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CONCLUSION

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: C O N C L U S I O N :

Solapur is an industrial city of Maharashtra. There are three big cotton mills and a number of spinning mills in this city. There are a large number of workers in this city. An attempt is made in this study to trace the history of the mill workers' movement in Solapur.

The historical background of the mill workers and the nature of mill workers movement during Pre-independence period is studied in the first chapter. The first mill was established in Solapur in 1874. The condition of mill workers in pre-independence period was very bad. The workers started organising and agitating to voice their demands in this period. The Bhimrao's strike of 1920 is very important strike in the history of Indian trade union movement. The trade unions also participated in the elections at that time and were also involved in freedom movement.

The role of mill workers in the freedom movement is studied in the-second chapter. The mill workers in Solapur played a very important role in freedom movement. The Solapur city became famous for the sacrifices made by the mill workers. The Martial law of 1930 was an evidence of militant actions by the mill workers in Solapur. At that time, four leaders in Solapur city were sentencad to death. One of them Mr. A. Kurban Hussen was the leader of mill workers in Solapur.

In the third chapter the role of mill workers in the post-independence period was studied. Many struggles and strikes were organised by the mill workers in this period. The mill workers were also involved in the struggle of Railway workers and the local , political strikes. There is a competition between the two main trade unions namely the Girani Kamagar Union and Rashtriya Girani Kamagar Sangh. Some times the violence took place due to the rivalry between these two unions.

In the last chapter, the political involvement of mill workers is studied. The mill workers in Solapur played Vital role in the politics of the city. The workers participated largely in the parliamentary elections. Some prominent trade union leaders got elected in the state assembly and in the city corporation . Mr. Abasaheb Killedar, Mr. Bhimrao Rane, Com. Madur, Com. Adam were elected in the assembly elections. Mr. Abasaheb Killedar became the President of the city in 1950 . The trade union leaders also participated in the local social cultural movements.

NATURE OF MILL WORKER'S MOVEMENT IN SOLAPUR :

The working class emerged in Solapur in the last quarter of 19th Century . There were some protest strikes in Solapur in 1902, 1903, and 1904. But these were unorganised strikes. There was a big strike organised by the workers in 1919-20.

known as " Bhimarao Strike" This is very important strike in the history of Indian freedom movement. This strike attracted the attention of the workers as to the need of a powerful organization. Then in 1928, the Girani Kamagar Sangh was established in Solapur, but because of its moderate nature, the ^{workers} rejected this union and their moderate leaders. Then in 1934 the Lal Bawata Union was established in Solapur. There were many strikes organised during pre-independence period under the banner of Lal Bawata Union. In 1947 the Indian national movement succeeded in over throwing the British power from this country. India got freedom, then the problems of the workers were not solved. Therefore, even now the workers were fighting for their rights. There were many strike organised by the workers in post-independence period. It shows that the working class in Solapur has a long history of organisations and agitations solve their problems. The trade union movement also contributed to the development of party system and electoral politics of the city.

: CONCLUDING REMARKS :

In the pre-independence period many strikes were organised by the mill workers. At that time the workers enthusiastically participated in the strikes. There was some awareness in them

about their rights. But there was another important reason and that was that they wanted to oppose the imperialism of British Government.

The workers played an important role in the freedom movement. At that time they thought that they were fighting under the banner of the Communist Trade Union. During the post War II period, the communist leaders gave their support to the British Government. But even then the workers were fighting with the British government. They were involved in the freedom movement.

During post independence period the workers also participated in the political struggle and other social, cultural activities. Some times the strikes, struggles took place. But they were waged mainly to solve economic bases. But the workers in this city always viewed the things from the national point of view and they are patriotic.

: CRITICAL REMARKS :

1) The trade unions played very important role in social, cultural and political activities in the city. But even now these unions have not become very powerful. The unions failed to win several facilities for the workers. Their activities did not satisfy workers. It is pointed out that more than 60% workers were not satisfied with these trade unions.

- 2) Other sections of the society paid no attention to strikes or the workers problems. This show that the unions did not make attempt to mobilise the support of the people of the city.
- 3) There is no unity between the two main unions namely the Girani Kamagar Union and the Rashtriya Girani Kamgar Sangh. These unions always compete with each other. So movement of working class has become weak.
- 4) There is internal politics in these unions. Group politics, leadership politics and the differences over the basic principles were responsible for making the unions weak.
- 5) Many strikes are organised over the political issues, and during this period unions failed to play the pressure group politics and they are used by the political parties.
- 6) The subject of the membership of the workers in very interesting. The workers registered their names in the both unions.
- 7) The conditions of the mill worker are not very good. It shows that these unions have failed in improving the conditions of the mill workers.