

live in peace and amity and work for the betterment of all citizens irrespective of caste or creed. Our object should be peace within and peace without. We want to live peacefully and maintain cordial friendly relations with our immediate neighbours and with the world at large. We have no aggressive designs against anybody. We stand by the United Nations Charter and will gladly make our full contribution to the peace and prosperity of the world." Those are great aims, and we honour you for the steadfast efforts you have been making, and still are making to fulfil them.

The basic aims of Canadians, I assure you, are essentially the same as those outlined in the memorable words I have quoted. Like you, we seek to give every man, regardless of race or creed, an equal opportunity to pursue the good life and, with the aid of his fellow citizens, to build a strong nation based on world-wide brotherhood. Like you, we Canadians seek to play our part in promoting international goodwill, and in working for the establishment of conditions in which all nations, new and old, may dwell in security and peace. That the Pakistan and Canadian traditions on which these and other common aims are based are somewhat different is certainly not a matter for regret but rather one for rejoicing. The world is the richer for the distinctive characters of different peoples.

Problems

When I reflect on some of the issues which confront the people of Pakistan in the field of national development, I find that our Canadian experience helps us to understand your problems. For example, although Canada is a continuous geographical unit, we have had to concentrate a great deal of attention, especially during our earlier years, on binding together the widely scattered populated parts of our country. For us, as for you, this has presented certain special economic and political problems. Then, too, we Canadians have built our national unity on co-operation between people with various racial, linguistic and religious backgrounds. The two largest groups are those whose mother-tongue is English and those whose mother-tongue is French. As you probably know, I belong to the latter group, but, like all my countrymen, I am first and foremost a Canadian.

When I consider your proposed constitution, and the problems to which its framers have addressed themselves, I am strongly reminded of some of our Canadian constitutional arrangements. Like you, we have had to give much thought to such questions as the division of powers between the federal and state governments, guarantees to minorities, and representation of various units in the central legislature.

Pakistan and Canada share common parliamentary institutions. They both have a respect for the rule of law. Canada and Pakistan have both derived these traditions to a very considerable extent from those of the Commonwealth. As Canada has done you will, of course, modify them to suit your own conditions and requirements.

Our common membership in the Commonwealth is, I am sure, of great value both to our two countries and to the world. The new Commonwealth, in which the Asian members play such an important part, is an association in which Canadians are proud and happy to participate.