

Report

Rewriting of the Philosophy's Global History Absolutely Necessary

- **Prof. Ashok N. Aklujkar**

“What has happened in the West in 20th Century, it has also happened in India centuries ago. Philosophy of language as propounded by Bhartrhari has addressed all views and almost all the issues and therefore rewriting of the philosophy's global history is absolutely necessary”. Prof. Ashok N. Aklujkar, Professor Emeritus, Dept. of Asian Studies, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, stated delivering the lecture on 30th September, 2016, at Bharat Adhyayan Kendra jointly organized by the Bharat Adhyayan Kendra, B.H.U. and Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Regional Centre, Varanasi. He elaborated further that India has reached the highest level of philosophy, now whatever has to be done it will be done by the world. However, rewriting has to be done on the basis of objectivity. We have to evolve general theory of language, i.e. philosophy of language and philosophy of grammar in keeping with the theories propounded by celebrated Indian Philosopher of Language and Grammar of 5th century C.E. He elaborated further that there is a strong tendency in contemporary or near contemporary philosophy departments to distance themselves from religious studies. The presupposition is that the foundation of philosophy and the study of religion are so different that a philosopher, while he or she is philosophizing, must not get into even the theoretical (including psychological) components of religion. This presupposition is relatively recent. The present day need is that one must distinguish 'logical' faith in philosophical system building from the faith in religious discourse. But one can distinguish the former from the latter in categorical or disciplinary terms only.

Presiding over the session Prof. P.K. Mukhopadhyay, former Head of the Department of Philosophy, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, said in his remarks that we have to relate text of one tradition to other texts of the similar tradition. We should first study our own culture and then relate with other cultures.

Welcoming the distinguished guests and the Chairperson, Prof. K.D. Tripathi, Advisor, IGNC, R.C, Varanasi informed the audience that Prof. Ashok N. Aklujkar and Prof. P.K. Mukhopadhyay are the eminent scholars of the Philosophy of Language and Grammar of the contemporary world. Kashi has been a centre of the studies of traditional Paninian grammar and Bhartrhari and it continues in this perennial centre of Indian knowledge to be so. It is in quite fitness of things that a scholar of such a repute is addressing the audience today under the series titled “Kashi Vyakhyanamala”. His lecture will leave its imprints on the minds of the audience which will carry this tradition forward.

The lecture ignited a lively discussion in which Prof. Rewa Prasad Dwivedi, Dr. Vishwanath Pandey, Prof. Gopa Bandhu Mishra, Prof. B.S. Shukla and other young scholars from B.H.U. and abroad participated. Prof. Sadashiv Kumar Dwivedi conducted the lecture and proposed vote of thanks.