

ARTICLE-

PATRIOTISM

“Let me take you on a roller coaster ride to the most beautiful place in the world,

In the North, this place has got its paradise,

And in the South, it has a whole lot of temples and edifice,

In the East, it has got people known for their sense of duty,

And in the West, it has a Kutch of wondrous beauty,

No matter which part of the world you come from,

In this place, you will always feel like home,

Which place is this? If you have still got no idea,

Let me take you my friends, it is my Country India,

It is my country India.”

Seven decades of independence and here we are standing all proud and independent. Have you ever realized how fortunate we are of having been born in a country like India? Everything about this country is just perfect and priceless, isn't it? This land is a land of knowledge, the land of love, of chastity, of tolerance, of fraternity. How can I not be thankful to God for giving me birth in this surpassing beautiful Land!

This country has been personified as a woman; 'MOTHER INDIA' we call it. And no doubt like a mother it nourishes us, providing us with everything we will ever need in our life- food, shelter, clothing and security. Therefore, in return, she deserves an equal amount of love and respect from her children. Once, while addressing an audience, Swami Vivekananda was repeatedly referring to India as 'My Country, My Motherland'. Someone from the audience asked him, 'The whole World is your land. So why do you limit yourself to geographical boundaries?' Swami Vivekananda replied, 'any country is a like a Mother. If you cannot respect your own mother then how can you respect someone Else'

THIS is what our country, our motherland demands from us- Love and respect. She does not demand our blood, rather what she wants is that her children should live in harmony and should have a feeling of Brotherhood. Brotherhood is what binds a country together and without this feeling no nation can ever progress.

Therefore, my friends, let us live in harmony with each other. Let us break the very shackles, the very barriers of religion, caste and creed. These things are immaterial, after all. Today as I see our Flag hoisted with an immense amount of love and pride. I know, I may not be able to stand at the border holding a gun, and fight for my nation now, I may do this in future for sure. But I do know that I can give my own little tribute to my country by being a responsible citizen of it. I can abide by the rules of the nation, I can keep my country clean and when I say 'I', I mean all of us.

'Jai Hind, Jai Bharat'.

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