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A Study on Early Communist Leaders of India

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ABSTRACT

In the political, social, and economic history of the Indian freedom fight, the rise of early communist leaders in India was a significant event. The contributions of notable early communist leaders to the growth of communist organization and ideology in India are examined in this research, including M. N. Roy, Abani Mukherji, Muzaffar Ahmad, S. A. Dange, Shaikat Usmani, Singaravelu Chettiar, and S. V. Ghate. The paper examines how the 1917 Russian Revolution, the dissemination of Marxist concepts, and the actions of Indian revolutionaries overseas contributed to the establishment of early communist networks. It looks at these leaders' attempts to create trade-union activities, organise labourers and peasants, and bring up concerns of poverty, economic inequality, wages, working conditions, and agrarian exploitation. The creation and growth of communist groups as well as the 1920s rise of the Communist Party of India are also covered in the study. The colonial government's efforts to stifle communist activity thru surveillance, arrests, prosecutions, and cases like the Peshawar, Kanpur, and Meerut Conspiracy Cases receive special focus. The book contends that early communist leaders pushed class-based viewpoints into Indian political discourse and made a substantial contribution to worker and peasant mobilisation, despite organisational challenges and ideological disagreements. By tying political independence to issues of economic and social justice, their actions further expanded the anti-colonial movement's social scope. The study comes to the conclusion that the early communist leadership had a significant impact on labour politics, peasant conflicts, and discussions about social and economic change. They also established the groundwork for the communist movement's later growth in India.

Keywords: *Labour Movement, Peasant Movement, Russian Revolution, Indian National Movement.*

INTRODUCTION

The social, political, and economic conditions brought about by colonial rule were strongly linked to the rise of communist leadership in India. Socialist and Marxist views progressively acquired traction during the late 19th and early 20th centuries due to a number of factors, including poverty, the nationalist movement, industrialisation, the increase of the working class, and agricultural exploitation. Indian intellectuals, labourers, revolutionaries, and political activists became even more interested in communism as a result of the 1917 Russian Revolution. Several interconnected groups and organisations, both domestically and internationally, contributed to the development of the early communist movement in India. Marxist philosophy was encountered by Indian revolutionaries and political activists who journeyed to Europe, the Soviet Union, and other nations. They then made an effort to incorporate these concepts into Indian politics. M. N. Roy, Abani Mukherji, Shaikat Usmani, Muzaffar Ahmad, S. A. Dange, Singaravelu Chettiar, Ghulam Hussain, and S. V. Ghate were some of the significant early figures. Despite having different political philosophies and origins, they were all interested in organising peasants and



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labourers and opposing colonial political and economic systems. One of the most well-known Indian communists to build ties with the communist movement abroad was M. N. Roy. The Indian issue was positioned inside the global communist movement thanks to his actions in Mexico, the Soviet Union, and other countries. Another significant revolutionary who was linked to communist activity overseas was Abani Mukherji. Shaikat Usmani was involved in the early communist network and eventually joined the Communist Party of India.

Muzaffar Ahmad became a prominent organiser of the Bengali communist movement within India. He had a direct connection to the growth of labour and communist movements in Calcutta. S. A. Dange's involvement with labour organisations, in particular, contributed significantly to the development of communist and working-class politics in Bombay. Singaravelu Chettiar was involved in the establishment of the Labour-Kisan Party of Hindustan and helped to the growth of communist concepts and labour organisations in Madras. The early leaders of the communist movement encountered several challenges. The colonial authority imposed restrictions, prosecutions, and monitoring on communist activists because it saw their actions as a danger to British rule. The extent to which the colonial administration tried to stifle communist organisations was shown by the Peshawar Conspiracy Cases, the Kanpur Conspiracy Case (1924), and the Meerut Conspiracy Case (1929–1933). Communist leaders persisted in organising workers, engaging in trade union operations, voicing concerns about salaries and working conditions, and creating peasant groups in spite of repression.

The establishment of the Communist Party of India (CPI) in the early 1920s marked a significant turning point in the communist movement's institutional growth. The communist organisation evolved through a number of centres and networks before becoming more consolidated; however, historians disagree on the exact date and circumstances of its inception. Early leaders were crucial in establishing a link between regional labour conflicts and more general Marxist political ideas. These leaders' contributions went beyond the founding of communist groups. They presented fresh perspectives on labour rights, economic exploitation, imperialism, class relations, and agricultural issues. Additionally, their actions inspired discussions within the broader Indian nationalist movement and helped to establish trade unions and peasant organisations. Therefore, studying early communist leaders is crucial to comprehending the development of contemporary Indian political philosophy as well as the history of the labour and peasant movements. Their experiences show how communist politics progressively became a significant part of India's anti-colonial political landscape and how worldwide Marxist principles were adapted to Indian contexts.

EARLY COMMUNIST LEADERS

It was largely due to the efforts of a number of visionary leaders that the Communist movement in India came into being and flourished. These leaders were responsible for introducing Marxist concepts, organising workers and peasants, and challenging the control of the British colonial government through socialist ideology. It was through the efforts of these early communist leaders that the Communist Party of India (CPI) established its intellectual, organisational, and political underpinnings.



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1. M. N. Roy

Originally named Narendranath Bhattacharya, M. N. Roy (1887–1954) was one of the first and most significant Indian leaders connected to international communism and Marxism. He made a substantial contribution to the early growth of the Communist movement in India and was crucial in bringing Marxist concepts to Indian political philosophy. His political career went beyond India, encompassing revolutionary endeavours overseas, involvement in the global communist movement, and ultimately the creation of his own radical humanist worldview. Roy was born in Bengal in 1887. He got active in revolutionary nationalist movements against British colonial rule in his early years. He progressively came to believe that India need a more drastic political change after being impacted by the revolutionary activity in Bengal. He subsequently left India as a result of his revolutionary experiences, where he encountered socialism and Marxist concepts.

Roy's introduction to the 1917 Russian Revolution and the global socialist movement marked a significant turning point in his political career. After passing across a number of nations, he finally arrived in Mexico, where he got embroiled in revolutionary politics. He was one of the first significant Indians to actively participate in the global communist movement when he assisted in the founding of the Mexican Communist Party in 1919. Roy later joined the Communist International (Comintern). He visited Soviet Russia and took part in the organization's events. Roy made significant contributions to the colonial issue during the Comintern's Second Congress in 1920. He maintained that rather than viewing colonial civilisations as just continuations of European revolutionary politics, communist parties in colonial nations have to focus more on revolutionary movements within colonised peoples. He made significant contributions to communist discussions with his supplemental theses on the national and colonial issues.

Roy also made an effort to create Indian communist organisations. He was in touch with Indian revolutionaries and political activists and was involved in attempts to create an organised communist movement in India. Marxist ideas like class struggle, imperialism, capitalism, and socialism were introduced into Indian political discourse thru his writings and political activities. But over time, Roy's relationship with the global communist leadership grew more complex. He began to dispute with V. I. Lenin and later Soviet communist leaders about colonial policy, nationalism and communism, and revolutionary tactics. Roy progressively maintained that communist movements in colonial nations should create revolutionary formations tailored to the unique social circumstances of each nation and should have more autonomy from nationalist leadership.

The 1930s saw a significant shift in Roy's political beliefs. Eventually, he started to criticise both the authoritarian aspects of Soviet politics and traditional communism. He was detained by British officials and imprisoned in 1930 after returning to India. His incarceration gave him the chance to write on politics and engage in more introspection. Roy was more critical of both traditional nationalism and communism in the later 1930s. He tried to create a different political agenda while working for a short time with the Indian National Congress. He founded the League of Radical Congressmen in 1937 with the goal of advancing a more democratic and scientifically grounded political philosophy.



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Roy backed the Allied fight against Nazism during World War II. He thought that the survival and advancement of democracy depended on the defeat of fascism. In addition to being different from many nationalist leaders, his stance also showed his increasing disassociation from traditional communist politics. Roy created the concept known as Radical Humanism after the war, further distancing himself from Marxism. He placed a strong focus on human reason, democracy, individual liberty, scientific rationalism, and moral principles. He maintained that human freedom, not autocratic governmental structures, should be the foundation of social and political change.

2. Muzaffar Ahmed

Muzaffar Ahmed is frequently recognised as the pioneer of communism in Bengal and was one of the original leaders of the Indian Communist movement. He actively took part in labour struggles, organised workers, and supported trade union activity. Ahmed remained dedicated to the cause of socialism throughout his life despite being imprisoned by the British government on several occasions, most notably in the Kanpur Bolshevik Conspiracy Case (1924) and the Meerut Conspiracy Case (1929).

Ahmed, Comrade Muzaffar (1889–1973) was an Indian communist revolutionary and pioneer. Party supporters and allies affectionately refer to him as Kakababu, or uncle. For other communist adherents, his lifestyle and methods served as an example. Muzaffar Ahmed was born in Sandwip, Noakhali District, on August 5, 1889, the son of Mansur Ali, a lawyer. He received his early education at Sandwip's Kargill High School. He eventually relocated to a madrasa and then Noakhali Zilla School. Muzaffar Ahmed accepted a job at the Writers' Building printing press while he was an Intermediate Arts student at Hughli College and Bangabasi College. After that, he was employed by the Home Department as a translator. At the same time, he served as the Bangiya Mussalman Sahitya Samiti's Assistant Secretary. He started participating in political gatherings and processions in 1916. He made the decision to become involved in politics in 1920.

The Khilafat and non-cooperation movements set post-war India on fire. Muzaffar was proposed as a member of the Bengal Provincial Khilafat Committee in 1920. Even though he used to attend every meeting, he declined the position. Muzaffar Ahmed joined KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM as a joint editor of NABAJUG on July 12, 1920. Ahmed used to write articles for this daily about the issues facing working people. In January 1921, he departed Nabayug. On October 17, 1920, the Communist Party of India was founded at Tashkent. Comrade Muzaffar started gathering articles and magazines from overseas and made contact with the International Communist Movement. The party's inaugural newspaper, The Vanguard of the Indian Independence, was released on May 15, 1922. Around the end of 1922, Muzaffar and Comrade Abdul Halim began working together to establish the Communist Party of India.

As a section of the Communist International, the Communist Party of India was now operating at full capacity. Muzaffar Ahmed started participating in working-class activities and joined the Trade Union Congress. In accordance with Regulation No. 3 of 1818, he was detained and imprisoned on May 17, 1923. In February 1924, he was convicted to four years of hard labour after being accused under the Kanpur Bolshevik Conspiracy Case. But in 1925, he was set free after developing TB. Muzaffar Ahmed was detained in Calcutta once more on March 20, 1929, as a suspect in the Meerut Conspiracy Case. He was required to serve a total of twenty years in prison. He went on two protracted hunger strikes to demand political prisoners when he was incarcerated.



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Muzaffar Ahmed specifically instructed other leaders on the guidelines and techniques for operating underground. Over the course of eight years, he went underground to work for the party organization and movements around five times. While incarcerated, he was elected to the party's Central Committee during the All India Delegates' Conference, which took place in Calcutta in December 1933. He was elected to the central committee of every party congress, with the exception of the 1948 Second Party Congress.

The Communist Party expanded to all 28 districts of undivided Bengal between 1938 and 1940, and thousands of new members joined the party. Kisan Sabhas and trade unions proliferated. Throughout the 1950s, the party's reorganisation effort persisted. Both inside and outside the legislature, the party started to take shape as a national force. All of these operations revolved around Comrade Muzaffar Ahmed. From 1940 to 1943, he served as the party's Bengal Provincial Committee Secretary. Comrade Muzaffar Ahmed continued to lead the party throughout his life.

Everyone was interested in a few aspects of Muzaffar Ahmed's life. He was a great revolutionary because of his intense passion for women's equality, strong belief in democracy, and deep commitment to working class internationalism. Ahmed had a great understanding of mass movements, political campaigns, party organization, etc. From 1937 to 1971, he actively led every election while closely adhering to campaign tactics. He supported the internationalism of the working class.

He took pride in Bangladesh's freedom struggle. Ahmed thought that the exchange of ideas is necessary to promote thought and that freedom of the press and speech is crucial for intellectual growth. He used to tenderly care for and safeguard presses, paper, and booksellers. His achievements include Ganashakti Press and the National Book Agency. His essays on a wide range of topics can be found in numerous periodicals and journals. His works on peasant issues, *Myself and the Communist Party of India*, and *Communist Party of India: Years of Formation 1921-1933* shed light on modern politics. At the age of 84, Comrade Muzaffar Ahmed died on December 18, 1973. He has worked for the party full-time for 52 of his 60 years in politics.

3. S. A. Dange

One of the founding members of the Communist Party of India, S. A. Dange was a well-known labour union leader. His early work, *Gandhi vs. Lenin*, sparked discussion among Indian political activists and demonstrated his interest in Marxist concepts. Dange made a substantial contribution to the growth of the All India Trade Union movement and took the lead in organising industrial workers, particularly in Bombay.

Indian politician Shripad Amrit Dange (10 October 1899–22 May 1991) was a key figure in the Indian trade union movement and a founding member of the Communist Party of India (CPI). Dange spent a total of 13 years in prison after being detained by the government during the 20th century for engaging in labour union and communist activities. The Kanpur Bolshevik Conspiracy Trial and subsequent internal dispute about purported 1924 letters in which he requested mercy from the British colonial authorities defined his early years.

The Communist Party of India split in 1964 as a result of a number of events following India's independence, including the Sino-Soviet split, the Sino-Indian war, and disagreements over the party's stance on the Indian National Congress. The breakaway Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPI(M)) performed better in the Indian elections and gained more members. The bulk of party employees opposed Dange's political stance of endorsing the Indian National Congress and then-Congress Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, which led to Dange's removal as CPI Chairman in 1978.



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In 1981, he was dismissed from the CPI. He first joined the All India Communist Party (AICP), then the United Communist Party of India. In the end, Dange became more and more excluded from the Indian Communist movement. In addition to being a well-known author, he founded Socialist, India's first socialist weekly. Dange was crucial to the creation of the state of Maharashtra.

4. Shaukat Usmani

Shaukat Usmani was one of the first Indian communists who belonged to the Tashkent group. He took part in global communist events and strove to propagate communist doctrine among labourers. His detention in the conspiracy charges in Kanpur and Meerut demonstrated the British government's resolve to quell the expanding communist movement.

An influential early Indian communist, revolutionary, and trade-union activist, Shaukat Usmani (1901–1978) helped shape the Communist Movement in India between 1900 and 1947. He was especially connected to the international communist movement, the early communist organization, and the spread of Marxist ideas among Indian labourers. His involvement in the early organisational efforts of Indian communists, imprisonment, and revolutionary activity characterised his political career.

In 1901, Shaukat Usmani was born in Bikaner, Rajasthan. At an early age, he developed an interest in revolutionary and nationalist politics and was impacted by the rise in popularity of socialist and Marxist concepts following the 1917 Russian Revolution. Many young Indian activists who were looking for more radical alternatives to colonial control were drawn to Russia's revolutionary upheaval. Usmani became involved in attempts to create an organised communist movement in India after progressively shifting toward communist politics.

Usmani joined up with other Indian revolutionaries and communists who were promoting Marxist ideas in the early 1920s. He made contacts with the global communist movement while travelling outside of India. He was exposed to global Marxist discussions and revolutionary politics because to his affiliation with the Communist International (Comintern). After that, he went back to India and took part in communist organisations. Usmani was crucial to the early Communist Party of India's growth. He collaborated with leaders like Muzaffar Ahmad and S. A. Dange to fortify communist networks among labourers and political activists. His actions aided in the propagation of communist concepts related to socialism, imperialism, workers' rights, and class conflict.

Usmani's participation in the labour movement was one of the most important facets of his political career. He realised, like other early communist leaders, that industrial workers might play a significant role in the fight against colonial exploitation. He backed the formation of trade unions and worker mobilisation on matters like pay, working conditions, and workers' rights. His actions helped colonial India's organised labour politics grow more broadly.

5. Singaravelu

Every time a wonderful individual is born, the world is renewed. They leave behind their ideas and beliefs, which are embraced by others to create new opportunities and educate people everywhere. For this reason, we believe that the world is reborn when great people are born. The most noteworthy of these individuals



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are Mahatma Gandhi, Periyar of Erode, and M. Singaravelu. Our homeland has provided butter to many such great people who have served as mentors to others of those born in India and gained permanent worldwide reputation, hence giving enormous fame to our land. Gandhiji's nonviolent beliefs, Periyar's rationality, and the communist values of the first Indian labour leader and Communist Singaravelu are still as well-known as their leaders.

Singaravelu, the third son of Venkatachalam Chetty and Valliammai, was born on February 18, 1860, into an affluent family. He is regarded as the founder of the Indian communist movement, the Indian labour union movement, scientific rationality, and egalitarianism. Among Kandappa Chetty's descendants, he was the only one to pursue further education. After passing the matriculation test in 1881, he received his F.A. from Christian College in 1884 and his B.A. from Madras University's Presidency College. He enrolled in Madras Law College, earned a B.L. in 1907, and practiced law in Madras High Court. In 1889, he entered into an intercaste marriage with Angammal. They eventually had a daughter named Kamala, which was a blessing.

Singaravelu bought some lands in Thiruvananthapuram and Mylapore with the money he earned from his successful legal profession. He formally adopted Satya Kumar, his own grandson and the son of his daughter Kamala, as his son in 1932 because women did not have equal rights back then. Singaravelu was a trailblazer in South India's labour and communist movements. In 1923, he became the first Indian leader to commemorate May Day, also known as International Workers' Day, in India after organising labour unions in Madras. His initiatives helped socialist concepts become more widely accepted among trade unions and industrial workers.

6. S. V. Ghate

One of the original members of the Communist Party of India, S. V. Ghate served as its first general secretary upon its creation in 1925. He was crucial in bolstering the party's organisational framework, directing communist operations throughout various areas, and increasing its sway over labourers and peasants. S. V. Ghate grew up in a Maharashtrian Karhade Brahmin household in Mangalore. He went to St Aloysius College in Mangalore with the help of his elder brother. He is cited as saying, "The main thing in all the topics in philosophy is service of people," and that reading "Indian philosophy, including Ramakrishna Paramahansa, and Vivekananda" had an impact on his decision to become a Communist.

The first Communist Conference of India took place in Kanpur in December 1925. Under Satya Bhakta's direction, a number of local left-wing parties came together to form the "Communist Party of India," an all-India organization. The leaders of the inaugural Communist Conference in India, which took place in Kanpur in December 1925, disagreed on the party's proper name. While Satya Bhakta believed that the party should be called the "Indian Communist Party," other leaders, including S. V. Ghate, K. N. Joglekar, and R. S. Nimbkar, emphasised that the party should be called the "Communist Party of India" because it was the general international norm to refer to it as the Communist Party of this country or that country. Consequently, Satya Bhakta established a distinct party, which he named the "National Communist Party" before it was formally dubbed the "Communist Party of India." The Communist Party of India (CPI) was eventually established on December 26, 1925, and Ghate was selected as its first general secretary.



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7. P. C. Joshi

During the 1930s and 1940s, P. C. Joshi, one of the Communist Party of India's (CPI) most powerful leaders, was instrumental in turning the party into a national political organization. From 1935 to 1947, he served as the Communist Party of India's General Secretary. His active leadership helped the party expand its mass base, fortify its organisational structure, and unite the communist movement with the larger fight against British colonial power. The CPI grew from a tiny underground group under his direction to become a powerful force in Indian politics, labour movements, peasant conflicts, and cultural activities.

Puran Chand Joshi, who was born in Almora (modern-day Uttarakhand) on April 14, 1907, completed his early schooling in northern India before becoming involved in the nationalist movement while still a student. In the late 1920s, he was linked to communist politics due to the influence of Marxist literature, the 1917 Russian Revolution, and the expanding labour movement in India. Joshi's political career emerged at a time when the British colonial administration severely suppressed the Communist Party. He continued to be dedicated to bolstering the organization and increasing its influence among workers, peasants, students, and intellectuals in spite of the frequent arrests of communist leaders and limitations on party operations.

A new stage in the CPI's development began in 1935 when P. C. Joshi was appointed General Secretary. Instead of focusing on discrete revolutionary operations, he prioritised mass political work, disciplined organization, and intellectual instruction. While preserving the CPI's own ideological identity, Joshi promoted collaboration with progressive nationalist groups, especially the Indian National Congress, when the Communist International adopted the Popular Front Policy. He felt that in order to secure India's independence and fend off the growing threat of fascism, a broad anti-imperialist alliance was necessary.

The growth of the party's mass organisations was one of Joshi's biggest accomplishments. By organising industrial workers and advancing labour rights, the CPI increased its power in the All India Trade Union Congress under his direction. Thru the All India Kisan Sabha, the party increased its efforts among peasants at the same time, promoting campaigns against excessive rent, forced work, landlord abuse, and rural debt. Joshi thot that rather than relying solely on doctrinal propaganda, the communist movement's success depended on direct interaction with the daily struggles of labourers and farmers.

P. C. Joshi acknowledged the role that intellectuals, writers, artists, and students played in the anti-colonial campaign. In addition to supporting progressive literary and cultural initiatives like the Progressive Writers' Association and the Indian People's Theatre Association, he promoted communist involvement in groups like the All India Students' Federation. These groups spread democratic, socialist, and anti-imperialist principles to the general public thru literature, theatre, music, and journalism. Joshi thot that cultural endeavours were crucial to social change and political mobilisation.

P. C. Joshi led the party during one of its most trying times during the Second World War. The CPI embraced the "People's War" strategy and backed the Allied fight against fascism following Germany's 1941 invasion of the Soviet Union. Joshi supported this strategy by claiming that democracy and the global communist revolution depended on the defeat of fascism. Joshi insisted that the fight against fascism and the fight for India's independence should be waged concurrently, despite the fact that the party's unwillingness to back the Quit India Movement of 1942 drew harsh condemnation from nationalist leaders.



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The Communist Party grew quickly in the 1940s under Joshi's direction. The CPI had a major role in crucial mass movements like the Tebhaga Movement in Bengal, trade unions and peasant organisations got stronger, and membership surged dramatically. The CPI became one of the main left-wing political organisations in India thanks to his emphasis on democratic organization, rigorous party activity, and collaboration with other progressive movements. However, certain Communist Party factions also criticised Joshi's united front and moderate stance. Ideological disagreements about the party's future direction surfaced after independence in 1947. B. T. Ranadive, whose leadership supported a more radical revolutionary program, succeeded him as General Secretary in 1948. However, P. C. Joshi continued to be a significant communist scholar who made contributions to political literature, historical studies, and conversations about the Indian freedom movement.

P. C. Joshi's ability to successfully turn the Communist Party from a tiny underground group into a widespread popular movement is what gives him historical significance. He supported progressive cultural movements, increased labour and peasant mobilisation, promoted democratic political involvement, and highlighted unity among anti-imperialist forces. His leadership greatly aided in the growth of left-wing politics in contemporary India and reinforced the CPI's organisational underpinnings. In summary, P. C. Joshi has a noteworthy position in the annals of the Indian Communist movement. The Communist Party was able to fight British colonialism more successfully thanks to his idea of fusing Marxist philosophy with widespread political activity, cultural activism, and collaboration with democratic forces. His contribution to labour organization, peasant mobilisation, cultural renaissance, and anti-imperialist politics is still regarded as one of the most significant accomplishments in the history of the Communist Party of India, despite the fact that some aspects of his ideas remained controversial.

Overall Contribution of The Leaders

In addition to laying the groundwork for the Communist Party of India's organisational structure, the early communist leaders were responsible for introducing Marxist doctrine into the mainstream of Indian political thought. Thru the use of trade unions and peasant organisations, they organised industrial workers and peasants, fought against British imperialism, and advocated for social and economic equality. Thru their efforts, communism was transformed into a strong political force throughout the Indian freedom fight. This was accomplished in spite of the fact that the colonial authority subjected them to heavy persecution, arrests, and incarceration. As a result of their leadership, subsequent generations of left-wing activists were motivated, and they made a contribution to the development of democratic and socialist politics in India when it gained its independence.

CONCLUSION

Studying India's early communist leaders exposes their significant contribution to the growth of labour organisations, anti-colonial politics, and socialist and Marxist political theory in the first half of the twentieth century. The rise of leaders like M. N. Roy, Abani Mukherji, Muzaffar Ahmad, S. A. Dange, Shaikat Usmani, Singaravelu Chettiar, and S. V. Ghate signalled the start of a new political movement that concentrated on issues such as economic exploitation, workers' rights, peasant conditions, and class inequality. The global socialist movement, and especially the 1917 Russian Revolution, had an impact on



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these leaders. They endeavoured to understand Marxism in light of India's colonial economy, social structure, and political conditions rather than merely replicating European political concepts. In various regions of India, their efforts aided in the development of communist organisations, trade unions, workers' organisations, and peasant movements.

The British colonial authority fiercely opposed the early communist leaders. Communist political participation was very challenging due to government surveillance, arrests, prosecutions, and prohibitions. The scope of colonial repression is illustrated by the conspiracy instances in Peshawar, Kanpur, and Meerut. However, these challenges did not put an end to the movement. Rather, communist militants kept organising peasants and labourers and progressively built a larger network of organisations and politics. The early communist leadership made a significant contribution to comprehending India's political and economic issues from a class perspective. Low pay, unfavourable working conditions, land relations, debt, poverty, and exploitation became significant topics in political discourse. Communist leaders assisted in bringing some workers and rural populations into organised political activism by taking part in labour and peasant struggles.

The early communist movement also faced organisational challenges, ideological disputes, and conflicts regarding its relationship with the Indian National Congress and the larger nationalist movement. These restrictions had an impact on the evolution of communist politics, but they also fuelled ongoing discussions over the connection between nationalism, independence, and class conflict. All things considered, the early communist leaders were crucial to the development of contemporary Indian political history. Their impact on labour movements, peasant conflicts, political consciousness, and discussions about social and economic justice must be taken into consideration in addition to the creation of communist organisations. Understanding the history of the Indian communist movement and the larger fight against colonialism depends on their legacy, which persisted in influencing Indian politics after independence.

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