

ROLE OF VARIOUS PLACES IN NATIONAL MOVEMENT

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ABSTRACT

Indian National Movement is one of the historic movements in the world. It was the world largest movement which was fought for freedom. It is also known as the freedom struggle of India. India got its freedom, not in a day. Britisher's rule in India for more than 200 years. India National Movement is not just a movement, it is a movement of several small and big movements. Many revolutionaries all around India participated in this movement. A number of revolutionaries were killed by the Britisher's. But still, the freedom fighters continue fighting for freedom. From the era of King and queens to the era of governance, every India wanted Britisher's to go out of India. There are various places where revolts started in India. Every place has its importance. Some has given freedom fighters, some contributed by their resources and some are contributed through their support. Contribution of any place in any manner leads to pushing the freedom movement. Whether it is salt satyagraha or Dandi March, people contributed to the freedom struggle. In this paper, the role of various places from India in contributing to the freedom struggle is discussed. The author tries to highlight certain specific events and revolutionaries from different places around India. Although there are more than 1000 revolutionaries and more than 100 places that contributed to National Movement the author tries to highlight the key places and revolutionaries. The method used in writing this paper is doctrinal.

Keywords: Revolutionaries, freedom, National Movement, India.

Introduction

“Freedom, in any case, is only possible by constantly struggling for it.” -Albert Einstein.

One of the biggest mass movements in the world in modern society is the Indian National Movement. It was the moment of pride and struggle when the Indian was coated with bravery and ideology to fight against the political structure against the colonial empire and

brought them to their knees. Earlier, during the colonial period, when Britishers ruling over Indian, they have highly criticized the people who are of the Gandhian ideology and against the Britisher's strategy as the strategy of Britisher's is in conflict with the rule of law. The Indians were highly emphasised on the Gandhian Strategy. The Indian national movement is the greatest exam of a semi-democratic form of political government. It is also one of the most prominent examples of how a movement with a common aim and with a common ideology could exist. India with diverse culture having demand for freedom starts debating about freedom and democracy and this togetherness of Indians on the common issue become the major strength. The Britisher's were violating the basic human rights of Indians. The national movement is the result of such violations. The National movement is not started in a day. It takes place slowly-slowly from the very beginning when Britisher's starts encroaching India. Everyone whether the extremist or the conservative starts opposing the policies and the rules of the Britisher's. Madan Mohan Malaviya and M.R Jayakar started opposing the different bills which as prepared by the Britisher's against the Indians. It becomes the strongest civil libertarian and democratic tradition of the national movement which was reflected in the making of Independent India. In India due to the differences in the culture and diversity, the Britishers uses this as a tool to bifurcate the Indian's but for Indian's freedom struggle is not about class and caste it is all about the freedom of the nation from all type of rule. All the due to differences in class, it becomes a struggle for Indians due to differences in Ideological perspective which starts arising due to the intervention of the Britisher's.

The National Movement is the first and the foremost moment when the Indians realises their unity and integrity. The people come together as a nation. Now India is the people of Indians. People realise that we as a nation is more-strong than as a separate person or entity. The Indian leaders such as the Dadabhai Naroji, Surendranath Banerjee and Tilak to Gandhiji and Nehru, all accepted the fact that India is not a nation but it is a nation in making. They all started promoting the unity and integrity of the nation. In a very short time, Indian National Movement took a place in world history as it is one of the greatest mass movements of the world. We have seen people fighting together and supporting each other in the satyagraha campaigns.

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Champaran: Champaran is a district in Bihar. The First satyagraha took place here even before the satyagraha came into the knowledge of people. The Indians were forced to grow

the Indigo and when it comes to the knowledge of the Gandhiji, he visited to look after the condition of the farmers who are exploited by the Britisher's. Britisher's threatens Gandhiji and asked him to leave the place immediately. Even the Britisher's from his official notification barred Gandhi Ji from continuing his work at Champaran. Soon after Gandhiji was arrested and presented in the court of law where he refused to acknowledge the Britisher's notice. The Indian is in anger due to such acts of Britisher's and the Indian's covered the court and the police station and forced them to leave Gandhiji and even asked them to allow him to do his work at Champaran. It was the people of Champaran who showed their bravery and give an example of the Civil disobedience Movement.

Sabarmati: A suburb of Ahmedabad city of Gujarat, it gained national and even international prominence for the ashram, one of the four residences of Gandhiji where he lived for around 12 years with his wife Kasturba Gandhi. Formerly called the Satyagraha Ashram, it was founded by Gandhiji on his return from South Africa, on May 25, 1915, at Kocharab¹. Later, it was shifted to its present place on the banks of the Sabarmati in July 1917.²

Sabarmati is a place in Gujarat where Gandhiji used to live for 12 years with his wife Kasturba Gandhi. It was formerly named the Satyagraha Ashram. It has great importance as the Gandhiji live here and takes a certain decision which is necessary for the Indian National Movement. The govt. of India declared this place as the National Monument for its significant role in the National Movement. From this Place, Gandhiji started Dandi March (salt satyagraha) to protest the Britishers Salt Law. He used salt as a medium and said "next to air and water, salt is perhaps the greatest necessity of life." It was one of the biggest movements started here and a large number of Indians participated in it. This march has a great impact on the British's as and the rest of the world.³

Bombay: Bombay, the city where INC (Indian National Congress) took Birth at the Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College. A.O Hume was the founder of the INC and Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee was the first president of INC. The national struggle cannot be separated from INC and INC was started in Bombay. The main aim of the first session was "obtaining a greater share in government for educated Indians and to create a platform for civic and

¹ The Hindu, thehindu.com, (last visited July 25th 2021), <https://www.thehindu.com/features/kids/cities-that-played-a-role-in-the-freedom-struggle/article7535208.ece>.

² Ibid.

³ Zee News, zeenews.india.com, , (last visited July 25th 2021), https://zeenews.india.com/news/india/10-important-places-related-to-indias-freedom-struggle_1918570.html.

political dialogue of educated Indians with the British Raj". Therefore, Bombay becomes the prominent place for National Movement. During the All India Congress Session in Bombay, Gandhiji Launched the 'QUIT INDIA' movement by delivering a speech "It is to join a struggle for such democracy that I invite you today. Once you realise this you will forget the differences between the Hindus and Muslims, and think of yourselves as Indians only, engaged in the common struggle for independence". As a result of this speech, all the greatest leaders of India Including Gandhiji and Nehru got arrested.⁴

Madras: Madras role is very important as many freedom fighters is from Madras such as like Subramanya Bharathi, V.O. Chidambaram Pillai, K. Kamaraj, Sir S. Subramania Iyer, and several others, In the first session of Congress in Bombay, as discussed earlier, out of 72 participants, 22 were from madras presidency. And after this, the third session of Congress was held in Madras by the 362 delegates. From Madras, Gandhi Ji started nationwide hartal where "the people of India observe a fast, engage in prayer and peacefully hold public meetings on April 6. Thus was born the Non-Cooperation Movement."

Meerut: Meerut, the place where the first war of Independence took place. It is situated in Uttar Pradesh. The Britishers establishes the Meerut Cantonment in 1803, but the rising discontent led to what is known now as the First War of Independence in 1857. Due to such a situation, it gave a threat to the East India Company. The very famous 'Kali Paltan Mandir', where the freedom fighters conduct their meetings with the officers of the army is Meerut. The 'Kali Paltan' was the name given by the Britishers to the Indians as a 'Black army'.

Barrackpore: The very famous place in the history of the National Movement where Mangal Pandey refused to follow the order of his British commander. The famous armed rebellion was started by the Barrackpore. Mangal Pandey does not want to load the rifle because the cartridges were made from beef. As the Mangal Pandey was Hindu. When they forced him to do so he opened fire on British Lt. Henry Baugh. In response to it, Mangal Pandey was hanged to death. Barrackpore is the oldest cantonment in India.

Jhansi: The City of Rani Lakshmi Bai. The place of war between the Maharani Lakshmi Bai and the Britisher's. Initially, the Britisher's annexed the state of Jhansi under the policy of 'Doctrine of Lapse' as the son of the Rani Lakshmi Bai was adopted and according to the Britisher's, his son was not the legal heir of the crown. Rani Lakshmi Bai fought alone as some of the neighbour rulers who are the follower of Britisher's are giving support to the

⁴ Studyhippo, studyhippo.com, (last visited July 24, 2021), <https://studyhippo.com/persuasive-powers-of-the-reknown-gandhi-and-daldier/>.

Britisher's. but apart from all these difficulties the Rani successfully saved the kingdom. Rani Lakshmi Bai died during the battle of Gwalior. Many British commanders compared her with "Joan of Arc" for her fearless fight for the kingdom.

Calcutta: Calcutta, famously known as the Cultural Capital of India. Calcutta is one of the most centres of Indian Nationalism throughout the Independence struggle. Surendra Nath Banerjee who was the foundation of the very famous Indian National Association was from Kolkata and the association was formed in Calcutta. Calcutta is a place from where many freedom fighters, poets, writers, social reformers and nationalists were associated. Many freedom fighters belong to this pious place such as Rabindranath Tagore, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, Aurobindo Ghose, Rash Behari Bose, Khudiram Bose, Subhas Chandra Bose and many more and they all are related to freedom fighters.

Punjab: The freedom struggle in Punjab started soon after the defeat of Sikhs in the first Anglo-Sikh war. The Anglo-Sikh war took place in Lahore. The Naujawan Sabha is in Punjab and it played an important role in the political history of the Indian National Movement. The sabha spread Anti-British and revolutionary ideas in the mind of people, especially the youth of Punjab. They started showing interest in the Anti-Government movement and they are also boycotting the Simon Commission. They also started responding against the policies framed by the British Government. The communist activities started in Punjab. The Sabha aim to make all the workers and peasants free from British rule. Feeling of Patriotism in the youth starts evolving in the Sabha. Apart from this, the Gadar party was also organised by Punjabi Indians in the US and Canada to liberate Indians from British rule. The Gadar party is almost of Punjabi and all the Punjabi belongs to the Gadar party were from Punjab.

Amritsar (Jallianwala Bagh): It is the most turning point of the freedom struggle for Indians where more than 1000 Indians were killed brutally. It is also famously known as the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre. Britisher commander Reginald Dyer ordered his army man to fire on the Indian crowd who are protesting for the release of Dr. Satyapal and Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew. With the help of a machine gun, they killed almost all of the Indian protestors. The bagh was already covered with a wall and on the walls the Britisher's army takes place, Dyer without giving any warning ordered the army to fire and killed almost all of the protestors. Udham Singh who was an Indian revolutionary assassinated Michael O'Dwyer who had backed Reginald Dyer firing on an innocent crowd.

Chauri Chaura: It is a small town in Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh. The incident is famously known as the 'Chauri Chaura Incident'. In this Incident, the Britishers killed some of the silent protestors and in response to it, the Indian mob in anger fired the entire police station and killed 22 policemen. The non-cooperation movement which was organised by Mahatma Gandhi was later called off after this incident. As Mahatma Gandhi follows the path of Non-violence and this incident is of complete violence. Gandhiji believes that Indian people were not prepared and not yet ready to do what was needed to do for freedom. This decision of Gandhiji was criticised by many leaders. In response to the killing of Britisher's Police Man, the Britisher's passed Martial law and arrested more than 100 Indians.

Kakori: Kakori is a town located in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The famous Kakori conspiracy took place here. The town is known for the 'train robbery' of Kakori. For the fight against the Britisher's, Indians needs the money and for the sole reason, they looted the train which contains the money of the Britishers. They successfully looted the Britisher's govt. Treasury. They successfully looted 8000 INR and unfortunately, one passenger got killed while doing this treasury. This is the first time when Britisher's were looted in India. In anger, they issued a notice and around 40 revolutionaries were arrested. This anger of Britisher's gave death punishment to 4 freedom fighters. Are, Pandit Ram Prasad Bismil, Thakur Roshan Singh, Rajendra Nath Lahiri and Ashfaqullah Khan were sentenced to death.

Pune: Aga Khan Palace is now known as the Gandhi National Museum. Mahatma Gandhi was imprisoned here and his wife Kasturba Gandhi died in this jail and it serves as her samadhi. Pune is also famous for Brahmans. 20% of the population of Pune is covered with Brahmins and they hold the political and economic strength of Pune. Most of the revolutionaries from Pune were the Brahmins.

Red Fort, Delhi: The place where the first time Indian National Flag was hosted was ON 15TH August 1947, and the Prime Minister addressed the nation from red fort every year.

Chittagong: Now the Chittagong is located in Bangladesh. It is also famously known for 'Chittagong Armoury Raid'. This raid was led by Surya Sen. He was the organiser of this event, he organises many young revolutionaries and asked them to siege police armouries in Chittagong. They all captured the police armoury, cut off the telegraph line and they successfully hosted Indian National Flag.

Bangalore: Freedom Park is a place in Bangalore. This was initially the Central Jail worked by the British in the year 1866. The prison was the place where a huge number of dissidents battling for the opportunity of India were buried. A spot that repeated to the furious weeps for

the opportunity. Today Freedom Park is a spot utilized for fights and other citizens' movements.

Chennai: Chennai played an important role while India's struggle for freedom. Several meetings for freedom occur in Chennai and Chennai is a place of several freedom fighters. One of the famous places in Chennai as to freedom struggle is 'Tilak Bhawan, No.2 Cathedral Road', this was the rented house for the C. Rajagopalachari. He was the first and the last Governor-General. He then becomes the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. In the same place, Mahatma Gandhi and Rajaji met for the first time. Now, this is a Luxurious Hotel in Chennai.

Tilak ghat on Marina Beach: The sound of the influxes of the Arabian Sea would be suffocated by the energetic voices of the heads of India tending to the immense hordes of individual Indians on the Marina Beach. Where public social occasions were tended to by pioneers like Mahatma Gandhi, Annie Besant, Subash Chandra Bose, and so forth, was the Tilak Ghat. These pioneers left their impressions on the sands of times and their voices resound over the waves that accident on Marina Beach. A spot to consider over the tremendous forfeits and battles of the incalculable political dissidents that set out their lives for India's autonomy. The spot is one of the verifiable spots identified with the Indian opportunity battle.

Buxar: Buxar is a place in Bihar, which was popularly known for the 'Battle of Buxar', it was fought between British forces and the army of Mughal. Hector Munro was from the side of Britisher's and Shah Alam II, Mir Qasim and Sujau-ud-doula are from the Mughals. Soon after the Battle, Britisher's signed two separate 'treaties of Allahabad.' Diwani right of Bihar and Bengal.

Ranchi: It is one of the most important places for revolutionary activities at an early age. Kanaujiya Brahmans had sympathy for the revolutionaries. During the first world war, Dr. Jadugopal Mukherjee was the only revolutionary at Ranchi who is spreading revolutionary thoughts amongst the people of Jharkhand. He also joined the 'Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) and become one of the eminent members of such a group.

Hazaribagh: It is a suitable place for revolutionaries activities in India. Several revolutionaries are from St. Columba's College, Hazaribagh. They reside in the college. A number of revolutionary from Bengal join this college and together they meet and decide the revolutionary activity. One of the famous revolutionary Ram Binode Singh, a student from St. Columba's College, Hazaribagh.

Giridih: Several revolutionaries from the Bengal join Giridih as it is near Bengal and one of the bordering states. Some of the Bengali revolutionaries build their houses in Giridih District. Some of the revolutionaries who built their house in Giridih are Dev prasad Dutta, Benam Das Majumdar, Nirmal Banerji, Satyananda Bose, Basanta Bose and Basant Kumar Bore etc.

Dhanbad and Jharia: Dhanbad and Jharia are important as these places are famous for coal mines. For the purpose of making explosive substances, dynamites, and fuses, etc. material from Dhanbad and Jharia is used. In Dhanbad, there were the school of mines and these schools attracted the revolutionaries. Therefore, because of mines, Dhanbad played an important role in the national Movement.

Jamshedpur: One of the greatest contributions from TATA. In the TATA Iron and Steel Factory, they never made any register of the employees. No detail of the employee and their address is added. Therefore, it becomes prime for the revolutionary to work here without providing details and plan revolutionary work. Even the Maratha employees in the Tata's Works at Sakchi had formed an association called the 'Samarah'. Several Bengali's works in the Tata factory in Jamshedpur.

Daltonganj (Palamu): Some of the revolutionaries were from this place too. Revolutionary such as Lal Chand, who attacked a Push-cart full of mail bags at the railway station. He along with his 20 revolutionary partners attacked the mail cart. Another very famous revolutionary incident is the 'palamau Revolver case'.

Deoghar: One of the bordering states from Bengal and Bihar. Deoghar is a religious place and due to spirituality, most of the part of the place is covered with forest. It was one of the most convincing places for the revolutionaries. At Deoghar, a secret society was also established in the name of 'The Golden League'. A number of revolutionaries and their families belong to this place and several activities take birth from here.

Praja & Ludhiana: In 1939 at Ludhiana in all India's conferences, a decision was required to set up Praja Mandal in all regal states in Himachal Pradesh. In this specific situation, on 13 July 1939 a meeting was coordinated under the chairmanship of Bhagmal Sautha of Shimla slope state. Then, at that point on Praja Mandal were set up in Sirmour, Chamba, Mandi, Bushar, Sundernagar and so on To sort out and coordinate the exercises of these Praja Mandals, in 1939 Himalayan Riyasti Praja Mandal was set up.

Dhami: To guarantee the majority rule privileges of individuals in Dhami state, Bhagmal Sautha pulled out to the Rana of Dhami. However, Rana wouldn't conform to the interest of

individuals. On sixteenth July 1939 under the authority of Bhagmal, individuals began to parade towards Dharmi: dreading the savagery, Rana request terminating on the tranquil demonstrators.

Pajotha: Pajotha Movement-In 1939 the Raja of Sirmour began enrolling individuals powerfully from the state to help British powers in the second universal conflict. Individuals detested this move and ranchers framed a Kisan Sabha and dispatched non-participation development. The Raja embraced suppressive measures to quiet the demonstrators. The conspicuous pioneers were – Mian Chu, Basti Ram, Chet Ram Verma and vaidh Surat Ram.

Sirmaur: Sirmaur Praja Mandal-Shivanand Ramul Chaudhary Sherjang and Dr. Devinder singh were the conspicuous heads of Sirmaur Praja Mandal. Dr. Parmar was region and meeting judge of Sirmaur around then. He was ousted from Sirmaur because of his disparities with the Raja. In 1949 Dr. Parmar surrendered his administration work. In 1943-46 Dr. Parmar framed Sirmaur association in Delhi.

Chamba: Chamba Praja Mandal-Chamba Praja Mandal was set up to reinsure the majority rule privileges of individuals of the state. This development additionally had the gift of Mahatma Gandhi.

Kangra: Kangra Movement-Non-co-activity and Satyagraha developments were fruitful in Kangra slopes. The main lights of the space were – Mangat Ram Khana, Comrade Ram Chandra, Hem Raj Sood, Paras Ram, Sharla Sharma, Pandit Amarnath and Brahmanand.

Mandi: Mandi Conference-A meeting of Mandi Praja Mandals occurred from eighth March 1946, in which 48 delegates took part. Ex-solider of INA colonel G.S. Dhillion directed the gathering. This gathering was talked with the message of vote based system for all.

Suket: Suket Satyagraha-Suket Satyagraha was driven by Pandit Padam Dev for the consolidation of the state with the Indian association. Raja Laxman Singh was the leader of the state around then, marked the increase report under open tension. Then, at that point on regal rulers followed the cycle and eventually on the fifteenth April 1948 Himachal was shaped.

Gwalior: The Quit India Movement started in Gwalior and spread throughout Madhya Pradesh. This movement gave voice to many voiceless revolutionaries in a small district.

Madhya Pradesh gave many freedom fighters to India in national Movement such

- a. Chandra Shekhar Azad
- b. Ravishankar Shukla
- c. Tatyatya Tope

- d. Rani Lakshmi Bai
- e. Rani Avanti Bai
- f. Tantya Bheel (Tantya Mama)
- g. Jhalkari Bai

Salem, Tamil Nadu: In Salem, Tamil Nadu, a fort was built in the 15th century i.e., Sankagiri Fort by Vijayanagar Empire. The fort was so strongly built with six tiers of walls and 11 gates. It was earlier used as 'treasury', and 'armoury'. Waging war against the East India Company was initiated.

Allahabad: Anand Bhawan, now named Swaraj Bhawan, is situated in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh. Initially, Jawahar Lal Nehru and his family reside here. But later on, it is turned into the head office of the Indian National Congress in 1920. This is one of the most important places where decisions were taken to abolish the rule of the East India Company from India. Revolutionaries from INC prepare a plan for the freedom struggle. It becomes centre in modern history as most of the planning and executions against the East India Company started from here.

Maharashtra: August Kranti Maidan was famously known as the Gowalia Tank Maidan. This is the only place where Mahatma Gandhi started the 'quit India movement' against the British rule in India. The famous quote was given by Mahatma, 'Do or Die' is initiated from this maidan only. This is the place that united people against British rule in India. A voice in loud saying 'Do or Die' by Mahatma Gandhi given energy to the Indians and also voice to the voiceless Indians.

Jammu and Kashmir: Mubarak Mandi in Jammu and Kashmir, a place from where Dogra rulers reigned for over 200 years. This place was won by Raja Ranjit Singh. This is also the place where the first Anglo-Sikh war happened and later this war turns into Amritsar Treaty. It is then after years, it becomes the Royal Court and Secretariate of Maharaja Hari Singh. This place plays an important role in the Indian National Movement. Raja Hari Singh is also against the arbitrary rule of Britishers.

CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY

Indian National Movement shows the strength of India and has become one of the prime examples of unity and integrity. Fight for the right and freedom becomes the sole of revolutionaries. Earlier it was just a battle against Britishers and some part of the country. All the parts were fighting for their rights and then when the cruelty of Britishers increases,

then all the people of India United together. It then encompasses the whole of India. However, India was not a country and there is no specific border as such but it was provisionally decided by the kings of India like Ashoka's, Marathas and Akbar's. Britisher's slowly-slowly started spreading their roots in India. They started providing job to Indian and started treating them as a slave. When they find that India and not that much educated about their language and culture, they started running their schools. Lord Macaulay started western education in India just to educate them on western thoughts and language so that after education they can work for them. The National Movement of India becomes the common consciousness among all the people. The revolts took place in any part of the country and the formation of INC, All India Kishan Sabha, Youth League, All India Trade Union Congress etc. as well as secret groups for freedom struggle is a part of it. The Indian National Movement was one of the biggest mass movements of the world, it holds diversity in it. It means diversity in the form of culture, talent, and capacities. It holds a place for the poor, rich, men, women, children, young and even the old people who participated in the movement. The National Movement of India was based on the idea of civil libertarian, democratic, and social and secular society. People of India wanted to be independent and self-reliant in every aspect whether it is economic or political. Various places from India participated and contributed to the national movement by contributing resources and freedom fighters. Some helped due to geographical conditions. Areas covered with forest contributed with tress and the elephants also used. In the forest, revolutionaries hide and conduct meetings, for example, in the jungle of Jamshedpur. The fort's of India at higher altitudes help us to as a watchdog and it also uses as a bank for several enumerations and also holds prime location for meeting and planning for the freedom movement . the places which give birth to the revolutionaries, who not only fought for the National but also spread the feeling of freedom and patriotism is of great contribution. The last phase of struggle was bathed in blood and riots in Punjab, the determination of East Punjab and West Punjab goes to their respective places. In the end, India came as an Act of Parliament but it was a long-suffering and greatest struggle by the Indians. Lastly, I would like to say-

“अनगिनत अनमोल शहीद हो गए वे आजादी के मतवाले थे भारत माता की अस्मिता बचाने

हिंद फौज के जांबाज़ दीवाने थे!”

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