

11 Gautampalli
Lucknow
27 June 1963

My dear Jayaprakash

Thanks for your letter of the 20th instant. I understand your allergy to political parties. However, they exist. If they can be brought together to work on an agreed programme, for the time being it will be of some advantage, however limited. Surely, the wranglings of various parties cannot be for the good of the nation.

The question of power politics does not arise at present. The unity that is intended is for the purpose of focussing public attention on what are considered as harmful policies and programmes of the Government and to agitate against them with a view to modifying or changing them.

Though I have suggested a tentative common programme, the meeting of some friends that I contemplate is not merely to discuss that programme. It may review the entire political situation and suggest ways and means of improving it. I have no objection to leading Congressmen to be invited to such a meeting. But I am sure they will not accept the invitation. I do hope you will have no objection to a few friends meeting. We may do it as quietly as it is possible under the circumstances.

I agree with you that we must find peaceful means for solving internal and international problems. But the world cannot stop functioning till we find such ways and means to oppose injustice and tyranny. I am sure if Gandhiji had not indicated the ways and means of opposing British imperialism, the nation would not have followed him. However, that is a problem in which at least Rajaji and myself are greatly interested. It may be discussed at the meeting of friends which I have proposed. There should be no objection to a few of us meeting quietly to exchange views about how we can meet the present situation in our country and, if possible, in the world.

Sd/ J. A. Kripalani

Shri Jayaprakash Narayan
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