

PREFACE

The great British thinker Prof. Carlyle has defined history that history is nothing but the biography of great men and that is the record of human accomplishment, particularly of great souls. His definition is completely applicable to history of freedom movement in India. After the establishment of Indian National Congress, freedom movement got spread. After the death of Lokamanya Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi became the leader of freedom movement. British Government tried to repress this movement. But it could not succeed in it. In freedom movement Maharashtra also played a great role. B.G. Tilak, Gokhale, Y.B.Chavan, Gopal Ganesh Agarkar are included in it. In Maharashtra, Satara district was on the top in freedom movement. In Satara district Y.B.Chavan, Balasaheb Desai, Baburao Ghorpade, Nana Patil, Pandu Master were the leaders of the freedom movement. In Satara district Wai taluka played an important role in the freedom movement under the brave leadership of Kisan Veer.

Kisan Veer played an important role in the pre-independence and the post-independence period. He is a glittering star of great impression in the history of freedom movement of India. His extra-ordinary role and calibre has made him hero. No one can exclude his name from the freedom movement. In 1942 he broke Yerawada jail :

and he started his underground activities. British Government tried hard but it could not arrest him. He was the leader of underground movement. British Government was in trouble because of his activities. After the Independence he played an important role in Political, Social and Co-operative fields. There are many writings on the work and life of Y.B.Chavan, Balasaheb Desai, Nana Patil etc. But history of freedom movement of India did not give special and detail attention to the role of Kisan Veer. It only contains short descriptions of his work. Work of Kisan Veer is described only as a part of the whole history and it is not sufficient to present the real estimation of his personality and work. I was impressed by his personality and decided to study his life and career thoroughly and give justice to his work.

There are few previous works done on the work of Kisan Veer. They are as follows...

1. Krantiveer Kisan Veer Jeevan Darshan Edited by B.H.Patil and published by Kisan Veer Satkar Samiti, 1967 :-

This was published on the occasion of 60th birthday of Kisan Veer. At first it was divided into two parts. First part contains felicitation articles by his close friends and his co-operaters who helped him in various field. But part second contains the life of Kisan Veer in short. In 1967 both the parts were combined together. I have referred this edition.

2. Late Kisan Veer Smruti Visheshank Edited by B.N.Chitnis published by Yashwant Shikshan Sanstha in 1981 :-

This also contains articles by his friends and persons who worked with him in various fields and persons who had close relations with him. These articles throw a different light on the work of Kisan Veer in various fields and personal life. This number is important to study the personality of Kisan Veer.

3. Kisan Veer (Case study in rural leadership) unpublished dissertation written by Prof. R.D.Dubal in 1984 :-

This is a useful to study the life of Kisan Veer. But in this work some events are not given. It shows light on the leadership of Kisan Veer and his political work. But co-operative work is not given in detail. This work is useful for the study of political work of Kisan Veer. he conducted the interviews of Kisan Veer's close friends, co-operators and used the Kisan Veer Jeevan Darshan both the volumes. But in this dissertation the social work of Kisan Veer is not given in detail. I studied this dissertation carefully. In my work I tried to give in detail about the life and work of Kisan Veer.

4. Krantiveer written by Dharmadhikari B.V. published on October 11, 1990 :-

In this book the author had tried to sketch the life of Kisan Veer. He used Kisan Veer Jeevan Darshan and took the interviews of his close friends and co-operators. But in

this work there is no chronology of the events, at the sometime there is exaggeration. This is biography of Kisan Veer. So it is useful, but in it social work is also not given in detail.

I tried to explain every event in the life of Kisan Veer in detail. I have studied the above mentioned sources and I have taken the interviews of his close friends and those people who helped Kisan Veer in various fields. I met Advocate Shridhar Kapare, Raghunath Dere, R.N.Chavan, D.N.Chavan, Sarjerao Jadhav, Shankarrao Jejurikar from Wai, Dadasaheb Jagtap, Prof. Vasanttrao Jagtap from Kenjal, Laxmanrao Patil from Bopegaon. I could not meet persons like Laxmanshastri Joshi since he was in U.S.A. and Prataprao Bhosale who was too busy in his work. So I had completed my work without their interviews. I was compelled to spend my time and money for new information. There is no other writing on the life of Kisan Veer.

Besides visiting the relevant places, interviews. I was helped by reference books with the help of all these source material I have prepared this written work which has been divided into six chapters. First chapter describes Kisan Veer's early career. This chapter shows the building of his character, personality and background of his glorious work. The second chapter deals with co-operative society. Kisan Veer played an important role in the co-operation and developed co-operative institutes like District Central Bank,

Sugar factory and other co-operative institutes. Third chapter deals with his educational work. Kisan Veer established Yashawant Shikshan Sanstha and Janata Shikshan Sanstha and played an important role in the educational field. Fourth chapter explains his political work. He played a great role in the underground movement and after the Independence of India he became a main pillar of Congress party. Fifth chapter is related with his social work. He fought against superstition, corruption and solved the problems of workers and farmers, he changed the rules of Bank for the welfare of agriculturist. Lastly sixth chapter is related to the estimation of Kisan Veer's personality and evaluation of his work. It has been tried to establish his important place in the history of freedom movement of Satara district and history of post-independent India.

Thus I have made an attempt to study the life and history of Kisan Veer.