

Mir Osman Ali Khan Contribution to Society and Philanthropy

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Mir Osman Ali Khan was born 5 or 6 April 1886, the second son of Mahbub Ali Khan, Asaf Jah VI and Azmat-uz-Zahra Begum at Purani Haveli . He was educated privately and reportedly became fluent in Urdu, Persian, Arabic and English Under Nawab Muhammad Ali Beg he received court ethics and military training . On the recommendation of the Viceroy of India , Lord Elgin in 1898 , in early 1899 Sir Brian Egerton was appointed as Mir Osman Ali Khans English tutor for two years. During this period he lived away from the principal place . He Lived on his own to avoid the unwholesome atmosphere of place quarters under the guidance of Sir Egerton and other British officials and mentors so he could flourish as a gentleman of the highest class. Sir Egerton recorded that as a child , Mir Osman Ali Khan was magnanimous and “Anxious to learn “ Because of the indomitable attitude of Zenana who where determind to send Mir Osman Ali Khan out of Hyderabad for further studies he pursued them at Mayo College after consultation with the principal noble of the paigah family . There is a popular misunderstanding that Nizam Hyderabad Mir Osman Ali khan would have become inactive after the seizure of Hyderabad state in the Indian union. In order to remove suspicion regarding the political line of Nizam Osman Ali Khan after the merger of his state in India , One fact may e found enough that he was made Rajpramukh (Governor) of Hyderabad from 26 January 1950 to 31 October 1956. At that time the Hyderabad state comprised major parts of the present day Telangana , Andhra Pradesh , Maharshtra and Karnataka .



H.E.H Mir Osman Ali Khan Nizam

The Nizam founded agricultural research in the Marathwada region of Hyderabad State with the establishment of the Main Experimental Farm in 1918 in Parbhani. During his rule, agricultural education was available only at Hyderabad; crop research centre for sorghum, cotton, and fruits existed in Parbhani. After independence, the Indian government developed this facility further and renamed Marathwada Agriculture University on 18 May 1972 . By donating to major educational institutions throughout India, he introduced many educational reforms during his reign. Up to 11% of his budget was spent on education

Osman Ali Khan is believed to have remained as the richest man in South Asia until his death in 1967. However, his wealth went down to US\$1 billion by then as over 97% of his wealth, including jewellery belonging to his family, was taken away by the newly formed Indian Government. The Indian government still displays Nizam's jewellery at Exhibition.

Osmania University :

The origin of Osmania University, a public state university located in Hyderabad, can be dated back to 1908 when it was established by the last Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Khan. One of the oldest universities in India, it is one of the first universities where Urdu was the medium of instruction. The university has almost 300,000 students studying in its campuses and affiliated colleges. Exclusively known for the faculty of Engineering and Technology, Law, Arts, Sciences, Management and commerce departments, Osmania Medical College, which was once part of the university, is now supervised by the NTR University of Health Sciences. In 2012, the university was at the sixth position in humanities, science and commerce among the prominent universities in the country and even bagged a 'University with Potential for Excellence' status. The reputation of the university was on a rise when the government of India released a university postal stamp on 15 March 1969. Read on to know more about Osmania University.



Osmania University

The Osmania University was established in 1908 by the seventh Nizam of Hyderabad, Nawab Mir Osman Ali Khan with a purpose of enhancing the higher education system in India. The university is the third oldest institute in southern India and the first to be established by the princely state of Hyderabad. Since then, it has sustained the development of all faculties and the contribution to the academic, social, and economic development of the region is immense. The University has a library which boasts of one of the biggest ones in the state.

This non-profit University which is managed and funded by the Government extends to over 1600 acres and boasts of one of the biggest education systems in the country. It has over 300,000 students pursuing their higher studies and 3,698 international students for more than 80 countries with more than 5000 staff members. The main campus of the University is ranked Tenth

among other state universities. The Department of Geography and Geoinformatics is one of the best in India. Equipped with the best laboratories and technology, it provides updated technical know-how to the students.

Jamia Nizamia :

The Nizam made large donations to many institutions in India and abroad with special emphasis given to educational institutions such as the Jamia Nizamia and the Darul Uloom Deoband .

Jamia Nizamia more properly, Jami'ah Nizamiyyah, is one of the oldest Islamic seminaries of higher learning for Muslims belonging to Sunnis in India. It is named after its founder- the 7th Nizam of Hyderabad . It was founded by Shaykh al-Islam Imam Muhammad Anwarullah Khan Farooqi, honorifically known as Fadilat Jung, in Hyderabad in 1876. It flourished under the patronage of the Nizam of Hyderabad, Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Khan.



Jamia Nizamia

Over the last 134 years the Jamia has preserved the understanding of Islam and its sciences by the means of unbroken chains of Islamic authorization, viz, the Ijazah and the Isnad, which go back fourteen centuries to tie the institution and its scholars to Muhammad. It was mainly due to the scholarly works accomplished by the faculty of the Jamia Nizamia in the late 19th and 20th centuries that the Hyderabad served as a major hub of academic activities for the sub-continent. The Jamia constitutes a major part of Islamic history in the sub-continent, particularly, the Deccan. Jamia Nizamia has not the status of a university or deemed to be university according to the Indian University Grants Commission Act of 1956 and, therefore, cannot confer or grant degrees. According to the Jamia Nizamia website, their "Moulvi", "Alim", "Fazil" and "Kamil" are recognized by Osmania University as equivalent to degrees in oriental languages such as B.A.L. and M.A.L. After passing exams in English language prescribed for B.A., Fazil-passed students can be given admission to M.A. at Osmania University. Further recognizing universities would be Aligarh Muslim University, Al-Azhar of Egypt, Jamia Umm al-Qura of Mecca, the Islamic University of Madinah and the University of Kuwait The Jamia set up the Girls College in 1995.

Donations To Educational Institutions :

He also donated Rs 1 million for the Banaras Hindu University, Rs. 500,000 for the Aligarh Muslim University, and 300,000 for the Indian Institute of Science . Most of the communal elements make baseless allegations against Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan Bahadur and other Asif Jahi rulers and try to mislead young generation. Bigoted media also play a major role in promoting these false allegations . It must be noted that Asif Jahi rulers especially Nawab Mir Mahboob Ali Khan Bahadur and VIII Nizam Nawab Mir Osman Ali Khan Bahadur took very good care of their Hindu subjects. Osman Ali Khan regarded Hindus and Muslims as his two eyes. He appointed Hindus on major posts, donated Jagirs for temples, and gave huge funding for Hindu Educational Institutions.

On the request of Nobel Laureate Sir CV Raman Mir Osman Ali Khan donated Rs 1 lakh for Indian Institute of Sciences. Similarly on the request of Madan Mohan Malaviya, he sanctioned a grant of Rs. 10 lakh for Banaras Hindu University. Sir Syed Ahmed Khan too requested fund for Aligarh Muslim University for which he granted Rs. 5 lakh. When sir Syed Ahmed Khan asked the reason behind this discrimination (granting Rs. 10 lakh for Hindu University and Rs. 5 lakh for Muslim University), he clarified that Hindu population is much more than Muslim population.

It was Mir Osman Ali Khan who allotted 54 acre land to Dr. B R Ambedkar where the later established Milind Education Society. A glance on the files of Andhra Pradesh Archives reveals that Nizam donated Rs. 82825 for Yadagirigutta temple, Rs 5000 for Sri Rambagh temple, 50000 for Bhadrachalam temple and Rs. 8000 for Sri Balaji Tirupati temple.

Donations :

Sitaram Bagh temple or Seetharambagh temple, built by Seth Puranmal Ganeriwala, member of the Ganeriwala family, is an old temple located in Mangalhat, a suburb of Hyderabad, Telangana, India. It is spread over 25 acres. Sitaram Bagh temple is classified as a heritage building by INTACH. The 7th Nizam of Hyderabad HEH Mir Osman Ali Khan made a huge donation towards re-construction of this temple .

The Nizam donated Rs. 82,825 to the **Yadagirigutta temple** at Bhongir, Rs. 29,999 to the **Sita Ramachandraswamy temple**, Bhadrachalam and Rs. 8,000 to the **Tirupati Balaji Temple**. He also donated Rs. 50,000 towards the re-construction of **Sitarambagh temple** located in the old city of Hyderabad. And bestowed a grant of 100,000 Hyderabad rupees towards the reconstruction of Thousand Pillar Temple. After hearing about the Golden Temple of Amritsar through Maharaja Ranjit Singh, Mir Osman Ali Khan started providing it with yearly grants .

In 1932, there was a need for money for the publication of the Holy Mahabharata by the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute located in Pune. A formal

request was made to Mir Osman Ali Khan who granted Rs. 1000 per year for a period of 11 years. He also gave Rs 50,000 for the construction of the institute's guest house which stands today as the Nizam Guest House .

After emerging victorious in the war against Pakistan in 1965, India faced threat from its other neighbor China. In that situation the then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri started collecting funds to combat any potential threat. He set up National Defence Fund for the purpose. The government of India appealed to Rajas to help in the difficult situation but they didn't come up to the expectations.

Then Lal Bahadur Shastri headed for Hyderabad; he knew that Huzoor Nizam Mir Osman Ali Khan would not disappoint Indian government. The PM visited Hyderabad and requested the Nizam to contribute generously to the National Defence Fund. Without a second thought, Mir Osman Ali announced that he would contribute five tonnes of gold for National Defence Fund. The announcement left the people present their flabbergasted. But Asif Jah VII created a record by making biggest ever contribution by any individual or organisation in India that remains unsurpassed till today. In terms of today's gold price this donation translates to a whopping Rs 1,500 to 1600 crore.

Establishment of Hyderabad State Bank :

Hyderabad State Bank was a regional bank in Hyderabad, with headquarters at Gunfoundry, Abids, Hyderabad, Telangana. Founded by the 7th Nizam of Hyderabad State, Mir Osman Ali Khan, it is now one of the five associate banks of State Bank of India (SBI) and was one of the nationalized banks in India. It was founded in 1941 as the Hyderabad State Bank. From 1956 until 31 March 2017, it had been an associate bank of the SBI, the largest such. The State Bank of Hyderabad was merged with SBI on 1 April 2017. SBH had over 2,000 branches and about 18,000 employees. The bank's business had crossed Rs. 2.4 trillion as on 31.12.2015 with a net profit of Rs. 8.12 billion, The bank had performed well in the decades before merger, winning several awards for its banking practices .



Hyderabad State Bank

The bank was the central bank of the erstwhile Nizam state under the name **Hyderabad State Bank**. It was established on 8 August 1941 under the Hyderabad State Bank Act, during the reign of the last Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Khan. The bank managed the Osmania Sica, the currency of Hyderabad state, which covered the present-day Telangana, some districts later known as Hyderabad-Karnataka of Karnataka and Marathwada of Maharashtra. The bank also carried out commercial banking. The bank opened its first branch at Gunfoundry, Hyderabad on 5 April 1942. The Imperial Bank of India, which had established a branch in Hyderabad in 1868 and another in Secunderabad in 1906, provided officers and clerical staff in the initial stages, and later provided training for new recruits. The first secretary of Hyderabad State Bank was Muhammad Saleh Akbar Hydari, son of Sir Akbar Hydari. The gunfoundry building was designed by Mohammad Fayazuddin, an alumnus of Architectural Association School of Architecture, London.

After Partition, on 17 September 1948, the Indian Army conducted Operation Polo, which resulted in the annexation of Hyderabad to India. By 1950, the bank had some 50 branches, including branches in parts of the then Hyderabad State that would later be transferred to other states.

In 1953, the bank absorbed, by merger, the **Mercantile Bank of Hyderabad**, which Raja Pannalal Pitti had founded in 1935. In the same year, the Bank started conducting government and Treasury business as agent for the Reserve Bank of India.

In 1956, the Reserve Bank of India took over the bank as its first subsidiary and renamed it State Bank of Hyderabad. That same year saw the break-up of Hyderabad State. Aurangabad, Beed, Parbhani, Nanded and Osmanabad merged

with Maharashtra state. Kalaburagi, Bidar, Raichur, and parts of Osmanabad were merged with Karnataka state. The remaining districts formed part of Andhra Pradesh state, until the formation in 2015–16 of the state of Telangana. After the trifurcation, the branches of Hyderabad State Bank continued to conduct government transactions in their new states as well.

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