

C O N C L U S I O N

The purpose of the present study is to understand the meaning of Swaraja in the light of the development of political aspirations of Indian people from 1885 to 1919. It also tries to study different interpretations of concept of 'Swaraj', given by different national leaders like Tilak, Dr. Besant, Gokhale etc. and introduced by analyses the nature and meaning of the British Government in the context of different reform acts. A detailed study of Home-rule movement, started by B.G. Tilak and Mrs. Annie Besant is also include.

The first chapter is devoted to the study of changes in Indian Politics due to the establishment of British rule in India. Introduction of Western education and emergence of free-press helped the growth of new middle class in India, which created feeling of nationalism in Indian people. The establishment of the different associations after the completion of 100 years of British rule resulted in the establishment of the congress party. Indian National Congress was established to communication and to have dialogue between Britishers and Indians. The establishment of the Indian National congress was largely the result of two important events. (1) Ilbert Bill controvercy and (2) the conviction of S.N. Banerjee on the issue of the contempt of court. The Indian National Congress played a very important role in Indian freedom movement and in the evolution of the concept of 'Swaraj' or 'Self Government'.

In the Second Chapter, political reforms and agitations from

1885 to 1919 are dealt with the Indian National Congress was dominated by liberal leaders in the initial period. They were supporters of British rule and had a ~~gr~~ great faith in the British sense of justice. But there was a great impact of Western knowledge, upon them. Therefore, they demanded social and political reforms should be introduced by the British Government. There were two major groups in the congress party, moderates, like pherozshah Metha, G.K. Gokhale etc. and extremist like B.G. Tilak, Sri Aurobindo etc. They had different ideology, methods and aims, Therefore, there was controversy between these two groups and at last in 1907 at Surat Congress, extremist left the congress, because they could not get along with moderates. To satisfy moderates British Government introduced Morley-Minto acts in 1909.

The third chapter discusses the meaning of concept of Swaraj, of Tilak, Sri Aurobindo, Gokhale and Dadadhai, Naoroji. Moderates wanted more Indian involvement and participation in the administration and of country. They desired self government within the British empire. They believed in gradual evolution of political rights. The extremists demanded self government within ~~the~~ empire but they wanted self government on the model of Canada and Australia. Tilak was in view that there should be self government within British empire like that of Canada. But his ultimate goal of Swaraja was establish of sovereign independent democratic republic in India. He praised the American model of presidential form of Government with federal set up.

The fourth chapter discusses in detail Home-rule movement which was launched by both E.G. Tilak and Dr. Annie Besant. Tilak demanded self Government as early as possible. Moderates did not support the idea of movement put forward by Mrs. Besant. Both of them started this separate Home-rule league in 1916. Tilak started his Home-rule league at Belgaum and it got a wide spread in Bombay and Karnataka and Mrs. Besant launched her movement from Bombay and got support in Madras, W.P. Bombay, etc. Through their leagues both had started virulent propaganda for Home-rule. During the movement both Tilak and Besant tried to explain their vision of Swaraj and indentified it with Home-rule. It is largely due to the home-rule agitation that the British Government decided to introduced Montegue-Chelmsford reforms.

In the fifth chapter different provisions of Montegue chelmsford reforms are discussed in relation to the different perception of Swarajya. Montegau-chelmsford reforms introduced political reforms in Indian, It granted very limited political concessions to Indian people. The Indian leaders demanded self government Indian people were not satisfied with it.

The perceptions of moderates, Tilak and Gandhi were different as moderates wanted to co-operate with the government. Tilak wanted to give responsive co-operation and due to Row-latt act. Jalianwalla Bag genocide and Khilafat, Gandhi, choose the method of non-co-operation. Thus Gandhi emerged as the most extremist nationalist leader of the Indian people and succeeded in mobilizing the popular support behind him.

The concept of Swaraj was ancient Indian Political concept. Shivaji had used it to establish 'Hindavi Swaraj'. Tilak had borrowed from Shivaji. Tilak and Besant made it popular and got support from the masses because of, it, become a relevant concept and remained popular ~~after~~ after 1920 as it was used by Gandhi, Motilal Nehru, C.R. Das, Pandit J.L. Nehru and B.R. Ambedkar to connote their distinct political ideology. only after 15-8-1947, the word ceased exist as a political concept.

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