ADITYA ENGINEERING COLLEGE



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DEPARTMENT OF HUMANITIES AND BASIC SCIENCES **Lecture Notes**

BUILDING A NEW STATE

1. Explain the Summary of Building a new state?

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was born at Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu. He was the eleventh president to India and was conferred India's highest civilian award 'Bharat Ratna' in 1997. During his tenure from 2002-2007 he was popularly known as "people's president".

In the present lesson, "Building a new state" (taken from 'Ignited Minds') we will come to know his experiences and findings during the four visits to Jharkhand state. Dr. Kalam had already visited Jharkhand state for three times before the month of September 2001. The first two visits brought him very close to the core competence that the state possessed. He had been made Patron of the Science and Technology Council of the state and his purpose of that fourth visit was to work out a developmental programme in the areas of herbs, forest products and other natural resources in order to increasing income to the state.

According to Dr. Kalam all the components for developing Jharkhand state such as – fertile area, good rainfall, tall trees, rich vegetation and industrious people were there. Kalam expressed in his own words that they made some progress on the fourth visit. Later, along with his members of the mission he started for Bokaro, the steel city despite the rough weather. While flying in a helicopter he was struck by looking the clean environment by totally forgetting himself.

In his addressing to the Chinmaya Vidyalaya students Dr. Kalam reinforced his keen observation by expressing a statement that the state had all the needed wealth. He tried to motivate all the young children to work very hard in the "mission mode" by making best use of minerals in abundance in their state. Dr. Kalam thought their contribution to the state itself could be tremendous. He also felt that the education system needed to be improved very urgently when he went round the exhibition put up by the same school children.

Dr. Kalam continued his other engagements after the function at Chinmaya Vidyalaya. He had a meeting due at the town hall where he had to speak on "Jharkhand's Core Competence and Industries." During the meeting a very pertinent question was posed by the audience about raw material that was exported from many ports to other countries. In answer, Dr. A.P.J. narrated a conversation that he had with Dr. Jose Paul, chairman of the Mormugao Port Trust during his short stay in Goa. Dr. Kalam came to know from the words of Dr. Jose Paul that 30 million tonnes of iron ore was exported from only Mormugao Port alone that to for a low price. The same ore if it is utilized

here, it would generate far more income because of "value addition" which is not properly focused and blindly ignored by India.

The next day Dr. Kalam travelled to the Bokaro steel plant and was impressed with the scale of the plant and hundreds of hardworking men over there but he was disappointed a lot to see that there were no industrial estates around it, utilising the steel produced there to make various products. He was told that the setting up of industrial estate, came under state purview. He was not happy for such compartmentalised thinking and for the fragmented governance.

Soon after this, while travelling by the flight back to Delhi, Dr. Abdul Kalam kept on thinking how Jharkhand state could best be helped. According to him what were needed were a few major missions to transform the state and a time-frame. In addition to this, the state and the centre would need to make an integrated effort. He firmly hoped that the ''mission mode'' operations would bring rapid development at minimum cost. Throughout the lesson we can sense that Dr. Kalam and his mission members were highly dedicated and totally committed to their assigned task.

MORNING BELLS

Jayashree Mohan Raj

1. Explain the summary of Morning Bells?

Author Introduction:

Jaya Shree Mohan Raj is a teacher of English at The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad. She is a creative writer as well as a translator. She is specialized in English language teaching, Teacher education and communication skills. She has published over a dozen books and several research articles in national and international journals. The story *Morning Bells* is based on a real-life incident. The writers like Jaya Shree Mohan Raj transport the real-life events in their society into fiction and present it to the society as a mirror.

Summary:

Morning Bells is a story of four children Chotu, Ramu, Irfan and Munna who are rag pickers. The author says that every day we encounter such boys on the roadside but we don't find to look at them. If at all we do, they are thought of brats and urchins. These four boys go about garbage bin to garbage bin lugging their jute sacks. They pick up things which they think can fetch them some money.

Each boy has his own story which is so painful. These boys have undergone various pathetic experiences like beatings and scolding of a drunken father, harassment of stepmother, physical abuse by the hotel proprietor, etc in their childhood and had very unpleasant childhood. They believe that God's providence has brought them together. All four of them once met at a dumping yard and started to live together.

A municipal worker who has a little kindness allowed these boys to work out on rag-picking at the municipal dump yard. He extended the help he could do to them. They pick plastic or paper that brings money for their living. The whole day they collect broken plastics, tins, cans & bottles, etc from one garbage into another which fetch them five rupees or so if at all they are lucky.

One day when the four boys Ramu, Chotu, Irfan and Munna were out on their mission they found something that touched the humanity in them. Chotu stooped inside the huge garbage bin. A swarm of flies rose up in the air. He found something soft in the bin and was shocked to see a dead female infant.

These boys quickly wrapped it up in the old newspaper and put the bundle in the jute sack. The boys know that it would be torn into pieces if left in the bin. They didn't want the innocent being to have such an end.

They went to the temple which is on their way to the shed in the old city to buy flowers and incense sticks for her burial. There they saw the people those who are entering the temple with bare foreheads coming out with their foreheads adorned with bright vermillion marks. People go to temple for many reasons. Be it like to seek blessings, to wash off their sins, to satisfy themselves for being so devotional, to impress others by being pious, and to attain peace of mind. On the festive days as the number of pious people doubles and so does the number of hands outstretched. Both sympathy and empathy are shown in the four children while the rich and the pious people are described sarcastically.

Beggars at the temple have their territories and no new entrant is allowed in the precincts without their consent. If a beggar is ill no new entrant is allowed only their spouse or children are allowed to occupy their place. If anyone tries to occupy the place without the consent of the congregation nasty fights erupt.

One of the beggars had taken fancy for Ramu. He wanted to adopt him because he has no one living with him. He wanted to make Ramu his son, so that he would get some company and also that he could take a break once in a while, assigning his duty to Ramu.

Conclusion:

Chotu bought some flowers and a few incense sticks. They dug a pit in one corner of the shed, placed the body in the pit and covered with mud. They kneeled beside the pit, put flowers, lit incense sticks and prayed a moment for her soul to rest in peace.

2. Illustrate the themes in the lesson Morning Bells?

The theme of the story:

- 1. The theme of Social Evils: In all societies around the world, there exist some or other social evils. These evils may exist in the form such as poverty, child labour, female infanticide, gender bias, beggary, abandoned children, untouchability, superstitions, religious hypocrisy, alcoholism, etc. The author touches all these social evil in the course of the story. According to her social evils can only be eradicated by the society itself. These issues serve as a barrier to the progress of any country, and hence we should strive together to end them.
- **2.** The theme of humanitarian principles and values: The story explores the way people nowadays are devoid of humanity towards fellow humans. The author tries to make the readers realize that real prayer lies in empathy and sympathy for others, not in religious hypocrisy. One should never forget the humanitarian principles and values. The message the author wants to convey through the story is "service to man is service to god".