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ITALY CAN BRING MORAL RENAISSANCE TO  
HUMANITY

AN INSPIRATION FOR THE WHOLE OF INDIA  
BY R. VAITHESWARAN

'MUSIC AT MIDNIGHT' A PLAY FOR EVERY COUNTRY  
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## Marxists see 'new illumination for the world'

'CAN MARXISTS pave the way for a greater ideology?', asked Dr. Frank Buchman in his famous speech entitled 'The Destiny of East and West' in the Rhur in 1950.

In the years since then, Marxists throughout Europe, in Asia and America have accepted that challenge in ever-increasing numbers.

Last week the *Western Mail*, under the headline 'Cross replaces *Das Kapital*', reported that 'a former South Wales Communist, speaking at the Moral Re-Armament World Assembly in Caux, said, "For more than twenty years I carried a bag with Marxism in it. I commit myself now to carry the same bag with the Cross in it instead of Marxism."'

### 'Guiding light for trade unionists'

The report continued: 'Mr. Jack Maunder of Pontardawe, vice-chairman of the rural council, a Communist Party member for twenty years, and eight years a full-time organiser for the party in Wales, said, "The ideology of Moral Re-Armament should be the guiding light for trade unionists, industrialists, Labour Party and Communist Party men. Wales itself could be the spearhead for a new illumination for the world."'

Speaking with Mr. Maunder was Mr. Jim Crooks, vice-chairman of 10,000 miners in the Ashington district of Northumberland. He said, 'I am absolutely prepared to put the same effort into the fight for MRA that I put into the Communist Party for twenty-six years. Not one of the four major political parties in Britain has

what the country needs. The workers are disillusioned with their leadership. What I have seen here convinces me that this is the next step for our people.'

Mr. Crooks said that the time had come in Britain for a drastic re-appraisal of the way industry was conducted on both sides. The basis of negotiation was class war, and the philosophy that you have got to 'hit the other fellow hard and hit him first'. Speaking of the crisis in the coal industry, he said that his own pit was one of those threatened with closure. He had fought to cancel this. Through applying MRA principles, production had gone up from 1,800 to 2,500 tons daily, and he would fight on to prevent the pit's closing down.

'I left the Communist Party,' he said, 'but the minute I met the men of MRA I knew I was in touch with men with an ideology. I am going to hold meetings in Ashington and call the workers in to tell them that Jim Crooks is a changed man, who is going to fight just as hard for something new. The British people are stubborn, but get them on the move and they will lead the world.'

A man who left the Communist Party five weeks ago voiced the same conviction. Mr. Harry Hammond, a dockers' leader from Newcastle upon Tyne, said that if management and labour accepted MRA, 'they would create a pattern for the world. I was one of the first fully committed Communists on the Newcastle waterfront. Today I am going to stir up men as much for this ideology as I did for the Communist Party. I am sure we shall get what is right that way better than the old way.'

## Japanese press says Korea solution near

EVERY JAPANESE NEWSPAPER, with radio stations and national television, last week featured the coming of Colonel Kim Chong Pil, Korea's number two man, to the Moral Re-Armament Asian Assembly at Odawara.

The main front-page story in *Yomiuri Shimbun*, from its correspondent in Seoul, reported that Colonel Kim

announced his decision to a Japanese delegation of business men. The paper wrote: 'The main purpose of his coming to Japan is to attend the Moral Re-Armament Assembly. During his visit to Japan it seems he is going to talk with Prime Minister Ikeda on the question of Japan-Korea problems. At the moment Japan-Korean

negotiations are at an impasse. But this meeting between Ikeda and Kim will be a climax to lead these negotiations to a conclusion.' A five-column headline read: 'Cornerstone to conclusion of Japan-Korea negotiations'.

*Yomiuri's* English edition carried a full back-page picture story on Odawara, headlined: 'Focus for Asia'.

Mr. Ikeda will inaugurate the Asian Centre for Moral Re-Armament at Odawara on 22 October, and open the first World Assembly to be held there.

### 'Permanent peace in Asia'

The five-storied buildings of the new assembly centre rise on a hillside overlooking the town of Odawara, one hour's train journey from Tokyo. Japanese statesmen, industrialists and workers have undertaken the building of the centre, to be placed at the disposal of the nations of Asia for the moral re-armament of the whole continent. 'It will help to build permanent peace in Asia,' says Mr. Ikeda.

More than ten thousand people and more than a hundred organisations have already contributed to financing its construction. Gifts have been sent from all over the world. The Victorian Chamber of Manufacturers and the Victorian Employers' Federation of Australia have donated the furniture, made of Australian

timber. France and Germany are making a joint gift of kitchen installations. The women of Britain are sending silverware for the main dining-room table.

Last week the Assembly Centre was given a national preview by its construction committee.

For two hours 150 of the nation's leaders followed Governor Yamagiwa of the National Bank of Japan, Governor Sogo of the National Railways, and Mr. Saburo Chiba, Chairman of the Constitutional Committee of the Japanese Diet, through an inspection of the building, rapidly nearing completion. The guests, who were surrounded on all sides by photographers, press and film cameramen, included the Chief Justice of Japan and his wife, the President of Waseda University and his wife, the heads of leading businesses, Members of Parliament from different parties, the first post-war Socialist Prime Minister of Japan and his wife, and the Speaker of Odawara City Council, as well as a group of ladies.

'Here is the lighthouse of Asia,' said Governor Sogo, addressing the guests in the future dining-room. 'It is up to us to be the light.'

Mr. Ejiri, Assistant Secretary General of the Japan Publishers' Association, said, 'A material revolution can never be complete unless it is backed by a moral and spiritual revolution. MRA is filling that gap and that is why particularly pressmen of the world are responding.'

## Italy can bring moral renaissance to humanity

ITALY'S NATIONAL INCOME is rising at the rate of 10 per cent a year. Some say her 'economic miracle' surpasses that of Western Germany. Her rural population, once 40 per cent of the whole, was last year 28 per cent and still dropping towards the 15 per cent considered to be ideal for the country.

Until recently this industrial revolution was concentrated in the north. From all over Italy, but mainly from the south, the workers poured in to man the factories making cars, textiles, machinery, rubber and chemicals in Turin, Milan and their satellite towns.

The south remained what it had been for centuries—poverty-stricken, illiterate, over-populated, with an agriculture kept going largely by high Government subsidies.

Suddenly the Government announced that 58 per cent of all new investments in State-supported industrial undertakings will be in the south. New roads will be built, plans are being laid for oil refineries and factories of every kind, and towns are changing their appearance almost overnight as they become major industrial centres.

Bari is one of these towns. It is also the most important agricultural centre on the Adriatic coast, and has a university of 18,000 students. Behind it stand American missile bases. Across the Adriatic from the port, Communist China is in control of Albania.

Last month extremists used a strike of the construction workers in the town to mobilise the students. Riots reminiscent of the Tokyo riots of 1960 were halted only

through the use of troops and armoured cars.

On 25 September Peruvian students from the revolutionary university of San Marcos in Lima arrived in Bari with a task force which included trade unionists, industrialists and generals. They took with them their play, *El Condor*. It shows the answer to corruption and poverty, bitterness and subversion. The men taking it have found that answer in their own lives. They are the men who led the street fighting in Lima, stoned and spat on Vice-President Nixon, planned revolution in the docks or in the peasant leagues of Brazil's north east. They understand the feelings that stir the hearts of men in Italy's south.

They come to Italy at a time when election fever is already mounting for the general election in April, 1963. Political observers have repeatedly stressed that a swing of one per cent in the 'floating' vote could give the Communists and Nenni Socialists a majority in Italy.

Solon Espinoza of Lima, who formerly edited the extreme left student newspaper at San Marcos, told the press on arrival: 'MRA showed us a better solution than Communism to the misery in my country and the world. Our nations do not need a bloody revolution. They need a revolution in the character of man.'

These men believe that Italy, which gave the Renaissance to the world and has given its culture to Latin America, can now bring a moral and spiritual renaissance to the whole of humanity.

# AN INSPIRATION FOR THE WHOLE OF INDIA

by R. VAITHESWARAN

ON 7 SEPTEMBER, 1962, a leading political commentator wrote in the *Indian Express*: 'The only state which reports peace on the Congress front is Kerala. The new spirit of give and take is exemplified by Mr. P. T. Chacko and Mr. P. C. Cherian joining hands. The Communists are disturbed by this element and also by the prospects of the People's Socialist Party merging with the Congress. They are unable to exploit differences among ministers and cannot therefore mount another "liberation struggle" with any hope of mass support.'

At a time when dissension within the ranks of the ruling Congress Party gives Mr. Nehru and his government constant trouble, the continuing growth of unity in Kerala has national significance. Kerala became known across the world as the first state to vote itself Communist and then to return to a democratic regime. The story of the unity created in the democratic camp through the visit to Caux in 1959 of Mr. Mannath Padmanabhan, leader of his people's liberation struggle, and Mr. P. T. Chacko, Kerala's Home Minister, is well-known and documented.

## Strategy of division thwarted

Following their defeat at the polls, however, the Communist Party continued to work assiduously to reopen the division in the democratic front. They sought to divide the Hindus and Catholics, whose unity was the greatest single factor in the victory of the democratic forces. By playing on the ambitions of various political leaders, they attempted likewise to break the alliance of the Congress Party with the Socialists.

A few months ago the alliance of Christians and Hindus nearly broke down when Catholic peasants agitated against the Nair Service Society, a Hindu body led by Mannath Padmanabhan. Passions were high and blood could easily have flowed, but the men trained in Moral Re-Armament remained faithful to their convictions.

The Christian editor of a leading newspaper told me about the amazing restraint of Mr. Padmanabhan in the face of great provocation. He is well-known across the state for his violent temper and fiery tongue—used in the past with blistering effect against other communities and above all against the Christians.

Mr. Chacko, the Home Minister, on whom the agitators relied for support, due to the fact that he was Catholic, refused to back them. Instead, he rallied the Catholic members of the State Parliament to take a stand against the divisive agitation, much to the disappointment of those who had hoped to exploit the widened breach between the two communities, and so destroy the democratic government.

Presumably it is happenings like this that led Mr. E. M. S. Namboodiripad, the Communist Chief Minister

of Kerala (1957-59) and at the moment General Secretary of the Indian Communist Party, to report ruefully to its National Council that the real difficulties they faced lay 'not in any expedient alliance against the Leftists, but in the people of Moral Re-Armament who were running the show in Kerala.'

Kerala has been a vital part of the strategy of Communism in India. Fourteen years ago, when I was in prison for my Communist activities, one of our leaders outlined this strategy. He said that the existence of mass bases of support for their cause in Kerala in the south of India, Hyderabad in the centre and Bengal in the east would ensure the development of these areas as centres for guerilla warfare. In time military forces from China would establish a bridge with our comrades in Bengal and make that state the 'Yenan' of India, from which, as from Yenan province in China, the revolution would spread out to the rest of the country.

This evolving pattern of strategy has been frustrated by developments in Kerala, which have demonstrated that where Moral Re-Armament is seriously applied in national affairs, it is the most successful challenge to division and crisis, because Communists and anti-Communists alike see in it the next logical step for humanity.

At present nine members of the State Parliament of Kerala are in Caux attending the Moral Re-Armament World Assembly. They are members of the Congress Party and represent all the communities in the state—Hindu (Nairs and Ezhavas), Christian (Syrian Orthodox and Catholic) and Muslim.

## 'A miracle happened'

The delegation typifies the division that has existed within the democratic forces. Mr. P. C. Cherian, leader of an important Congress Party faction, told the Assembly that he had not been on speaking terms with Mr. M. C. Chacko, Secretary of the Congress Party on the Kottayam District Council, and there had been physical violence. 'But a miracle happened,' said Cherian. 'We decided under God to settle our differences not only for the good of Kerala but so that we could create an answer for disunity in the world.'

Speaking with him on the platform, Chacko said, 'I worked in a rival group. But here we are, forgetting all enmity and determined to give a new leadership. We will do our utmost for the unity and prosperity of Kerala.'

*Malayala Manorama*, largest paper in Kerala state, commented editorially on the presence of the parliamentarians at the assembly. Welcoming the contribution of Moral Re-Armament in answering disunity and personal rivalries the paper concluded, 'These men now in Caux can bring inspiration not only for Kerala, but for the whole of India.'

## 'Music at Midnight' a play for every country—MISS NORA SWINBURNE

MISS NORA SWINBURNE, who plays a leading role in the play *Music at Midnight*, told a North of England Assembly for Moral Re-Armament in Sheffield that she has had letters from all parts of the country, from people who have seen the play in London or the provinces.

Thanking the people of Sheffield for 'this wonderful week' at the Lyceum Theatre, Miss Swinburne said, 'People all say how much it has meant to them and what a difference the spirit of the play is making in the country. I should like to see *Music at Midnight* made into a film and dubbed into every language. It is a play for every country.'

Immediately before the opening performance in the Theatre Royal, Newcastle upon Tyne, Miss Swinburne was interviewed on Tyne-Tees Television by Mr. Tom Coyne, the popular interviewer in 'North East Roundabout'. This feature follows the main newscast at the peak listening hour each evening and is seen by an estimated two and a half million people.

### Glittering first night in Newcastle

Miss Swinburne was introduced as someone who took up two and a half columns in *Who's Who in the Theatre*. Asked about her part in *Music at Midnight*, she said, 'It is very exciting. In my time I have played in so many, you might say, frivolous comedies, but now in the autumn of my life I would like to do something worth while—something good. This is a play that has a message.'

The interview ended with the announcer saying, 'We have had very good reports about this play and wish you every success.'

It was a glittering first night, with a crowded and enthusiastic audience, representing every section of Britain's north east. The Mayors of Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Darlington, Wallsend and Whitley Bay were among a group of twenty-three civic

heads present. There were eighteen members of the Newcastle City Council with their wives. From Sunderland came three special buses with a party which included twenty-eight members of the town council. The consular corps was represented by the consuls for Brazil, Greece, Ireland, Panama and Cuba.

Others present included Mr. Alan Brown, Manager of the Sunderland Football Club, Colonel Chapman, Chairman of the Jarrow Conservative Party, shop stewards from Thompson's Shipyard and mining officials from the Durham and Northumberland coalfields.

Headed 'When the choice is peace or war', the *Evening Chronicle* review next day stated: 'After the large audiences and the evident success of the plays the movement presented in Newcastle earlier in the year, Moral Re-Armament brings *Music at Midnight* to the Theatre Royal.

'Norman Wooland . . . as the Chief Minister, a highly talented but failing statesman, one minute tired and dithering, the next amazingly lucid, paints a masterly portrait of an overworked politician.'

During the week, according to one docker, the play became the talk of the quayside. After the first night a businessman wrote to a hundred leading industrialists in the north east, urging them to come to the play with their colleagues and employees. A hundred clergyman of all denominations came, many with parties from their churches. A lift attendant was overheard telling customers as he whisked them upwards, 'I saw that play last night. You can't fault it. If the people don't warm to that, nothing will satisfy them.'

### 'House Full' in Edinburgh

On Monday morning the 'House Full' notice was already out for the first performance of *Music at Midnight* this week in King's Theatre, Edinburgh. A group of nine Provosts, six Bailies and fourteen

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Mackinac Island, Michigan**—A documentary film on the military and ideological training of the Congolese National Army has been released by the Mackinac Studios of Moral Re-Armament. This 22-minute French-language film, entitled 'You can count on us', was made at the request of General Mobutu, Commander-in-Chief of the National Army, who personally introduces it.

**Congo**—Five Senators of the Central Congolese Government, representing Leopoldville, Kasai, Orientale and Katanga, were received at Caux by delegates from 59 countries. Amongst those present was Princess Rwagasore, widow of the first Prime Minister and national hero of Burundi.

**Tokyo**—General Isighi Sugita of Japan, until five months ago head of the Army Self-Defence Forces, was seen off from Tokyo by the head of the Japanese Defence Ministry and five generals when he left to attend the MRA World Assembly in Caux.

**Tokyo**—Mr. Eisaku Sato, former Finance Minister and one of Japan's foremost figures, has called for political leaders to discard the old ways of thinking and to adopt policies adequate for the space age. 'MRA must become the basis of society,' said Mr. Sato, brother of former Prime Minister Kishi and himself a possible next Prime Minister.

Councillors from Edinburgh, Glasgow and central Scotland were among the audience of 1,500 who crowded the theatre. With them were distinguished members of the legal profession, the consular corps, senior business men, headmasters, and clergy.

The *Scottish Daily Mail* headline next morning ran, 'Compelling play carries clear message', and their theatre critic, Bill McGregor, said it was 'a compelling and thought-provoking piece of theatre'.