

A STUDY OF ANGLO-SIKH WAR AND ITS EFFECT ON INDIAN POLITICS**Tirth Singh****Dr. Kavita**

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Abstract-

There were two Anglo-Sikh Wars or missions between the British and the Sikhs. The primary clash occurred in 1845-second in 1846 and the 1848-1849. The Punjab Sikh realm was extended by Maharaja Ranjit Singh during the nineteenth century, particularly in the previous part. The main effect of the Second Sikh War throughout the entire existence of India was obviously the extension of Punjab to the organization. The decrease of the Sikh rule began quickly later the main Anglo-Sikh War in light of the fact that there was nobody solid and proficient enough to succeed him.

Keyword- *Somewhat English Sikh Wars, political circle, India Company*

Introduction-

There were two Anglo-Sikh Wars or missions between the British and the Sikhs. The chief battle happened in 1845-second in 1846 and the 1848-1849. The chief Sikh struggle incited a midway control of the Sikh domain by the British. Regardless, it was the second Anglo-Sikh War which was seen as a huge one all through the whole presence of India as it was this Sikh struggle, which curiously joined the whole of Punjab to British India and the fall of the Sikh domain. This Sikh struggle was a critical clash fought between the British East India Company and the Sikh area.

Maharaja Ranjit Singh named his standard as 'Sarkar-e-Khalsa' and its cash was named Nanak Shahi. He clarified that he was one of the Sikhs and didn't call him the Maharaja. He should just to be called Singh Sahib. These were all of the pieces of the Sikh state. Regardless, he didn't work an extraordinary arrangement in making the Sikh state as his succession area and bring the Sikh at the most noteworthy mark of express the chiefs. He died in Lahore on June 27, 1839, later a fundamental attack of loss of movement. With his ruin, the Sikh domain began to collapse on amicable and political circle. Two Anglo-Sikh contentions removed the Sikh military and the catch of their administration in 1849. Their social rot also began at the similar time. He had left seven sons¹ which were brought into the universe of various life partners. Notwithstanding, the decline of the Sikh rule started rapidly considering the way that there was no one strong and capable enough to succeed him At the most noteworthy place of the central set up, there were no committed Sikhs to save it from the interests of the British. It gave an extraordinary occasion to the smarts and reasonable British to enter interests with rogues which they couldn't do in Ranjit Singh's life. His youngsters were not fit to oversee such a dangerous condition since all of them were discarded in a consistent movement with the help of the Dogras and the Brahmins .

The spot that is known for Multan has been remained the goal of revolutionary activities of the new intruders and dictators. These new powers not simply exploited its courageous, committed, trying and bold people yet what's more isolated it into pieces. They pulled in the close by people with the craving for obtaining and chose them in the military considering the way that their main point was to set them up for the fight to come against their accused adversaries. These pariahs had a spot with different religions, human headways and land plots. Multan has also participated in the Muslims rule for a long while. During this period, it stayed aware of its social, political and severe position anyway in 1707, later the destruction of Aurangzeb Alamgir, the Mughal Empire began to scatter. At last in 1818, Ranjit Singh vanquished Multan. The political circumstance furthermore remained incredibly broken down and geo-political changes frequently occurred. Thusly, two Anglo-Sikh Wars struggled which caused the rot of Ranjit's Kingdom.

Objective-

1. To concentrate in of the First Anglo-Sikh War.
2. To review in second Anglo-Sikh War.

EVENTS OF THE FIRST ANGLO-SIKH WAR

The British took real note of the show struggle of the First Anglo-Sikh War in their internal boards, since it was in a little while sure that an immense expense had been paid for its victory and cataclysm . On December 13, 1845, the British expressed conflict on the Sikhs with the assertion that the region past Sutlej would be respected under their circle as well. Five fights, Mudki, Ferozshah, Buddowal, Aliwal and Sobraon,4 were battle from December 18, 1845 to February 10, 1846. The Sikh outfitted power accomplished Ferozepur as it was in a situation to conquer the British military. The most elevated mark of the Sikh military was in like way supporting the British. The Sikh and the British military met on the battle zones at Mudki on December 18, 1845 and at Ferozshah on December 21, 1845. Tej Singh, the head of the Sikh prepared power, ensured the destruction of the Sikh powers as the British outfitted power was not in a situation to pound the Sikhs. He, nearby 5000 Sikh supervisors, moved away from the front line at Mudki by showing the Sikh drives from the conflict absolutely when the military was at the time of win. Same framework was taken on by the Sikh managers at Ferozshah according to control from the British.

On January 23, 1846, the Sikh military combat with the British at Sobraon, yet this battle was lost even before the conflict considering the way that the highest point of the Sikhs had sent information to the British concerning the Sikh outfitted power two days sooner. He ensured that the Sikh military would be off course and would be made due . The Sikh military, who was now busy with war, puzzled when it observed sand in the sacks of ammunition In such a precarious situation, how should the furnished power be victorious? The cheating in the dispute of Aliwal was repeated by the Brahmin official . Hasrat] depicts: If, Lal Singh and Tej Sing, Generals of the Sikh furnished power, had not sold out their prepared power, the delayed consequence of the struggles among the Sikhs and the British would have completely been self-evident. Thusly, the British could win these battles notwithstanding it was hard to vanquish the Sikh military.

Cunningham portrays: The English, thusly, humiliated Gulab Singh considering the way that their availability to see a Sikh impact in Lahore should have been dispersed, yet the Raja revealed his shortcoming to administer troops which really frightened him and other well-wishers of the Ranjit

Singh's family. This weakness was genuinely overstated to narrow minded articles. Under these conditions of simple system and absolute disobedience, clash of Sobraon was battled.

BRIEF HISTORY OF SECOND ANGLO-SIKH WAR

The British went before their tricks with the assistance of the double crossers even in the space put something aside for Dalip Singh. Expecting the achievement of the Punjab had been the thing then it probably been far off errands to cover Peshawar and Multan . Consequently, they made furnished uprisings in Multan with the inspiration of pushing their military for extra union. The tenants were associated with spreading the radical against Multan. In actuality, the Sikh military had gotten together with the supposed difficulties of Multan against the British plotting. The Multan Rebellion, mishandled by the British, had upset the Sikhs. Towards the completion of the Sikh battle 1845-46, Sir Charles Napier walked around Multan and came to the central command of military. In the space of Multan and Hazara, the British powers were transported off annihilate the uprisings. It was the height of shrewd plots, now there was no capacity to uncover it. The Govt. of India had picked the Punjab to show up at a fundamental stage . On November 21, 1847, Diwan Mulraj offered his renouncement. Mr V. Agnew and Anderson were delivered off Multan with Kahn Singh who was to take a charge of the new Diwan. A little force of 530 erratic men was also sent with them. Both were assaulted by Mulraj's kinfolk and killed. Subsequently, it was needed to send an ability to rebuff this deed and opposition. In July 1848, it was assented to rapid exercises against the stronghold of Multan with the help of the warriors of Nawab of Bahawalpur and Edwards so Diwan Mulraj could be squashed. On July 22, 1848, a declaration was given against Mulraj concerning his rebelliousness and unsafe murder of the British authorities.

On March 11, 1849, Sher Singh and his father gave over their cutting edges to Major General Gilbert near Rawalpindi. Bhai Maharaj Singh was one individual who was eliminated to Singapore. The revultion of some Khalsa troops, to surrender their weapons, was clear. Some couldn't bind their tears while shock and scorn were discernibly depicted on the forces of others. The comment of one dull facial hair development, as he put down his weapon, was that, "Aaj Ranjit Singh mutilate giya" (Today Ranjit Singh slipped by) . Accordingly, the contention showed up at be an end. The Sikhs combat like lowlifess. They ran right on the edge and banged into their attackers when they were cut . Ruler Gough remunerated the Sikh competitors in these words: Strategy hindered me transparently recording my perspectives on the cerebrum blowing mental strength of our fallen adversary or to record the displays of intensity showed autonomously just as commonly by the Sikh Sardars and the military. I report that it was not from a huge conviction that my country's mind blowing required the debilitation and I may have cried to have seen the horrifying butcher of so genuine a get-together of men.

The current situation will be adequate to show the conflicting sorts of mental strength by these men. The commitment with which they stayed at their posts when the climate around them was completely shot by the British weapons doesn't yield portrayal. It is communicated that they never removed anyway battled courageously with their Talwars (swords) beyond what many would consider possible. It was moreover recorded that they attacked the British space. They made no assault on their distant cantonments nor set foot in their space . According to Dalhousie:

There will not at any point be tranquil and agreement in the Punjab if individuals are permitted to hold the shot at making war. There never can be at this point my certification for the quietness of India until he should have impacted the whole overpowering of the Sikhs and killed them. Confidence may require the scattering of the Sikh furnished power yet how might we legitimize the catch of our

companion's region who, in setback, helped us with recovering our issues. Later this contention, the dubiousness of the Sikh state broadened. The Sikhs military attempted to expect command over the Sikh issues anyway all continually because the military didn't have full control over the Sikhs. Later this contention, measly augmentation of the Punjab was made by Harding while Dalhousie completed the absolute expansion.

The reasons that led to the battle

The Punjab Sikh realm was extended by Maharaja Ranjit Singh during the nineteenth century, particularly in the prior part. During similar period, the domains of British East India Company had additionally been extended till the spaces adjoining the Punjab. Ranjit Singh took a stab at keeping an uncomfortable connection with the East India Company, and simultaneously the tactical strength of the Sikh armed force or the Khalsa armed force was improved. This military attempted to hinder British animosity against his state. Ranjit Singh additionally extended Sikh region toward the north and northwest, including regions from Afghanistan and Kashmir. Later the passing of Ranjit Singh, the Sikh realm started to fall. Some fleeting rulers came to drive at the focal court or the Durban later his demise. This prompted an expanded strain between the Khalsa and the Durbar. In the mean time, the British East India Company started to fortify its tactical strength on the Punjab borders. The principal Anglo Sikh conflict occurred which finished in shame for the Khalsa. Toward the finish of the conflict, the Sikh realm gave up certain regions of Punjab to the British. Likewise the Sikhs were constrained to give up Kashmir as a fine to the British. This was subsequently offered to Maharaja Gulab Singh of Jammu for 10 Lakh Pounds.

In January 1848, Lord Dalhousie got down to business of the British East India Company as the Governor General and was confronted with a new emergency just inside 90 days of joining his office in Punjab. Diwan Mulraj of Multan rebelled against the British. This was in the period of April in 1848. He was in monetary difficulty because of which he had to leave in March 1848 and Sardar Khan Singh was selected as the new Diwan by the new British Resident Fredrick Currie. Sardar Singh was shipped off Lahore to assume responsibility and he was joined by two British officials, Vans Agnew and Lieutenant Anderson, who were killed on 20 April 1848. Individuals of Multan rose in fight. The Second Sikh conflict, subsequently started with the revolt of Mulraj, Governor of Multan.

Repercussions of the fight: champ and failure

- Victor: British East India Company
- Washout: Sikh Empire

The Second Sikh War started because of the revolt of Mulraj, legislative leader of Multan. This changed into a public revolt when the Sikh armed force joined Mulraj on 14 September 1848. Mulraj was joined by the Khalsa, which additionally incorporated an enormous armed force power under Sirdar Sher Singh Attariwalla. Different fights were battled between the two powers. One at Ramnagar on 22 November, one more at Chilianwala on 13 January 1849 and the keep going one at Gujrat on 21 February 1849. Mulraj gave up in the skirmish of Chillianwala. In this large number of fights, there was incredible savagery from the British armed force and the Sikh's power was portrayed by awful authority. Generally speaking it was a definitive triumph of the British East India Company. The Sikhs gave up on 12 March 1849 later their loss in the skirmish of Gujarat.

The clash of Gujarat was the last endeavor by the Khalsa to save Punjab. Yet, the Sikhs couldn't endure the multitude of the British. Firearms were utilized tirelessly and annihilated the Sikhs' positions which constrained them to move out. Sher Singh and different heads of the Khalsa armed force set out their arms. The Afghans who had helped the Sikhs additionally withdrew from Peshawar and Attock. This prompted the total triumph of the British. Following not many weeks, Dalhousie attached the entire of Punjab to British India officially and the Sikh domain turned into a set of experiences.

The overall place and significance of the battle in the Indian history

The main effect of the Second Sikh War throughout the entire existence of India was obviously the extension of Punjab to the organization. Ruler Dalhousie on 30 March 1849, subsequent to winning the fight, broadcasted that the realm of Punjab as of now not had a place with Sikhs, every one of the domains of the realm would be a piece of the British Empire in India. The British got an opportunity to add-on more regions up to the normal boondocks of India towards the northwest. The conflict denoted the complete matchless quality of the East India Company on the Indian subcontinent. However, the British needed to confront an extreme revolt eight years after the fact in 1857, and still, at the end of the day the British power, mastery and dominion had arrived at a high point. The whole Sikh realm fell. Also, later the finish of Sikh power, no dynamic power or power stayed in the country which could represent a danger to the British control in India.

POLITICS AND GOVERNANCE IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA

tions and the resultant decline in the state's reach and ability to project its legal-judicial authority has greatly undermined its capacity to maintain peace and social harmony. In particular, the politicization of the police and the paramilitary by the self-serving political elites and excessive reliance on these organizations to solve all manner of civil law and order problems has served to erode the autonomy, organizational norms and professionalism of these organizations.²¹ The breakdown and abuse of the instrumentalities of law and order has also meant that an important arm of the state cannot be counted upon to insure the security of persons and property or to enforce equal justice. Indeed, in some states such as Bihar where the boundaries between the state of nature and civil society have long blurred random violence, politically motivated acts of murder and terrorism and "unofficial civil wars" have become a way of life. By the 1980s India's political-institutional structures were already deeply fractured and polarized. The personalization and centralization of power had taken its toll, not only eroding the polity's professional and institutional autonomy, but also reducing the once ubiquitous Congress system and its intricate transactional networks that had underpinned the nation's political consensus into a shell of its former self. In effect, the Congress came to resemble a lame Leviathan, a party omnipresent, but hardly omnipotent, that reacted but could not effectively govern or promote economic development. Under these conditions, Mrs. Gandhi even as she returned to office had to rely even more on populist and plebiscitary appeals and demagogic manipulation to consolidate her political base and to keep the opposition at bay. But, in the absence of structured and dependable institutions operating within accepted rules of political conduct and established legal-judicial procedures, populist waves were too ephemeral and superficial to respond to the demands and needs of a complex and variegated society. Under such conditions politics became even more personalized and erratic with provocative slogans and hard-to-fulfill promises becoming a substitute for performance. Unwilling (and now lacking the political-organizational tools) to engage in meaningful conciliatory dialogue with a growing array of disaffected and restive groups, Mrs. Gandhi in characteristic fashion

met challenges (real and perceived) with callous disregard for democratic rules and procedures substituting draconian fiats for a government of laws. Mrs. Gandhi's strident appeals to explicitly pro-Hindu religious or communal themes (which reentered the political vocabulary with a vengeance after a hiatus of some three decades), and her partisan and reckless misuse of governmental and constitutional powers: from exercising discretionary control over financial grants to the states, arbitrarily dissolving state governments and assemblies, toppling popularly elected opposition ministers often on the flimsiest of excuses and replacing them with handpicked sycophants and loyalists (who were often political nonentities) -- had the tragic effect of aggravating factionalism within the party, widening the gulf between the Congress and the wider society and exacerbating communal and secessionist demands. Nowhere was this more visible than the tragedy that became the Punjab and Kashmir. To the myopic political elites the growing social unrest and violence was more evidence of "antinational" forces trying to destroy national unity. Quick to equate any form of popular opposition (especially by ethno-religious and regional groups) with disloyalty and treason, they sought harsh authoritarian measures to "protect" the country's integrity from anti-national forces. The deadly, self-perpetuating cycle of violence in the Punjab, Kashmir, Assam and elsewhere became the sad harvest of this *modus vivendi*. It is important to reiterate that minority and regional grievances were accommodated successfully during the Nehru era because the political-institutional environment during that period was open and accessible favoring what one analyst has called "inclusionary strategies" of nation building (Dasgupta 1998). However, Mrs. Gandhi's high-handedness, her favor of administratively manipulated solutions, her need to shore up her political base among the Hindu majority and tendency to view even reasonable and legitimate minority and regional demands and aspirations with suspicion -- as giving in to foreign agents or to fifth columnists within the country -- prevented her government from coming up with prudent and constructive solutions to these complex problems. The sequence of events that culminated into the Punjab tragedy is instructive: starting in the late 1970s Mrs. Gandhi and her son Sanjay began to incessantly meddle in the internal affairs of Punjab politics in an effort to impose their will over the ruling moderate Akali Dal party. They harnessed the support of the arch "Indira loyalist" Giani Zail Singh who brought the militant Sikh fundamentalist preacher Bhindrawale into the forefront of Punjab politics in order to weaken the Akali Dal's leadership by dividing Punjab politics along religious lines.

However, this game of political brinkmanship in the deadly byzantine world of Punjab politics set off instead the well-known series of tragic events culminating in the assault on the Golden Temple, the rise in support for the separatist movement for Khalistan, the assassination of Mrs. Gandhi and the intensification of violence against the Sikhs that quickly spread throughout the country. Similarly, it was Mrs. Gandhi's many foibles, most notably her exclusionary self-serving tactics aimed at enhancing personal power as well as over-reliance on coercive and draconian means to solve delicate political problems that paved the way for the rise of murderous agitations in Assam and Mizoram. Paul Brass (1988: 212), bluntly states, "The relentless centralization and ruthless, unprincipled intervention by the center in state politics have been the primary causes of the troubles in the Punjab and elsewhere in India since Mrs. Gandhi's rise to power." In a sense then, dispossessed of its ideological and moral suasion the Indian state and its interlocutors once seen by society as the mediators of conflict soon became the source of conflict.

When Rajiv Gandhi assumed office of prime minister in 1984 the political legacy he inherited was so compromised that the entire process of intra-party democracy at the local, district and state levels, including the All India Congress Committee and the Congress Working Committee (two of the party's highest organs) had ceased to function effectively or have any voice independent from that of the

prime minister. Yet, as scion of the Nehru family combined with the sympathy for his tragic loss, Rajiv Gandhi received 48 percent of the popular vote and 77 percent or 415 of the 545 seats in the Lok Sabha. However, his five year term (1984-89), characterized by numerous political blunders (largely the result of his over dependence on a small coterie of bungling urbanite “back-room boys”), the Bofors scandal,²² his widely perceived pro-rich and pro-urban economic liberalization policies (his preference for Gucci loafers and Porsche sunglasses did not help), and his failure to redeem one of his election pledges: to clean up the Congress party and “return it to the people” saw him squander away the initial advantages he enjoyed as the legitimate inheritor and rejuvenator of the Congress party.

India’s ninth general elections (held in 1989), saw the Congress(I) spin into a precipitous political free-fall, dropping from 415 to 197 seats. However, the new minority National Front government, a coalition of several disparate parties led by V.P. Singh, a former Congressman (who along with other prominent dissidents was expelled by Rajiv Gandhi), was overwhelmed by factionalism within its constituent units and irreconcilable policy differences with its coalition partner, the BJP, collapsed after a little over two years. Rajiv Gandhi’s assassination by Tamil separatists during the 1991 election campaign decidedly helped to tilt the electoral balance in favor of the Congress party, now under the leadership of the veteran P. V. Narashima Rao. While to its credit the minority Rao government (sustained by its alliances with an array of regional parties), served its mandate (1991-96) and introduced a long overdue economic liberalization program, the hopes that the 70 year old Rao might try to revive the earlier Nehruvian rules and reverse the party’s organizational decline were soon dispelled. Beset by scandal after scandal, the Rao administration soon fell into disrepute. It also became apparent that competing factions within the Congress party continued to have both a vested interest and great devotion in the continuation of dynastic rule. The “courting” of the Italian-born widow Sonia Gandhi, by various factions and the party illuminati showed a paralyzed Congress party. Indeed, the simultaneous devotion of the Congress factions to democratic secular principles and dynastic monarchy is one of the great puzzles of contemporary Indian politics.

CONCLUSION

The decay of the Sikh rule began quickly later the main Anglo-Sikh War in light of the fact that there was nobody tough and fit to the point of succeeding him. At the highest point of the leader set up, there were no devoted Sikhs to save it from the interests of the British. It gave a one of a kind event to the shrewdness and sensible British to enter interests with backstabbers which they couldn't do in Ranjit Singh's life. His children were not able to manage such a perilous condition since every one of them was killed in a steady progression with the assistance of the Dogras and the Brahmins. Along these lines, because of second Anglo Sikh War, the Sikh Kingdom turned out to be more debilitated and afterward fall into decay. These Anglo-Sikh conflicts demonstrated a defining moment throughout the entire existence of the Sikh tradition since they had completely changed the political situation of the Punjab and Multan. Later second Anglo-Sikh conflict, the Punjab and Multan had gone under the immediate control of the British Empire which annihilated that Sikh state which Ranjit Singh had established by an extraordinary battle. It very well may be handily seen that main Ranjit Singh's replacements were not answerable for the decrease of the Sikh realm, yet he, for some surviving, was additionally dependable. Dogras and the Brahmins, who had neither offer in establishing the Sikh state nor any obligation to the Sikh state, had been introduced on the key posts. The results of these botches were demonstrated devastating for the Sikhs. Likewise, he had no defense for banishing the heads of the alliances from the administration of the Sikh State. On the off chance that he had not moved the Dogras and the Brahmins to the rudder of the public authority and given the common administration

under the control of the talented and dependable Sikh Sardars then, at that point, could be gotten away from this disaster.

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