

GLOBAL EDUCATION NETWORK SOCIETY'S

National Education Day: Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

Prof Abdul Kareem delivered a talk at the GBS auditorium on 11th Nov., 2014 to commemorate the above. He described the various facets of Maulana Azad with some previously known and few facts which were thus far unknown to the audience. He quoted profusely from various publications to highlight the fact that though Azad had no formal education as such, he was scholar, genius and a prodigy. A case in point was his completion of Dars e nizami in much less time than it takes a normal pupil and the translation of Holy Quran into Urdu. His work of seven verses became a volume which was published and elaborated on his idea of Sarva Dharma Samabhava.

Azad was influenced by the thought of Mahatma Gandhi and was incarcerated during the freedom movement. While in his early thirties, he became the President of Indian National Congress, which was indeed a recognition in itself. He proved to be a great negotiator especially during the tough time of partition and was a strong proponent of a united India. India wins freedom is an exhaustive account of the turbulent times of freedom struggle.

As the first Education Minister of independent India, Maulana Azad was not interested in titles and recognition but worked hard to build institutions. One such contribution was the formation of UGC. He stressed on the fact that an institution is known by the quality of its teachers and not just the infrastructure, though he did not hesitate to create these structures. He worked for the cause of SC, ST and enhanced the grants but also stressed on the fact that budgets need to be utilized and spent well if we are to give education its due.

Prof Kareem ended by urging the audience to make the best use of the facilities and make the best that the system has to offer.

Prof. Abdul Kareem addressing the audience during National Education Day Function held on 11th Nov 2014 at Global Business School, Hubli.

