

GHADAR MOVEMENT 1913-15

Revolutionary movement by Punjabi NRIs & Bengal revolutionaries for overthrow of British rule to setup **secular Republic of India**. (Purna swaraj)

Method= engaged in press campaign abroad & then came to India with **goal** of **repeating 1857 revolt** by attempting **disaffection in army & a civil rebellion**.

Reason

- a) Inspired by **Swadeshi movement** especially revolutionary activities like **Delhi Conspiracy Case 1912**. They had supported Swadeshi Movt.
- b) Anger against **Br policy of restricting migration**:
 - a. Indians use to migrate due to attraction of **land and employment**.
Also many were ex-soldiers.
 - b. Br didn't want criticism of its colonialism abroad by NRIs.
 - c. British restricted entry of Indians into **Canada** since 1908
 - d. in **US**
 - i. NRIs faced **racism**
 - ii. US didn't allow Indians to **buy lands** as British feared exposure to **ideas of Liberty, democracy & socialism** (**1783 Treaty of Paris b/w US & Britain led to perpetual friendship).
 - e. **Irony:-** Br sent Indians abroad as laborers to work on **Plantation systems** like in Fiji (south Pacific Ocean)

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Events

Press Campaign:

1. **Tarak Nath Das** in his newspaper **"Free Hindustan[1907]"** in Vancouver, Canada highlighted **Irony**:-that Br sent Indians abroad as laborers to work on **Plantation systems** like in Fiji (south Pacific Ocean) but restricted their entry in North Americas.
2. **1913: Ghadar Party** setup by NRIs in US with **Sohan Singh Bakhna** as 1st President.
3. **1913: Lala Hardayal**, a professor who taught Sanskrit & Indian philosophy in San Francisco, US set up a **weekly called "the Ghadr"** where he **praised** attack on Harding in **Delhi Conspiracy Case 1912** & then began propaganda <> British colonialism.
 - 3.1. Each issue of Ghadr on front page had **"Angrezi Raj ka kachcha Chithha"** i.e. an expose on British Imperialism.
 - 3.2. It had **summary of all INM demands & grievances** so far & in end it gave a call that **"31 cr Indians should rise against 1.2 lakh British & repeat 1857 revolt"** (**similar by Yugantar after Barisal Conference 1906 repression)
 - 3.3. It published Veer Savarkar's **Indian War of Independence 1909** in parts.
 - 3.4. Poems titled **Ghadr Di Goonj** promoted patriotism & unity of all religions (*1857 H-M unity)
 - 3.5. **Loyalist role of Punjabis in 1857** was criticized.

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4. **G.D. Kumar** (Canada) in his Gurmukhi weekly newspaper "**Swadesh Sevak** [1909]" asked **Indian troops to revolt**

KomaGota Maru incident 1914 –

- Canada allowed entry only if direct journey made from India to Canada.
- This ship had Indians who reached Canada via Singapore.
- After the ship landed at Vancouver, Canada, Shore Committee was setup to fight for rights of Indians on the ship
- They were sent back to Budge Budge near Calcutta causing huge anger & violence

WWI 1914-19

- a) was seen as opportunity
- b) Ghadrates decided to **smuggle arms from Gr** into India [*this was part of Zimmerman Plan of Germans]
- c) **Rash Behari Bose** [in Lahore] **contacted sepoys** to cause disaffection
- d) **NRIs came to India**, & gave call to people to start a civil rebellion & call for disaffection in army.

Result

- a) **Bagha Jatin Mukherjee** (* he had setup Jugantar Party in 1906, *Yugantar/Jugantar newspaper [1906] was setup by B.K. Ghose younger brother of Aurobindo Ghosh*) **smuggled arms** from Gr but **died in gun battle** as British had informers. (*Br had strong focus on intelligence gathering since 1861 Indian Police Act)

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- b) RB Bose of Jugantar Party failed due to **poor response from sepoys**. (*effect of Peel commission post 1857 + little western education among sepoys)
- c) **Udasi Sikh Mahants** who controlled religious masses, were pro-Br & asked Punjabis to not support Ghadriles (*like Ulamas@Swadeshi0511)
- d) Ghadriles were repressed by using emergency powers under **Defence of India Act 1915** (brought for war period) [*later link to Rowlatt Acts 1919 or the Anarchical & Revolutionary Crimes Act 1919]
- e) India lost a whole generation of **deeply secular nationalistic Indians**.
- f) **RB Bose escaped** to Japan in 1915
- g) Greatly increased **nationalism** & awareness on Br colonialism **among NRIs**

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