, without any distinction of either party or colour or creed. Though he was born a prince, he made himself a prince among men quite early in his life. He was a lawyer and made his mark in that capacity. He was, no doubt, in those days, a moderate politician, but soon, he changed over into almost a revolutionary. Jallianwala Bagh marked a change in his career. He agreed to be the Chairman of that committee, and after he found out about those atrocities, he was easily converted and became one of the foremost disciples of Mahatma Gandhi. The manner in which he shed all his old clothes and from a prince's life began to lead a very hard life and never hesitated to go to jail as often as it was necessary shows that he was an outstanding figure, who made his mark and who has left behind him a mark to be copied by all of us.

So far as we parliamentarians are concerned, he has left his indelible mark within the precincts of this House; at a time when the vista was bleak, and when there was absolutely no chance of dislodging the previous rulers, he, here, as a bold fighter in the Opposition, as leader of the Swaraja Party, laid strong foundations of democracy for all times to come, which we can usefully copy. May his memory be ever green!

Though he is not physically present with us, his stately figure both in his person and in his spirit is here in this Hall to inspire us. Let his