

The English Day

[October 25, the Birth Day of Lord Macaulay, to be the English Day]
The Foundation Day Ceremony & Dinner

Hi,

Dear gym goers, organic-food eaters, late-night daters, cattle-class enthusiasts, also fatalists, naysayers and Luddites, listen please, I have this call for you:

Shilly-shally not, and come. Join the company of Day Makers. To be commemorated every year globally, October 25 will be instituted as the English Day – *a la* Father's Day, Mother's Day, and the Valentine's Day.

Say not that October 25 is a Slaver's Day. Instead, Lord Macaulay was an ideologist of Free-All. "Are we to keep the people of India ignorant in order that we may keep them submissive? Or do we think that we can give them knowledge without awakening ambition? Or do we mean to awaken ambition and to provide it with no legitimate vent? Who will answer any of these questions in the affirmative? Yet one of them must be answered in the affirmative, by every person who maintains that we ought permanently to exclude the natives from high office," fashioned the Lord in the British House of Commons on July 10, 1833.

Suspend your breath for a while: "Far better for us that the people of India were well governed and independent of us, than ill governed and subject to us," envisioned the Lord though he was not head of India's Parliamentary delegation visiting the Crown.

No, no... it is not true that the Lord wanted to create 'A class of persons, Indian in blood and colour, but English in opinions.'

What he reasoned out is this: "It is impossible for us, with our limited means, to attempt to educate the body of the people. We must at present do our best to form a class who may be interpreters between us and the millions whom we govern; a class of persons, Indian in blood and colour, but English in taste, in opinions, in morals, and in intellect. To that class we may leave it to refine the vernacular dialects of the country, to enrich those dialects with terms of science borrowed from the Western nomenclature, and to render them by degrees fit vehicles for conveying knowledge to the great mass of the population." Drab! Isn't it? Whirling emancipator into a Slaver!

Part of Anti-Salve Trade campaign in Britain, Macaulay had his eyes set on India's Caste Order too: "The worst of all systems was surely that of having a mild code for the Brahmins, who sprang from the head of the Creator, while there was a severe code for the Sudras, who sprang from his feet. India has suffered enough already from the distinction of castes," he philosophized.

Behold, and imagine how hard the Lord must have worked in scripting the chapter of civility for this ill-lettered demography! Single handedly, he wrote IPC and Cr. PC,

making all Indians equal before the Law. An evangelist of universalism, Macaulay clamped IPC& Cr. PC even on Britons living in India. Before, India's jurisprudence was Manu-tailored that suited only the dominant.

All men are innately babied into being funny. We seem fathering funniness. That's even funnier. We give Lord Clive a near walk over. Followed by a battery of boots, Lord Clive came armed. Sporting winter shoes all the time, he walked fast. Sword in one hand, and gun in the other, he stared at us. Deploying gun and guile, he powdered India, and won Britain an empire. But, to our collective prudence, Clive is no slaver.

Macaulay, on the other hand, had just walked in. Wrapped in suit, he carried books and a couple of pens as his only finery. Goddess English resting in silence, Macaulay carried that Palanquin to India in a most urbane manner. Because of Goddess English, Britain lost India earlier than anticipated, and India's image abroad has transformed from being a nation of snake charmers to celebratory IT hawks.

"Between Caste and nation, we prefer Caste"? Hey, ignore it. I am just kidding.

With the wheels of globalization rolling on, national boundaries are going Berlin, and continents joining into one neighborhood. We will soon inhabit a Global Village. As population rises and resources shrink, economy has to be more knowledge-based than ever before. As the demand for modern knowledge grows, conflicts may follow – conflicts between producers and consumers of modern knowledge.

A tiny minority though, English nations are the greatest producers of modern knowledge. The largest consumers of modern knowledge, the non-English nations produce much less. Britons grab 101 Nobel Prizes, and Germans just 76. French earn a mere 49. Street-smart Japanese are happier with 12. Despite a glorious past, the Middle Kingdom seems to be mesmerized by its "0" count. Perceptive complainer, the ex-Super Power got chocked at 14.

Unable to match the genius of knowledge producers, the non-English nations may develop a host of complexes. Frustrations gaining limitlessness, they will start to behave more crazily. The Global Village might turn into a Haryana countryside. That's a complex Machiavellian challenge requiring unwavering Macaulayan response.

To make non-English nations as productive as the English nations are, Goddess English must replace regional languages all over the World. As a matter of fact, all humans irrespective of the tongues they speak, are endowed with similar cerebral abilities. If Nobel is any criterion, the English speaking people are leading the pack. Please don't say the Americans stole the Nobel, or the English World coerced Sweden into favouring them. Also, don't blame me for English nations gaining more Nobel. Frankly speaking, I have lobbied for none. I am reproducing the facts that already existed.

Why English nations are greater mind players than the rest, we know not. But, there is something mysterious about English. What is that?

Am I a fool to suggest that the physiology of the English tongue relates proportionally to the physiology of Brain! Am I so callous to say that because English produces the best symmetry between Brain and the mind segment of Brain, and hence English people are the likeliest patriarchs of the modern knowledge? Come on, who dare say that the English-speaking experience greatly enlarges cerebral cortex creating more space for neurons? Am I nutty to say that the English-Brain-Mind trinity engenders greater power of comprehension?

Still ambivalent over reasons as to why English tongue is working wonders, we at least know the fact – English is outperforming. So, let us avoid controversies, and adopt a safer resolution – that English language is the best conductor of modern knowledge. With this resolution, let us plan things in such a manner that all regional language – from French to Hindi, German to Tamil, Chinese to Kannada for instance, turn into a Greek, and Greek into Sanskrit before withering away completely within this century.

The mission of gaining freedom from regional languages begins with embracing October 25, the birth day of Thomas Babington Macaulay, as the English Day. On this day every year, we would explain our progeny how debilitating regional languages were. How long can we allow regional languages to restrain billions of minds from exploring secrets of matter and nature! Waste of brain power is a colossal waste the mankind can ill-afford.

Humanity needs Dalit Goddess English for more than one reasons. Universalism being central to the soul of Goddess English, English is a unifier. Regional languages, on the other hand, are quarrelsome and divisive.

Dear all, please think like me. Sorry, I didn't mean that. I meant, please think for me, and tell – how often have two English nations gone to war against the other? And what, for instance, divides Britain from France, and France from Germany? Are the three great European people racially three? Are they civilizationally three? Are they culturally three? Are France, Britain and Germany set into three different climatic zones?

Needless to repeat what is apparent. France, Britain and Germany are divided by language alone. Language nationalisms have pitched nations against each other causing wars and bloodshed.

Same truth back home! What divides Tamilians from Kannadigas, Gujratis from Maharashtrians, and UPites from Haryanvies, Bengalies from Biharis and everybody else, for instance?

Zhan Lue's fantasy of India disintegrating into 30 nation-states has no basis, and would never come true. But, if ever India faced such a threat, it would be language-borne alone. Before that remotest possibility turns into a rarest reality, let us free India from the scourge of all Indian languages. Worry not, Dalit Goddess English will unite and guard India.

Goddess English has a social role to play, too. Since Manu didn't go to an English school, he remained English-illiterate all his life. With entire India turning English, Manu would undergraduate into a monkey at the Times Square knowing not where to go, what to do. Manu would not know that kids are making fun of him, but soon he would figure out as to why the idiom 'Odd Man Out' came into being. Friendless and frustrated, Manu would have all options closed. Well, the Atlantic Ocean has a large underbelly.

Goddess English has a very strong anti-caste sentiment. ["Shudras and ati-shudras \(Dalits\) now have the right to education, and through English casteism can be destroyed and Brahmanical teaching can be hurled away,"](#) said Mother India Savitribai Phule more than a century ago. "English is milk of lionesses," affirmed Babasaheb Dr. BR Ambedkar.

Dear all, while English Day will be celebrated every October 25, the Foundation Day will be once only. This is, therefore, a life-time opportunity to start writing a New Future History for India.

On this potentially landmark day, we will turn autonomous of our inheritance-conditioned prudence. We will deactivate our roots-based preferences – caste, language, religion, culture, food habits and lifestyle. We will realize that the nostalgia is a psychological weapon of the dominant. For at least a few hours, we will sign off from the wisdom we had never asked for. Postgraduating into new men and women, we all will turn wholesome, and stop being metaphysical any more.

We are getting a bronze statue of the Dalit Goddess made. A role-model citizen will unveil the statue. Unveiling of the statue will be the declaration of October 25 as the 'English Day.' The Foundation Day ceremony will last a few minutes, and rest will belong to food, drinks and merry making. October 25 being the carnival of ideas, there could be a couple of mind-expanding speeches.

Try coming empty stomach as the food will be Tharoor class. Those who don't drink and can still think will not be disappointed. We will not serve them pumpkin juice. The veggies worry not. We will not serve them steamed onions. No dress code aspired. Dress the way you like. In fact, you can come the way you came.

Cheers,



CHANDRA BHAN PRASAD

Time: 7 PM onwards

Venue: Terrace Peragola, 2nd Floor

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