

Biography of Subhas Chandra Bose & his role in Indian National Movement

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ABSTRACT:

Indian history has many glorious events and personalities throughout the ages. All these things have its own importance and relevance. As far as the personalities of Indian History is concern, there is a long list of personalities who got its place in the annals of Indian History. If we look at the personalities of Modern History of India and specifically of the freedom struggle movement of India from 1885 to till independence i.e. 1947, some notable names comes in the mind of every Indian as well as all other non-Indian who have a brief knowledge about India and Indians are Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Baba Saheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Bhagat Singh, Rabindra Nath Tagore and many more including Subhas Chandra Bose. Subhas Chandra Bose is an interesting topic of Indian National Movement. As we know very well that his life is a golden history of Indian freedom struggle movement but his death became mystery. He founded Azad Hind Fauz to liberate the motherland from the chain of British Rule in India. He was known as Netaji means respected leader during his life time. The present research article focuses on the important aspects of Bose's life and his work in special references to Indian National Movement.

Keywords: *Subhas Chandra Bose, Indian National Movement*

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His life: Subhas Chandra Bose was born in Cuttack, Orissa on 23rd January 1897. Orissa was a division under the Province of Bengal during the British Rule in India. His father, Janakinath Bose was an advocate and his mother was Prabhavati Dutt Bose. His father became a member of the Bengal Legislative Council and got the title of Rai Bahadur, but he resigned from the said post renounced the title as a protest against the policy of the British Government. His mother Prabhavati Devi was a virtuous and spiritual lady. So, he was from a well to do family. Bose was the 9th child among 14 children of his parents. He received his basic education in Cuttack from a Protestant European School which is currently known as Stewart High School. For higher education he was

admitted to the Presidency College. He was mainly influenced by the teachings of Ramkrishna Pramhans and Swami Vivekananda at the age of 16 after reading their works. He was also influenced by his own patents as well as the teachings of Aurobindo Ghosh, C.R.Das, Lenin and many others. He thought that his religion is very important rather than his studies. This factor as well as the offensive remarks of the British against the Indians made an impact of his thinking. He passed the Indian Civil Services Exam which was one of the top class examination in those day. In this exam, he secured the 4th rank in this administrative exam but he rejected to join it because Subhas Chandra Bose was deeply disturbed by the Jallianwalla Bagh massacre. So,

he was of the opinion that this job is just a service to the British, not Indian.

Indian National Movement & His Role:

Like many youths of India, he was influenced by Mahatma Gandhi. So, he joined the Indian National Congress. On Gandhi's advice, he started working under Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das, whom he later acknowledged his political Guru. Soon he showed his leadership courage and gained his way up in the Congress' hierarchy. In 1928 the Motilal Nehru Committee appointed by the Congress declared in favor of Domination Status, but Subhash Chandra Bose along with Jawaharlal Nehru opposed it, and both emphasized for complete independence for India.

Subhash Chandra Bose was imprisoned during Civil Disobedience Movement in 1930. After Gandhi-Irwin Pact, he was released in 1931. He was not happy with the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. So, he opposed the suspension of Civil Disobedience movement especially when Bhagat Singh and his associates were hanged. He was shortly arrested again under the notorious Bengal Regulation. After a year he was released on medical grounds and was exiled from India to Europe. He took steps to establish centers in different European capitals with a view to promoting politico-cultural contacts between India and Europe. He came India by violating his ban to enter India, Subhash Chandra Bose returned to India and was again arrested and jailed for a year. Congress contested the General Election (1937) and Congress came to power in seven states. Hence, Subhash Chandra Bose was released. Shortly afterwards he was elected President at the Haripura Congress Session in 1938.

As a Congress President, he talked of planning in concrete terms, and set up a National planning Committee in October that year. He once

again contested the presidential election to the Tripuri Congress session took place in early 1939 after the end of his first term. Subhas Chandra Bose was reelected by defeating Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya against the will of Mahatma Gandhi and the Congress Working Committee. There was much obstruction to his firm stand, and he resigned from the post of President and formed a progressive group known as the Forward Bloc.

Subhas Chandra Bose was detained in his Calcutta home under constant police guard at the advent of World War II. He did not come out of his house for more than a month, nor did he see anyone during that period. Somehow, one midnight, he escaped in the disguise of a Maulavi and reached Germany under an Italian diplomatic passport with an Italian name of Orlando Mazzota. In Germany, he formed the first Indian National Army (I.N.A.) with the 'prisoners of war' who were Indian soldiers serving the British Army. Now he became famous as 'Netaji'. He started an Indian Radio Station termed as Azad Hind Radio in Berlin, from where he had very often to broadcast for his countrymen suggesting about their political activities during the war. From here, Subhas went to Japan, where I. N. A. was expanded with the addition of more soldiers and civilians. The I.N.A. was now a large army. Subhas, as the Chief Commander of the I.N.A., declared war against the British.

The I.N.A. fought tooth and nail in the Burma front, and hoisted Indian national flag in Imphal of Manipur. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose addressed the Indian National Army at a rally of Indians in Burma, in 1944. The war took suddenly a strange turn, because the Japanese who were I.N.A.'s allied forces surrendered. So, Netaji had to order withdrawal of his I.N.A. His senior army officials advised him to go to Russia for help. He left for Russia in a Japanese aircraft which

unfortunately met with an accident at the time of taking off, and the great Indian leader Netaji died on the spot on 18th August, 1945. People of India still believe that his death is shrouded in mystery. The sad news of his death had ended all the hopes of his Indian National Army to fight against British rule. Even after his death, he is still alive with his vibrant nationalism in the heart of Indian people as an undying inspiration. According to the scholarly opinion, he died because of the third-degree burn due to the overloaded Japanese plane crash.

Conclusion:

The great works and contributions of Netaji have been marked in the Indian history as an unforgettable event. Netaji, no doubt left an indelible mark in the history of Indian Freedom Movement. His contribution has been acknowledged by the government after India's freedom in 1947, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was featured on the postage stamps in India from 1964, 1993, 1997, 2001, 2016 and 2018. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport at Kolkata, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island, formerly Ross Island and many other institutions in India are named after him.



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