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Principal Ibrahim Khan

The death of Principal Ibrahim Khan has deepened further the void in the realm of literature and thought. For the pre-eminent educationist was an illustrious writer and a conscientious social reformer. Our literature has been greatly enriched by his many faceted contribution. His talent was evident in all his works from juvenile literature and travelogues to dramas and novels. Excerpts from many of his writings are regular inclusions in the school and college levels curricula.

Principal Ibrahim Khan wrote with a purpose and all his works carry undertones of educational and moral values. He was a man alive to his environment. After completing his education he had of his own volition accepted the rigours of a rural life in the early part of the twenties in order to work for the educational and social uplift of the Bengali Muslims who, at that time as a class, were looking for opportunities for development. Principal Ibrahim worked for the establishment of several educational institutions, the premier among them being the Karatia College. He was principal of the college for over two decades and had been so great an active promoter of educational development of the masses that long after retirement from service he was endearingly called by his students and admirers as the 'principal'.

A keen reformer, Principal Ibrahim Khan could not remain aloof from the mainstream of social activity. He was a catalyst in the generation of social consciousness among the masses. A born teacher, Principal Ibrahim Khan worked for the improvement of the living conditions of primary school teachers.

He fulfilled his duties with the spirit of a crusader. Many of the ventures in which he succeeded could not even be dreamt of by lesser men of his time. The establishment of a college in a rural area at an age when many urban colleges found it difficult to exist was among the many bold episodes of his life.

As a man Principal Ibrahim Khan exuded personal warmth and friendship. He could build rapport with people of all ages. In his death the nation lost one of its able sons who had made a glorious contribution to the educational and social progress of the country.