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## LEADERSHIP ROLE OF WOMENS IN QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT RELATED TUMKUR DISTRICT

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### ABSTRACT:

Quit India Movement was carried briskly throughout India by using the powerful slogan "Do or Die" in this significant role women's are involving themselves in the freedom movement. Against the british government the women actively participated in more and more numbers in the movement like non-cooperation movement. Quit india movement and civil disobedience movement in tumkur. The women freedom fighters actively took part in 1942 J c Bhaghirathamma from tumkur was participated. As a leader in Quit indiamovement and one

of the leader Sunandamma she participated shivapura flag movement and Quit india movement and she was arrested by british police. Another womenvolunter of freedom movement of tumkur district. J C Bhagirthamma and is father karisiddappa and siddananjammalabour leader also take part in the quit indiamovement in 1941 and 1942 there by they plunged into freedom movement. One more yashodharamma Dasappa from tumkur she influenced by her father K.H Ramaiah , freedom fighter for his patriotism and service mind and she also participated in quit india movement related to vidurashawatha tragedy in 1938 in this way tumkur district women's play a important role in quit india movement specially in tumkur district.

**KEYWORDS:** Swadeshi, harathala, bylahongala, Hoisting, Minerva, Bhagirathamma.

### INTRODUCTION:

Mahatma Gandhi had started a great movement in order to gain political freedom for India, using non-violence as a weapon against the British empire. Bapu is certainly a great sole who defeated the suppressions and oppressions of the British through peaceful ways like sathyagraha, non-cooperation, swadeshi movement, and so on. In order to free our nation from the shackles of foreign rule

Gandhiji started three important movements. Firstly, non-cooperation movement, secondly civil disobedience movement and thirdly Quit India movement.

The Quit India movement was carried out briskly throughout India. Mahatma Gandhi's powerful slogan 'Do or Die' had echoed throughout the country. The whole nation responded quickly to the movement during the Quit India movement, newspapers such as Janavani, vishwakarnataka, Thainadu and prajamatha filled intensity to the movement by publishing news regarding the movement.

Many harthal/strikes were led in response to the arrest of main national leaders, the people of Tumkur district actively participated and intensified the movement by carrying out anti-government activities like hoisting national flag on the government buildings, picketing in front of liquor shops, destroying railway lines and postal telegraphic wires, conducting meetings and organizing processions etc. were the salient features of the movement.

The great movements appeared during the month August and September were not confined to

any/few specific regions. They were spread to all parts of the district like Madhugiri, Koratagere, Sira, Tiptur, Pavagada, Kunigal, Gubbi and chikkanayakanahalli etc. students, workers and women took-part in the movement in great numbers. The volunteers of the movement actively participated by resigning to their posts .the movement started on August 9<sup>th</sup> in Madhugiri. on 9<sup>th</sup> August in a procesionk.Henjarappa, Mali Mariyappa gave a call to carry out a hartal. on August 10<sup>th</sup>K.Henjarappa.MaliMariyappa addressed the meeting in Madhugiri and they were arrested and sent to prison in Tumkur.

On 10<sup>th</sup> august a hartal and a meeting was organized at Tumkur. A student named T.R Subharao was arrested while addressing the gathering, he was also imprisoned. R.S. Aradya had conducted and spread the movement throughout the district while keeping intimate contact with central committee at Bangalore. More than 530 freedom fighters were massacred in different parts like Bylahongala, Hubballi, Nippani, Sankeshwar, Bangalore, Davanagere, Mysore, Hassan, Tumkur, as the police fired at the uncontrolable people. The movement witnessed increased number of anti-government activities and in turn an increase in arrest, lati charge, and firing by the police. The workers in Tumkur conducted a meeting at municipal garden. To attend this meeting the congress volunteers travelled to Tumkur without tickets. On august 13<sup>th</sup> more than 10 students gathered near normal school and snatched the hats of passers-by and burned them to show their protest against the government. The very same day a procession was conducted.

In Madhugiri M.G. Narayan Rao along with some of his friends burnt down a liquor shop. By then in Tiptur,the1942 movement turnedout into an intensified form. S.R. Mallapa, Vishwanath Shetty and K.N. Rangappa gave a call to people to participate in great numbers to make the movement strong and powerful. Hoisting flags on government buildings, destroying postal telegraphic lines, burning trains, cutting palm trees and different other such activities were carried out through Tiptur region, which certainly inspired the movement throughout Tiptur district.From August 13<sup>th</sup> to September 10<sup>th</sup> these activities were carried out continuously. During 1942 the British government enforced ban on hoisting flags on government buildings. Also a ban on publishing newspapers. VishwanathaShetty secretly brought Kranthi published in Andrapradesh to Tiptur. They were circulated to people of Tiptur .theseNewspapers intensified the Quit India movement in Tiptur.

On 9<sup>th</sup> August 1942 in Bombay Conference a resolution regarding the historical "Quit India" movement was passed. Gandhiji gave a call for Quit India movement. Thalekere Subramanya along with many other leaders who attended the conference were arrested.People in Mysore region/kingdom responded to this arrest through movements, strikes, processions and meetings people from every nook & corner voluntarily took part in the freedom movement. The anti-governmental activities like hoisting flags on government buildings, picketing in front of liquor shops, destroying postal telegraphic wires, stopping roadways and railways, ticketless travelling were widely carried out throughout Tumkur district. Places like Madhugiri, koratagere, Tiptur,m Gubbi, Kunigal, chikkanayakanahalli witnessed intensified freedom struggle. The students also played an important role by quitting classes and laboursalso said good-bye to their jobs to take part in the movement. They fought courageously to drive away the Britishers from the country.

A student called Somegowda in Tiptur united the students to participate in the movement. He was later arrested by the police as the students turned out to be violent and burnt the coaches of the trains. The freedom fighters instead of bending their heads, seeking apology in front of the police preferred to undergo punishment.More than 150 people dead ticket-less travel to show their protest from Tumkur to Gollahalli. A post-box was destroyed a liquor shop was burnt in Kyatsandra. The same day many liquor shop was burnt in Tumkur.More than 100 Minerva mill labours from Bangalore travelled in train to Tumkur. They carried out a procession in the town and conducted a meeting. Nearly 1000 freedom fighters participated in the meeting. Later they burnt a liquor shop near Gubbi tollgate. Another liquor shop was burnt in Honnudike also. Telephone wires were cut-down and destroyed the contact between Tumkur and Bangalore. The number of processions and meetings were increased and intensified in places like Hebbur, Tiptur, Madhugiri, Chikkanayakanahalli and Gubbi and also in other parts of Tumkur district.

On 15<sup>th</sup> August a mass procession was carried out and a number of students, government employees and workers even women also participated in the procession. People shouted slogans saying hail (jai) to Mahatma and urging Britishers to quit India in the procession.

In this procession freedom fighters and congress volunteers like M.V. RamRao, Kempahonnaiah, R.S. Aradya, K. Bheemaiah, C. Rajagopalachari and Bheemaiah participated. The very same day M.V. RamRao was arrested. The movement was further intensified in response to the news of the death of Mahadeva Desai on 15<sup>th</sup> August due to inhuman-treatment of the police. In response to the death of Mahadeva Desai three different processions were carried out on 17<sup>th</sup> August in Tumkur. Freedom fighters hoisted flag on taluk office in Tumkur, Kratagere. They carried out picketing in front of wine shops at Kestur, Devalapura, Agalakote and Bitragorake. They also destroyed pots hung to the palm trees and also burnt palm trees at Bitragorake. During 1942 Quit India movement R.S. Aradya took up a greater responsibility of reaching out news and reports of the movement by keeping himself underground.

Tumkur continued to witness fight with police, public gathering and processions every day. On August 19<sup>th</sup> a huge public gathering was conducted in Tumkur and more than 5000 people gathered to condole the death of freedom fighter who were assassinated during the firing by the police. They expressed their condolence for assassins. Bheemawade Banamurthy, T.P. Bheemahaiah, B.C. Nanjundaiah addressed the public gathering. On August 20<sup>th</sup> a student gathering/meeting was organized. B.C. Nanjundaiah expressed the aims and objectives of the movement and also conveyed the message of national congress to the gathering. He also urged that Gandhiji's slogan 'Do or Die' should become the goal of every Indian. Freedom fighters like K. Bheemaiah, Gatti Revannamallappa, Venkatachaliah, K.S. Narasimhaiah and Neelakanta Rao were arrested and imprisoned at central jail in Bangalore.

The Quit India movement, Non-cooperation movement and Civil Disobedience movement which were being carried out nationwide became mass movement, as women, students, workers, government employees, merchants and every section of the society involved themselves in the movements. People were not frightened and did not withdraw themselves in spite of laws, punishment, prohibition of the government. The whole nation courageously participated in the movement and the non-violence which was used as a powerful weapon is historical and still lingers in the memory of the people of the world.

### **The leadership role of women: -**

In the history of India, Karnataka occupies a very special place through its contribution in the fields like art, literature, music, science, education and also in its contribution during freedom movement. Karnataka played a prestigious (proud) role in the Quit India movement.

The woman played a significant role by involving themselves in the freedom movement against the British government in order to gain independence for the country. The women actively participated in more and more number in the important movements like Non-cooperation Movement, Quit India Movement and Civil Disobedience Movement. The women courageously took part in the Non-Violence movement and supported Mahatma Gandhi by righteously adopting his non-cooperation, civil disobedience and quit India movements to gain freedom. The women of Karnataka also played a prominent role in the freedom movement. They involved themselves in the Quit India movement of 1942, thereby occupied a proud position in the history of Indian national movement. Even in Tumkur the women freedom fighters actively took part in 1942 Quit India movement.

On August 17<sup>th</sup> afternoon about 1000 people participated in a procession in Tumkur. Along with this procession a special procession led by women leaders was carried out and women leaders Sheshamma, Sarojamma, J.C. Bhagirathamma etc. involved themselves in the struggle against Britishers so as to support the national movement. One more procession of 600 volunteers also carried out in the evening in Tumkur. A public meeting which was attended by 250 women freedom fighters was organized in the evening. More and more processions, a number of meetings continued to be the sight of every day.

**J.C. Bhagirathamma:** - Among the women volunteers of freedom movement of Tumkur district, a vital position was occupied by Bhagirathamma. She was born on 02/02/1922 in Tumkur to a merchant parents, her father Sri.Karisiddappa, her mother Smt.Siddananjamma. she finished her primary and high school education in a mission school in HorapeteTumkur. In 1941 she was married to a labour leader and a member of peoples' representative called Sri.J.R. Changalaradhya. On their wedding day they both swore to pledge and sacrifice their life for the cause of the country. Incidentally within a year the couple had to take part in the Quit India movement of 1942, there-by they plunged into the freedom movement. On September 5<sup>th</sup> in chikkaLalbhag in Banglore in a meeting Bhagirathamma addressed the publics and later both Bhagirathamma and Changalaradya took out a mock funeral procession of the British govt from Lalbhag to Majestic.Later in the evening they burnt the letters the British government .The mob danced in ecstasy and shouted slogans that the British government ended .The couple was arrested and sentenced to prison till sep 9<sup>th</sup>.Meanwhile Bhagirathamma had to skip her first Gouri festival, but they thought theNations freedom is greater than personal happiness.The couple went to prison without any regrets.

**Sunandamma:** -Sunandamma a women's leader was basically from She plunged into freedom movement being inspired by T. Siddlingiah. Senior Gandhi followers like ThagadurRamRao, Sitharama Shastri, also exercised influence on Sunandamma. She participated in Shivapura flag movement in support of Quit India movement. She was arrested and imprisoned.

**Yashodhara Dasappa:** -

Influenced by father K.H. Ramaiah's patriotism and service mind, Yashodara Dasappa jumped into freedom movement by serving the wounded people of Vidhurashwatha tragedy in 1938. Later she participated in 1942 Quit India movement and underwent imprisonment.

The Quit India movement of 1942 was a significant and final freedom movement for the country's independence. People of India followed the principles of great leaders and practiced them in their struggle against the Britishers. The Gandhian principles like Sathya, Ahimsa, Dharma etc. were greatly respected by the freedom fighters. The great slogan 'Do or Die' given by Mahatma was whole heartedly received by people of India. Irrespective of religion and region the people involved themselves in the freedom movement. The women folk not only participated in freedom struggle but also took leading roles for the cause of the nation. Similarly, the people of Tumkur also joined their hands in the historical event-freedom movement.

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