

SPEECH OF HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF MEGHALAYA, ON THE
OCCASION OF RAMAKRISHNA MISSION ORGANISING A
COMPETITION

Respected Swamiji's, Distinguished guests and dignitaries, parents, guardians, teachers of various institutes, brothers and sisters and all my dear young friends who are assembled here.

I feel I am honoured to be here this afternoon and stand on the same dias from where on 27th April 1901 Swami Vivekananda addressed the common people of Shillong. I feel privileged to be here today with all my young friends, especially the youth of this city as this talented young generation is going to take in their hand the helm of this country tomorrow, and also you are the future of the nation.

Ramakrishna Mission, Shillong is doing an excellent job by way of organising such competitions for the young children and the youth, as these not only give them a scope for exposure of their talent but also it inculcates a National feeling in their mind.

Bringing all the children from all walks of life on a single platform invariably opens scope to the children to mingle with one another and develop not only a fellow feeling but it would also go a long way to develop the National integration.

I am aware of the Mission's spiritual and charitable activities like free medical service, flood relief and running Educational Institutions, throughout the country and even abroad, but that the Mission's involvement in organising such cultural competition for the young children and the response by the educational institutes is of-course very highly commendable.

We all know about the diverse cultural richness of our nation and no wonder that it is appreciated by the world as no other country has such a unique mosaic of so many cultures in one nation. Ramakrishna Mission's contribution in this regard has always been in the forefront.

To organise competitions of such magnitude continuously for 50 years by itself is an achievement and I must congratulate the organisers for the same and

wish they continue to render this service to the young budding talents of the city in years to come.

I am told that this time the competition was held broadly in various disciplines, almost 3,300 children enrolled for the competition and 265 of them are going to get a prize.

I congratulate the winners alone –no, I am here to congratulate all of you for participating and I am sure if you are serious about what you are going to participate in and prepare yourselves in earnest you will of-course succeed. Do not feel dejected, my friends, those who did not win a prize –for you know that failure is the pillar of success. The great patriot monk Swami Vivekananda emphatically said “...All power is within you, you can do anything and everything; do not believe that you are weak....Arise, wake and stop not till the Goal is reached”. Even in defeats you should learn to hold your head high, for you may have lost a battle but the war is far from over.

Swami Vivekananda ji has given the inspiring message to all the youth who are assembled here. Swami Vivekananda said how has all the knowledge in the world being gained? It is by the concentration of the power of the mind. The world is ready to give up its secret if you only know how to knock, how to give it, the necessary glow strength and the force of the glow come through concentration. There is no limit to the human mind. The more concentrated it is the more power is brought to the point, that is the secret. This what Vivekananda said.

These days of technology savvy world we should not be confined to technology alone; the cultural upliftment of our young generations is equally important as at a later stage they are bound to appreciate the values of such cultural activities that they have taken part in their younger days. My young friends keep it up –and make this nation proud.

Last but not the least –I congratulate the organisers once again who has painstakingly carried on the month-long competition. You are really rendering a great service with the motto “Service to man is service to God” and when it comes to the children –you are directly serving the God himself. I thank you

Thank you all