

CLASS X ADDITIONAL ENGLISH CHAPTER 2 - A GLORY HAS DEPARTED PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

NOTES

"A glory has Departed" is an extract from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's speech on the floor of the Constituent Assembly of India on February 2^{nd} 1948 after the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. In this extract, he remembers the life and work of Gandhi and how we should follow on his footsteps.

At the beginning of the speech, he expressed his shame both as an individual and as the head of the Government of India that they have failed to protect the greatest treasure that they possessed. It was shame to him as an Indian that he should have raised his hand against Gandhi.

He stated that we praised people in well-chosen words and have same kind of measures of greatness. He further added that no words of praise were needed, for him as he has greater praises in his life than any other living man in history.

He compared Gandhi to the sun which warmed and brighten our lives, but has set and as a result we shivered in cold and dark. Gandhi does not need any moment in bronze and marble as he is in the heart of millions and will live for immemorial ages.

Nehru added that all we know that there was a glory and that it was no more. But he expressed his hope that our hearts are still filled with the living flames which he lighted. According to Nehru, Gandhi is the greatest symbol of India of the past and of the future that we could have. Great as this man of god was in his life, he has been greater in his death. Nehru added that we will always have him because we are human and cannot forget our beloved master. Lastly Nehru reminded us that in ages to come, centuries or may be millennial after us, people will think of this generation when this man of god trod on Earth and will think of us who, however small, could also follow his path and tread the holly ground where his feet had been.