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Babu Jagjivan Ram, Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Jayanti Celebrated Grandly at Dravidian University

The birth anniversaries of Babu Jagjivan Ram, Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, were celebrated in a grand manner at the Kandukuri Veeresalingam Auditorium of Dravidian University.

The programme was attended by Prof. B. Hanumaiah, former Vice-Chancellor of Mangalore University and the Central University of Pune, as the Chief Guest. In his address, he explained the significance of the birth anniversaries of these three great leaders and elaborated on their extraordinary services towards the upliftment of society. He particularly described how Babu Jagjivan Ram, Jyotirao Phule, and Dr. Ambedkar dedicated their lives to the welfare of the people.

Referring to the guru-disciple relationship of Dronacharya and Arjuna, he advised students to study with similar dedication, commitment, and enthusiasm so as to achieve greater heights in life.

Presiding over the function, Vice-Chancellor Prof. L.C. Mallaiah expressed gratitude to former Chief Ministers N.T. Rama Rao, as well as Prof. V.I. Subrahmanyam, Kasi Pandian, and Dr. Chellappa, for their contributions towards the establishment and development of the University. He further stated that the University can achieve sustainable progress only through the coordinated efforts of all teaching and non-teaching staff, and that such collective commitment would enable the institution to reach higher standards of excellence. He also announced that the University is moving forward to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the London School of Economics in the near future, with the objective of positioning Dravidian University on the global academic platform.

Through this MoU, faculty members of the University will get opportunities to visit London for teaching and academic activities, while professors from the London School of Economics will visit Dravidian University for teaching assignments. Similarly, the student exchange programme will facilitate students from both institutions to study at each other's campuses, thereby contributing significantly to the academic growth of both universities.

Speaking on Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar (popularly known as Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar) (14 April 1891 – 6 December 1956), Registrar Prof. V. Kiran Kumar explained that he was a distinguished Indian jurist, economist, political leader, and social reformer. He worked tirelessly for the eradication of untouchability and caste discrimination. He also recalled that Dr. Ambedkar served as the first Law Minister of independent India and as the chief architect of the Indian Constitution.

Speaking on Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, Dean Academic Affairs Prof. K. Shyamala highlighted his landmark social reforms:

Establishment of the first school for girls in 1848 along with his wife

Founding of the Satyashodhak Samaj in 1873 to fight caste discrimination and promote equality

Eradication of untouchability

Promotion of widow remarriage

Welfare initiatives for farmers

She also mentioned that in 1888 the people honoured him with the title “Mahatma.”

On the occasion of Babu Jagjivan Ram Jayanti, Prof. Aravind Kumar stated that every human being in society is equal. He said that education is the most powerful weapon, and only through education can social evils like untouchability be removed. He further explained that Babu Jagjivan Ram served eight times as a Member of Parliament and as a Union Minister, and played a crucial role in introducing the Green Revolution in India.

Dr. Harshavardhan, while speaking on Dr. Ambedkar, remarked that every time one reads Ambedkar, one discovers something new. He explained to the students how Ambedkar rose step by step by following the path shown by his teachers and became a great inspiration.

Programme Coordinator Prof. Shravan Kumar said that great leaders like Babu Jagjivan Ram, Jyotirao Phule, and Dr. Ambedkar rendered immense service to the nation, and that by following the path shown by them, one can reach the highest peaks in life. Deans, Heads of Departments, faculty members, research scholars, staff, and students participated.

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