

# Condolence to Comrade Gaddar by VIRASAM

The sudden unexpected death of Gaddar, the symbol of revolutionary culture of Telugu people is quite shocking. He revolutionised basically the trend of Praja Natya Mandali of Telangana Peasants Armed Struggle into the cultural manifestation of Telangana dalith, backward classes and with his songs and improvised poetry inspired the three generations of people to embrace revolutionary struggles. He made an indelible impression as the cultural force of anti feudal armed struggles of peasants that flared up throughout Telangana in 1972. He keenly observed all kinds of class struggle and created from them the peoples' art forms. He became an inspiration to hundreds of song writers, artistes and singers and thus laid down a revolutionary tradition of balladeers.

Gaddar remained as a rare cultural hero in all Indian languages. He became a part and parcel of the propagation of revolutionary politics and extension of revolutionary movement. He played a wonderful role in Jana Natya Mandali. After the emergency he recorded in his songs every forward step of mass line related to the revolutionary movement. His performances were attended by lakhs of people. His songs, translated in to several other languages reverberated throughout the country. His role in introducing revolutionary cultural line in Indian literature is praiseworthy.

As he was actively working in the movement of handing over of martyrs' corpses to their relatives, an attempt to murder him took place on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1997. Though a bullet in that firing incident remained in his body he continued his cultural activities without any break. During 1999 -2002 for four years he worked as General Secretary of All India League for Revolutionary Culture. Gaddar took part in social, cultural movement that emerged against Karamchedu and Chundururu massacre of Dalits along with revolutionary politics. He wrote songs for the liberation of Dalits. In continuation of this he played a key role in the separate Telangana movement as an artiste and as an activist. As chairman of Telangana Praja Front he propagated the slogan of 'Democratic Telangana'.

His contribution from 1972 to 2014 to revolutionary movement and Dalit, Bahujan self respect struggles and his role as a poet, as an artiste and as an activist are praiseworthy. Though he himself declared that he was leaving revolutionary politics, his songs and art forms that he created would be helping the revolutionary movement for ever. The enormous power in those songs would be reflecting in the alternate politics of the people.

Virasam is remembering with great respect the work of Gaddar in support of revolutionary movement and liberation of the oppressed. Virasam is paying tributes to him and condolences to his family members.

(Abridged version)

**Arasavilli Krishna**, President

**Rivera**, General Secretary

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