

A GLANCE UPON THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF INDIA'S FREEDOM HERO: SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE

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Abstract

Subhas Chandra Bose was one of India's greatest freedom fighter. He played a very important and active role in India's political life. He was twice elected President of Indian National Congress. In 1943 he regenerated the Azad Hind Fauj which was initially formed by Rash Behari Bose in 1942. INA (Indian National Army) and Subhas Chandra Bose were playing their significant role in the freedom struggle of India. He formed Rani Jhansi Regiment, a women wing, in Indian National Army. Bose's efforts to end the British rule through organised military campaign was very unique way. He was a true patriot who was prepared to do anything for the sake of liberating his country from the British. In this paper we will studied about the life and work of Subhas Chandra Bose. He has a great role in India's National Movement. He was the legendary hero of India.

KEYWORDS: Subhas Chandra Bose, Freedom Struggle, Azad Hind Fauj, Rani of Jhansi Regiment, Azad Hind Government

Introduction

Subhas Chandra Bose was the leader of India's freedom struggle. His Jai Hind's slogan became the national slogan of India. "Give me blood, I shall give you freedom", his slogan has come in more prevalence of that time. During World War Second, to fight against the British, they formed the Azad Hind Fauj in collaboration with Japan.

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was born on 23 January 1897 in a prosperous Bengali family of Cuttack in Orissa. His father, Janakinath Bose was an advocate and mother, Prabhavati was a teacher. He was the sixth son and ninth child among the total fourteen siblings. He was a brilliant student. His education came from Presidency College of Kolkata. Later, his parents sent him to England to appear for the Indian Civil Service examination. He successfully passed and was placed fourth in I.C.S exam.

Subhas Chandra Bose And Congress

In 1921, after receiving news of rising political activities in India, Bose left the Civil Service and joined Congress. Subhas Chandra Bose became the important young leader of the country. When Simon Commission came to India in 1928, Congress showed black flags. Subhas Chandra Bose led the movement in Kolkata. In order to answer Simon Commission, Congress hands over eight members commission to make India's future constitution. Motilal Nehru was the Chairman of the Commission and Subhas was one of his members. In 1928, the annual session of the Congress was held in Kolkata under the chairmanship of Motilal Nehru. In this session Subhas took the khaki uniform and gave a salute to Motilal Nehru in a military manner.

Subhas was leading a huge front by hoisting the National Flag in Kolkata on January 26, 1931, when the police launched a stick on him and wounded him and sent him to jail. When Subhas Chandra Bose was in jail, Gandhiji compromised with the British government and released all the prisoners. But the British government refused to release the revolutionaries like Bhagat Singh. To forgive Bhagat Singh's hanging, Gandhi ji spoke to the government but with softness. Subhas wanted Gandhi ji to break the agreement with the British government on this subject. But Gandhi ji did not agree to break the promise given on his behalf. The British government was stuck in its place and Bhagat Singh and his comrades were hanged. When Bhagat Singh was not saved, Subhas became very angry with the methods of Gandhi and Congress.

In 1930, Subhas was in jail, in that he was elected the Mayor of Kolkata. So the government had to release him. Subhas was again imprisoned in 1932. This time he was kept in Almora jail. His health was worsened in Almora jail. On the advice of doctors, Subhas has agreed to go to Europe for treatment this time. Subhas stayed in Europe from 1933 to 1936. In Europe, Subhas continued his work while taking care of his health. There he met the Italian leader Mussolini, who promised to help him in the freedom struggle of India. In 1934, Subhas got news of his father being on death bed. Although, in Karachi, he came to know that his father had died, yet he went to Kolkata. As soon as he reached Kolkata, the British government arrested him and kept him in jail for several days and sent him back to Europe.

The annual session of Congress was decided in Haripur in 1938. Prior to this session, Gandhi chose Subhas for the post of Congress President. Subhas's presidential speech was very effective in this session. Any Indian political person has rarely given such an effective speech. In 1938, Gandhi chose Subhas for the post of Congress President, but he did not like Subhas method of functioning. In the meantime, the World War II clouded Europe. Subhas wanted to take advantage of this difficulty of England to make India's freedom struggle more intense. He started taking steps towards this in his presidential tenure, but Gandhi ji did not agree with it.

When it came to choosing the new Congress President in 1939, Subhas wanted to appoint a person who did not bow down before any pressure in this matter. Since no is volunteering so, Subhas decided to be congress President. But Gandhi wanted to remove him as President. Gandhi elected Pattabhai Sitaramaiya for the post of President. After many years, election was held for congress President in the Congress party. In the election, Netaji Subhas got 1,580 votes and Sitaramaiya got

1,377 votes. Despite Gandhiji's opposition, Subhas won the election by 203 votes. By describing defeat of Pattabhai Sitaramaiya as his defeat, Gandhi ji told his teammates that if they do not agree with the Subhas's methods, they can withdraw from the Congress. After this 12 out of 14 members of the Congress working committee resigned.

On June 22, 1939, Subhas established his party under the name of Forward Bloc within the Congress. The Forward Bloc later became an independent party. Before the Second World War began, Forward Bloc started public awareness to further strengthen the freedom struggle. Subhas Chandra Bose married his Australian Secretary Emily in 1937. Both of them had a daughter named Anita, who currently lives in Germany. Netaji also met with Hitler. He left Germany in 1943 and from there he reached in Japan. He arrived in Singapore from Japan. Where he took the command of the Azad Hind Fauj., established by Captain Mohan Singh, in his own hands.

Ideology of Subhas Chandra Bose

Bose's political ideology may be called fascist. But at first he was a strong patriot and nationalist. Bose's nationalism was nationalist rather than a racist. The disappointment of the unsuccessful attempts of Independence by others has shaped his fundamentalist political ideology. His passion was not emulation or power, but freedom for his beloved Motherland- was his goal. He was also ready to sacrifice his life to liberate the country . Bose was fascinated by discipline and organizational power of fascism and socialism. During his stay in Europe in 1930s, he was deeply inspired by the mobility of the two major fascist powers, Italy and Germany. After seeing these regimes for the first time, he developed a political ideology of his own. He was convinced that through this ideology the liberation of India and the total reconstruction of Indian society can be brought around. The lack of success in the attempt to free India from the British rule was certainly not due to the lack of any effort of Bose.

Azad Hind Fauj

During the Second World War, there was an important place in the formation of Azad Hind Fauj and its activities in the development of freedom struggle. It is also known as the Indian National Army or INA. Indian revolutionary named Rash Behari Bose, who had been living in Japan for many years from India, formed the Indian Independence league with the support of Indians living in the Southeast Asia. When Japan defeated the British army and captured almost all the countries of Southeast Asia, the League combined Indian prisoners to prepare the Indian National Army so that India can be freed from British rule. General Mohan Singh, who was an officer in British Indian Army, played an important role in the formation of this army. Meanwhile, in 1941, Subhas Chandra Bose fled from India to Germany for the freedom of India. At that time Rash Behari Bose was the leader of the Azad Hind Fauj. In 1943, Bose came to Singapore to lead the Indian Independence League and reconstituted the Indian National Army to become the key weapon to achieve India's Independence. About 45,000 soldiers were involved in the Azad Hind Fauj. In which besides the Indian prisoners, included Indians who had settled in many countries of Southeast Asia. He also formed the Rani Jhansi Regiment for women. This unit was created in July 1943, voluntarily by the Overseas Indian population of Southeast Asia. Lakshmi Sehgal

became the captain of this regiment. In front of the Town Hall of Singapore on July 5, 1943, he addressed the army as the 'Supreme Commander'. And together with the Japanese army, took a firm fight with the British forces in Burma, Imphal and Kohima together.

Subhas Chandra Bose established the Azad Hind Government on October 21, 1943 in Singapore, to liberate India by a strong revolution. Countries like China, Germany, Japan, Philippines, Korea, Italy, Manchuko and Ireland have accepted this government. Japan gave Andaman and Nicobar Islands to this temporary government. This government remains with military, economic and moral support of the Japanese empire. On December 30, 1943, the flag of Independent India was hoisted on these Islands. On February, 1944, the Azad Hind Fauj again attacked the Britishers and liberated some Indian territories from Kohima, Imphal etc. Despite the surrender of Japan on August 14, 1945, Azad Hind refused to give up and continued the war. The picture of the roaring tiger was made on the symbol of Azad Hind Fauj. Netaji reached Burma on July 4, 1944 with his Azad Hind Fauj. This was the place where he said the famous words 'Give me blood, and I will give you freedom'. In 1944, the Azad Hind Fauj attacked the British and also liberated some Indian territories.

During World War Second, Azad Hind Fauj attacked India with the help of Japanese Army. To inspire his army Netaji gave a slogan 'Lets go Delhi'. Both the forces won the Andaman and Nicobar Islands from the British. Netaji named these Islands 'Shaheed-dweep' (Martyr Island) and Swaraj-dweep (Self rule Island). Both the forces jointly attacked Imphal and Kohima. But later the British plummeted heavily and both the forces had retreat.

Addressing Gandhi ji through his speech in Azad Hind Radio on July 6, 1944, Netaji told about the purpose of taking help from Japan and the purpose of establishing the Azad Hind Fauj. Netaji's attempt to liberate India from the clutches of the British through the Azad Hind Fauj did not succeed directly, but it was far reaching. Naval Rebellion in 1946 is an example of this. Only after the Naval Rebellion, Britain believed that now India cannot be ruled by force, and apart from liberating India, they have no other option.

There is no other example like Azad Hind Fauj in the world history, where 30-35 thousand war prisoners were organised, trained and then defeated the British. By reaching East Asia and Japan, he started expanding the Azad Hind Fauj. The speech given by Subhas Chandra Bose in Jubilee Hall of Rangoon has always been marked in the pages of history. There is a dispute regarding the death of Netaji. The life or death of Subhas Chandra Bose after August 18, 1945 has remained an unresolved secret till date. It is believed that Subhas Chandra Bose died in an air crash, but many of Subhas admirers do not believe in this theory.

Conclusion

Bose advocated complete independence for India, while the Congress Committee discussed it in phases through Dominion status. Bose was elected president of the Indian National Congress for two consecutive years. After the ideological differences with Mahatma Gandhi, he had to resign from the post. He openly attacked Congress's foreign and internal policies. Bose believed that the strategies of Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence would never be enough to secure India's

Independence, and advocated violent resistance. He established a separate political party, 'All India Forward Bloc' and continued to make full and immediate calls for India's Independence from British rule. The British authorities imprisoned him eleven times. He gave the famous slogan 'Give me blood and I will give you freedom', which influenced the masses. His approach with the blaze of World War II did not change. He called this situation as an opportunity to take advantage of British weakness. At the beginning of the war, he left India, travelled to Soviet Union, Germany and Japan, demanded an alliance with intention of attacking the British in India. He reorganised and led the Indian National Army with Japanese aid. With Japanese assistance he formed the Azad Hind Fauj in exile. He led the Indian National Army in the fight against the allies at Imphal and Burma. It is believed that he died in a plane crash on Taiwan on 18 August 1945.

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