

Role of Journalism on National Movement During the British Karnataka: A Study

Abstract

This study digs deeply into stringent press rules the main leaders who took the strain of propagating truth and policy of the state machinery in curbing the situations. The situations the journalism with its united readership took an independent line in matters of both political and social relativity. Freedom is the life breath of every nation as much as that of every individual. It is the basic condition for the healthy growth of a people. It is in this fundamental sense that Lokamanya Tilak declared, Swaraj or self rule is our Birth Right: and Gandhi vowed that 'we will have it, and we won freedom not in the ordinary way and by conventional means but in a unique way and by Non-violent weapons.

Keywords: Karnataka History; Journalism; National Freedom Movement; Mass Movement

Introduction

The earliest reference to Karnataka is in Panini's work where he calls Karnataka as the gotra of a people but allusion to his as a territory is found for the first time in Maharashtra. The antiquity of whose composition is carried back to at least 2000 years. In "Bhishma Parva" of the same work it is stated that in the southern part of India. There are the following territories.

"Athapara Janapadha dakshina Bharatharshabha Dravid, Kerala prachya mushika vanavashikah Karnataka mahishaka vikalpah mushakasthatha" but this word Karnataka is found only in the kumbhakonam edition of the Mahabharata and in the pune edition the word "Kunthala" or un is used as a substitute for Karnataka (Nilakanta Sastri, K.A. (1955). Unnathyaka only means an elevated land the same as 'karnataka' as we see later. The name Kunthala was also used for parts of Karnataka.

In the old Sanskrit texts like Markandeya Purana Bhagavatha and Brihathsamhitha of Varshamhiva. Karnataka is pre-eminently mentioned similarly of ancient Tamil works like Tolkappiyam and Shilappadikaram have also referred to the people of this land as karunaders or Karunatakers (A. C. Devegowda, 1985).

According to a third views held by S.B.Jyoshi and others a people called kannada kal inhabited this land and that is why the territory came to be known as Kannada "Karnet- Atayati" that which resounds in the ear" or in others words a "Renowned Land" is given as the original root from which the word Karnataka has been derived (**Srinivas, Havanoor, 2000**).

Karnataka being our state the need for the study of its history need not be stressed. Its relevance has been effectively stressed by Aluru Venkatarao when swadeshi movement was in progress in India in 1906. Alur Found Karnataka not as responsive to the movement as Maharashtra, Bengal, or Punjab were these states had known their history and were aware of the loss they sustained due to British Rule. The history of Karnataka not equipped with modern weapons made Vijayanagar Empire face defeat in 1565. Tippu Behaving high Handedly with the Nergund Chief. Resulted in the Alienation of Maratha Support however great his desire to oust the British from India he could not have done it without the help of the neighbours like the Marathas with whom he should have been friendly (Suryanath U. Kamat, 2001).

Internal squabbles between the Gangas and Kalyana Chalukyasa resulted in the Cholas Conquering Gangavadi similar conflicts between the Hoyselas and Seaunas helped the Delhi Sultan to run both the dynasties. Great men of the post Kings, queens, Commanders religious leaders and reforms inspire us. This happened in the days of freedom movement it can happen always to inspire us in our understandings and these help the all round growth of the state.



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Karnataka has given lead to the country in starting hydroelectric power producers at Gokak Falls (1887) and Shivana Samudra (1901). Kannada is among more than 20 languages of the Dravidian groups.

The present Karnataka stretches between 12° and 18° north latitude and 74° and 78° east longitude. It is on the south western part of the Deccan plateau. Major parts of Karnataka are on this table land itself though there is a small coastal stripe of the west (Romila Thapar, 2003).

This study digs deeply into stringent press rules the main leaders who took the strain of propagating truth and policy of the state machinery in curbing the situations. The situations the journalism with its united readership took an independent line in matters of both political and social relativity (Parthasarathi, 1989).

Journalism and National Movement in British Karnataka

Freedom is the life breath of every nation as much as that of every individual. It is the basic condition for the healthy growth of a people. It is in this fundamental sense that Lokamanya Tilak declared, Swaraj or self rule is our Birth Right: and Gandhi vowed that 'we will have it, and we won freedom not in the ordinary way and by conventional means but in a unique way and by Non-violent weapons.

The Indian National Congress is the organisation which brought us 'swaraj' in the way indicated above. It has been instrumental in rousing the people to mighty efforts and in devising ways and means to wrest freedom from the vice Roy grip of the British.

Swaraj came as a result of the massive response of the people of all parts of India to the call for a non-violent fight by Gandhi, the greatest leader of men and masses the world has ever seen, so for as Karnataka, its men and women played a notable part in the ceaseless war of liberation waged actively from 1920 to 1947.

It is impossible to tell in brief the whole epic story of the contribution made by Karnataka. This dissertation, would be incomplete if at least an outline of the struggle in this province is not given an attempt has been made to present a bird's Eye-view as to how the people of Karnataka wrought for freedom along other brothers and sisters of India (B.N.Ahuja, 1986).

The Role of Journalism in the Mass Movement

The Indian national congress started a number of civil movements in opposition to the repressive policies of the government under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. The national news papers and the local news papers were filled with the information connected with this activity. The I.N.C policy towards Indian princely states as that of Mysore was very indifferent and callous. The congress leader did not take the princely states into political consideration. The people of the happenings of the British Indian provinces. There was a cry for equal treatment and inclusion into the main stream struggle but it took many years for the people of Mysore to be regarded on par with the people of British Indian provinces.

At the annual Indian congress sessions the representatives always demanded their inclusion

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which finally gave fruits in the year 1920. Here congress had to recognize the rights of the states people to involve themselves in the national movement for freedom. After the Nagpur Congress of 1920 AD the congress recognising the principle of linguistic provinces established the Karnataka provincial congress committee (K. J. Pearce, 2009). Congress committee were also set up at Bangalore, Mysore, Tumkur, and Kolar in Mysore state to work out the constructive programmes of the congress.

1. Hindu –Muslim Unity
2. Swadeshi and Khadi
3. Prohibition and Anti- Un-touchability.
4. Propagation of the ideals patriotism.

The first president Bangalore was S.S.Setlur a retired Judge of the High Court who had worked with Lokamanya Tilak, and the first secretary was S.N Razvi Tagadur Ramachandra Rao tried to work out the several items of the programme intensively in the Mysore district and had the guidance of M Venkatakrishnaiah the grand old man of Mysore K ranga Iyengar and others worked at Tumkur.

Congress leaders from North Karnataka region like:

1. Kadapa Raghavendra Rao
2. Gangadhara aro Deshapande
3. Krishna Rao Mudhvekar
4. Dr. Hardiker N S

Such others leaders often visited the state and conveyed the message of Gandhi, specially his social and economic things. The holdings of the annual session of the congress for the first time at Belgaum in 1924 and under Gandhiji's president ship brought the Mysore state people closer to the congress. The congress was very influential in these areas and popular.

Many young men took training as volunteers under Dr.Hardiker in the newly started Hindustani sevadal and served the people at the session. The state took active part in the congress exhibition and many distinguished palace musicians were present at Belgaum to participate in the musical and culture programmes arranged for the entertainment of the delegates.

When Gandhiji had a slight stroke in April 1927 in north Karnataka after a strenuous tour. The Dewan of Mysore invited him to recoup his health by a stay on the Nandi Hills. Gandhiji's stay of over four months provided occasion for the visit of many congress leaders to Mysore. After recouping his health Gandhi toured the Mysore state, and provided a rare opportunity to the citizens all over the state of seeing him and hearing his message. A Khadi centre had been opened by Government at Badanval and Gandhi opened a south India Khadi Exhibition at Bangalore before he left the state (J.Hartley, 1997).

The passing of the independence resolution in the Lahore congress of 1929 and the flag-hoisting ceremony on 26th January 1930 produced great repercussions in the Mysore state. It was first time that the congress organisation came into sharp conflict with the Mysore government.

The salt Satyagraha subsequently launched by Gandhiji was enthusiastically wanted by people in the state and many volunteers went to Karwar and other places to participate in it. From this time

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onwards a regular flow of enthusiastic young workers began to take part in the no-tax and other civil disobedience campaigns in British Karnataka areas.

Conclusion

The study sum up the various aspect of the development of national movement the policies of congress leaders and the progress of pass amidst difficulties the political situation was different in Karnataka because Karnataka was a princely state and different level administration set up the conditions prevailing in this state of Karnataka was entirely different from other directly ruled British provinces. The dawn of the nationalist ideals were very slow and late.

Most of the news papers were having circulations of the hundreds only. Many of the news papers were a prey to the anguish of the rules for their seditious writings. Some of them hand of the maharaja many of the press owners were sentenced vigorous punishment for their bold writings.

Like this press had to undergo many sea changes in the dual administrative set up of Mysore and this was the cause for the lopsided progress of press and also nationalist ideals the years following the famous Quit India movement was very stress full to the press. Some of them struggled hard to exist, during the war the nationalist press demanded more constitutional reforms and the vernacular press also narrowed. This notification of the government of India prohibiting printing of any matter calculated directly or indirectly to ferment opposition to the prosecution of the war the nationalism press opposed this and the Karnataka too protested against this.

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