

Freedom Leaders and their Approach Towards the Use of popular Media for Freedom Struggle: Newspapers a Study

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ABSTRACTS

This research paper envisages about the role of Freedom leaders in Freedom struggle of India. The freedom leaders used the only media newspapers to spread the national news all over India. Further, the specific aspect of freedom movement in India is freedom leaders are elite educated groups and the majority of participants of the Indian people are uneducated, though inspired by the public speeches, agitations and protests from the leaders. More over, the newspapers paved the way for milestone in India's struggle for Independence. The freedom leaders themselves spread the news of agitations orally and the same published in newspapers.

The popular leaders guided the next level leaders to popularise various agitations against the British Government. The next level leaders though less educated people are having small hand outs, pamphlets and other items to spread out the freedom news in remote villages. The Newspapers are served as powerful weapon to spread the national news not only in India but also other countries. The Newspapers which published in regional languages such as Bengali, Marathi, Tamil etc are source of information to the people. Though, the newspapers remain a source in national news of political situation but also social conditions of colonial period.

Keywords: Movement, Freedom, Public Speeches, Agitations, Protests, Published, Extremists, Moderates, Uneducated, Regional, National, Political, Social, Record,

The freedom leaders had a tremendous efforts to bring free India. They used to popularise various agitations of freedom movement newspapers. The leaders are:

1. Motilal Nehru
2. Nadabhai Naoroji
3. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
4. Gopala Krishna Gokale
5. Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
6. Rabindranath Tagore
7. Rajaram Mohan Ray
8. Dr. Anne Basant
9. Jhansi Rani Laxmi Bai
10. Subhash Chandra Bose
11. Gandhiji

Among the freedom leaders, these are few leaders who involved in the formation of Indian National Congress are such as Nadabhai Naoroji, Motilal Nehru, W.C. Banerji and of course, Allen Octavian Hume. The Indian National Congress had been lead to nation various agitations against British Government¹ The Indian National Congress had been organized many annual meetings to discuss various things in regard of freedom movement. The first and foremost protest of Indian National Congress is, 1905, partition of Bengal. Because of the strong protests by the freedom leaders, the British Government, Lord Curzon withdraw the partition of Bengal.²

Bal Gangadhar Tilak, a newspaper known as Kesari on 4th January 1881 in Marathi language Tilak also founded newspaper in English 'Maharatta' and Mirror.³ The Newspapers of Tilak in Marathi and English spread the news of all meetings and agitations heartily places of Bombay presidency. The people came to know the all activities of Extremists. This is not only know by people of Bombay but also other parts of the country. Bal Gangadhar Tilak united the people to attain freedom through the newspapers. 4

Wherever he announce, the agitations, the agitations, protests published in newspapers, thus people assembled in various places. The leaders and people free Bengal and Bombay Presidencies gathered in Bengal, Bombay and Madras presidencies.

Gopal Krishna Gokale

Gopal Krishna Gokale, the freedom fighter of Maharashtra took up the weapon of Non-violence to get freedom from British, Government. He established a newspaper known as 'Hitavada' in 1911. 5

This newspaper of Gokul Krishna, Gokule, the role mode to Mahatma Gandhiji who lead the freedom movement by 1920 – Non Corporation. The method of Non-violence policy of moderates of Gokale is policy of Gandhiji till 1947. 6

Raja Ram Mohan Roy

There are popular freedom fighters from Bengal presidency. One among the leader and social reformer is Ram Mohan Roy, Later honoured by the British Government title 'Raja' Raja Ram Mohan Roy evoked the people by this social reform movement. He had been submitted report to the British Government, to enact various laws such as sati prevention, child marriage, female Infanticide widow remarriage and so an. The newspaper of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in Bengali is known as 'Sambad Kaumudi'.⁷

This is a weekly Newspaper, founded in 1819. The Newspaper 'Sambad Kaumudi' issued first in 1821. This 'Sambad Kaumudi' expressed in the view of people's benefit and social cause of better India during colonial period.

Dr. Annie Besant

The founder of the Indian National Congress is an Englishmen Allen Octavian Hume,⁸ likewise, a British Women who fought for freedom movement, Dr. Annie Besant. Annie, worked for upliftment of women, founder the Home Rule Movement Theosophical Society and Freedom Fighter as First British Woman to took part in freedom struggle. Dr. Annie Besant evoked and recreate the thoughts by Theosophical society, Adyar Colonial Madras Presidency. Dr. Besant served the destitute women and started Home for women and Adyar, 'Seva Sadan' Schools. Dr. Besant started a News letters and Newspaper called New India. 9

¹ BETTS RAYMOND F. (2012) "Decolonization in BOGAERTS ELS. RABEN, REMO (eds) Decolonization, A Brief History of the word beyond Empire and National. The Decolonization of African and Asian Societies, 1930s 1970 Bill. Pp.23-38.

²,

Bharathi

Subramania Bharathi, a poet through his revolutionary poems known to people from Madras Presidency, South India and to entire India. Bharathi also started Newspaper and used to spread the news of freedom movement in Tamil Nadu, Particularly in Southern districts Tuticorin, Thirunelveli. Bharathi who popularize Nationalism Socialism and strongly against castism by his poems. Bharathi worked for many Newspapers also 'Hindu' News and he also started Nadabhai Naoroji in Freedom struggle and against foreign clothes. 9

Bharathi worked in Tamil Newspaper known as 'India' and also worked English Newspaper Bala Bharatham and started editor of Swadesa Mitran. 10

Vochidambaram

Vochidambaram, belong to Tuticorin of Gouthem Madras Contemporary of Subramania Bharathi VOC and Bharathi participated in congress meeting in 1907 where, the ideologies differ the leaders Tilak and Gokale. The political ideology continued until India attain independence. The research paper has brought many prominent leaders from all parts of India including Tamilnadu actively participated in freedom movement. These freedom leaders used various media to popularise their activities, are such method is newspapers, a documents remain for so many years as source to study freedom are very important to study any independent movement as American war of Independence, Russian Revolution, French Revolutions and African racial movements. Thus, the newspapers paved the way for milestone in India's Independence. The research paper has brought many prominent leaders from all parts of India including Tamilnadu actively participated in freedom movement. These freedom leaders used various media to popularise their activities, are such method is newspaper, a document remain for so many years as source to study freedom movement in India. The sources are very important to study any independent movement as American War of Independence, Russian Revolution, French Revolution and African racial movements. Thus, the newspapers paved the way for milestone in India's Independence.

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