
November 15, 1977

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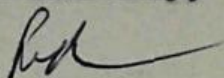
My dear Viren,

Enclosed is a letter addressed to you from Mr. Kanshi Ram, Convenor of the All India Backward And Minority Communities Employees Federation Delhi.

He is a nice person and the organisation he is incharge of have quite an influence among the backward class employees in the Government Departments and undertakings.

I would request you to do your best to accept his invitation.

Yours sincerely,


(S. V. Raju)

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svr/ld

FOR DEAD MEN CANNOT PROTEST.....

Have Mr. Sanjiva Reddi and Mrs Gandhi suddenly discovered virtues in the philosophy and principles that Rajaji espoused? Have Messrs Yeshwantrao Chavan, B.D. Jatti and S.B. Chavan at long last recognised the validity of JP's movement for total revolution? It would appear so if the participation of these gentlemen and the Lady in the Rajaji Centenary Lecture and the proposed Memorial Panel for JP are any indication!

Of course not, you would say. And you would be right. They continue to be as far away as before, and were Rajaji and JP alive today, they would have continued to be highly critical of the present situation and those responsible for it. But then, this is typical of the manner in which the maximum political mileage is sought to be extracted by our politicians even from dead men with whom during their life time they had so little in common.

Mr. James Callaghan a life-long Socialist is invited to address the Second Endowment Lecture in memory of a man who devoted the last two decades of his life to explode the myth of Socialism! And the way JP was treated by Mrs Gandhi or Mr. Y.B. Chavan is recent history. Under what logic or excuse, if you please, has Mrs Gandhi the moral right to head a panel to honour JP?

On the other hand one finds that men who were closely associated with these two illustrious personalities are nowhere in the picture. In JP's case at least they had the grace to include Mr. Achyut Patwardhan but even this is missing where Rajaji is concerned.

It won't be surprising if somebody thinks of a J.P. Memorial Lecture and decides to invite Mr. Bansi Lal to deliver it! This jumping on the bandwagon of dead men of eminence is not only hypocrisy of the worst kind but symptomatic of the total lack of values that passes for Indian politics. Unfortunately for Rajaji and JP, dead men cannot protest! But we can and record our protest.