

(Copy of letter sent to Mr.N.G.Rathore of
Apt-2-E, 150 Claremont Ave., N.Y.-27 N.Y.
also to Prof A.C, Bose of Ranchi)

"Gyan Bhavan"
V & P O SAPROON
Simla Hills, Punjab, INDIA

dated Aug. 27, 1960

Dear _____

- Your letter dated June 29th reached me at Saproon on July 7. The delay in answering is due to several reasons of which I will cite three:
- a)- Since March, I have been engaged in building a permanent "Self-Culture Institute" in India, which is nearing completion in its initial stage. By the time I am through personally supervising the daily work, I am so tired that there is no energy for doing any kind of writing.
 - b)- My health has been a problem since my return to India on Nov. 10th, 1958 after half a century in exile, of which forty-two yrs, were spent in the USA. This may be due to many causes, - climate, diet or impact---besides the process of aging does not help a quick recovery. I am nearing eighty.
 - c)- All papers, files and documents are still in boxes at Chandigarh-----

Hence the delay with apologies. Now, to the information you desire:

- 1st-The "violent wing of the revolutionary party" has been active in India ever since 1857. There never was a time without some sort of revolt, rebellion, uprising at sometime or other. India is not as "pacific" as is ordinarily believed. "Active Revolutionary Movement" actually started with the partition of Bengal by Lord Curzon, -(1902-05). Bengal is "the birth-place of India's National Revolutionary Movement." By 1907-08 it had reached Punjab. I was a lecturer on "Sikhism" at the time and caught fire along with other prominent personalities, - Lala Rajpat Rai, Sardar Ajit Singh, Sufi Amba Prasad, Lal Chand "Falak" and others. We all worked together. After the arrest of Lala Rajpat Rai, and the leaving for Iran & Persia of Sardar Ajit Singh and Sufi Amba Prasad, I hid evading arrest for about nine months changing my identity, -but warrants were issued & I, too had to flee India at the end of 1908.
- 2nd-Travelling, preaching Revolutionary doctrine and Nationalism wherever I went, through Burma, Siam, Java, Sumatra, Borneo, the Malay Straits, Singapore, I finally reached Hong Kong in March of 1910, intending to proceed to America, but I accepted the post of Head Granthi, -(priest) at the Central Sikh Temple, where I carried on my activities. I was arrested twice for preaching sedition, once in 1911 and again in 1912. There were about 9,000 Indians enlisted in the British Army, the Police, Guards watchmen, etc, and I did my best work among them during this period. In ^{the} April 1913, I resigned the Granthiship and left for Canada where I began to preach open rebellion amongst my Countrymen. It was while in Canada that I got in touch with Dr. Hardyal, co-founder of the Gadar Party. He was working in the U.S.A. I was arrested and forcibly deported from Canada Nov. 1913. Dr. Hardyal was arrested by the U.S. Immigration Authorities and left for Europe in March of 1914. Thus for the first time ~~put out~~ side India, spontaneously, from North America, Canada and the USA, the "Modern Revolutionary Movement of India" came into being.
- 3rd-The Gadar Party was established at St. Johns, Oregon, and the first issue of its official organ, -"The Hindustan Gadar," came out Nov. 1st 1913 in Urdu. The spread of the Revolutionary Movement among Indians wherever they happened to be was indication that the masses of India were ready for active revolution, waiting for leadership and guidance. They were fed-up with the National Congress Party which was organized by an English man by the name of "Hume" in 1885, mostly to gauge or keep a check on public opinion in India. It was an organization of the British Civil Service and some civilians who were disgruntled, yet dared not face the risk of discomforts, joined it. In 1907 it split up into two wings, - the Left wing led by Sri Bal Gangadhar Tilak, a great Patriot, and the Right Wing

- the Conservatives, led by Shri B.K. Gokhale and Shri S.N. Banerjee, etc.
- 3th-This was the Century of Revolutions; Turkish Revolution against the Sultan in 1909; The Chinese Revolution of 1911-12 against the Manchus; Bulgarian and Greeks against Turkey 1912-13; (the 1st World War 1914-18; Russian Revolution against the Czars 1917; Again the Turkish Revolution against European hegemony 1919-20 under Kamal Pasha; the Spanish Revolution or uprising 1937; last but not least the Communist Revolution against Chiang Kai Chek plus the upheavals in Latin America, the changes in Africa are signs of the times...The stirring of Egypt and the Arab World, Tunisia, Morocco, Algiers, Iran etc could not have left India untouched...So under this universal wave of awakening, the Indian Revolutionary Movement played its part.
- 5th-We had contacts with the Chinese, Mexican, Irish, Russian as well as other contemporary revolutionary movements, besides official connections with Turkey, Austria, Germany and Japan. At one time, the Gadar Party PAPER was published in seven different Indian languages. It became so popular and in demand that within two years, literacy rose from 10% to 60% people were so eager to read it. The name "Gadar" in Arabic means "mutiny" and was revitalized by Dr. Hardyal in memory of 1857, because the British called that National Rebellion, a MUTINY. Hence the birth of the HINDUSTAN GADAR PARTY.
- 6th-The individuals connected with the Party who played a more or less prominent part in the Movement, in one form or another, were many and from various strata of Society,- students, soldiers, workers, political exiles, educators, writers, even philosophers and thinkers. A "Declaration of WAR" was published in the "Gadar Paper" in 1914. A call was sent out for all Indians to proceed, by whatever methods or means at their disposal, to India. Many did and the "fight for FREEDOM" was on.
- 7th-Over 10,000 Country men and women of ours responded from various parts of the world. Some were arrested, some escaped and reached their destination and objective, working for "freedom" long years after. Some paid the supreme sacrifices, were hanged, treated as traitors by their own, or left to rot in jails or condemned to Adaman Islands for life, etc. Some established themselves in neighbouring countries such as Indonesia, China, Japan, Nepal Afghanistan, Persia, Turkey Malaya, etc...to continue their work among Indians which bore fruit 28 years later when the Indian National Army was organized under the leadership of Shri Subas Chandra Bose during the 2nd World War in Singapore, in 1943. Others continued their work in Germany, Canada & the USA, all of them doing OUTSIDE India what the Nationals could not accomplish inside India. The History and the Saga of Heroism of these thousands of Brave and Noble Patriots is still unsung.
- 8th-I was one of THREE Commissioners who were the sole authority to direct the Movement as well as the President of the Gadar Party and Commander of the Active FORCE in the Far East. After my enforced deportation from Canada, reaching Yokohama, I succeeded in evading my guards in Japan. Placed myself in a hospital to take care of a broken foot and injured back sustained during the tussle with the police in Canada at the time of deportation & in March of 1914 was on my way to Europe on a Japanese ship. But I was detected in Shanghai and warrants were issued in Hong Kong for my arrest. While the ship was being searched I had my long hair and whiskers cut off and disguised as a Japanese, escaped. Once back in Japan, accompanied by Prof. Maulana Barack Tullah we proceeded to the USA. There we found that Dr. Hardyal had been forced to leave and Gadar Party was without a leader.
- We landed at San Francisco the 23rd of May 1914 and there we found etc.
- I was elected President with Maulana Barack Tullah Vice President and Ram Chandra in charge of the Gadar Party Paper, Hindustan Gadar. We three were nominated Commissioners, Barack Tullah was assigned to the Near East and I to the Far East a few months later. I took charge of the Gadar Party and we worked like whirling dervishes for about five weeks hectic months, then parted, each to a new post never to meet again till 1927. I left the USA in October of 1914 for Japan, a couple of months after the start of the First World War. It actually was a gigantic movement with international

connections and the first of its kind in the History of India which played its part in the "Freedom Struggle" from out-side the Country.

The FAILURES of the Movement were three, -namely:

- a)- The first World War was not expected by us until 1920. Instead it came in 1914 and gave us exactly nine months in which to organize, educate, and make the Movement a dynamic one. The time element was too short.
- b)- We lacked sufficient numbers as well as trained leaders to direct the movement.
- c)- We were without facilities, -no army, no armaments; no transportation system of our own, no railways, ships, planes, etc; no means of communication such as wireless, telegraph, telephone, etc. Hence, NO coordination of the various forces located in various parts of the world. BUT, our biggest failure was that no ACTIVE RESPONSE was possible in India due to the suppression and well-paid, well-organized British bureaucracy. The Rajas and Maharajahs, nobles, title-holders, though Indian were socially and psychologically conquered by British propaganda. SUCH were our FAILURES!

Our SUCCESSES or ACCOMPLISHMENTS, however, were more pronounced and fundamental than our FAILURES:

- 1st- In the field of propaganda and mass education nothing like it had ever happened before in the History of India. Masses once aroused cannot be bribed, brow-beaten nor bargained with.
- 2nd- The sending of over 10,000- (this according to official estimate) brave sons & daughters, -"Soldiers of India" from abroad, their arrests & farcical trials in courts mostly inside jails; their hanging; life imprisonments; deportation for life, etc., did something to a pacific country like India that could not have been accomplished inside India by any organization. The publicity of the trials and the sacrifices made by the Patriots, aroused the people from states of slumber & the offshoot was the militant organization of the Akalis although outwardly communal, yet headed towards National Awakening; the appointment of the Rowlett Act by Commission by the British Parliament; the passing of the Rowlett Act by the same, where all vestige of freedom was taken away from the people; the massacre of the Jullianwala Bagh in 1919 and Martial Law in Punjab, ... These were EVENTS, plus the Conspiracy Cases in many cities which were the CONTRIBUTION of the GADAR PARTY in behalf of INDIA'S FREEDOM. For the 1st time a National Movement of a "violent wing" had come into being which brought Gandhi in to the forefront. The Country was awake and prepared for His guidance.
- 3rd- The infiltration of the Revolutionary Movement into the Army, the Police Force and the C.I.D., - (Criminal Investigation Department), as well as the Navy and Air Forces, was so effective that there was a rebellion in Bombay for three days, the Port was closed and the National Flag hoisted preceded by a mutiny in Singapore and later the establishment of the National Army in 1943 where wholesale desertations took place from the British Army.

My firm conviction is that had appeal and proper approach been made to the Indian Army between the 1st and 2nd World Wars, India would have been free through armed rebellion by our own efforts and strength rather than at the expense of Partition, as a "British Gift", -so humiliating to all of us Nationalists and a Proud People.

The OBJECTIVE of the entire Movement was "COMPLETE FREEDOM" by any, every and all means.

The CAMPAIGNS were through the press, platforms, word-of-mouth and secret-cells. OPEN DECLARATION OF WAR was not a secret conspiracy, it was open rebellion.

The ACTIVITIES were multiple and left to the individual and circumstances.

Sd Bhagwan S. Gyane