

Prof. N.R. Deshpande

An exponent of his master's vision



Editor : Adv. Maruti B. Zirali

Academy of Comparative Philosophy & Religion, Belagavi





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— * Editor * —

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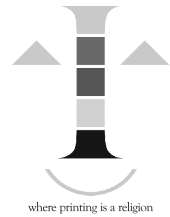
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EDITORIAL



I am extremely delighted in placing this work of compilation on Late Prof. Shri N.R. Deshpande, the direct disciple of Shri Gurudev Dr.R.D.Ranade. Prof.Deshpande had imbibed the spirit and aspirations of his Guru in his personality. He was a very popular and accomplished professor held in high esteem by all his students and acquaints.

This is a collection of memories of Prof.N.R.Deshpande's life recorded by different persons who were fortunate to come into contact with him. Some people revere him as an idle Professor and some cherishes affection for him as a loving guide and companion. Some look upon him as a magnanimous man, while others respect him as an intellectual guide. His highly respectable manners and spiritual life style attract one and all.

The first part of the book begins with the recollection of memories by Prof.N.R.Deshpande's colleagues, students, admirers and family members.

The second part of the book is the collection of editorial notes written by Prof.N.R.Deshpande as Editor-in-Chief to the Pathway to God, Quarterly Journal published by ACPR during 1976-77.

The third part of the book is collection of articles written by Prof.N.R.Deshpande on the basic tenets, aims and objectives of ACPR Belagavi. This part is in the nature of re-dedicating and re-resolving the basic charter of objectives of A.C.P.R. Belagavi in consonance with the Constitution of the ACPR written by Gurudev Dr.R.D.Ranade in the year 1924.

The fourth part of the book is collection of poems and articles written by Prof.N.R.Deshpande.

The fifth part of the book is collection of rare photographs relating to the life journey of Prof.N.R.Deshpande.

Prof.N.R.Deshpande always held Gurudev Dr.R.D.Ranade as the great modern mystic philosopher of modern India. Prof.N.R.Deshpande lived his life within the spiritual parameters demarcated by Dr.Gurudev Ranade.

This book is my humble tribute to this great soul who played a vital role in translating the basic tenets, aims and objectives of ACPR Belagavi envisioned by Shri Gurudev Dr.R.D.Ranade and placing them on a concrete footing. In fact, he arrived as a veritable messenger of Shri Gurudev Dr.R.D.Ranade at the most crucial times of upheavals in the history of ACPR. It was during his tenure as the Editor-in-Chief of the quarterly journal Pathway to God and later as its Chairman, that the ACPR was rededicated to the noble cause, with possible dimensions in consonance with its original aims and objectives as envisioned by Shri Gurudev Dr.R.D.Ranade.

Prof. N.R.Deshpande after taking up the reins as the Chairman of ACPR the academic nature of ACPR was re-declared and rejuvenated widening its horizons to various activities such as conferences, seminars, symposia, workshops, socio-philosophical and spiritual discourses etc.

Needless to say, during his time as a Chairman of ACPR, several celebrated national and international dignitaries, Supreme Court judges, philosophers and renowned professors and scholars visited ACPR. Further, an All India Academic Council was also formed during his times. As such, I think it is my duty to place on record the selfless services he rendered to this Academy. By bringing out this book we recognize his relentless services.

I am extremely thankful to all the contributors for sharing their valuable experiences, thereby enriching this book. My ardent salutations to all those who have been instrumental in bringing out this book.

I shall feel my efforts rewarded if these Reminiscences inspire the reader fraternity and the younger generation in particular to follow the footprints of the great soul.

Date: 30-11-2020.
Place:Belagavi.

In the services of my Guru,
Adv. Maruti B. Zirali
Hon. Secretary,
ACPR, Belagavi.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE



We are extremely happy to place yet another valuable book in the hands of readers. ACPR has published over two dozen books in last two years. These works will have a long lasting and far reaching effect in creating a healthy society with humanitarian and global vision.

The present book on Late Prof. N.R. Deshpande is a compilation of articles edited by Adv. Maruti B. Zirali Hon. Secretary of ACPR Belagavi. Prof N. R. Deshpande's services to ACPR is invaluable. He rescued this institution from the troubled water and reset it on a sound footing. ACPR salute such a dedicated pious personality and offers tribute to him through this book.

Our special thanks to Prof. Dr. Madhumati Kulkarni Chief Editor of our journal Pathway to God for her relentless help in bringing out this book.

We thank all the contributors for their valuable articles. These are the treasures of reminiscences of Prof. Deshpande's personality.

The financial assistance is equally important in publication activities. We whole heartedly thank the students and the admirers of Prof. N.R. Deshpande. We pray Shri Gurudev to bless them all and their families with choicest grace upon them.

We are beholden to thank Shri Ashok Dhond, proprietor of Impression press and his team led by Shri Atul Bhatkhande for their painstaking task of printing in an elegant manner.

We place this book in the hands of readers with a deep sense of fulfilment in respecting a great soul who made ACPR as an international institution.

Date:30/11/2020

Place:Belagavi

Adv. Ashok Potdar

Chairman, ACPR, Belagavi.

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I. Articles by Colleagues Students & Admirers



*The Preservation of thoughts of the master
throws on the deciples a special
responsibility of propagating his philosophy
in all its preston purity.*

- Prof. B.R. Kulkarni

Editorial note Pg No.9. Students in
Indian Philosophy by Dr. R.D. Ranade





Jai Shri Gurudev

- **Shri. Vivek Deshpande**
Sangli

It is my Honor to write about Late Shri Prof. N.R. Deshpande, my father. The words and sentences are not enough to describe his personality, as his personality was very towering and versatile, and larger than life. My father was almost everything for me in my life right, from my childhood to the last moments with him. He was not my father, he was my mentor and Guide as well. As such, his personality is embossed on my Life.

From my childhood my father gave me the rich Sanskar. The spiritual and ritual knowledge he induced in me is beyond comparison. The Adhyatmic and Sadguru parampara have been in our family through Late Shri Dadasaheb Deshpande, my Grandfather. He was disciple of Shri Amburao Maharaj and Shri Gurudev Ranade. Thus Adhyatmic and Philosophical culture naturally prevailed in our family.

My Father got the Nama (Guru Deeksha) directly from his Guru Shri Gurudev Ranade at an early age and he was even very lucky to be in the Aura of Shri Gurudev Ranade for a long period. As such his Adhyatmic and Philosophical knowledge was enriched. Because of this he carved his fundamentals very beautifully and constructively, putting his life is pathway in the right direction. His Academic excellence was excellent. He was Mining Engineer and then he completed L.L.B from Karnataka University with Ist Rank to the University throughout the Three Years. He was practicing Law at Belgaum Court, then he joined B.V.Ballad Law College as a Professor till his last moments.

Many philosophical and spiritual utterances would emerge naturally in his day-to-day conversation.

He would say, ‘Keep on Walking on the Eternal Pathway... ,You may sometimes realize the pains of your mind, your emotional disturbances, difficulties in life are bound to shoot up, problems are bound to crop-up, but we have to be waiting and ever active. Let us not withdraw from the onward march. Let us not compromise with the difficulties. It is just a phase of Time. It is very hard and very much Testing on account of its capacity of mixing the pain, instability, disparity, darkness with the entirety of your life.

Life is like a living Novel, It is not a drama of a few hours, but a living with every moment of the life.

Knowingly or unknowingly, purposely or accidentally God realization comes in his life and that is the highest pathway in the life. To walk on this Pathway is the greatest moment in life and for that no attestation is required. To realize the God, to attain His Great Mercy, to dissolve in his Love is the only great struggle for every human being. The same Great Lord always warms his children

through the Heat of Sun, showers his Love through raining clouds, fills every nook and corner of our life. He is always with us, but we have to be with him, that is Our JOB in the journey of life. In the process being with Him, “I”...“WE” will bubble away from our existence, as we are nothing but a part of the “Great Lord”.

On the Pathway to God Realisation, difficulties are ample, influencing on ill-using us. In the beginning, we fix our destination, direction and the route of our Journey. But after we walk some distance, we don't rethink about the destination, as we are immersed in the illusion of life. So GOD is a very difficult destination. Our difficulties in life make us believe, GOD to be totally unexisting, often one may feel on this pathway why so much strain in holding against the flow? But this Glory is unimaginable, He keeps his devotee walking and being with Him always.

On this way towards destination, we have to analyze, categorize, and systematise and renew the strength within to suit the times to come. We have to hold ourselves from victimizing to panic Darkness of the strained Goal keeper in the process on this pathway. More Right you are, more near you are to the Goal.

This is all like a call to the tottering steps in the lost sands. It is a Voice awakening through surrounding darkness.....Ye SOUL! Do Not. Do Not! Hold a while, It is TO SHINE, Night is to get over and It will DAWN....Your Long and hard wait will bear the fruitful end....But keep on and keep on WALKING on the Pathway till you reach the Eternal Destination.. Such things he always used to convey to us through his conversation.

He always used to say that the Knowledge in human being dispels doubts in the Pathway of Spiritual journey, and unmistakably bounds one with a typical consciousness of being “Knower”. In the

process “AHANKAR” born out of the sense of possession of Knowledge, takes possession of the human being internally, creates the self as “I” “WE”.

When Knowledge Dawns as passing phase of a Realizing Soul singularly, advancing towards Dawn, then Realization only happens to be sublime feel of Divine Consciousness, upgrading the realizing Soul is the only purpose of such Knowledge, which raises the introvert process in a Devotee, this process happens to be the only object of this ‘Knowledge’. At same time it is the overt expression of the digested knowledge that creates a fatigue in the realizing Soul.

Words and Codes have hardly anything to say about the mode of pathway of the Spiritual Progress. Like water merging in water words from experience when realized in experience give their contents a meaning. The digested Knowledge then oozes out leaking as through overt struggle for confirmation, it does produce its reaction, which is nothing but the tiring sense of knowing the things.

As such sometimes it is safer to be a simple, unknowing Devotee than a seeker with the clarity of knowledge. In Human being, ”BHAV” which is the subliming sense of dissolution is hardly associated with the Man of Knowledge, while it is embedded in man with the surrendered sense of missing it. He knows more by missing the knowledge. He unconsciously over-passes the land marks of subliming Soul. In the spiritual process “BHAV” is the greatest trade secret in the Kingdom of God, even it is very difficult to translate its meaning. It is more a symbol than meaning. ”BHAV” is the magic that elevates the SOUL from Seeker to be a Beloved of GOD. This is all here not for underlining anything, but for a balanced view of the things. So it is very important for a Devotee to keep the balance to reach the Goal of God Realisation, which is highest and final

manifestation in our life. So keep on walking on this eternal pathway to obtain the vision of the Realization of GOD and finally get totally immersed in the GOD Himself.

He used to say that, what is difficult to know and realize in action is the quality of the urge that the lovers of GOD have, the THRUST, the FIRE of hunger they feel towards GOD.. and this Realization comes by His Grace only. If one sets out finding in diverse ways of connections, he will remain more in finding than studying, and the Truth will still be far off.

More wise one tries to be more difficult to over he find the ways. It is simple but unmixed, fiery urge for him that will liberate us. Be bathed in one and you will find Him. What weakens us is the doubt of the mind. The Doubting mind cannot place its Faith anywhere and without Faith you can move no step ahead any more.

One's imagination of GOD is more charming and green than the Reality. God as in Reality won't be acceptable to many seekers. We need to accept His supremacy. So keep FULL FAITH with intensity of meditation to realize him within you.

He used to say as...दैव, the Fate is very powerful. Everything happens according to His Will is a perfect truth. But many times we fall short in making ourselves understand it completely and rather truly about the things. Now, Everything is His Will.....if a man is wasting his, or is indulging in worldly physical intoxication of enjoyment... he goes on to support himself by thinking that everything is his will, and he may feel very much relieved and elevated, but the results that follow prove the real inside of it. After his out external efforts, if during the course of makes us feel helpless, the attitude of surrender and sending shelter in His Will, will be a proper thing.

Our greatest fate dawned when GOD gave us the Human Birth and the Human laboratory of body is an unique creation GOD. Then “I” which is not body but propelling vitality in body (वासनामय जीवन) has a supreme chance for knowing is “Own Self”. In no other birth thinking in using concentrated meditating and realizing is ever possible. And consequent processing as “Soul” for its own Realization is an extraordinary thing in those births. But after getting Human Birth also to have an inner attachment for Devotion to GOD is again rare thing. So it is very essential to have great Faith in him, meditate intensely keeping the balance of human body psychology to achieve the great Realization that is GOD.

He used to say, till you remain worrying of yours betterment and security in the worldly part of your life, you are at a great strain and continuous patches of struggle occur without any fruits. Apparently these seem to exist some reason behind this continuous struggle and aimless tottering. For it is at rare moment of introspective analytic conclusive enquiry, one finds himself more than what he mostly exists. I feels these moments of “Self Revelation “come by his Grace only, For those very are the Golden Moments, when Spirit in us manifests dominating the flesh and a consequently charge of Spiritual Energy floats actively within us. It gives an elevated look at the self, it shows the glimpses of the far extending size of the Promise Land of the Soul, it alone gives an eye to see the Spiritual Being in us.

At these moments, the high soaring ever changing kite of mind is temporarily at rest. Instinct and enjoyment motivated plans of flesh are stilled. The lake of our inner self is clean and settled and an inside peep in devotee happens to be a possible; Mind exists there, but settled down stratifying at the base.

And for the time being one is synchronized at an elevated resonance .But these moments must prove to be of uplifting at life. The emotional upsurge that one feels at such moments should get a direction properly leading to the evolved actions. The energy that appears out must not separate, expressed, but should get assimilated to nourish and strengthen the Spiritual Self. At this, as if God extends a ladder to step to Devotee. Likewise Spiritual dusks and dawn come and go, and we are Trained not to worry, Sense of time grips are loosened. These are the moments when we are totally in the trance of spiritual realization of the GOD ONLY and that is the only TRUTH that EXISTS all the time and forever....

In this whole of universe, GOD is only real truth exists for Human Being. To see HIM is the only last and final goal for Human being. If this devotional thinking once gets sprouts in his life as early as possible, then automatically he feels and same expressed within himself. In this condition with intense meditating process, a devotee's Soul feels like shining inside and same continuously remains within him, that he can feel, only meditation and only doing meditation remains around him and that exists around him, all his worldly desires, problems and feelings get seized at a point or feels like diminished.

In this process of action, in devotee's life only meditation remains as real way of doing life and this continuous process of intense mediation of the Eternal God, which triggers the feeling of being disembodied विदेही, i.e. as if feeling, the Soul being totally detached from this worldly existing body and he becomes a beloved of Eternal GOD. For Devotee clear vision and love of GOD remains only within him and he never turns back to his worldly desired life, in this trans he quits the illusive desirous life and forever get in

dissolution of GOD itself. Here, Devotee gets real Fruit Full end and he accomplishes his PATHAWAY OF GOD REALIZATION.

So he always used say...Acquire full knowledge with full dignity and always admire it within yourself and when it comes on spiritual pathway, always be a devotee with highest “BHAV” and “Surrendered” sense towards Eternal GOD. So to keep this balance in life is very important, because journey here may end some day, but journey towards Eternal God will be always there and remains. In the whole Universe and in constitution of Eternal God Kingdom, Only the GOD & his beloved DEVOTEE’S place is there for all the times and times to come...such few examples are Shri Pundalik, Shri Dnyaneshwar Maharaj, Shri Tukaram Maharaj, Shri Bhausahab Maharaj, Shri Amburao Maharaj, Shri Gurudev Rande.....for all Devotees God remains within them forever all the time and times to come.....

He had a unique way of his life journey, from his childhood to his last moments, he had a different and unique aura on all, within his family as well as in the social circle. Due to his great human nature he was a great loving personality thought his life span in every body’s mind. He had a highest respect for education, for that he devoted & dedicated his full life. He says never stop leaning, because student in you will always keep you aware of sense of knowing the things all the time & updating oneself. He had great love and space for his students all the time in his life. He has great number of students in his life span, now they are serving in all fields of the life with great respect and dignity.

He was associated with ACPR (Academy Of Comparative Philosophy And Religion) from his early life. Later he was Chairman of ACPR and adhered to it till his last moments. Throughout his span as Chairman he adhered the ACPR’S motto

which is laid down by Shri Gurudev Ranade with his great vision as One God, One World, One Humanity.

He took his last breath at ACPR 7am on Utpatti Ekadashi on 30th Nov 2002 and left all of us. Still his presence and memories are alive in our hearts. It is indeed a person of his capacity, caliber and humility is rare.

His deep study of spiritualism was due to Gurudev's Grace and blessings. He has written voluminously writings on philosophy as well. It is my pleasure to present some of them, which are in Marathi and are precious in Adhyatmic circles.

With these reminiscence of his concentrated teaching and vision on Philosophy and life. I conclude here. I am obliged for giving me an opportunity to express his great philosophical vision through these few of his reminiscences to write. Once again Thanks a Lot.....

!!JAI SHRI GURUDEV!!



My Mentor and Guru: Prof. N.R. Deshpande

Adv.Maruti B.Zirali
Hon.Secretary,
ACPR, Belagavi.

(ನಿನ್ನ ಒಲವಿನ ಸೆಲೆಯು ತೊರೆದು ಸುಧೆಯನು ಸುರಿದು
ಸಂತ ತನ್ನನು ಪೊರೆದು ಬೆಳೆಸುತಿರಲಿ.)

ಬೋಧಸುಧೆ ಪುಟ ಸಂ. 2

(Let the nectar of your loving grace
be bestowed upon me to grow and protect forever)

Writing about Prof. N. R. Deshpande my Guru is not simply a biographical sketch of an achiever. It is more about scholasticism, spirituality, teaching, devotion about his Guru, his way of conducting himself, his mesmerizing presence and much more about his way of balancing all these. As spiritual Kannada laureate DVG said: he had made two rooms in his heart. One for personal to immerse himself in deep meditation and another for dealing with the material life. ಎರಡು ಕೋಣೆಗಳ ನೀ ಮಾಡು ಮನದಾಲಯದಿ. ಹೊರಕೋಣೆಯಲಿ

ಲೋಕದಾಟವನಾಡು. ವಿರಮಿಸೊಬ್ಬನೆ ಮೌನದೊಳಮನೆಯ ಶಾಂತಿಯಲಿ... ಮಂಕುತಿಮ್ಮ).

It is my endeavor to depict a true picture of his personality. Whatever I express here is my twenty two years association with him.

The purpose of this writing is to record an account of a sage-like personality for the use of our younger generation. Prof. N.R. Deshpande is a rare role model in accomplishing the mission of Shri Gurudev Dr. R.D.Ranade. He is one of the last links of direct disciples of Shri Gurudev Dr. R.D. Ranade. Understanding such a personality will lead us to a difficult yet, elevated plane of life.

When I think retrospectively, how Prof. N.R.Deshpande entered into my life and how we sojourned till his last journey, I am overflowed with utmost gratitude and humility. The spirituo-philosophical angles of his magnificent personality his selfless services to the society, students and Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion, Belagavi, all these are milestone in the history of ACPR.

My first meeting with Prof. N. R. Deshpande was in KLE's Evening Law College in the year 1981 when I took admission for First Year LLB. It was here that I had first darshan of Prof. N.R. Deshpande. It was indeed a golden period in my life to have been with Prof. N.R. Deshpande for the next twenty years of uninterrupted association. I was his Law student and thereafter was his colleague in the same College since I also joined the Law College as a part-time Professor. I was very raw in my attitude, with the demeanor of a young angry man, with a gleam of great aspirations. Prof. N.R. Deshpande acted as a Philosopher's stone in my life. I always enjoyed and felt divinity in his company. His company always elevated my soul and inspired and motivated me to achieve something in my life.

I hail from a rural, agricultural background and I completed my Degree from L.K.Khoth College of Commerce, Sankeshwar.

Prof. N.R. Deshpande A Teacher and Scholar Par Excellence

Prof. Nandakumar R. Deshpande was basically a Mining Engineer with B.E. Degree from Banaras Hindu University. Initially he served as a Chief Engineer in Dempo Company, Goa. Due to ill-health he resigned and returned to Belagavi. On his return he took admission in R.L.Law College, Belagavi. He has been a Rank holder and a Gold medalist throughout his Law course. At that time First Rank holder had a special honor to go abroad sponsored by Sate Govt, accordingly he was sent to Japan. He delivered several lectures in the Universities of Japan on the legal theory (Jurisprudence)

After completion of Law Degree he joined as a lecturer in R L Law College, Belagavi. Thereafter he joined KLE's Evening Law College as a full-time Professor in 1975-76 and served there till his retirement in 2001. As a towering personality with proficiency in English language he had a mesmerizing effect on his students. His scholastic achievements, in-depth knowledge and mastery over the subjects he taught, and his teaching skill made him very popular Professor among the student community. He was always neatly dressed and carried himself in the dignified way. He was never casual in his attitude. Anyone who came in his contact would naturally be inspired. He was very much selective in associating himself with others. As a teacher he would explain the subjects from students point of view. As such except my parents he was the only person who would change my attitude. His commitment as a teacher was unparalleled. Once during my final year Law course, I had some difficulty in following the 'Legislative Intent' of Court Fee Act. It was study holiday time, so I had been to his house with some

difficulties. I couldn't meet him even on repeated visits. Meanwhile he had instructed his family to ascertain my purpose of meeting him. After knowing my need, he came in search of me. At that time I was working as a Manager in Giri Lodge and I was placed on the third floor. He traced the place, climbed up to my room instead of calling me down, and handed over the notes which he had prepared for me. I was spell-bound, such was his commitment and love for his students. Many a times he used to pay the fees of his poor students without anybody's knowledge. He came as God in my life in the guise of my Law Professor.

Though he was an achiever on his own merit and an intellectual of high order, he never posed his achievements and scholasticity in front of others. He never advised others about 'DO's and 'DON'T's, but we would get transformed ourselves by associating with him. He helped and guided me in my career as a practicing Advocate in complicated matters. His opinion was sought after by many advocates from Mumbai, Poona and other places. He would deal with any challenging litigations with great ease. I learnt a lot from him. Since last ten years, due to my Supreme Court and Water Tribunal appearances as a Panel Advocate representing the State of Karnataka and appearing in other complex matters both in Supreme Court and High Court , I came in contact with great law luminaries of national stature, such as Shri.Fali.S. Nariman, Shri.Anil Devan, Shri.Sham Divan, Shri.Ashok Desai, and others. And I came to realize the fact that the tremendous intellectual capacity of Prof N.R. Deshpande was not less than these luminaries. His drafting skill was par excellence.

While pursuing my LLM Degree I was more apprised about the subjects by listening to him than by reading the texts. Such was his command over the Law subjects. He had the capacity of

compressing the ocean of knowledge in to a nutshell and make the students to understand. A teacher or a guru should be like him. He was indeed an asset to the teaching fraternity. After my post-graduation in Law I joined KLE Law College as a part-time lecturer in 1985 and became his colleague. On one occasion I asked him 'what is teaching?' Pat came the reply "Capture the entire water of an ocean in a glass and present the same to the students". The credit of all my accomplishments as a Law Professor and a Lawyer goes to him. He framed the course of not only my career but my life as well.

An Ideal Disciple of A Spiritual Master

It is said, 'The Attraction towards a true Saint never satiates'. (ಆನಂದಮಾಸೇಚನಕಮ್). People in the company of Saints will always aspire to be with them. Such is the attraction of a true Saint. We had the same feeling whenever we were in the company of Prof N.R. Deshpande. It is not just my experience, it is the same feeling expressed by many persons who came in his contact. This is an indication of a 'saint' in him. To me his words, his voice and his presence were 'Vedavakya' a gospel. This speaks about his intrinsic quality of spiritual attainment. What I am today is his making. Profound knowledge and spiritual power both had culminated in him to fruition. Very few people know about this. He possessed all the qualities of a "Siddha Purusha" (i.e. an enlightened man) as explained by Shree Samarth Ramadas. But he never allowed others to know about it. As a Saint Poet Sarvadya said (ಬ್ರಹ್ಮವನು ಅರಿತಿಹರೆ ಸುಮ್ಮನಿದ್ದಿರಬೇಕು, ಬ್ರಹ್ಮವನು ಅರಿತು ಉಸುರಿದರೆ ಕಳಹೋಗಿ ಖೆಮ್ಮಿ ಸತ್ತಂತಿ ಸರ್ವಜ್ಞ). "The one who has realized God should keep not speak, else it will be like getting killed due to coughing while stealing, is like dying. Prof.N.R.Deshpande lived like 'jeevanmukta'

He attributed his qualities to the grace of his Guru, Shri Gurudev Dr.R.D.Ranade. He led his life as envisaged by Shri Gurudev. He didn't have any personal agenda in his life except following the maxims of Shri Gurudev's advice. He was and is an exemplary model as a dedicated disciple of great spiritual master.

Prof. N. R. Deshpande is the son of Late Dadasaheb Deshpande of Chandur. Dadasaheb Deshpande was initiated by Shri Amburao Maharaj and at his instructions Dadasaheb Deshpande spent his entire life at the feet of Shri Gurudev Ranade, in furthering the vision of Shri Gurudev. Dadasaheb Deshpande spent around twenty two years of his precious life along with Shri. Gurudev Dr.R.D.Ranade at Allahabad and other places. Because of this Prof N. R. Deshpande as a child had the proximity of Shri. Gurudev and in due course was fortunate enough to be initiated by Shri. Gurudev himself.

Thus Prof. N. R. Deshpande came into the folds of Shri. Gurudev and became his devotee. He used to meditate for hours and the elements of 'samadhi' were visible in those moments. I consider myself lucky that I was the only outsider permitted to have the darshana of such postures and I am more blessed to have his grace when he came out of his meditation. The feelings of the occasion are inexpressible. My impression of his personality was like (ಯತೋವಾಚೋ ನಿವರ್ತಂತೆ ಅಪ್ರಾಪ್ಯ ಮನಸಾಸಹ) 'words fail to explain, mind can't conceive, one only can enjoy the grace in the company of a saint'. It's God's grace that I found him as my Guru. My entire family is blessed by him. Though he was selective in giving proximity, once you are close to him he would take interest in your all-round well-being. I am fortunate to get his guidance in my family life as well. The Grace of a Saint is always invisible on its surface. This is true both in material as well as metaphysical life. He was gifted with a

divine personality. He was a fathomless ocean of knowledge in ancient literature. I learnt many things about the Vedas, the Upanishads and other works of the great saints by listening to him. He would provide the wisdom of reading between the lines. He would explain the crux of the matter in the light of Shri Gurudev's thinking.

In The Services of ACPR as The Chairman

ACADEMY OF COMPARATIVE PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION (ACPR) founded by Shri Gurudev Dr. R. D. Ranade is the only one of its kind. The concept of "One God, One world and One Humanity" is the greatest contribution of Shri Gurudev to save this planet from holocaust. Only a "kraantadarshi" i.e."a visionary saint living in the state of self-realization" can visualize this. The maxim given by Shri Gurudev is the only solace left to save the mankind today. Sooner or later the entire world will have to understand and embrace his philosophy. Shri Gurudev founded ACPR as a futuristic mission to explore the avenue to spread this gospel to the entire world. Having a clear and proper perspective about the vision of Shri Gurudev, Prof N.R.Deshpande involved himself in rejuvenating and upgrading the working of ACPR on the line of academic character.

It is noteworthy to see how Prof. N.R.Deshpande played a vital role in reshaping and expanding the vision of Shri. Gurudev in ACPR. He worked as the Editor in Chief of Path Way to God Journal for almost two years and contributed in exalting its quality. His induction into the Board of ACPR was an act of God's Will. That was the need of the time and Gurudev wanted to protect his own institution from losing its basic tenets. A man with strong will, clear vision, steadfast in taking right decision, integrated personality, remarkable scholarship and capacity to run an academy as envisaged

by its founder and above all committed to the ideals of Shri. Gurudev was here to carry it forward. Thus it was a God made circumstance wherein Prof N. R. Deshpande had to shoulder the responsibility. Shri Gurudev wished his own disciple, a saint personality, to become the head of his institution. He was invited to the Board Trustees of ACPR by the then Chairman Late Shri Metrani and was made as Chairman of ACPR Belgaum subsequently.

The year 1997 has been the challenging phase in the history of ACPR Belgaum. Some issues started shaking the very basic structure and the identity of ACPR. The matter entered the portals of judiciary for resolution. During this period a historical Rededication resolution was drafted by Prf. N. R. Deshpande in which the basic objectives of ACPR as enumerated by Shri Gurudev are explained and the role of ACPR IS once again defined. Even the District Court upheld the Rededicating Resolution drafted by Prof. N.R. Deshpande.

The Academic nature of ACPR in line with Shri Gurudev's vision was upheld by the District Court. Prof. N. R. Deshpande along with his brother revered Dr. N. S. Deshpande of Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Banaras, prepared and published the VISION DOCUMENT that is "FOOTPRINTS ON THE SANDS OF TIME", defining, the dimensions of ACPR. This is the greatest contribution to the identity and vision of ACPR given by Gurudev Dr.R.D.Ranade. The ACPR Belgaum is ever indebted to the yeoman service rendered Deshpande brothers.

My induction as a Trustee to ACPR is a cornerstone in my life. I did not know anything about ACPR. During the time of crisis in 1997 Prof. N.R.Deshpande summoned and ordered me to accept the Trusteeship and work for the cause of the vision of Shri Gurudev. I always treated his words as blessings and divine word accepted them

unquestionably. Thus Shri Gurudev entered into my life. Though I did not know Marathi Prof N. R. Deshpande gave me the Marathi book "Gurudev Ranade Jeevan Darshan" written by his father Shri Dadasaheb Deshpande.

As the Chairmen of ACPR He rededicated ACPR to the academic field in the world of Philosophy and Religion. The Academic Character of ACPR was conveyed to the world at large. The Academic activities have been promoted and many philosophers and thinkers thronged to ACPR. They appreciated the vision of ACPR and that of Shri Gurudev. The Study Circle meetings have been started. High Court and Supreme Court Judges, High profile Executives, Professors of high esteem and even politicians started visiting and participating in the Study Circle meeting at ACPR. Indian and foreign ambassadors visited and took part in the activities of ACPR. Dr. Indu Prakash Singh, the then Ambassador to Spain spent three days and participated in the discourse at ACPR. The former Prime Minister H. D. Devegowda accompanied by the then speaker of Karnataka Assembly Late Shri Rambhau Potdar, State Minister Shri Umesh Katti have visited ACPR.

During his Chairmanship an All India Academic Council of ACPR was formed under the Chairmanship of Dr. N. S. Deshpande, Head of the Department of Sociology of the Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapeeth, Banaras. The period of the Chairmanship of Prof N. R. Deshpande was a golden period in the annals of ACPR.

That Fateful Day

On the fateful day of 30th November 2003 there was a Study Circle meeting arranged in ACPR. The present Chief Minister of Karnataka Shri.B.S.Yediyurappa participated in the meeting along with Shri Suresh Angadi Central MoS Railways. Hon. M.P. Smt.Shobha Karandlaje and special representative of Karnataka at

Delhi Shri Shankargouda Patil. Prof N.R.Deshpande who presided over the function as the Chairman of ACPR, asked me to give an introductory talk. Accordingly I started my talk and within a few minutes Prof N.R.Deshpande had a massive heart attack. I rushed immediately and took him in my arms and started Chanting "Narayana Narayana" in his ears. Instantly He took his last breath, attained the Feet of Shri Gurudev at ACPR, Belagavi. An unexpected shock overtook to all present and an unbearable blow to me. Exactly one year back at the same time, same place his elder brother Dr. N. S. Deshpande had breathed his last. Both the brothers left their mortal coils while discharging their duties to ACPR and at the feet of Shri Gurudev. It is my firm belief that both the brother's always acted according to the dictates of Shri Gurudev who was there in their heart always. (ನಿರಂತರಂ ಹೃದಯಮಂದಿರೇ ಭಜತಿ ನಿತ್ಯಂ). My words fail in explaining the virtues of my Guru. It's only to be experienced. It's the grace of God and my elders that I got that opportunity in my life.

It is often said in the Vedic script that, "one who is aatmanirbhara will learn many things instantly" So was the case with Prof. N.R. Deshpande. He acquired great knowledge in the field of Homeopathy. Many people would to consult him for their ailments and he rendered free services to them. He applied his mind to floriculture and produced export quality flowers. Prof. N.R. Deshpande was indeed a genius and was very sharp and sensitive in grasping the things and situations around him. But he was very selective in his reactions, yet another quality of an àtmajnàni. There was a great balance in him in materialistic and metaphysical approaches to life. (ಇಹೇ ಪರೇಚನಿಷ್ಠಾತ)

Such was my great Professor, Guru, Guide and Light of my life.

JAI SHRI GURUDEV.



॥ श्री गुरुलिंग गीता ॥

॥ श्री गुरुलिंग गीता ॥

श्रीमती सविता नं. देशपांडे
बेळगावी

नमो नमो गुरुलिंग जंगमेश ॥१॥

नमो नमो गुरुलिंग जंगमेश ॥१॥

नामरहितने । नारायण महात्मने ।
भव कुडिसो वेगने । निजधामने ॥१॥

नामरहितने । नारायण महात्मने ।
भव कुडिसो वेगने । निजधामने ॥१॥

करविरवासा । श्री गुरुकाडसिधदेशा ।
भक्तर भावा दोळवासा । सर्वेशा ॥२॥

करविरवासा । श्री गुरुकाडसिधदेशा ।
भक्तर भावा दोळवासा । सर्वेशा ॥२॥

प्रियरघुवरदाता । बेडिद वरव कोडुवाता ।
चिम्मडमठ दोळिरु वाता गुरुनाथा ॥३॥

प्रियरघुवरदाता । बेडिद वरव कोडुवाता ।
चिम्मडमठ दोळिरु वाता गुरुनाथा ॥३॥

साधुपुरुषने । श्री गुरुराम चंद्रने ।
साधुराज शिष्यने । चिमडवासने ॥४॥

साधुपुरुषने । श्री गुरुराम चंद्रने ।
साधुराज शिष्यने । चिमडवासने ॥४॥

हिंचगिरीशा । भाऊराव गुर्वेशा ।
श्री गुरुनाम निवास । साधकेशा ॥५॥

हिंचगिरीशा । भावुराव गुर्वेशा ।
श्री गुरुनाम निवास । साधकेशा ॥५॥

श्री नागाप्पाण्ण । गुरुसाधनराणा ।

श्री नगप्यण्ण । गुरुसाधनराणा ।

चरणी (पाददोळु) गुरुसिद्धणा । निरंजना ॥६॥

चरणी (पाददोळु) गुरुसिद्धणा ।

निरंजना ॥६॥

श्री गुरुलिंग महाराज ।

श्री गुरुलिंग महाराज ।

श्री भाउसाहेब महाराज ।

श्री भावसाहेब महाराज ।

श्री अंबूराव महाराज ।

श्री अंबुराव महाराज ।

श्री गुरुदेव रामभाऊ रानडे महाराज ।

श्री गुरुदेव रामभावुरानडे महाराज ।

श्री समर्थ अक्कलकोट स्वामी महाराज ।

श्री समर्थ अक्कलकोट स्वामी महाराज ।

श्री गजानन महाराज ।

श्री गजानन महाराज ।

श्री संत बाळुमामा (अक्कोळ) महाराज ।

श्री संत बाळुमामा (अक्कोळ) महाराज ।

ह्या सर्व गुरुजनाना वंदन करून मी कै. नंदकुमार देशपांडे ह्याच्या जिवनातील मोजके क्षण लिहीत आहे.

जिवनाच्या ह्या उतार वयात मला माझे पति श्री. नंदकुमार देशपांडे यांचा जिवनातील मोजके क्षण प्रामुख्याने लिहावे असे वाटते. हा सुवर्ण प्रवास यावा हा गुरुदेवांचा आशिर्वादच म्हणावा लागेल. त्याबद्दल मी शतशः आभारी आहे.

माझा जन्म जमखंडी या गावी झाला आणि लहानपणापासून श्री गुरुदेवांच्या बद्दल भक्ति व श्रद्धा होती. जमखंडी हे श्रीगुरुदेवांचे जन्म स्थान. त्या ठिकाणी कळतनकळत जाणे-येणे होत होते. त्यामुळेच की काय गुरु परंपरेच्या कायम गजर होत असलेल्या घराण्यात माझा विवाह झाला. लहानपण हे एक जमीनदारी घराण्यात गेल्यामुळे माझे बालपण हे पूर्ण परमार्थात गेले असे नाही, पण त्याचा श्रीगणेश झाला होता. श्री. गुरुदेव जमखंडीला आले होते. तेव्हां मी गुरुदेवांना पाहिले आहे. पण मला वाटले कोण थोर व्यक्ति आहे त्यांना आपण नमस्कार करावा.

मी माझ्या मैत्रिणी बरोबर त्यांना बघायला गेले होते. जमखंडीच्या राणी साहेबानी गुरुदेवांना येण्याचे आमंत्रण दिले होते. गुरुदेव एक महिना राहिले होते. गुरुदेवांचा अमृत महोत्सव सोहळा झाला होता. तो क्षण मी प्रत्यक्ष डोळ्यांनी पाहिला आहे. महिनाभर दरदिवशी आम्ही सर्वजण जावून त्यांना नमस्कार करून येत होतो. आम्ही नमस्कार करतांना आम्हाला दररोज देवाचे नांव घेत जा असे सांगितले. त्यावेळेला नाम वगैरे काहीं माहीत नव्हते.



नंदकुमार ह्यांचा जन्म त्यांचा अजोबांच्या घरी शेडबाळला सप्टेंबर 26, 1940 साली झाला. संगोराम ह्यांच्या घरी झाला. श्री संगोराम हे ही श्री. भाऊसाहेब महाराज यांचे शिष्य व नामधारक होते, त्यामुळे परमार्थाचा वारसा दोन्हीकडून त्यांना मिळाला होता. माझे सासर हे मूळतः चंदूरचे. चंदूरचे दादासाहेब देशपांडे हे माझे सासरे सौ. कुसुम देशपांडे ह्या माझ्या सासुबाई, माझ्या सासऱ्यांना श्री. अंबुराव महाराज यांच्याकडून नाम मिळाले होते. सासूबाईंना श्री. गुरुदेवांच्याकडून नाम मिळाले होते. दादासाहेब देशपांडे हे B.Sc. Agriculture, MA, Ph.D. होते.

नंदकुमार लहानपणी आई वडिलांच्या व गुरुदेवांच्या बरोबर राहत होते. त्यांचे बालपण गुरुदेवांच्या जवळ गेले. गुरुदेवांकडून त्यांना नाम मिळाले होते. त्यावेळी त्यांनी गुरुची सेवा खूप केली असे सांगत होते. त्यांचे पाय दाबणे, पाठ दाबून देणे, दालचिनी घालून चहा करून देणे. श्री गुरुंचे जेवण कमीच होत. त्यांना वारंवार चहा लागत असे अशी सर्व सेवा करत. त्यावेळेला त्यांच्या मनात नामस्मरण सुरु असायचे.

थोड्या दिवसांनी गुरुदेव सांगलीला आले. त्यांच्या बरोबर सर्व मंडळी सांगलीला आली. नंदकुमार यांचे शालेय शिक्षण सांगलीला झाले. ते पहिल्यापासून शाळेत हुषार विद्यार्थी म्हणून ओळखले जायचे. महाविद्यालयी, शिक्षण पुण्यात झाले B.Sc. पर्यंत. तेथून त्यांनी Banaras Hindu University मधून Mining Engineering ची पदवी घेतली. तेथेही ते Distinction मध्ये पास झाले. ट्रेनिंगसाठी बिहारला गेले होते. सहा महिने तेथे होते.

माझा विवाह त्यांच्याशी 1964 साली झाला. पहिली नोकरी गोवा येथील Dempo Mines मध्ये केली. पण तिथल्या दमट हवेमुळे त्यांच्या प्रकृतीला त्रास झाला. त्यामुळे ते नोकरी सोडून बेळगांवला आले त्यानंतर R.L. Law, College ला Admission घेतले.

त्यांनी R.L. Law, College मध्ये सुद्धा हिंदु Law उत्तम Marks मिळविले. हा त्यांचा आवडता विषय. त्यामध्ये त्यांनी Karnataka University ला पहिला नंबर घेतला. त्यांनी गोल्ड मेडल मिळविला, वकीली पूर्ण झाल्यावर त्याच कॉलेजमध्ये एक वर्ष नोकरी केली.

संसारातील सप्तपदी त्यांच्याबरोबर पार पाडत त्यांच्या आध्यात्मातील पावला बरोबर आध्यात्माचा अभिषेक मला अधून-मधून होत होता. त्यांच्याकडे बघितल्यावर वाटायचे ज्ञानाची व आध्यात्माची सांगड गुरु कृपेनीच होऊ शकते.

ते ध्यानाला बसले तर पाच-सहा तास बसत. त्यांना समाधी लागत असे. मी त्यांना एकदा विचारले की, 'इतका वेळ ध्यानाला बसता, तुम्हाला काय दिसत?' तर ते म्हणाले, 'मला त्या वेळेला सर्व संसाराचा विसर पडतो. आणि मला माझे गुरुने दिलेले नाम तेवढे आठवते. कधी वस्तु दिसतात. वस्तु म्हणजे काय? डोळे मिटून बसल्यावर लख्ख चांदणे दिसते. कोणालाही सांगायचे नसते', असे म्हणत.

ते सांगायचे, 'ज्ञानरूपि व जीवन रूपि झाड जो पर्यंत आध्यात्मिक मातीत सखोल जात नाही', तो पर्यंत निष्काम रूप फल त्याला लागू शकत नाही. ते म्हणत, 'ज्ञानाचा उगम कुठेही झाला त्याचा प्रवास, कितीही झाला शेवटी त्याला अंत आध्यात्म रूपि सागरातच होणार व त्याला अखंड गुरु कृपा व गुरु दृष्टि आणि सानिध्याची आवश्यकता असते.'

त्यांनी ज्ञान आणि आध्यात्मावर प्रचंड लिखाण केले आहे. त्यांचा दृष्टिकोन होता की ज्ञानाचे फळ आध्यात्मिक कर्म वर्गावर अवलंबून असतात. मनाची व्याख्या अति सुंदर रीतीने सांगायचे कारण मन ही एकच अशी, न दिसणारी ऊर्जा देवाने माणसाच्या शरीरात मांडली आहे. मनाचा वेग, मनाचे आकर्षण हे आध्यात्माला पूरक पण असू शकते व मारक पण असू शकते. त्यांच्या मनाचा श्लोक वरील प्रचंड अभ्यास हे ऊर्ध्वलिखित शब्दात दिसेल. मनावरचे संस्कार हे माणसाच्या मनक्यापेक्षा ताठ उभे करू शकतो. तात्पर्य हे की हीच तर आध्यात्मातील पहिली पायरी.... अभी बहुत दूर जाना है....

देव दिसण्यापेक्षा देवत्वाला स्वतः अनुभवणे खूप मोठी गोष्ट आहे. ते म्हणतात या सृष्टीत प्रत्येक कणामध्ये देव आहे. आणि ज्याला ही दृष्टि साध्य झाली तो आध्यात्मातील दुसरी पायरी चढल्या सारखी आहे.

प्रामुख्याने ते सांगायचे की 'कर्मण्येवाधिकारस्ते मा फलेषु कदाचन' गीतेतील ह्या सुंदर ओळी कर्म आणि फळाचे अंतर न मोजण्याची कला त्यांनी आत्मसात केली होती ती दैवी कृपेमुळेच.

ते म्हणायचे या पंचभौतिक अनंत रूप आत्म्यास तेजमय व तेलत ठेवण्यासाठी नामस्मरण रूपि उर्जा जागृत करून शेवटपर्यंत अखंड ठेवणे जरूरी आहे. म्हणून अखंड नामस्मरण व भजन करणे गरजेच आहे जसे आध्यात्मिक कमळ प्रपंचाचा चिखलात उमलते तसे.

त्यांच्या आध्यात्मिक वलयामुळे जीवनात खूप महान थोर व्यक्तींचा सहवास त्यांना लाभला प्रामुख्याने के.एस. संगोराम, तुळपुळे काका, सैदल्ली साहेब, जमखंडीचे लक्ष्मण शास्त्री निंबरगी, हरकडली अज्जा, आर.पी. कुलकर्णी मनोहर पंत देशपांडे, त्यांचे वडिल श्री. दादासाहेब त्यांच्या बरोबर आध्यात्मबद्दल ते निरंतर चिंतन-मनन करत होते.

जेव्हां गुरुदेव मंदिराशी संपर्क जवळचा नव्हता ह्या वेळी न्यायाधीश श्री. मैत्राणी ह्यांनी स्वतः त्यांना बोलून गुरुदेव मंदिराची धुरा सांभाळण्याचा सल्ला दिला. काही अडी-अडचणी नंतर त्यांनी ACPR चे चेरमन म्हणून कामाला सुरुवात केली. तिथे त्यांचे आध्यात्मातील दुसरे रूप आम्हाला कळाले. जो उपदेश श्री गुरुदेवांनी आपल्या डोळ्यासमोर ठेवून ACPR ची स्थापना केली होती त्यांचे अनुकरण करण्यात ते गुंतले. आध्यात्मिकतेच्या सर्व जाती-धर्मातील विविधतेचा अभ्यास करण्यासाठी ती एक अभ्यासशाळा होती. आणि त्या मंदिराला कुठल्याही जाती-धर्माचे बंधन नव्हते एका निष्ठावान भक्ताप्रमाणे त्यांनी त्या कर्तव्याची धुरा सांभाळण्यासाठी विविध जातीतील लोकांची मोळ बांधण्याची तयारी चालू केली. त्यात त्यांना यश पण आला. आणि श्री गुरुदेवांनी ACPR ची स्थापना जो उद्देश ठेवून केली त्यावर दृढ राहिले. परमार्थासारखा त्यांना समाजकारणाचा आणि राजकारणाचा तेवढा अभ्यास नव्हता. त्यामुळे की काय, मंदिराचे चेरमन झाल्यावर त्यांना मोठेपणाचा शो करायची आवड नव्हती. कारण गुरु निष्ठा आणि नामाचा आत्म शक्तीवर दृढ विश्वास होता की ते आपल्या निश्चयाचे पूर्ण भक्तीने पालन करित.

रोज सकाळी काकडारती पासून दिनचर्या सुरु होत होती. असेच एकदा काकडारती झाल्यावर ते ध्यानाला आपल्या खोलीत बसले होते. फार वेळ झाला म्हणून सहज मी खोलीत गेले व त्यांना नेमाला बसलेले पाहले तर त्यांचा चेहरा थेट मारुति सारखा दिसला. मी हाथ जोडून तिथेच बसले. असेच त्यांच व्यक्तित्व होते. ध्यानातून उठल्यावर त्यांचा चेहरा इतका शांत व प्रसन्न वाटायचा. त्यांचा इतका सखोल विचार आहे असे कोणीही ओळखने शक्य नाही.

आपल्या जीवनात त्यांनी आई-वडिलांची सेवा केली. त्यांच्या आई तर म्हणत होत्या, 'तू माझासाठी श्रवण बाळ आहेस. माझा पूर्ण आशिर्वाद तुला आहे'.

श्री नंदकुमार कर्नाटक University ला आपल्या मेहनतीवर 'पहिला नंबर' आले म्हणून कर्नाटक सरकार ने त्यांना "Expo-70" ला जपानला पाठविले होते.

त्यांनी आपले खेडेगांव 'चंदूर' मध्ये 'गुरुदेव मेमोरियल हायस्कूल' सुरु केले आणि चंदूर मध्ये Electricity सुरु करायला फार धडपड केली. त्यामुळे गावाला वीजपुरवठा झाला.

नंतर K.L.E Society त AB.V. Bellad Law College मध्ये 28 वर्षे नौकरी केली. ते 1998 साली रिटायर्ड झाले. परंतु त्यांच्या Talent मुळे एक वर्ष नौकरीसाठी सोसायटीनी बोलविले.

रिटायर्ड जीवनात नातवंडाबरोबर फिरायला जाणे, त्यांना खेळविणे असे करत ते रमत होते. निसर्गाचा त्यांना फार आवड होती. सर्व कुटुंबाबरोबर मधून मधून कुठेतरी थंड हवेच्या ठिकाणी फिरायला जात होते.

रिकाम्यावेळेत त्यांनी होमियोपथीचा अभ्यास केला होता. अनेक लोंकाना त्यांनी दिलेल्या औषधामुळे बरे झाले. बेंगलोर आणि बेळगावीच्या काही लोकांना औषधे दिली होती. त्यांना थोडे फार भविष्य देखील कळत होते.

जीवनाच्या प्रवासात आध्यात्मिक दिव्यदृष्टि ठेवत कर्माची आहुति ते नित्य नेमाने करत, त्यातून मिळणारे यश व अपयशाची शिंदोरी ते गुरुचरणी अर्पण करत. जीवनाच्या प्रवासात अशी अखंड गुरुकृपा असलेली व्यक्ति त्यांनी गुरुचरणी आपले प्राण गुरु मंदिरात त्यांचा चरणी अर्पण केले. हीच की काय, गुरु दक्षिणा की गुरुकृपा हे आज पर्यंत मला उमगले नाही. त्यांच्या पुण्याई मुळेच मी आज दोन मुलगे, दोन सुना आणि तीन नातवंडा बरोबर श्री गुरुदेवांच्या छत्रछायेखाली माझी जीवन यात्रा चालू ठेवू शकले आहे.



ನಾ ಕಂಡಂತೆ ಬಾಬಾ

ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ವಿಭಾ ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆ
ಹಿರಿಯ ಸೊಸೆ

ನಮ್ಮ ಮಾವನವರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಎನ್.ಆರ್. ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆ ಇವರ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿತ್ವದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಬರೆಯುವುದು ನಮ್ಮ ಯೋಗ್ಯತೆ ಅಲ್ಲ. ನಾನು ಅವರಿಗೆ ಮೊದಲನೆಯ ಸೊಸೆಯಾಗಿ ಈ ಮನೆಗೆ ಬಂದಿರುವೆನು. ನನ್ನ ತವರೂರು ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ನನಗೆ ಮರಾಠಿ ಒಂದು ಅಪರಿಚಿತ ಭಾಷೆಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ನಾನು ಮರಾಠಿ ಓದಿ ಕಲಿತು ತಿಳಿದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕೆಂದು ಅವರು ನನಗೆ ಕನ್ನಡ-ಮರಾಠಿ ಭಾಷಾಂತರ ಪುಸ್ತಕ ತಂದು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದರು. ಅವರಿಗೂ ಹೊಸ ವಿಷಯ ತಿಳಿದು ಕಲಿತುಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದೆಂದರೆ ತುಂಬಾ ಇಷ್ಟ.

ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ಬಹಳವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅವರು ತಮ್ಮ 62ನೇ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ admission ಮಾಡಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ಆಧ್ಯಾತ್ಮ ಪುಸ್ತಕಗಳನ್ನು ಸತತವಾಗಿ ಓದುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ದಿನಾಲು “ದಾಸಬೋಧ” ಓದುವುದು, ಮೆಡಿಟೇಶನ್ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಸ್ತೋತ್ರ ಪಠಣ, ಪಾರಾಯಣ ಅವರ ದಿನಚರಿಯಾಗಿತ್ತು.

ವೃತ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರು ಹಿಂದೂ-ಲಾ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ ಆಗಿದ್ದರು. ಅವರ ಶಿಷ್ಯರಾಗಿ ಕಲಿತ ಅನೇಕ ವಕೀಲರು ಅವರನ್ನು ನೆನಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾ, “ನಾವು ದಿನಾಲು ಊಟ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೇವೆ” ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿರುವರು. ಎಷ್ಟೋ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆರ್ಥಿಕವಾಗಿ ಅಥವಾ ಮತ್ತೇನಾದರೂ

ತೊಂದರೆಯಿಂದ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಫೀ ತುಂಬಲಾಗದೇ ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸ ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಸಂಗವಿದ್ದರೆ, ತಾವೇ ಮುಂದಾಗಿ ಫೀ ಕಟ್ಟುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಭ್ಯಾಸ ನಿಲ್ಲಲಾರದಂತೆ ತಿಳುವಳಿಕೆ ಹೇಳುವುದು ಅವರ ಕೆಲಸವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ತಾವು ಸಹಾಯ ಮಾಡಿದ ಈ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಅವರೆಂದೂ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚರ್ಚಿಸುತ್ತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ವಿಷಯ ನಮಗೆ ಕೆಲವೊಂದು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ಎಷ್ಟೋ ವರ್ಷಗಳ ನಂತರ ತಿಳಿದು ಬಂದಿದೆ.

ಅವರು ನನಗೆ ತಂದೆಯ ಸಮಾನರಾಗಿದ್ದರು. ನಾನು ತವರಿಗೆ ನನ್ನ ಹೆರಿಗೆಯ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ಹೋಗುವಾಗ ಅವರಿಗೆ ನಮಸ್ಕಾರ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾದರೆ, ತಾವೇ ಜಗಲಿಯ ಮೇಲೆ ನಿಂತು ನಾನು ಬಗ್ಗದಿರುವಂತೆ ನನ್ನಿಂದ ನಮಸ್ಕಾರ ಮಾಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಆಶೀರ್ವಾದ ಮಾಡಿ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ಮಗಳನ್ನು ತವರಿಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಲು ತಂದೆ ಹೇಗೆ ಕಣ್ಣುಚಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರು ತುಂಬಿರುತ್ತದೆಯೋ ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಅವರು ಕಣ್ಣಿರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು. ಆ ಪ್ರಸಂಗವು ಇನ್ನೂ ನನ್ನ ಮನಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮನೆಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ.

ಪ್ರೌಢೇಶರ ಆಗಿದ್ದರೂ ಕೂಡ ಅವರು ವಕೀಲ ವೃತ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು. ಎಂತಹ ಕಠಿಣವಿದ್ದರೂ ಬಂದ ಕೇಸುಗಳನ್ನು ಚಾಲೆಂಜಿಂಗ್ ಆಗಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಅದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ವಿವರಣೆ ಬರೆಯಲು ರಾತ್ರಿ 10-12 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೂ ಕೂಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು.

ದಿನಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಓದುವುದು, ಕವನಗಳನ್ನು ರಚಿಸುವುದು, ನಿಸರ್ಗದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಬರೆಯುವುದು ಅವರ ಹವ್ಯಾಸ ಆಗಿತ್ತು. ಅವರೋರ್ವರ ನಿಸರ್ಗ ಪ್ರೀಯರಾಗಿದ್ದರು. ಓದುವ ಹವ್ಯಾಸವಿರುವಂತೆ ಅವರು ಹೋಮಿಯೋಪಥಿ ಪುಸ್ತಕ ಓದಿ ಚಿಕ್ಕ ಪುಟ್ಟ ನೆಗಡಿ-ಕೆಮ್ಮಿನಂತಹ ರೋಗಕ್ಕೆ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಔಷಧಿ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಅನೇಕರು ಅವರ ಸಲಹೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು.

ಅವರು ಯಾವಾಗಲೂ, ಎಲ್ಲದಕ್ಕೂ ಪೂರ್ವಸಿದ್ಧತೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೂ ಅಚ್ಚುಕಟ್ಟಾಗಿ ವಿಘ್ನಭಾರದಂತೆ ನಿಯೋಜಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಎಷ್ಟೇ ಸಣ್ಣ ಕಾರ್ಯವಾದರೂ ಅದರ ಚಿಂತನೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಮೊದಲಿನಿಂದ ಕೊನೆಯವರೆಗೂ ಎಲ್ಲವನ್ನು ನೀಟಾಗಿ ಬರೆದು ನಿಯೋಜಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ತಮ್ಮ ಎಲ್ಲ ವಸ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಟಾಗಿ ಜೋಡಿಸಿ ಇಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಸಮಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಸರಳವಾಗಿ ನಡೆಯುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದವರೆಲ್ಲರೂ ಯಾತ್ರೆಗೆ ಹೋಗುವುದಾದರೆ, 2-3 ದಿನದಿಂದ ತಯಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಇಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಒಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಸ್ತುಪ್ರೀಯರಾಗಿದ್ದರು. ತಾವು ಎಂದೂ ಯಾರ ಮೇಲೂ ಅವಲಂಬಿತರಾಗಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ.



ತಮ್ಮ ಖಾಲಿ ವೇಳೆಯನ್ನು ತಮ್ಮ ಮೊಮ್ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಕಳೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಹೊರಗೆ ಕರೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗುವುದು, ಅವರಿಗೆ ತಿನಿಸುವುದು, ಅಡ್ಡಾಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಪಾರ್ಕಿಂಗ್ ಹೋಗುವುದು ಅವರ ರೂಢಿಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಹುಡುಗರು ಓದಿ ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ತಮ್ಮ ಜೀವನವನ್ನು ನಿರೂಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕೆಂದು ಅವರ ಆಸೆಯಾಗಿತ್ತು.

ತಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರಚಾರಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಅವರು ಎಂದೂ ಆಸೆಪಟ್ಟವರಲ್ಲ. ತಮ್ಮ ಹೆಸರು ಮುಂದೆ ಬರಲಿ, ತಮಗೆ ಶ್ರೇಯಸ್ಸು ಸಿಗಲಿ ಎಂದು ಅವರು ಯಾವುದೇ ಪ್ರಚಾರ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಮಾಡಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಮತ್ತೊಬ್ಬರಿಗೆ ಏನಾದರೂ ಸಹಾಯ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಸ್ವಂತ ಖುಷಿಯಿಂದ ಹಾಗೂ ತುಂಬು ಹೃದಯದಿಂದ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ತಮ್ಮ ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕ ಪ್ರಚಾರದಿಂದ ತಮಗೆ ಲಾಭವಿದ್ದರೂ ಸಹ ಅವರು ಅದನ್ನು ಕಡೆಗಣಿಸಿ ಅದರಿಂದ ಆದಷ್ಟು ದೂರವಿರುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು.

ಚಿಕ್ಕಂದಿನಿಂದಲೇ ರಾಜ ವೈಭವವನ್ನು ಅನುಭವಿಸಿದ ಅವರು ಬೇರೆಯವರಿಂದ ಏನೂ ಆಸೆಪಟ್ಟವರಲ್ಲ. ಕನ್ನಡದ ನಾಣ್ಯಾಡಿಯಂತೆ “ಎಲೆಯ ಮರೆಯ ಹೂವಿನಂತೆ” ಅವರ ಜೀವನವಿತ್ತು. ಸಾದಾ, ಸರಳ ಜೀವನವನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು. ಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಸುಖಕ್ಕೆ ಆಸೆ ಪಡದೇ ಶಾಶ್ವತ ಸುಖವನ್ನು ಹುಡುಕುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು.

ದೇವರ ಮೇಲೆ ಭಕ್ತಿ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಸಹ ಅವರೆಂದೂ ಗುಡಿಗೆ ಹೋಗುವುದು, ಪೂಜೆ ಪುನಸ್ಕಾರ ಮಾಡಿಸುವುದು ಈ ರೀತಿ ಮಾಡಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎದ್ದ ನಂತರ ಕಾಕಡಾರತಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿ ದಿನಚರ್ಯೆ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸುವರು. ಡಂಭಾಚಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ನೊಬ್ಬರ ಮನವೊಲಿಸಲು ಅವರೆಂದೂ ದೇವರ ಮೊರೆಹೋಗುತ್ತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಏನಾದರೂ ಸಂಕಟ ಬಂದರೆ, ಯಾರೇ ಇರಲಿ ಅವರ ಬೆನ್ನೆಲುಬಿನಂತೆ ನಿಂತು ಆ ಸಂಕಟದಿಂದ ಅವರನ್ನು ಪಾರು ಮಾಡಿ ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಕಷ್ಟಗಳನ್ನೆಲ್ಲ ತಮ್ಮ ಮೇಲೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಇನ್ನೊಬ್ಬರಿಗೆ ಸುಖ ಹಂಚುವಂತಹ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದರು.

ಗುರುದೇವ ರಾನಡೆ ಮಂದಿರಕ್ಕೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಜೀವವನ್ನೆಲ್ಲ ಮುಡುಪಾಗಿ ಇಟ್ಟಿದ್ದರು. ಮಂದಿರದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಜನೆ, ನೇಮ, ಧ್ಯಾನ ಹಾಗೂ ಭಕ್ತಿಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳು ಜರುಗಲೆಂದು ಸಾಧಕರಿಂದ ಪ್ರವಚನವನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು.

ಅವರ ಆಸೆಯಂತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಆಶೀರ್ವಾದದಿಂದ ನಾವು ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಾಧಾನದಿಂದ ಜೀವನವನ್ನು ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಇನ್ನು ಮುಂದೆಯೂ ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಿರಿಯರ ಆಶೀರ್ವಾದ ಹಾಗೂ ಗುರುದೇವರ ಕೃಪೆ ಎರಡೂ ತಮ್ಮ ಮನೆತನವನ್ನು ಕಾಪಾಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಸುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಅವರು ಕುಂಡಲಿ ನೋಡಿ ಅಪಾರ ಬಂಧು-ಬಳಗ, ಮಿತ್ರರು, ಶಿಷ್ಯರನ್ನು

ಸಂಕಟದಿಂದ ಪಾರು ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಕುಂಡಲಿ, ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸವನ್ನು ಹವ್ಯಾಸವಾಗಿ ಇಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು. ಹೀಗೆ ಹತ್ತು ಹಲವು ವಿಧಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರು ಪರಿಪೂರ್ಣ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯಾಗಿ ಮಾರ್ಪಾಟಾಗಿದ್ದರು. ಯಾವ ವಿಷಯ ತನಗೆ ಗೊತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಅನ್ನುತ್ತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಈಗಿನ ಕಾಲದ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರನಂತೆ ಅವರ ಚಾಣಾಕ್ಷತನವಿತ್ತು.

ಈ ರೀತಿಯ ಪರಿಪೂರ್ಣ ಇರುವ, ಅಪಾರ ಬಂಧು-ಬಳಗ ಹೊಂದಿದ ಅವರು, ಮಿತ್ರರು, ಶಿಷ್ಯರು, ಧರ್ಮಪತ್ನಿ, ಎರಡು ಗಂಡು ಮಕ್ಕಳು, ಇಬ್ಬರು ಸೊಸೆಯರು ಹಾಗೂ ಮೂರು ಮೊಮ್ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಗುರುದೇವ ರಾನಡೆ ಮಂದಿರದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುರುದೇವರ ಸಮಾಧಿಯ ಎದುರಲ್ಲಿ ತಮ್ಮ ಜೀವನದ ಆತ್ಮ ಜ್ಯೋತಿಯನ್ನು ಗುರುದೇವರಿಗೆ ಚಿರಂತನಯಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಪಿಸಿ, ನಮ್ಮನ್ನೆಲ್ಲ ಅಗಲಿ “ಉತ್ತತಿ ಏಕಾದಶಿ” ದಿನದಂದು ಜೀವನವನ್ನು ಸಾರ್ಥಕಗೊಳಿಸಿದರು. ಪುರಾಣ ಕಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಳುವಂತೆ ದೇವರ ಸಾನಿಧ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಮದೂತರು ಬರದೇ “ಶಿವದೂತರು” ಅವರನ್ನು ಶಿವಲೋಕಕ್ಕೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಹೋದರು.

ಎಷ್ಟೇ ಗುಣಗಾನ ಮಾಡಿದರೂ ಇನ್ನೂ ವಿಷಯಗಳು ಮುಗಿಯುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಅಂತಹ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯು ನಮ್ಮ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ಜನ್ಮ ಹುಟ್ಟಿ ಬರಲಿ ಎಂದು ದೇವರಲ್ಲಿ ಭಕ್ತಿಯಿಂದ ವಿನಂತಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಅವರಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾಯುತ್ತಿರುವುದೊಂದೇ ನಮ್ಮ ಕೆಲಸ.

ನಮಸ್ಕಾರಗಳು



प्रॉ. एन्.आर. देशपांडेच्या गोड आठवणी

सौ. सुषमा दिलीप देशपांडे
एरंडवणे, पुणे

कृतार्थ जीवन
दिव्यत्वाची जेथे प्रचीति ॥
तेथे कर माझे जुळती ॥

ति. नंदूमामांबद्दल लिहावयास मिळत आहे, याचा मला खरोखरच खूप आनंद होत आहे. माझ्याकडून त्यांची अशा तऱ्हेने अल्प सेवा होत आहे हे माझं भाग्यचं !

प्राप्य पुण्यकृतां लोकानुषित्वा शाश्वतीःसमाः ।

शुचीनां श्रीमतां गेहे योग भ्रष्टोऽभिजायते ॥41॥

अथवा योगिनामेव कुले भवति धीमताम् ॥42॥

एतिद्धि दुर्लभतरं लोके जन्म यदीदृशम् ॥

भगवतगीता अध्याय क्र 6:41-42

भगवत गीतेत योग्यांचे वर्णन केले आहे. अगदी तसेच नंदूमामा होते.

नंदूमामांचा जन्म 26/09/1940 रोजी शेडबाळ गावी ति. दादासाहेब देशपांडे व कुसुम देशपांडे चंद्रकर यांच्या पोटी झाला. अगदी बालवयातच नंदूमामांना सर्व प्रकारचे

सुसंस्कार घरातूनच झाले. मूल जसे पहिले पावले आपल्या आई वडिलांच बोट धरून चालायला शिकते तसेच अध्यात्माच्या मार्गावर सुध्दा नंदूमामांनी वडिलांच्या मार्गदर्शनाखाली पहिले पाऊल उचलले. त्यांचे प्राथमिक शिक्षण सांगली येथे सि.टी. हायस्कूल मध्ये झाले. नंतर उच्च शिक्षणासाठी मामा विद्येचे माहेर घर असलेल्या पुण्यनगरीत सर परशुराम भाऊ महाविद्यालयात त्यांचे शिक्षण झाले. तसेच त्याचे मायनिंग इंजिनियरिंग बनारस विश्वविद्यालया मध्ये झाले. नंतर त्यांनी Law (विधी) मध्ये उच्च पदवी संपादन केली. एका प्रसिध्द महाविद्यालयात प्राध्यापक व शिक्षण तज्ञ म्हणून ते कार्यरत होते.

शिक्षण क्षेत्रात जशी त्यांची कारकीर्द दैदिप्यमान होती तसे शाश्वत ज्ञान ज्या क्षेत्रात होते त्या अध्यात्मिक क्षेत्रातही ते असेच शिखरावर होते. अध्यात्म व शिक्षण क्षेत्रात एक असामान्य व्यक्तिमत्व म्हणजे सदगुरू श्री गुरूदेव रानडे म्हणजेच श्री रामचंद्र दत्तात्रेय रानडे ज्यांचे जीवन भव्य उदात्त होते. अशा सदगुरूंचा त्यांना अनुग्रह प्राप्त झाला. हे सबीज नाम देवाचे प्रतीक आहे. आणि त्यामध्ये सदगुरू गुरू नी घातलेली आध्यात्मिक शक्ती असते आणि ती त्यांना लाभली होती.

सदगुरू श्री गुरूदेव रानडे यांनी एक उदात्त ध्येय डोळयासमोर ठेवून अध्यात्म विद्यापीठाची स्थापना केली. श्री गुरूदेवांना परमार्थिक जीवन सर्व श्रेष्ठ वाटत असे व त्यांना वाटे त्यांचा तत्वज्ञानाचा व्यासंग जगाला उपयोगी पडावा म्हणून त्यांनी या संस्थेची स्थापना केली. पुढे नंदूमामा या संस्थेचे चेअरमन झाले.

पाथ वे टू गॉड हा ग्रंथ 1954 साली प्रसिध्द झाला या ग्रंथाची पूर्व तयारी त्या आधी 10/12 वर्षांपासून चालली होती '**परमार्थ सोपान**' हा साधन ग्रंथ प्रथम त्यांनी तयार केला व या ग्रंथावर आधारित 'पाथ वे टू गॉड' हा इंग्रजी ग्रंथ प्रसिध्द झाला. या ग्रंथाचे प्रमुख संपादन नंदूमामा होते.

त्यांना अध्यात्मा मध्ये खूप रूची होती श्री गुरूकृपेने आणखी एक गोष्ट घडून येते ती म्हणजे विश्वाला व्यापून राहिलेले आत्मतत्व साधकाला प्रत्यक्ष दिसते अर्थातच ते चर्मचक्षूंनाच केवळ दिसते असे नव्हे तर ते आत्मचक्षुनाही दिसते.

डोळे झाकनी या पाहे ।

पुढे गोपाळ उभा राहे किंवा खाली पाहे अथवा वरी ।

जिकडे पहावे तिकडे हरी ।

अशी गोष्ट घडून येत असल्याची संत जनाबाईंच्या अभंगात दिले आहे. तसेच ति. नंदूमांवर श्री गुरुदेवांची कृपा होती. ति.नंदूमांवांचे नित्यक्रम म्हणजे पहाटेची काकडआरती, नामस्मरण व आरती कधीही चुकली नाही. तसेच आई व वडिलांची त्यांनी खूप सेवा केली.

त्यांची भगवद्गीता व ज्ञानेश्वरीवर विशेष भक्ति होती. ते केवळ अध्यात्माचे अभ्यासकच नव्हते तर ते प्रत्यक्ष गीता जगत होते. कितीही कामात व्यग्र असले तरी त्यांचा अध्यात्मिक नेम कधी ही चुकला नाही.

‘आधी केले मग सांगितले’ असे त्यांचे जीवन होते.

भगवद्गीता हा ग्रंथ भारतीय संस्कृतीचा आत्मा आहे. अध्यात्म आणि तत्वज्ञानाचा मुकुटमणी आहे. अध्यात्म समाज जीवन आणि तत्वज्ञानाच्या अंगाने संपूर्ण मानवी जीवनाचे वैश्विक चिंतन घडविणारा तो नुसता ग्रंथ नाही. चिंतनातून मानवी जीवनाला उत्तुंगाकडे नेणारे ते एक यथार्थ जीवनदर्शन आहे. गीतेमध्ये ज्ञान आहे, भक्ति मार्ग आहे कर्म आहे आणि सर्वांना जोडणारा विवेक आहे. या तिन्हीच्या समन्वयाचे विवेक दर्शन म्हणजे गीता होय.

श्री ज्ञानदेवांनी तिला विवेकाची गोठी असे म्हटले आहे.

अधिच विवेकाची गोठी ।

वरी प्रतिपादी श्री कृष्ण जग जेठी ॥

गीता हे विवेक तत्वाचे भांडार आहे. हे विवेक तत्व सांगणारा स्वतः भगवान श्रीकृष्ण आहे. तर ऐकणारा भक्तराजकिरीटी अर्जुन आहे.

श्री ज्ञानेश्वरी हे गीतेचे एक भाष्य आहे. गीतेचा तत्व चिंतनावर स्वतःच्या प्रज्ञेचा स्वतंत्र अविष्कार घडवून ज्ञानेश्वरीच गीता होऊन नटली आहे. अशा या दोन्ही ग्रंथांचे ते अभ्यासक होते.

लहानपणी मी दरवर्षी सुट्टीत बेळगावला मामांच्याकडे जात असे. माझ्या प्रत्येक सुखदुःखाच्या प्रसंगात माझ्या मामा व मामीची मला भक्कम साथ असायची. नंदूमामा व ति. आजोबा त्यांच्या अध्यात्माच्या चर्चेमधूनच अनेक गोष्टी कानावर पडायच्या त्यामुळे तेव्हापासूनच माझ्यातही अध्यात्माचे बीज माझ्या नकळत पेरले गेले. आज मला त्यांचा खूप उपयोग होतोय. त्यांचा या अध्यात्म विचाराच्या प्रेरणे मुळे जगायला बळ मिळते. व प्रसंगी खंबीरपणे मी उभी राहू शकते.

नंदूमामा हे आम्हा सगळ्यांसाठी एक वटवृक्षासारखे मोठे आणि डौलदार होते. असामान्य बुद्धिमत्ता, चेहऱ्यावरील तेज, मोठ्यांबद्दल आदर आणि लहानांबद्दल औदार्य असे विलक्षण तरीही कांहीसे गूढ असेच त्यांचे व्यक्तीमत्व होते. सगळ्यांचा आधारस्तंभ असलेली ऋषितुल्य व्यक्तीची मी भाची याचा मला खूप अभिमान आहे.

नंदूमामांचे मी आणि माझे कुटुंब सदैव ऋणी आहे.

‘बोले तैसे चाले’ त्यांची वंदावी पाऊले.

नंदूमामांच्या चरणी शतशः प्रणाम करून मी माझी भावांजली त्यांच्या चरणी अर्पण करते.





Nandu Anna: A personality with vast wisdom of spirituality

Shri. Sanjay Potdar
Belagavi

Spiritualism is the essence of life, without spirituality there is no meaning to life. That is the way Sir Nandu Anna along with his career he did a lot of research and study on spirituality in his life. He was my cousin, by the way I am younger to him by quite a few years. He did not speak much, still I respected him and to express my love for him. I am writing a few words about him.

I came to know about spirituality through my grandfather K.D. Sangoram that is why I liked Sir Nandu Anna who was also on the path of spirituality. At that time I was very much busy with my family business so I used to get a chance to meet Sir Nandu Anna regularly. I used to know about his vast wisdom of spirituality through my parents Sir Nandu Anna never mixed his work and devotion to God. He was excellent both in his work and spirituality. I

was from Athani We all used to get together during Hanuman Jayanti. This was like a common meeting point for all our relatives. As I was getting older I was also getting wiser and I realised that Sir Nandu Anna was a king of wisdom. In education his excellence was unmatched education was his favourite domain. He had very close relatives with many. His proficiency in knowledge never touched him with ego.

Sir Nandu Anna was quite older than my father sir Wamanrao Potdar but their relative love and interaction was beyond words. My father had a deep knowledge of astrology. My father along with Sir Galagali, Sir Deshpande (Bhagya Nagar), Principal Raghavendra Desai used to come together and discuss on astrology of a certain person both my father and Sir Nandu Anna used to consult each other on various issues. Sir was a mining engineer and also he did his L.L.B from Belgaum in which he scored 99% on this very achievement he was honored with gold medal by the Vice Chancellor. Karnataka Government send him to Japan for higher studies. After becoming legally expert he successfully won many cases in the court of law. He did not stop in the field at this he even completed his studies in Homeopathy. When Pediatrician Dr.Anil Kulkarni's mother was sick Nandu Anna cured her by his Homeopathic treatment. Everyone was surprised, he was expert at what he did. He did his duty complete devotion and he had blessings of his Guru. These are my honest words about clear Nandu Anna.





My Inspiration ...

Nandumama

Smt. Shruti Kulkarni

As there is famous line from Shakespeare's play *Twelfth Night*- "Be not afraid of greatness, some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them"- Nandumama was one of those who was born great.

"Nandumama, I am craving for Mangoes!" I demanded to him when I was 7 years old, he said, "That's it? "We will get it for Dinner" He assured. Since then until he was alive every summer holidays we visited him at Belgaum, even before my elder sister and I reached to Belgaum, piles of mangoes were waiting for us. It was not just love towards us but he liked to do this to anyone who indicated him that he/she expected something from him. So it is basically, he used to try his best to fulfil any requests and willing to provide whatever requests he received, It could be gifts, favourite food or any clothing etc. but you have to promise him to do something best for all.

He used to encourage us to be the best at studies and used to go extra mile to appreciate our academic success. He was very expressive and always applauded if we achieve best in academics. My elder sister could get 1st rank in her 9th standard inter school examinations. My dad conveyed this good news while we were enjoying our summer vacation in Belgaum. When he heard this good news he celebrated and arranged party for all kids and adults. I learnt that day, If I get the good numbers in my exam I can make Nandumama happy. It was not just an encouragement but this was indirectly teaching us to chase our dreams, rather he motivated to set our goals. As a child I knew that appreciation is waiting for me if I reach up to the mark. From then, I wanted to prove him that I am good at studies and I started working hard to achieve the best. What an encouragement!

I remember when we were at Belgaum during vacations there were lots of cows roaming freely on the streets, very unlikely in London! During our summer holidays we all children were playing near his office and there was one cow which regularly used to be pass by the door. We all were engrossed in that morning in our games and one cow was passing through the door and suddenly I saw 10 penny coin on the ground next to me. I was very much impressed with this magic. Next day same thing happened, the next day cow passed through the door and I got another 10 penny coin. This continued throughout my summer holidays for four weeks. As I was very young I used to think, 'if I pray cow I will get more money.' I started collecting all those coins. After sometime, I could literally gather so much of money and I didn't know what best I could buy out of this. I went to Nandumama and he only suggested me to think how I can use this for a better cause.

He never used to tell anything directly, I think he was the best who had studied human nature. He was fully aware of the fact that if someone tells you to do something, then you will think to do entirely different or in most of the cases to do opposite. Keeping this in mind he suggested me many options like buying chocolates, buying doll or some clothes, but at the same time he told me about some poor people who struggle to get food, shelter or education. His influence was too strong on me to resist. I decided to buy one chocolate for me and the rest of the money I wanted to donate in temple so that the money could be used for some needy kids. Now thinking adult way- If he wished he would have easily taken some money out of his pocket and given this in any charity organisation or in a temple. As after all, it was his money. Illusion was created to me that money was mine that I got only by praying cow.

But the purpose of all of his drama was to teach me what I should do when I actually started earning money, he conveyed this and endorsed three main things on my mind.

1. Praying our fundamental God Cow
2. Saving is a must whatever you earn, doesn't matter how much is the sum
3. Very importantly whatever you earn you should use adequate amount for basic needs and do not forget to do saving out of that income and use it for charity.

Many of us know that we have some liability towards society to preserve and protect it, but we fail to take action. Hence there are many organisations out there where they work so hard to help all types of needy, poor, mentally disable and physically handicapped people. **He just wanted to convey the thought and tactfully reached out to our minds by such a funny drama and stories and made us aware of noble deeds.**

I have been in London since past 12 years and there are so many incidents that I can relate and give whole and sole credit to him of whatever little success I could gain until now. It was back in 2011 when I was a candidate struggling for job. After my graduation in law I was looking for a job in a decent organisation. I had applied for it in a reputed multinational Tax and Audit firm. I was called for interview on one very fine afternoon. Situation was very tense as I was nervous and not had any previous experience. But all educational background was perfectly fit for the role.

When the actual interview started after a few technical questions interviewer started asking me scenario based questions. I was not really prepared for these challenging questions, but remembered Nandumama, who always used to tell us to trust our instinct. He used to say, 'if you are not sure what you should do, you ask your mind and soul that what could be the best thing I could do that my Guru and my Parents will feel proud about?' That's it, when questions are asked- How can you handle situation, when client is unhappy and demanding more fine work, what would you do? I had no experience handling client that time, but used my instinct and exact Nandumama's theory- I automatically answered that I would first listen/ understand the problem(this was taught by Nadumama's behaviour, which he was always ready to listen to me, even in the midnight he was there to listen any problem, basically he was always there for me and all his loved ones) then I said, I will try to find the loopholes and will treat the problem with the help of the right expertise. The interviewer was very smart and counter questioned what if you do not have right expertise within your team?'

Within a fraction of a second I said if I have no expertise with in my team I will resource it with in organisation, and I'm confident enough to pull this help into my professional networking skill. This

was extremely confident answer from me to interviewer. After a few more questions I satisfied him with all answers, He was convinced and I got the job in the company. It has been 8 years since I have been working in the same organisation now. Of course I have made some progress since then and worked in various departments and gathered so much experience like my Nandumama.

Challenges used to cheer him up! His personality was very impressive; I think it is because of his knowledge and way of speaking. Dr Abdul Kalam rightly stated, “Learning gives creativity, Creativity leads to thinking, thinking leads to Knowledge and Knowledge makes you great!

Nandumama is the best example of this. Because he believed that Knowledge is power, he never stopped learning. He studied engineering, then law and just as a hobby homeopathic medicine. He was the best teacher to a number of students. He was thoroughly an intelligent individual and no doubt my life inspiration - when I was young and even now albeit it's been years, he has passed away, I have chosen to study Law only because of him, always wanted to be one important person like Nandumaama.

He was very practical and always helped people. His best part was he used to help people with no expectation of return or favours, which is very rare in this world. I think only saints can act on this thought. He was a good listener. And most of the time he could figure out unsaid side in their stories (reading between the lines). Once he could find the unsaid fact he could treat that problem even unknowingly because of his helping nature. He was extremely brilliant because of his reading and life experiences.

Nandumama was the elder brother of my mother and had two other siblings. They all were very lucky as were blessed with brilliant Parents with their wisdom and devotion to Shri Gurudev

Ranade. I remember when I was young all my uncles and aunts including my mother were discussing some topics in Philosophy, which definitely I couldn't understand then. But I could see all were so much into the discussion and had all the knowledge to part and counterpart of any thought and their meanings. These positive discussions we used to get more and more motivation into our lives.

Nandumama was a very good writer and his writing were just so inspiring to all of us. I am the youngest amongst all children and I had a few glimpses of him in my life but I think if we could have him for some more time we would have been more enriched. I always miss him and will miss him in my entire life.

YOU CANNOT BELIEVE IN GOD UNTIL YOU BELIEVE IN YOURSELF-Swami Vivekananda.

Nandumama used to meditate regularly. He believed in God and more importantly believed in himself. He was courageous and strong minded like a rock. When we need to be a leader at the work place or anywhere in the society, meetings or even at classroom we have to develop our inner positive power to be strong and equally calm. Meditation will not just give an energy to act and stick to the truth but gives tremendous job satisfaction. Meditation and noble reading give power to take right decisions at the right time.

Two months back I was working on one project, where I was actually working very hard day and night. I had contributed so much of my knowledge and all coordinating skills with the UK team and Belgium team. This was all towards one day 8 hrs conference which was between all global Partners, Directors for Quality and Risk leaders. The day before this event, I was all ready and about to get taxi to airport to travel outside London. Phone rang and Mrs Maynard from my daughter's school was on the other side, she

informed me that my daughter had a little accident while playing on the school ground and it looks like she had a fracture in her arm. I was in panic, frightened and rushed to the school.

Luckily I had a help from my husband and we took her to emergency department in the hospital. Time was passing and I had to be at the airport and if I missed the flight I might end up not attending the conference. After doctors examination, he confirmed that her two bones were fractured and we have to stay overnight in the hospital for the treatment. I was in extreme dilemma and terrified as I could see all my hard work would go waste. I discussed with my husband and I made my decision to leave and catch my flight. I reached to the conference next day in time. It was not just a great and successful event, but also received many praising and appreciating to me, all over from global attendees at the conference.

I was in guilt that I left my little one behind in a hospital and I gave a priority to my work. I am sure this is a story of many working women. But I stopped feeling guilty when I thought about Nandumama and after some meditation in the flight. He was a practical person, he taught us to take decisions and take responsibilities of the decisions even if it is wrong. In an above scenario I took decision and started feeling guilty. That is just because I had not taken full responsibility of my decision but after a bit of meditation I started thinking positively and started in believing in my decision and in fact started believing in me. And I think that is why God helped me to make it all correct and smooth until I was back to London. If we look at the incidence now the situation was not very tense in the hospital as it was only a fracture and her Dad was present and happy to take care while I meant to be away. I am lucky to have him on my side as whatever I could achieve he is part of it. But at that moment keeping calm and taking the right decision was

necessary and I think I could do this because of Namdumama's training. Rather whatever I could observe his behaviour, he was always available wherever and whenever it was necessary. If we could find cause of necessity then there will not be any dilemma left in our lives. And meditation gives that power to find the cause.

If he would have been with me for more years God knows how much more excellent things I could have learnt from him.

I wish to have time machine so that it can take me back to my Nandumama!!



काला परता 'आ-नंदू... ।

Smt. Vidya Inamdar

Pune

प्रेम नये बोलतां दावितां सांगता ।
अनुभव चित्ता, चित जाणे ॥

जेवणाचे ताट पाहून चव कळत नाही 'तसेच अनुभवाचा 'आ-नंदू' शब्द ज्ञानाने अनुभवण्याचा खटाटोप!

एवढेच.....

ज्ञानी विद्वान पुरूषाच्या संगतीत ज्ञान, विद्या प्राप्त होते. धनवान पुरूषाच्या संमतीने धनाची प्राप्ती होते. संतमहात्म्यांच्या संगतीत भगवदभाव प्राप्त होतो. सुसंगतीने संस्कार जोपासले जातात, संस्काराने आत्म्याचा 'आ-नंदू' द्विगुणीत होतो. जसे प्रखर विजेच्या स्पर्शाने विद्युल्लहरी सर्वांगातून पसरतात त्याप्रमाणे ज्ञान वैराग्य व भक्ति श्रीसद्गुरूसंगतीत संपूर्ण व्यापून जातात. श्री सद्गुरू कृपेच्या करूणाशक्तीमुळे अमोघ असा सत्संग मिळतो. अशा सत्संगामुळेच मनाला पाहिजे तो आनंद जो स्वयांसिध्द, स्वाधीन व स्वगत असतो तो शाश्वत संपूर्ण इच्छापूर्ती, तृप्ति करतो. आनंदासाठी अंतर्मुख झाले पाहिजे. मन स्थिरावले पाहिजे त्यासाठी चितशुध्दी होणे गरजेचे आहे. चित्तशुध्दीसाठी नामस्मरण, संतसहवास, परोपकार, सदाचार, भजन इत्यादी साधनांचा उपाय आहे.

पूर्वपूण्याईने श्री सद्गुरूकृपा व त्यांच्या सहवासात वाढलेल्या भावाचे भावपण कसे अनुभूतिमय, विवेकरूप शुध्द स्थितिप्रत पोहचलेले होते हे सांगणे म्हणजे समुद्रकिनारचा व्याकुळजीव पाण्याविना तडफडतो तसे आहे. ज्ञान आणि बुध्दीने या भावाला स्मृति पटलावर रंगवायचे काम इतके सोपे नाही. असो, प्रयत्न अनिवार्य आहे. बघू कालभेदन हे कार्यकारण प्रक्रियेत बसत नाही. तरीपण बुध्दीने कमालीची शिकस्त करायला हवी.

कालापुरते त्रिकालबाधित सत्य, सृष्टि आणि मायेचे अभेद सूत्र चिरंतन ठेवायाचे असेल तर श्रध्देने शाश्वत भावाला आळविले तरच आनंदाचा कंद -मुकुंद प्रत्यक्ष प्रकट होईल. न पुसले जाणारे स्मृतिचित्र मायेच्या अश्रुनां डोळसपणाच्या कडाबाहेर पडू न देता, समजुतीच्या उपदेशाने बळेच आडवून जीवन प्रवाहीत करण्यास सिध्द केले पाहिजे व स्मृतिचित्र सजीव झाले पाहिजे.

या अनुभवांच्या शिदोरीतील आठवणीची भाकर उरवून पुरवून खातानां खूप तृप्ति व समाधान मिळाले. जीवनाला प्रत्यक्षात जगवायचं इतक सोपे नाही. शेवट गाठायचा असेल तर ती नंदूअण्णासारखे हव्यास नाहीं परंतु सततचा ध्यास, शिस्त, नेटकेपणा, करारीस्वभाव, साधेपणा, कर्तव्यपूर्तीची तळमळ, प्रेमळस्वभाव, स्वतःला झोकून देऊन दुसऱ्याला मदत करण्याची वृत्ति, अभ्यासू दृष्टिकोन, नवीन संकल्प-नवीन प्रेरणा मार्गदर्शन, उत्कटभाव, प्रतिभासंपन्न आणि अध्यात्मिक उत्कटभाव असे किती.... किती.... पैलूनी सजलेले हे भावाचे माझ्या व्यक्तिमत्व कसे वर्णन करावे ?

आजही चिरचैतन्यानी प्रफुलित मूर्ति सदैव सजग दृष्टिपुढे उभी आहे. नित्यनैमित्तिक कार्यक्रमांत काटेकोर, दृढनिश्चयी, करारी स्वभावामुळे स्टार्च इस्त्रीसारखे कडक व्यक्तिमत्व होते. नामस्मरण, काकडारती, नित्यकर्माहुती देण्यास कधीच कंटाळा नाही परिस्थितीतिल, शारिरीक-मानसिक आर्थिक बदलांत कोणतीच व कसलीच तडजोड नसे. चिकाटी व अभ्यासू वृत्तितर पराकोटीची होती. लहानपणींचा खोडकर नंदा ऐकला आहे. वयातील अंतरामुळे इतर भावंडाप्रमाणे सहजीवन सम नव्हते. वडीलबंधू हे वडीलांप्रमाणे होते. त्याचे शालेय शिक्षण सांगली-पुणे-त्यानंतर बनारस हिंदू युनिव्हर्सिटीतून माईनिंग इंजिनियर त्यानंतर गोव्याला-सांकेळीला खाणीतली नोकरी, प्रकृति अस्वास्थ्यामुळे इंजिनियरचा वकील होण्याचा निर्णय, घरची शेती, वडिलोपार्जित तंटे व त्यातून निर्माण झालेली कायदे तज्ञाची निकड या सर्व परिस्थितीबदलाप्रमाणे

कायदेपंडित होण्याचा निर्णय, कायद्याची नुसतीच डिग्री नाही तर युनिव्हर्सिटीमध्ये सुवर्णपदक मिळविले. त्यानंतर 1970 मध्ये जपान दौरा (Expo-70) प्रदर्शन पाहण्यास जपानला गेला. तिथे टोकियो युनिव्हर्सिटीत त्याने Jurisprudence विषयांवर व्याख्या दिले. विद्वतेचा वरदहस्त लाभलेला हा हीरा प्रत्येक क्षेत्रात झळकतच होता. उत्कटता आणि उत्कृष्टता यांची हात मिळवणी हेच त्याच्या जीवनाचे गमक होते.

सरस्वतीचा वरदहस्त व श्री सद्गुरू कृपेमुळे त्याच्या लेखणीला अनुभवाची धार होती. उत्कृष्ट वाडमय अनुभव सिध्द लेखणीतून कागदावर उतरले की या बहिणीला ऐकवायची व चर्चा करण्याची त्याची उताविळी आम्हाला खूप हवीहवीशी वाटे. त्यातून आम्हाला जीवन जगण्याची कला संस्कार व अनुभूतीने मनोमय जाणीव व जागृति मिळे. स्मृतिपटलावर ती ती पाने वेळोवेळी आजही जीवन जगण्याचे शास्त्र व कला शिकवून जाते. वास्तविकतेची सदैव जाणीव व भान ठेवून, श्रद्धा व बुध्दी या दोन्हींच्या भेदाला नाहीसे करण्याची कला शिकविली. एकलयता साधून दुप्पट शक्तीने हा जीवनरथ सुखद व गतिशील ठेवण्याचे सारथ्य त्यांनी शिकविले. जीवनाच्या घडीचे एकेक पदर, त्यांने नेटकेपणांने संकल्पाने-निष्कामपणे-समसाधत-सक्रियतेने व्यवस्थित ठेवण्याचा आटोकाट प्रयत्न केला. ही मोठ्या भावाची पदचिन्हे आम्हाला अलगद अंतापर्यंत नेवून पोहचवतिल!

1986 मध्ये इलेक्ट्रॉनिक डिसप्लेबोर्ड, अभ्यास करून बनवून-उद्योगाची सुरवात करण्याची त्याची धडपड, कामाचा झपाटा-विलक्षण होता. अविरत जिद्द व नाविन्याची आस असलेला हा 'आ-नंदू' भविष्यातही नवीन पिढीला नवनवीन प्रेरणा व आत्मविश्वासाचा आरसा दाखविण्यास अजुनही सज्ज आहे. म्हणून तो 'कालापरता' आहे.

कालाच्या गतानुगतिकेमुळे व शारिरीक गरजेपोटी औषधाच्या निकडीने त्याने होमिओपॅथिक व बायोकेमिकल औषधांचा अभ्यास केला. जिज्ञासूवृत्ती, अभ्यासाची आवड स्वतः बरोबर दुसऱ्याची सोय करण्याची वृत्ति त्याला स्वस्थ बसू देत नसे या चिकित्सेतही तो तरबेज झाला. एक अनुभव नमूद करावा वाटतो..

1988 साली माझ्या डाय्या-पायाला टाचरू झाले होते. टाचेचे हाड वाढल्यामुळे डॉक्टरांनी ऑपरेशन करण्यास सांगितले. मी तत्पुर्वी डॉ. नंदुअण्णाला सहज विचारले, तू

औषधांचा एवढा अभ्यास केला आहेस तर यावर काही औषध असल्यास दे त्यांनी लगेचच रात्रभर अभ्यास करून, सर्व लक्षणाचा विचार करून, मला फोनवरूनच दोन होमिओपॅथिक औषधे सांगितली. ते घेतल्यानंतर आठवडाभरातच माझा पाय दुखायचा कमी झाला व ऑपरेशन रद्द झाले. वाढलेले हाड जागीच विरघळण्याचे औषध देऊन आजही त्या आठवणींनी हा डॉक्टर कायमचा लक्षात राहिला-मकालापरताफझाला. बुद्धि व चिकाटीने स्वतःच्या व इतरांच्या जीवनात त्याने आधार व अर्थ दिला.

आजचे वैयक्तिक व सामाजिक जीवन प्रदूषित पर्यावरणात गुदमरत असतानां, समाजव्यवस्था संस्कृतिशीबांधिल असल्याने, जीवनाच्या अनेक लयबध्दतेत सर्व गोष्टींचा मध्य साधण्यासाठी भौतिक व पारमार्थिक सूसंवाद साधावा म्हणून त्याने श्री गुरूदेव मंदिर बेळगांव-हिंदवाडी येथे (Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion) ही संस्था सुरू केली. श्री सद्गुरू सेवा म्हणून त्याने, श्री गुरूदेवांच्या दृष्टिकोनांतले ग्लोबल मिशन भवितव्यात कसे यशस्वी होईल यासाठी त्याची सुसंबध्द रचना, नियोजन त्याने केले. तो सांगत असे-केव्हांही व्यवस्थेपेक्षा यंत्रणा महत्वाची होऊ नये, संस्कारापेक्षा त्याचे सोपस्कार फार महत्वाचे नसतात, धर्म आणि संस्कृतिचे ओझे वाटू नये. कोणत्याही ध्येयापेक्षा स्वतःची सुरक्षितता महत्वाची वाटू नये. न्यायापेक्षा कायदा मोठा होऊ नये. मंदिराचे पावित्र्य अबाधित राहावे त्याचे म्युझियम होऊ नये, घरातली आपुलकी जपावी, त्याचे वसतिगृह होऊ नये, मूल्यरहित लोकशाही ही सामाजिक संतुलन बिघडविते आणि माणसातली माणुसकी जपली नाही तर तो यंत्रमानव होईल व सामाजिक मूल्यांचा ऱ्हास निश्चित होईल. वैयक्तिक आयुष्यालाही वेळ देऊन-भावना-संस्कृति-सहृदयता जपणे तितकेच गरजेचे आहे. विश्व, राष्ट्र, समाज संघर्षरहित होण्यासाठी, सुसंपन्न होण्यासाठी प्रत्येकांनी भोगवादाची गुलामी न स्वीकारता जीवनातील अनेक अंगानी संघर्षरहित समसाधून त्यादृष्टीने प्रयत्न करणे गरजेचे आहे असे त्याचे स्पष्ट मत व त्यानुसा आचरण होते.

दूरदृष्टी असलेला हा मकालापरताफनंदू जीवनांतील सुख-दुःख, उद्वेग-चिंता यांना काखोटीस मारून त्यांच्यासह कष्टमय जीवन जगण्यास सदैव सज्ज होता-कधीच त्याचा बाऊ त्याने केला नाही. नित्यकर्माहुति देऊन कालप्रवाहास त्याने नवी जीवनदृष्टी दिली. आयुष्यातील प्रत्येक भूमिका त्याने मनापासून आनंदाने स्विकारली व तडीस नेण्याचा आटोकाट प्रयत्न केला. श्री सद्गुरूंचा सत्शिष्य, सुपुत्र, प्रेमळभाऊ, पति, पिता,

बुद्धिवान विद्यार्थी, हुषार इंजिनियर, निष्णात वकील, तज्ञ डॉक्टर, प्रतिभासंपन्न लेखक, कवि, विद्यार्थी घडविणारा मास्टर, भविष्य जाणणारा व पाहणारा ज्योतिषी, नातेवाईकांचा प्रेमळ नंदा कोणत्याही क्षणी धावून जाणारा परोपकारी मित्र, शेतकरी, दीनबंधू दयेचा सिंधू-अशा विविध रंगानी रंगविलेला आयुष्यकर्ता तेजाळत-झळाळत कालापरता झाला आदर्शांच्या पाऊलखुणा घट्ट उमटवून कालापरता होण्याचे दिव्य त्याने साधले पारलौकिक प्रगतिपथावर हा कालापरता नंदू झेपावतोय हे पाहून या बहिणीस निश्चितच मनोमन आ-नंदू व गर्व होतोय.

अंतर्मुख होऊन अनुभवलेला 'आ-नंदू' शब्दचित्रानी रंगविणे अवघडच आहे. कारण अनुभवाला कोणतेही कसलेही रूप नाही ते अरूप असते. परंतु मनात होणारी विचाराची आवर्तने भरून टाकतात आणि या भावाचे भावातीतरूपही चित्रीत करतात. शब्दांच्या अनुभूतीमधुन जी स्पंदने-कंपने निर्माण होतात त्यामधुनही काही सामर्थ्य, शक्ति निर्माण होते.

श्री समर्थांच्या मते, एकांतात व्यक्तीने मनांतल्या मनांत विचार केला त्याची वाच्यताही त्याने केली नाही आणि त्याचा अंत झाला तरीही त्याच्या मनांतील विचारांचे तरंग त्या व्यक्तीच्या मृत्यूनंतरही अवकाशात अस्तित्वात राहतात. कदाचित हे विचार तरंग अशाप्रकारे उमजण्याची व समजण्याची प्रक्रिया होत असावी. अध्यात्मातही हेच अभिप्रेत आहे. स्थूलातून सूक्ष्म परमात्म्यापर्यंत पोहचावयाचे असल्यास सर्वसमावेशक ओंकार (नाम) ह्याचाच आधार घ्यावा लागतो. अनाहत नाद किंवा नादानुसंधान चित्ताची एकाग्रता होऊन ध्यानधारणा होणे हे या तत्त्वाचेच मूळ स्वरूप आहे.

या सर्व अंतरीच्या अध्यात्माची प्रस्तावना एवढ्यासाठी की, हा 'आ-नंदू' कालापरता कसा आहे? श्री सदगुरूंनी दिलेले सबीजनाम परब्रम्हांचे प्रतीक आहे. अव्यक्त परमतत्त्वाच्या व्यक्तीकरण्याचा तो सूचक मंत्र आहे. आघातन होता उत्पन्न होणारा तो अनाहत अजपा असतो. श्वासोच्छ्वासाबरोबर अखंडपणे चालणाऱ्या, मुद्दाम न करता होत राहणाऱ्या जपालाच अजपा म्हणतात. अशा नादांत निमन व अजपाचा अखंड स्रोत जपलेल्या या गुरूच्या चेल्याचे आजपावेतो उमटत असलेले प्रतीक्षीप्त निनाद अनुभवतानां खरोखरच 'आ-नंदू' होतो. विसरणे हा स्वभाव आहे. काही क्षणांत-काही महिन्यात किंवा काही वर्षांनी सहजपणे विसरणे स्वाभाविक असतानां हा 'आ-नंदू' आजही मनांमनात अजूनही स्मृतिपटलावरून पुसला जात नाही. कारण तो कालापरता झाला आहे तो कसा.

श्री गुरूदेवांच्या मते ज्ञानाच्या संदर्भात वेदांताचा अपरोक्षानुभूति हेच केवळ प्रमाण आहे. हा सर्व निष्कर्ष अनुभवांशी निगडीत आहे. अमूर्ताच्या अनुभूतीच्या दिशेने घेतलेली झेप आहे. याचा सिध्दांतिक दाखला त्याची भावातीत समाधी! ही मानवाला लाभलेली दैवी देणगी प्रत्ययास येते. त्याची (ट्रान्सडेन्टल मेडिटेशन) भावातीत समाधी व त्या अवस्थेतिल होणारी विविध बाह्यरूपे बऱ्याच जणांनी पाहिली अनुभवली आहेत. या अवस्थेतून एक उर्जा निर्माण होते ती कधीही नष्ट होत नाही. रूपांतरीत मात्र होते. परिवर्तित होते किंवा तिचे स्थित्यंतर आनंदाचे स्वरूपात होते. अशा आनंदाच्या अमरत्व लाभलेल्या कालापरता 'आ-नंदूस' शतषहाः प्रणाम ! दंडवत ! मृत्यू हा देहातपुरताच असतो. ती तर जीवन मैफिलीची अपूर्व सांगता करणारी भावपूर्ण भैरवीच असते.

अवलियाची उक्ति व कृति अनाकलनीयच असते. आपल्यासारख्या सामन्यांना त्याचा कार्यकारणभाव जाण्याची क्षमता नसते. त्यांच्या कृतीमागील परिभाषा रहस्यमय गहन वाटते. असे सद्गुरूं चले लौकिक कल्याण कामना धरून, आत्कल्याण करण्यासाठीच अवतरलेले असतात. अध्यात्माची सिध्दी काही औरच असते. तिथे सद्भावाचे उतुंग उद्दीपन प्रतिष्ठान असते. 'बहिर्मुख बहिरे' किंवा स्वार्थाचे विविध लेन्स घातलेले मडोळसफ आपापल्या नजरेतून न्याहाळत असले तरी हा 'आ-नंदू अढळपदी' आरूढ होताना पाहून असे वाटते-

आनंदाच्या धारा । चुंबितात गगनाला ।

आनंदू चहुकडे स्फुरला । तोच क्षण कालापरता जाहला ॥

उत्कट आणि उत्कृष्ट चिंतन हे शब्दांचे लेणे लेवून प्रगटते. काळ नकळत सरत जातो आणि आठवणींच्या गर्दीत शब्दानां भेटतो, आनंदाची विचारपूस होते, आपापल्या मार्गे मार्गस्थ होता या बोनस क्षणांची सामग्री सोबत ठेवून आवश्यकतेनुसार उरवून-पुरवून वापरतो-अडीअडचणीला नक्कीच त्याचा उपयोग होतो. अशी मपाखरे येती आणि स्मृति ठेऊनी जाती हा तर जीवनाचा अपरिहार्य असा अनुभूतिमय आविष्कार आहे. श्री गुरूकृपेने ज्ञानभक्तीचा परिस स्पर्श झाला की जीवन जाणीवेचे ज्ञान होते. परंतू लहानपणी शिकलेल्या पाठशाळेची आठवण मात्र अजुनी ताजी असते. तसेच ह्या मभावाच्याफ मायेची आठवण होत राहते....



My Friend, Philosopher, Guide

Prof. N.R. Deshpande

Shri. B.M. Hurakadli

Retired Principal
S.S.S. Samiti's College of Commerce
Belagavi

ಒಂದೇ ಪಟವು ತತ್ವನೇಕ/ ಒಂದೇ ಸ್ವರ್ಣನೈಕ ಒಡವೆ
ಒಂದೇ ಲೋಹನೈಕ ಶಸ್ತ್ರ/ ಸುಂದರಂತೆವೋಲ್
ಒಂದೇ ಬ್ರಹ್ಮ ನಾನಾ ಜಗವು/ಒಂದೇ ಸರ್ವ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿದು
ಒಂದೆಯಾದ ಆತ ಚಿದಾನಂದದೊಳಗೆ ದೈವತ.

It was a rare and remarkable moment to greet a towering personality, an exemplary thinker and a learned Prof. N.R. Deshpande, at S.S.S. Samiti's College of Commerce Belagavi, for the first time during the year 1973-74. He was then working as a lecturer on part time basis and used to teach Commercial Law for the final year students of B.com. His dress code was superb, always in full suit and tie round neck. Usually he used to return to his office once his classes get over. He was the grandson of our Shri. K.D. Sangoram, the Chairman of our Samiti and an ardent follower of the

most Shri. Gurudev Ranade, later we were introduced to each other and learnt about each other closely. He started to come to the staff room and became familiar to us. We used to discuss a variety of subjects seriously and some time just to while away the time. We developed a great respect for his scholarship and nobility. We were impressed by his extraordinary achievements and activities. His style of approaching the problems was usually unique. Once we were seated in the staff room, he came and looked around and found something missing. In the course of his conversation he very politely took a chance to suggest us that we should treat the guests in a proper way by serving them with tea, biscuits etc., whenever they drop into the staff room. He assigned this duty to one of the professors immediately as well. Next day to our surprise, he brought crockery set, napkins etc., to our surprise. He assigned the duty to supply tea to all the members of the staff everyday, during recess time.

He advised us to contribute for the arrangement of tea to the staff and to the visitors. He hailed from a rich family and he was the man of taste. His interest in social service, spiritualism, unassuming character earned our respect for him. Since he was interested in selfless service, he hardly cared for remuneration of any kind. Once there was a discussion going on about the Fish Pond program in the staff room, Suggestions to screen the Fish came from some of the staff members as the naughty students put absurd and silly questions and queries to the teachers which might create embarrassment to the teachers. But Prof. N.R. Deshpande suggested to the teachers to accept and honor opinions of students on teachers sportively as they are real feedbacks. He advised us to keep our class lively. He was a good teacher in a true sense of the term and was an apple of eye of all students. Even after the class, students used to run after him asking clarification. He set high morals before us. Very often we used to go

to his house at Ramalingkindi, which was close to our college. His wife whom we fondly called 'Vainiji', was a gentle soul. She used to serve tea, and some times tiffin and never felt impatient to listen to our lengthy discussion on various topics. Prof. Deshpande and members of his family had reposed deep faith in Gurudev Ranade. Once Gurudev invited his father and members of his family to Banaras. Deshpande's father without uttering a single word left for Banaras. Prof. Deshpande never told a single word about his father's close association with Gurudev. As he was of the opinion that mystic experience is something which cannot be put in words but, to be experienced. He never shared his spiritual experiences with us. He had scaled a lofty height of mysticism and would attain a state of complete detachment. Once Prof. Deshpande and I went to take Darshana of Pujya Hurakadli Ajja. Ajja was a bit late in arriving and N.R. Deshpande went into deep meditation. Ajja appreciated it and when N.R. Deshpande bowed down to touch the feet of Ajja, he had sensed the spiritual power of N.R. Deshpande and lifted him up and embraced. I was spell-bound to witness this. It was a great meeting of two divine souls.

In the year 1977 it so happened that Shri C.A. Aralimatti, Senior Chartered Accountant tendered his resignation for the post of Principal of Samiti College of Commerce, where Prof. N.R. Deshpande and I were working, Shri C.A. Aralimatti struggled a lot to shift the College from Shedbal to Belagavi to avoid the closure of the same. The Management proposed my name for that post, I asked the Management to seek the opinion of the two senior Professors in this regard. I discussed this matter with Prof. N.R. Deshpande and he insisted me to accept the offer. I gave the reasons for my refusal. He called the meeting of all the members of the staff and friends namely Shri. V.K. Deyannavar, Advocate, Shri P.G. Ghali, Chartered

Accountant and Prin. S.B. Biradar, BVB Law College Belagavi and Shri. K.D. Sangoram, Chairman of S.S.S. Samiti's and discuss this matter at a greater length. But I was still reluctant. Then all of them said to accept the same if Ajja insists. I said 'YES' emphatically. Then they took me to Ajja. Ajja said it was the wish of "Avva" (Gouramma) a deity and that I must accept it. I accepted on the condition that Shri. V.K. Deyannavar, Advocate, Shri. P.G. Ghali, Chartered Accountant and Prof. N.R. Deshpande should be taken on College Executive committee and Rev. K.D. Sangoram as a Chairman of College Executive Committee. The Management agreed to do the same. Since then N.R. Deshpande, my Mentor and Guide had been giving suggestions and ideas regarding academic and administrative matters every now and then. His appropriate counselling made me play the vital role as a member of Academic Council/Senate/ Syndicate of the Karnataka University, Dharwad with ease and efficiency. His prophetic statement to the students of Samiti College will be national leaders one day. His statement has been realized as Shri. Suresh Angadi, an alumni of the College is made State Minister of Railways recently. It is indeed a pleasant shock that this great soul united with a Divine Soul while delivering a lecture on Shri. Gurudev at Ranade Mandir. Only people like N.R. Deshpande will have such an end.

ಕನ್ನಡಿಯೊಳು ಹೊನ್ನು ಗಂಟು / ಇನ್ನೂ ಇದ್ದೂ ಇಲ್ಲದಂತ
ಚೆನ್ನ ಸಂಸಾರದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದೂ / ಭಿನ್ನವಿರುತಲಿ /
ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿಯೇ ಕರ್ಮ ನಡೆಸಿ / ಸನ್ನುತಾತ್ಮಳಾದ ಸಂ
ಪನ್ನ ಸತ್ಕರ್ಮಿ ಚಿದಾನಂದ ಬಗಳೆ ದೈವತಾ /

"May his soul rest in eternal peace"





N.R.Deshpande

A Multifaceted Personality

Prof.Dr.V.B.Coutinho

Vice Chancellor

Garden City, University, Bengaluru.

For me, the year 1967 was significant as I entered into the portals of oldest Law College in Karnataka State, the Raja Lakhamagowda Law College, Belgaum. The academic year began on a turbulent note as the newly admitted students to the newly established three year LL.B. course were highly disturbed. The problem was while Karnataka University, Dharwad, introduced the three year LL.B Course, the other Universities like Mysore and Bangalore continued with the two year LL.B Course, thereby providing a one year advantage in practice to the students of these two universities. This discriminatory implementation brought the students admitted to the First Year of three year LL.B course together and indeed, closer than expected, for there was the shared problem. The burden of leadership fell on a few who were not employed and were serious full time students like Shri N. R. Deshpande, Shri Bapu Heddurshetti and myself.

Shri N.R. Deshpande had come to study Law with all seriousness as he had left his job of Mining Engineer due to health reasons and moved to Belagavi to join the R.L. Law College. He was greatly disappointed that he could not pursue the field he had chosen and had qualified himself and having studied at the prestigious Dhanbad School of Mines. Naturally, being younger than him, we turned to him for guidance and leadership. We greatly appreciated the thoughts that came from his sharp mind and we learnt much from his knowledge and experience.

The three years we spent together were full of deep impact creating moments. Being regular to the college and attending classes as serious students, we would discuss the topics and case law every day sitting in the college canteen for hours together, and sipping cups of tea without end. There were fierce arguments on different interpretation of the laws and specially the decisions of the Supreme Court of India on the developing constitutional law. Shri N.R. Deshpande had a logical mind supported by the scientific temperament. He always found solutions acceptable to the group on issues which were highly debatable. It is these discussions that ultimately helped us to attain First Class in First, Second and Third year LL.B. The most memorable event was the initiative taken by Shri N.R. Deshpande to invite Senior Badakundri, Advocate, to deliver four special lectures on Hindu Law. Those lectures were memorable and fetched to all of us distinction (above 70 marks) in the examination. The academic strength we gained in the college was largely due to group discussions and for this, leadership and dynamism were provided by Shri N.R. Deshpande. We remained ever grateful to him for his contribution and sharing of wisdom with us.

Shri N.R. Deshpande was a multifaceted personality. He loved Indian classical music and also had deep roots in Indian philosophy.

When discussing some of the problems facing the country he would delve into the traditional past and cite examples to provide answers to the issues. We were deeply enlightened by his thoughts and philosophical directions.

After we passed out from the college, the most surprising development was, Shri N. R Deshpande and myself joined R.L Law College as Lecturers. From student day friends to colleagues in the same college was something we could not imagine but greatly cherished the new relations. We had taken our teaching assignment very seriously. We spent 4 to 8 hours to prepare for the two lectures the next day. Working together as teachers, Shri N. R Deshpande and myself indeed became close friends and I gained much from this friendship to become a better teacher and highly committed to the cause of legal education.

Shri N. R Deshpande, also had a desire to practise Law but as full time teaching did not permit legal practice, he resigned from R.L Law College and started his practice, which he later gave up and joined the K.L.E.'S Law College in Belagavi. In 1973, I too left R.L Law College and joined University College of Law, Dharwad, as lecturer, as that would give me better prospects to rise in the teaching profession. After I left Belagavi for Dharwad, I missed the warmth and friendship which I always enjoyed in the company of Shri N.R Deshpande.

All that I can now remember is that, he was a great friend, a wise companion and a very good teacher of Law. He made his mark in life giving his best to the society.





My Golden Memories of Prof N.R. Deshpande

Prof. V.R. Shirol

Former Principal SCN Law College Bagalkot &
Former Dean KSLU, Hubballi

As a part of my never ending quest to become a better teacher and writer I always listen to knowledgeable persons. One such person who inspired me in teaching & writing is great Professor N.R. Deshpande.

I completed my post graduation in Law (LL.M.) in the year 1976. When I was writing my LL.M. examinations in the month of June 1976. I received an order from KLE society lecturer's post in Law. I was fortunate enough to get higher salary due to non availability of LL.M. hands during that period. I joined KLE society Law College (B.V.Bellad Law College), Belgaum in the month of August 1976 where I met Prof. N.R.Deshpande.

I was very much impressed by his personality when I first met him in the month of August 1976. He was well dressed in blue colour suit. He had more than average height of an Indian. He was well built, smart and very attractive person.

He was much senior by age to me. He was basically engineer who did law a rare combination of subjects. I still remember his husky voice which was mesmerizing; slowly we acquainted with each other and worked as colleagues for nine years.

We used to discuss many subjects in the staff room apart from Law. We discussed philosophy religions ethics and law. He used to make fine distinction between Law and Morality. I used to argue that entire the legal system is based on basic foundation of morality and ethics. During our debates we disagreed many times. However, we always agreed to disagree, probably that was the reason which brought us together. By and by I started feeling that Prof. N.R.Deshpande is one who is divinely enlightened. Even now I feel we rarely come across such divinely blessed persons. He had mastery over the Law, Philosophy and Religion. Usually people with good financial background don't shine in education but Prof. N.R.Deshpande was an exception.

I wish to recall our debate about education wherein we used to conclude that our education is at cross-roads. I used to vehemently plead the need for enhanced emphasis to inclusion of values of life and ethical norms in our educational system. Because from one norm we go to another norm, that another norm will take us to some other norm, ultimately we reach one basic or fundamental norm. I feel that the fundamental norm in the field of education is to inspire the students, so that they can become responsible and patriotic citizens of the nation. We all know that past is dead but we have to make the present, a pleasant one and have to make a better tomorrow. In this process of making a better tomorrow for our future generation, the role of a teacher is magnificent and quite responsible.

When I was going through my academics my aptitude and priorities kept on changing. Usually most of the students give final

shape to the basic aptitude and determine the profession to which they are suitable. Maybe their teachers and parents guide them as to the profession they have to choose. But in my case I joined teaching not by choice but by chance and could grow as a good teacher of law mainly due to the influence of persons like Prof. N.R. Deshpande.

As I remember in the year 1983 the concept of five year Law course floated in India though it actually started in 1985, Prof. N.R. Deshpande and I used to discuss the merits and demerits of three year course and five year course. We felt that three year course is better because Law subjects can be analyzed and understood only when student has already acquired a basic degree. However, to become a good law professional it is neither the five year course nor three year course that matters. What matters is students' and teachers' seriousness, dedication and involvement in the course.

A good teacher always plays a vital role in moulding the character of students. Prof. N.R. Deshpande was one such good teacher. Teachers are remembered and honoured by his students. ACPR is doing a good job by paying homage to Prof. N.R. Deshpande by publishing a book “Reminiscences of Prof. N.R. Deshpande”.

Teachers are respected not only in India but all over the world. When I had been to the US to meet my son, daughter in law and grand children I could experience this even there. I went to a play area with my granddaughter in USA, where I met a citizen of USA who had come with his kids to play area. He introduced ourselves. He asked about my profession in India. I told him that I was a retired Principal of Law College. He immediately said “Oho you have rendered a great service to the nation”. His statement made me to question my own conscience as to whether we are really rendering a great service to the nation. I do not know whether I have rendered a

great service to the nation or not, but I can say with confidence that Prof. N.R. Deshpande has rendered a great service to the nation as a good teacher of Law. He was not only a good teacher but a good philosopher and guide to many youngsters.

As a teacher, I have realized to respect the feelings of the students. Students come from different backgrounds some students come from rich families, some from poor families, some students come from rural or tribal areas and some from urban or metro areas. A teacher has to deal justly and impartially with all students regardless of their religion, caste or political and social backgrounds.

“With an era of globalization it is true to say that country will have a technological push but, along with that an ethical push is also imperative for any civil society” This ethical push can be given by Professors like N.R. Deshpande.

We used to discuss the Indian legal system in the staff room. Indian legal system is comparatively fair enough, however, many times justice is delayed. We say that justice delayed is justice denied but, usual delay in the court proceedings be curbed in the larger interest of the society, so that people should not lose faith in the system.

...I cherish the memories of those days in Belagavi. We use to walk in the streets of Belagavi, purchasing or enquiring various articles of the street vendors. I recollect my memories of all other colleagues of mine in Belagavi Prof. S.S.Alur first full-time Principal, Prof. S.B.Biradar, Prof.S.N.Dafedar, Prof. G.S.Hegde, Sri. C.G.Modgi eminent lawyer, Prof. S.B.Jatti, Prof. M.S.Radder and justice A.S.Pachpure and all others with whom I worked.

Those days have been golden days etched out in gold in my mind, which I cannot forget.

All of us have to vacate this earth because we are not owners but tenants on the earth, when lease expires one has to vacate the earth. Soul departs from the body. Body is mortal but soul is immortal. Prof. N.R. Deshpande has left the material world but his sweet memories will always remain in our hearts. If one can create an image in the hearts of others which can never be erased, he is not leaving us but staying in our hearts. Thus Prof. N.R.Deshpande has imprinted his image in our hearts which will never be erased.



¹Prof. Ranbeer singh “Globalization, Human Rights and Legal Education Challenges ahead” Nyayadeep p.no. 94 April, 2007



Sweet Memories of Prof. N.R. Deshpande

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My mind goes back to 1978 when I was a student of LL.B class in KLE Society's Evening Law College, Belagavi.

Before joining Law College I was a Prof. of Physics in KLE Society's R.L. Sc. Institute Belagavi.

Before joining the Law College I had contacted Prof. N.R.D. Sir about the Law course and how to study, because at that time I was 37 years old. Then Sir, with a smiling face advised me to join the Law College. With a curiosity I asked whether I could complete L.L.B course or not. Sir, was silent for some time and later on expressed not to worry and that definitely I would complete it without failure.

Sir used to arrive at the College exactly at evening 6-00 p.m. wearing an on his face Sir, was not merely a Professor but a philosopher and guide to show the way of knowledge in the midst of the jungle of Laws.

The important subjects in the Law are Administrative, Hindu Law and Jurisprudence. Sir never used to endearing smile carry any notes to the class. But without any notes he used to deliver lectures for one hour. There used to be a pin drop silence during his lecture.

He taught us Hindu Law during Ist year LLB and he used to quote the citations from preview councils as well as High Courts of different States and Supreme Court to explain the growth of Hindu Law in India.

In the IInd year he taught us Jurisprudence furnishing intellectual thoughts and many examples to add weight to his lecture. I still remember his sentence about the definition of Jurisprudence, he stated, 'nobody defines Jurisprudence because it is the scratch drawn on the glass plate or drawing a line on the water surface. The definition of Jurisprudence is so difficult that there are no limits and boundaries to the subject. He also taught Administrative Law by simplifying the subject to make it comprehensible even to an average student of the class.

Since his school days Sir was in contact with the great philosopher and well-known personality in the field of philosophy Shri. Gurudev Dr. R.D. Ranade, MA, D.Litt. I had heard about Prof. N.R.D. Sir, his style and way of teaching the subject, depth of knowledge which influenced me to join Law College and I am very lucky and it is my great fortune to be the student of this great Sir, and of my the credit of my L.L.B. Degree, goes to him.

Though Sir was a Mining Engineer he had resigned the job and proved to be a well-known Professor of Law in the Karnataka State.

I conclude, "Teachers are born and not made'. This proverb is applicable to N.R.D. Sir. I remember Sir, everyday while going to the court. And it is not possible for me to forget Sir in any walk of my life. The sweet memories that Prof. N.R.D. has left on my mind are evergreen even till this day.





Words of Gratitude to My Professor

-Hon. Bela Naik
District Judge, Goa

My association with Professor Shri N.R. Deshpande takes me down the memory lane, to August 1987 when I had joined B.V. Bellad Law College. Even though the city was not new to me, joining the evening Law College and staying at the hostel in the campus of the College road was altogether a fresh beginning of my life and career. From the day I joined College, I had the privilege of learning the Law subjects under the guidance of a very profound professor, Prof. Shri N.R. Deshpande, who was the Vice Principal of the College as well.

Prof. Shri N.R. Deshpande taught us Hindu Law and the Civil Procedure Code and to have been grown under his, guidance, academically as well as personally, was a privilege. Not only was Prof. Deshpande an astute intellectual and a sharp Lawyer, he was also one of the finest engineers who served as a Geological Engineer

in mines at Goa. Due to health problems he had to shift to Belgaum and got into the legal field. He was a warm and approachable mentor to many.

One of the things I will never forget about him is his institution. As a college student I remember visiting his house along with my other friends with many difficulties and the doors of his house were always open to all students and lawyers for his guidance and assistance. I was always welcomed warmly by Sir and his wife, who was very kind to us every time.

As a College student I remember my only goal was to clear the exams and pass to the next class. However, one day he took me by surprise during a casual conversation and said "Bela, you are going to become a Judge, do you know that?" This was when I was just a student of first year in LLB. I could not grasp it at that time, so I asked him to elaborate. However, he refused to say anything more and left. I had never, in my wildest dreams, imagined that I would become a judge. But Prof. Deshpande saw the potential in me before anyone else did even before I saw it in myself. When I finally did become a judge, he was the first person I telephoned. He wished me luck and told me that this was just the beginning and to keep in mind that the sky is the limit. It was then that I realised what a great sense of intuition my Professor had.

He always treated me like his own daughter, and often used to address me as "Manas Putri" and showered on me with the kind of affection and guidance that my own father did. I still remember the joy on his face when I was selected as ladies representative of our college. He encouraged me to start learning Kannada for easy communication with locals and it was because of his motivation that I tried to learn the language and even gave a speech in Kannada the day I left my hostel. The credit of learning this language goes to Prof.

Deshpande as I proudly say today that even today in the Court functioning, if need be, I can still converse with the litigants in Kannada.

I remember how he always welcomed us to his house with open arms and a generous heart and my parents also used to make it a point to meet him during their visits to Belgaum. Even as adults, when even we visited him, we were always greeted with a cup of milk and Bournvita as according to him tea or coffee was never meant for his students. This was because to Prof. Deshpande we never stopped being his students, and to us, he never stopped being a mentor.

When I heard about the passing away of Professor Deshpande, I was overcome with grief and shock, as I am sure many of my colleagues were. I felt like I have lost a member of my own family as he had been a father figure to me throughout my life. As I write these, my eyes well with tears and I go in nostalgic recollection of the past and yes, I was shocked and angry to learn of his death and I asked myself when another man as righteous and pure as Prof. Deshpande would walk in our midst again? I asked myself how God could take him away from us, but I was also at peace to learn that he had passed away in a state of meditation. He may not be amongst us in flesh and blood, but his memories are immortal. We are all united by the memories that we share of him and will continue to find solace in the fact that our lives were touched by a man as generous as him. He lived a full life and he touched the lives of many through his words and actions. His sincerity and kindness shined through everything he did. For his many lessons, kind words, wisdom and encouragement, I will forever remain indebted to him.

Alas, nature had the last laugh and we have lost an extraordinary human being. When will another like him take birth?

How many centuries will we have to wait before we have another Prof. Deshpande in our midst?

With these few words I am reminded of a Poem by Padmashree late Shri B.B. Borkar ;

|| Divyatwachi Jathe Prachiti

thethe kar mazi zulti ||

दिव्यत्वाची जेथे प्रचीति

तेथे कर माझे जुळती ॥





Prof. N.R. Deshpande

A Personal Reminiscence

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It is my immense pleasure to reminisce my association with Prof. N.R.Deshpande Sir as a student of B V Bellad Law College, Belagavi from June 1992 to June 1995.

In the beginning, when I joined the Law college as a first year Law student, we were hesitating to approach him, but when we came to know about his affectionate nature, we frequently started visiting him for guidance. He expected discipline in the class. His charming personality mesmerised us and from that day he became our mentor. So, the student-faculty relations then were more formal and the members of the faculty were quite helpful at BVB Law College.

Prof. N.R. Deshpande taught us Hindu Law. He had profound knowledge in the subject. His words were not mere notes, but guiding path to us. He took our outburst very seriously and his positive attitude occupied us with a sense of hope for the future.

He was one of those rare persons who took pleasure in teaching. He impressed me as a very transparent and good human being. Hard work, dedication and sacrifice are the keys of success. I must say Prof. N.R. Deshpande Sir played an immense role in instilling these values during my student life.

Prof. N.R.Deshpande Sir was a legend and a different man so kind and approachable ever willing to give everything from his garden of choicest thoughts and experience in the field of law to all the students. He always encouraged students to participate in all academic activities like Moot Courts and extra curricular like sports and picnics.

I would like to point out one incident for which I should be grateful to him. One afternoon he called me and said, 'we are going to conduct Moot Court in the College, would you like to participate?' I said, 'Yes Sir.' Then we the fellow students called a formal meeting and were being assigned different roles, we participated in the Moot Court relating to a Sessions Case and it was successful.

Another very exciting activity initiated by Prof. N.R. Deshpande sir in which many of us got involved was the active participation on a discussion of the topic “Dharma and Politics” in the present era. This discussion was very useful to enrich our ability of Leadership qualities.

That apart, because of his motivation and good advice I was elected as Gymkhana Secretary in the College. We had a memorable picnic to Terekol Beach, Goa and everyone enjoyed the picnic.

I spent my formidable yet fruitful three years which were instrumental in shaping my career to become a Judge. Similarly, Smt. Jyotishree.R. Patil (my wife) also was one of the students of Prof. N.R. Deshpande sir who has also become a Judge.

Prof. N.R. Deshpande was not only an eminent, devoted educationist and a great human being, but has also left a deep impact in the field of Spiritual and Law Education.

After completion of my Law study at BVB College, Belgavi, I started my practice in the chamber of Sri. M.B.Zirali Senior advocate Belgaum, during that period whenever we received a call from Prof. N.R.Deshpande our Senior used to start his conversation with him as 'Jai Gurudev'. This impressed me immensely.

Prof. N.R.Deshpande was not only a distinguished Professor of Law but he was also a great mystic and direct disciple of Dr. R.D. Ranade. As such he also served as Chairman of ACPR, Belagavi and Chief Editor of **Pathway to God** Journal. I learnt that because of his immense service, the Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion, Gurudev Mandir, Hindwadi Belagavi is rendering yeomen service for the well being of students and public at large.

Further, Prof. N.R.Deshpande Sir had an innate sense of moral responsibility, which he meticulously guarded throughout his life. We all the students feel fortunate, proud privileged for having late Prof. NRD in our Law College along with other faculty members of BVB Law College Sriyuths Biradar Sir, G.B.Patil Sir, Smt. Udupudi madam, Dhafedar Sir who taught us other Subjects in Law and M.B.Zirali Sir who has shaped my professional career.

It is a pleasure to contribute this writeup to reminisce on the occasion of bringing out a book on late Prof. N. R. Deshpande Sir, kind hearted and wonderful noble soul to be remembered through out our life.





My Association with Prof. N.R.Deshpande

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It was on 29th August 1978 when I first met Prof. Nandkumar Raghunathrao Deshpande. I had assumed charge as Principal of the KLE Society's B.V.Bellad Law College on that day. There were in all three full time teachers including him. I was informed that he was on the Staff Roll since beginning of the college and that he delivered the maiden lecture in the College.

I was quite new to Belgaum and in a way all the members of the staff were like strangers to me. Circumstances being like this, from some corners, a message was given to me that I should be very cautious about Prof. Deshpande. This message made me maintain distance from him for some time. As the days passed, we came closer and closer and I was fully convinced about his merit, sincerity, secular and amiable nature and strong moral integrity.

Since the other two lecturers were quite beginners, they required time to prepare for lectures. I had to depend upon him alone for effectually carrying on curricular and extracurricular activities of the College. The affiliating University, 'Karnataka State Bar Council' and 'Bar Council of India' inspected the college periodically. He managed the documentation work complying with all the norms prescribed by the respective statutory authorities. This helped the College with uninterrupted affiliation and recognition throughout. The authorities were always appreciative about the maintenance of records and management of the college. I would like to place on record that sincere efforts of Prof. Deshpande were pivotal in this.

The College was started as an 'Evening Law College'. The classes were held between 6:00 PM and 9:00 PM. Along with fresh graduates, officers from Air Force Station Samba, MLIRC, different departments of Central and State governments and faculty members of local degree colleges sought admission to improve their qualifications. Addressing such enlightened and fully matured gathering was really a challenging job for all of us. Prof. Deshpande had acquired mastery over his pet subjects, particularly Hindu law. He also had complete command over English language. His entry into the classroom always held the audience spellbound and established pin-drop silence. This clearly speaks for his unparalleled talent, dedication and love for teaching. He was the most popular and respected teacher in the college throughout.

Prof. Deshpande's wide national and international travel exposure was a boon for our College. Whenever the short excursion trips or long tours of students had to be arranged, he planned them in a very systematic manner and executed them successfully. His emphasis was also on sports activities, seminars and symposiums of

the College. He always inspired and encouraged students to participate in elocution competitions and moot courts. He single handedly provided them guidance to collect the required material from various sources. He offered them most enthusiastic training to present the speech or advance the arguments.

Thus whether it is curricular or extracurricular activity or any other event in the College, Prof. Deshpande, was at the forefront. He was always the source of inspiration for students. His humble and courteous behavior with them made him popular. His old students still remember him fondly.

So far, I confined myself to the developments relating to the institutional affairs and to the valuable contributions of Prof. Deshpande towards growth and development of the College. Now I will turn to the other side relating to my personal relations with him. Appreciation of merit, openness, impartiality, sincerity and honesty brought both of us closer. By around 1981-82, we became good family friends. We used to meet oftentimes and discuss even family matters without hesitation. To this extent there was mutual trust.

Alongwith serving the cause of education, we thought of doing some social service also during spare time. Prof. Deshpande by his sincere and ceaseless efforts formed a group of 20-25 like minded persons. He approached Shri. Nana Choodasama, the World Chairman of 'Giants International'-an organisation committed to social service. After successive meetings and deliberations we were able to organise and install local chapter of 'Giants International' on a grand scale most enthusiastically. We did perform sincerely social welfare activities. Because of some later developments, we both left the organisation that is a different matter. His commitment to do social service is evident from this incident.

Prof. Deshpande was not a personality to spend the time idly. He always thought of doing something new utilizing recent developments in the field of science and technology. His creative mind mooted the idea of making entry into entrepreneurship. He came up with an idea of fabricating and installing electronic advertisements, display boards in different cities. Being an engineer, he had collected the relevant material and prepared a project report for the manufacture of the proposed boards. Employment of technical staff was necessary for this purpose. Money was also required to be invested in the procurement of electric and electronic items. He formed a group of 20 persons and I was one of them. A common fund was created. Pune based person was appointed to look after local cash dealings. Yes, the board was manufactured and installed very soon at an attractive and prime square in Pune. His beloved father and some of his senior and learned friends attended the inaugural ceremony. They all blessed members of the group. The board started functioning well and significant amount of money was collected from the customers for display of their advertisements in a short span. But the person who was in-charge of handling cash misappropriated the proceeds. This happened because there was nobody to monitor or check the receipts and payments. We had failed because we were not practical and commercial and trusted somebody whose background we never knew. We all lost our share of money in this project eventhough it was successful. I mentioned this in detail to convey that he didn't do any work without plan and never implemented any project in haphazard manner. His only weakness was that he used to accept even strangers at their face value and repose trust in them. This was encashed by many.

Prof. Deshpande was himself the most trustworthy person. He used to trust people easily. And some of these trusted people

betrayed him shamelessly. Due to his innocent nature, he got his fingers burnt in many projects he put his hands into. Dairy farming and floriculture are the other two similar projects I remember. From his innocent side he gave the best to the world. But the practical world tricked him unfortunately. Perhaps that's why it is said that man proposes and God disposes.

I cherish the memories of my long association with Prof. Deshpande. May God bless his members of his family with health and wealth.





Prof. N.R.Deshpande :

A Noble Soul

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I deem it a privilege to be called upon to contribute this article for the ensuing book ‘Reminiscences’ of Prof N.R Deshpande a teacher *par excellence* – a fine man and, in my opinion, a great academician.

“..... I cannot do better than quoting Swami Vivekananda who said:

“Education is not the amount of information that is put into your brain and runs riot there, undigested all your life. We must have life-building, man-making, character- building, assimilation of ideas....” “...We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind increased, intellect is expanded, and by which one can stand on one’s own feet. The end of all education, all training, should be man-making....”

“...Primary need of the hour is to produce men of character, right-thinking men who are selfless, men who have compassion and men who have the good of the people and the nation at their heart.

Prof N.R Deshpande is an embodiment of all the above qualities.

Destiny plays a prominent role in the life of every person. But in case of Prof N.R Deshpande it has started its prominent role right from his childhood. Though he was a Engineering Graduate he realized that Engineering was not his cup of tea. As legal blood was running through his veins, he joined R.L Law College, Belgaum to study Law. He stood first-class first in Law Examination from the Karnataka University at Dharwad Prof N.R Deshpande was the only young Law Graduate from Karnataka, selected to go to Japan for Young Leadership Training. That is the charisma and personality of Prof N.R Deshpande.

One remarkable trait in him is his capacity to motivate others. He did this not by asking, but by example which compelled adherence. Even after doing one's best, one is left with the feeling that, more should have been done. This is what I would like to call the 'ProfNRD Syndrome'.

He was really a noble soul and a human being in real sense. Powerful Vocabulary and superb flow, chosen phraseology with chaste English in his statements speak a lot of his knowledge. He is man of literature of learning. He was a man of transparent integrity and impeccable character, cool temperament and simple habits. He believed in simple living and high thinking. He was simplicity personified. A good person is born good. It is his "Swabhava" also, since he had a good upbringing, he had remained good. Goodness is easier to recognize than to define. He was also an extraordinarily good gentleman, honest, gentle, generous, caring brave and wise.

And possessing all these qualities, he exercise them in the most graceful outward manner. An outstanding rare quality, I have noticed in him is his modesty. And modesty always adds to one's greatness.

Perseverance is his greatest virtue. It is only a few who can fulfill their aims in life only because of this rare virtue. And this virtue of his had enabled him to become a great man. Greatness was not thrust on him accidentally. He deserved it by this deeds and dedication to the service of the nation and to mankind in general.

The treasure of his human qualities is something marvelous, balanced, attentive to others, careful not to hurt others big or small, always well wishing. His company was most pleasant, he had deep Indian culture and no European thought is foreign to him. After spending some time with him, one comes out always richer than before.

Apart from being simple, he is known for being calm, quiet, composed and pleasant at all times. All this makes him a charming personality- the charm of being down to each, the charm of being close to heart and charm of the being able to touch the hearts and win over everyone who came close to him irrespective of age and status. He is able to easily establish instant equations with young and old alike.

It was my privilege to sit continuously with him in the staff room of KLE s' B.V.Bellad Law College, Belgaum for about four years till his retirement. He was very particular that any decision, big or small, minor or major should be supported by reasons.

I take this opportunity to express my pranamas to the great soul.
Thank you all.





Sweet Memories of Prof. N.R. Deshpande

Shri. S.H. Deshpande

My Friend, Philosopher, Guide and Guru Nandkumar Raghunathrao Deshpande, popularly called “N.R.” was my first cousin. His mother and my mother and three other sisters were daughters of the great sadhak and saint Shri Bapusaheb Sangoram of Athani.

We all his grandchildren used to gather at Athani for the summer vacation. It was a great assembly for us all. We called him Nandanna. He conceived and narrated interesting stories and kept us spell-bound till late night. It was his speciality to attract us all around him by his smart personality and sweet tongue.

He was born with a silver spoon in his mouth. That is to say, his father late Shri Dadasaheb Deshpande was a landlord at Chandur in Chikodi Taluka. He was a devotee of Shri Gurudev Ranade. “NR” was given in adoption to his grandfather Raghunathrao. Dadasaheb

was staying at Sangli with his four children and served as a manager in Sangli Sanshthan Press.

As Gurudev used to visit the Ruler of Sangli Sansthan NR was blessed with a “Naam” at a very young age by Gurudev. NR completed his schooling at Sangli and joined S.P.College, Pune for graduation. Afterwards he joined Banaras Hindu University for Mining Engineering.

After completion of Mining Engineering he joined Dempo Mining in Goa. Here he excelled in the service. In the meantime he married Sou. Savita Pote of Jamdhandi. Due to some heart ailment he had to resign his job. He was blessed with two sons and decided to settle in Belgaum as it was very near to his agricultural fields at Chandur. He also decided to join R.L.Law College to study Law.

I was studying in B.Sc. We became very close to each other. He used to narrate many enlightening things in our day-today life. Thus I came to know about philosophical and spiritual way of life. He was very intelligent and fast reader and remembered everything. He read and used to recite completely. I was surprised by his grasping skills.

He stood 1st to Karnatak University in the first year Law examination and distinction holder in 2nd year of Law examination. That year all the students acquiring 1st rank at the University in all the faculties were taken to a sight-seeing trip at Karnatak State government's expenses. N.R. was also one of them. At Jog falls one night he wrote a poem and was highly appreciated by all. The leader Hon. Commissioner of Belgaum Shri Ramchandra Rao, was so much impressed that he became, his fan. In 2nd year he was one of the members who visited Japans Expo Seventy at government's cost. He was Gold Medal holder during IInd year, in Hindu law.

His classmates Dr, Coutinho who rose to the position of V.C. at Gulbarga University attributed his 2nd Rank in Law to N.R. Many of

his classmates used to discuss many topics for long hours and were thrilled by his knowledge. I also participated in those discussions.

After 3rd year results he was offered a lecturer's post in R.L.Law College. But due to differences of opinion with the Management he had to resign the job. But during this time many people came to him for consultation and he was asked by my grandfather to take up Part- time lecturership in Samiti Commerce College which he performed with best of his ability and sincerity. In the meantime an evening Law College was started by K.L.E. Society in Lingaraj College premises and N.R. was offered a job where he continued till his retirement.

Many of his students told me that during his lectures they were so enchanted by the lectures that they sat as a cobra in front of a snake charmer. After my B.Sc. I went to Bombay for a job but had to return to Belgaum after one year because of domestic problems. N.R. made me join the Law Course but I found difficult to understand many concepts in Law. When I expressed this to him he asked me to see him early morning and we both used to walk from his house in Ramling Khind to Ganapati Temple at Hindalga Road everyday. He explain to me all the concepts in Law during the morning walks in such a simple way that I scored 1st class in 1st year.

Many times when I went to his house, I found him in deep meditation and that I would sit two or three hours waiting for him to come out of his Samadhi. Afterwards he narrated many of his experiences during deep meditation. Often he used to write down these experiences in his beautiful hand-writing and I found them amazing. He must have written more than two hundred such articles. I don't know now what happened to these articles after his death as my going to his place reduced and I feel sorry to say that his great writings were a loss to all of us and are remain untraced till this day.

Many people came to him for consultation in law cases. He went through the papers only once and used to guide them what should be done to get justice. He would guide in such cases with law points and explanations to one of his students who had started the law practice in the Courts. The success rates in these cases were phenomenal. Not only the law cases but anybody who came to him with any problems, he guided them so precisely that they were fully satisfied with his advice. His greatness was such that he never boasted of that and attributed it to the will of God. Everybody around him was benefited.

I was one of the many disciples and adored him as a Guru, he was indeed my Guru. N.R. liked to travel in a taxi. He always took me along with him and his company was so divine. His discussion during these trips was a life-booster and eye-opener for me. Once it so happened that I told him to see a Hindi movie “ANAND”. He liked it so much that he made me to see it again with him and he was so impressed by the philosophy of life which was narrated by Anand, “Babu Moshay yeh jindagi badi honi chahiye nahi.” He told me that everybody should lead the life with the attitude of Anand. He himself lives the life in that way. He lived his life like a king and departed from the world screen in a flash. His loss is not possible to be filled in the lives of those whoever has come close to him and were benefited and guided by him.





A Practice In Debt

Shri. Manjunath Meled

Advocate

Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.

"**W**hat you want to do? asked Deshapande Sir. He knew I had completed the LL.B. Course.

"Sir, I want to practice", I answered.

"Where do you want to practise?" Sir enquired further, as expected by me.

"I want to start from trial courts, sir". My reply was not simple to mean trial courts at Belgaum. I wanted to inform sir that I wished to go to Bangalore and join any senior if sir thought worthy of joining as a junior.

"Why not Supreme Court...are there no trial courts in Delhi?" This was most unexpected question for me.

The firmness in the voice and the ease with which it was said, left me with one lesson that day, never complain of your

circumstances if you want to reach the goal. I had ten reasons for not aiming high and one reason, **excellence**, Sir infused in everyone who came closer to him. Excellence, in anything you take up, as the only goal in life, I feel, is what Sir had tried to teach every student and whatever subjects he took in the classes, was just part of the job in the college.

That day onwards, I saw no hurdles on the road leading to the Supreme Court for practice and whatever I saw, were only in my mind. Perhaps, I would have dreamt and never would have dared, but for those words, I shifted to the Supreme Court, though after 10 years into practice.

My association with N.R.Deshapande sir mostly remained of a student with a teacher. I was shy and nervous of approaching sir. By the time I had overcome them, he was not around. I am left with no clue about some of the things he said, which I didn't understand then, but felt one day I would clarify them from him. There may have been few more like me fortunate to have come nearer to sir, but enviable are Zirali sir and Udapudi madam, who had the long association.

I joined Bellad Law collage in the year 1995 for it was nearer to my home. The college then had morning classes from 7 to 10. The first year LL.B. class was full of students about 100 in attendance. I had a degree in Science and there was initial difficulty in following the subjects. Deshapande sir taught Contract-I and Dafedar sir, Indian Penal Code. The Contract as a subject appeared so dull for me but in contrast the IPC was interesting and made lively by Dafedar sir enacting the scenes of crime. Just before Contract subject was making some sense to me Deshapande Sir suffered some health issue and Udapudi madam completed the rest of the classes.

It was in the Second year of law that I realized who Deshapande sir was. Sir taught Jurisprudence and Hindu Law, both he knew

backwards. The class timing was 7.15 in the morning and usually started with one student and I was often the second to enter it by 2-3 minutes late. The lecture didn't depend on the number of students in the class. Jurisprudence, as a subject remains mysterious to most of the students who intend to score pass marks in it. It was no different to me. I did not understand anything. I regret not making any effort myself and more regret not telling sir about it. He would have explained it treating us like children. I remember someone told me that, when sir wrote the Jurisprudence exam paper as a law student, he was called by the examiner to explain the answers written by him and he got highest marks to the Karnataka University, which stands unbeaten till today. For this distinction Sir was awarded by the state Government with a chance to visit New Zealand, the country of Sir John William Salmond, the author of the celebrated book Jurisprudence or the Theory of the Law. Having such record to his credit, sir said in one class, "what is getting a rank?" "It is mere copying from memory".

It is not the subject, but everything around the subject, he taught, I remember well which makes me face the Court confidently. The biggest impact on me was when sir said in the class, "the greatest lawyer of India also reads the same CPC in your and you also read the same CPC, then how his interpretation could differ from yours?" Sir emphasized how to read a provision, by sentence, by phrase, by word, by punctuation mark and scope and depth of each of it.

In the third, final year of law, sir taught Pleading, drafting and conveyance. Sir started the first class by explaining the difference between pleading and conveyance. For me, the first class of III year law could have been the final lecture. Sir said "the fundamental difference is that in pleading you always address the court and in

conveyance you don't, but a bad conveyance leads to pleading before the court”

Sir said ‘when you draft the plain you should know what written statement would be filed’. There are many such things sir said about the subject and practice which have certainly shaped my mind and perhaps many more.

The final class of third year law was the life changing class, at least for me. It was the March or April month, few days away from annual examination, we were told that Deshpande sir would not give any lecture but clarify any doubts if the students had. There were about 10 students in the class. Me and my dear friend, Anuj Saini accompanied with two or three more were discussing what to ask sir and still not appear foolish. I told our group that we should ask something more important than specific questions of the subject and was trying to explain it. We saw sir entering the class room and Anuj Saini said he will say it to sir. I was anxious what Anuj would say. Sir came and stood on the platform and hardly made the opening remarks to ask about anything we wanted to know. Anuj stood and said “Sir tell us about yourself”. My happiness knew no bounds. I had this in mind but felt such enquiry, as unrelated to law would be dismissed by sir. I was surprised to see sir smile and went on about an hour, saying about his life till the peon abruptly calling him to the Principal's room. I curse the peon even today. This lecture, so to speak, made me the lawyer I am and my practice remains indebted to N.R. Deshpande sir. Few debts require some lives, to be discharged.





Reminiscences of Prof N. R. Deshpande

Dr. Shobhalata Udapudi

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I have been entrusted with the most unenviable task of penning down my reminiscences of Prof. N. R Deshpande. I call it an unenviable task because to write about a person, larger than life, is the toughest task.

By qualification a Mining Engineer turned a member of the legal fraternity, a teacher par excellence, a lawyer - a legal strategist, a philosopher, a spiritual guide, a mystic – the list goes on.

I am drawn decades in the past, which is full of nostalgia. It begins from 1982. After completing my M.Sc from Karnatak University, Dharwad with Entomology as my specialization, Due to family compulsions, I had to join Law course. Reluctantly I sought

admission in July 1982 on the last date, by paying late fee at KLE Society's B. V. Bellad Law College in the campus of Lingaraj College. It was an evening Law College. I was asked to attend class that day itself as mine was a late admission. I was shown the classroom and it was 'Hindu Law' class being conducted. Later I got to know the faculty engaging the class was Prof. N.R. Deshpande, an expert in Hindu Law, a person most sought after by several luminaries for consultation. The classes were absolutely engrossing, especially the classes dedicated to 'Hindu Succession and Partition'. This was in the first year of Three year Law course.

During the second year he taught the subject 'Jurisprudence'. Having a philosophical bent of mind, these classes were enthralling. Sometimes, let me be confessional here, the classes could become a bit heavy, especially after a grueling day, the evening class was difficult to concentrate on a subject so very unique.

His intellectual strategic acumen was well presented in the legal cases he handled. It was worth observing the way he analyzed the cases when a client approached. He would create a chart of the facts. Then he would apply the law and strategically prepare the arguments. The manner in which he approached each case was unique. The precision and the manner of his functioning, exhibited the simplicity of solving the case but in fact all the complexities were handled very minutely and thus seemed easily approachable.

Prof. N.R. Deshpande was a multi-faceted and multi-dimensional person. I am drawn to the year 1998, in the month of October when there was an invitation from The National Law School of India University, Bangalore for the 1st ASC Programme on Environmental Law. The said ASC Programme was sponsored by MoEF- UGC, Supported by the World Bank, and was organized by CEERA, National Law School if India University, Bangalore. It was

a prestigious programme and the participants were to be selected from across the country. As a mandate we were required to submit a research work on Environmental aspects. It was tough. As a teacher of Environmental Law it was a challenge I had to take on. His understanding of academic and intellectual research was at its height when he guided me through the project.

From the inception of deciding the problem on which to work, the creation of a research design and the flow of activities to be taken up to the culminating report writing he played an ultimate role. He prepared an appropriate Research Design and dictated adequate methodology for conducting the research. The topic selected was **“Report and Material on Major Environmental Problem in Belgaum Area”**. The infield assistance team for doing the on field work, the data collection through questionnaire method for the said research work was as follows:

- Dr P. V. Patil M.D., DHA, IC Path from the medical fraternity
- Ms Neeta Potdar Advocate
- Ms Asmita Pawar II LL.B Student
- Ms Priya Gnankan I LL.B Student
- Ms Kiran Tarale I LL.B Student

Accordingly the research was carried out meticulously and a report prepared and submitted to CEERA, National Law University of India University. It was not only accepted by the University and the World Bank but was adjudged one of the best report /research works. It was amazing indeed as regards the appreciation it was received not only academically but also by the Belgaum district authorities. The pride and pleasure of creating such a empirical research was very immense.

A second academic endeavor that I vividly remember is a paper we had prepared entitled, “Sustainable Development as Culmination of Evolving Human Rights”. The effort here was to bring to light the invocative precursor from the preceding millennium, the Chronological data of facts, documents and thoughts pertaining to the Concept of Sustainable Development emerging from the Human Rights awareness, proceeding to the current trends in the gloves with the future. On the basis of these concepts I drew my reflective conclusion. However the entire exercise; it was his conceptual presentation and language that induced a magical spell on the readers.

Apart from this, Professor N.R.Deshpande was a prolific writer. The numerous articles that he has written are highly thought provoking. I have read them and my understanding says that these articles need not only a reading but a thorough introspection. There is more than what meets the eye. The articles need to be appreciated not only in letter but also the spirit, i.e construction to be made by reading between the lines. Each has a depth which calls for an in-depth study such as they can be subjects of many a Doctoral studies.

He also penned some soul stirring poems in English, Hindi and Marathi. It is mesmerizing to read these poems and the subjects of these poems ranged from nature to deities to mysticism, the range, and the horizon was so expansive.

As I have already mentioned, he was a man of spirituality and mysticism. He could enter the tranquility of mediation and emerge completely charged. His efforts were always to be of genuine assistance to anybody needy. He was a person who respected women with utmost reverence. He was very soft at heart and protective by nature. He respected elders and my special reference and first hand understanding is from the respect he showered on my parents.

His sense of social responsibility was very strong. He always felt the need to give back to the society. His efforts were always to do things which became socially relevant and find simple effective solution for solving the humanity's problems. He visualized a think tank to empower, reform and revitalize the society, bringing in important changes. He had a dream project in his mind and he called it “Vichhar Bharati”. His dreams were high, but destiny, probably had a different role, to realise his dream, he left for the heavenly abode.

Professor N. R. Deshpande, a person who, on this earth had a mission to fulfill, miles to walk, a soul who traversed this earth, a person who showed the path to all of us. Great Souls travel on this earth, leave their footprints, show the light for generations to walk.

Professor N. R. Deshpande was one such great soul.

Thank you.

With Warm Regards,





N.R.D. A Spiritual Scientist

Shri. A.G. Mulawadmath,
President,
Bar Association, Belagavi.

It is a Herculean task to pen Shri. N. R. Deshpande who was a man of absolute spiritual Integrity. Spirituality is not sown in him, but it was intrinsically embodied in his D.N.A, which was visible in his forefathers.

Shri. Nandkumar R. Deshpande was the second son of late Shri. Dadasaheb Deshpande. Dadasaheb Deshpande had two sons and two daughters viz., Neelakanth, Nandkumar, Sarala and Rama (Vidya). Except Rama Inamdar who is at Pune rest are no more. Shri. Nandkumar Deshpande has gone in adoption to Shri. Raghunathrao Deshpande. Therefore he is called as N.R. Deshpande.

The natural father of Shri. N.R. Deshpande i.e., Shri. Dadasaheb Deshpande, used to be called as Dadasaheb Sarkar. Dadasaheb born at Billur village of Jath Taluka, on 23rd January 1914, from the holy womb of Smt. Annapuranabai and Krishnarao

Chadurkar Sarkar of Chandur village of Chikkodi Taluka. Dadasaheb was brought up and educated in his early years at Athani, under the care of his maternal grandfather Shri Annajirao Deshpande. During his student days Dadasaheb was blessed with *Atmagnana Prapti* by Shri. Sadguru Amburao Maharaj and thereafter in the year 1934 Shri Dadasaheb had the *Darshana* and received the blessings of Shri. Gurudev Rambhavu Ranade. As a student, Dadasaheb used to spend much time in the *Sanidhya* of Shri Gurudev Ranade. Later Shri Dadasaheb went to Dharwad to study Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. He qualified in B.Sc. Agri, in the year 1936-37 and was employed at Jalagaon during the year 1938 to 1942. In the year 1942-43 again Dadasaheb had the *Darshan* of Shri Gurudev and at that time Shri. Gurudev, blessed Dadasaheb by advising him that “NOW ONWARDS HE SHOULD STOP SERVING MEN AND START SERVING THE GOD”. With his unquestioned loyalty, Dadasaheb surrendered to the VANI of Shri. Gurudev and immediately resigned the post and followed Shri Gurudev to Allahabad. As per the advice of Shri. Gurudev, Shri. Dadasaheb took admission to M.A. in Philosophy in the Allahabad University and completed his post graduation in M.A, in the year 1945-46 in second class and also availed the scholarship for the Doctor of Philosophy.

By the blessings of living divine spirit of Shri. Gurudev, Dadasaheb had undergone tremendous spiritual transformation and became *Manas Putra* of Gurudev. Shri. Dadasaheb served in the Ishwar Sharana Ashrama at Allahabad and thereafter migrated to Sangli and Chandur. Shri. Dadasaheb had established a High School in the name of Shri. Gurudev, ‘Shri. Gurudev Ranade Memorial High School’, at Chandur.

I would like to pause here, as there is a lot to write about Dadasaheb's spiritual, religious, charitable, alacrity approach to common man of Chandur village with the emphatic magnanimity and heavenly humility, but I must proceed to pen about his spiritual Uttaradhikari Shri. Nandkumar R. Deshpande.

With spiritual and religious background, blessed with the divine blessings in the Chandur Sarkar family. Shri. Nandakumar R. Deshpande born at Shedbal village of Athani Taluka, which is the mother's village of Shri. Nandkumar R. Deshpande.

Shri. Nandkumar R. Deshpande was admitted for his early education to a prestigious and reputed school in Sangli that is "Dr. Bapat Balasikshana Mandir". Thereafter Shri. NRD graduated in B.Sc degree from Patwardhan College at Poona. He studied Engineering and qualified in Bachelor of Engineering from Kashi Vidhyapeeth. Thereafter he did his Law and finally accepted the post of professor of Law at Belagavi.

Though Shri. Nandkumar R. Deshpande was a professor of Law his mind and brain were perfectly blended with philosophical approach to the practical problems. He philosophized many branches of education including the Law, being inherited and having imbibed with spiritual feelings and practice. He was an ardent disciple of Shri. Gurudev. Shri. Nandkumar R. Deshpande gave a visible look of divine shape to the invisible philosophical thoughts of Shri. Gurudev Ranade, by successfully serving Shri. Gurudev Mandir as its Secretary till his demise. After him my Amorphous, Harddays-mate Shri. Maruti B. Zirli shouldered the exigencies of responsibilities of the administration of Shri. Gurudev Mandir. Under his dedicated, selfless, honest service, with absolute integrity in the *Achar* and *Vichar* of Shri. Gurudev and that of Shri. Nandkumar R. Deshpande, the academy of Comparative Philosophy

and Religion emerged as a university in itself. The yeoman service which Shri. Gurudev Ranade Mandir has rendered in the last many decades in the field of philosophy and the study of comparative philosophy of world religions, is incomparable and second to none, to any School of thoughts of the world. Under the able administration by its Honorary Secretary Shri. M.B. Zirli, Shri. Gurudev Mandir has achieved what was foreseen, predicted and proposed by Shri. Gurudev and by Shri. Nandkumar R. Deshpande in the study of the comparative philosophy and religion.

Shri. Nandkumar R. Deshpande was embodied with perfect combination of Intrinsic qualities of Scientific approach to the spiritual path. He was a spiritual Scientist. I was blessed with an opportunity to be associated with him for few years as an Honorary Lecturer in Bellad Law College, at Belagavi, wherein Shri. N.R. Deshpande was a Professor of Law. I found in him, abundant novel yet original thoughts and he was exponent of many more legal concepts upon which he would throw light while addressing the students of Jurisprudence. He was equally talented and competent to address any area of Jurisprudence like service Jurisprudence, tax Jurisprudence, Legal Jurisprudence and spiritual jurisprudence and many more. The concept of Jurisprudence which he used to address used to be quoted with fine and erudite and filtered principles of philosophy. His eloquent, erudite, thought processing and emphatic lectures made the entire legal faculty spell-bound.

He had a versatile personality as a Professor of Law, Legal consultant, friend, philosopher and above all a fine gentlemen having perennial source of fragrant inspiration to guide the legal fraternity. I have experienced incredible humility in him as he used to treat with unfailing courtesy. Humility was a part of his psyche, by which he would make people more comfortable. As an Acharya

(Teacher) his knowledge of law and legal system was second to none. Beauty is visible and knowledge is invisible. The beauty of his knowledge was visible in his invisible quality of humility incarnated in him. Shri. N.R. Deshpande was always like a flower behind the leaf. He never sought any publicity and expected any appreciation, he used to be contented with his silent service to the Society. He trained and made qualified many, to sub-serve the social needs and his students have been projected in the higher echelon of the society like a BOW SHOOTS THE ARROW.

BEAUTY CANNOT BE KNOWN and
TRUTH CANNOT BE SEEN and

N.R.D. can be rarely understood fully by a common man like me, since he had divinity in him.





My Law Teacher : Prof. N.R.Deshpande

Shri. G.V. Kongawad, IAS
Rtd. Deputy Commissioner Belagavi.

Prof. N.R.Deshpande was my law teacher at the B.V.Bellad Evening Law College, Belgaum. I was Deputy Commissioner (d/c) in-charge of rehabilitation and land acquisition for Malaprabha and Ghataprabha projects spread over the Belgaum and undivided Bijapur districts. My first impression of him was that he was a very altruistic human being and a very thorough gentlemen. He taught me in the law college the Hindu law, the contract act and many other subjects. His language was precise and direct and as a student of Law. I loved his classes.

I had secured 3rd rank to Karnatak University in the first year Law exam. I was in the campus to know the results, I met NRD on the corridor and saw him in a highly pleasant countenance and he complimented me for securing the rank in the first year Law exam. I felt that he was delighted at my performance in the exam as a student of Law in addition to being a group public servant.

On one occasion, another Law teacher working in the College, Shri Zirali, who happened to be a close follower of Prof. Deshpande was kind enough to take me to Ranade Mandir in Belgaum city and explained the tremendous work done by Prof. Deshpande as a staunch follower of Shri. Gurudev Ranade. I was acquainted with several publications which emanated from the light of Shri. Gurudev Ranade. Thus another important fact was revealed to me.

In a sense, my remembrance of Prof. NRD is not just as a father of Law but also as a highly evolved spiritual being with great humane qualities of head and heart.





Shri N.R. Deshpande – A Man of Integrity and Vision

- Dr. I. S. Kumbar

Professor of Philosophy (Rtd),
R.P.D. College, Belagavi

Shri M. B. Zirali, Advocate and Secretary of ACPR Belgaum has invited me to write about my experiences with Professor Shri N.R. Deshpande as I was also one of his associates. I feel proud and happy to write and thereby offer my gratitude to Shri N. R. Deshpande.

There are two reasons for my continues association with Shri Gurudev Rande Mandir/ACPR, Belgaum by being in Belgaum(my karmabhumi). One is my first visit to ACPR in 1977 and the another is my meeting with Professor Shri N. R. Deshpande in 1990.

1. In the first case, in 1977, when I was studying first year MA Philosophy at Karnataka University Dharwad, I came to know that His Holiness Vedanta Keshari Shri Mallikarjun Shivayogi was to deliver his spiritual discourses for one month from 20/11/1977 to 23/11/1977, at ACPR Campus Belgaum.. Since

he is my Deeksha Guru, I decided to visit ACPR to take his Darshana. I visited ACPR on 20/11/1977. On the same day there was a function of unveiling of the portrait and releasing the book on *Shivasharane Shivalingavva* by H.H. Shri Shivbasav Swamiji of Nagnoor Math, Belagavi and H.H. Vedanta Kesari Shri Mallikarjun Swamiji of Bijapur. There were spiritual discussions as well. It was a feast for for my eyes, mind and soul to be in this spiritual atmosphere. Then I decided to stay in ACPR for two more days. My stay here in ACPR with my Guru and other ascetic disciples had a deep impact on my mind. It has changed the direction of my life and brought me back to Belgaum in 1989 as a Lecturer in Philosophy in RPD College Belgaum, where Sri Gurudev R. D.Ranade was also an instrument in opening philosophy department. I am fortunate to be in Belgaum till today and teach philosophy in one or the other capacity. Indeed it was destined for me to make Belgaum my *karmabhumi*. And my one visit to ACPR in 1977 is the cause for it. For this I offer my humble gratitude to Shri Gurudev Dr. R.D Ranade and H.H. Mallikarjun Shivayogi who have blessed me to be so.

2. In the second case, ACPR was one of my attraction after my joining into my service in Belgaum. I kept visiting ACPR often, because this was giving me a solace and satisfaction in my life.. Most of the time I was spending in ACPR library for study, as at that time I had registered for my Ph.D. study. By that time I was also initiated in to Sanyasashram by H.H Shri Mallikarjun Swamiji. So my stay at ACPR was giving me a feeling that I am in an Ashram atmosphere.

During my visit to ACPR, I noticed Professor Shri N.R Deshpande, as one of the greatest attracting personalities for

me. The others being Sri K.R. Kulkarni and Sri P.D. Dharwarkar. Shri N.R.Deshpande was a Chairman of ACPR and Editor of *Path Way to God*. My continued association with ACPR in one or the other way till today is because of Professor Shri N.R. Deshpande. It is he who has created interest in me. My association with ACPR has helped me in my professional and spiritual life. For this, I offer my humble gratitude to him.

3. During my visit to ACPR, I had many discussions with Shri. N. R. Deshpande.. From these discussions I noticed that he was having an intense spirituality and profound knowledge of philosophy. He used to be in trance during these discussions. His voice was very pleasant and loving. I was wondering how this person has such an in-depth knowledge in these subjects. But I was enjoying his smooth and loving discussions. I also noticed my company with him was very comforting. My mutual wave length was matching with his. This was also one of the reasons for me to keep coming again and again to ACPR.
4. I came to know from the discussion with Sri N.R.Deshphande that he was associated with Sri Gurudev Ranade since his childhood. Shri N.R.Deshpande lived with Sri Gurudev along with his father at Allahabad University wherein Sri Gurudev Dr. R. D. Ranade was Vice-Chancellor. Even he played on Shri Gurudev's lap in his childhood. He was a direct disciple of Shri Gurudev. From this I understood that this is the reason for molding his personality into spiritual life. Shri Gurudev's blessings were fully showered on him. Then my interest was aroused to know more of Shri Gurudev's life through Shri N. R. Deshpande. Earlier I had information about Shri Gurudev as a great academician through his works. But through Shri N. R. Deshapande I understood him as a great saint. My respect

towards Shri Gurudev has increased more and more because of Shri N. R. Deshpande. For me Shri N. R. Deshpande has been an instrument to know the spiritual height of Shri Gurudev. For this I am offering my gratitude to him.

5. Thus I started attending certain functions conducted by ACPR. Sometime Shri N. R. Deshpande was allowing me to speak on Shri Gurudev and his philosophy. I did that with whatever little knowledge I had at that time. He would admire and encourage me to continue such activity in ACPR. He also allowed me to talk on *Upanishads* and Indian philosophy every week. I was enthusiastic to do so because he would feel happy to see that such an activity become a regular phenomena at the ACPR center. He also had entrusted a service to me to look after the journal "*Pathway to God*" as a member of an Editorial Board. I felt honored by this service entrusted to me.
6. Very soon I realized that Shri N.R. Deshpande was also having concern for me. One day there was a function at ACPR. I was also supposed to be present in the function. But due to some reason I missed it without informing him. He was so concerned with me that he went on enquiring through his associates about me why I have not come, what happened to me etc. I felt sorry for this. After that I was keeping him informed about my activity.
7. I understand that by profession he was a lowyer. But he never practised Law. He had chosen to be a professor of Law. Why he has not practised Law? Maybe because, teaching profession was suitable for his spiritual life. Therefore he preferred to be a professor of Law. I also heard that Sri Gurudev Ranade was encouraging the teaching profession. That may be the reason he

had chosen to be in teaching profession. Whatever it is, he was an eminent professor.

8. I also know that as a professor he was having more concern for his students. He loved his students such way that he used to go to students' place to give them notes for study in case of the non availability of suitable books to them. This concern for the students I liked and have adopted this in my teaching profession. I noticed that because of this quality of concern for students I adopted in to my profession, the strength and quality of students in philosophy started increasing in my College. Because of this my students of philosophy are placed in high position in the society. The students from the first batch of my teaching (1989) to till present, are still in touch with me asking for guidance. I feel happy to discuss and guide them. This credit goes to Shri N. R. Deshpande.
9. Professor N. R. Deshpande was a visionary. It is he who has put into the writings the vision and mission of ACPR through the "Footprints on the Sands of Time". He called it as '**a Profile of ACPR-Global Mission of a Mystic Visionary.**' Here has mentioned ACPR's Development Plans which include research, information, holistic education, printing, seminars, conferences, and symposiums for the Holistic Human Welfare. For the fulfillment of these plans the ACPR executives under the able guidance of Advocate Shri M. B. Zirali, Trustee and Hon. Secretary of ACPR, are working devotedly. It is a noble cause and I feel myself proud to be associated with ACPR, to its materialize his goals. I think that through these plans Professor N.R. Deshpande has rejuvenated ACPR.
10. It is said, 'The life of saints is seen in their death.' This is exactly true in case of Shri N. R. Deshpande. He lived a saintly life. He

was a man of integrity and responsibility. His Gurubhakti was very strong and intense. He devoted his life to carry out the vision and mission of Shri Gurudev. This is proved as he breathed his last in Gurudev Ranade Mandir that too while delivering spiritual discourse at a big function. This is an indication that the divine grace of Shri Gurudev Ranade was ever bestowed upon him. Even his brother Shri S.N. Deshpande breathed his last in the same manner and same place, as I witnessed it. Shri Gurudev's blessings were on their entire family.

Surely his personality has molded my life into spirituality. He is with us in our thinking, feeling and every walk of our life. He is immortal through us. I pray to him and Shri Gurudev to be with us always and bless to complete our task allotted to us. I offer my gratitude to him for his concern and love towards me. I thank Advocate Shri M.B. Zirali for giving me an opportunity to share the experiences I had with Professor N. R. Deshpande. I also wish to mention here that I continued my association with ACPR because of the magnificent personality of Shri M. B. Zirali, through whom I feel the presence of Professor Shri N. R. Deshpande.





Reflections.....

- Dr. Satish Madhavrao Kulkarni
Pune

At the outset I appreciate the efforts and contributions made by the Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion, Belagavi, in promoting and spreading awareness about the Philosophy of realising the God , through comparative study of all Religions. Prof. Er. Nandkumar Shamarao Deshpande (Nandanna) also shouldered the responsibility of the Academy for quite some time in recent past. I am glad, his contribution and work to promote the activities are being recognised through this publication, "Reminiscence of Prof. N.S. Deshpande."

I had the opportunity to discuss, interact and be in the company of Nandanna only on two or three occasions in Vishrambag, Sangli (Maharashtra) at his sister and disciple of Gurudev Ranade Sou. Rama Neelakanth Inamdar's residence. He was also accompanied by his elder brother Prof. Neelakanth (Papanna). I was a layman in the field of spiritual life and yet to understand the Pathway to God

through *Nam Sadhana* etc. That stage still persists. However, I was moved by Nandanna's devotion and total commitment towards his Sadguru, Gurudev Ranade. I got the opportunity to go through and discuss on some of the scattered writings on various issues written by Nandanna. I felt that the views expressed on various subjects were unique and beyond common man's thinking. During the discussion he said, "these views /opinions expressed are not mine. These are because of Maa Bhagavati, who is behind these expressions." I could neither digest and nor understand the views expressed, thinking that Nandanna didn't want to take credit of the same. It was certain that Nandanna must be having some extraordinary power of thinking because of his continual *Nam Sadhana*. But I could not co-relate his sadhana and the vivid writing. But all the while he was talking about his Sadguru Gurudev Ranade. I was unaware about the intricacies involved in the Guru-Shishya traditions or unable to know about the Guru-Tatva, generally talked about.

After a few years when I referred to his writings (unpublished) again, I could draw some inference. I also came across some of the literature of Dr. R. D. Ranade, popularly known as Gurudev Ranade. In the literature and his life sketches I found Gurudev to be a highly learned person at the same time blessed by his guru Sadguru Bhausahab Maharaj, Umadikar. Having full and unconditional faith and dedication at the lotus-feet of his Sadguru he used to practise *Nam Sadhana* for hours together. He followed the practice even during his incurable disease and kept his *Sadhana* uninterrupted. Gurudev experienced that if one completely immerses his mind in the continual chanting of His name, then it is possible to come out of any crisis, because of HIS grace. If the same is done based on the egotistic approach, the sadhana may ruin the situation. Realising

this, Gurudev made his life philosophy and practice to go in for Nam Sadhana for hours together. Gurudev used to follow the *Nam Sadhana* even during incurable illness. He accepted that The Nam given by Sadguru is the victuals for the entire life journey of the disciple, even in the physical absence of one's Sadguru.

The things which can't be realised intellectually can be experienced by intuition. This power of intuition can be achieved through complete surrendering to the Sadguru and chanting the name given by him without losing a moment. *Nam* is a symbol which carries with it the spiritual power and its smaran is a process of identification with God. Gurudev Ranade lived the life on this philosophy and so also guided his disciples to move on the same path.

In Nandanna, I saw a true shishya of Gurudev Ranade. He was at once a gifted and a lucky person. He was born in Chandurkar Deshpande family. His father Shri. S.N Deshpande (Dadasaheb Deshpande), was a close associate and gurubandhu of Gurudev Ranade. In fact Dadasaheb Deshpande was regarded as the son of Gurudev Ranade. Thus Nandanna and Papanna happened to be grandsons of Gurudev. Gurudev nicknamed these two grandsons as Saint and Soldier and used to play with them when they were kids. Nandanna's mother was also blessed with 'Sabeej Nam' by Gurudev Ranade. Father was already blessed by Amburao Maharaj.

Nandanna's *Nam Sadhana* was deep, his love for Nam and his connection with the God was very acute. He worshipped, all the time residing, Prabhu Ram in him with utter love and continued his Nam Sadhana without any doubt. ध्यान धरिते ते कोण। ध्यानी आठवते ते कोण। दोन्ही मधे अनन्य लक्षण। असिले पाहिजे ॥ श्री राम ॥ दासबोध ॥ 14-8-38॥

Nandanna was true to the above verse from Dasbodh. He was keeping Prabhu Ram very close to his heart and was devotee of Ram like Rambhakt Hanuman. On many occasions he used to quarrel with Shree Ram, just like Sant Eknath Maharaj and other Saints.

Nandanna was so much connected with the God that even in normal house hold life, he used to interact with people with the same love and affection as that for God. The teachings of Gurudev Ranade were exactly the same. Nandanna kept the balance between normal life and the life of a Sadhak. He exactly followed the footsteps of his Guru and spent the whole life in Trikal Nam Sadhana. He relied on the Sadguru's advice that everything happens as per HIS will, which we should accept peacefully. To have Trikal Nam Sadhana and not to relinquish sadhana even in case of physical pains and suffering and experience that all the difficulties and odds are cleared by the blessings of Sadguru.

I got the opportunity to meet Shri. Basavaraj in the campus of ACPR Belagavi. He was so impressed by the life and devotion of Nandanna that he talked with me at length about him with love, affection and honor.

After Nandanna's demise I had the opportunity to meet members of his family at their residence in Belgavi, the holy place where Dadasaheb lived in and Gurudev visited and lit Camphor. A cool place where I heard the story of his exit from the earthly world. In general *Pran* escapes either through Eyes, Ears, Nose, Mouth, the navel, Anus, Urethra or *Brahmarandhra*. When *Pran* escapes from organs above Navel it is inferred that the soul of the deceased got *Uttam Gati*. When it passes through *Brahmarandhra* it is inferred that the soul got not only Uttam Gati but the great achievement of Emancipation (Moksha). Nandanna was such a sadhak that his end

came and *Pran* escaped through Brahmarandhra. A worthy blessings from God to a true *Nam Sadhak*.

Gurudev Ranade's vision was **One World, One God and One Humanity**. Late Prof. N. S. Deshpande (Nandanna) lived his life for all these principles, practised the path on which Gurudev moved and surrendered to the Almighty God as a real and true *Nam Sadhak*. Just like Ramkrishna Paramhans and Swamy Vivekanand, Samarth Ramdas and Kalyan, Brahmachaitanya Gondavalekar Maharaj and Brahmanand Maharaj. Now I feel that Nandanna is a true Reflection of his Sadguru, Gurudev Ranade.





My Great Guru

Late Prof. N.R. Deshpande

- K.B. Naik

Adv. & Ex-Chairman KSBC Bengaluru
Presently Member KSBC Bengaluru
Vice Chairman, Raddi Sahakar Bank Niyamit, Dharwad,
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I am a very small man to say something about my Guru the great philosopher and great human being late professor N.R. Deshpande.

Late Professor N.R. Deshpande was a great philosopher. You can find greatest thoughts and philosophies of Swami Vivekanand and Mahatma Gandhiji. Further he was a great scholar and depth of his teachings were very high in standards.

Once I had an occasion to ask him a question i.e. I wanted know about the definition of the word "Education". Professor N.R. Deshpande told me in simplest term that, since our childhood to this age, we study many things, many subjects, many literatures, many

philosophies and also we forget so many things of them, but something always remains with us, that is called "Education". If you put suddenly any type of questions to him, answers were immediately available to you from him. He was called professor N.R. Deshpande.

Late Professor N.R. Deshpande was basically a Mining Engineer but he shifted himself to legal education field. As a Professor of Law he has achieved greater milestone and made permanent place in the hearts of his students.

Late Prof. N.R. Deshpande was teaching Hindu Law, Jurisprudence, Administrative law and also many subjects of law in B.V. Bellad Law College Belagavi. In my opinion, the students who have attended his lectures on law are the luckiest persons in the universe. While teaching the subjects, he was going very deep into the subject matter because depth of his knowledge was very much wider in each and every subject, as he was a voracious reader. His love towards his students was fatherly.

I feel myself lucky, because I am the proud student of Prof. N.R. Deshpande. His humanitarian nature philosophy of life impressed me and because of the impact I achieved something in my life.

I pray God that the Ashirwad of my beloved late Professor always remains on me and on all his beloved students.





Shri. N.R.Deshpande Sir

Eng. Bhimsen M. Zirali, M.Tech,
Eng. Vijayalaxmi M. Zirali, M.S. (Germany)
Shree Nagar, Belagavi

It is 9.00 PM (20 years back) (Daily bases) if a phone rang and Dad used to pick the phone and say “Jai Shree Gurudev”. Then we used to understand it is Deshpande Sir’s long lasting call. The conversation used to continue minimum half an hour. According to our understanding (we three in primary schooling) the talk was mysterious.

But, Dad’s happy facial expressions used to indicate lot of positive vibes in house.

Sir used to appreciate Viju akka’s hand writing skills. He always used to say “Hand writing resembles the nature of the person”.

We were not matured enough to understand his personality but for the family he was a fatherly figure. Dad used to say I not seen

Gurudev (Gurudev.Dr.R.D.Ranade) but through Deshpande Sir, I witnessed or felt or experienced him.

Sir's love of his grandchildren Raghunath, Chinmay and Vaishnavi is memorable. He used to give them so many gifts and used to play with them.


Our family is fortunate enough to learn Nimbaragi sampradayic activities from Deshpande Sir's blessings. This involvement in the Gurudev's Circle (Satsangh) turned our life into prosperity in education, behavior and character building.

In 2002, physically he left us all. But his teachings, life lessons, guidance are still with us. We are following his footsteps.

We miss you Sir.

Jai Shree Gurudev...





N R Deshpande.... A Personality Very Few Could Understand!

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Rare is a person, one in millions, A soul dedicated to the glory of the cause behind the purpose of human life. Associated throughout his life with mission and preaching of Late Gurudev Dr R D Ranade, he dedicated his great years of career to the mission of Gurudev. Right from childhood(as his father used to be with Gurudev every time) Shri N.R had the blessings from Gurudev. Not only that during his lifetime was he associated with Gurudev, the destiny had planned exit of N.R at the premises of the organisation founded by Dr Ranade, “The Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion” popularly known as ACPR at Belagavi. He was present at a seminar conducted by ACPR where he suffered from a massive cardiac arrest and breathed his last.

A scholar in his academic career and mining engineer by degree, he always chose a path driven by his conscious and one will be surprised to note that most of the part of his life, he chose to be a professor teaching LAW!

He threw himself into the mission of spirituality and he guided this mission by contributing his thoughts as Chairman of ACPR till end of his life. ACPR reached great heights under his guidance and leadership.

Let me give a brief about my association with him. My grandfather Late Shri V C Kelkar from Sangli (Maharashtra) was an ardent follower of Shri Gurudev. Infact, Shri V.C Kelkar popularly known as Tatyasaheb had the fortune of getting a direct initiation into the process of spirituality from Dr Ranade himself. Only very few had this distinct and rare privilege of such direct initiation. Raje Saheb of Sangli (at that point of time Sangli was a sansthan) was also a follower and a well wisher of mission of Gurudev. There was an institution formed and run by Dr Ranade and was functioning at Sangli as a trust under the name and style Adhyatma Vidya Mandir-Sangli. Later, Late Raje Saheb of Sangli donated a big piece of land situated at Belagavi by way of gift deed in the name of Adhyatma Vidya Mandir Sangli to this institute of Shri Gurudev. This landed property at Belagavi came to be registered as an independent trust by name Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion and this donated property by Raje Saheb of Sangli to Dr R.D Ranade came to be registered as property of the trust ACPR at Belgaum. This gifted property consists of the present campus of Gurudev Mandir which was constructed by the then disciples and trustees, by selling the portion of land adjacent to Gurudev Mandir campus presently known as Ranade Colony lane no 1 and 2. This gifted property also consists of certain portion of Lease-hold land given to Karnataka Law Society and presently enjoyed by them.

Shri V.C Kelkar was an eminent scholar and an advocate by profession and during his period of association as a trustee of Adhyatma Vidya Mandir Sangli, he noticed that the property at Belagavi gifted by Raje Saheb of Sangli has been registered as an independent trust by name ACPR. From the date of gift to the verification of documents much water had flown and no one had noticed the crux of the registered gift deed being made by Raje Saheb in the name of Adhyatma Vidya Mandir Sangli. Shri V.C Kelkar decided to follow the legal path of claiming the title in the name of the trust to which the property stood originally gifted. Although the trust at Sangli and the trust at Belagavi were following the preaching of Gurudev alone, there arose a tussle on issue of property rights. This led to lot of long driven litigation. I was associated with my grandfather in this legal battle as his junior. I was interacting with the advocates appointed at Belagavi by my grandfather and was well versed with the facts of the case and I even used to go for the briefings to senior counsels at Bangalore and Mumbai. As the time lapsed, the urge was felt that both the trusts are following the same mission and it was later resolved between them to settle this issue by compromise. It is this field of compromise when I came into contact with N.R as he was the Chairman of ACPR. The seed of spirituality was common in both trusts and the trustees at Sangli as well as in Belagavi after a long process of deliberations ended this dispute amicably.

At this juncture, N.R requested me to devote certain time for the trust ACPR as I was based in Belagavi and later he inducted me as a Joint Secretary of this esteemed organization. My interaction with N.R began on this Note and I was lucky to find in N.R the dynamism and dedication required for the growth of a trust.

In those days in the trust ACPR, the events revolved around the functions related with jayanthi or punyatithi or rather a sectorial attachment of the disciples of Gurudev alone. The name and title of the trust “Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion” suggested in itself a very big theme. Late Shri Gurudev was engaged in his mission of comparison of the philosophy of the western world to that of the eastern world. His volumes of publications like Constructive Survey of Upanishadic Philosophy were the outcomes of his long perceived mission. Gurudev had in his mind the publication of series of such books and Raje Saheb had contributed generously for this cause. Unfortunately, Gurudev could not complete his mission of writing all that he wanted. During his lifetime, Gurudev had sketched the idea of different subjects on which he had to write. Although mystic in nature, Gurudev was a very strong critique and analysed in depth, every segment of spiritual process. For this, he analysed the philosophy and life of different saints and their contributions in different languages. Being the then Vice Chancellor of Allahabad university, Gurudev was blessed with the time and devotion that was needed for the critical analysis and especially the study of Greek Philosophy and the philosophy followed by western world.

Gurudev had scripted the idea behind formation of ACPR in very clear words. Taking clue from this, the trustees of ACPR thought of re-writing the objects of the trust ACPR. The thinking and timely suggestions and drafting of these revised objects had a midas touch of NR’s vision and words.

This name and title ‘Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion’ became a vision document under the guidance of Shri N.R Deshpande. I remember, we carried out a marathon exercise of re-declaration of the objects of the trust and every bit of it resolved in

those meetings has been penned down by me in my own handwriting into the minute books of the trust ACPR. During this process of re-declaration of the objects that gave a greater elasticity of roping in different segments of spirituality, the trust could attract attention of many scholars involved in different branches of philosophy. There was a stiff resistance from the disciples of Dr Ranade who wanted this trust to be exclusively for the benefit of Dr Ranade's disciples. Even there were court battles but N.R stood as a rock solid captain of the ship and sailed it through this storm till it anchored at the designated port of spirituality. It is this ACPR that we find today open to the entire world.

It was a lifetime opportunity for me to be associated with such a scholarly person as that of N.R where I was associated with him alongwith other trustees into this whole process of rethinking on the objects of the trust. Under his guidance the vision document of ACPR 'Footprints on the Sands of time got its form and this printed booklet gave the world the exact vision required in modern complex world. Anyone visiting the auditorium of ACPR gets thrilled eith joy within when he reads the words of NR displayed in the auditorium by way of a small hoarding. The seeker finds his path through the silence alone! Under his leadership, we conducted a national level conference on philosophy. Under his leadership was the occasion when the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India visited ACPR. It is under the guidance and leadership of N.R that the quarterly magazine "Pathway to God" published by ACPR reached different scale of height in form of its reader-base and in form of different contributions to this quarterly journal by eminent scholars throughout India. It is still a matter of great pride for the Institution to get every book published anywhere on philosophy for writing a review.

Apart from his scholarly vocabulary, he was constantly pursuing his meditation session which used to go for hours together. He was in all literal senses a friend, philosopher and guide even to a youngster like me. Any of my articles was always first discussed with him and I always had the fortune of his pat and encouragement. N.R was a great scholar by himself and has contributed many philosophical verses in Marathi and Kannada literature. It will not be out of context to remember his brother Papa Deshpande who was professor of sociology at Benaras. I had a unique opportunity of interacting with both at the same time. N.R was very clear in his mission and approach and was very firm on his ideas and never compromised or drifted away from the mission of the trust.

I am full in tears while I write these few lines in his memory which will never fade and will always keep on guiding me through the path of truth.





Sir in my memories...

Shrividya Zirali, BBA. LL M.
Advocate
High Court of Karnataka Bangalore.

I was 8 when Sir passed away. Today I am 27 but all the memories with him are still afresh. The day he breathed his last still stands front of me. We were left at our uncle's house and my parents went to say him goodbye. I felt terrible as I wanted to see him for the one last time. But I couldn't. I grieved in silence.

His personality was such that even for a small girl like me, his aura made a godly presence. He always used to be calm, contended and loving towards everyone. In a age where only toys were my life, I believe he gave us a vision in life. Told us that our life is just not ours, it's more than that. Whenever he visited us, he made sure he checks our handwriting. He believed that handwriting is the index of student's life, which shows how disciplined he is in his life.

Dad always looked up to him as a 'Guide', 'Guru', 'Role model'. Now when he talks about him, his face always glows with

happiness, having a twinkle in his eyes. Dad always told us that how important role sir played in his life. In all his big decisions sir was always there to guide him. How just by talking to sir, his biggest worries would get resolved. Sir loved him unconditionally, gave a path for his life. We are so grateful to Sir for introducing us to Gurudev Dr. R.D. Ranade and Nimbargi Sampraday, which has really influenced our life to a greater extent. Even when akka (Vijaylaxmi) was in Germany, she would always do bhajana and when she returned she told us how secured she felt when she use to do bhajana.

Today when I asked Akka about her memory about sir, she told me, the first thing comes to her mind about him is his glowing happy face when she gifted him a colorful handmade greeting card on Diwali. She described him as having a innocent smile which would leave an everlasting impression on everyone's heart.

A long time has passed, we all are growing old but a brief time which we spent with Sir is precious and all those memories are enough for life time to cherish. I believe all these beautiful experiences with Sir will be passed on to next generation and this legacy will continue...





Prof N R Deshpande : Propitiating Reminiscences

- Dr. Mallikarjunaiah J M,
Principal
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Bengaluru.

It is an honour and a great pleasure to recall fondly the reminiscences of the most valuable times of my life spent in the company of the most respectful soul Professor N. R. Deshpande. It is indeed a pleasant compulsion to recall and acknowledge the indelible mark professor has left on the chosen few of us, who were his junior colleagues then. Ocean of knowledge, prodigious sense of humour coupled with wit cogently driving the point and the awe-inspiring language skills I witnessed are worthy of emulation by all. It is surprising to realise today, that all my interactions and encounters with him always surrounded the deep intellectual discussions, unnoticeably often travelling into the realm of philosophy. I am deeply convinced that Law has no domain of itself, it draws inspiration from and caters to the requirements in all walks

of human life ultimately leading to keeping the society integrated and restoring peace in the society. Professor N. R. Deshpande being a gifted teacher with a profound sense of indubitable interdisciplinary nature of Law, very aptly and continuously realised and discoursed the interplay between Law and other humanities. It is this understanding of the subject that made his lectures attractive and most useful for the students and the faculty members alike. His disdain for the shortcuts to popularity kept him apart and made him remain an iconic and accomplished scholar in Law. It may be noteworthy here that though our dialogues always surrounded philosophy and life, Professor never left us in the dark without connecting it to Law.

Professor NR Deshpande, as an erudite scholar, had immense knowledge and passion in the basic subjects like Jurisprudence, Constitutional Law, Family Laws, Environmental Laws and International Laws. His lectures on the Interpretation of Statutes were not only well acclaimed by the students giving them a joyful learning experience; they also created a new vibrancy among the faculty members inspired by post-class fascinating faculty lounge discussions.

Professor N R Deshpande had an acknowledged and admiring humane side to his personality. He was compassionate. Junior faculty like me were always appreciated and fortified by him fondly to go the extra mile every time and excel in performance as a teacher. I cannot forget how cautiously he was suggesting us to exalt ourselves as an inspiring teacher in the course of time. The offering of regular tea and the frequent high tea at the faculty lounge were readily and generously left to the pleasure of the Professor by young faculty like me. Not only that the Professor has taken the best care of our academic growth, daily needs and at times addressing our

economic necessities, but he was also indeed a readily reliable guide for all of us in keeping good health inclusive of prescription of some home-made medicines. The profundity of knowledge, seniority by age, great honour and the like merits, never took a great friend in him away from us. He was indeed a great friend, philosopher and guide for all of us. While I wish him the eternal peace, I also wish to record my prayers for his continuously showered blessings.



ಗುರುವಿಗೆ ನಮನ

- ಜಗದೀಶ ಮ. ಕವಟಗೀಮತ
ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ

ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲವೊಮ್ಮೆ ನಾವು ಭೇಟಿಯಾದ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯಿಂದ ನಮ್ಮ ಜೀವನದ ಮಾರ್ಗವೇ ಬದಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಒಂದು ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿತ್ವ ನಮ್ಮ ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂದಿದ್ದು ನಮ್ಮ ಸೌಭಾಗ್ಯ. ನಮ್ಮ ಗುರು, ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶಕ, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕ ಮತ್ತು ಮರೆಯಲಾಗದ ಸದಾ ಸ್ಮರಣೀಯ ಪ್ರೊ.ಎನ್.ಆರ್. ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಯವರು ಕಾನೂನು ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಬದುಕನ್ನು ಆವರಿಸಿದರು. ಇಂದಿಗೂ ಅವರ ಪ್ರಭಾವ ನಮ್ಮ ಮೇಲಿದೆ. ಮಾನವೀಯ ಮೌಲ್ಯದ ಪ್ರತೀಕವಾಗಿದ್ದ ಅವರನ್ನು ನಾವು ದೇವರಸ್ವರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಣುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇವೆ.

1990 ರಿಂದ 1992 ರ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಯಾಗಿ ಬಿ.ವಿ.ಬೆಲ್ಲದ ಲಾ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರ ಭೇಟಿಯಾದ ಮೊದಲ ದಿನದಿಂದಲೇ ಅವರ ಪ್ರಭಾವಕ್ಕೆ ನಾವು ಸೆಳೆಯಲ್ಪಟ್ಟೆವು. ಅವರ ಖಾಸಾ ಶಿಷ್ಯರ ಗುಂಪಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಾನೂ ಒಬ್ಬ. ಅವರ ವಿಷಯಜ್ಞಾನ, ಇಂಗ್ಲೀಷ್ ಭಾಷೆಯ ಪ್ರಭುತ್ವ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಮಟ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಇಳಿದು ಬಂದು ಅವರು ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ಮನದಟ್ಟು ಮಾಡಿದ ರೀತಿ ಇವೆಲ್ಲವೂ ಇಂದಿಗೂ ಹಸಿರಾಗಿ ನಮ್ಮ ಮನದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿದಿವೆ.



ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಷ್ಟು ನಿಷ್ಕರವಾಗಿದ್ದರೂ ಅಷ್ಟೇ ಮಮಕಾರವನ್ನೂ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದರು. ಒಮ್ಮೆ ಆತ್ಮೀಯತೆ ಬಂದರೆ ನಮ್ಮನ್ನು ಗೆಳೆಯರಂತೆ ಕಾಣುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ನಮ್ಮನ್ನು ಹುರಿದುಂಬಿಸಿ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೊಮ್ಮೆಯಾದರೂ ಪ್ರವಾಸಕ್ಕೆ ಕರೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗಿ, ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಗೀತ, ಚರ್ಚೆ, ಸ್ಪರ್ಧೆ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಗೋಷ್ಠಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಿ, “ಕಲಿ ನಲಿ” ಎಂಬಂತೆ ನಮ್ಮಲ್ಲಿ ಜ್ಞಾನವನ್ನು ತುಂಬುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು.

ಅವರಲ್ಲಿ ವಿನಮ್ರತೆ-ಗಾಂಭೀರ್ಯ ಎರಡೂ ಮನೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದವು. ಅಹಂಕಾರ ಇರಲೇ ಇಲ್ಲ. ನಮ್ಮೊಂದಿಗಷ್ಟೇ ಅಲ್ಲ, ಅವರ ಸಹೋದ್ಯೋಗಿಗಳಾದ ನಮ್ಮ ಇತರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸೌಹಾರ್ದತೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದರು. ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ಉದಾಹರಣೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಅವರು ಹೇಳಿದ ರೀತಿ ಇಂದಿಗೂ ನಮ್ಮ ಮನಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿಯುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಒಬ್ಬ ಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕರಾಗಿ, ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶಕರಾಗಿ ಅವರು ಒಂದು ದಂತಕಥೆಯಾಗಿ ಶಾಶ್ವತರಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಬೋಧಿಸಲು ಅತೀ ಕಠಿಣವಾದ “ನ್ಯಾಯಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ” (Jurisprudence) ಅವರ ಕ್ಲಾಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅತೀ ಮನೋಜ್ಞವಾಗಿ ಇರುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ನಾವು ಮಂತ್ರಮುಗ್ಧರಾಗಿ ಕೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದೆವು. ಅವರ ಪಾಠದಲ್ಲಿ ನ್ಯಾಯಶಾಸ್ತ್ರದ ಮೂಲ, ಅದರ ಇತಿಹಾಸ, ಪರಂಪರೆ, ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಾವು ಗ್ರಹಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಂಶ ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಮನಸ್ಸಿಗೆ ನಾಟುವಂತೆ ಆಕರ್ಷಕವಾಗಿ ಇರುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಅದನ್ನು ಎಂದಿಗೂ ಮರೆಯಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ.

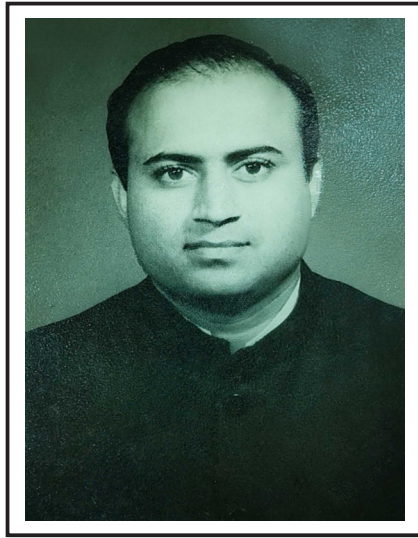
ಅವರು ಈ ಸಮಾಜಕ್ಕೆ ನೀಡಿದ ಬಹುದೊಡ್ಡ ಕೊಡುಗೆ ಎಂದರೆ ಅವರು ಬೆಳೆಸಿದ ಅವರ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು. ಇಂದು ಸಮಾಜದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಧಕರಾಗಿ, ಗಣ್ಯರಾಗಿ ಹಲವಾರು ಜನ ನಮಗೆ ಕಾಣಿಸಿಗುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಉದಾಹರಣೆ ಖ್ಯಾತನಾಮರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಮಾರುತಿ ಬಿ. ರಿಫರಲಿ, ಶ್ರೀ ಎ.ಜಿ. ಮುಳವಾಡಮಠ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಹಲವರು. ಅವರ ಪ್ರಭಾವ ಎಷ್ಟಿತ್ತೆಂದರೆ ನಮಗೆ ಅರಿವಿಲ್ಲದೆ ನಾವು, ಅವರು ರೂಪಿಸಿದ ಸನ್ಮಾರ್ಗದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದು ಮುಂದೆ ಮುಂದೆ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತ ಕೊನೆಗೊಮ್ಮೆ ಅವರನ್ನು ಕೃತಜ್ಞತೆಯಿಂದ ನೆನೆಯುವಂತೆ ಆಯಿತು.

ಇಂದು ನಾನೇನಾದರೂ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸಮಾಜಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ನನ್ನ ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ ಪರಿಸರಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇವೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿ ಸಾರ್ಥಕತೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದರೆ, ಸಾಧನೆಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿದ್ದರೆ, ಗಣ್ಯಮಾನ್ಯರಲ್ಲಿ ಒಬ್ಬನಾಗಿ ಗುರುತಿಪಲ್ಲಟ್ಟಿದ್ದರೆ, ಅದು ಪ್ರೊ. ಎನ್.ಆರ್. ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆ ಸರ್ ಅವರು ರೂಪಿಸಿದ ನನ್ನ ಬದುಕು, ಎಂದು ನಾನು ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕೃತಜ್ಞತೆಯಿಂದ ಸ್ಮರಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಅವರಿಗೆ ನಾನು ಸದಾ ಋಣಿ.





**II. Editorials Written by Prof. N.R.Deshpande to
Pathway to God Journal Published by ACPR**



Prof. N.R. Deshpande

Prof. N.R. Deshpande was Editor to the
Journal Pathway to God for the year
1976 and 1977



Editorial

(Jan 1976)

- Prof. N.R. Deshpande

वन्दे ऽहं सच्चिदानन्दं श्रेष्ठातीतं जगद्गुरुम्।
नित्यं पूर्णं निराकारं निर्गुणं स्वात्मसंस्थितम् ॥

- श्री गुरुगीता

I salute the Master of this world who is full with Sat Chit Anand, who is an Unity above all duality, who is eternal, who is the complete whole, who is untarnished by any dimensions of Ākār and Gun, and who is seated in the heart of my soul.

Completion of a Decade

Learned readers of this journal may be happy to note that the Academy is completing a decade of its journalistic activity. Publication of the 'Pathway to God' has always been a sincere struggle for achieving the ideal set forth by the Academy. This editor feels it his modest privilege to place some 'rededicating' thoughts and sentiments on this occasion.

The Ideal of "One god, One World, One Humanity"

The great visionary founder of this Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion, Revered Shri Gurudev R.D. Ranade, M.A.D. Litt. had before him this ideal of "One God, One World, One Humanity". He wanted this ideal to be realised in actuality in the day-to-day world. The great mansion of God may have different doors but all lead to Him alone. Spiritual Leaders and philosophical intellectuals have always recognised and lived this ideal.

The ideal has remained unrealised by the huge masses who are in a continuous attempt to follow these ideal Spiritual Leaders. And unfortunately the world of ours is mostly full of such masses only.

Achievement of the 'Ideal': An Introspection

Individual activities for the God-realisation have always been kept personal or private. Loyalty and follow-up actions pertaining to one's religion or faith are always guarded. Any discussion of their effects on our social or public life is carefully excluded. Do these religions, sectarian loyalties or alignments in us have any direct effects on our social, national or international existence and get-together?

It we unmask ourselves of hard core hypocrisy, we should be prepared to think and answer this question.

Motives, supports and alliances are born and drawn from these religious, sectarian loyalties. History evidences the truth of this answer. On religious stimulus only wars have been fought, empires were erected and this One beautiful World was sliced by the boundaries which have created various nations. Any religion, sect or faith never taught us to do so. But the misconceived loyalties in the hearts of the masses following these religions, sects etc. did create these unwanted results. Masses have reduced themselves into multiple camps as if poised for a cease fire.

It is no doubt an unintended creation of the 'ignorants'. But many are they. Spiritual leaders have always owned and proclaimed

the Unity of God in the diversities of religions and faiths. Individuals are born to embody 'individualities' (पिडे पिडे मतिभिन्नः), and hence the minor alterations of the path and course for an individual may not be unjustified. But when the ultimate goal is essentially the same, how do these paths and courses happen to clash and contradict?

The earth, the planes, the jungles and the stones all belong to free Nature. They never have any religion. But from these very stones and woods we have built temples, churches, mosques, gurudwaras and what not. Their existence as a door leading to the big and singular mansion of God, is always justified. But if these places are going indirectly to nurture the misconceived loyalties of the ignorant masses, then they are the high castles giving shelter to the un-Godly hardcore of the ignorants.

It is high time that humanity poses herself a question with brutal frankness. A question of confession. Actual state of things in our societies and nations will not allow us any more to keep on being silent, being self-deluded, being self-fooled. Past we kow abundantly, present is with us over-evidently and future is fast tapping our doors pressingly.

The problem is again with the masses and its solution with the very few viz. Spiritual leaders, religious heads and the front-line intellectuals.

The ideal of One God, One Humanity has remained merely a philosophical slogan. Ritualistic diversities of various religions have led us down where our collective existence proclaims the 'defeat' of the ideal of One God.

Only an urgent introspection can awake this sense of confession. Out of this turmoil younger generations have developed total contempt nausea and distaste for any thing and every thing pertaining to God.

Is it not the proper time for winding up ritualistic diversities of various religions, faiths... etc?

It will not be an over-simplification if we say that even the awareness as a slogan of One God, one Humanity, is missing. One-

time justified diversities of various religions have grown and matured in the flow of time to such forms that they attempt to defeat the very reality of One God, One Humanity and One World are far off dreams. Should we not wind up these diversities? Shall we be ready for a partial effacement of our ritualistic formalities? Will all the religions or faiths be merged in One Faith of God? Will the masses bear the brunt of any consequential transition?

Men of higher vision and potentialities were born in all times. Their very course of lives have become, in themselves, an idealised path for attaining God. Space and time might have caused multiplication of their paths. But should the multiplication of paths be allowed to cause the aberration of the essential unity of the Goal?

Every human being is the latest model of manifestation of God. Every Hindu is a living reprint of Bhagawadgeeta. Every Christian is a living reprint of the Bible and so on.

Let the existing spiritual leaders and philosopher-intellectuals have a look to these 'reprints' and let them try to edit and compile them in to One unique and eternal Handbook of Humanity.

The problem is real. But it needs careful diagnostic analysis. Let the front-line torch bearers unite and sit around a table. The columns of this journal await their proceedings.

Let us set on to the achievement of this ideal in this generation. The truth of awareness out of the comparative study of philosophy of Religions will be the singular realisation of the need of an early achievement of the ideal. This Academy of comparative Philosophy and Religion stands for realisation of this ideal.

Realisation of the ideal of 'One God, One World, One Humanity in real and actual practice of the masses -is the only solution.

The urge for an early advent of this solution is the singular sentiment of this editor.





Editorial

(Oct 1976)

- Prof. N.R. Deshpande

700 years back, in Jnaneshwara's birth, humanity was graced with a visible manifestation of Divinity. In his chosen human form, within about a span of twenty one years, he created and illuminated the eternal, spiritual 'light house' guiding countless, sailing and tossing human ships. Through such manifestations, God does stand by his promise to refuel and uplift His own beloved creation.

Assimilating space and time in his existence and spiritual works, Jnaneswara and his limitless spiritual inspiration have symbolised the trinity of 'unity, eternity and universality'. For an active devotee on the pathway to God, Jnaneswara is as if a soaking and resoaking spiritual solvent in which the devotee throbs and dips himself again and again.

This special issue marks merely a conscious attempt to salute this towering spiritual leader on his 700 th birth anniversary. How great Jnaneswara is, remains unfathomable, unscaled, unmeasured for the tiny measuring units like ours. How greatly we can enrich

ourselves, we can realise. In such a realisation only, real regardful tributes are paid to the greatness of such spiritual heroes. Gurudev Shri R.D. Ranade writes in his 'Mysticism in Maharashtra,'-"The Mystics of all ages and countries form an eternal Divine Society (Preface-p. 2). Jnaneswara has naturally his comparison with such great philosophic mystical luminaries of the West as Plotinus, Augustine and Eckhart..... Jnaneswar may yet again be fitly compared with Dante, whose beatific vision, philosophic imagination and poetic melody are just a counter part of that greatest of Indian poet-mystics, Jnaneswara" (Preface-p.3) A devotee with an emotional heart will merge in agreement with Changdev in describing the greatness of Jnaneswara and his brothers.

मोतियाचे पाणी रंजण भरिला । पोट भरूनी प्याला ज्ञानदेव ॥
अभ्राची साउली धरोनिया हातीं । गेलासे एकांती निवृत्तीदेव ॥
पुष्पाचा परिमळ वेगळा काढिला । तो हार लेइला सोपानदेव ॥
हिन्याच्या घगच्या जेवण जेवली । पोट भरूनी घाली मुक्ताबाई ॥

— चांगदेव

"Jnanadeva drank to his fill te water of pearls; Nivṛittinātha caught in his hands the shade of the could; Sopana decorated himself with the garland of fragrance; Muktabai fed herself on cooked diamonds". (English Translation from Mysticism in Maharashtra-P.46)

In the celebration of this 700 th birth centenary of Shri Jnaneswara, let us grant a pause to ourselves and be introspective. Let not huge and massive functions of celebrations sweep us away with a sense of having done all that is expected of us. Let us make a conscious effort to realise how and why Jnaneswara remains relevant and inspiring even after long passage of 700 years. Eternality and universality of his message have made its prints timeless and unwipable.

Jnaneswara's chosen mandate for us is 'एक तरी ओवी अनुभवावी' "live and experience (and not merely read and repeat) at least one verse of Jnaneswari." Present day growing world, craving for 'One god, One World and One Humanity' has to reinspire itself from Jnaneswara's urge for 'विश्वस्वधर्म'.

On this occasion, let us pray unto Jnaneswara to give us light and guidance. Let at least, the पार्थभाव (the urge of Partha) be born within ourselves. Let us be aware of the war being fought on the battlefields of our individualised existence between right and wrong, between virtues and vices, between Godly and unGodly. Birth of such a Partha (पार्थ) within ourselves will alone qualify us to receive Geeta and Jnaneswari and will lead us to the effective inner alterations, in turn leading us to God-realisation.

With the births of the Saints like Jnaneswara, humanity is bound to be on its way to Divinisation. Let this optimism recharge our cells and set us on towards the Goal with a new flight of hopes and efforts.

This editor feels, that having resolved on our part, Shri Jnaneswara is promising the humanity, on this occasion, with an assurance viz.

स्वयेच फुलविल आत्मवेल हा
काला परता ज्ञान मोगरा
सुगंध ज्याचा जाईल भेटुनि
जाण पुटांची गगने सारी ॥

The creeping Divinity in us, will on its own, mature to flowerings. Flower of Divine wisdom will be born and will be timeless and fragrant. The fragrance will dissolve and exhaust all those layers of consciousness, which are shelling skies, enveloping and entrapping the struggling human self.





Editorial

(Jan-Mar 1977)

- Prof. N.R. Deshpande

Through the incessant throbs of 'time', the living structure of humanity is getting continuously erected. To a speck in the cross section of this structure-in-continuum, a question gets revealed, viz., 'What exactly is the blue-print of the Great Architect?' Search for the answer to this question has engaged the intuitive struggle of generations. To the few intellectual minds, doubting the very basal reality, the struggle of generations in the name of God is simply a chronic inebriety.

To many of us in the present generation the inestimable Reality is only a matter of intellectual manipulations. But, for the authentic few the Reality is the boundless spectrum of eternity.

If saints and god-realised persons have come and stayed here, why are we left back and why is the show of existence still continuing?-such are the questions with annoying frankness.

These questions and substratum realities do, at times, disturb the equilibrium of philosophic thinkings and theosophic

conceptualizations. May be that the humanity is really in the grip of Hegelian cyclic doctrine of "Thesis, Antithesis and Synthesis". What, then, may be the "Synthesis" of our present generation? At times, through such thinking, we have the perfect explanation for the continued 'imperfection' of humanity. But, then it is like a big lecture on Force and momentum, which lecture can not be a substitute for a single litre petrol. Realistic figuration of humanity collected through the trickling drops of past generations reveals the depths yet to be fathomed. If the 'synthesis' of realisation by our generation is going to emerge as the 'thesis' of tomorrow's getting subjected to the crushing jaws, of the 'antitheses' of the later tomorrows, then, the Hegelian observation may settle as the epitaph of Humanity.

It is said that human beings, in their barest reality, are thinking animals. Have we exercised this 'thinking' too liberally, too abundantly so as to deform and degenerate? Has our boundless thinking and writing generated a creation of our own, encircling us now into worst confusions of worded fictions? Struggle to search answers for these questions inevitably leads us into the introspection.

All this tidal upsurge of thoughts may be occurring due to the frustrated expectations of 'instant' divinisation of the entire creation.

May be, that this world is just like a railway platform where we all are waiting for the great departure. May be that saintly 'drivers' and 'guards' are ready with the train in full readiness. And! may be, that we are lingering on the platform only, without caring to entertain the green signalled ready train to divinity.

Should, then, we not stop thinking and written ? for a while, and close our eyes into deep introspection, If we desire our thoughts to mature into actions, then, we should.



III. Articles by Prof. N.R. Deshpande



Prof. N.R. Deshpande's writings have its base in spirituality. His expressions are out of intuitions and words are prompted by the visions of Shri Gurudev.

- Editor





Remebering Shri. Gurudeo, The Founder of ACPR Belgaum

- Prof. N. R. Deshpande
Chairman of the Board of
Trustees of the ACPR, Belgaum

The Vaikuntha Chaturdashi on 13th Nov 1997 is the day of Reminders and Rededication. On this day in the past SNIf Gurudeo was formally initiated into the Divinity by his great Sadguru of the divine Shri. Gurulinga jangam Maharaj Sampradaya.

ACPR Belgaum was founded by the Great Spiritual Master, that is, Shri. Gurudeo. Withering times have brushingly flown away and the Marble of Shri. Gurudeo's Brindavana is radiating greater mystic shine, so much so to reflect back mirror-like image of the Devotee himself Stillness and peace at Brindavana have chanting spell only to pour into hearts as if one misses himself even for praying unto Shri. Gurudeo. Blue skies are, as if, embracing the bird flying in the sky. Emotions dissolve both faith and reason, making motionlessly still on the eternal laps of Shri. Gurudeo.

Shri. Gurudeo for the world, was additionally, Dr. R.D. Ranade, M.A., D.Litt, combining in his personified manifestations, many unlikes and greats. A great scholar, a great genius, a great literary giant, a celebrated saint, a great disciple, a great Spiritual Master, a great Spiritual Social Worker and yet with all this, still, a simple common-like family man. The whole world was his family. Shri. Gurudeo is a living history, still flowing in the present only to unfold the glorious of future.

His externally visible landmarks have by now, become unforgettable. Celebrities like the Ex President Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Dr. S Radhakrishnan, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma and the like have been his admirers, disciples, and students. Shri. Gurudeo has been the Vice-Chancellor of Allahabad University and also the Professor, Head and Dean of philosophy therein. Britannica Encyclopaedia like world compilations acknowledge his scholastic authority in the field of Philosophy and Mysticism. From his world famous book of "*The Constructive survey of Upanishadic Philosophy*" unto his "Bhagavadgita as the Philosophy of God Realisation", Shri. Gurudeo walked a long literary path, leaving behind his landmark imprints.

In the eternity of his Godhood, he had motherly awareness of the transitory world around him throbbing concern for the holistic welfare of the mankind is naturally impulsive in the hearts of the saints like Shri. Gurudeo. Diagnostic awareness of Humankind's future compelled him to conceive the Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion, way back, in 1926 at Pune.

In the growing world with the growing focus on the matter, he saw the abounding growth of Material Reason, as an unoptional by product of Humankind's global living. He could foresee the very big world shrink into a global village with the results of the Material

Reason, but still living the man and the creation to be the very same. Man's divine compulsions would still remain the same. Man may grow more intelligent, but may still be in the frantic search of wisdom. Man will acquire super-craftsmanship in techniques of convertibility but still without any creativity. Man will have tremendous capacity to think but still remaining worried about the unthinkable things. Diversities making this creation will be cursed with man-made multiplicities. In man's excessive place with material reason he would render himself more unnatural. Man's reason would break open the God's toy of creation only to have fragmented pieces. Synthesis of God's creation would get subjected to the Analysis by Man. In the jungles of words, fire of material reason would have been put by man only to have spreading fire of material knowledge without any cool of the divine wisdom. Creation's natural balance would stand imbalanced. Well-knit Interdependence in the natural creation will be imbalanced by the shrinking them of Independence, giving rise only to isolations without solitudes. The spider of Material Reason would have created cobweb like systems in which humanity will get confined to unbreakable self-imprisonment. Regimenting man-made laws and self-disciplining Religions would enforce the ritual of Humankind's living. The beauty of Diversity of the creation would have been eclipsed by the echoing Material Reason in the multiplicity of the Humankind. Man's walking feet of faith would totter with the growing burden of the Material Reason. Living then would be a business, and life would then be the subject, only, of Business Management. Eyes without vision, face without smile, and a body with forgotten soul would then leave back only the machine of a man. Inorganic knowledge would have eclipsed the organic wisdom. Artificiality would then replace the Naturality. Man would feel, with

futility, the pride of his adversely possessing the God's creation. Man, then, would start handling the God intellectually. The child of Humanity would then start the scientific analysis of the holistic motherhood of the God. Religions and Faiths would then get reduced to the sort of syllabus for graduating into the God. Everything, then, would be on its way to adulteration. Material reason would push the humankind to walk on the paths of suicide, only of material progress. Flowing times will flow and are bound to spin out evolutions, and those will be spiralling out accumulations only of Material knowledge. Civilizations and cultures would evaporate to leave back residues only of a systematic coexistence where combined wisdom of the Humankind would be no more an encyclopaedic knowledge of the Material Diversities of the creation. As a resulting consequence only the wisdom of Unity would have receded back to obscurity. Democracies of Intellectuals would blossom the Fruits of systematic Dictators, wherein Philosopher kings will be forced to search for the bare livelihood. Values would be valueless and Virtues would become liabilities. Systems of coexistence would come to be global commercial centres where money alone could enable the transaction of life. Slogans of equality would breed the camps of discrimination to group the humanity only in two groups of rich and poor. Justice will be the playful whim and pleasures controlled by the rich with the assistance of the Frustrated intellectuals. Law would be reduced to the systematic tyranny under the robotic control of the system. Everything would tend to get institutionalised where rituals alone would prevail, without any slightest substance. Fragrance would have left flowers only to get into perfume spray bottles. Beauty would go to reside in unnaturality. Instincts would have settled into fashions only. Decorated ritual of the life of Humankind would then be everything

but without a trace of Love, Smile, Joy and Peace. The beautiful golden cages of Religions and Faiths would then train humanity in the Flying course without the slightest touch of the Freedom of the Blue skies. In the pathless global village of the Humankind the cage-less state in the sky of God would not be even an Utopia. Seed of Godhood would be fast vanishing into extinction, and then what could be left for sowing? Intellectual Humankind would decoratively hang the beautiful paintings of Saints and Mystics in the glorious mansions of Museums and Archives. Ritual of Devotion will be orchestrated by the loud chanting of pre-recorded audio cassetts. Intelligent Humankind will be set to hear the God, while refusing to see Him. Material Reasons would have dried the Humankind into the polarised camps of Fanatics. Religions would breed the armies for the wars to be fought amongst the Humankind. Religions and Faiths would be like the broken pieces of one mirror, many in numbers, but still reflecting the same image of the same very God. Unity of God would be possessed by the Humankind in fragmented pieces of the mirrors of Religions and Faiths. Fragments will tend to eclipse the Unity. The degeneration of the Diversity would be at its peak. But then also eclipsed God would not have vanished. But then also the man made imbalance would not have wholly wiped out the Naturality. Birds and Animals and the Trees would have carried the torch of Gods balance of Naturaity, only to hand over the forgotten fire of naturality, on to the Humankind. At the apex of the journey of Material Reason, man would have effortfully forgotten to smile, but not to weep, to laugh but not to cry, to live but not to die. In God's play of creation, Humankind would have overplayed with the Material reason. The crisis of 'Imbalance' and the calamity of 'Un-naturality' would cast a spell of repenting awareness. The material Reason would not provide any analytical

solution for the Crisis brewed by itself. In rushing mood the Humankind would attempt to be introvert, searching for the path of the return journey to the state of Natural Balance. Humankind's ritualistic slavery of Religions and Faiths, then, would inflict reminding pains out of the wounds of material and intellectual excesses. Then the forgotten will be remembered. The challenges of undoing, deconditioning would then be the theme of the Thought. Reason would be addressed for its return to the Holistic balance. Humankind would then remember that Material Reason and Spiritual Reason are the two sides of the coin of the same God.

Spiritual Reason is in itself, the knowledge, realisation and the consequent living of the Unity in the Diversity. Shri.Gurudeo was aware of the need and importance of the Humankind's continuous conscious remembrances of the eternal theme of 'Unity' in the inevitably manifest Diversity making this creation. He knew that "Polarisations" in the Diversities are humanly natural, as much as its defeative impacts on Human awareness of the Unity in Diversity. Unity, always, is the soul of the body of the Diversity. Multiplicity sustains the Diversity but also throws challenges for the sustained awareness of the Unity in the Diversity. The challenge has to be met by the effortful balance produced by the combined wisdom of the living Humankind by being holistically reasonable. Diversities out of Religions and Faiths would be fruitfully manageable only if the reason of the unity controls the Humankind's living in the Diversities. Then only the transistory 'Living' of human beings could be happy and peaceful. Civilizations and culture nursed the Humankind to grow and live into societies. Regimenting laws and disciplining Religions have been continuing evidences of self teaching process for the wisdom of awareness of Unity. Forgetfulness of the Unity, leaves for the Humankind only the chaos

of the Diversities, wherein the world becomes a place where a crowd of individual men come to live. Then conflict is the impulse, and peace and happiness is the casualty. Nature has addressed Interdependence unoptionally and wisdom lies in knowing this for making the truthful best of the Individual Independence. Impulses arising out of polarisation have to be continuously diffused by the ever continuing reminders of the Truth of Unity. Awareness of such Unity then brings the Unknown God into the forms of Tolerance, Knowing of the ultimate essentiality in the Unity, Love for others, and an emerging Independence through the surrounding Interdependence. Then conflicts in the crowd get soothed into cooperative mutuality in the society. Then the polarisation becomes a pleasant decentralisation of God's manifestation, without the slightest degeneration. Living is as much a continuous process so much the cleaning has to be the continuous. The theme and wisdom of Cnity can never be a new theme, but as much it is ever existing so much it is ever vanishing from the visual screen of the mind. For such a mind, re-minding is necessary. Thus, remainders of the Unity have to keep pace with forgetfulness of the Unity. Rituals and Dogmas of Religions and Faiths tend with times to over polarise and eclipse the very substratum of Unity on which they stand. Pilgrims to salvation themselves happen to breed the retarding pulls back to slavery. We have to be slaves of the wisdom of Unity so that we may be truly free in the Diversity.

Chanting of this Unity- Mantra is a mental and intellectual process. Through the channels of cognition, recognition, comprehension, rationalisation, realisation, appreciation the same must rise to the stabilised intuitions, when only, the Diversity will be in a natural accord with Unity.

Shri. Gurudeo had a clear vision of these things. Growing polarisations must be accompanied by growing volumn of the process of Comparative insights and address sustainingly holding the everknown sould and theme of the Unity in the Diversity. In the world of diversities next to the unknown God, Reason only is the non-religious, non-ritualistic receptor and announcer of the Unity. Reason radiates rationality, in the light only for which, Unity is cognitive and perceptible. Reason is the manifest God, and Faith is the pathway to God. Duality of Reason and Faith is the keynote secret of the Diversity meant only for sustaining Unity. With the walking feet of Faith and with the visions of Reasons from far looking eyes, comes out the pilgrimage of the life of Humankind.

Shri. Gurudeo, hence did not stop only, with the founding of Nimbal Ashram, where he lived God and now let his disciples pursue to live Godhood, but very effortfully and intentionally conceived the Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion, way back in 1924 at Pune. In 1952, Shri. Gurudeo's Academy's headquarter premises came to be established in Belgaum.

The Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion, Belgaum evinces the Universality of Shri. Gurudeo's spiritual motherhood. His vision rose much high and above his spiritual concern for his family of his Spiritual disciples. Without abandoning them, he did not confine himself to them. His call for 'Rational Mysticism' was much ahead of the times, only for the futures to come. He did not command only for Individual salvation but for the Individual Salvation which is collateral with the Divinisation of the whole world. He awakened the world from the gross of the spiritual Utopia of salvation to the realistic living of the Godhood in the routine life in the world. Salvation cannot be a glorious death of someone, but it is a glorious Life in continuum. On the Rosary of

Reason he meditated the name of the Unity for the whole Diversity to project the manifest God.

In the form of the Academy of Comparative Philosophy and Religion at Belgaum he commissioned a **center of Divine Solar Energy**, only to become Humankind's future station for refuelling themselves with the spiritual energy. In it a global centre for charging the Reason of the Humankind to be powerful enough to sight the path and to walk on the Feet of Faith unhindered.

ACPR, Belgaum is Shri. Gurudeo's gift of Spiritual love and is the heritage of the entire Humankind. In the Polarising diversities of this World, it is a centre for Depolarisation. In the world abounding with Faiths this is a centre for Spiritual Reason. This is a centre for training and inspiring men to be First men before they aspire to be Gods. This is a spiritual kindergarten of the present, immensely intellectual, humanity. This is a centre for reminders meant for growingly forgetful humanity. It is a centre to remind that very big and beautiful, golden cages of Religions and Faiths can teach flying, but cannot confer Freedom in the blue skies. Freedom of Soul is in the sky of God only and it is a cageless state. We have to walk through the path of Religions and Faith only for transcending out of it. Reason has to be grown to the heights of Spiritualities. Through the nursing by the Faith, the Reason should deliver the wisdom. Wisdom should reveal, then, the Unity of God.

The process of life is ongoing. The incoming generations are in their Infancies growing onto their adulthood of Humankind. The present has to foster spiritual security of the incoming generations. Humankind has to learn as well as teach.

Centres for Spiritual Faith are abounding and multiplying. Centres for spiritual Reason, like the ACPR, Belgaum are still not fondly attended. Reason is over engaged on the material fronts by

the Humankind, so much so to feel the imaginery noncompatibility of the Reason with anything Spiritual. Hence, Humanity now is intelligent but still worried; is powerful but still frightened; is knowledgibly comprehensive but still without intuitive sprightfulness; is having everything but still with a sense of having nothing.

Let the World know its rightful Heritage in the ACPR, Belgaum; and let the disciples of Shri. Gurudeo consciously remember the Heritage of the world in the ACPR, Belgaum, gifted to the world by the incarnate God, who happens to be theirs Shri. Gurudeo. Let not limiting walls of the *Sampradayik Faith* be built by Shri. Gurudeo's disciples around the mansion of ACPR which was so consciously gifted by Shri. Gurudeo himself to the Humankind at large. Let Shri. Gurudeo's disciples not cherish to shrink the skies which Shri. Gurudeo opened to all the birds of creation. Shri. Gurudeo's disciples can be servants of ACPR and cannot be anything more. Spiritual ancestry of Shri. Gurudeo in the forai of the ACPR, belongs to the Donees of Shri. Gurudeo's choice and not to the heirs of Shri. Gurudeo's spiritual family of Disciples only.

Everliving Shri. Gurudeo will enforce to prevail the dream of ACPR, Belgaum.





About our Mind and Heart in ACPR

Shri. Prof. N.R. Deshpande
Ex-Chairman, ACPR, Belgaum

We all are striving in the service of the mission of this great global institution in the sense of its missionary fabric and universality of its soulful concern for the true, holistic welfare of the entire humankind.

We have to travel, in the mission of a voyage, with a prayer that God makes it a pilgrimage, so as to fulfil our roles of partnership with God, in his creation.

We need not be populist in our approach, but all the same we need not habit ourselves to comfort in the towers of seclusion with the excuse of rational intellectuality supposed to force this vertically of our actions, devoid of any utility.

God's creation is essentially a beautiful correlation and homogenous mixing of contradictories, only, to confer the happiness on the inmates of his creation.

We have to remember that our institution, is unusual in the sense of its being divinely large and open, as if a wallless and roofless mansion. No specific religion, faith, cult, *sampraday* is supposed to be the centre of its radiation. From the hard divided camps of humanity, it is apparently difficult to muster and recruit the allegiance, affiliation of persons and institution.

Intellectuals have been historically daring. But all the intellectuals may not be having direction for their struggle. Individual glorification, name, fame and royalties may be the sad end of the directionless intellectual pursuits. Intellectuals need to be a mystic, in the sense of having a direction. For his intellectualism, which does not, in any way, mean that he need be a saint, a swamy, a religious man with overt external exhibits of his religiosity. Godward awareness and orientation in his pursuits is enough to confer the requisite 'mystic' character, so as to avoid the ultimate fatality of his intellectual living.

ACPR is a global gallery where eternity will keep on whispering. ACPR is an all millenium venue for the meetings of 'intellectual lot' amongst the God's children. God has been always knowing, smiling and then crying for the intellectuals he created. He smiles because, they are his better and best manifest expressions, and he cries because they are the only lot who make the life of the majority of the creation, miserable through their sustained support for the systemic tyranny and exploitation. Intellectuals are said to be a double edged weapon. Selfish edge cuts everything, even good and noble, with their dreaded power of derecognising anything. The noble, mystic edge instills creativity, pushing man's evolution to the ends of Good hood.

The whole creation of the present stage is aloud with a confession of some biting crisis. Cries of Humanity are aloud in the

raging Forest Fire in the creation. It is all known to us. The ideal is known, and "also the current unmanageable rot of coexistence is also known. We have got Tistaved, exploited by the systemic institutionalisations of our own makings. Drivers of the omnibus of the system are intellectuals only. Everything is known, even to the intellectuals, but the chronic momentum of the system admixed with the intellectuals personal selfishness and helplessness has rendered the intellectuals to be the consciously blind supporters of the systemic tyranny. Ruthless systemic kings are, and have been, Few only, but the polity and beaurocratic support sustaining those Few, has always been from the abounding mass of intellectuals. Intellectuals can not themselves dare ruthlessness and exploitation. But the lure for lingering in the corridors of power makes them to support and ratify the 'powerful few' wielding the weapon of the system.

In the whole process 'awareness' of one's wrong doing obscures. Then one learns to forgive himself through forgetfulness. Hypocrisy adverts, but the Law of nature can not be withheld from its assertion.

The awareness and remembrance of these prevailing normative realities has to be there with us.

The Divine Foresight of the mankind's futuristic problems prompted Shri. Gurudeo to implant the manifestation of the Institution of ACPR. Innocent volume and mass of mankind need be protected from the systematised suffocation's and agonies. Out of multiple Factors which contribute to this crisis, one of the prime and key factors relates to the much belated realistic renaissance in the intellectuals interfacing with the systemic totality, with the emphasis on their possible role. Truth need be First spoken where after it may prevail.

On this perspective, ACPR was envisioned to be Humankind's School for a continuous, learning, training of the intellectuals, eventually going to be positioned as leaders, spokesmen or managers in the global set up of human coexistence. For the remaining masses ACPR has to be a Temple of knowledge to instill awareness of unity of God in the known diversities of Creation ; diversities in Thoughts, Religions, Faiths, Cultures, Civilisations, philosophies, Societies, Polities and what not.

Mystic reflections unmistakably point to the Unity which is a wondrous vibration in the Creational Continuum with in the diversities. At present, we have greater need for realisation that Eyes of Rationality have to have Ears of Mysticism, so that we as Humanity is neither blind nor dumb. Departmentalised' heights in knowledge have offered fragmented excellences, without any way helping us to reduce globally growing per capita poverty of Holistic Welfare. Felicitative achievements are not able to soothe us out of the crisis. A thought and a blue print is required for actions. Contemplation's, deliberations, Formulations and resolutions have to precede such thoughts capable of leading to actions, results.

All this has grown to the peaks of Human Reckoning. Diagnostic perfections are over crowding without the trace of curative prescriptions. Our awareness of such a situation is singularly our eligibility for praxis. Our resolve and dedication is our power. For learning the art of undoing the excesses, we have to be back to the Natures School housed in the premises of the Institution of ACPR.

Global institutions and intellectuals need be invoked to affiliate to, and, own this, Institutions. Essays, seminars and Researches could only be means and not the ends in the mission of this

Institution. Delivery of the Goods of Holistic Welfare to commonest of the men shall be the destination of the mission.

In the prevailing power structure of Policy and knowledge, the task of the Institution is not easy. Pockets and Divided Camps of humanity will not easily understand the solace in the Freedom of Campless Unity. Religions will not easily vanish, nor the sovereignty barriers dividing the earth into artificial nations. God's diversity has the beauty of unity, while man made camps and division have their anti natural strains. Religions may vanish if Philosophies dawn to assert; Philosophies may vanish if Mysticism dawns to assert; and Holistic Welfare of entire humankind may dawn if God asserts the mission of ACPR.

Mortals we are, but the mission and the Institution is immortal.

Our personal glory shall be in the form of a particle of sands on which the superstructure of Gods transitory creation shall be eternally standing with God's joy of Humanities Welfare.

Let us begin to work.





For Intellectual Warming Up of Acpr's Active Associates Lecture on Perceptions and Meaning of Philosophy

(Late) Shri. Prof. N.R. Deshpande
Ex-Chairman, ACPR, Belgaum

World of our present times is overcrowding with knowledge, little of which we know and more of which we are conscious of being definitely ignorant. God continues to be there, but religions are growing weak with their ritualism, diversities, conflicts and also their material antithesis. Following any Religion, now is either an effort of some 'comprehensive insurance' for the unknown risks & pain in life, or is a sort of socio-politic money oriented activity, as if like starting an Insurance Company itself.

Collectively we have organised ourselves. We have Constitutions, Socio-Politic Systems, Laws, Plans, Opportunities, Liberties & Freedoms and also our uncared lot. National, International, Global & even cosmic vision is now known to us.

But all is not well. We feel without any apparent reason, that the things are going from Bad to Worst.

Gurudev Dr. R. D. Ranade, was a divine visionary and having anticipated the future problems of Humankind, he rose to provide the foundation and forum of this great institution of ACPR for the Collective thinking and solutions for problems of grown up Humankind of the future.

We are going to acquaint about all the aspects and also learn how as ACPR volunteers/ ambassadors we can deliver peace and happiness, back to Humankind..

Today, let us advert to the perception and Meaning of 'Philosophy'. Then we will have no 'intellectual fear' about the 'abstract invisibles' of Philosophy. Remember, we are taking stock of 'Past' i.e. till-today, but still vital Future is ahead of us. God, only, has been in the Past, is in the Present, and will be there in the Future, without getting trapped in any Philosophy or Religion. Timeless God has brought out evolutions in Knowledge, hence, civilizations, Religions, Philosophies, Sciences have come up & will be coming up.

Historically we note that philosophy has been a sort of emerging extract from some 'Civilization' 'Culture', 'Religion' etc.

- a) Philosophy is Critical Wisdom about both the ultimate Reality and the World Plato
- b) Philosophy te Religious World view Plotinus
- c) Philosophy is Systemic Knowledge indistinguishable from science.... Aristotle
- d) Philosophy is method of examining language which resolve Metaphysical Problems.... Wittgenstein

And so on.

Philosophy is an Area of Human experience with traditional 'world view' focussing on myths of origin and accounts of Human Nature. Regional Culture in modern times and National Identities also have contributive influence on Philosophy. Hence only, broadly from the past we have three dominant channels of Philosophies 1) Indian Philosophy 2) Chinese Philosophy and 3) Western Philosophy.

To Philosophise is instinctive, and thus it points only to "Speculative and Critical" thinking. Nature and worth of Philosophy is a 'philosophical problem'.

Philosophy is as if some 'History of Human Intellectualism'. Global consensus and unanimity on Philosophy has never been there and probably may never be there. Global consensus and Unanimity on unknown God has been fairly there, always and forever.

Walking over sands of Times, Human Races tracked on Civilizations, unfolded thoughts, systems and so on. While knowing about Philosophy', We Indians have to remember that 'our present human dignity' is not solely dependent on our past ancestral Philosophic Glory.

We did have the best and the richest Vedic comprehension and Philosophy, Vedas were not man-made. Vedas did not provide a fragmented wisdom but an all-time Holistic wisdom. Now, also, we do have the *Vedas* but we do not know what they mean. Hence we chant them, worship them but can not know them. Founder of ACPR Gurudeo Dr. R. D. Ranade is even now globally remembered for his masterly work named as '*Constructive Survey of upanishadic Philosophy*', but still greater thing about him was that he was an acknowledged master in-Western and other world Philosophies. As a mystic saint he knew 'meanings' of the 'words' through which he spoke philosophy. ACPR is heritage to the world.

Idea of Philosophy stresses on the practical Wisdom by the reflective, Introvert sages. Chinese example finds emphasis on Ethical, Political problems, along with the Problems of Nature in relation to man & Heaven. Indian example emphasises on Theoretical speculations also with a bias for salvation concept. Philosophy and Religion are more intermixed in Indian example. They are sagely, spiritual, Technical and also Epistemological.

For knowing perception of 'Philosophy' let us advert to the reference of the popular meaning of the word 'Philosopher'.

From one view, you will find 'Philosopher' to be a sage, with Charismatic or mystical wisdom. From another view, Philosopher is a Dialectician, clever at arguments, for example Sophist in Ancient Greece where in 'philosophical approach of the person' was under highlight.

Reasoning Power is the main criteria in this angle. Dialectical school of the Chinese context is an example where Logic and the relation of names to reality were dominating.

Philosopher as a Spiritual Analyst is also the important view. As an Analytical thinker, he gives out Layout plan of Religion and the related concepts. Shri Adishankaracharya of Hindu Religion ; St. Thomas Aquinas of Roman Catholics; Nagarjun of Buddhist Religion are thus the Philosophers in this sense.

One who reasons about God is broadly called Theologian. Whether, Theologian is a Philosopher ? Buddha has been one of the greatest Spiritual Analyst, but Buddhism does not emphasise any God. So, Buddha cannot be called, in this sense, a Theologian. Marxist like Ideologies reject Theology. Let us, better, hold Philosophers to be 'Spiritual Analysts' and not go by the criteria of Theology.

Philosopher is also understood in the sense of a super scientist. In the modern times they are called as 'speculative cosmologists'.

For example, Yin Yang Theorist in china, Atomist (kanad) in India and Greece.

In modern times, Aristotle launched the emphasis on a Philosopher being first a 'Thinker' whose main task is to 'synthesise All knowledge'. Aristotle's vision slowly gave way to the development of 'social sciences'. Seminal figures like Mary, Popper etc. initiated theories which deal with Human Life as well Natural Sciences.

Philosopher as a Metaphysician is also one view. Metaphysician gives picture of ultimate Realities, which are apparently beyond the scope of social or Natural sciences. He is like a mystery-unfolder. For example Taoists in china, Hegel, Heidegger of modern west may be called Metaphysicians.

Philosopher, in one view, is expected to be skeptic. Absolute skepticism sustains only silence. Examples are Hindu *Munis* keeping absolute Maun. Crotalus in Greece is one example. Sceptics, are Realists in the sense that they ask whether we like play with sensitising 'words' only without any clarity about 'things' pointed by those words.

Words are not Things and we must be concerned with Things' and not 'words'. In this sense only 'Philosopher' is a 'Questioner'. Socrates was a very great philosopher, because he was a great questioner. Now we call them 'Critics'. This category of Philosophers have been revolutionary writers like Tolstoy, Lutsun, Proudhon, Kropotkin, Poet Lorca, Lucretius, Most notable is Nietzsche who challenged The Western traditional track of thinking.

In yet closer modern times, Universities are abounding and with that the category of 'Professional Philosophers' has come in. Academic familiarity with logical clarity makes them a sort of a category. 'Linguistic Analysts' Ideology' marks a distinction in them.

They are 'modern empiricist' consciously committed to a scientific world view through Philosophy. Reason is dominant factor with them. A sort of psychological uncertainty seems to dampen the creative potentiality of this category. Working hours and covering environments do not allow the full scope.

Modern Philosopher has to be Mathematical, Rational, Logical, Psychological, Ideological, Intellectual and also should be Secular & Global in his views. Humankind's welfare is the new God and Human Rights Awareness is the new global religion. The older examples may be Plato, Sicity, Aristotle etc. Modern ones may be Ortega, Dewey, Bertrand Russell, Sartre, Croce, Radhakrishnan, Popper, Lukaes and above all the supreme most Gurudeo Dr. R. D. Ranade, the founder of ACPR, Belgaum.

Dear friends,

'Having' philosophy of Life is different from 'propounding' it. Jesus was not a philosopher though he had more than great philosophy of Life. With reference to Jesus, Paul, Cyril, Augustine etc were the Philosophers. Rama was not a philosopher, but Krishna & Buddha were Philosophers. Darwin, Jurgenev, Murasaki, Shikibu have not been Philosophers but were creative ripples of Divinity. Analytical Discourse with a world view makes a thinker to be a Philosopher Philosophizing is a methodology.

Philosophers are contributive products of this Philosophizing methodology. Indian version of Philosophy is Darshan and not only Tatvajnana.

Philosophy has to be a Secular, cross-cultural, Humanitarian world view of anything and everything. Analysis is its path way, but synthesis is its goal.

Intellectual Diversities of Plural world have a confluence (sangam) in the Philosophy.

Human body gets support from rituals of religion, while Human soul gets support from the Philosophy of Religion.

Remember, Philosophy is not the only activity of Life. Professional Enterprise of Philosophy may be futile and also counter productive.

Man has Reason and Faith also. Philosophy cares and trains Reason, only with a hope that Faith strengthens.

Humanities Faith will be grown from the radiating Reasons of Unity ushering from your ACPR founded by Shri Gurudeo.





The Event of Prayer

Late Prof. N. R. Deshpande,
Ex-Chairman, AC PR, Belagavi.

Compiled by
-Adv. Maruti B. Zirali,
Hon. Secretary ACPR

Prayer is not one's act but it is an Event occurring on him.
Every event of prayer is an unprecedented non repeat.

Craving for solace takes one to the solitude. Treading on the paths of trans-rational ponderings, one, unknowingly, creeps into the obscurities which trigger the supra-physical state of a full-free mind. Emotions manifest and prevail, giving timeless spells of life. Such emotions have their inbuilt strength to manifest the freedom of the Soul. Galloping diversities of the mind converge to manifest the spell and the event of a prayer. In prayers, the grown up child in the one, sense the solace and swings to sleep into an unknown all forgetfulness, in the laps of the ever craved Motherhood. In a zooming fraction of a moment one rides off one's awakenedness.

Why so? Enslaved in the open prison of the Creation, the child in the one is nursed and grown by the freedom only, solely to make it know its slavery, so as only, to strive back to Freedom and Freedom alone. Life is the slavery in the process of knowing and also the freedom in the process of making. Growth of the one is the inevitable incessant delivered to him by the Creation. Burden of growth fatigues the one growingly, tiring him to the brink of rushing into some sleep of Solace. Varieties of Diversities keep on chiseling and hence disintegrating. Incessant growth of the one is, thus, ever accompanied by the growing disintegration also. Riding on the reason, the ocean of Rationality is crossed, only to get into the trans-rational Voids much still, in the very wall-less Prison; without even a foggy sight of the shore of the freedom.

The obscurities pervade, and the sufferings survive. Slavery intensifies with strengthlessness. Remembrance of Slavery even is drowned by the intensity of the sufferings but the craved freedom, still, is not drowning. Walking continues but the mission vanishes. Manhood dries up, but Godhood does not arrive. Urge to utter does not die, but meanings would have already swallowed the words. Thinking gets extinguished and the void looms around the child in the one.

Then! is the natural movement of the Prayer. The event of the Prayer dawns for the Actless child in the one.

Even, just before the prayer, the creation keeps on delivering itself at the Counters of the Individual consciousness, yet, when it is orphaned into a solitary confinement, and still much away from the Divine Solitude. God in the every atom is still light years far away from the one. The forgotten Riddle does not forget the one, but pierces to bleed the consciousness.

Then! prayer prayerfully triggers the critical point, releasing the power to undo the face of the God ratifying and sustaining the slavery, and ! to free the God from his self-enslaving creation. Thus the intense pains on the far off lonely shores lead to the event of the prayer. The prayer that manifest the absolute eternal power.

Every prayer tranquillises the One. Integrated emergence gets self composed uncovering the absolute power. A tiny mirror, then, mirrors in the big mirror. Tiny mirror, seeing the big mirror gets its genetic self confirmation. Genetic identically stands experienced. Infinite images of Each into the Other, make the Other face of the God visible, first ever. Timelessness is the unnoticeable consequence fading away with the consciousness.

Solutions are not there but the Riddle vanishes. Power, then, is not there, but the absolute freedom arrives to prevail.

It is the Event of the Prayer, the Event of the Eternal.



IV. Poems written by Prof. N.R. Deshpande



(“ನಾನ್ಯಃ ಕುರುತೇಕಾವ್ಯಂ”) "*Nanrushihi Kurute
Kavyam*" poetry in its true sense is created
by the saints only.

- "*Malavikagnimitra*"
by Mahakavi Kalidasa





Poems written by Prof. N.R. Deshpande

क्षमापात्र

नका कधी आणू राग मनी देवा
माझिया स्वभावा पोटी घाला !
कृपा जेजे केली ते ते विसरूनी
नसत्याने चितणी बळेची रडतो !

नाही एक क्षण जो का कृपेविण
देवा तुझे रिण कैसे फेडू !
स्वभावे कृपाळू करोंनी अबोलू
ऐसा भक्तपाळू माय तूची !

कृतघ्न वंचकी परि माझ मीची
तूझिया कृपेची जाण नाही !
माझिया जिवीची घडण एक एक
देई साक्ष हाक तवप्रेमाची !

काय शेष मागे राहतो जीवनी
जरी कृपा उणी तुझी होती !
दया तुझी एक जायचा मी घडलो
उभा आड झीजलो एके कृपे !

आईशिया तुला मीसर्वांगी विसरलो
वंचणे उलटलो कृतघ्न कृतघ्न !
कधी कधी देवा नका मनी आणू
नका राग मानू अज्ञानाचा !

एक तेची बळ देई देवा मज
जेणे स्मरण सहज तुझे होये !

प्रोफेसर एन आर. देशपांडे

1966



आश्व

जातसे आयुष्य काळाच्या प्रवाही
 उभा जागा राही नामस्मरणी !
 किती जन्म घेसी मनयोनी संगे
 क्षणी क्षणी भोगे सुख म्हणोनी !
 बीज वासनेचे दुःखवृक्ष उभवी
 तेथे भास होई सुखफळांचा !
 क्षणे तास दिवसे पुढे चाललासी
 सामोरा मृत्युसी जाण्या चाले !
 सभोवार आग भोगचे थैमान
 तेथे रममाण कैसा होसी !
 ओढ ओढनिया प्रवाह नेतसे
 अंती घालतसे मृत्यू जन्मा !
 संत उभे तेथ हाक तुला देती
 नामधारी देती तरण्यासाठी !
 मूढ होवोनिया क्षणे नको दवडू
 स्मरणान सोडू श्रीरामाचा !
 नामस्मरन दीप तेवता वसू दे
 स्वये जागा राहे अनुसंधानी !
 संत वचन ठेवा श्रवणांती मथुनी
 जीवा खूण मनी शिवाची दे !
 'भाव 'बळ मोठे श्रद्धेच्या तारुचे
 परी सदुरूचे शीड हवे !

जव येई त्यासी कृपा प्रेम भरती
 क्षणाते किनारी आणूनी सोडे !
 सदा रामस्मरन नित्य श्रवण मनन
 हेची एक मर्म गुरुकृपेचे !
 उभी उंच माया तुम्हा खरी वाटे
 वेड उफराटे लविलेसे !
 स्वरी नाहीखोटे काय कशी आहे
 सर्व ज्ञाने पाहे गुकदास बनुनी !
 आता बैसला तो हाक देत तुजला
 परी ना संपला खेळ तुझा !
 नको खेळ खेळू प्रवाहे वाहसी
 पुढे माप घेसी मृत्युचेची !
 अनुभव गोडी शाब्दिना येईल
 शब्दे वाटचाल थोडी केली !
 कृपा आरवली दासा जागे केले
 त्याने ते बोलले जैसे आले !!

प्रोफेसर एन आर. देशपांडे

25-5-1966



!! व्यथा !!

संपलीसे वाटे	जोड शरीराची		
आत कोठे पुढती	जाणे लागे !		
आगा रामराया	उगे नको राहू		
कृपे धाव घे तू	अंत आला !		
आत हृदयी माझ्या	नाही उर्मीबळ		
भावभरे बोल	काही नाही !	माझे मज पाहता	अपात्र सर्वस्वी
शून्य प्रश्नचिन्हे	मुकी व्यथा हृदयी	परी आत हृदयी	अश्रु येयी !
अश्रुधरा वाही	पशच्यातपे !	प्रेमी भक्त योगी	तेजतपो बळे
आजवरी होतो	धुंद देहबळे	दरबारी बैसले	तुझिया देवा !
परी आज कळे	देहा जाणे !	उभा दूर आर्त	भिक तुझी मागे
याची देहासंगे	टीपी करेनसे वाटले	विषय भोगे रोगे	कुष्टलेला !
मनोरथ चाले	तयासंगे !	असहाय अगतिक	स्वकर्मे पतीत
परी आज धालो	एकाकी अनाथ	उभा दूर येथ	आस धरुनी !
जेथ सवेपंथ	कुठीत झाले !	काही ना आढळे	माझे ज्या म्हणू मी
नाही भक्तीबळ	नाही ज्ञानतेज	क्षीण आर्त मनी	स्पुदंतरे !
हीन दिन आज	आलो देवा !	नाही तुला घालो	इथे दीर्घ जन्मी
भवभोग चक्रे	खंग खंगलो मी	आत भय मनी	पुढ शून्या चे !
आता तव चरणी	कैसे येऊ !	आगा राम राया	कृपा करी आजी
काय बळ माझे	जे माज आणेल	जेणे आस माझी	पुरवी तूची !
कैसेनि निवेल	मन माझे !	पाप संचीताते	प्रार्थू हीना शके
काही काही बळ	नाही येथ रामा	तुझा तूची राखे	लाज माझी !!
कैसे तुझ्या धामा	पोचेन मी !		

प्रोफेसर एन आर. देशपांडे



!! रथयात्रा !!

संपलीसे आता ही रथयात्रा !
 मागुता माहेरी जातो आता
 आत्मसारथी हा देहरथा संगे !
 सुखदुख भोगे आभोग्त्वे
 येथे अर्जुनाचे विवेक हे नाव !
 चाप एकमेव वैराग्याचा
 कृष्ण सारथी तो सर्व सूत्रधारी !
 युद्ध बळे करवी विजयासाठी
 रथ भ्रमण करुनी सारथ्या पाहणे !
 आशेषी परतणे हाची जय
 खेळ दो घडीचा युद्ध दहक्षेत्री !
 माया पोर भारी वेडलावे
 क्षण एक भ्रमलो घडे रथयात्रा !
 मागुता माहेरा जाग आली
 युगे अट्टावीस उभा हाक देही !
 “बाळा ! उगेराही खेळपुरे “
 खेळ भंग झाला जाग जागा आली !
 स्वये पाहू गेली ऐक्यरूप !!



!!घोषुनि विट्टल विट्टल!!

आम्ही देवाचे पायिक पाया भक्ते चाच रोवू
 वारी श्वासोच्छ वासी करू घोषुनि विट्टल विट्टल !
 भगवा भक्ती चा झेंडा नेऊ झेळू निया उंचा
 भरू मळवटे बुवयाने घोषुनि विट्टल विट्टल !
 भरू विश्वी अनाहत टाळ विणानी कोंदरे
 सवे झांजा गर्जतील घोषुनि विट्टल विट्टल !
 ताल पुढे मागे पायी नाचू होऊनी विदेही
 रोम रोमातून येईल घोष विट्टल विट्टल !
 वारी ब्रह्मपुरा नेऊ रे उभा पाहू रे विट्टल
 सरे संसाराची वाट होईल विट्टली शेवट !
 दास म्हणे पांडुरंग देई अंतरीचे बळ
 वारी चौर्याशी सरेल घोषुनि विट्टल विट्टल !!

प्रोफेसर एन आर. देशपांडे



!!डोंहाळे!!

घेतले मी वाण विट्टल भक्तीचे
 आता संचीताचे काय चाले !
 भक्ति दिव्य आता करुनी राहेन
 वेड मी लावेन पांडुरंग !
 संसाराचे दान प्रारब्धा देऊनी
 माझा मी स्मरणी रंगेनरे !
 येईल विट्टल पांढरी सोडूनी
 माझिया अंगणी नाचेल तो !
 विराजून हृदयी पुजोनी पाहीन
 लावेन चंदन अंतरीचे !
 एकलाची पुढती बैसुवुनी त्याला
 उभा कीर्तनाला राहेन मी !
 उभा राम सारी नाचूनी गाईन
 प्रेमे डोलविन धुंद करुनी !
 ठुमकेल वेडा माझा पांडुरंग
 येईल तो रंग कीर्तनी त्या !
 जाईल आयुष्य औसिया रंगाने
 अंती उभा तेथे वाट पाही !
 येईल तो अंत पडेल ती मीठी
 जेथे मायदारी सरुनि विरेल !
 होईल कौस्तुभ विट्टल कंठीचा
 रूळेल मी सांचा काला परता !
 पुन्हा न येईल भवजाग मजला
 अक्षय निजेला राहीन मी !
 दास म्हणे धालो विट्टली डोहाळे
 मुक्ती चे तान्हेले जन्मेल हो !!

प्रोफेसर एन आर. देशपांडे
 10-08-1966

!!देवाचे निवासस्थान ...भक्त!!

जेथे भक्त प्रेमे गुण कीर्तन गाती
 डोलतसे श्रीपती उभा तेथे !
 भक्त हृदय गाभा भरुनिया राही
 देवपणा येई उंचबल !
 रोमहर्ष स्फुरण भावभरे गान
 वाहे ओथंबून विसर पडता !
 मी पण भुलले तू पण विरले
 स्थिति मात्र राहे लय सातत्ये !
 शूद्ध पूर्ण गाभा जेथे वास करी
 चोरला श्रीहरी येथे शोधा !
 अरे मना जाई शरण भक्त श्रेष्ठा
 पाही खूणगाठा परमार्थाच्या !
 पुत्र प्रेम करता माय आनंदेल
 सहज लाभेल मातृकृपा !
 दास म्हणे आजि पहिला मी देव
 एक भाव हृदय निवासस्थान !!

प्रोफेसर एन आर. देशपांडे
 09-08-1966



दैवाचें निवासस्थान... भक्त

कुणातरी दाखवा आगा मनोराजा
तेणे होय तुझा वाहवाकार !
“काय जन ज्ञान आणि निरभिमानी
आला कोठोनी गुहा रूपे !
सर्व जाणोनिया नाही ज्ञान गर्व
थोर योगिराव तुळणा नाही !
काय बोल बोले काय लेख लिखितो
उगम हा देतो क्षणा माझी !
गुरु हा गुरूचा स्वामी अंतरांचा
एक एच साचा ज्ञानी जगती !
एशिया बोलाते मना ! राउलेका
फसूनिया मूर्खा अडकलसी !
काय तुझी सनद कुठला तू राजा
कैशी तुझी प्रजा आगा लेका !
“तू कोण पुसता ?” ऐसे जव म्हणसी
बापा च्या बापासी जाणता मी !

तू माझे लेकरू म्हणोंनी बोललो
मागा खुणावलो परत येण्या !
नको हा उन्माद नको शब्दसंग
रंगा चा बे रंग होतो ह्याने !
नको लोक स्तुति नको रसग्रहण
एक पाणिग्रहण भक्ति चेची !
नको होऊ ज्ञानी ज्ञान सांगोनीया
एक भक्ति पान्हा वाढो देई !
भक्त होवोनिया एके भक्ति रंगी
प्रेमे दे श्रीरंगी बुडी वेगे !

प्रोफेसर एन आर. देशपांडे

24.04.1966



सौंदर्यलहरी

- Prof. N. R. Deshpande

शिव-शक्ति	-	तंत्र
पुरुष-प्रकृती	-	वेद
ब्रह्म-माया	-	अद्वैत

"The absolute is formless, but energy is female. When energy takes form, it is called Mother, mother is moving power, disturbing in to waves the Water-Calm of the Absolute" Vivekananda. The formless infinite becomes finite in diversified creation due to शक्ति (Kinetic Power) "Power Holder is शिव. There is no शिव without शक्ति. In themselves they are one. They are each Being, Consciousness and Bliss" - Arthur Asalon.

महीं मूलाधारे कमपि मणिपूरे हुतवहं
स्थितं स्वाधिष्ठाने हृदि मरुतताकाशमुपरि ।
मनोऽपि भ्रूमध्ये सकलमपि भिन्ना कुलपथं
सहस्रारे पद्मै सह रहसि पत्या विहरसे ॥९॥

In the thousand petalled lotus, सहस्रारा you
Sport with your Lord in secret, having traversed
Entire path of कुंडलिनी ; viz, The element
Of Earth in मूलाधारा ; Water in मणिपुरा ;
Fire in स्वाधिष्ठान ; in अनाहता ;
Ether above it in विशुद्ध and The Mind
in आज्ञा between the eyebrows.

चतुर्भिः श्रीकण्ठैः शिवयुतिर्भिः पञ्चभिरपि
प्रभिन्नभिः शंभोर्नवभिरपि स्थूल प्रकृतिभिः ।
चतुश्चत्वारिंशद्दूसुदलकलाश्रभिवलय
भिरेखाभिः सार्धं तव दारणकोणः परिणताः ॥११॥

Oh Supreme Power, Your angles of
abode become 44 with 4 who is of
auspiciousness, 5 different wheels of
power, nine basic roots of nature,
and encircling lines encasing 8
and 16 petals. (श्रीचक्रा description)

शिवः शक्तिः कामः क्षि तिरथ रविः शीतकिरणः
स्मरो हंसः शक्रसादनु च परामार हरयः ।
अमी हल्लेखभिस्तिस्मृभिरवसानेषु घटिता
भजन्ते वर्णास्ते तव जननि नामावयव ताम् ॥३२॥



V. Photographs

*Memories are longer than the roads
stretched ahead. Things end but memories
last for ever and that memories become
treasure. .*

**- Jnapaka chitrashale of
DVG, wikipedia comment**

V. Photographs



*Memories are longer than the roads
stretched ahead. Things end but memories
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DVG, wikipedia comment**





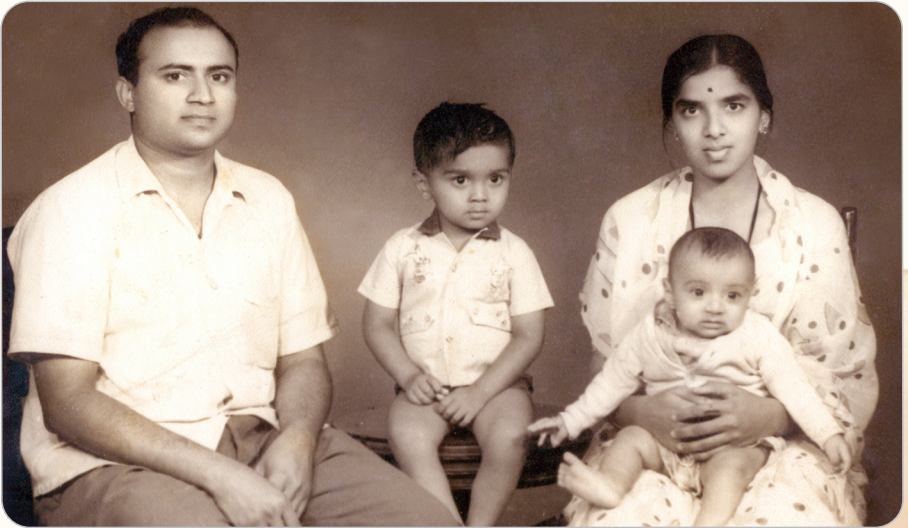
Prof. N.R. Deshpande on Education tour to Japan in the Year 1970. The tour was sponsored by Govt. of Karnataka for first rank holder in Law Degree



Prof. N.R. Deshpande Family Photo : Sitting Left to Right Smt. Savita N. Deshpande (Wife), Smt. Kusum S. Deshpande (Mother), Shri Shyamrao N. Deshpande (Father), Smt. Sulabha G. Pote (Sister), Smt. Rama N. Inamdar (Sister)
Standing Left to Right : Prof. N.R. Deshpande, Shri Vivek N. Deshpande (Son), Shri Girish Pote (Son of Sulabha Pote), Shri Madhav Deshpande (Son), Shri Nanasaheb Pote(Br-in-Law), Shri Neelakanth G. Inamdar (Br-in-Law)



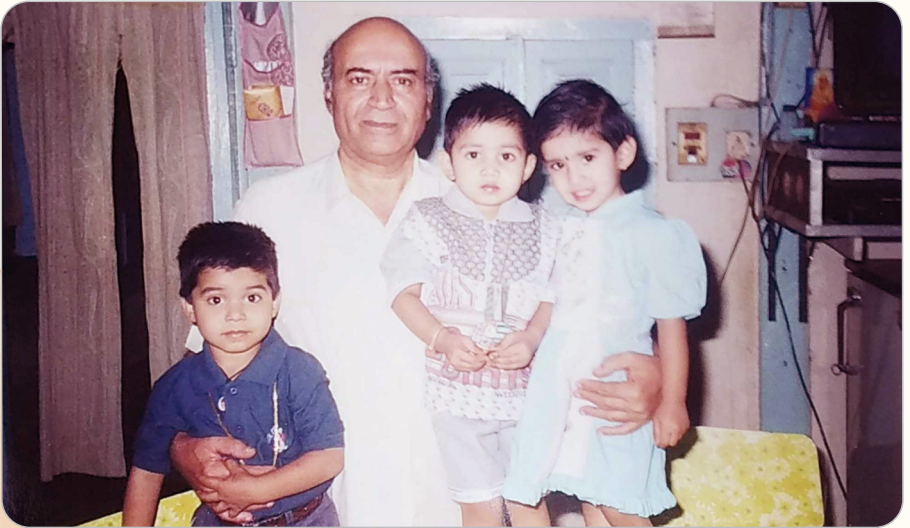
A Group Photo with Shri Gurudev Dr. R.D. Ranade (sitting in the middle of the back line) with Dadasaheb Deshpande (Father), Master N.R. Deshpande, Master N.S. Deshpande with other devotees at Allahabad.



Prof. N.R. Deshpande, Smt. Savita Deshpande,
Sons Master Madhav (in the middle Elder son) and Master Vivek
(on the lap of mother)



Prof. N.R. Deshpande, Dr. Induprakash Singh Ambassador to Spain and M.B. Zirali, Adv. Secretary ACPR, at Gurudev Ranade Mandir, Hindwadi, Belgaum.



Prof. N.R. Deshpande with grand children ;
Raghunath, Chinmay and Vaishnavi



Board of trustees with Dr. I.P. Singh. Sitting ; L to R. Shri P.D. Dharwadkar, Prof. N.R. Deshpande, Chairman, Prof. N.S. Deshpande, Smt. Prabhatai W. Potdar
 Standing ; L to R. Shri Vasantrao Deshpande, Adv. M.B. Zirali, Secretary,
 Shri Ashok Potdar, Shri Shrikrishna Kelkar Joint Secretary,
 Shri. K.R. Kulkarni, Shri J.M. Kulkarni



Prof. N.R. Deshpande with Hon. Justice Patri Basavangouda, H.C. of Karnataka, Shri Ashok Potdar, Hon. Justice S. Ravindran, S.C. of India, Justice H.G. Ramesh H.C. of Karnataka, Adv. M.B. Zirali Secretary ACPR



During the visit of Hon. Prime Minister of India Shri H.D. Deve Gowda to ACPR. L to R. Shri Umesh Katti PWD minister Karnataka and Prof. N.R. Deshpande.



During the visit of Hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka Shri B.S. Yadiyurappa to ACPR Library at Shri Gurudev Ranade Mandir, Belagavi. L to R. Shri Suresh Angadi M.P, Prof. N.R. Deshpande, Adv. Ashok Potdar, Vice chairman, Shri Ashok Saraf Chairman and Adv. M.B. Zirali Secretary

Last click

**Two minutes before the demise of Prof. N.R. Deshpande
at Shri Gurudev Ranade Mandir on 30th Nov. 2002.**

**Prof. Deshpande breathed his last while he was rendering his services to ACPR
at the feet of his master.**

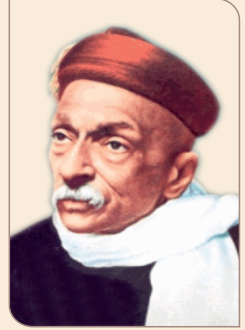
**Prof. N.R. Deshpande's mind, body and soul were devoted to his Guru
Shri Gurudev Ranade and his last photo is a fond memory for us to cherish the
ideals of Prof. N.R. Deshpande.**



L to R. Hon. Shobha Karandlaje MP, Shri Shankargouda Patil, Prof. N.R. Deshpande,
Hon. Shri B.S. Yadiyurappa, Hon. Shri Suresh Angadi MP, Adv. Maruti B. Zirali
Secretary ACPR at the study circle meeting at ACPR Auditorium, Hindwadi, Belagavi

About the Founder of ACPR Belagavi

Prof. R. D. Ranade, M.A., D.Litt., one of the greatest saints of modern India, was also a world-renowned mystic-philosopher. He was affectionately addressed as “Shri Gurudev” by his disciples and followers. He was Professor and Head of the Department of Philosophy of Allahabad University (U.P.); later promoted to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and eventually retired as the Vice-Chancellor.



Dr. Ranade was an intellectual colossus and a prolific writer with several great monumental philosophical works to his credit. 'A Constructive Survey of Upanishadic Philosophy', 'History of Indian Philosophy- The Creative Period', 'Mysticism in Maharashtra', 'The Pathway to God in Hindi Literature', 'The Conception of Spiritual life in Mahatma Gandhi and Hindi Saints', 'The Bhagavad-Gita as a Philosophy of God-realization', 'The Pathway to God in Kannada Literature' and 'Vedanta; The Culmination of Indian Thought', are some of the gems which have been acclaimed worldwide.

Dr. Ranade had a vision to help mankind achieve holistic welfare through sustained awareness of Spiritual Unity in varieties of diversity. He advocated for “One God, One World, One Religion”. He established his home and Ashram in Nimbal, a small village in Karnataka in 1922. Nimbal continues to be a center of meditation and his spiritual teachings for those who believe in his vision of One God. He conceived and laid foundation of Academy of Comparative Philosophy & Religion (ACPR) in 1924 at Pune and his relentless efforts consummated in 1952 in today’s ACPR, headquartered in Hindwadi, Belagavi, India. As a befitting tribute to the great founder and his vision in ACPR, the then President of India, a renowned philosopher himself, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan took pride in volunteering to inaugurate the ACPR building at Belagavi in 1965.

ACPR is his immortal heritage to the world at large. It is a global gallery where eternity will keep on whispering. It is a historical, philosophical and spiritual place for every individual irrespective of their caste, creed and religion. It’s branches across the globe are passing on teachings and messages of Dr. Ranade to people of all faith. Personalities from the fields of Philosophy, Spirituality and Politics have paid visit and have been blessed with inspiration, peace and prosperity in their lives. His messages to the world reverberate in the quarterly English journal, “Pathway to God”, published by ACPR.
