



## **Mahatma Gandhi Shati Smarak Mahavidyalaya,**

**Garua Maksoodpur, Ghazipur**

### **Seminar on the Relevance of Munshi Premchand: Today and Tomorrow**



Munshi Premchand is one of the notable personalities of Hindi literature to memorize his work a seminar was organized at Mahatma Gandhi Shati Smarak Mahavidyalaya Garua Maksudpur, Ghazipur by the Department of Hindi on “The Relevance of Munshi Premchand: Today and Tomorrow” on July 31, 2021. Mr. Sushil Tiwari commenced the session by his presidential address. Mr. Ashwani Kumar was the key speaker who began by throwing light on the life and literary works of Sahitya Samrat. Mr. Mahendra Upadhyaya discussed the artistic style of Munshi Ji.

This seminar was a memorable occasion for our college. Hitherto we had been content to discuss language and its problems; the existing critical literature of Urdu and Hindi has dealt with the construction and the structure of the language alone. This was doubtless an important and necessary work. And the pioneers of our literature have supplied this preliminary need and performed their task admirably. But language is a means, not an end; a stage, not the journey’s end. Its purpose is to mold our thoughts and emotions and to give them the right direction. We have now to concern ourselves with the meaning of things, and to find the means of fulfilling the purpose for which language has been constructed. This is the main purpose of this seminar.

Literature properly so-called is not only realistic, and true to life, but is also an expression of our experiences and of the life that surrounds us. It employs easy and refined language which alike affects our intellect and our sentiments. Literature assumes these qualities only when it deals with the realities and experiences of life. Fairy tales and romantic stories of princely lovers may have impressed us in the olden days, but they mean very little to us today. Unless literature deals with reality it has no appeal for us. Literature can best be defined as a criticism of life. The literature of our immediate past had nothing to do with actuality; our writers were living in a world of dreams and were writing things



like *Fasanai Ajaib* or *Chandra Kanta*; tales told only for entertainment, or to satisfy our sense of wonder. Life and literature were considered to be two different things that bore no relation to each other. Literature reflects the age. In the past days of decadence, the main function of literature was to entertain the parasitic class. In this literature, the dominant notes were either sex or mysticism, pessimism or fatalism. It was devoid of vigor, originality, and even the power of observation.

But our literary taste is undergoing a rapid transformation. It is coming more and more to grips with the realities of life; it interests itself with society or man as a social unit. It is not satisfied now with the singing of frustrated love; or with writing to satisfy only our sense of wonder; it concerns itself with the problems of our life; and such themes as have a social value. Literature that does not arouse in us a critical spirit, or satisfy our spiritual and intellectual needs, which is not 'force-giving' and dynamic, which does not awaken our sense of beauty, which does not make us face the grim realities of life in a spirit of determination, has no use for us today. It cannot even be termed as literature.

At the end of this seminar, a vote of thanks was given by Mr. Nitesh Ji.

  
प्राचार्य  
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