

Today our country is free and Hindi has become our National language. It is, therefore, very essential that we re-assess the Hindiliterature once again in the correct perspective. Many a stalwart and makers of modern Hindi literature are not in the lime light today because of the narrow mindedness and partisan spirit of a section of the Hindi literateures and therefore most of the present day Histories of the literature too are not only not comprehensive and complete but are definitely one sided. The work of stalwarts like the late Pt. Balkrishna Bhatta, Babu Bal Mukund Gupta Mahamana Malaviyaji, Pt. Govind Narain Misra, Pt. Pratap Narain Misra, Pt. Krishna Kant Malaviya, Shri Ganesh Shanker Vidyarthi, Pt. Padma Singh Sharma, Pt. Dwarika Prasad Chaturvedi, Lala Sita Ram, Pt. Kishori Lal ji Goswami, Mishrabandhoo, Mannan Dwivedi Gajpuri and poets like the late Pt Sri Dhar Pathak and Pt Gaya Prasad Shukla 'Sanehi' and Pt. Ram Naresh Tripathi, who are fortunately still with us, and a hoard of others have not been properly assessed as yet and they have been relegated in the back ground because from the very beginning of the Hindi movement, Hindi literateures were divided into two camps. One of them, which called itself pure literateures, was in the good books of the British Govt. and people belonging to this group alone served on the Text book Committees of the Government and decided the curriculum for the schools and colleges. Naturally the other section, which can rightly be termed as the nationalist section, was neglected and overlooked by this group. Today it is very necessary that attention be paid to the works and the lives of the great literateures of the nationalist section and they be rennovated, and their places properly assigned as well as suitable memorials raised in their honour.

The main difference between these two groups was as to the form of the National Language one group favouring Sanskritisation of Hindi and the other in favour of simplifying it and bringing it nearer to the spoken language. As I have said above the first group being in the good books of the foreign Government was in favour of a language which helped in widening the gulf between the Hindus and the Muslims. This group was greatly antagonistic to the other one and because of their influence with the then Government and better resources it succeeded in eclipsing the nationalist group completely. It is a matter of great regret that even the universities adopted the same neglecting attitude towards them and no efforts were made to rectify the wrong. The reason is obvious. The professors and the teachers of today have been brought up in the same old one sided environment and they themselves are in the dark about the merits of these great men and their laudable works. They have done only one thing. They have created, a "Dwivedi Mile Stone" under which they succeeded in intombing all these greater names.

Educational institutions apart it is the duty of the Government to help in reassessing and revaluing the history of the Hindi literature and the work of its literateures. Without the help of the Government success would be difficult to achieve.

One of the question to be considered by the Kher Commisstion is the form our national languages should adopt. I strongly feel that the Commission should not decide this question only on the evidences tenderd by the present day university professors or man holding one side views. The opinions of the people who are the actual maker of the present day Hindi, in fact the nation, and held strong views on the subject, but unfortunately are not with us today to record their evidences, should also be allowed to express themselves through

their writings and help the Commission in arrivings at a correct conclusion. The policy persued during the British period should be changed now under the National Government if it is found to be anti-national. The myth of Sanskritising Hindi in the interest of the unity of India stands thoroughly exposed today. There is opposition to the Hindi from various provinces and interested quarters even today though the Hindi literature has been entirely dominated by the so-called "Chayawadi" poetry whose main charm is the love of Sanskrit vocabulary and the prose writers, mostly the University products, like the famous Dr. Raghuvira and his compatriots. It is to be noted in this connection that great sanskrit scholars like Mahamahopadhyaya Pt. Sheo Kumar Shastri, than whom a greater Sanskrit scholar has not been born during these days and other eminent Sanskrit scholars were opposed to the Sanskritisation of Hindi. In fact no lover of Hindu culture can ever agree to the substitution of Devabhasha Sanskrit by Hindi.

I request the literary persons, and both the Central and Provincial Governments that this work of revival of Hindi literature be taken in hand at the earliest now and without any further delay. Shri Banarsi Das Ji Chaturvadi has done some laudable work in this direction and we are greatful to him for this.

Today literary rejuvenation is more important than the political rejuvenation as it is bound to throw magnificent light on our cultural life also. All the literateures and lovers of literature having similar views should ponder over this subject seriously. I am calling a meeting of such persons locally at my place on the 28th March 1956 at 6-30 P. M. to discuss and take a decision on this vital question. All those who agree with me should intimate to me so that personal invitation may be issued to them.

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