Gopal Krishna Gokhale sacrificed his life to the country. He was a great servant of India. He was worthy son of worthy land. He lived from 1866 to 1915. He neglected his health to some extent in serving to his country. His health was deteriorated. His diabetes had worsened, his heart was weak and he had difficulty breathing. He realized that this end was near. On his last day he was calm. He smiled and said, “I have had enjoyment in this world, now let me go and have it in another world.” In the evening he bade farewell to his two daughters and friends. Two hours passed and he died peacefully at 10:25 p.m. on February 19, 1915. Thus ended the life of the one, who was a true and distinguished disciple of Justice Ranade, a great liberal a scholar and guru of Mahatma Gandhi. There was profound grief in the city and in the country over the premature death of one of her great sons. Gokhale’s great contemporary, Lokamanya Tilak, had gone to sinhgad for rest as he himself was not keeping fit. A messenger was sent for his return.

There were scenes of grief on the Society’s premises. Fellow members and friends paid their last respects to the departed Servant of India. A big procession started, wending its way through the main parts of the city which wore a mournful appearance, amidst big crowds which had assembled throughout the route. Flowers were heaped on the bier. The procession reached the cremation ground at about noon. Tilak had arrived by that time. There were orations by Dr R.G. Bhandarkar, the noted oriental scholar and
social reformer, Dr R.P. Paranjpye, principal of the Fergusson College, and by Tilak. Tilak’s speech was full of feeling and appreciation. He said, “This is a time for shedding tears. This diamond of India, this Jewel of Maharashtra, the prince of workers, is laid to eternal rest on the funeral ground. Look at him and try to emulate him. Everyone of you should look upon his life as a mode; to imitate and should try to fill the gap caused by his death. If you will do your level best to emulate him, he will feel glad even in the next world.”

Messages of condolence poured in from all over the world and meetings were held to express grief. Newspapers paid their tributes. Among the messages, there was one from his Majesty George V. The Viceroy, Lord Hardinge, the Secretary of State, the Governors of Bombay, Madras and Bengal, the Lt. Governor of Burma, their Highnesses the Nizam, the Gaekwad of Baroda, the Nawab of Rampur, the Maharajas of Banaras and Bhavnagar, General Smuts, Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Lord Islington, Sir Ratan Tata, Dr Sapru and Many more were among those who sent condolence messages. On March 3, a condolence meeting was held at poona, presided over by the Governor of Bombay, lord Willingdon, when Gandhiji moved the main resolution. His highness the AgaKhan was one of the speakers. In Bombay also the condolence meeting was presided over by the Governor.

Resolutions for raising a memorial to Gokhale were passed. The work conducted by Gokhale through the Servants of India Society was to be
strengthened and perpetuated. That was going to be his real and fitting memorial. Gokhale’s statues, portraits and several other visible memorials in all parts of India came to be unveiled or opened. Today, the parliament of India has a marble bust of Gokhale in its library. Poona has its Gokhale hall. The Gokhale school of politics and economics on the premises of the Servants of India Society is another enduring memorial. And the Society itself is there, active in the service of the country. In this thesis services, nature and broad ideas of Gokhale have been discussed positively to make young Indians to learn about this country through view of Gokhale. Study of Gokhale is study of Modern India and its culture. This is the conclusion.