

NOTES



D.N. Wadia

Dr. Wadia always took pride in calling himself a pure Swadeshi (native country) product, having studied, learned, taught, researched and published in India, but with the highest world standards in geology. Only through his diligence and devotion he achieved what could rightly be described as scientific excellence. It is because of his achievements, authority of counsel and his personal charisma that he stood like a giant, who was revered and respected and dominated the academic and geological scene in India for over half a century.

'Himalayan Notes' No.7&8, 1996, pp. 9-10.

MOTHER TERESA

Mother Teresa is dead. She became an international celebrity through her works of charity. World leaders have paid tributes but one begins to wonder whether all the show and enormous expense it entailed was at all justified in bidding final farewell to one who shunned all pomp and was the champion of the poor, the sick and the downtrodden. Of all the tributes paid by the media we wish to single out for special mention the one presented by the noted weekly 'Economist' of London:

"Had Mother Teresa not become an international celebrity, she might not have lived so long. Several times in her last years, against her will, she was admitted to exclusive and expensive hospitals for heart surgery. She herself saw no point in taking care to prolong her earthly existence Nor did she see any point in interventionist medicine; she would have been happy to die, as most of her patients did, on a thin pallet in a communal dormitory, having spent her last days on diet of rice, water, weak medicine and love."

When certain countries complained that the stock of medicine in her home for the destitute was insufficient and that not enough was done to care the sick or ease the pain of the dying, her reply, reveals the true character of her charity. She said "it was not the 'things' that her patients needed; *they needed to feel wanted and to die at peace with God.*" The weekly comments "The secular view of death, as something to be resisted, met, in Mother Theresa, the religious view that death should be joyfully surrendered to." Can there be a greater tribute to a noble soul.