

समाचारों में नानाजी



Architect of anti-Emergency Struggle

Veteran ideologue, social activist par excellence and one of the architects of the anti-Emergency struggle Nanaji

Deshmukh passed away at Chitrakoot on Saturday. He was 94. The passing away of Nanaji was described as “end of an era” by the BJP and the RSS. Leaders of different political persuasions recalled Nanaji’s lifelong commitment to social service. A Padma Vibhushan awardee, Nanaji wanted his body to be donated for medical research. His body would be donated to AIIMS on Sunday.

“He wanted to breathe his last at Chitrakoot — where he established the country’s first rural university. Around 4 pm on Saturday, he developed breathing problems and we rushed him to Sadguru Seva Sangh Hospital where he breathed his last at 4.50 pm,” said Anil Mishra, a confidant to Nanaji.

Born at Kadoli in Maharashtra’s Parbhani district on October 11, 1916, Nanaji began his public life as an RSS pracharak. He played a stellar role in the anti-Emergency struggle, as also in the formation of the Janata Party government. A strong proponent of infusing young blood into politics, Nanaji took to social service once he turned 60. After setting up the Deendayal Research Institute at Chitrakoot (on Uttar Pradesh-Madhya Pradesh border), he zeroed in on a cluster of some 500 villages and helped create an “alternative model of industrialisation and development”.

Nanaji often talked about “self-reliant villages”, and

how the “idea of development was incomplete if human emotions were not made an integral part of it”. Nanaji’s idea of development was shaped, to a large measure, by Deendayal Upadhyay’s idea of Integral Humanism. Nanaji first met Upadhyay at Agra in the late 40s where he was sent to work as an RSS pracharak.

Former President A P J Abdul Kalam was said to be hugely impressed by the concept of “conflict-free society” during a visit to Chitrakoot. “I understand that the eighty villages around Chitrakoot are almost litigation free. The villagers have unanimously decided that no dispute will find its way to court. The differences will be sorted out amicably in the village itself. The reason given by Nanaji Deshmukh is that, if the people fight among each other, they have no time for development. I consider that this model may be propagated,” Kalam said in a speech in Chennai in September 2006.

The political class today fondly remembered Nanaji’s contributions in Independent India. “We’ve lost a dedicated social worker, RSS pracharak, and a visionary. By voluntarily disassociating himself from politics, he became a role model. He created self-sufficient model towns like Gonda and Chitrakoot. His death is a loss to society and to me,” said former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in his statement.

BJP Parliamentary Party chairman L K Advani said, “Besides Deendayal Upadhyay, if there was someone who left an indelible imprint on my life, it was Nanaji Deshmukh. He transformed thousands of lives, and his model at Chitrakoot remains an example for present-day India. He was a pioneer of coalition politics and

for politics based on values.” NDA convenor Sharad Yadav, too, spoke in glowing terms about the “constructive work” done by Nanaji at Chitrakoot.

Newly elected BJP president Nitin Gadkari said, “He was one of the modern rishis of India. One of the early architects of Jan Sangh, Nanaji firmly stood for a true value-based politics. His work for rural resurgence first at Gonda and later at Chitrakoot is the testimony of his unflinching commitment to the cause. To those who consider not only politics but also the public life in general as an instrument of social change, Nanaji’s memories will continue to guide for centuries.”

Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Arun Jaitley, who was a student leader during the anti-Emergency struggle, recalled that Nanaji was the moving spirit behind the JP movement and that the break-up of the Janata Party later shattered him.

Nanaji’s commitment to social work came in for a mention from politicians of all hues.

UP Chief Minister Mayawati said Nanaji’s contribution to the development of weaker sections of the society would always be remembered.

RSP’s Abani Roy said, “He was a good, committed social worker.”

The state governments of Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka, too, condoled Nanaji’s death. MP CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan said Nanaji was a selfless karmayogi, while announcing a day’s mourning in the state. B S Yeddyurappa, meanwhile, recalled Nanaji’s contribution towards building the Bharatiya Jan Sangh and the Janata Party.



Parivar loses a founder

HT Correspondent, Hindustan Times
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The entire BJP leadership and the larger Sangh Parivar turned up to pay their last respects to Nanaji Deshmukh, before his body was donated to AIIMS for medical research, on Sunday. The RSS veteran, who created an “alternative model of development based on Deendayal Upadhyay’s ideals of Integral Humanism” while working in some 500 villages around Chitrakoot (on Uttar Pradesh-Madhya Pradesh border), wanted his body to be donated for medical research after his death.

The body was kept at the RSS headquarters in the capital before it was handed over to AIIMS. A wreath was laid on the body on behalf of President Pratibha Patil.

Among those present to pay their last respects were NDA working president L K Advani, Lok Sabha Deputy Speaker Karia Munda, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Sushma Swaraj, Deputy Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Arun Jaitley, BJP president Nitin Gadkari, former party president Rajnath Singh, general secretary (organisation) Ramlal, and senior leader Murli Manohar Joshi.

RSS general secretary Bhaiyyaji Joshi and senior RSS leaders Madan Das Devi and Suresh Soni were also present.

BJP chief ministers Narendra Modi, Raman Singh and Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank specially flew down to the capital to pay their last respects to Nanaji while Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan accompanied the body from Chitrakoot. Jharkhand Deputy Chief Minister Raghubar Das was there, and so was a representative of the Karnataka government.

Asserting that Nanaji was a “role model” for the BJP, Advani said: “We should succeed in transforming the image of the ugly Indian politician.” Gadkari said “Nanaji was a source of inspiration due to his sacrifice and service towards Antyodaya (rise of the poorest of poor)”. Modi said Nanaji “had the will to translate vision into action”, while Jaitley said Nanaji was an organiser par excellence. Rajnath recalled his Nanaji “set an example” by refusing a ministerial berth in Morarji Desai’s government in 1977.

