



### "UNIFICATION MOVEMENT IN KARNATAKA -A SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MYSORE"



**Dr. Mahesh K.**

**Assistant Professor of History, Govt. First Grade College,  
Mariyammanhalli, Tq.Hospete, DIST. Bellary.**

#### **ABSTRACT**

*The development for Unification of Karnataka had started in Dharwad. Alur Venkata Rao was the man who skimmed the thought and sustained it. In 1928, a Committee headed by Motilal Nehru was selected by the Congress to draft a constitution for India. Dr. Hardikar with the assistance of Sevadal gathered 30,000 marks supporting unification and presented a notice on the side of Unification. Diwakar composed a book entitled "A Case for United Karnataka" for accommodation to the Committee. The Nehru Committee opined that Karnataka can be a reasonable territory. Indeed, even the Simon Commission too had acknowledged the possibility of Linguistic States. Be that as it may, the Karnataka Congress didn't present any update to the Commission, as the Congress had reported the blacklist against Commission, it pressurized non-congress bunches as well, not to present any notice. This brought about the postponement of Unification, which could have been affirmed by the commission itself. The Sixth Karnataka Unification Conference was held at Dharwad in 1936, and Dattopant Belvi of Belgaum managed it.*

**KEYWORDS:** *development for Unification of Karnataka*

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The battle for the unification of all Kannada talking regions was continued, alongside the battle for opportunity. The heroes of Indian patriotism likewise utilized language as an instrument to battle against English control. History specialists call attention to that the inception of the development for semantic territories can be followed to the furthest limit of the only remaining century itself, e.g., the interest of the Oriya talking individuals and the interest for Sylhet area to be moved from Bengal to Assam. Ruler Curzon apportioned Bengal into two out of 1905. That made the subject of language a national issue. A fomentation was propelled for its wiping out lastly the parcel was revoked in 1911. It was a triumph for well known opinion. It has been called attention to that even British legislators like Lionel Curtis and H. H. Risley unequivocally pushed that language ought to be the reason for any regional re-alterations.

After the fall of Tipu Sultan in 1799 and during the time of British standard, territories that currently include Karnataka were under upwards of 20 diverse managerial units with the regal province of Mysore,

Nizam's Hyderabad, the Bombay Presidency, the Madras Presidency and the region of Kodagu being the most significant ones. In actuality, almost 66% of what is currently Karnataka fell outside the standard of the Wodeyar rulers of Mysore. This implied the Kannadigas in these districts regardless of their enormous numbers they didn't have an authoritative support. Kannadigas in the Hubli-Karnataka area for instance, went under the standard of the Bombay Presidency where Marathi was the official language. Those in the Hyderabad-Karnataka area went under the Nizam's standard where Urdu was the primary language. It was in these conditions that the development that initially began as a dissent against phonetic persecution, started requesting the making of a different state solidifying all Kannada-speaking areas.

The arrangement of discrete areas like Assam, Bihar, Orissa on etymological premise after the isolated Bengal were joined into one out of 1912, distribution of books on Karnataka's history, the opportunity development and the rousing works of Alur Venkata Rao, Huilgola Narayana Rao, Kuvempu, Bendre and others made a hunger for freedom and furthermore Unification of the Kannada-speaking locales. Alur Venkat Rao, who was classified "Kannada Kula Purohita", for arousing the cognizance of Kannadigas, delivered yeoman administration for the reason for Unification.

In 1916 he established the Ekikarana Sabha at Dharwad, with unification of Karnataka as its objective. As right on time as in 1903, Benagal Rama Rao conveyed a talk at Dharwad, focusing on the requirement for the unification of Kannada speaking areas into a solitary Presidency. In 1920, a different Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee was comprised for the Kannada speaking areas. In 1924, the allIndia Congress meeting under the Presidentship of Mahatma Gandhi was held at Belgaum. At the meeting, the Kannada song of praise, "Udayavagali namma cheluvu Kannadanadu", requiring the production of wonderful Kannada state, formed by Huilgol Narayana Rao was sung. The principal Karnataka Unification Conference was held at a similar setting and managed by Sir Siddappa Kambli. The Karnataka Ekikarana Sangha was established at the meeting and it held its gatherings over and over. In 1926, the Hindustani Seva Dal, established by Dr. Hardikar directed a mark battle for Unification and gathered 36,000 marks. In any case, it was anything but a simple undertaking to bring individuals who were under 20 distinct organizations in a solitary area and it was felt that with the nation accomplishing the opportunity, unification could likewise appear. The Karnataka Vidyavardhaka Sangha, Dharwad was set up in 1890 by R. H. Deshpande with the target of working for the resurgence of the Kannada language which had been minimized under the standard of the Bombay Presidency where Marathi was the official language.

### **The causes for the unification of Karnataka:**

After the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War in 1799, Mysore State was reduced to a small principality and vast Kannada speaking areas were merged with Bombay presidency, Madras and Hyderabad and other small princely states. Kannadigas were subjected to twenty administrations. They were forced to cultivate the culture of the states in which they lived. They adopted the respective languages like Marathi, Tamil and Telugu. Thus the Kannadigas did not have cultural, linguistic and political homogeneity. They were not well received in those states. Discriminatory treatment was meted out to them and they were even suppressed. For example, in the princely states of Mudhol and Jamakhandi, Kannada had no place in public life including schools and offices. The misery of the Kannada-speaking people scattered in these various administrative units was unaccountable. This prompted the Kannadigas to fight for unification of Karnataka. After 1947, Kannada speaking people were grouped under five different administrations viz., Bombay, Madras, Coorg, Hyderabad and Mysore. However, the formation of Karnataka was further delayed

At its Jaipur session (1948), the Congress appointed a committee consisting of Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel and At its Jaipur session (1948), the Congress appointed a committee consisting of Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramayya to study the situation and submit a report. This committee, popularly known as the J.V.P. Committee, rejected the claims of all states except that of Andhra Pradesh. Eminent literateurs like Gorur Ramaswamy Iyengar and K. V. Puttappa and leaders like S. Nijalingappa and K. Hanumanthaiah inspired the people to strive harder to achieve the goal. Meanwhile leaders like K.R. Karanth who advocated a more aggressive approach formed an organisation named Akhanda Karnataka Rajya Nirmana Parishad. Nothing concrete was done even after the elections of 1951-52. Meanwhile in Andhra,

Potti Sriramulu died (15-12-1952) on the 58th day of his fast and soon after that. The formation of Andhra Pradesh was announced.

### **The various stages in the unification of Karnataka :**

In Karnataka state the freedom movement and the movement for the unification of Karnataka went hand in hand and were often interconnected. It was initiated and supported by a renaissance and rise of nationalism brought about by educational institutions and spread of English education. Social reform movements like the Arya Samai and Theosophical society, development of printing and publication of books and newspapers, Kannada Sahitya Parishat and creation of a pride in Karnataka, its glorious past represented by Vijayanagara.

As the Indian National Congress represented the national movement at the time, the first aim of the movement was to convince the national leadership of the need for bringing all Kannada Speaking regions under one administrative unit as against the 20 units in which these were distributed at the time. The Nagpur Congress of 1920 permitted constitution of a separate provincial Congress Committee for Karnataka. The first Unification Conference was held at Belgaum in 1924 during the Congress session and it adopted a resolution for unification of Karnataka. This was followed by founding of the Karnataka Ekikarana Sabha (later renamed Sangha) which held as many as 12 conferences subsequently, the last being at Kasargod in 1947.

The Ekikarana Sangha worked in close co-operation with the Karnataka Provincial Congress Committee. The Nehru Committee of 1928 favored establishment of Karnataka as a single province. The Congress included this demand in its election manifesto of 1937. With the establishment of the Constituent Assembly in 1946 efforts were renewed with redoubled vigor. Two conventions were held at Bombay and Davanagere urging the Constituent Assembly to take immediate steps to form Karnataka as a province. The state legislatures of Bombay and Madras passed resolutions in 1947 favoring formation of linguistic provinces while the Mysore State Constituent Assembly adopted a resolution inviting neighboring 'Kannada speaking regions to merge with Mysore.

The Dhar Committee appointed by the Central Government to study the issue of formation of linguistic states disfavored such a step. This was strongly opposed by the Jaipur session of the Congress in 1948, which set up a three member J.V.P. Committee comprising of the three great national leaders Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramayya. This committee favored early formation of only Andhra Pradesh. After 1952 Karnataka saw formation of an aggressive body called the Akhanda Karnataka Rajya Nirmana Parishat which started an agitation in which over 5000 persons were courted arrest. Within the Congress party there was conflict. Meanwhile Potti Sriramulu had died fasting demanding the formation of Andhra and this resulted in riots in the Andhra area. Consequently the State of Andhra came into being in 1953 and under the report of Wanchoo Commission; several talukas of Bellary district were merged with Mysore state. This was the first step towards formation of Karnataka.

### **The history of unification**

After 1947, Kannada speaking people were grouped under five different administrations viz., Bombay, Madras, Coorg, Hyderabad and Mysore. However, the formation of Karnataka was further delayed. At its Jaipur session (1948), the Congress appointed a committee consisting of Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel and at its Jaipur session (1948), the Congress appointed a committee consisting of Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramayya to study the situation and submit a report. This committee, popularly known as the J.V.P. Committee, rejected the claims of all states except that of Andhra Pradesh.

The Constitution did not create linguistic states. A non-party Unification Conference was organized at Haveri by Hosmani Siddappa in May 1951. The newly founded Ekikarana Parishat demanded the resignation of all people's representatives (MLAs, MLCs and MPs), and to implement its resolution, a committee of three headed by Hosmani was set up. The Parishat put up candidates in the 1951-52, general elections on behalf of the Karnataka Ekikarana Sabha against the Congress. The Congress mentioned in its

manifesto that Unification of Karnataka was its goal. Therefore, no candidate of the Ekikarana Paksha won the election.

### **Kannada-speaking people scattered in administration**

The causes for the unification of Karnataka: After the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War in 1799, Mysore State was reduced to a small principality and vast Kannada speaking areas were merged with Bombay presidency, Madras and Hyderabad Karnataka and other small princely states. Kannadigas were subjected to twenty administrations. They were forced to cultivate the culture of the states in which they lived. They adopted the respective languages like Marathi, Tamil and Telugu. Thus the Kannadigas did not have cultural, linguistic and political homogeneity. They were not well received in those states. Discriminatory treatment was meted out to them and they were even suppressed. For example, in the princely states of Mudhol and Jamakhandi, Kannada had no place in public life including schools and offices. The misery of the Kannada-speaking people scattered in these various administrative units was unaccountable. This prompted the Kannadigas to fight for unification of Karnataka. After 1947, Kannada speaking people were grouped under five different administrations viz., Bombay, Madras, Coorg, Hyderabad Karnataka and Mysore. However, the formation of Karnataka was further delayed. At its Jaipur session (1948), the Congress appointed a committee consisting of Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel and At its Jaipur session (1948), the Congress appointed a committee consisting of Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramayya to study the situation and submit a report. This committee, popularly known as the J.V.P. Committee, rejected the claims of all states except that of Andhra Pradesh. Eminent literateurs like Gorur Ramaswamy Iyengar and K. V. Puttappa and leaders like S. Nijalingappa and K. Hanumanthaiah inspired the people to strive harder to achieve the goal.

### **CONCLUSION**

Thus in Karnataka nationalist awakening was slow to take an explicit character because of the rule of Maharaja in one hand & imperative control of British on the other. The move towards Unification integrated itself with Nationalist Movement because of the measured activities of these committed leaders who successfully ignited the consciousness of people to unite together & fight for united India.

### **REFERENCES**

- A detailed account of the Ekikarana movement in the Deccan Herald
- An article about the Vidyavardhaka Sangha in the Deccan Herald detailing the unification of Karnataka
- Details of the Liberation Day celebrations in The Hindu
- Contributing to the cause - An article in the Deccan Herald detailing the struggle for unification
- An article in The Hindu throwing light on the 'liberation' of Nizam's territories
- Mention of the Fazal Ali report - The Hindu
- Unification and Congress support