

Dacca University Convocation.

The Vice-Chancellor's Speech

and

His Excellency
The Chancellor's Speech.

July 25th, 1932.



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**With the compliments
of the
Vice-Chancellor
Dacca University.**

**The Vice-Chancellor's Speech
and
His Excellency
The Chancellor's Speech.**

July 25th, 1932.

UNIVERSITY OF DACCA.

Convocation—July 25, 1932.

Conferment of Honorary Degrees.

YOUR EXCELLENCY AND CHANCELLOR,

It gives me pleasure to announce that the Academic and Executive Councils and the Court of the University have unanimously resolved that the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws be conferred upon Colonel the Right Hon'ble Sir Francis Stanley Jackson, P.C., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., formerly Chancellor of the University.

During the period of his Chancellorship Sir Stanley took the deepest interest in the progress of the University. He recognised the natural advantages which Dacca possesses for the building up of a residential institution for the furtherance of higher studies, and never missed any opportunity that was given him of assisting and encouraging those—whether members of the staff or students—who were engaged in promoting its welfare. When presiding at the opening ceremony of the Salimullah Muslim Hall, Sir Stanley said: "It is a matter of special satisfaction and pride to me to have seen this project completed and to have had the privilege before the close of my term of office in Bengal of handing over the Muslim Hall ready for occupation to the University". This expression of Sir Stanley's feeling in regard to the Muslim Hall is typical of his deep interest in all that would, in his opinion, facilitate the progress of the University.

It only remains, Your Excellency, for me to add that the one regret of all members of the University to-day is that it is not possible for their former Chancellor to be present at this ceremony and to receive in person this sign of their appreciation of his valued service.

In the name of the University I now invite Your Excellency to confer the degree.

His Excellency the Chancellor conferred the degree using the following formula :

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chancellor of the University, I confer on Colonel the Right Hon'ble Sir Francis Stanley Jackson, P.C., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., the degree of Doctor of Law *honoris causa*.

2. The Dean of the Faculty of Science presented Sir C. V. Raman to His Excellency using the following formula :

Your Excellency and Chancellor, I present to you Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman, K.T., M.A., Ph.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S., N.L., for the degree of Doctor of Science *honoris causa*.

His Excellency the Chancellor conferred the degree using the following formula :

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Chancellor of the University, I confer on you, Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman, K.T., M.A., Ph.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S., N.L., the degree of Doctor of Science *honoris causa*.

Speech by Professor G. H. Langley, Vice-Chancellor.

YOUR EXCELLENCY AND CHANCELLOR

It gives me great pleasure to welcome Your Excellency as Chancellor to preside over this Convocation. You have undertaken the duties of your great office at a time when unusual courage and wisdom are required to meet the difficulties with which Your Excellency's Government must be confronted, but we assure Your Excellency of our loyal support and look forward to the period of your office with hope, confidently anticipating the introduction of constitutional reforms which will mark one of the most important stages in the history of this great land and which will lead to the welfare and progress of the peoples of India.

During the first two terms of the session under review I was on leave and Dr. W. A. Jenkins of the Indian Educational Service was appointed to officiate as Vice-Chancellor during my absence. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing to Dr. Jenkins the thanks of the University for the able and energetic manner in which he directed the affairs of the University in my absence.

Further, towards the end of the session, Mr. K. Shahabuddin was obliged, owing to illness, to request the University to relieve him from the duties of the Treasurership, but all interested in the University will be gratified to learn that our former Treasurer, Rai Sasanka Comar Ghose Bahadur, C.I.E., has accepted the invitation of the Chancellor to act as Treasurer in his place. The University is most fortunate in again obtaining the services of the Rai Bahadur in this critical period, and we sincerely hope that after a short period of rest Mr. Shahabuddin will be fully restored to health and able to undertake again his responsible duties.

The outstanding event of the session is the opening of the Selimullah Muslim Hall by our former Chancellor Sir Francis Stanley Jackson. Throughout the period of his office Sir Stanley showed a very deep interest in the welfare of the University and it is gratifying to know that he was able to preside at this opening ceremony before leaving India. It is also a cause for pride and thankfulness that this fine Hall of Residence has been completed and that the body of Muslim students, which signifies so much for the community and for the future development of the Province, is now provided with a worthy home.

While referring to our former Chancellor Sir Stanley Jackson, I would like to express how deeply gratified all members of the University are to-day that Sir Stanley's service to the University has been recognised by the conferment of the honorary degree of Doctor of Law.

Further, it is a source of great gratification to the University that His Excellency the Chancellor has to-day conferred the degree of Doctor of Science *honoris causa* upon Sir C. V. Raman, F.R.S., the most distinguished of Indian Physicists, who has always been so generous in his willingness to assist the University whenever any opportunity has been given; and also that it has been possible for him to accept the invitation of the University to deliver the Convocation address.

Time will not permit my mentioning all the important changes which have taken place in the University during the past session, but I would like to refer to one or two of these; *First*, Maulana Munawar Ali, Lecturer in Arabic and Islamic Studies, retired at the end of the session after serving the University for a period of 11 years. His reputation and learning have contributed much to the success of the teaching in Islamic Studies, and the thanks of the University are due to the Maulana for his devoted service. It is a source of great pleasure to the Maulana's colleagues and other members of the University that his extensive learning and service have

been recognised by Government by the conferment upon him of the title of Shams-ul-Ulema. *Secondly*, it gives me pleasure to report that the degree of Doctor has been conferred upon four members of the University during the session. They are Mr. M. I. Borrah, Mr. Parimal Roy, Mr. B. S. Srikantan and Mr. Nirmal Kumar Sen. The two former have obtained the degree of Ph. D. from the University of London and the two latter the degree of D. Sc. of Dacca. I would also like to convey the congratulations of the University to Dr. B. K. Roy, on whom the degree of Ph. D. has to-day been conferred by the Chancellor. *Thirdly*, Mr. Mahmood Hasan, Head of the Department of English and Provost of the Muslim Hall, has proceeded to Oxford on study leave—Dr. S. N. Roy having been appointed to undertake his work as Head of the Department of English and Dr. Shahidullah to officiate as Provost of the Muslim Hall. Finally, while I was on leave I had the privilege of representing the University at the Congress of the Universities of the British Empire which was held in London and Edinburgh in July 1931 and at which representatives of more than 70 British Universities were present, and on returning to India in December had the honour of presiding over the Annual Meetings of the Indian Philosophical Congress held at Patna.

Before proceeding to the remainder of this address I must refer to the loss which the University has sustained by the departure from Dacca of Dr. Michael West who, for reasons of health, was obliged to proceed to England in June last. It is probable that Dr. West will not return to India, and I would, therefore, like to take this opportunity of expressing appreciation of his work as Principal of the Dacca Training College and Reader and Head of the Department of Education. Dr. West first came to India as a member of the Indian Educational Service in 1912 and he has been Principal of the Training College since 1920. He has, therefore, been Reader and Head of the Department of Education from the foundation of the University in 1921. In this period Dr. West has

been carrying on work of great importance for the development of Indian education. He has remodelled the courses in Education, has made numerous enquiries into the value of various intelligence and other educational tests, has made elaborate experiments for the purpose of measuring the comparative efficiencies of different educational methods and has carried on researches in language teaching, the results of which he has embodied in his book on Bilingualism and in other works. Dr. West's work in language teaching has now roused the interest of educational authorities throughout India and has attracted the notice of educationists in many parts of the world. Dr. West possesses a lively mind and is very receptive of new ideas, and he has the power of inspiring the loyalty and enthusiasm of his colleagues. Further, his interests have extended beyond the educational institutions with which he was immediately connected and his work as Scout Commissioner is known to all residents of Dacca. His departure undoubtedly means a serious loss to education in the Province.

Despite continuous political unrest, the University has carried on its ordinary activities throughout the session without abnormal interruption such as characterised the previous session. In other ways, however, the present situation has seriously affected the University, and it is specially necessary to refer to the loss in the number of students which has resulted from the economic depression in the Province. A comparison of the numbers of students for session 1929-30 and 1931-32 shows that there has been a decrease in these two sessions of over 300 in the total number of students. This decrease affects every category of students, although it is more marked in the numbers of students reading for the ordinary degrees in Arts and Science, and in the students reading Law. Further, analysis shows that the diminution is greater in Hindu students, although there has been a serious falling off in the number of Muslim students also.

Poverty has also affected the number of students resident in Halls. The number of students resident in 1931-32 was less by 200 than the number resident in 1929-30. This is a serious fact for a University such as Dacca which through its Halls of Residence provides facilities for training character and personality full advantage of which can only be taken by resident students. The Executive Council are very concerned with this problem. In normal times they would have been prepared to make a large increase in the amounts available for stipends, so that Provosts might make it possible for larger number of students to reside in Halls, but they were prevented from agreeing to any such proposal for meeting the difficulty by the anticipated deficits which the University will be obliged to face in the coming sessions. The present is, I am aware, an exceedingly inopportune time for appealing to public liberality, but I would like to say that there is no way in which friends of the University could more effectively assist its work at the present time than by providing a fund whereby it would be possible for a greater number of poor but able and deserving students to obtain the advantage of residence in one or other of the Halls. I, therefore, appeal to all who possess the means to give such help to the University during the next two or three sessions, and I can assure any who are willing to do so of the gratitude both of the University authorities and of the students whom they would help.

The Vice-Chancellor pointed out in his last Convocation address that the University would be obliged to approach Government for an additional recurring grant to carry on its normal activities. The financial position of the University was fully explained to Government in May 1929, and they replied that "Government regret they are unable to offer any hope of an increased recurring grant to the University" and they urged the University authorities to take this into consideration in regulating the future financial policy. Since 1929 the situation has been made still more critical by the

decrease in the number of University students which has resulted in an annual loss of about Rs. 42,000.

While conscious of their own financial difficulties the University are fully aware of the difficulties of Government, and for this reason they again appointed a Retrenchment Committee in October 1931. This Committee has reviewed expenditure in all Departments and on its recommendation the Executive Council has made whatever reductions are possible with a view to enabling the University to meet its expenditure from its present sources of income. After effecting such economy, however, the Executive Council are not able to balance the University budget and there is likely to be considerable deficit in the future unless it is possible to increase the annual recurring income. The position has been fully explained to Your Excellency's Government and they have been urged to provide the additional annual grant to enable the University to carry on its work. We hope that in this matter the University will have Your Excellency's sympathy and assistance.

The present situation is fraught with grave danger for the University. The Government of Bengal were led to the view that it was necessary to establish a University in Dacca as early as the year 1911. In arriving at that decision they were moved by two primary considerations, *First*, in response to a deeply felt need of the Mussalman of Eastern Bengal, Government proposed to promote the educational progress of the Muhammadans by providing special facilities for their higher education; and *secondly*, they recognised the need of creating in the Province a new type of unitary, residential and teaching University. Further, when the Calcutta University Commission considered the proposal to found a University at Dacca they put forward two other reasons why it should be established. It was necessary, they argued, to relieve the congestion of the University of Calcutta and they maintained that they would urge this proposal in any case in view of the importance of Dacca as the second city of the Province and of the fact that it

had already been for many years a very important centre for higher education.

Now the work and progress of the University in the past eleven years has, I am convinced, proved the wisdom and rightness of this decision by the Government of Bengal. Within the University the Salimullah Muslim Hall has been created, and it flourishes as one of the three important residential units of the University. In referring to this Hall I have not in mind the fine building which has recently been completed and of which we are justly proud, but the corporate body of Muslim students which is so unique a feature of the Dacca University. This body of Mussalman students increased from about 160 to considerably over 400 between the years 1921 and 1930, it is marked by the vigour and fullness of its common life, it is producing traditions of great value to the present and future generations of students it has sent forth many of its members to hold responsible positions in the Province and elsewhere, and what is of the greatest importance—it has achieved this as a member of a University, the other chief members of which are two similar bodies of Hindu students. Nor has the University been less successful in its endeavour to realise the second of the purposes for which it was brought into being. The value of the methods of teaching, the standards of examination, and the traditions of corporate student life that are being fostered in the University are beginning to be recognised throughout India. Further, the University possesses a well-furnished Library and well-equipped Science Laboratories and its record of original work by the members of its staff and research students compares favourably with that of any other Indian University.

But the financial difficulties of the University force us to face again the problems of its future. The question arises: "Is this institution to fulfil the purposes which moved Government to found a University at Dacca? Or are these purposes, through lack of funds, to be abandoned

or only very imperfectly realised ? ” For, apart from any future development, the University studies for which provision has been made cannot be maintained without additional assistance from Government.

I am perfectly aware that there are those who say that the University is already too expensive and that many of its members are paid too highly. In view of this I would like to state one or two facts for consideration.

First, when the question of founding the Dacca University was under contemplation, the Government of Bengal sought the assistance of several distinguished bodies of expert advisors and the recommendations of these expert bodies all indicate that an annual expenditure much greater than that which is now being incurred would be required for the type of University contemplated. *Secondly*, since the foundation of the University the scales of salary for many of the important positions have been considerably reduced with the voluntary consent of the occupants of the positions and despite the fact that they had entered into formal agreements with the University. *Thirdly*, the scales of salary at present in force are in no way high in comparison with those of other Indian Universities. And finally, the proportion of University teachers appointed to the higher grade of posts, *viz.*, Professorships and Readerships, is small as compared with the proportion appointed to the lower grades of Lectureships and Assistant Lectureships. In fact, owing to lack of funds, it is necessary to appoint Assistant Lecturers on the lowest scale of pay to undertake a considerable portion of the lecture and tutorial work.

Since the foundation of the University in 1921 three Retrenchment Committees have been appointed and practically all their recommendations have been accepted by the Executive Council. On the other hand in 1924 an important Committee (known as the Dacca Technical and Vocational Education Committee) was appointed by Government to consider, among other problems, the ways in which it might be,

possible to develop the University so as to relate its teaching more closely to the needs of the Province. Several of the proposals of the Committee such as the schemes for providing teaching in (1) Botany and Bacteriology in relation to Agriculture, (2) Bio-Chemistry and (3) Chemical Technology, have been further considered and elaborated by the University and Government have been urged to grant the necessary funds. In no case, however, has Government been able to see their way to finance the schemes proposed by the University. Since 1921 the only constructive scheme which it has been possible to finance is that for carrying out research work in agriculture in the Department of Chemistry, and this could not have been undertaken save for the financial assistance which has been obtained from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

The position then can be summed up as follows: "The actual expenditure on the University is less than that contemplated by any of the expert bodies who advised Government in regard to its foundation. The experience of the last 11 years has proved that the experts were right and that the present annual income of the University from all sources is not sufficient for its needs. Now the financial position of the University is such that it is faced with the danger that, if its legitimate financial requirements be not met, it will be necessary to press retrenchment of expenditure to the point where it seriously affects the possibility of working out the conceptions for which the University was founded and every endeavour to expand so as to enable the University to make a more valuable contribution to the development of the Province is pitiably frustrated. The University is fully conscious of the financial difficulties of Government, but the problem of the future must be faced. With the purposes for which the University was created the Government of Bengal are concerned as vitally as are the authorities of the University. We hold that these purposes cannot now be surrendered, and appeal to Government to give

us what financial assistance is necessary to ensure a reasonable chance of their fulfilment.”

While devoting so large a portion of this address to problems with which the students of the University are not immediately concerned, I assure them that I am not unmindful of the fact that Convocation is a function which exists primarily for the conferring of degrees upon students and that our thought in this function should be directed largely to them. But in pleading for the stabilising of University finance, I speak in the faith that the University is one of the greatest institutions in Bengal for the training of its sons and daughters and it is in their interest that I feel so strongly that the University must be adequately maintained.

You, as a body of students, have carried on your work during the session under conditions which many have possibly found unusually distracting, but you are for the most part to be congratulated upon the enthusiasm with which you have pursued your studies and the various corporate activities in your Halls and in the University. I regret that there were some among you who allowed outside influences to prevent them from devoting themselves fully to the purposes for which they entered the University and have sacrificed their chances of success in ways which to me appear unwise. For them I would like here to repeat what I have often said on other occasions. Apart altogether from political opinions, I myself am fully convinced that the best service any student can render his country during the period of his University career is the service of utilising fully the facilities afforded him for the training of his mind and personality for assuming the duties of a citizen in after-life.

I congratulate those among you who have been successful in University examinations and who have to-day received your degrees from the Chancellor. Some I know are of the opinion that the number of successful candidates in University examinations has been too few, and reference to this fact

has appeared in the public press. But in regard to this I maintain without hesitation that the maintenance of satisfactory standards in examinations is a decided advantage to University students, especially in India to-day. Again and again we have been reminded by eminent educationists that the number of graduates in India at the present time is too great since, in the words of Lord Irwin, "Indian education has far outstripped technical and industrial development" and great sacrifices are frequently made for no result. The only way, it appears to me, in which the Universities can contribute towards the solving of this great problem is by the maintenance of the standards of University education and examination; while, at the same time, directing attention to problems of industrial development and to the moulding of education in accordance with the country's needs.

Address by His Excellency the Chancellor.

MR. VICE-CHANCELLOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I wish first to thank you for the cordial manner in which you have welcomed me as your new Chancellor. I will confess that had I been told 12 months ago that I should shortly be the Chancellor of two Universities—and Indian Universities at that—I should have thought that my informant was indulging in a pleasantry and, had he persisted that he was serious, I do not doubt that I should have experienced a feeling of grave misgiving. Now that the unexpected has happened and I find myself before you as your Chancellor, I take courage from the heartiness of your welcome and I assure you—and I am not a person who makes promises lightly—that consistent with my other duties no effort shall be lacking on my part to ensure that our association shall be for the benefit, I hope the lasting benefit, of the University. I shall not pose before you as the exponent of an erudition to which I can lay no claim: my life, as you possibly know, has been spent rather in the paths of administration than of scholarship. There are times, however, when the problems of a University lie rather in the realms of administration than of pure scholarship and, from what has just fallen from the Vice-Chancellor's lips, I am not sure that in the case of this University we are not passing through such a time at present. Here again I can claim no

intimate acquaintance with University administration. My academic life came to an end nearly 30 years ago, but I was fortunate in being able to spend six years—two of them on Post-Graduate work—at two European Universities and I am deeply interested in the problems of University life, holding, as I believe they do, the key to the future, more especially in this land of India: and if my administrative experience in other spheres can be of any assistance to the University in overcoming the difficulties with which it is at present beset, believe me, that experience is very readily at your disposal.

It is a matter of great pleasure to me that one of my first duties as Chancellor should have been the conferment of the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws on the late Chancellor, Sir Stanley Jackson. Sir Stanley has deserved well of the University. Apart from the tribute which the Vice-Chancellor has just paid, I have, since I came to Bengal both heard and seen evidence of the keen interest which Sir Stanley took in all that concerns your well-being: and I am sure that you would wish me to convey to him in England the thanks of the University and the high appreciation which the bestowal of the degree is intended to mark of his zeal and his labours for the welfare of the University of Dacca.

Of Sir Venkata Raman, upon whom also I have had the privilege of conferring a degree, I shall have more to say later. For the moment I would only remark that in honouring him the University truly honours herself, adding to her roll the name of one of the leading men of science of the day.

I take this opportunity of offering my sincere congratulations and good wishes to all those upon whom degrees and other academic distinctions have been conferred to-day.

Ladies and gentlemen, it was appropriate that the Vice-Chancellor, in his address, should review, however briefly, the results, scholastic and otherwise, of the last session. It would not, however, be either appropriate or profitable that I should follow him into what is to me as yet somewhat unfamiliar ground. I do, however, desire to associate myself very warmly with the Vice-Chancellor's expression of thanks to Maulana Munawar Ali for his devoted and successful labours for the University in the field of Islamic Studies. It is a matter of satisfaction to me that on his retirement his services should have been recognised by the grant of the title of Shams-Ul-Ulama. I should also like to say that I am glad to gather from a study of past reports that the output of original research work, particularly in the Departments of Chemistry and Physics, is commendable both in quantity and, I am told, in quality. This I take to be a sure sign both of maturity and of virility in this young University.

I have listened with concern and considerable misgiving to that portion of the Vice-Chancellor's address which is devoted to the financial condition of the University. I discussed the matter with the Vice-Chancellor in Calcutta recently and I fully appreciate the gravity of the situation. I have accordingly agreed to meet the representatives of the University in conclave on this subject to-morrow evening and with this meeting in prospect it would not be right for me,—nor, indeed, am I in a

position,—to make any statement now. This much, however, I have already gathered,—that for the past two years there has been a great falling off in the number of students attending the University. This may be due partly to causes other than those connected with economic distress: the disturbed condition of this city in 1930 and the general political unrest may have played their part along with monetary stringency in keeping students away from the University. Whatever the causes, the result is deplorable, from the point of view both of the University and of the rising generation. The former loses the fees on which a young University not yet possessed of the endowments which tend in course of time to enrich the older foundations must so largely depend for its resources: while as regards the rising generation, anything which tends to lower its efficiency or to prejudice its moral and intellectual training must be to the manifest detriment of the country at a time when she is about to be subjected to a test in which she will require all the guidance and all the steadying influence which a liberal education best supplies. It seems to me that in these difficult times Universities—and particularly young Universities—should not be too proud to advertise. I am told—I have, of course, no personal knowledge in the matter—that as a University we make the mistake of not bringing to the notice of students, at the time when they are making up their minds about the future, the advantages which our University can offer them. When we have so much to offer them here of all that differentiates a “University” from a mere place of study, ought we not to let the facts be known by

distributing our University' prospectus with suitable covering observations to every recognised High School in Eastern Bengal, the area which our University was founded to serve? This might be done preferably in December of each year, so that the pupils who are to take their Matriculation in the following March might have at least the opportunity of considering joining their own University instead of some local College. In normal times at all events there are students enough to fill both University and local colleges to overflowing, and one would like to see utilised to the full the peculiar contribution that this University of Dacca can make to the culture and general advancement of the Province. I realise that the mere circulation of prospectuses at a time when parents can least afford to give their children any higher education at all is not going, by itself, to produce the lakh of rupees on which the Treasurer has set his heart, but it seems to me that it is worth doing for its own sake, not merely for the few extra students whom it may attract at the moment but much more for the education (if I may employ the term) of the staffs of the schools themselves who may then be expected when times are better to pass on with effect to their pupils some idea of the advantages which this University is in a position to offer them.

I would also most heartily and earnestly endorse the appeal which the Vice-Chancellor has made for benefactions, or contributions to a fund, to enable poor but deserving students to prosecute their studies at the University. Such gifts are in the

highest line both of Indian and of University tradition and though at any time welcome they will be especially beneficial at a time like the present.

It would be a great satisfaction to us all to see some such tangible evidence of the pride which the people of East Bengal may legitimately feel in this University of theirs.

Before leaving this burning subject of Finance of which for the reasons I have given I have deliberately touched only the fringes, I would like to assure the University of one point. The aims and ideals with which this University was founded are well known to the Government which founded it. Not only are they known, but they are precious. The extent to which they are realised and the rate of progress of that realisation cannot be independent of economic and financial considerations, but there is no intention of departing from those ideals. The completion of the Sir Salimullah Moslem Hall project last year is an earnest, surely, of Government's abiding faith in the plan of a predominantly residential University and of its adherence to the ideals with which the University was founded. But there is one thing I would beg you all to remember. Government may start a University, but it cannot make one. This University will be what you yourselves make it. Its destiny lies truly in your hands. If you young men prove worthy sons of your *alma mater* you will carry the good name of Dacca University with you wherever you go. Those—as I fervently hope the very few—who prove otherwise will trample that good name in the mud. Your future lies before you and in these difficult days many of you may well be troubled in

mind when you speculate upon what that future may hold. Be of stout heart. The darkness is blackest that precedes the dawn. I cannot tell you exactly when the clouds will break but of this I am certain that a great future lies before the people of Bengal if only they will prove themselves capable of grasping their opportunities. A highly fertile country, whose natural resources are as yet most imperfectly developed: a keen sensitive and intellectually vigorous people; and the certainty that the means of development and of self-advancement will very shortly be placed in your own hands, what more do you need; and if, so circumstanced, you cannot raise Bengal to a very high level, not only among the self-governing Provinces of India but among the nations, history will surely lay the blame at your own door. The greatest peril that can await you—and it is a peril as historians will tell you that has brought more than one young nation to the brink of ruin—lies in the pursuit of false ideals. I pray that in God's Providence you may be rescued from that peril.

And now, ladies and gentlemen, I feel it would be wrong for me to stand any longer between you and the giver of the Convocation Address. To a University audience in Bengal Sir Venkata Raman needs no introduction. His studies in Physics have won for him world-wide fame, Fellowship of the Royal Society and the award of that Society's "Hughes Medal" and of the Nobel Prize being only the chief among his many distinctions. Probably, however,—great as have been his contributions in the field of research and discovery—the greatest debt of India to Sir Venkata Raman lies in the

impetus he has given to the founding of what I may call a School of Physics in this country and the influence which he has wielded over its development. It is to him in large measure that we owe the new spirit of research which has seized our young scientists and which is already producing such admirable results.

I have now great pleasure in asking Sir Venkata Raman to address the Convocation.

