

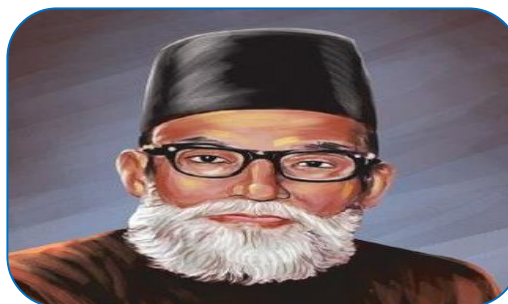


QUAID-E-MILLATH'S DEBATES ON MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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ABSTRACT:

Quaid-e-Millath was born in Tirunelveli at Pettai. His original name is Muhammad Ismail Sahib. He was the leader of Indian Muslim League after Independence. He was a great leader, Patriotic, Reformer and Social Worker. He spoke salient features of Madras Legislative Assembly to the people in the year 1946-47. First Session of the Second Legislative Assembly under the Government of India Act, 1935 (5th August, 1946). Debate on Maintenance of Public Order Bill (1st March 1947), Khadi Movement. This message help to know about legislature to them.

KEYWORDS: *Quaid-e-Millath , spoke salient features , Political conference.*

INTRODUCTION:

Quaid E Millath was born on the fifth day of June 1896 as the second son of Miyakhan Raother and Mohaideen Fatima. The Arabic word Quaie-E-Millath means the guide of the People. Quaid is the one who has taken the thread of the camels in his hand and is the one who guides the camel in the way he is walking forward.

The Patriotic Patriotism that has poured into his youth:

The state Political conference held by the Tamil Nadu Congress party took place in Tirunelveli City on 21, 22 in July 1910. Former advocate General Mahesh Srinivasa chaired the Iyengar Conference. The civil disobedience movement was at the height of the Khilafat agitation.

The youth wanted a radical supporter of the national struggle to pass a resolution supporting the non-cooperation movement initiated by Gandhiji at the state governments in Thirunelveli. But those who were supposed to be moderates at the time had to think that the British government should not be hated in the same way and that it would be enough to make a resolution insisting on the necessity of political reforms.

MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES

FIRST SESSION OF THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT, 1935 [5th August 1946]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, several of my friends who spoke before me congratulated the Hon. Premier on the presentation of his budget. I also want to congratulate him and I congratulate him on the fact that he has formulated his budget within the short time which he had at his disposal after assuming office.

“Presently I will have to refer to certain points in the budget on which I have to congratulate him; but in the meantime I want to refer to certain features of the budget which reference may perhaps

not be palatable to our friends on the other side. But, before that, Mr. Speaker, I have to say something with reference to the appeal made by the hon. Friend the Leader of the Independents with regard to the unity of the various communities in the province and the country. I did not intend to touch on politics on this occasion, but since my friend has chosen to refer to the subject, I think I cannot but say a few words on the matter. He says 'Unity'. What is meant by 'Unity', Mr. Speaker, I am not sure. This is a country and this is also a province wherein we have got a population which is multi-racial, multi-lingual, multi-religious and multi-so-many other things. By unity I do not think that anybody means or proposes that all these elements of the population should fuse together into one homogenous people. That is a physical impossibility. But, however, that is no reason why there should be disharmony, there should be heart-burning and there should be quarrel in this country. What our friends really want is amicability and cordiality between the various sections and elements of the population. If we had those qualities with us, I think the province can go on smoothly and happily. So far as the Muslim League is concerned, particularly during the recent few months, it has done all it can to make such an amicable settlement possible. It has done all it can to make such an amicable settlement possible. It has tried its best to usher in cordiality and thereby bring in the much-needed freedom and independence to this country. The Muslim League has made concession after concession for an amicable settlement, but the party of the friends on the other side – the Congress side – did not budge an inch, as has been pointed out by our revered leader, the Quaid-e-Azam, from the position which they took originally. Under these circumstances, it is deplorable that took originally. Under these circumstances, it is deplorable that we cannot have the much-desired amicable settlement and the Muslim League was left with no other choice but to come to the decision which it has come to in Bombay a few days ago. I do not want to say more on the subject, Mr. Speaker. There are other occasions and other platforms on which we can give expression to these ideas.

"Now coming to the budget, so much has been said about the demands for a lump sum. The Government tried to meet that objection by saying that is not really a demand for a lump sum that has been made, and that it is not an estimate, but a fund that has been constituted. For this purpose, the analogy of the water supply fund has been invoked. I say there is no analogy between the water supply fund and this fund. Water-supply is a definite item in the scheme of village welfare, prosperity or reconstruction or whatever else you may call it. We all know what that item is. We all know what a huge amount is required for fulfilling the object of the water-supply schemes. But here this is a subject which has not yet been defined. We are not yet given details of the sort of rural reconstruction which they have in view. We do not know yet whether the rural reconstruction which they are aiming is going to be practicable and of real benefit to the people. So I think there is no real analogy between the water-supply fund referred to and the fund which is being constituted now by the present budget. Even this argument of a fund has been given away in the same breath by transferring or withdrawing a sum of Rs. 200 lakhs for khaddar. The round figure of a lump sum of Rs. 200 lakhs has been allotted for khaddar. Therefore I do not think there is in reality even an appearance of a fund in this matter.

"Again, Sir, I want to refer to another feature of the budget, i.e., the loan. The Government say that it is not the practice to include the loans that they may float in the feature in the Budget Estimates. I do not know why it should not be the practice to include loans in the Budget Estimates. It may be said that the Government will resort to the flotation of loans, if there is easy money in the market at the time. But it is also open to the other objection that the Government will always be left with a temptation of making use of that resort and spending as they please.

DEBATE ON MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER BILL [1st MARCH 1947]

Mr. Speaker, I am on my legs not to make any lengthy speech but only for registering my opposition to the Bill which is before the House today. We have already dealt with the question of the Ordinance on a previous occasion when we discussed it threadbare. My only regret is that Government, after hearing all those arguments have thought it fit to bring forward such a Bill as we have got before us. Sir, in opposing the bill I have to make it clear once again- it has already been made clear by many hon. friends also that we are not in any way for anything which encourage any disorder of lawlessness

in the province. We are for the firm maintenance of law and order in the province, but we say again for that purpose, for the maintenance of law and order in the province such a drastic measure and instrument as we have got before us is not necessary. Even as it is, the position in the province has improved from what it was when we discussed the Ordinance about a fortnight ago. I do not think that the Government particularly under the present circumstances, are justified in bringing forward such a Bill as this. On the previous occasion the Hon. Premier promised that the obnoxious features of the Ordinance will be removed from the Bill. but I for one, do not find any such change in the Bill at all The Bill as a whole is obnoxious and I think it ought not to find a place in the statute Book of the government, particularly of a Government which has been set up by a party which claims to represent the majority of the people in the province.

"Now, Sir, if a man has to be arrested there must be some reason for arresting him. because, without justification nobody will ever dream of arresting him. Then, if that executive officer who is empowered to arrest him has got some reason, why can't he put it in the form of an arrest warrant? Why should he be exempted at all from giving action at all, according to me and my friends, concerning the liberties of human beings against which there is no appeal to a court of law, it will be subversive of the ordinary human rights and liberties of people and to such a state of affairs. I think, a Government which claims to be representative of the people should not be a party. The Bill speaks of an Advisory Council and when I see what kind of Advisory Council it is I find that it is of no use at all in this connection. Its views may be taken or may not be taken by the Government and it will only be a waste of time to refer matters to such an Advisory council as that. I do not know what is the purpose of that Advisory Council at all. There must be appeal on any action which an executive official takes against any human being particularly concerning his liberties. There must be an appeal to a court of law.

KHADI MOVEMENT

"Coming to the much debated question of the Khadi and the Government's textile policy. I say, Sir, that their policy really affects the vital economic interests of the Province. It is not out of a spirit of opposition that I am putting forward this plan and this contention before the Government. The other day, my hon. friend MR. VISVANATHAN, said that it is not as if you have and got this 300,000 odd spindles ready here to make and supply cloth and yards and that it will take two years for us to get them and asked whether in the mean time we were to Keep idle in the matter of Providing the people with a necessity. Now then what is their Scheme? Is their scheme going to bear fruit within the next two years or even 20 years? He says if one in a family takes to spinning for an hour a day, it will cloth everybody in the province. I want to ask if it is a practical proposition. The Hon. Ministers have been preaching this gospel of the charka atleast for the last nine months and they have been doing it very earnestly and insistenty and their Parliamentary secretaries also are with them and the Textile department staff are also doing their job also very enthusiastically. I wish to know how many of these gentleman have taken to spinning for an hour a day. Sir, are these people who are preaching this gospel to other people spinning themselves? Unfortunately M.R. MUNISWAMI PILLAI does not form part of the votaries who have adumbrated this policy and launched this scheme. (The Hon. Sri V.V. GIRI. He is spinning for hours). For how many hours are they spinning and how many of them are spinning? Sir, you allow these spindles to be imported into this province, and you also carry on your intensive and extensive Khadi plan. Even then you will find a deficiency of more than 16,000 bales per mensem in this province. Even if you import all these 300,000 and add spindles and even if all the 27 Firakes begin to bear fruit. Produce their Khadi and yarn, still you would in addition require more than 16,000 bales per mensem for giving the people 16 yards per head not 30 or 40 yards of which my hon. friend Mr. T. VISWANATHAN spoke. Why cannot you try your Khadi scheme and allow the mills also to expand? Then again sir, we see the waste in the manufacture of Khadi. I will point out only one instance. I do not want to take much of the time of the House and I think the speaker also has not given me much time.

I want at least two or three hours, Sir, (Laughter). See the wastage, sir, caused to the resources of this province. You know what is Khadi yarn is, and how strong it is. My Hon. Friend Mr. VARADACHARI who spoke of Khadi yarn being so very strong and all that is not here. I do not know

where from he got all that information. Sir, you take that one single process of sizing in the weaving industry. In sizing more than 10 percent of the Khadi yarn will be spoilt when compared to mill yarn. That is experience of the handloom weavers who try to weave this Khadi yarn into cloth. If it is 10 percent, see what is the colossal amount of wastage that is caused to this province. The average production of cotton for five years, that is five years ending with March 1944, of this province comes to 4,80,000 and odd bales. If they are converted into cloth they give you 90 crores of yards of cloth. That will incidentally mean 18 yards per head. Even if all the cotton of this province is converted into cloth, it will give only 18 yards per head. Out of 90 crores of yards, 10 percent is being wasted. That means 9 crores of yards of cloth. Taking the value of the yards content of these 9 crores of yards at half a rupee per yard, it will come to Rs. 4.5 crores. If the value is more than 8 annas per yard, the figure will be more and again if the wastage is more than 10 percent, the loss will be much more than the figure I have given. This is the kind of industry that is being sought to be developed in this province. Will this become popular. I want to know. You say that people are free to follow their own avocations. Quite all right. But will your khadi scheme succeed if you do not compel the people. Are you going to compel only the people in those 25 Frkas or other people also? If you say that you are going to compel only these people in the 25 Frakes. I say you must compel every one of the family to provide one man for engaging himself in spinning yards and in weaving cloth. That will mean a tremendous amount of yarn and cloth, and will have to go to foreign countries to find a market for our out put. You say that you would persuade the people, but by persuasion you have not been successful so far. I dare say by persuasion you have not succeeded even amongst your own ranks. Therefore, I say you are not going to succeed in this Khadi scheme. If we, people, Muslim Leaguers wanted that the Government this Congress Government should become unpopular and should be driven away from the seat of power for a long time, then we must egg you on this the Khadi scheme. We do not want to do so because, in the mean time the economy of this, province will be affected. This the surest way of undermining your popularity amongst the people. Even today you will find signs of that unpopularity amongst the people when you go and compel every one of them to spin and weave.

CONCLUSION:

Quaid-E-Millath might have chosen a different kind of life if he wanted to. It may have been said that his family had property comforts. But he did not behave in such a selfish motive. Not only did he not throw away the life of the cold, but he had to take the hardships, the punishment, the slander.

He was a man of tolerant. He who was in his position was not disown. He had a solid belief that one day the truth would be acknowledged. He believed that friends and enemies would make themselves understood one day. It did not go in vain. In the end, the world rightly understood him. There must be a whole system of minority Muslim people living in this country. They should not be scattered in many corners, but they must hold on to the rope of unity. It was only then that they were able to deal with their problems. His previous political experiences emphasized the truth. So he chose to establish this truth as his goal. God has repeatedly reiterated this truth in his own imagination. A "responsibility" was handed over to him by the people. He accepted the responsibility of handing over to the next generation the system of Muslim League. Fulfilled his duty. How many are the hardships, the losses, the sacrifices and the arguments he suffered. He was able to bear everything in their own goal.

Today, 47 years have passed since he left the world. The flame of the Muslim League, which he had lit up, is still shining and is functioning effectively. The Youth Regiment is in the squad. They are using the organisation of the Muslim League. They are daring to enforce the Muslim League of the future. There is no doubt that the future of Muslims is very safe in their hands. Whenever a Muslim young man lifts the green flag and shouts, "Let us raise the flag of the league," Quaid E Milleth said that they agreed to the next generation. It is the thought that he is a witness to the way he has been, and in our hearts like ours.

Ismail Sahib won the Lok Sabha elections three times, and his three-time constituency, Manjeri in Kerala. He never went to the constituency to gather votes for a single election campaign. However, the people of the Manjeri region were repeatedly elected to represent him.

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