

A majority of those who lead the Nation today, as well as those who take an active interest in the affairs of the country, are not sufficiently aware of this root cause. Consequently, opportunists with no principles reign in the politics of our country. Parties and politicians have neither principles nor aims nor a standard code of conduct. A person feels there is nothing wrong in leaving one party and joining another. Even alliances and mergers of parties or their bifurcations are dictated not by agreements or by differences in principles, but purely by gains in elections or in positions of power. In 1939, Shri Hafiz Mohammed Ibrahim was elected on the Muslim League ticket. Later on, when he joined the Congress, he resigned in pursuance of the healthy principles of public conduct, sought re-election on the Congress ticket and was once again elected. In 1948, when some Socialists left the Congress and founded the Socialist Party, all those who were members of legislatures resigned and fought elections on socialist tickets. But thereafter, this healthy tradition was forgotten. Now there is complete licence in politics. As a result, in the public mind there is distrust for everyone. There is hardly any person whose integrity is beyond doubt in the public mind. This situation must be changed. Otherwise unity and discipline cannot be established in society.

### **Where Should We Start?**

The Nation is at the crossroads. Some people suggest that we must start from where we left off one thousand years ago, when foreign invaders disrupted our life. But the Nation is not an inanimate object like a cloth, so that weaving can be taken up after a gap in time. Besides, it would not be rational to say that the thousand year old alien rule had interrupted the current of our national life so completely that, from that time to this day, we remained static and inert. The Nation has certainly put its genius to work, in the changing circumstances, to meet the challenges thrown at it. We have struggled to continue our life forward and to wrest independence from the aliens. The current of our national life was not interrupted but has gone on ceaselessly. The task of turning the waters of Ganga back to some previous point would not be wise. The Ganga at Banaras may not be as crystal-clear as at Hardwar. But still it is the same holy Ganga. It has absorbed numerous rivulets with all their refuse. However, these have no separate existence but have become the Ganga. The current of the Ganga must inevitably flow onwards. If this was all that happened, it would still not be a big problem. But there are other nations in the world. They have made phenomenal progress in the past one thousand years. Our entire attention was engaged in