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NIZAM MIR OSMAN ALI KHAN - THE ARCHITECT OF MODERN HYDERABAD AND HIS EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

Smt. Shubha¹ and Dr. I. K. Pattar²

¹Research Scholar (PhD), Department of History and Archaeology,
Karnataka University, Dharwad, Karnataka State.

² Professor (Rtd), Department of History and Archaeology,
Karnataka University, Dharwad, Karnataka State.

ABSTRACT :

This paper examines the personality of Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan the last Nizam of Princely state of Hyderabad and focuses on the educational initiatives which heralded modernity in the Princely state of Hyderabad. The Nizam is rightly called as the architect of modern Hyderabad because he paved way for integrated development of Hyderabad state through educational expansion plans. He was keen to bring in instructive plans. He dreamt of blending modern ancient and oriental and western arts and crafts. He wanted each student to benefit from the ancient and modern systems of education. He loved to merge oriental school of thoughts and western arts and crafts. He wished each student to benefit from the ancient and modern systems of education. Hence, this University diversified as an epitome of higher learning. Osmania University symbolized a renaissance in Indian educational system. It came as an extraordinary intellectual buoyancy and national devotion. It was a symbol to display breathing of a pioneering and fresh scholastic flexibility.



KEYWORDS : Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan, Architect of Modern Hyderabad, Educational Initiatives.

INTRODUCTION:

Hyderabad before the establishment of Osmania University - Nizam Mir Osman Alikhan was influenced by the poor academic background of the kingdom, The Nizam felt that in terms of education, Hyderabad was lagging far behind while compared to other Princely states. The educational progress made by the Princely state of Mysore was apparent in achieving modernity of the state. This motivated him to prepare the kingdom towards educational expansion through good base of modern education. This led to the creation of a long driven educational vision. These visionary plans led to establishment of the Osmania University which was not only a landmark in the history of Princely state of Mysore but also would serve as a trajectory of future educational developments in Hyderabad state.

The Factors Causing Educational under Development in Hyderabad State:

Academic Control through Madras University- Earlier educational system in the state of Hyderabad was poor and there were several causes for this educational under development. All educational institutions were affiliated to University of Madras. Educational courses were controlled through University of Madras. Each new educational institution has to seek the prior permission of the University of Madras. All degrees were issued in the name of University of Madras. Hence, students

aspiring to study were very small and norms of the University of Madras were also highly complicated. Hence, the number of graduates produced was numerically very less.

Few Educational Institutions: There were very few educational Institutions in Hyderabad state. The Nizam College, The Madras colleges, Islamic religious institutions etc. to mention a few But most of these institutions focused on theology, religious education and modern science and philosophy was not at all focused. Hence, the utility of the system of education was very much restricted. Masses were still illiterate; study of modern thoughts was a dream. The Osmania University was thought of as an important academic institution to give access to modern sciences and modern theories.

Establishment of Osmania University- the Osmania University came as a dream come true for **Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan**.

Establishment of High Power Committee - Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan appointed a three member committee which consisted of

1. Habib Ur Rehman Sherwani
2. Sadrus Sudoor
3. Sir Akbar Hydari
4. Sir Ross Masood

Objectives of the University - Nawab Mir Usman Ali dreamed of building a premier educational institution which would serve as a gateway for acquiring modern education.

1. **Ancient and Oriental as well as Western and Modern -** In this University , ancient and oriental as well as western and modern arts, crafts and expertise should be combined to impart the modern system of education.
2. **Contemporary and up to Date-** In this University, one should draw full benefit from the ancient and modern systems of education which is contemporary and up to date.
3. **Physical Intellectual and Spiritual Fields -**In this University, one should draw full benefit from the ancient and modern systems of education in the physical intellectual and spiritual fields
4. **Scope for Improvement and Reform -** In this University, there should be scope for improvement and reform of the morals of the students
5. **Provision for research -**In this University, there should be provision for research in different sciences because without research in sciences modern education would be wasted.
6. **Urdu should be the medium of instruction -**In this University, Urdu should be the medium of instruction for higher education but the study of English as a language is also compulsory.

Controversy over - Urdu as a Medium of Education in Osmania University

There were lots of debates and discussions among the committee members about the medium of education. Some of the members dissented on introducing Urdu as the Medium of Instruction and they opined that Modern vision envisioned by the Nawab would be wasted if Urdu was made medium of Instruction. They also opined that English was needed for learning modern sciences and modern skills. It was argued that without English modernization of education would be a sheer waste. They were of the opinion that introduction of Urdu as a medium of instruction would just become an extension of **Madarasa**-the Islamic religious institutions. The general opinion was also divided on the introduction of Urdu as a medium of instruction in higher education. Academicians expressed their dissent and argued that the dreams of the Nawab would fail through this decision.

Nizam's thoughts about teaching faculty - Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan made note that all lecturers appointed were men of calibre and good character in the Osmania University. He emphasised on the

teaching aptitude of each faculty. He took personal interest in selection of men of good academic background.

Zenith of popularity- The Osmania University had become popular and reached academic zenith by 1948. Its degrees were accepted by Indian as well as Foreign universities. The Osmania University became a renowned hallmark in educational and academic circles not only in the state of Hyderabad but in neighbouring states as well. By 1936 post graduate courses were added.

Special subjects- Physics, Chemistry, Biology Medicine, Engineering, Metallurgy, Law, and Education etc. were added. Teachers' training colleges were also added.

Academic contributions- One of the basic ideals of Osmania University is to achieve an intellectual synthesis of oriental and occidental learning of the east and west. Further it aimed at cultural synthesis the development of national ethos and creation of an academic and social environment in which national integration was a tangible reality. The establishment of the University coincided with birth of a new order arising from the ashes of First World War. Osmania University's origin was basically patriotic and nationalistic. It was a revolt against the supremacy of the foreign culture and foreign language. It was a revolutionary experiment to set regional language as a medium of instruction at higher education level. Osmania University symbolized a renaissance in Indian educational system. It came as a remarkable academic resilience and national devotion. It was a sign to exhibit breathing of an innovative and fresh academic flexibility.

Now, envisioning the dreams of Osman Ali, the university has grown to become one of the biggest universities in Asia. It now represents national integration, regional academic devotion and renaissance.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the visionary Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan was instrumental in incorporating progress of Hyderabad state through educational growth and reformed academic arrangements. He was keen to introduce educational plans through his brain child Osmania University. He dreamt of blending modern education along with ancient educational knowledge base. He loved to merge oriental school of thoughts and western arts and crafts. He wished each student to benefit from the ancient and modern systems of education. Hence, this University diversified as an epitome of higher learning. The Nizam is rightly called as the architect of modern Hyderabad because he paved way for integrated development of Hyderabad state through educational expansion plans. It now stands tall epitomising national integration, academic devotion and resurgence. It proved as a ground-breaking experimentation to set regional language as a medium of instruction at higher education level.

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