

Late Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi's first speech in the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly.

MIM (Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen) was revived in March 1958. In 1959 one Corporator was elected in a bye election. In 1960 the MIM contested for 30 Municipal Corporation seats (out of a total of 64) and won 19. For the assembly elections in 1962 it fielded 8 candidates but won only one seat. This winning candidate was Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi (1936-2008), who won from Pattargatti constituency by defeating Masooma Begum of Congress. He was 26 at the time. In March 1962 the Second Assembly was reconstituted and Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi gave his first speech in the Assembly as an MLA on 22nd March 1962. This speech was interesting and important in many respects. Secular issues are dominant in his speech. He spoke about unemployment, Urdu, city development, election processes, national integration and criticized the police, ruling party and the government. He also responded to the criticism of the MIM and explained its purpose. The issues raised are still relevant.

M.A.Moid

Mr. Speaker Sir, the first thing in the Governor's address concerns the elections. Some members said earlier that the elections were peaceful. However, all the members including the members of ruling party accepted the fact that fraud and malpractice have happened during elections; voters were stopped, and the misbehavior with burqa clad women was extremely immoral. All the papers, all political and non political parties have protested against this. Not only this, some of the acts committed are such that I would not like to mention them here. The attitude of police was such that it looks like a planned conspiracy. The police were informed, but they ignored the complaint. Even when the police control room was contacted, nobody took the telephone call. Not only this, the polling agents were also sent out.

The second thing in front of us is the growing unemployment in the city. If you think about it then you feel that after 12 years of integration into India, not only is unemployment there but it has become more intense. Today there are 3 lakh unemployed in the city and the number is growing. Growing unemployment can be understood by the fact that today 20 thousand people are pulling rickshaws and a new tax is being imposed on them. You can imagine the condition of the city. Unemployment is growing to a monstrous form.

One more thing I want to bring before you is that schemes designed to eliminate unemployment are not implemented. At one time it was announced that with the budget of 10 lakh rupees the unemployment problem will be solved. But nothing was done. Then it was announced that one crore will be spent on the problem. That result too is in front of us. No effective scheme to remove unemployment in the city has been made to date.

Thirdly, it was promised that Urdu will be recognized according to the constitution. But in actuality it has not been accepted. According to article 340 of the Constitution Urdu has to be recognized as a regional language but this has not been done. It is well known that applications in Urdu will not be accepted by government. Nor will any action will be taken on such applications. On the other hand it is assured that Urdu will be treated as any other language. This is nothing but verbal jugglery.

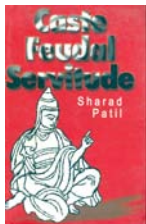
When we think about unemployment and jobs, then it is realized that the doors to jobs have been closed for 3 lakh youth. If we think about government jobs then the mistreatment to the minorities is obvious to everyone. The police department never recruits according to quota. Similarly in other departments too, jobs are not being given according to the share of the population.

It is true that members have criticized the MIM in the house. I want to make it clear that the charge that the MIM is a religious and communal party is not correct. I want to make it clear that non Muslims have also fought the elections on an MIM ticket. The municipal corporation provides proof that Hindus and Muslims are both elected on MIM tickets, and that the question of it being communal does not arise. If you think you will understand what our policy is. Our biggest agenda is the Minorities – how their legitimate demands can be met. Not only this, we want to ensure that their demands should not be trapped in verbal jugglery. They should be addressed in view of the facts.

Lastly, at the end of my speech I would like to stress on the solution to the problem of unemployment in the city. Plans are made to develop the city but are not implemented. There is a need to implement these plans. There should be an organized effort in this regard. Also I would like to request that an impartial policy should be adopted with respect to elections. Putting hurdles in the elections process and considering it a victory is not correct. All the news papers and political parties are witness to the recent election malpractices, especially the part played by the police and by ruling party – both of which are against democracy.

In the end I would like to stress that the circumstances we are in now requires establishment of national integration and mutual unity. With these words I conclude my short speech.

New arrivals in English

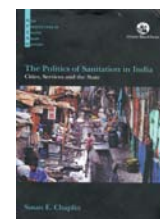


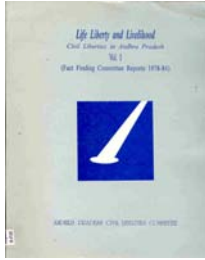
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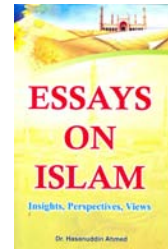
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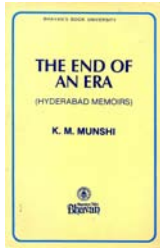
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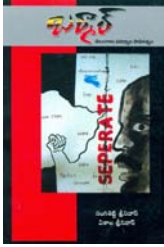
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