



THE TIMES OF INDIA

# 'India has become capital of lynching'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Insightful observations, sharp criticism and subtle humour marked political psychologist Ashis Nandy's speech at the second UR Ananthamurthy annual memorial lecture in Bengaluru on Saturday. With a focus on 'Liberation: for those who do not speak the language of liberation,' the 81-year-old social scientist discussed current politics, growing religious intolerance and electoral politics.

Recalling his association with Ananthamurthy right from their first meet at a French book festival where they walked on the roads of Paris, he said the writer foresaw the state of democracy we are witnessing today.

"I met URA little late in my life. He was a lifelong social democrat. But I think, in the last 30 years of his life, post-Emergency, his attitude towards ideology began to change and I trace that in his novels 'Av-

## Modi had no time

Modi loves to speak, loves to be photographed. When others ask what has Modi done in the last four years, I feel he had no time. He has been looking at the next poll right from the day assumed power

**Ashis Nandy |**  
SOCIALSCIENTIST

asthe' and 'Bharathipura'. His ideology began to soften, though he didn't give up core values—equality and freedom. He began to understand that ideological factors begin to become the real danger," he said.

## 'Charismatic leaders bypass real problems'

"Charismatic leaders bypass the real problems and entire communities which are not accessible to media or rather unexplored. We are living at a time when there is participatory democracy and electoral policies are seen as the democracy.