

- University Grants Commission (UGC)
- Scientific Journal Impact Factor (SJIF)
- Cosmoc Impact Factor (CIF)
- Global Impact Factor (GIF)
- International Impact Factor Services (IIFS)

Goan freedom Struggle and 'Hom-kand' Started by Jeevanmukt Maharaj

-Vinay Madgaonkar

Asst. Professor,

Dept. of Marathi,

Goa University.

vinay@unigoa.ac.in

Contact no. 8308477664

Abstract

Indian freedom straggle was succeeded in year 1947, but Goa was under Portuguese rule till 19 December 1961. Goan freedom struggle was supported by Indian Army, freedom fighters as well as Goan people. Satguru Jeevanmukt Maharaj was religious leader revolt against Portuguese in Shivoli village of Goa. At that point of time when Portuguese officer Cosmero Montero assassinated first Goan freedom fighter Balla Raya Mapari, further Balla Desai and Bapu Gavas from Pedne-Goa. Satguru Jeevanmukt Maharaj challenged Montero and started religious festivals called Homkand at Shivoli. That was spark of 'Kranti'. Disciples of Jeevanmukt Maharaj like Narayan Shirodkar, Sukha Shirodkar, Yashvant Madgaonkar were actively participated in Goan liberation movement. Among these Sukha Shirodkar was associated with freedom fighter Mohan Raande. Mohan Raanade attack Portuguese police outpost at Beti village which is situated on Bank of river Mandavi exactly opposite to Panajim City. Literature of Jeevanmukt Maharaj was written by him in Marathi in form of 'Abhangas'. In his book called 'Jeevanmukt Bhajanavali'. He promoted religious preaching with patriotism in his poems – Abhangs like... "भारतभूमी आमुची माता । तिच्यासाठी झटू आम्ही

आता ॥ जीवनमुक्त सांगे लोकां । मतृभूमीला विसरू नका ॥अ.74॥" He covered important topics such as Spiritual life, love of mother land, social work, awareness against cast system and superstitions. Research and documentation of such Historic topic is important.

Key words : Preaching, Patriotism, Revolt, Homkaand, Awareness.

Introduction

History is the study of the past as it is described in written documents. The word History derived from Greek word 'Historia', meaning inquiry. It is a Knowledge acquired by investigation. On bases of these criteria I started learning History of Goa, Shivoli village and Contribution of Jeevanmukt Maharaj in Goan freedom Struggle. Important fact that I realized is 'Historical person creates History, but 'his story' is written by someone else. In future that Historical person, will be known as per his written history. Many times Historic documentation like 'Bakhar and Tavarikha' were prepared by paid authors, who focuses on only superior qualities of their ruler, due to which facts may avoided by them. One more thing I notice that History of indigenious is not well noted in Historic books. So their factual history remains unknown to the society. Sometimes fake documentation is also created, so it is essential to find and recognize 'fact and fake' from History written by such Historians. It will be well understood with the help Bharatiy History and Goan History. As Bharat and Goa is wrongly painted by some writers, movies and media.'

Bharat and Goa

In whole world only our nation is known by three different names Hindusthan, Bharat and India. Asian countries like Afganisthan, Pakisthan, Bangaladesh, Nepal calling our nation as 'Hidusthan'. For western countries like England, America our Nation is 'India' and we are Indians. In Oxford Dictionary page no. 789. I found meaning of word 'Indian'. According to them "the terms Indian and Red Indian are today regarded as old-fashioned and inappropriate, recalling, as they do, the stereotypical portraits of the Wild West". A person who will refer that Oxford Dictionary and don't know anything about India and Indian, he will learn meaning of Indian as "Unfashionable, backward is known as Indian." When our constitution was translated in our languages, they translate Indian constitution 'Indian' as 'Bharatiy.' 'Bharatiy Samvidhan,' and so I prefer Bharat. British started ruling Bharat from 1818. Portuguese stated ruling Goa from 1510 A.C.

Mangal Pande, Rani Laxmibai Revolt against British in year 1857. Before that in year 1583 revolution begin in Goa. Residents of Cuncoli, Assolna, Veroda and Velim move violently against Portuguese missionaries who destroyed temples belong to native Goan.

Gomantak-Goa

In 'Bhishm-Parv of Mahabharat' we are getting reference of Goa as Goprashttra-Gomant.¹ According to Harivansh Granth, Shri krishnn defeated Kans king of Mathura. His father in law Jarasandh attect Mathura to punish Krishnn. He ran way from battlefield and came to Goa. This is well explained by Shinay Goibab in his research book known as Shenai Goibabaanche Marathi lekh.² At Narve temple of Saptakoteshwar was reconstructed by

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. This historic incident is mentioned in Shila-lekh which is available at the entrance of same temple. Swami vivekanand visited Goa before going to America. In Rechol seminary father Stefan wrote Krist-Puran which was first Kristi Marathi book. Like this lot more historic facts are unknown to the people.

What about Pre-Portuguese Goan History?

Goan history does not begin with arrival of Portuguese in Goa. As Myself and my generation was educated by focusing on Portuguese-Goa. Fact is as per records and evidence, Goa was ruled by Moury, Bhoj, Satvahan, Kadamb, Chalukya dynasties. Today our Goan audience knows about Allaudin Khilji and Malik Kaphur. Same Malik Kaphur conquered Goa. Our Goan knows about Tughaleq. He is one Who shifted his capital from Delhi to Dевgiri and renamed it as Daulatabad. Same Tughaleq with his army came to Goa at Chadrapur and destroyed this city and wonderful Shiv-Mandir. Once open a time Chandor was graceful capital of Goa.

According to 'History', Geography of Goa changed

It is fact that territory of any country or state what we are considering today was not as it was in the past, and can't predict that it will remain same in future. Geographical boundary of Goa was also changed according to time and political strategy. Today what we recognize as territory of Goa was not similar to past history of Goa. As per records some part of Goa was associated with Karnatak and Maharashtra. Some region of Goa was under 'Hindavi Swaraj of Shivaji Mahraj and Sambhaji Raje'. Some part of South Goa was under control of Krishndevrai king of Hampi-Karnatak. According to Dr. V. B. Prabhudesai, "in ancient times Goa and Karvar was collectively identified as Gourashtra. (Goa)"³ for few years some part of Goa was under Yusuf Adilshah from Karnatak.

Portuguese in Goa

On 10th November 1510 Alfonse-de-Abukir defatted Adilshaha and conquered Goa. Entire Goa was not ruled by Portuguese for 450 years. Fact is in 1510 Portuguese capture Tiswadi taluka. In 1543 Bardesh and Sasashti. In 1763 Phonda, Sange, Quepe, Kankon, on 1788 Pedne, Sattari and Sankhali. So periodically Tiswadi taluka 451 years, Bardesh and Sasashti for 418 years, Phonda, Sange, Quepe, Kankon for 198 year and Pedne, Sattari and Sankhali talukas were under Portuguese for 173 years. So again territory of Goa also changed according to time and as per political domination of Portuguese.

Inquisition

Portuguese passed anti-Hindu laws and banned Hindu rites, ceremonies and marriages, destroyed Hindu temples, forcibly converted Goan, after conversion those who existing as per their old religion and culture were punished in court of Inquisition. “6th May 1542, when Francis Xavier set foot ashore at Goa. From then on the Jesuits did their worst, using every form of bribery, threat and torture. [Sea fights in Indies in year 1602-1639_ by Boies Penrose. P.14] ⁴. With other parts of Goa, Shivoli villagers also faced terrible consequences of Inquisition. ‘Jagor’ is folk drama performed by Hindu and catholic in shivoli. Later on ‘Jagor’ was celebrated as festival which is devoted to ‘Jagadeshwar’ God. It was banned by Portuguese. Many converted brothers wish to come back to their own religion, they came back under leadership of Masurkar Maharaj.⁵ In future Jeevanmukt Maharaj also tried to bring back our brothers and revolt against Portuguese.

Jeevanmukt Maharaj

Jeevanmukt Maharaj was Goan spiritual ‘Dharma Guru’ from Shivoli villege of North Goa. His father was farmer serving Mother Land by cultivation. Jeevanmukt Maharaj determined to serve Mother Land ‘Goa’ by participating in Goan liberation movement. As Portuguese banned the system of education because of which During childhood he could not complete his education. Blessing of Shree Datta Bitye Maharaj of Nath Sampradaya was imparted spiritual education of Maharaj. During his youth hood. After acquiring knowledge of ‘Vedas and Shastras’ he enlightened with spiritual knowledge and he become Sadguru Maharaj. He believed that fighting for freedom of mother land is more important than just chanting name of God. As most of God believer were converted by Portuguese Missionaries. Goans faced a crucial time in all walks of life.

Revolutionary Priest

Although Jeevanmukt Maharaj was priest, Dharma Guru, Chef of Nath Sampraday, he choose way of Guru Govind Sing (Panjab), Samarth Ramadas (Marashtra) to revolt against cruel ruler and did it. He came forward and started in lighting blaze of freedom in Goan people in form of Keertan and Pravachan. For this motive, once he was arrested by Portuguese police in Madgao-Goa and then he was released.

Agente Monteiro

By that time in year 1950 Monteiro joined the Portuguese Colonial Police in Goa. ‘Monteiro Casimiro Emérito Rosa Teles Jordão Monteiro’ besides this he was recognized as Agente Monteiro. As a The PIDE or International and State Defense Police (“Polícia Internacional e de Defesa do Estado” it was a Portuguese security agency.)

Monteiro carried out the high-profile assassinations of Humberto Delgado. Delgado was opposition leader to Portuguese dictator Antonio d Oliveira Salazar, 100th Prime minister of Portugal. Monteiro was a disgraceful person in Portuguese Goa. As a bureaucrat of Portuguese Colonial Police in Goa, Montero interrogated Goan freedom fighters and activists. First goan freedom fighter Bala Raya Mapari of Asnoda was died due to brutal torture/ interrogations of Monteiro.⁶ At this crucial time Jeevanmukt Maharaj accepted challenge of Montero.⁷

Selection of person, who will revolt

Jeevanmukt Maharaj travelled all over Goa for 'Bhiksha' and propagation of spiritual and National ethics. At Shivoli villege place called Bhailo Hudo near Shapora rivar he was doing his spiritual Sadhana by worshiping lord Shiv. Shivoli is a place where he started in revolution by gathering Goan youth. While During Bhiksha he was trying to find out selective person who will revolt against Portuguese. Finding good from bad person was his task, so that he can utilize his energy for Goa liberation movement. He speaks about 'Ravan' from whom Laxman brother of Ram gain knowledge of 'Kingdom Administration-Management.' Ravan brought Shivling to Gokarn.

धन्य तो रावण भक्त आगळा । तेणे आणिला देव भूतळा ॥

वसविले तेणे गोकर्ण क्षेत्र । महाबळेश्वर नाम पवित्र ॥

त्याला वाहती भक्त बेलपत्र । जागरण करती अहोरात्र ॥

तया पावे भोळा त्रिनेत्र । जीवनमुक्त तया प्रार्थित ॥अ३५॥

Fight for Right

Jeevanmukt Maharaj started helping those Goans who suffered at the hands of Portuguese rulers. In his preaching he told one day that "we have to face death is a fact, so It's better to fight for right and face death . "कोणाचे हे घर, देह हा कोणाचा॥' हरिपाठ29. Like Sant Dnyaneshwar from Maharashtra Jeevanmukt Maharaj is also asking same Question.

कोणाचे हे घर कोणाची ही दारा । म्हणूनी विचार तुम्ही करा ॥

कोणाचे हे पुत्र क्षणभंगुर माया । व्यर्थ बडिवार जाई वाया ॥

सोईरे धाईरे जनक जानानी । अंती नाही बंधू बहिणी ॥

कोणाची संपत्ती कोणाचे वैभव । धरी जीवन्मुक्त गुरुपायी भाव ॥ अ. ४९॥

Cast less Nation

“जाती न पुछो साधुकी, पुछ लिजिये ज्ञान । मोल करो तालवार का पडा रहिनेदो म्यान॥” Like sant Kabir of Banaras, Uttar Pradesh, jeevanmukta Maharaj spoke against cast system. His vision was cast less Nation. “जातीची उपमा देऊ नये” said Sant Namdev, Jeevanmukta Maharaj spoke against Cast issue. Which was harmful for Nation building.⁸

भक्तिसाठी देव सकळासी साहया । नाही भेदभाव देवाशी या ।

रोहिदास जातीचा चांभार। नरहरी जातीचा सोनार ॥

मुसलमान जातीचा कबीर । आनंद पावला चोखा महार ॥

सेना न्हावी भक्त थोर । तुकाराम कीर्तने झाला गार ॥

ऐसा मार्ग भक्तिचा सोपा । जीवनमुक्त सांगे लोकां ॥३४२॥

31st December and Portuguese

Dr. Trasta Breganka Kunhas cote is important he says “Inspite of all the mutilation and concealment of history, it remain an undoubted fact that religious conversion of Goan is due to methods of force adopted by Portuguese establish their rule. As a result of this violence the character of our people was destroyed.” The Portuguese had banned Traditional festivals and other Goan cultural programs and promoted Portuguese programs which were celebrated with joy and gaiety. In order to welcome their New Year provision were being taken out during the midnight of 31st December. Some Goans started participating in same.

Movement Against Alcohol Addiction

When JeevanMukt Maharaj realized that many happy families were destroyed due to Alcohol addiction. Counseling of such addict personals was done by him as well as his followers by means of Keeratan and Pravachan. He also noticed that due to temptation of Foreign Alcohol, some of Traitor provided information of freedom fighter to Portuguese officers. This was very dangers. JeevanMukt Maharaj started movement against Alcohol addiction. As an outcome many Bars were closed.

‘Homkand’ with New Mantra “Om Kranti”

‘Hom’ is a sanskrut word which means religious offerings made in to fire. These offerings are known as ‘Ahuti’ and traditional structure where this fire is enlightened is called ‘Hom-Kund’. When ‘Ahuti’ is enormous then that ‘Hom-Kund’ will be referred as ‘Hom- Kand’. To gratify God custom of ‘Hom and Havan’ is part of Indian culture. Jeevenmukt Maharaj decided to revolutionize this tradition for Goan freedom struggle.

*Jeevenmukt Maharaj realized the state of such Goans who were although lion cubs, believed that they were also goats being associated with them. Jeevanmukt Maharaj ruined Portuguese restrictions started the chain of Goan festivals. To well come Goan traditional New Year 'Gudi Padva' on 'Versha Pratipada' in 1952, he started 'Hom-kand Utsav' near Shree Kaloba-Brahman Devasthan at Gudde in Shivoli villege of north Goa. He told to stop chanting "Om Shanti, shanti, Shanti" and Start chanting new Mantra, "Om Kranti, Kranti, Kranti."*⁹

Kranti against superstitions

*That Kranti of Jeevanmukt Maharaj was against Portuguese and also against superstitions of Sivoli villagers. Holy month of Shravan it was tradition to eat only vegetarian food. So before Shravan in month of Ashad many people use to have non vegetarian foodstuff. There was one custom to offer 'Balli' (that is slaughter of birds and animals) to local God Kaloba on Sunday and Wednesday. JeevanMukat Maharaj decided prevents these slaughters. He called meeting of people in Kaloba Temple at Gude-Shivoli. He explains right process of praying God. What and how to offer him. That was not easy to change mindset of local mass. It took one week to convince them. He gave option 'Modak', coconut, banana to offer and discontinued Balli tradition. Which was accepted by natives. Every year in month of Ashad people offer Modak, Banana and coconut to God Kaloba .*¹⁰

Jeevenmukt Maharaj and other freedom fighters

The first priority of Jeevenmukt Maharaj was the liberation of Goa. He Started HomKund Utsav at Gude Shivoli.¹¹ He personally participated in Goan freedom struggle as well as his disciples like Yashwant Madgaonkar, Narayan Shirodkar were members of Aazad Gomantak Dal.. Among these Sukha Shirodkar was associated with freedom fighter Mohan Raande. Mohan Raanade attack Portuguese police outpost at Beti village which is situated on Bank of river Mandavi exactly opposite to Panajim City.¹² Sadguru Matth Holly place of Sadguru Jivanmukt Maharaj was situated at Marra Pilern near Beti village. That Sadguru Matth was center of revolutionaries, Most of freedom fighters were visiting that Matth for meetings, etc. Jeevanmukt Maharaj made arrangements of their food, shelter. 'Hom-kand' of Shivoli was strategic act of Jeevanmukt Maharaj and freedom fighters. It was well planned at Sadguru Math, Pilern. Sukha Shirodkar, Yashwant Madgaonkar, Narayan Shirodkar members of Aazad Gomantak Dal actively participated in organizing 'Hom-kand'. Maharaj also developed strong association of Priests and Sants who involved in preaching and social awareness.¹³ (Letter on same association was registered as 'Sant Sanghatana')It was time to Portuguese to understand that now it's very difficult to rule Goa and Goans.

Dream fulfilled

On 19 December 1961 Dream of Jeevanmukt Maharaj was fulfilled. Goa was liberated by Bharatiy Army. It was victory of Bhartiya and Goan freedom fighters. Jeevanmukt Maharaj avoided his name to register as Goan freedom fighter, in order to get pension. He willingly decided to work for Nation till the end of His life. Bharatiya Swatantrata Sangram achieved success on 15 August 1947. Goa Mukti Sangram was continued for 14 years till 19 December 1961. Today's Geography of Goa is outcome of this history.

Conclusion

- 1. It is necessary to differentiate fake and facts from Bharatiya History and Goan History.*
- 2. Research work is essential to discover historical facts of Goa.*
- 3. Today's Geography of Goa is outcome of Goa's history.*
- 4. Sadguru Jeevanmukt Maharaj being priest he protests against Portuguese.*
- 5. 'Homkand' Utsav (festival) at Shivoli village was part of his revolution.*
- 6. Common people and freedom fighters supported his devoted effort.*
- 7. He tried to bring back, converted Goan people to Hindu Dharma.*
- 8. He started movement against Alcohol addiction.*
- 9. He created awareness against cast system.*
- 10. He discontinued 'Balli' tradition.*
- 11. He developed strong association of Priests and Sants*

Reference Book

- 1) Mahabharat, IV Khand, Ed. Bhalaba Kelkar, Varad Books, Pune.*
- 2) Shanai Goybab, kahi Marathi lekh, Gomantak Chhapkhano, Girgao.*
- 3) Prabhudesai, V. b., Gomantakacha Marathi Varsa, Gomantak Marathi Academy, Goa. 2009.*
- 4) Priolkar, A. k. The Inquisition, Rajhans Prakashan, Goa.*
- 5) Bharatkar Hegade Desai Yanche Nivadak Lekh, vol. 1, Ed. Shashikant Narvekar, Gomantak Marathi Academy, Goa. 1999.*
- 6) Sardesai, Manohar, Gomantakache Ase te Divas, Purogami Prakashan, Goa. 1994.*
- 7) CTBC'S International Research Journal, Vol. 4, Issue, ISSN: 2350-0905, Ed. Dr. Lalit Balkristna. Pune. 2017.*
- 8) Jeevanmukta Bhajanavali, Ed. Mukundraaj, Bhakti Dynan Marg Sadhan Sanstha, Goa. 2017.*
- 9) Desh Bhakta Kosh, Ed. Chandrakant Shahasane, Bahujan Sahitydhara Prakashan, Pune. 2014*
- 10) Madgaonkar, Vinay, Sant Sahitya Sivhavlokan, Bahujan Sahitydhara Prakashan, Pune. 2019*
- 11) Naik, Mahadev, Panchkroshi Shivolicha Sant Mahima, Shrinchi ichha Prakashan, Goa. 2000.*
- 12) Ranade Mohan, Satiche Vaan, Sindhu Prakashan, Mumbai. 1969.*
- 13) OFFICIAL GAZETTE, GOVERNMENT OF GOA, DAMAN AND DIU. 9th January 1975, SERIES III. No. 41.*