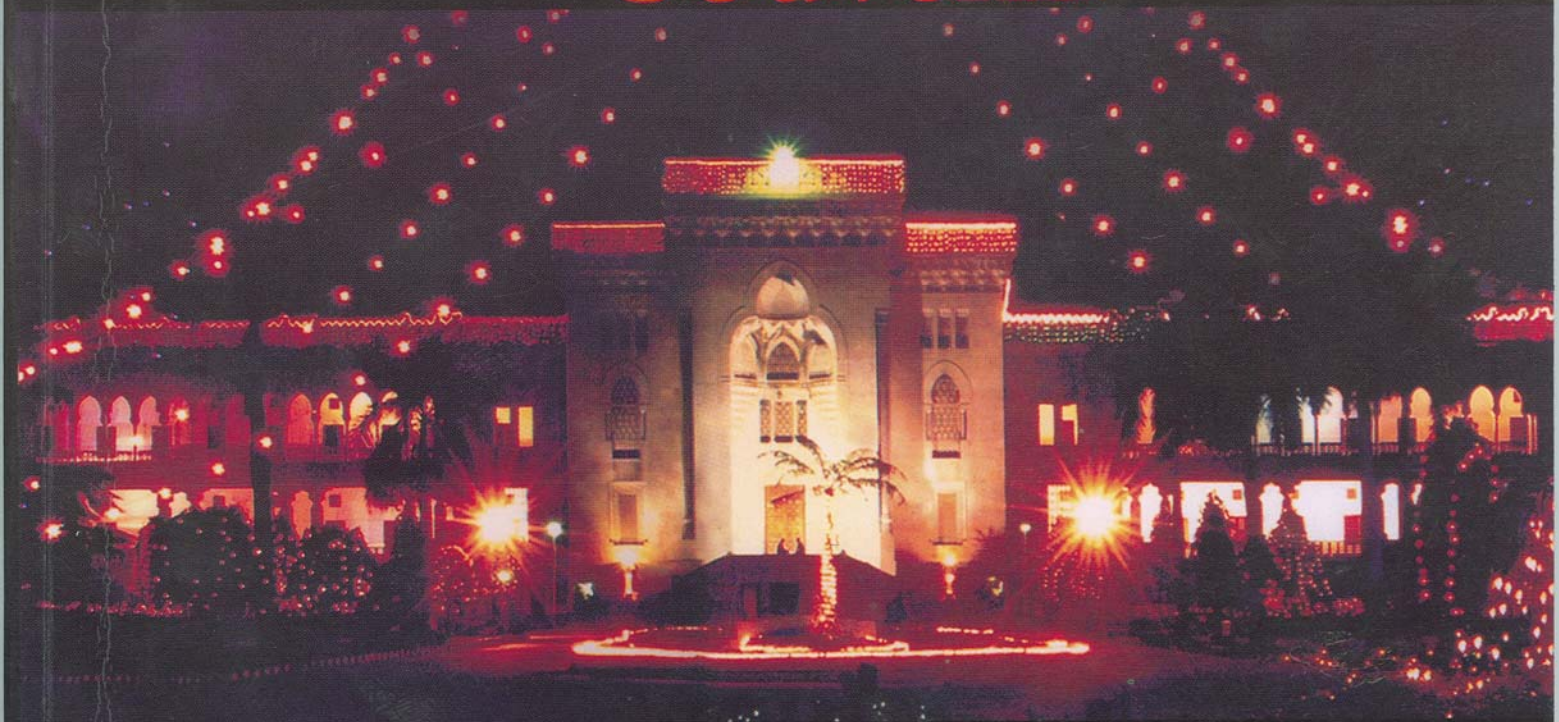


Alumni Association of Osmania University -Souvenir



Osmania University

The Founder of the University



H.E.H. Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan



کنگ کوٹھی

ح

۱۵۰ خطہ: سندھ شدہ اشتہار تعلیمات معروضہ ۲۹-۳۰ جادی الثانی ۱۳۳۳ھ کے ایک سالہ ایک یادداشت گزرائی گئی ہے جس میں پرنسپل سی دی ویسٹ کے ایک پیسج کے افسر کے ساتھ چند عادیوں و دیگرین کے دروازہ کی نقل کر کے چار آگ کے خاص حالات کے لحاظ سے بیان ایک یونیورسٹی قائم کرنے کی ضرورت و مناسبت بتائی گئی ہے۔

حکم: پیسج بھی معروضہ اشتہار یادداشت کی ضرورت رائے سے اتفاق ہے کہ ممالک ہر دہ کے لئے ایک ایسی یونیورسٹی قائم کی جائے جس میں جدید و قدیم مشرقی و مغربی علوم و فنون کا استخراج اس طور سے کیا جائے کہ موجودہ نظام تعلیم کے عناصر دور و دور جو کہ جسمانی و دماغی تعلیم کے قدیم و جدید طریقوں کے خوں سے پورا نایاب حاصل ہو سکے اور جس میں علم ہیلائے کی کوشش کے ساتھ ساتھ ایک طرف طلبہ کے انسانی کی درستگی کی نگرانی ہو اور دوسرے طرف تمام علمی شعبوں میں اعلیٰ درجہ کی تحقیق کا کام ہی جاری رہے۔ اس یونیورسٹی کا اصل اصول یہ ہونا چاہئے کہ اعلیٰ تعلیم کا ذریعہ جاری رہاں اور دو قرار دیا جائے مگر انگریز زبان کی تعلیم بھی بحیثیت

ایک زبان کے مطالبہ اعلیٰ علم بر لاری گردانی جائے۔ سائنس میں بہت خوشی کے ساتھ اجازت دیا ہوں کہ سر سے تحقیق پیش کی یادگار میں جب مذکور اصول کو عرضداشت کے موافق ممالک خود سکھائے حیدر آباد یونیورسٹی قائم کرنے کا کارروائی شروع کی جائے۔ اس یونیورسٹی کا نام (فتاحیہ یونیورسٹی) حیدر آباد ہوگا۔ اور ہر ایسے اصولی امر کی نسبت جو اس کارروائی میں پیدا ہو مصراحت کر کے میری منظوری وقت فوقت حاصل کیا جائے۔

۱۴- رجب المرجب ۱۳۳۳ھ - جے۔ بی۔



"I am pleased to express my approval of the views set forth in the Arzdasht (petition) and the memorandum submitted therewith, regarding the establishment of a University for the State, in which the knowledge and culture of Ancient and Modern times may be blended so harmoniously as to remove the defects created by the present system of education and full advantage may be taken of all that is the best in Ancient and Modern systems of physical, intellectual, and spiritual culture. In knowledge, it should aim at the moral training of the students and give an impetus to research in all scientific subjects. The fundamental principle in the working of the University should be that Urdu should form the medium of instruction in higher education but knowledge of English as a language should at the same time be deemed compulsory for all students. With this objective in view, I am pleased to order that steps be taken for the establishment on the lines laid down in the Arzdasht (petition) of a University for the Dominions to be called the Osmania University of Hyderabad in commemoration of my accession to the throne".

Alumni Association of Osmania University -Souvenir



Osmania University

PREFACE

I am indeed happy that the Osmania University in its onward march of progress has completed 89 years. It is a matter of pride that our University has crossed several milestones over the years and has emerged as a pace setter reflecting the national agenda for higher education. Today we have carved out a niche as an icon of higher learning with international outlook and global outreach.

Our Alumni spread far and wide globally have always been the partners in progress of the University. They are evincing keen interest in and significantly contributing to the Institution building and infrastructure development at the University.

It is so thoughtful of the Coordination Committee of the Donor Members of Alumni, Osmania University to have come forward to celebrate the Foundation Day of the University in a big way this year. The impressive get-together and dinner organized on 22nd September 2007 have really captured the spirit of the event. The large turnout of Alumni of yester years brought back the vivid images and rekindled the memories of the past. The overwhelming response of the Donor members of Alumni to the call of alma mater on that historic occasion had been quite impressive..

In this connection, I should make a special mention of the contributions of Dr.M.Sreedhar Reddy and Sri G.Satyanarayana who have been in forefront in organizing this event. I should also record my appreciation for the enthusiastic support received from Mr. Harinath Mede and our other distinguished overseas alumni based in USA. They played a prominent role in enlisting the alumni support for the cause of strengthening the alma mater.

This souvenir had been conceived as a befitting tribute of the alumni to mark the occasion of Foundation day celebrations of the University .Dr. M.Sridhar Reddy had taken up the responsibility of bringing together the content and soliciting the messages and reminiscences from the distinguished alumni for inclusion in the souvenir. It bears the imprint of initiative, hard work and commitment of Dr.Reddy. I convey my deep sense of gratitude and appreciation to the Donor members of Alumni for their gesture of affection to the alma mater.

Prof. Mohd. Suleman Siddiqi

Vice-Chancellor

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY HAS
PAID RICH DIVIDENDS TO
THE REGION AND NATION

Mr. L. Sankar Prasad

*From a Glorious
past to a Vibrant
future*

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY HAS PAID RICH DIVIDENDS TO THE REGION AND NATION

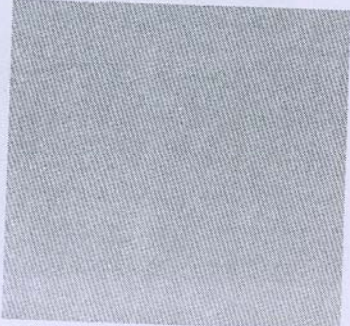
Mr. B. Sudershan Reddy
Judge, Supreme Court of India

It gives me great pleasure in writing this letter on the occasion of the 90th Anniversary of the starting of Osmania University. As a former student, I cannot but take great pride that my alma-mater has made immense and incalculable contributions to towards the betterment of the region and our country. I believe that it also ought to humble people, great and small, that while individual life is short and evanescent, the institutions that we build live on, making great contributions to the lives of many millions of people over successive generations.

It goes without saying that an Institution like Osmania University could have survived and flourished only by the contributions of many eminent people with a vision of a better future for our people. Osmania University in turn has produced many leaders – in all fields, social, cultural, scientific, scholastic and political – who have brought laurels to our alma-mater. On this occasion, we must salute not just the individuals but the synergistic relation between an institution of higher learning and its students, former and current.

Started by a progressive despot, it was not always clear that Osmania University would be moulded to serve the greater democratic projects that had begun all over the world and increasingly being aspired for by the people of our country. As with many other institutions of higher learning, not just in India but all over the world, there was considerable anxiety about unmooring higher learning at Osmania University from elitist conceptions and yoking its potential for a democratic thrust. I submit that amongst its many great successes, its evolution as an institution of higher learning not for the few but for the many million in the region, must surely be regarded as the greatest. The metric for evaluation of the contributions of a University cannot be a mere counting of the eminent students that it has produced. Osmania University of course has produced many. Rather, the correct metric would be one that recognizes the fact that Osmania University has opened the portals of higher learning to the many millions who would have been stuck in a world informed by medieval ideas and ideologies. This has contributed immensely in making the people of the region that Osmania University serves become better informed and actively participating citizens of our democracy. Each one of the former students of Osmania University should reflect and acknowledge the fact that their personal success may not have been possible if their alma-mater had been restricted to the few.

That democratization of higher education through Osmania University has paid rich dividends to the region and the nation can be immediately evidenced. Over the past century, this region, as with other parts of the globe, has been rocked by momentous changes. These changes have called for far reaching changes in the way we perceive our lives and our role in the society. Increasing participation in public discourse by hitherto deprived segments of the population is one of the more welcome and necessary changes that have occurred. Even as the populace of the region woke up to the challenges of changed ideas, ideologies, political structures, nationalism, freedom struggle, merger into a newly formed republic and then amalgamation into a larger political entity based on a common language, it was, more often than not, Osmanians



who articulated the aspirations of the common man, surely changing the central focus from the nawab to the fakir, from the foolishly exalted to the ordinary, and from a world view that conferred greatness based on accident of birth to a recognition of the essential humanity of every human being. Many Osmanians have even laid down their lives for social progress. We must certainly acknowledge the fact that Osmania University was instrumental in weaving their moral fabric, strengthening their resolve and providing them the intellectual platform on which they could debate and participate in the synthesis of new ideas and aspirations.

An aspirations of an institution, particularly one of higher learning, cannot be a momentary affair and much less only a moment of self congratulations. It also ought to serve as an occasion for reflection and rededication to higher values in which such institution is founded and the critical task of tuning the operations to meet the emerging challenges. Success for an institution surely lies in what it has achieved in the past; and yet, if the past is all that we can talk about, that would surely lead to the death of the institution. This unending challenge of balancing the pride of past achievements with the need to continue to succeed in the future is probably what distinguishes an institution from an individual. Each one of us can in our individual lives be satisfied with what we have accomplished and rationalise our failures. If we ascribe the same metric to our institutions, we would kill them and jeopardize the future of generations of people to come. I am sure that our hope in continued wisdom of the stewards of Osmania University is not misplaced.

There are many challenges that Osmania University faces. I would like to touch upon only one, though I would argue that it is one of the major ones and indeed an overarching one. No institution of higher learning can be a mere disseminator of knowledge. The very act of teaching implies a query of the existing knowledge and an active striving for new knowledge. For various reasons, some unavoidable but many products of mistaken social policies, not sufficient emphasis has been placed on research. If people find that a too strong an indictment, I would suggest that most reasonable people would admit that we have not done as much as we probably could have in equipping and involving more people in the process of knowledge generation.

Moreover, in recent times the talk of turning Universities into mere handmaidens of industry has been increasing in volume. I have nothing against the idea that one of the principal tasks of a University is to equip students with the skills necessary to be effective participants in the economic sphere. However, that cannot be the sole purpose of higher education. Rapid obsolescence of skills in the market place implies that the main task of higher education is not the imparting of a discrete quantum of pre-specified skills. Rather, it would imply that we need to make our students auto-didactic. The focus and nature of higher education to achieve the latter goals would be substantially different from the one where Universities are treated as merely and solely breeding grounds for specific set of jobs. Furthermore, the world that we live in and the world in which our children will live in is being buffeted by rapid and massive changes. These changes, by being all pervasive and complex, call for radical changes in the way we construct our social policies and have the intrinsic feature of becoming undemocratic. In order to be able to address the changes and assess the social choices being made, it is even more imperative now that our students have a more rigorous and wider grounding in many different fields of study. If Osmania University is to meet these challenges, it would not merely have to fight off efforts to turn it into a mere vocational college, but also change its very core. For far too long our Universities have depended on fixed areas of specialization with syllabi that does not change for decades. One of the principal causes for this, though not only one, is that we have not asked the faculty members of our Universities to actively participate in generation of new knowledge. I am not blaming our teachers alone. It is we, the members of the society and citizens of this country, who have not devoted adequate resources to promote creative activities in our Universities, and instead have acquiesced in

policies that have seen creativity as being best promoted in exclusive and elitist central institutions. New knowledge does not get generated in only discrete places – it gets generated because the socio-cultural environment promotes an attitude of quest and the quest takes place in all facets of life. Let us at least articulate the need to view our Universities also as places where knowledge can be generated and that adequate resources need to be devoted to achieve the same.

Over the past few years we have also increasingly begun to hear arguments that foreign Universities and private Universities are the way forward. On a personal front I am not against the notion of foreign Universities teaching in India – after all knowledge generation requires a much more of a Universal perspective. Nor can one argue against private participation in higher education, at least not at the level of principle. Many reasonable arguments can of course be raised against these trends on the basis of practical issues that such trends pose. I am more concerned about the neglect of our publicity funded Universities on the spurious argument that foreign and private participation can alone fulfill the many tasks that our public Universities serve. Universities such as Osmania will continue to serve the masses and indeed are essential for the continuance of our democratic project. Attempts to derogate the functioning of such Universities would be counter productive and run counter to constitutional wisdom.

In the end let me again reiterate my sense of pride and joy on the occasion of the ninetieth anniversary of Osmania University. I hope and pray that many hundreds and thousands of such anniversaries will be observed and celebrated in the future. Finally, on behalf of many Osmanians let me also reassure Osmania University that it will always occupy a special spot in our thoughts and that we will always be ready to serve it in whatever capacities, small or big, that it may demand of us. It will be a privilege to serve our alma-mater.



OSMANIA UNIVERSITY – GENESIS

Prof. Radhakrishna Sarma

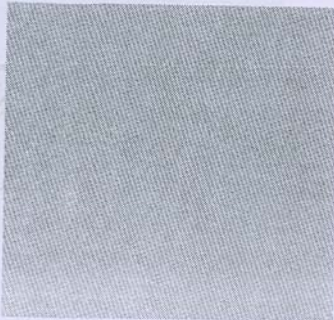
The beginning of the history of the Indian Universities goes back to the middle of the 19th century, when soon after the receipt of the Dispatch of the Court of Directors dated 19th July 1854, the Government of India took up the work of organizing Universities. During a long period of more than half a century, between 1857 and 1915 only five Universities were established in India, these being Universities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, established in 1857 and Punjab (now in Pakistan) and Allahabad established in 1882 and 1887 respectively. In 1913, the Government of India passed a resolution on educational policy which served the twin-objective of restricting affiliations and satisfying the Indian opinion through encouragement to regional Universities. As a consequence of this sympathetic attitude towards India aspirations, Universities followed in quick succession not only within the British Indian territories but also outside. The Banaras Hindu University came into existence in 1916 to be followed by Mysore the same year, Patna in 1917, Osmania in 1918 and the Aligarh Muslim University in 1920. Here an important aspect of the development of University education was the establishment of Universities outside the British Indian territories. The first such University was established at Mysore in July 1916, through an act of Mysore legislature. The Osmania University which was established at Hyderabad in 1918, came as a surprise to the British Government which had no prior information regarding the Nizam's intention to establishing a University in State. On 14th December, 1917, the British resident at Hyderabad forwarded the state proceedings to the Government of India in reply to their numerous queries informing them that it was a fact that the Nizam had sanctioned the University. The Government of Hyderabad made it clear that the new University was intended "merely to supplement not to supplant" the English College of the Nizam's College, affiliated with the University of Madras.

About the same time, the first Universities were contemplated in British India, the appointment of Sir Salar Jung I as the Dewan of state of Hyderabad in 1853 paved the way for the embarking on a policy of modernization of administration on British lines in that state. Founding the Dar-ul-ulum or the Oriental College in 1853-1854, establishment of a Civil Engineering college in 1869 and the creation of the Education Department in 1869-70 were in line of modernizing the educational system in the state. It was around the time that a new name emerged on the horizon to enliven the State's education scene: Sheikh Jamaluddin Afghani. A Professor at the Al-Azar University of Cairo. Afghani was a strong votary of the oriental, more specifically Islamic, education imparted through one's mother tongue. He visited India on as many as five occasions. Afghani came to Hyderabad for a prolonged sojourn in 1879, and instantly launched a determined campaign for the establishment of a proper University which might be set up anywhere in India and which might attempt to teach the pupils in their own native tongue instead of Persian, Arabic or English. Two local editors, Mohid Hussain and Sajjid Mirza, lent Afghani the unstinted hospitality of their columns to propagate his ideas. 'Progress depends on the instruction being imparted in the language of the country'. Afghani told his listeners and asked, 'why do you not translate the books from modern languages into

Urdu? How can a man point out proudly to his library if it contains thousands of books written in foreign languages but not a single book written in the language of the country? The indefatigable Jamaluddin cultivated important personages, harangued anyone who cared to listen to his advanced views, and generally created, almost single-handedly the first mild stirrings in the informed circles of the state" (unpublished Ph.D. Thesis of Dr. H. Rajendra Prasad, 1977, Osmania University, p.140).

The idea of an University in State during the time of Nizam Mahaboob Ali Khan in 1884 when Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, who came to India on a semi-governmental status and visited Hyderabad made a proposal for the establishment of Mohammadan University or Nizam University. In spite of the enthusiastic support it received from all quarters including the Nizam, was abandoned, through the fillip received by educational activities resulted in the establishment of Nizam College in 1887. In AD 1885 Nawab Raza' at Yar Jung after enumerating the defects of the prevailing system of education though the Persian medium of instruction proposed for the foundation of a Jamial Ulum Oriental University with Urdu as the medium of instruction. However, no action was taken on the proposal in spite of Sir Salar Jung I's expression of support for it.

The widespread demand in the Hyderabad State for a type of higher education calculated to satisfy the intellectual and cultural aspirations of the people and having its foundation deep in their natural consciousness and enlightened public opinion in the state becoming averse to control of higher education in the state by Madras University paved the way to the events leading to the establishment of the Osmania University after Nizam Osman Ali Khan's accession to the throne of Hyderabad in 1911. Dar-ul-'ulum Old Boys' Association which celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of the Dar-ul-'ulum in 1913 recognised the struggle for the foundation of a Nizam University. The Hyderabad Educational Conference established in 1914 demanded the establishment of a University. Early in Osman Ali Khan's reign an educational Advisor was appointed to report on the improvements to be effected in the educational organization of the State and on his advice, the whole system of Primary and Secondary education was overhauled. The system of higher education was then taken up and in April 1917, the Right Hon. Sir Akbar Hydari (Nawab Hydar Nawaz Jung Bahadur) then Secretary to His Exalted Highness Government in Educational Department, submitted a memorandum to His Exalted Highness in which after surveying the existing educational conditions and discussed the advantages of imparting knowledge through the medium of a foreign language he recommended that considering the peculiar needs and conditions of the state require a new University free from the evils inherent in the present system and calculated to undo its deplorable effects which should be both an examining and a books, using the Urdu language both for the imparting of knowledge and the training of the intellect. On April 26, 1917 the Nizam through a Farman approved the proposal for establishment of a University for Nizam's Dominions, to be called the Osmania University of Hyderabad. In pursuance of the Nizam's Farman the Education Department proceeded with the work and the draft curricula prepared by committees were widely circulated in educational circles in England and India. The first constructive work of the University was the establishment of Bureau of Translation. The Royal Charter of the University was promulgated by Nizam in September 1918. The Osmania University College was opened in August 1919. The first intermediate examination was held in April 1921, and



the first BA Examination in 1923. The University started with provision for instruction in Theology, Arts and Science but to furnish opportunities for professional training to its graduates and undergraduates a Law class was opened in August 1923. The first MA and LLB examinations were held in 1925. The translation of Engineering and Medical Books had been taken on hand. The first year MBBS class of the University College of Medicine was opened in July 1927 and the College of Engineering and the Teachers Training college in 1929.

The Osmania University College was in the beginning housed in eight large and commodious buildings in the city, but the authorities found the location not satisfactory for expansion. It was decided to acquire a site and have buildings worthy of the University. Prior to the materialization of the scheme it was considered a matter of primary importance to depute two of its suitable and experienced Engineers to a world tour, to study on actual observant on, the requirements of a modern model University both from all academic and engineering points of view and to propose the appointment of a consultant architect Syed Ali Raza and Nawab Iain Yar Jung Bahadur accordingly conducted their tour in Great Britain, Europe, Japan, America, Egypt, Syria and Turkey and recommended the appointment of Monsier E. Jasper of Belgium a recognized authority in Oriental Architecture as a Consultant Architect.

From an article of Syed Ali Raza we get some interesting details of his world tour with Nawab Zain Yar Jung Bahadur and their ideas on the architectural plans of Osmania University buildings. They started on the world tour on 24th September 1930 taking the route in the east touching Madras, Colombo and reaching Japan. They spent two months in Japan visiting the Universities of Osaka and then went to San Francisco in USA. They stayed in America for 3 months studying the architecture of older Universities of Yale, Harvard and Princeton and that of newer Universities of California, Stanford, Wisconsin, Illinois, Chicago, New York and Columbia. From America they went to England where they keenly observed the architecture of old Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Edinburgh, Manchester and visited the buildings under construction of the Universities of Kingston, Birmingham and the Leeds. From England they went to Europe and studied the University Architecture of Sorbonne of Paris; Lei den; Heidelberg, Munich and Berlin of Germany; Vienna of Austria; University of Hungary. After completing the European tour they proceeded to Egypt and Turkey. In Egypt they saw the University of Egypt. It was here that they met the Belgian Architect Monsier E. Jasper who was the consultant Architect of the University of Egypt as also of Hotel Casino, Race Course and residential quarters there. In these buildings Oriental Architectural styles were preferred. Therefore Syed Ali Raza, and Nawab Zain Yar Jung suggested Mr. Jasper as the consultant Architect of Osmania University Building project. After the world tour they returned to India on 24th September 1931.

OSMANIA – FIVE DECADES AGO

H. Rajendra Prasad

Established institutions have their individual ethos and distinctive traditions. Osmania University is no exception to this acknowledge truism. To capture in one's imagination the passions and logic that impelled the birth of an institution is, at one level, not easy at a distant point in time. It is nevertheless possible to recognize the impulses that drove its founders. Osmania owed its existence largely to the obsessive impulse of Hyderabad's Prime Minister of the time, Sir Akbar Hydari, and the munificence of his master, the ruling Nizam, Mir Osman Ali Khan who, not unexpectedly, lent his name to it. Its birth was hailed as a laudable experiment in the use of a vernacular as the medium of study. It invited, too, a measure of criticism. The British Resident in Hyderabad and the Viceroy in Delhi were believed to be against the very idea of a vernacular University in the underbelly of their Indian empire. The mere fact that the University was founded in the face of such opposition, at a time when a frown of Vice regal disapproved rarely failed to send shivers down the Princely spines in India's Native states, speaks something of he inflexible commitment of the founders to a principle. The additional fact that the entire range of preliminary moves were initiated and pursued in near secrecy from the prying eyes of the paramount power reflected a certain consummate cunning on the part of the planners.

During the ninety years of its existence, Osmania has inescapably had its highs and lows. By about the end of three decades of its existence, the overwhelming initial focus on a particular language lost its salience. In the sixth decade of its journey the old Varsity lost some of its old sheen and earned the derision, undeservedly perhaps, of the wider national academic community. Apparently stung to its core academic conscience, the University pulled itself up by bootstraps and has thence managed to sustain the trajectory of academic progress.

Osmania was, one imagines, very different in the -fifties of the last century than what it probably is today. One can merely recall some events as also men who lent it their individual brilliance, diligence, grace and dignity – as also their quirks and oddities.

The earliest event that stands out in my memory is the special convocation that was addressed by independent India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, speaking in his 'stepmother tongue', English. (Interestingly, the remains of improvised platform raised for the occasion survived the intervening decades and were visible until recently) Nawab Ali Yavar Jung, the Vice-Chancellor at the time, later scaled many an academic, diplomatic and gubernatorial rungs in his career. Many of the University's later traditions and usages were said to be the refined legacy bequeathed by him. His immediate successor, a distinguished scientist, was an impressive speaker as well, who seemed perfectly able to express a cultured witticism as unsmilingly as he did a profound or serious idea. Those were times when Vice-Chancellors lodged as they were far above the

routine din and drone of the campus, were nearly invisible to the plebian eyes. Barely less invisible was the Registrar whose task was to mind the nuts-and-bolts of workaday management. Secure behind heavily tinted spectacles, Professor Ishwar Topa moved in silent, mysterious ways to perform his designated mission.

The one who succeeded Professor Bhagavantham for a while was an elegantly small-made and natty gentleman – an Oxonian who could be aptly labelled a Tamil Englishman, steeped, nonetheless, in Hyderabad's social ambience. If ever style defined the man, that man was Professor Doraiswamy. Such was his popular acceptability among the teacher-student communities that his abrupt displacement generated considerable initial resistance to the next incumbent. Dr. Sadasiva Reddy came, albeit in the face of vigorous protest, with impeccable academic credentials and found his running feet soon enough. He is credited with having invested the University with a range of academic expansion that evoked national recognition and even a measure of international attention.

The teachers, of course, constitute the core of a University's scholastic Universe. One recalls men like the word-perfect and suave Naimuddin Siddiqui and Sirajuddin' oh-so-serious and learned Chandrasekharan; the ever-smiling and zealous Rajaratnam; the widely read BN Joshi who would often let his native Marathi accents to intrude into the alien precincts of English literature. Into this learned group walked a debutante, Leela Naik, oven-fresh from the college – and two 'outsiders'; Shiv K. Kumar from the Punjab and England, armed with a formidable reputation. William Mulder emerged from the distant shores of USA., tasked to expose the native pupils to the glories of American literature, though for some unexplained reason Shakespeare fell to his lot. One cannot omit to mention the no-frills, to-the-point Mr. Samuel and the scholarly due of JS/HLN Sastri. And what of the amiable Vasant Shahane who, it was whispered in awed tones, was known often to consult *Passage to India* Forster himself for an in-the-works dissertation on-Forster! And how can one not mention the 'other' Doraiswamy, the fun loving teacher who had the inexplicable tendency to barter his considerable scholarship for the temptation of an amusing remark or near-ribald observation? Serious or amusing, scholarly or flippant, these accomplished teachers together lent a distinct luster to pedagogy of those times.

Among the characters who enlivened the campus-life in the –'fifties were those who occupied lesser chairs but impacted nonetheless in significant or interesting ways on the daily lives of my generation of pupils. Well, such a dense cluster of unusual, likeable images comes rushing before the mind's eyes that one doesn't quite know where to begin and whom to leave out.

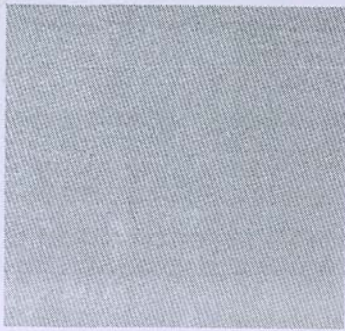
Let Mr. Lazarus, Assistant Warden of Osmania Hostels, take the lead. One did not know what exalted region she sprang from, but, from the moment of his descent on the hostels scene, this dapper, warm-hearted gentleman endeared himself to everyone. A great stylist, Lazarus had a distinctly avuncular air about him. If you had a problem, you just ran to this Wodehousian uncle and pour out your woes so as to enable him to console, comfort and counsel you. He had a way with words – both spoken and written varieties. In contrast, his boss looked otherworldly and sage-like. Professor Quadri – for that was the name his parents had given our Warden – seemed ill-at-ease at his job. He gave you the impression that he would

have been decidedly happier in the Department of Ethics and Moral Studies, which was his home turf, anyway, before he was inexplicably plucked out and deposited on Warden's Chair of thorns. But for all his apparent ongoing discomforts, Quadri Sahib was a gentle, friendly and kindly individual who rarely if at all offended anyone. Those were times when one could gaze in awed admiration at renowned sports persons of the past like the Tennis ace Ghaus Mohammad Khan and Cricket star Gul Mohammad who were on the University's payroll.

Some of the lesser men who made the campus tick like a reasonably well-oiled machine, those closer to the baseline, so as to speak, were no less remarkable. Heading the list was Swamy, the Head Waiter in our Mess. None knew his full name. He was Swamy, no more, no less – just Swamy of flowing hair and gruff exterior. Any initials or surname would not have added the slightest bit of dignity or power to this benign dictator of dining halls. A sharp look was that was required to enforce discipline and good order among the restive diners. Only a brave young blade could ever dare to trifle with him. A wordless wonder, one might call him. Then there was the omnipresent Malla Reddy. Officially no more than a caretaker with an imprecise charter of duties, this wielded a sort of covert influence and dispensed unobtrusive authority on a scale out of proportion to his position in the hierarchy. So numerous were the beneficiaries of his helpfulness that he was widely regarded as a friend to all and enemy of none.

Elections to the management bodies of hostels were fought with vigour that might do credit to any aspiring democracy. It also meant that these campaigns, though polite and thoroughly civil compared to the aggressive latter-day campaigns, effectively initiated candidates early into the arts and artifices, the din and dust, of political electioneering. It is tempting to imagine that the allegations in election petitions that reached the nation's Election Commission in later years may have had their incipience in the hostel elections of earlier years. Presaging today's unattached legislators, there was even a group of unattached hostellers, picturesquely styling themselves as *Kapat Association*, who were entitled to vote but had no stake in balloting, nor any special interest in any of the candidates; their vote was available, en bloc, to anyone willing to offer the group a decent treat in the nearest canteen. Even so, it was democracy in its most zealous avatar, and one does not recall any trace of bitterness or rancor once the results were declared.

During my years on the campus we had a succession of eminent personages and celebrities visiting the University. The list is long indeed, a mini virtual Who's Who: Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia, Emperor Reza Shah Pahlvi of Iran and his beautiful wife, Queen Soraya, King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia, Helen Keller, King Hussein of Jordan, Yasser Arafat, Ram Manohar Lohia, Maghfi PC Sorcar, VK Krishna Menon, UN Dhebar and Yashwant Rao Chavan, and occasionally some overseas Cricket teams – and many more names that have slipped off the ageing mind. Some have yet survived the ravages of transiting time and space and remained as tantalizing memories – like the effeminate barber who, like most practitioners of his trade, was an incorrigibly garrulous gossip-monger; or the recalcitrant ward-boy, or the chowkidar who was interested more in vending milk produced in his private dairy than his own duties. And there was, of course, the celebrated Coffee House of sorts, the popular Basheer Canteen run by two brothers, one taciturn and aloof, and the other amiable and chatty. The so-called Canteen was a little better than a glorified *chai khana*, but what splendid native ambience it



provided to its customers! It has, alas, disappeared in the limbo of time, even as the campus came to be bedecked with shiny new structures. Similar has been the fate of the few buses run by the University – these were the masters of uncluttered roads in the campus. The popular public transport was the ubiquitous *Rok-ke* buses that would grind to a screeching halt if or when someone cried or signaled 'rok ke'. These ramshackle vehicles were not permitted to use the neat roads but had to trudge and sputter along the public roads outside the campus perimeter.

Times, as we know, change, and with it the societal values, and generational priorities. Certain varieties of life are, however, immutable and eternal. In the context of hoary educational institutions, the need for the expansion of intellectual, technological and scientific frontiers is one such unchanging variety. In the past, Osmania has made this attempt with notable success. As it enters the seventh decade of its eventful existence, it is safe to anticipate that it would meet the present with customary aplomb and the future with marked panache.

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY – ITS GRANDEUR

P. Shiva Shanker
Ex-Governor, Kerala

When one writes about Osmania University, one automatically recalls the state of Hyderabad and its grandeur. Osmania University had its pristine glory. One is to see to believe the Arts College and its structure. It had been a confluence of the Telugus, Maharastrians, Kannadigas and the Urdu speaking people. Eminent persons had been the Vice-Chancellors of the University. Sri Ali Yawar Jung could be named as one of the great persons who had the great say in the establishment and the administrative setup of the state connected the University. Nawab Mehdi Yawar Jung who had the distinction to be the Minister of Education in Hyderabad was connected with the University at one point of time. Apart from its glory and the awe of construction, the University had spread out classrooms and the students used to be taken care of in every respect. The University had been spread over, on quite a large area and presently the city stands around.

Highly capable teachers were appointed not only in the University but also in the affiliated colleges. A large number of bright students used to be picked up from different branches and sent out to the United Kingdom for their higher studies and after return, they were continued as teachers and administrators etc. in the state. The University has produced great names in administration, Judicial system and people with tremendous legislative equipments. One of the great osmanian, a non-muslim who rose from the ranks was Mr. Justice Kumarayya who became the Chief Justice in recent times and occupied that post in the High court till 1971.

It should be said to the credit of the University that it made a tremendous mark in the native language 'Urdu'. The development of the language was unique. The University had a 'Darul-Tarjuma' which coined appropriate expressions in the Urdu language in all the fields of law, administration, history, geography, mathematics and so on. It is unfortunate that with the advent of freedom, English language adopted by the University gave practically a death-knell to this language so much so that after freedom, this language is associated with Muslims which is really unfortunate. The language knows no barriers of caste, creed or community. Master of the language is he who knows and masters it. The language cuts across all barriers. It is a pity that a developed language has gradually been given a go-bye in recent times.

The campus of the University is wide with diverse colleges spread out in different branches. The Law college, the Engineering College etc. are only the symbols providing a protective wing to the University. The teaching University has earned a great name even now.

The Osmania University stands out even today in the hierarchy of the Indian University education. It symbolizes a faith unbounded by any particular ideology. University education has earned regard in the annals of other institutions and Universities in India and abroad.



Alumni Association of Osmania University

Prof. P. Venugopal Reddy
Special Officer, Alumni Association

Alumni of 90 years old Osmania University have distinguished themselves at the national and international levels. They have spread far and wide globally and done their Alma Mater proud by excelling themselves as academicians, administrators, scientists, scholars, entrepreneurs and technocrats. Several of them have reached heights of excellence in their respective fields and are significantly contributing to the socio-economic development of the nation and world at large.

The very mention of alumni brings before us the glorious past and distinctiveness of our University – that we are old, large and big. It conjures up vivid memories of yester years the nostalgia and rich heritage and traditions of the past, which shaped our University. Over the years, we have crossed several milestones, made significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge and kept pace with the changing times and needs of new generations. We have transitioned from a traditional University and are now surging ahead to become a pace setter in the field of higher education with an international outlook and a global outreach.

Alumni are a part of these processes of continuity & change, tradition & modernity and a lot more. The University seeks to institutionalize these bonds between alumni and alma mater through an Association into a life long relationship.

Osmania University has always considered its alumni as a source of strength, support and sustenance in its endeavors of scholarship, innovation and institution building in higher education. The Alumni Association of Osmania University has been formed in order to fulfill the long felt need for a forum and the cherished desires of its alumni. It has been duly registered as a society to activate its functioning. An executive committee has been constituted to provide vision, guidance and coordinate the all-round activities of the Alumni Association.

Alumni Association envisages a partner in the progress of the University. This Association unfolds before the Alumni a series of opportunities to serve this great University and lend cooperation in full measure in its success and sustenance. A report on the activities of the organization for the last two years is presented here.

Membership and financial position

At the time of starting the association the life membership was fixed as Rs.1000/- and Rs. 100/- as an admission fee. However, there was a general feeling that the membership of

Rs.1,100/- was little bit high. Therefore, after deliberations, the previous G.B reduced the membership fee to Rs.500/- .

Number of life members were only 42 and over a period of one and half years number has gone up by more than 12 times and present strength is about 550.

Now, the Alumni Association is also having patrons, donors, corporate donors apart from life members and the break up is as follows :- 5 patrons, 144 donors and 10 corporate donors. With the funds from patrons, donors and corporate donors the funds position of the association is slightly better. In the beginning, we were having only Rs. 42,000/- . Now it is more than 30.00 Lakhs.

Activities of the organization

In order to make the organization more vibrant and dynamic, a series of activities have been planned and executed. Some of them are Inaugural function, annual lecture series, meeting in the USA. The AA was formally inaugurated by one of our distinguished alumnus Mr. S. Jaipal Reddy, Union Minister for Urban affairs on April 29th 2006. In July last year, the Vice Chancellor and myself have visited USA and organized a meeting with NRI Alumni during ATA celebrations held at Los Angeles. Later on, AA has also started the Annual lecture series and the first annual lecture was delivered on 17th Feb. 2007 by another distinguished alumnus of the University, Dr. Y. V. Reddy, Governor RBI.

Establishment of the alumni association office

As soon as I took over as a special officer of the association, I have been operating from my department, the department of Physics for the last one and half year. I have been provided with a clerk and a telephone. Recently a personal computer with a printer has also been procured. Efforts are going on to procure suitable accommodation in the central facility building or at a place where the office is easily accessible to its alumni easily.

Web site

Alumni association is using the University web site extensively to reach its alumni spread far and wide across the globe. The information regarding various schemes offered by the alumni association for its members, recently programs, forthcoming events etc., have also been kept. The alumni association is also having its mail id and corresponds with the alumni regularly and encourages the alumni to use the facility so that communication becomes faster, reliable and easier. Names of all the members along with their bio data have been kept in the web site and I request all the members to verify whether there are any mistakes in the information fed. A lot of request are there from the alumni residing outside the state and also abroad for becoming a member using the on line facility and immediately the on line facility was provided and was running well for some time before the facility was hit by a technical snag. Efforts are going on for restoring the payment of membership fee along with the online submission of the application



form.

Creation of Communication tools

As the alumni of the University are spread far and wide, it is felt that there is need to communicate very effectively. For this purpose, a brochure was published during March last year and another one is being published with updated information. An Audiovisual film of about 30 minutes duration was also made to explain the alumni the need to become a partner in the developmental activities of the association and also to popularize various schemes offered by the alumni association. Apart from these, a news letter is being published and will be communicated to all the members very shortly.

Various schemes offered by the Organization

Institution of Endowment Chairs in the name of donor member.

This scheme is meant for creating facility to promote teaching as well as research in contemporary fields such as pharmacy, information technology, chemical engineering, electronic engineering, civil engineering etc.

Under this scheme, a Professor post will be created and the chair will be named after the donor. The scheme is likely to cost about Rs.90-100 Lakhs and interest accrued will be utilized for paying salaries, contingent expenses needed for organizing the research and developmental work specified by the donor.

Under the scheme, any number of chairs can be created in the fields interested by the donors.

A. Alumni educational fund for paying scholarship to poor & meritorious P.G.students in the name of donor.

Under this scheme, an amount of Rs 10.00 Lakhs donated by a donor will be deposited in the Bank and interest accrued will be paid as a scholarship to P.G. students at the rate of Rs.10,000/- per annum.

B. Institution of endowment lectures in the name of donor.

Under this scheme, Alumni association organizes Endowment lecture series in the contemporary field to be selected by the donor. In this scheme, every year 2- or 3 prominent people selected either from within the country or from abroad, will deliver lectures. The approximate funds required under this scheme is about Rs. 10.00 Lakhs.

C. Support your department scheme in the name of donor for installing critical equipment.

Many alumni are attached to their respective departments rather than the colleges from where they are graduated and these people on several occasions expressed their desire to fund some of the critical equipments, which the departments are not in a position to buy mainly for want of finances. These equipments will be very much useful to the P.G. students and will be named after the donors. The scheme may cost between Rs.10 - 20 Lakhs.

Income tax exemption

Donors are have been insisting on Income tax exemptions to their donations. Therefore, application for Income tax exemption has been filed and the exemption is expected in about 10 days time. Efforts are also going on to file another application to seek exemptions for the foreign exchange received from NRI donors under the provisions of 80(G).

Future programmes

Alumni Associations at the college level have been quite active. The Alumni Association of University College of Engineering, College of technology, Women's college Koti, are doing excellent work. Distinguished alumni of the colleges are substantially contributing to the institutional development. Individual departments such as Journalism, Business Management, Geology, Genetics and Statistics have vibrant alumni bodies. Apart from this Alumni association are also there in the USA, U.K. and in Gulf countries. Efforts will be made to bring all these organizations onto one umbrella so that all these organizations will become local chapters of the main organizations. I take this opportunity to request the Vice Chancellor to appoint a committee to examine the matter and suggest suitable methodology to overcome technical difficulties if any.

Finally I thank the University administration for extending all the help in completing various tasks assigned to me from time to time. But for their help it would have been impossible to take the association activities upto the present position.



90TH FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS- A REPORT

Dr. M. Sreedhar Reddy

Convenor, Cordination Committee
Alumni Association of Osmania University

A moment comes, but rarely in the History of an institution, when it reaches out to serve the human kind across the world with ennobling values. Experience tells us that this is possible with institutions, which maintain excellent academic standards.

Osmania University is one such oldest and premier institution in the country, strategically located where north meets the south. It has been a cradle of major religions and more than half-a-dozen languages. Perhaps, no other University has the distinction of receiving knowledge from parts of the world.

Osmania University was established by the 7th and last Nizam from the Asaf Jhahi dynasty, on 26th April 1917. Understandably, it started in various buildings and locations in Hyderabad city before it moved into Arts College – an architectural wonder, which attracts scores of visitors to Osmania campus. This unique building is of profound value not only in the country but also in the entire world. The pink granite building depicts religious harmony in its structure, in construction. The ground floor is modeled as Church, middle floor as Temple and third floor has Islamic features.

The names of three persons remain permanently etched in the planning of the architecture of the building. Their exceptional abilities and commitment created a historical institution. They were: Sir Akbar Hydari, Nawab Hyder Nawaz Jung Bahadur then Secretary to His Exalted Highness Government in the Education Department. He proposed the setting up of the new University highlighting the needs of the region and submitted a memorandum to His Exalted Highness. The proposal discussed the advantages of introducing foreign languages as medium of instruction. The other two were eminent architects. Syed Ali Raza and Nawab Zain Yar Jung Bahadur. Both toured international universities in Colombo in Srilanka, Osaka in Japan, Harward, Stanford, California, New York and Wisconsin in United States, Oxford, Cambridge, Birmingham, Paris and Hidenburg in Europe, Egypt and Turkey for a year from 24th September 1930 to 24th September 1931. On their visit to the University of Egypt, they met Monsier E. Jospher of Belgium, a recognized Architect in Oriental Architecture and appointed him as a Consultant Architect for the Osmania University buildings.

Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan chose architecture to serve as a medium to convey his aristocratic ideals to the world. The Arts College building was a magnificent beauty spot of Hyderabad and one of the great achievements of his times.

At the time of its inauguration he declared "God be praised that this gorgeous

edifice is now ready. This structure has no parallel in the world of India for beauty and grandeur and nobility. As Osmania University is one of the great achievements of my reign, this building too will be lasting memorial of my rule, remaining future generations, for centuries to come of the culture, architecture and civilization of this age".

Several foreign dignitaries, national leaders, rulers and civil servants and prominent persons from all walks of life visited the University. They include: Ho Ming Chin, Maharaja Jamsahib of Nawanagar Vice-Minister of Education, Republic of China, Beverley Nicholas, Representative of the United States and C. Rajagopala Chari.


While some like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, Sardar Vallabhai Patel and Fatima Jinnah signed in the register, others like Dr. C.V. Raman, Sir CP Ramaswamy Aiyar, SV Ramamurthy, ICS, Resident of Hyderabad, personal representative of President of US., Vice-Minister, Republic of China and Beverley Nicholas entered their impressions. For instance, CG Gidney, Resident at Hyderabad visited on 27th August, 1937 wrote "I must content myself with saying that no better site, Adikmet village, could have been chosen for this new University and that when the fine buildings that are been chosen for this new University and that when the fine buildings that are projected rise upon it Hyderabad will have a University of architectural beauty and distinction of which the state will have every cause to be proud.

The University has molded many great luminaries to serve the society and nation in different capacities. Osmanians have made a mark in every profession and all walks of life through out the world.

Some of the greatest educationists of the country served the cause of knowledge in the Alma mater. They were institutions themselves They include: Prof. NV Subba Rao, Prof. SK Kumar, Prof. Rasheeduddin, Prof. Goutham Mathur, Prof. Chellaiah, Prof. Sheshadri, Prof. Iyengar, Dr. Venkatavadhani, Dr. C. Narayana Reddy, Prof. Natarajan, Prof. Puranik, Prof. Venkatramaiah, Prof. Abdul Khader, Prof. Arendra Sharma, Prof. Abid Ali, Dr. BK Naik, Prof. Muttalib, Prof. OS Reddy and Prof. G. Ram Reddy, Prof. C. Laxmanna, Prof. Parameshwaran, Prof. V. Madhusudhan Reddy, Prof. Ramanatham, Dr. YV Reddy, Prof. Manzur-alam, Prof. GM Reddy and Rajgopal of Political Science and many others.

Several Vice-Chancellors guided the destiny of the Osmania University in the last 45 years . They are :Dr. DS Reddy , Prof. Rawada Satyanarayana, Shri Narotham Reddy, Justice Jagan Mohan Reddy, Prof. G. Ram Reddy, Shri Hashim Ali, Prof. T. Navaneeth Rao, Prof. M. Malla Reddy, Prof. V. Ramakistayya, Prof. DC Reddy, Prof. J. Anantha Swamy, and Prof. Suleman Siddiqi.

The founding fathers of this institution are Mouli Habibur Rehaman khan Sherwani .. 1918-19 (Nawab Sardar Yar Jung Bahadur), Nawab Wali-Ud-Doula Bahadur 1920-35; Nawab Mehdi Yar Jung Bahadur 1936-43; Nawab Azam Jung Bahadur .. 1943-45; Nawab Ali Yawar Jung Bahadur .. 1945-46; Dr. Wali Mohammed .. 1946-47; Dr. Raziuddin Siddiqui .. 1947-48; Nawab Ali Yawar Jung Bahadur .. 1948-52; Dr. Suri Bhagawantham .. 1952-57; Dr. DS Reddy .. 1957-69



Apart from the imparting education the University has been a mouth piece of the region to articulate and express aspirations and anxieties, problems and perceptions of the people. Students fought against the government on several occasions viz: the 1936 Vandematharam Movement; 1948 disturbances, non-mulkis in 1952, the formation of Andhra Pradesh in 1956, University autonomy in 1966. Also, the Historical Telangana agitation in 1969, which resulted in the closure of the University for nine long months.

Each one must be having great memories of his/her stay on campus. There is a long felt need to establish a Center or a Forum for the Alumni of the University to meet, interact, and socialize and to exchange our experiences. Can we not create an Osmania International Centre (OIC) a tribute for Alumni of Osmania University with facilities like fully equipped guest house with good restaurant, gym, swimming pool, library, health centre, convention hall etc.?

The OIC will not only be a mere meeting point or a facilitator, but will also create new opportunities. Such as:

1. To protect the culture and image of the University
2. To undertake non-formal health educational programmes
3. To organize national and international seminars/ workshops on issues of public concern
4. To create a trust to help students to pursue higher education
5. To establish a Yoga Center, Blood Bank (A Service Centre)
6. To build a Museum to preserve heritage of OU
7. To carry out clean and green programmes
8. To have exchange programmes with social groups from other alumni from National and International level
9. To provide an exclusive Walking track for the morning walkers in OU campus
10. To create an Open Air theatre for cultural programmes and exchanges
11. To facilitate Alumni meetings twice a year, apart from the formal meetings
12. To organise meetings of Alumni with their families.

Lastly, I would like to express that there are many amongst you with great potential. This project needs your three Ts i.e., Time, Treasure and Talent to achieve this project. Better late, than never. Let us take the first step. If we have to reach the top, we have to start with one step forward, which will take you further to reach the destiny.

LET US BE FIRM

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY

PROFILE AND INITIATIVES

Osmania University, in its onward march of progress has made significant strides over the years. Established in 1918, the University in its 89th year of service to the Nation is at the forefront of reshaping its strategic thrusts, re-inventing the education experience and defining the future of higher education system.

The University has 11 Faculties, 52 Departments, and offers 25 Under Graduate courses with 158 Combination of subjects, 75 Post Graduate courses, 27 PG Diploma courses, M.Phil and Ph.D. programs. The University has a vast network of 8 campus, 5 constituent, 8 District PG colleges, and nearly 1000 affiliated colleges under its jurisdiction. The University has 16 Research and 8 Academic Centres. It has 763 Teaching Staff and 2595 Non-Teaching Staff on its rolls. The student enrolment in the University is about 5 lakhs. The University is fast emerging as a favoured destination for International students. Nearly 1000 international students from 50 countries are pursuing various courses of studies in the University.

The University has been accredited with the highest rating of five stars by the NAAC in the year 2001 and is getting ready for Reaccreditation. Two of its constituent colleges have been recognized as Colleges with Potential for Excellence by UGC. 33 Departments of the University are receiving grants from UGC under Special Assistance Programme. Several of these are also recognized for ASIST, ASIHSS, COSIST, and FIST programmes. Four University Departments have been selected as Centres of Advanced Studies (CAS). The University College of Engineering and University College of Technology have been selected for funding under TEQIP programme and shortlisted for upgradation as IIT by Ministry of HRD, Govt. of India. The University has forged linkages with industry and has academic collaboration with 20 National and 12 International organizations.

Consistent with its vision of world-class Institute of Higher Learning, Osmania University has embarked upon far reaching initiatives in diverse spheres. These encompass a wide spectrum of activities across the departments in the University. Prominent among them are the introduction of innovative academic programmes and curricular restructuring, establishment of University - Industry Hub, construction of State-of-the-Art Central Facilities Complex with modern education aids and student amenities, launching of e-Learning Centers and a host of proactive measures for University governance.

These interventions configure as the bold footprints of the University for the 21st Century, exemplifying the ideals of excellence, access, inclusive growth and impact. They add vigor to the mission of the University and infuse dynamism in its functioning.

I. Academic Initiatives

➤ Launching of new courses

- (i) LLB Five year course at OU College of Law
- (ii) Introduction of New specializations in LLM Course
- (iii) Launching of Master of Finance and Control (MFC) Program at Department of Commerce
- (iv) PG Courses in Engineering

21st Century Gurukulams:

Osmania University is one of the six universities in the state where the PG Residential Academies (21st century Gurukulams) have been established to provide the unique educational opportunities for rural talented youth under the auspices of Consortium of Institutions of Higher Learning promoted by APSCHE in collaboration with CMU, USA. A new campus of 21st Century Gurukulam has been established at Pebbair under the jurisdiction of Osmania University this year with an intake of 100.

➤ Introduction of inter-disciplinarity and choice based system in PG Courses.

Osmania University has taken lead to introduce Inter-Disciplinary courses in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences from the current academic year. The Departments of Communication and Journalism, Linguistics and English are part of this new Inter-disciplinary approach. Under this system students will be exposed to newer disciplines other than their core courses. This exposure would broaden the perspective of students, hone their skills and enhance their employability.

➤ e-Learning: production of e-learning materials and setting up of e-classrooms

e-Classroom has been set up in OU College of Engineering under TEQIP in the year 2005. Action is initiated for extending similar facility in the "Central Student Facilities" complex, and in all the campus and constituent colleges.

➤ Library Automation and digitization of learning resources:

Modernization of library is taken up under UGC-INFLIBNET and INFONET programmes.

Under Library Automation Programme 1,60,000 Titles have so far been indexed by bar-coding, and can be accessed by students through two computer kiosks.

40,000 Rare books without patent protection have so far been digitized, and displayed on 'Universal Digital Library Project' website, in collaboration with Carnegie-Mellon University. Two (2) terabyte servers have been installed for the purpose.

5000 Rare manuscripts have so far been digitized under MoU with Juma al-Majid Center for

Culture and Heritage, Dubai, UAE.

Refurbishing of "*Vision of Osmania*" hall in the Library building has been completed.

Digital Library has been established at University College of Engineering.

➤ **University-Industry Hub**

The University has taken initiative to conceptualize and concretize Industry-Institution interaction on a sustained basis through the establishment of a University-Industry Hub on the campus. This Hub seeks to promote healthy interface and address the concerns of Industry by offering the expertise of University faculty at one Central Facility on the campus for the mutual benefit and advancement of knowledge.

The programs initiated in collaboration with industries include:

Genpact – Learn while Earn Program.

Satyam computer Services Limited – Certificate course on 'Introduction to Pharma Domain' for IT professionals.

Infosys – Campus Connect Program.

Tally Solutions Private Limited – Training program for the commerce teachers of affiliated colleges.

Swarna Bharati Biotech Consortium – Research Collaboration to develop a pest resistant transgenic cotton plant.

Health Care Industry – Diploma courses in Hospital Billing, Physician Assistants, Health Insurance, Medical Informatics in collaboration with 7 Corporate Hospitals.

ICICI Bank – Simulation Centre for Add on Course on Banking for all B. Com. Students of Womens College, Nizam College, PG College, Secunderabad.

Bharat Biotech Foundation, Hyderabad – Centre of Excellence in Molecular Modelling and Simulation at CPMB, OU is in the offing.

World Infotech and Elico Ltd, Hyderabad – Add on Course on Medical Transcription.

➤ **Examination Reforms:**

The University introduced 32-page Answer Booklet at UG, PG and other Examinations. It brought change in the pattern of Entrance Test for Select PG and M. Phil courses. Launched Internal Assessment system in all PG courses of Campus, Constituent and all Affiliated Colleges.

Evaluation of students is done twice in each Semester with 20 marks each. This will be converted into a computer based test by next academic year.

The University has introduced Computer Based Testing in Listening skills for BA, B.Sc, B. Com, I year General English courses under common core syllabus in the Colleges affiliated to it. An interactive CD for teaching /testing listening skills has been launched by the Department of English on 25.10.2007.

II. Institution Building:

➤ Central Facilities Building

The state-of-the-art building with student centric facilities like competitive examination library, reading rooms, e-classrooms, computer labs, language labs, English language training cell, personality development cell, placement lounge, Conference room, auditorium, stores, sale counter of OU Logos and cafeteria is being completed, and getting ready for 24 X 7 use by Students, Research Scholars and Faculty Members.

➤ Osmania University Centre for International Program (OUCIP)

OUCIP is established as a hub for all university programs of international support and relevance, and is being developed into an advanced research centre in Humanities and Social Sciences.

OUCIP has arranged orientation programmes for newly recruited faculty.

The University is setting up a BPO Training Centre and Finishing School at OUCIP for enhancing the employability of graduates.

OUCIP will be taking up the 'Train the Trainer' Program for the benefit of young faculty of Osmania University by inviting Foreign Subject Experts.

OUCIP has organized a colloquium on University in the Era of Globalisation on the eve of OU Foundation Day.

➤ Centre of Excellence in Microwave Engineering (CEME)

The centre has been established in the University College of Engineering with funding from Astra Micro Electronics Ltd., for advanced research in microwave technology and training manpower.

➤ Alumni Linkages

The University has taken steps to activate the functioning of Alumni Association. The Vice-

Chancellor addressed the Alumni meet at the Ninth American Telugu Association (ATA), USA Conference at Los Angeles.

Distinguished Alumni Dr. Y. Venugopal Reddy, Governor, Reserve Bank of India delivered the first Annual Alumni Lecture. Overseas Alumni have taken up Fund Raising Campaign. Alumni Association has formulated action plans for institutional development such as Alumni House, Endowment for Scholarships and Chair Professorships and celebrated Foundation Day of the University this year.

III. Infrastructure Development:

The University has added impressive infrastructure as part of institutional development. These comprise:

- (i) A new block at Ladies Hostel complex to provide additional accommodation for 400 girl students
- (ii) Administration Block at OU College for Women,
- (iii) Computer Science Block at PG College of Science, Saifabad
- (iv) Boys hostel at OU PG College, Mahaboobnagar with financial assistance from the District Administration and OU
- (v) New Conference Hall at PG College, Secunderabad
- (vi) Technology Development Centre and Extension Block for the Department of Biomedical Engineering in the College of Engineering, under TEQIP (in progress)
- (vii) Library for College of Technology under TEQIP (in progress)
- (viii) Directorate of Academic Audit Cell (in progress),
- (ix) Classroom complex and an exclusive hostel for engineering girl students with Ministry of HRD grants (in progress)
- (x) Additional floor on Centre for Distance Education Building (in progress)
- (xi) Classroom complex and Boys Hostel building at Nizam College
- (xii) Dining Hall with a capacity of 200 at University Guest House

Laboratories: (i) Computer Labs in the departments of Biochemistry, Telugu and Arabic, (ii) A fully equipped studio at the Department of Journalism, (iii) Forensic Laboratory with assistance from Central Forensic Science Laboratories, (iv) Physiotherapy and Pathological laboratories in the health center, (v) Moot Court and mini Conference Hall in Law College

Sports Facilities: (i) Repairs and renovation of the Swimming Pool, (ii) Construction of a Basket Ball field, (iii) State-of-Art Gymnasium set up in College of Engineering, OU (iv) Proposal pending with BCCI for developing a State-of-the-Art Cricket and Tennis fields and (v) Wooden flooring for Indoor Stadium.

Campus Beautification: Greening the campus in a big way. SBH and Andhra Bank donated Rs 8.53 and Rs. 2.5 lakhs respectively for this effort.

WMF Project (2005-07): The restoration work at University College for Women is making

substantial progress. Midterm project report submitted and funding of Rs 58.00 lakhs received from World Monument Fund, New York.

Restoration of the British Residency, housing Durbar Hall would start in January 2008 with financial assistance from World Monuments Fund.

Campus Connectivity: The University has taken up project of Campus-wide Networking for better connectivity. In the first phase Fibre optic backbone for connectivity of all the campus departments, Research centers and Administrative wings, Wireless Connectivity and Hotspots will be taken up with a cost of Rs. 2.56 crores.

In the second phase wireless hotspots, storage solutions and upgradation of network bandwidth costing Rs. 2.7 crores will be taken up.

IV. Achievements and Major Events:

➤ Holding of 77th Annual Convocation (2007):

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, Hon'ble President of India, was the Chief Guest. His Excellency Sri Rameshwar Thakur, Governor of AP and Chancellor of OU presided. Dr Y S Rajasekhara Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP graced the occasion.

➤ Hosting of South Zone Vice-Chancellors' Conference

Hosted the conference with the theme "Research in Universities- Challenges and Opportunities". 42 Vice-Chancellors have participated.

Dr Y S Rajasekhara Reddy, Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP has inaugurated, Prof Moolchand Sharma, Vice-Chairman, UGC, has delivered the keynote address.

➤ Conduct of ICET, PGCEt, PGDCET:

The University has been assigned the responsibility of conducting ICET-2007, PGCEt-2007 and PGDCET-2007.

➤ Conduct of On-line Admissions for All CETs:

Provided the technical support (hardware and software) and the infrastructure for on-line admissions to MBA / MCA, Medical and Law Courses and B.Ed., courses in all colleges of Andhra Pradesh.

➤ INTACH Heritage Award for the year 2005-06

The historic and magnificent building of Arts College built in Indo-Saracenic architectural style has been conferred the INTACH Heritage Award in the year 2006.

Reminiscences

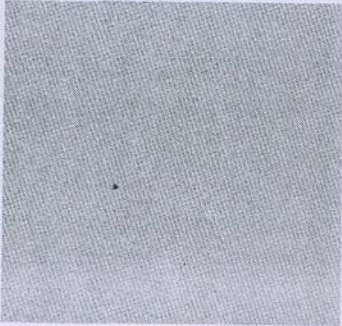
Justice Sardar Ali Khan

It was in the year 1938 that I joined Madrasa-i-Aliya as a student of Second Standard in the Primary Department. Aliya, in those days, was supposed to be the leading school in the State of Hyderabad. It was patterned on the Public School Education set up in England and was mainly reserved for the students of nobility of Hyderabad under European Staff. After finishing my Fourth Standard I joined the Aliya High School and eventually passed my Matriculation Examination with flying colours in 1946. Thereafter I was admitted in the First Year Intermediate class in Nizam College which was in the same premises as that of Madrasa-i-Aliya. Thus I have been the student of Aliya and Nizam College till the year 1950 when I passed my B.A., Examination in 1st Division. A total period of about twelve years of my life was spent in the same Institution which was under the Management of the British Principals upto 1948. The staff of both the school and college also was brought from England. Nizam College was affiliated to Madras University till 1949. Afterwards it was affiliated to Osmania University and therefore even though we wrote our B.A., Examination as student of Madras University ultimately we were awarded the Degree of Bachelor of Arts of Osmania University in 1950 as it happened to be its first year of its affiliation. The joke doing the rounds at that time was that it was not that Nizam College has been affiliated to Osmania University but it was Osmania University which got affiliated to Nizam College.

I may mention that during my school days in Aliya I was appointed by the Principal as the President of the School Union. Thereafter in the year 1949 during my days in the third year course in Nizam College I took up the difficult task of being the elected President of the Urdu Union of Nizam College. I took up the position because of its challenging character to serve the cause of Urdu in 1949.

In the year 1950 some of us from Nizam College joined LLB 1st year course in Osmania University Law College which was housed in the Arts College Building of Osmania University. The few of us who were from Nizam College were looked upon as 'Nizam College Boys' in the Law College. All of us became active not only in our studies but also started taking a leading part in the extra-curricular activities of the University. Thus I was elected by the students of the Osmania University as a delegate for the N.U.S. Convention inaugurated by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in Bombay in 1951. Incidentally I may mention that I polled the highest number of votes in this Election. The first thing done was that we formed a Joint Union of students comprising of all the colleges – Women's College included – of Osmania University to make our position felt as a United Student Community.

Nawab Ali Yavar Jung was the Vice Chancellor of the University and sensing the growing strength of the New Union of Students he decided to shift the Law College, lock, stock and barrel, to the Saifabad Intermediate College to function as an evening college. The Vice Chancellor took this decision after a successful strike against the Railway Authorities when



some students were beaten up by the Railway staff.

After I came back from England with Masters Degree in Law from London University and as a Barrister-at-Law from Lincon's Inn Dr. D.S. Reddy who was the Vice Chancellor offered me a permanent position as a Reader-in-Law in the Osmania University Law College. But I was interested in being a practising Lawyer and therefore accepted the position of a Part-time Lecturer with freedom to practice in my capacity as a Lecturer. I taught International Law, Constitutional Law and Administrative Law to the Post Graduate students. I also taught company Law to L.L.B. students. Therefore, from the year 1960 to 1974, I functioned as a Part-time Lecturer in the Law College. Thereafter, I resigned when I was appointed a Government Pleader in the High Court of Andhra Pradesh. In the year 1982, I was appointed a Permanent Judge of the High Court and Osmania University Faculty of Law requested to me to take over my duties as the Dean Faculty of Law in 1983. A special dispensation was sought for this purpose, as I happened to be a sitting Judge from the President of India, Dr. Gyani Zail Singh. I enjoyed my work as a Dean of Osmania University Faculty of Law very much during the period 1983 to 1992.

Though I have been a student of other Universities also and have been associated in some other capacities with Universities in India and United Kingdom my first love has been Osmania University and it shall always remain so throughout my life.

