
Swami Pramatheshananda ji, President, Ramakrishna Mission, Ulsoor, visited MPBIM on 26th February 2013 and addressed faculty and staff of MPBIM. The talk was a part of Faculty Enhancement Programme. Swamiji was welcomed and introduced by Dr. N S Viswanath Dean MPBIM.

Swamiji shared his thoughts on the aspects which mould a person into a good human being, who could in turn out to be a good professional.

Swamiji began his talk by remembering Swami Vivekananda who wanted youth to be Strong. He believed that **Strength is life. Weakness is death. Strength is felicity, life eternal, immortal; weakness is constant strain and misery : weakness is death.** Swamiji briefly spoke on the ideals of Ramakrishna Mission.

The aims and ideals of the Mission are purely spiritual and humanitarian and has no connection with politics. Swami Vivekananda proclaimed "Renunciation and service" as the twofold national ideal of modern India and Ramakrishna mission. Accordingly the Motto of the organization is *Atmano Mokshartham Jagad-hitaya Cha*. It means For one's own salvation, and for the good of the world. With this motto, the monks of the Order of Ramakrishna Mission Travelled all over the country in service of people.

Swami Pramatheshananda believed that the cause for the ills of the society is English Education which does not have the essence of human spirit. He recalled what Lord Macaulay said the following about India in 1835 in British Parliament.

"..... I do not think we would ever conquer this country, unless we break the very backbone of this nation, which is her spiritual and cultural heritage, and, therefore, I propose that we replace her old and ancient education system, her culture, for if the Indians think that all that is foreign and English is good and greater than their own, they will lose their self-esteem, their native self-culture and they will become what we want them, a truly dominated nation."

Swamiji said that Ramakrishna Mission realized the importance of industrialization and hence was one of the main points of focus of Ramakrishna Mission. But the main motto of the Mission was Service to humanity

Swamiji recalled the birth of Bangladesh in 1971 which is itself the story of a major humanitarian disaster. It involved large-scale disruption and displacement of people from East

Pakistan. The relief and rehabilitation that the Ramakrishna Mission provided for the people of Bangladesh at this time was one of the largest such efforts in the Mission's history. The Mission began serving the refugees through its centre at Katihar. Within a few weeks the Mission was running over a dozen relief camps across the above-mentioned border states. At their peak these camps had around 2,20,000 people under their care.

Swamiji stressed on the need for **Self Confidence** which is an important attribute to management students.

On **Honesty** which was the next attribute he touched upon, he recalled the life of former Prime Minister of India Lal Bahadur Sastri, Guljarilal Nanda and Sir M. Visvesvaraya who remain shining examples of honesty in the workplace. He said that devotion to the profession was most important and all this was the culmination of all the attributes required for a good individual.

Swamiji stressed on the **Purity of Heart** and **Compassion**. He recalled the story of Rani Rasamani and help she rendered to Fishermen in the region.

He observed that to be good individual one must do good. That should be the purpose of life. Here we may recall The Motto of the Ramakrishna Mission - *Atmano Mokshartham Jagad-hitaya Cha*. It means *For one's own salvation, and for the good of the world*. Swami Vivekananda says - **They alone live, who live for others, rest are more dead than alive**. Swamiji also recalled the experiences at Vidyarthi Mandir in Deogarh, Salem and Malayakanni

He concluded with message that **Tranquility of Mind** is needed under all circumstances. He illustrated the need through stories of Alexander and his experiences in India. He observed that the tranquility of mind is supreme to handle emergencies like the situations faced by Army Commanders during battle. He noted that having **tranquility of mind and purity of heart constitute Spirituality**. Only this would help managers in making right decisions. He said that the teachers have to be disciplined and should be role models for the students for them to become good human beings also good executives.

In this context, one can not help remembering the observations of Swami Vivekananda on what a good teacher needs to know-

"...no one can teach anybody. The teacher spoils everything by thinking that he is teaching. Thus Vedanta says that within man is all knowledge -- even in a boy it is so -- and it requires only an awakening, and that much is the work of a teacher".

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