

5-MAR-1938

On Sacred Vigil !

- Greetings to the Boy Scouts of India .

It gives me much pleasure to respond to your request, and to send this heartfelt message to the glorious Association of Boy Scouts in India. To greet the Boy Scouts means to hail the young generation, in which lies our hope for Progress, Friendship and Peace. The Boy Scouts are the guard of honour for their Motherland. They are guardians of Beauty and Knowledge. Precisely the young generations must understand their duty in upholding the fundamental concepts of life: - Art and Knowledge, on which evolution rests.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts are always prepared to defend everything noble and humanitarian. When we unfurled our Banner of Peace we had in view first of all the young generation, which understands its duty in defending the real treasures of humanity. From the first school years the Boy Scouts already know that the renaissance of the nation comes from Art and Science, in its highest form.

Youth knows that spiritual aspirations are the guidance to lofty Heights. More than once humanity deplored atrocities and vandalism. Precisely the young knights should be prepared to defend untiringly the great heroic achievements which have been created by the best of mankind for the common benefit. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts know the meaning of discipline. They are concerned also with sport and physical training with the object of the general betterment of life. Service, Self-sacrifice, Honour, Friendship, Vigil, Courage and joyful Labour - all these noble virtues are inseparable from the concept of Scoutism. We have proclaimed "pax per cultura" - indeed real peace is only there, where is true culture.

In the name of these foundations of progress, I am sending my ardent greetings and wishes for heroic success !

The Boy Scout Ass-n
of India.
New Delhi.