

Rourkela Arnoldians Display Unity in Diversity

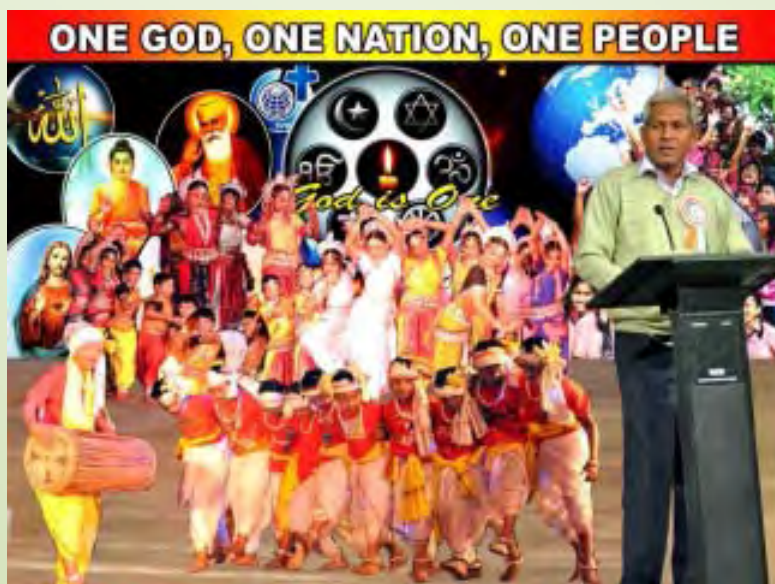
The Arnoldians of Jhartarang, Rourkela put up a fabulous show on the occasion of their annual day celebrations on 2nd of December, 2012, bringing the theme of the function 'ONE GOD, ONE NATION, ONE PEOPLE' down to earth, in the presence of the three thousand plus wonder-struck audience including many dignitaries, the chief guest and the president of the school Rev. Fr. Telesphore Bilung,SVD, guest of honor Bishop Alphonse Bilung,SVD and many principals from the schools in and around Rourkela city.



The unique feature of the show was that more than 700 students appearing on the stage truly manifested the unity in diversity of cultures, classes and religions. Every one present had some message to take home and cherish. The parents of the children appearing on the stage had no words to express their overwhelming joy. Through the dances and skit the school manifested its social responsibility. Rev. Fr. K. C.

Thomas,SVD, the principal of the school in his welcome address said, "This is the contribution St. Arnold's wants to make: preparing our young students with lasting vision, values and character, who will contribute positively to the progress of our nation and will take their rightful place in the society."

The Chief Guest, Rev. Fr. Telesphore Bilung,SVD, appreciated and praised the students for their wonderful performance and applauded the creativity of teachers and the theme of the programme. He also lauded the high standards of the school and its commitment to the social and ecological issues.



The programme began with students asking the question 'why'? Why there are so many people in need? Why there is poverty, hunger and war? Does it have to be like this, and so on? Later in the program through skit and dances they depicted various social evils of our society, such as dowry system, bride burning, illiteracy, corruption and environmental degradation. Through heart touching songs the children depicted their dream for a better tomorrow and better society where they can grow freely as one God's Children, One people and One Nation.



One of the outstanding and beautiful characteristic of India is its multiple religions and manifold cultures. The little Arnoldians displayed and celebrated this panoramic diversity through fabulous variety cultural dances. The program concluded with a dance on the heart rendering and emotionally arousing song 'Sar Zameen' and the students along with their parents making a pledge to cherish the values enshrined in the Constitution of India and committing themselves to nation building.

As the grand finale of the day the School Anthem dedicated to St. Arnold Janssen was sung by the children with full gusto, rhythm and great enthusiasm.

Fr. Sunil Damor, SVD

With Courtesy to Fr. K. C. Thomas, SVD