

One Nation: Many Indian

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Abstract: The most striking feature of India is its unity amidst great variety and diversity. We have in India all types of topography, climate, soil and rainfall. All the major religions of the world are practised here. We have several varieties of costumes, food habits and social customs. We have about one thousand six hundred fifty two languages and dialects affertent parts of the country. In a multiethnic country like India, extracting a common national identity out of the numerous distinct social identities is a cumbersome task.

Keywords: Unity, Diversity, Religion, Race and one culture.

I. INTRODUCTION

It is in this nation, India, where Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism were born, which is the second largest Muslim nation in the world, where Christianity has existed for over 2000 years; where the oldest Jewish synagogues and Jewish communities have resided, where the Zoroastrians from Persia have thrived since being persecuted from their ancient homeland. It is in India that a medley of religions makes a symphony; the various flavours and tastes make her a gastronomical delight. The colours, the contrast, the diversity make India so flamboyant and magnificent. As the seven colours of the rainbow pass through a prism, they emit a single ray of white light and thus emerges the beauty of oneness. Such is the story of our India, where a kaleidoscope of cultures makes us one people. The beautiful landscapes from the charismatic Kashmir to Kanyakumari, glorious Gujarat, majestic Madhya Pradesh, the soulful south, all stand apart so vividly in their individual threads, yet so beautifully woven together to make the fabric of India.

What is it that brings about this unity in diversity? This oneness among a population of over a billion? It surely must be our values that are inherently the same across the nation, no matter which region or religion we belong to. Secularism, liberty, fraternity and tolerance, brotherhood, mark the significance of our rich cultural heritage that took root in ancient civilizations.

Yes, we may have our individual differences, we may stand divided in our beliefs, but in times of threat, we stand together, in times of strife we bond together. We celebrate each festival with as much pomp, be it Holi, Diwali or Christmas. We are many cultures, many people, yet we merge into one nation, just as the rivers and streams flow into the ocean. We share the same glory and grief that comes to India. We have the same flame of patriotism burning in our souls, we Indians stand apart as individuals yet stand together as One India.

What is it that makes this nation? . What kept us together longer than any other nation on the planet is that essentially, we have always been a land of seekers – seekers of truth and liberation. In this seeking, we found oneness. When we look for sameness, we try to become a land of believers. This seeking is not something that we invented. It is the nature of human intelligence to want to know, realize, and liberate itself.

This nation was based on this foundation that we are seekers. As a seeker, you are not aligned to a particular thing on the outside but to the life process within you, and that never goes wrong. No matter how badly you contaminate human beings with belief systems and brainwash them, once their survival is taken care of, they always want to know the nature of their existence and of everything around them. Whether you call it science, spiritual process, inquiry, or quest, essentially, human intelligence wants to transcend its present limitations, wants to liberate it from the fetters in which we exist right

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