

21/7/00

Book on Dr. Zakir Hussain Released

New Delhi
21st July, 2000

Shri Krishan Kant, Vice-President of India and President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) released the Book titled "Dr. Zakir Hussain-Teacher who became President" by presenting the first copy to Shri K. R. Narayanan, President of India, here today. The special commemorative volume, commissioned by the ICCR is part of the activities connected with the birth centenary of Dr. Zakir Hussain.

Speaking on the occasion Shri Krishan Kant said that Dr. Zakir Hussain was the very embodiment of the idea of India as a nation, which emerged from its heroic struggle against colonialism, to establish itself as a modern, democratic and secular state. He stood for all the high ideals and values on which our country was founded: honesty, industry and perseverance, pursuit of knowledge, non-violence, sacrifice and fearlessness. He said Dr. Zakir Hussain had an unflinching belief in India's destiny, a robust pride in its heritage, an optimistic vision of its future free of illiteracy, poverty and suffering, and a burning desire for a just and equitable social order, which ensured the fundamental rights of all citizens and opportunity for everyone to realise his or her full potential. The volume will throw a flood of light on the multi-faceted personality of Dr. Zakir Hussain and the refinement and the culture he so brilliantly personified, he added.

The special commemorative volume attempts to capture the full spectrum and the essence of Dr. Zakir Hussain's personality. In the first part, which is a collection of his speeches and writings, it gives a glimpse of his thoughts and ideas on issues such as Education, Politics and Society, threat to communal harmony etc.. The volume also contains articles by contemporaries of Dr. Zakir Hussain which offer rare insights into his life and personality. The Book has been published in three languages, English, Urdu and Hindi, which will make it accessible to a vast majority of readers in all walks of life.

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