ROLE OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE IN INDIAN FREEDOM MOVEMENT



Dr. Pradhnya Kamdi Dr. Sharad Daware



Role of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in Indian Freedom $M_{Ovem_{ent}}$

© Editors

No part of this book shall be reproduced, stored in retrieval system, or translated in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying and/or otherwise without the prior written permission of the editors.

ISBN: 978-93-91201-03-6 \triangleright

1st Edition: 2021

Published in India by

Om Sai Publisher & Distributors

29, Behind T.B. Ward, Indira Nagar, Nagpur 440003.

Mob.: 9923693506, E-mail: ospdnagpur@yahoo.com

Printing

Sai Jyoti Publication

Mob.: 9764673503

E-mail: sjp10ng@gmail.com, Website: www.saijyoti.in

Branch

Pune Branch

203, Paris Sparsh Hight, Ambamata Mandir Road, Ambai Dara, Dhayari, Pune - 411041.

Mob.: 9420318884

Type Setter

Shree Ganesh Graphics, Nagpur.

New Delhi Branch

213, Vardhan House, 7/28 Ansari Road, Dariyaganj, New Delhi - 110002. Mob.: 8888828026, 9325656602

CONTENTS

1.	Struggle and Ideals of an Unsung Hero: Subhas Chandra Bose Prof. Sanjay Kumar, Prof. Pooja Dhyani	01-12
2.	Role of Subhas Chandra Bose in Sending Indian Medical Mission to China: Some Lesser Known Incidents	13-27
	Dr. Anirban Ghosh	
3.	Subhash Chandra Bose and The Indian Independence League	28-35
	Dr. Anjali Andrew	
4.	Role of Subhash Chandra Bose to the Indian Independence Movement	36-45
	Prof. Dr. Gajanan Natthuji Kalambe	
5.	Leader for Freedom : Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose	46-53
	Dr. Mubaraque Quraishi	
6.	Subhas Chandra Bose and His Contribution for India's Independence	54-64
	Dr. Sujata Gourkhede	
7.	Role of Women in INA With Special Reference to Lakshmi Sahgal and Neera Arya S. Priyalakshmi, Dr. C Godwin. Sam	65-71
8.	Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and his contribution to Indian Freedom Movement Dr. Sunil Shripad Borkar	72-83

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and his contribution to Indian Freedom Movement

Dr. Sunil Shripad Borkar

Dr. Sunil Shripad Borkar Associate Professor, Department of History, S. R. B. T. College, Mouda.

Introduction

The emergence of national movement is of historical dimensions in India, and its culmination in the transfer of power from British into Indian hands constituted one of the most important historical processes of the twentieth century. The political events in Germany, Italy and France encouraged the Indian people to work for the liberation of their country. On the other hand, the British imperialism was one of the important factors in the birth of process of development of nationalism in India. Nationalism in India was grown to meet the challenges of British domination. The very existence of foreign rule in India helped the growth of a national sentiment among the people. There was also a clash between the British interests in India and those of the Indian people. Imagination is needed to assess the changes that have taken place in Indian society as a result of political power coming into British hands

in the second half of the 18th century. Bengal was the first province in which the British Raj was established and hence its results were also revealed there more quickly than in other places.

India's independence movement became possible as a result of the growth of the feeling of nationalism among the people. Owing to its fast growth after the mutiny of 1857, the people started to resist gradually the alien rule. The passion of nationalism created a feeling of unity among the people of the country. India was a land where there were numerous differences among the people due to differences in the religions, languages, regions and castes which were deeply rooted since the early times. But the growth of nationalism made them realized that in spite of these differences, politically they belonged to one community. Politically they should ignore these differences and become loyal to the national community

The national movement taking place in India also affected the young Subhas Chandra Bose, who was living in England at that time. As a result, Subhas Chandra Bose resigned from his post after passing the ICS examination and participated in the Indian National Non-Cooperation Movement to surrender himself to the Indian National Movement. Mahatma Gandhi launched the Non-violent Non-cooperation movement on 4th September 1920. Subhas Chandra Bose decided to work in the movement and the Congress under the leadership of Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das. His fame was increasing day by day. He started taking an active part in the politics of Bengal and he also started taking major part in Congress activities and soon he was elected the leading Congress man in India. The preparations for a peaceful procession were going on in Gorakhpur on 5th February 1922. The British used their repression process forcefully there and on this matter, the youth

in retaliation set fire to the police post. In this kind of arson, many people were injured and killed and total dissatisfaction had spread everywhere. When Mahatma Gandhi got this news, he was very sad and ended the movement with immediate effect and on 10th March 1922, he was arrested.

It is true that the national movement was an anti-colonial movement, in which the entire society stood up against colonialism. It was a multiclass movement which representing the interests of various sections and strata of Indian society. The life of great nationalist, revolutionary and thinker NetajiSubhas Chandra Bose is a unique story of sacrifice and a source of inspiration for the Indian youth. Watching the sad plight of the countrymen and the oppressive policies of the British, his heart started burning in the flame of vengeance. When the British tried to stop the growing steps of Subhas Chandra Bose towards independence, he left the country and stayed abroad and continued the struggle for the independence of Motherland. He is known as brave and courageous son of mother India who gave his life for the freedom of India

Netaji and his life

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was a great personality and visionary. He was a born rebel and revolutionary but apart from that, he was an excellent statesman, an able administrator and an excellent mind. He was a military genius with natural leadership qualities. Morally, spiritually and intellectually also, Indian freedom from his passionately devoted to the cause of with uncommon zeal and single mindedness. His patriotism was beyond doubt. All these salient features of this great or informal - and so it has been my earnest endeavour to study.

Subhas and his mind through his letters, articles, speeches and statements. The popular perception of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is that of a warrior hero and a revolutionary leader who led a life of suffering and sacrifice and during the Second World War waged a great armed struggle against the British for the freedom of India. What is often forgotten is that the warrior paused between battles to reflect and write about the fundamental political, economic and social issues of India and the world during his life time. Despite being immersed in the tumult of the anti-colonial struggle, Subhas Chandra Bose delved back in his writing into India's long and complex history and looked forward to the socio economic reconstruction of India, once the political independencewas won.

The ideas he put forward were not of either a wondering mystic oblivious of the earth or a doctrinaire revolutionist reared on imported copybook maxims. They were the products of a philosophical mind applied to careful analyses of specific historical situations and informed by direct and continuous revolutionary experience in different parts of the world of a kind, unknown to any other leader of contemporary India. Subhas finished his B.A. in Philosophy with first class honours and started his M.A. in Psychology but a few months later, he accepted his father's suggestion to go to Cambridge to study for Indian Civil Services examination. Early in July 1920, eight month after he joined Cambridge University Subhas set for the Civil service examination in London and though he worked hard, he was not hopeful. To his surprise, however, he was not only successful but came out forth.

When Subhas landed back at Mumbai on 16th July 1921 immediately he met Mahatma Gandhi and had an intimate talk with him. Gandhiji had launched a countrywide movement of progressive non-cooperation against the British rulers then. Subhas was about to join this campaign and therefore wished to understand Mahatma's mind and wanted to have clear conception of the plan of action. This was the first time that Subhas met Mahatma Gandhi, but it was a fateful meeting and was a failure in its immediate purpose. They both agreed on the ultimate objectives of India's freedom, but had their reservations regarding the fundamental differences on the method of achieving the objective. With the Mahatma, nonviolence was a living creed, while with Subhas, it was an article of faith that the use of force was necessary to dislodge thealien ruler from the Indian soil. However Subhas accepted Gandhiji's advice to meet Deshbandhu Chittranjan Das. After meeting him, Subhas felt that he had found a leader and meant to follow him. This juncture onwards Subhas started taking part in political activities for India's freedom.

Subhash: An unofficial Ambassador of India

Subhas Chandra Bose was elected as the President of the All India Trade Union Congress in 1929 and he held that office till 1931. There on, he emerged forcefully in the forefront of Indian Independence Struggle. He organized the youth of the country and gave a dynamic lead to the youth and students of the country. In February 1933, he was seriously ill and was taken to Europe for treatment as a prisoner. A greater part of these years of enforced exile in Europe (in particular from March 1933 to March 1936) were spent as an unofficial ambassador of India's freedom. Despite being poor in health Subbas Chard a gall-bladder operation in Vienna, Subhas Chandra Bose travelled tirelessly across the continent various Furance and addressing bilateral friendship associations in various European countries as well as Indian student organizations in different European cities. He visited Austria

Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Rumania, Switzerland, Turkey and Yugoslavia. An itinerary of his travels can be reconstructed on the basis of his numerous letters to Naomi C. Vetter. He returned to India briefly in 1934 on learning that his father was critically ill - arriving too late to see him alive - and went back to Europe soon after the funeral. In March 1936, he was placed under immediate arrest by the British authorities upon his return to Bombay in defiance of a government ban. He spent ayear in detention and was permitted to return to active political life only after the provincial elections of April 1937 under the 1935 Government of India Act, of which Bose was a strong critic. Mahatma Gandhi's choice of Subhas Chandra Bose as the Congress President became known at the time of the meeting of the All India Congress Committee in Calcutta in October 1937. Next month, on his own volition and with Gandhi's blessings he left on a trip to Europe. Between 1933 and 1936, Bose had been given to believe that he was barred from visiting Britain. On this occasion he included a visit to London and had meetings with British political leaders, especially those who belonged to the labour party.

Subhas wrote two books during this period. They are An Indian Pilgrim, his unfinished autobiography written during a 10 days stay in Badgasteen, Austria in 1937 and The Indian Struggle, his study of the Indian Independence Movement since 1920, written in 1934. In addition to his political views expressed in nearly 200 letters, he has written a number of major political essays. The most detailed exposition of his political philosophy prior to his presidential address at Haripura is the speech often referred to as 'The London Thesis' entitled 'The AntiImperialist Struggle and Samyavada' delivered at a political conferencein London on 10th June 1933.

It contains an appreciation and critique of Gandhian Satyagraha and an enunciation of the ideal of Samyavada. Attracted by European political experiments in socialism, Bose nevertheless preferred to use the old Buddhist, Indian term to articulate his ideology of a socialism suited to Indian conditions, one that invoked equality in an atmosphere of balance and harmony.

Subha Chandra Bose and Indian National Congress Subhas Chandra Bose returned in India on 16 July 1921

from England. He met Mahatma Gandhi in order to join the countrywide progressive non co-operation movement against British launched by Mahatma Gandhi. When he met Mahatma Gandhi for the first time in 1921, the public life of India was dominated by Mahatma Gandhi. But still the impact of Mahatma Gandhi on the growth of Subhas Chandra Bose's ideas was only marginal. His purpose in seeking an interview with Mahatma Gandhi, the leader of the campaign, was to get "a clear conception of his plan of action". He had a long conversation with Mahatma Gandhi about the program of nonviolence and non-cooperation movement that Mahatma Gandhi had launched. When he joined the Indian national movement in 1921, Mahatma Gandhi was at the helm of affairs in Congress but Subhas Chandra Bose was not impressed by his first interview with Mahatma Gandhi. He was convinced of the immense potentialities in Mahatma Gandhi's technique of noncooperation as a method of struggle against the British, but, he believed that Mahatma Gandhi was not in a position to use this method in the most effective way due to his doctrine of nonviolence and Charkha. Mahatma Gandhi's attempt to raise Indian nationalism to an ethical doctrine was repugnant to Subhas Chandra Bose. He considered Britain as the enemy of his country and tried to defeat the enemy by all possible means.

He felt that there was a deplorable lack of clarity in the plan which Mahatma Gandhi had formulated and that he did not have clear idea of the successive stages of the campaign which could bring India to the cherished goal of freedom.Subhas Chandra Bose then found a leader in Chittaranjan Das whom he desired to emulate and decided to follow him as he felt that C.R. Das was the man who knew what he was about and who could give all that he had, and who could demand from others all they could give, for the cause of the country. He accepted Chittaranjan Das as his political guru.

Subhas Chandra Bose had hoped that the power of the leftists would increase in India in the times to come because the Congress under Mahatma Gandhi was an organization that was trying, somehow to tie different but opposing elements into one thread. Hence, he had prepared the following programs for the Forward Bloc, which in a sense contained the essence of political ideas in them:-

- 1) The Congress party would support the interests of the farmers and labourers and not approve of the vested interests of the landlords, capitalists and moneylender classes.
- 2) It would work for the complete political and economic liberation of the Indian people.
- 3) It would support federal rule as the ultimate objective but would believe in a strong central government from totalitarian powers for the next few years so that India could stand on its own feet.
- 4) It would try to abolish the Zamidari system and establish the same land and revenue system all over India.
- 5) To strengthen India's Independence, Subhas Chandra Bose would not restrict his movement within India, but

would also resort to international propaganda to try $_{
m to}$ use the existing international organisation for this.

Subhas Chandra Bose would try to organise all extremist organisations under one national executive so that whenever any action was taken, it could be worked on many fronts simultaneously.

Formation of Azad Hind Sena

The first Provisional government of Azad Hind was established in Afghanistan after the First World War with the efforts of the great revolutionary Raja Mohendra Pratap. Muslim revolutionaries also contributed substantially in its formulation. second Azad Hind government was The established in Italy with the efforts of the great revolutionary SardarAjit Singh, the uncle of great martyr Bhagat Singh. The activities of this organisation started in April 1942. It inspired those Indian war prisoners of the English army, who had surrendered to the German forces and Italian forces in World War II, to fight for the independence of India. News of Subhas Chandra Bose's arrival in Germany was kept confidential. The German State Department was informed of Subhas Chandra Bose's arrival there andappointments had been made to establish contact with him and to provide accommodation and other facilities. The German foreign Office along with the Information Section was added to it during the war which was assigned the task of looking after him, on his arrival in Germany. Dr. Adam-von-Trott assisted by Dr. some knowledge about developments in India and also the problems of the Indian National Congress at that time. They took pains to acquire for him a rank and position befitting his personality and prestige and they tried best to guard him against unpleasant contacts

with the Nazis. They temporarily established his headquarters at the Hotel Excelsior where he was lodged in the beginning. A friendly group of the officials in the German Foreign Office was aware of the fact that Hitler himself did not have any knowledge about India or the Indian people and their problems and that he looked at India through English eyes. At that time, due to Germany being involved in the Second World War, it took a long time for Subhas Chandra Bose to get the required facilities to implement his plans. Subhas Chandra Bose started collecting Indians in Germany who were willing to help him.Subhas Chandra Bose planned to build an Indian army in Germany after a thorough study of the then conditions. He planned to enlist in the army those Indian prisoners of war who had fought on behalf of English forces on the front of North Africa and were held captive by the German troops. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose planned to unload this self-organized small but well-trained and strong-minded army for his freedom on the northern eastern boarders of India.22 He was confident that with the entry of our army into the Indian border, there would be a favourable environment for armed struggle in India and Indian forces would revolt against the British. In such situation, Azad Hind Fauj will get great achievement by receiving heartfelt cooperation of Indian people, the rebellion of armies and active cooperation of foreign army. The Indian National Army (I.N.A.) was an armed force formed by Indian nationalists in 1942 in South-east Asia during Second World War. Its aim was to secure Indian independence from British rule. It formed an alliance with Imperial Japan in the latter's campaign in the South Asian theatre of World War II. The formation of the Indian National Army was neither abrupt nor entirely the handiwork of the Japanese. Even before the First World War. Indian revolutionary nationalists had been carrying

on their anti-British propaganda from the soil of Japan. At that time Japan was an ally of Britain and could not, therefore, openly express sympathy for the Indian nationalists but unofficially supported and helped them, moreover, gave considerable encouragement to them. Even before Subhas Chandra Bose came to South East Asia, Rash Behari Bose, an Indian revolutionary had already prepared the land for the independence of India. He always tried to inspire the Japanese government to plan a military course of action against the British. The locus standi of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind had been proved with logical and factual evidence and was justified on the basis of international law that itconstituted a legitimate government accredited with national sovereignty as recognized by other countries. All the pre-requisites for the formation of a government were fulfilled by this government like territory, international recognition, habitual obedience of people, financial resources, organized government, existence of state machinery and a code of law etc. That was why the I.N.A. movement, as Bhulabhai Desai, the Defense Counsel in the I.N.A. trial, pointed out, with reference to facts and figures, was not an insurgency, and constituted no war crime against the British Government. It was a national war of independence for India under a national Sovereign State against the illegal British Raj.

Conclusion

Subhshbabu always believed that Indian National Congress represented a movement, which had sprung from the soil of India. It was the political organ of India, which embodied their hopes, aspirations and ideals. He had faith that Congress had unlimited potentialities of growth and development. This growth was the result of inner urge though

that had been stimulated by external factors. For the emergence of Forward Block, neither personal factors nor accidental circumstances were responsible. The Foreword Bloc appeared because according to Subhas, the Congress must entered the new phase of its evolutionary process. Subhas Chandra Bose happens to be one of these most impressive nationalists. He was one of the most effective negotiators with regard to all the important issues pertaining to the nation. He deliberated on all major significant issues in his own independent and creative manner. Naturally, a study of his intellectual, political and social concerns is very interesting and deserved to be examined and evaluated, particularly when we have been independent for last 58 years. It is possible to see the relevance and significance of his ideas and views at that time and in the present context more effectively now.

References

- ManwatiArya, Patriot The Unique Indian Leader 1) NetajiSubhas Chandra Bose, New Delhi: Lotus Press, 2007, p. 106.
- N. G. Jog, In Freedom's Quest: Biography of Subhas 2) Chandra Bose, Orient Longmans, Bombay, 1969, p. 174.
- Mihir Bose, Raj, Secrets, Revolution: A Life of Subhas 3) Chandra Bose, Grice Chapman Publishing, England, 2004, p. 172.
- RatnaGhosh (ed.), NetajiSubhas Chandra Bose and Indian 4) Freedom Struggle: Subhas Chandra Bose: His Ideas and Vision, Vol. 1, Deep & Deep Publications (P.) LTD., New Delhi, 2006, p. 88.
- 5) Eric A. Vas, Subhas Chandra Bose: the Man and His Times, Lancer Publishers, New Delhi, 2008, p.32.