



Subhash Chander Boss

INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY AND INDIAN INDEPENDENCE

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This incident dates back to 1921 when the whole nation witnessed the non-cooperation movement of Gandhi Ji. During that time, Anand Mohan Sahay offered his services for Indian Independence. He met Netaji (Subhash Chandra Bose) for the first time at Gaya, where he was present as the personal secretary of the then Congress President, Deshabandhu Chittaranjan Das. It is evident that Shri Sahay had close relations with Deshabandhu's family and hence he was responsible for the reception of Netaji. This was an opportunity where Sahay and Netaji met together for the first time. During this meeting, they discussed about the methods to spread the movement and some related suggestions. Shri Sahay went to Japan in 1923. He stayed there for about 21 months and strengthened his movement against the British. He prepared different plans. During this period, the slave citizens held a conference at Nagasaki where it was decided to bring the youth of all nations under one roof to fight against the foreign rule. The youth were trying hard to come out of the slave life. Shri Sahay was made responsible for extending the plan of conference to other nations, because he had a valid passport. However, he traveled to China, Malaya, Indone-

sia, Colombo and other countries in the disguise of an international businessman and spread his message and finally came back to India via Madras in 1926.

At that time Congress conference was being held at Guwahati. But Shri Sahay did not attend it because he had traveled to different countries and came back to this place. So, there were chances of being suspected if he had immediately attended the conference. Therefore he decided to be aloof and wait for the decision of the conference. He was again making plans to go to Japan but at the same time his marriage with Deshabandhu's sister Satisen was fixed in April 1927 and therefore he had to postpone his travel plans for a few months.

He later planned his trip to Japan in September 1927 and during his visit he got the information that Subhash Chandra Bose, a jail inmate at Mandlay in Burma was seriously ill and that he was sent to his home in Calcutta (India). But Subhash was not allowed to meet anybody. Shri Sahay was very disappointed to hear this news and went to Calcutta along with his wife to visit Bose. He sent a message and was called immediately. Subhash talked for a small while and said, "We cannot expect any independence from the western countries. We can expect this in future only from Japan and therefore

we should focus on Japan."

He took leave from Netaji and reached Japan along with his family in September 1927. After a few months he opened a branch of Congress in Japan in 1928, which was recognized by All India National Congress Committee. He started the publication of 'Voice of Asia', a monthly magazine in 1930; he was the publisher and editor of this magazine. This was the first bilingual magazine published in English and Japanese. This magazine brought lot of fame to Shri Sahay and also helped him in extending his voice and views to remote areas. Even then he used to visit each and every village to share his thoughts with the people. He used to organize secret meetings in temples and universities, inspire intellectuals to participate in movements and used to pass all the messages to Subhash Bose in a very clandestine manner. Meer Mubarak and Meer Murtaza gave him ample support in this process. They used to work as assistants in ship. However, the patriotism of these two brothers did not get any place in the history.

By this time the British had established a strong hold and Subhash was finding it difficult to come out of the clutches although it was not impossible. He got a good opportunity in 1939. He fled to Kabul in the disguise of a Pathan and sent a mes-

sage about going to Japan through Japanese embassy. But the Japanese were afraid of unveiling of this secret and hence discarded his recommendation. Subhash was forced to go to Germany at that time and sent a message to Tokyo through German embassy. Shri Sahay was helpless even though he was willing. Two people with same objective kept alive the flame of independence in two different countries but could not associate together at one place.

The people of this country remember an adventurous brave man as soon as they hear the name Netaji Subhash. He first went to Germany secretly and then to south East Asia where he formed Indian National Army. He was known as the brave soldier of this army but his individuality was limited.

Bengal government had put him under house arrest during Hall well memorial protest in July 1940. He escaped in January 1941 and reached Berlin through Peshawar, Kabul and Moscow. He met Hitler in Berlin and talked about India's independence with Hitler. Subhash Bose established a voluntary organization called 'Independent India' in January 1942 and majority of the soldiers were Indian war prisoners. He telecasted his speech regularly from Berlin radio, which spread the flame of independence movement in Indians. The English, French and Dutch capitalists failed in front of Japanese Blitzkrieg competition in 1942 then Netaji felt that this was the right time to jump into the independent movement. He left for Japan in 1943 with the help of Japanese and Germany soldiers and reached Tokyo after three months with great difficulty. From there he

reached Singapore on July 2, 1943. After two days Ras Bihari Bose handed over the responsibility of Indian independence movement going on in south East Asia.

Indian National Army was formally established on July 4, 1943 in Singapore. Temporary Indian government was also established there and Netaji was its president. Andaman and Nicobar Islands were also freed in December same year. Indian National Army crossed the boundaries of Burma in January 1944 and came to Indian land on March 18, 1944. The independent Islands Andaman and Nicobar were renamed as Shahid and Swaraj. When the soldiers stepped on their motherland they were extremely happy and kissed the motherland. The brave Indian National Army moved towards Kohima and Imphal. The Indian flag was hoisted with slogans and praise of Jaihind and Netaji Zindabad. This scene was very touching for the soldiers but at the same time American fighter planes bombarded Hiroshima and Nagasaki and spread terrorism in the whole world. Nuclear bombs forced the Japanese soldiers to surrender and the dream of Indian national Army was also lost forever and they had to move back. At a time when every part of India was burning and fighting against British government Subhash Chandra Bose attacked the British army from outside with the help of 30 thousand soldiers trained by him and tried to defeat them.

Japan was ready for the war and declared war on December 8, 1941. They attacked Pearl Harbour and Singapore where the British accepted their defeat. A conference was held at Tokyo on March 1, 1942, which saw the participation from

India, Malaya, Thailand and Hong Kong. Ras Bihari Bose was elected leader unanimously. But Shri Sahay boycotted that conference because he wanted Subhash Bose to be the leader but he was in Germany at that time.

A conference of Indians was organized in Bangkok in June 1942 and Ras Bihari invited Shri Sahay to attend that conference. He could not refuse that invitation and unaware that his dream is going to come true in that conference. A recommendation was passed in the same conference to call Subhash Bose from Germany and elect him as the leader, but the Japanese did not take the initiative to call him. As a result, Indian National Army that was formed with great difficulty destabilized as Ras Bihari Bose could not prove his leadership.

The failure of INA was a big incident of that time, which had proven a tough nut to crack even for the Japanese and finally they agreed to call Subhash Bose from Germany. Meanwhile, India started the Quit India Movement on August 9, 1942. It was indeed a great opportunity to defeat the British. Had Netaji come to Singapore at that time then attack on British was definite and probably the date of Indian independence would have been August 1942 instead of 1947. But this could not be possible due to negligence on the part of Japanese.

Subhash Bose reached Singapore on August 4, 1943 and accepted the leadership of the freedom struggle and reestablished INA. Provisional government of independent India was established on October 29, 1943. Shri Sahay was made the secretary general in the cabinet meeting. A war was declared against

the British and America in the first cabinet meeting. Meanwhile Japan had invaded Andaman and Nicobar Islands. In this situation Shri Sahay made an attempt to get back the part of motherland. He told the Japanese, "Both the Islands belong to India therefore they should be given back to us so that Indian national government can work on its land." The Japanese were speechless on this proposal because they were afraid of losing their security. After lot of thinking an agreement was made according to which the law and order of the Islands was under the Japanese and the civil administration was handed over to Indian national government.

Shri Sahay signed the agreement along with Netaji and flew from Singapore to Andaman and reached there in the evening. They hoisted their flag on December 30, 1943 and celebrated independence. However

the real goal was still to be achieved. Therefore, they left to Bangkok on the morning of December 31, 1943 and from there to Rangoon. When the Indian national government set up its headquarters in Rangoon and 30 thousand Indian soldiers were deployed at India and Burma border. Colonel Chatterjee, Mohd. Khan and Anand Mohan Sahay formed a strong team in Rangoon. It needs to be mentioned that the army went up to three kilometers from Imphal to Chamol. Shri Sahay was moving with the army at that time.

Shri Sahay remembered the past and narrated it a few years before his death, "Our army had taken hold of the British army. But it started raining and the rivers swell leading to floods. The roads were blocked and there was a fear of being attacked by the enemies. Therefore we were forced to come back to Rangoon." In this way, the INA

could celebrate its victory over enemies in spite of being so close to it. He was tired of wandering from one country to another for 25 long years and fighting against the British. Above all he was missing Netaji very badly and meanwhile the Indian freedom struggle was on its full swing in the country. India finally got its independence on August 14, 1947 under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi and Indian government was formed. The Indian government absorbed Shri Sahay for external affairs based on his experience. Meanwhile he stayed in West Indies, Mauritius and other countries. He was sent as Council General to Hanoi in 1954. He went to Bangkok as Ambassador in 1956. He resigned from ministry of external affairs in 1960 and involved in the construction of higher secondary school for girls. He bid farewell to the world on February 13, 1991.

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Astha (International)	Morning: 5.00 to 7.30 a.m Evening: 7.00 to 8.00 p.m
Sahara Samay (Rambaan)	Morning: 5.30 to 6.00 a.m
India T.V (Yoga Science)	Morning: 6.30 to 7.00 a.m Afternoon: 1.30 to 2.00 p.m
Sahara One	Morning: 6.30 to 7.00 a.m
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