



POLITICAL UPHEAVAL OF ORISSA AFTER BRITISH CONQUEST IN 1803 A.D

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Abstract:

The endeavour of the British to capture Orissa started since 1757 but this opportunity came in 1803 when the British army occupied Orissa. Soon after, the freedom struggle began in different parts of the Province in the form of armed resistance, protest and rebellion against the alien authority because the traditional ways of living were disturbed. The princes and the people comprised largely of tribal population reacted against the new colonial structure and the consolidation of colonial regime went hand in hand with serious discontentment and resentment among them and resistance and bidroha occurred in different parts of Orissa. The first agitation was witnessed in Khurda during the tenure of minor king Mukunda Deva- II, who rebelled against the British in 1804. Thereafter, many rebellions took place against the foreign rule such as Paik rebellion of Khurda in 1817, Resistance Movement in Tapangagarh 1827, Banapur Rebellion of 1836, Ghumsur Rebellion of 1837 and Resistance movement in Sambalpur under Veer Surendra Sai from 1827 to 1864. Generally so called resistance movements were marked by anti- alien antagonism and individual acts of heroism and patriotism. Though these rebellions were suppressed by the British yet it opened the path of freedom movement in Orissa.

Keywords: Resistance, Khurda, Tapangagarh, Banpur, Ghumsar, Sambalpur

1. Background:

The genesis of freedom movement in Orissa began in 3rd century B.C. when the Mauryan emperor, Ashoka invaded Kalinga in 261 B.C. The Kalinga army faced the invader with determination and laid down their lives for the cause of motherland. Since then Orissa was the field of freedom struggle against the tyrannical rulers of Marathas, Muslim invaders and ultimately against the British rule¹ (Kar:1995) The British Government tried to capture Orissa for a long period of time since 1757 and this opportunity came in 1803 when the British army attacked Khurda fort²(Ibid). Soon after the British occupation of Odisha in 1803, freedom struggle began in different parts of the Province in the form of armed **resistance, protest** and **rebellion** against the foreign authorities³ (Ghadai: 2012). Some of these resistance movements briefly discussed below:

2. Khurda Rebellion (1804):

The first agitation was witnessed in Khurda during the tenure of minor king Mukunda Deva- II, who rebelled against the British in 1804 as the latter refused to restore to him the mahals (estates) of Lembai, Rahang and Puri which he had ceded to the Marathas in lieu of some military help for his war against the Raja of Parlakhemundi. The rebellion was suppressed, the Raja was deposed, Jayee Rajguru, the indomitable minister of the Raja, was the principal adviser and the kingpin of the anti-British outbreak of 1804. He was most probably opposed to the Khurda Raja's alliance with the British for assisting the latter in the fight against the Marathas. So, after defeat of Khurda, Jayee Rajguru was hanged in 1805 for abetting the rebellion and became the first martyr of Odisha⁴(Mishra :1986). Thereafter, Khurda became a Government estate.

The rebellion was not confined to Khurda alone. It spread like wild fire and touched the borders of Pipili, Harispur, Kujang and Pattamundai. The Rajas of Kanika and Kujang, the zamindars of Marichpur and Harispur and the tenants of these estates reflected their united effort to resist the British rule⁵ (Das -7). Later on, vigorous military measures were taken by the British to restore order and recover the lost places.

3. The Paik Rebellion of Khurda (1817):

Another memorable year 1817 A.D. is a landmark not only in history of Orissa but also in Indian history. In this year, the Paiks of Khurda and the people of some areas of Orissa raised their strong voice against mighty Britishers, which is known as Paik rebellion. The Paiks were the traditional landed militia of Odisha. They served as warriors and were charged with policing functions during peacetime. The Paiks were organised into three ranks distinguished by their occupation and the weapons they wielded. They were -

1. The Paharis - the bearers of shields and the khanda sword.
2. The Banuas- who led distant expeditions and used matchlocks and
3. The Dhenkiyas - archers who also performed different duties in Odisha armies.

The paiks were discontentment because with the conquest of Odisha by the East India Company in 1803 and the dethronement of the Raja of Khurda began the fall of the power and prestige of the Paiks. The rebellion of 1817 was a pre planning and well organized event. The zamindars of Karipur, Mrichpur, Golra, Balarampur, Budnakera and Rupasa joined hands with Paiks⁶ (Barik-2008). The tribals of Banapur and Ghumsur had accepted Bakshi Jagabandhu as their leader and they bravely marched towards Khurda to fight against colonial power with high ambition.

4. Causes of the rebellion:

1. The Paiks enjoyed rent free land tenures for their military service on a hereditary basis. Those service lands were taken away in the settlement by Major Fletcher as their services were not needed.
2. The extortionist land revenue policy of the company affected the peasants and the zamindars alike.
3. Raise of the salt price was another main cause for that great event. The common people that time were unable to buy the salt with heavy price. So, a source of much consternation for the common people was the rise in prices of salt due to taxes imposed on it by the new government.

4. The company also abolished the system of cowrie currency that had existed in Odisha prior to its conquest and required that taxes be paid in silver. This caused much popular hardship and discontentment. So, the depreciation and abolition of Cowrie currency were the causes of the popular dissatisfaction.
5. In 1804, the Raja of Khurda planned a rebellion against the British in alliance with the Paiks, but the plot was soon discovered and the Raja's territory confiscated.
6. They were also subjected to extortion and oppression at the hands of the company government and its servants.

5. Leaders of this rebellion.

The Paiks were led by Bakshi Jagabandhu Bidyadhar Mohapatra Bhramarabar Ray, the former Bakshi or commander of the forces of the Raja of Khurda. Jagabandhu's familial estate of Killa Rorang was taken over by the British in 1814, reducing him to penury. When the rebellion broke out in March 1817, the Paiks came together under his leadership. Raja Mukunda Deva, the last King of Khurda was another leader of this rebellion.

6. Participants of this rebellion:

The rebels enjoyed widespread support in Oriya society with feudal chiefs, zamindars and the common people of Odisha participating in it. The common people had joined in that famous rebellion due to injustice, corruption of British Government. There was no cordial relation and good faith between the public and British authority. In the course of rebellion, the general people had provided food, shelter and other helps to the rebellious Paiks. Paiks as well as common people of remote places like Kanika, Kujanga and Pattamundai also had taken part in that revolt. All supporting forts of Khurda had come forward to support the rebels in that critical period. The zamindars of Karipur, Mrichpur, Golra, Balarampur, Budnakera and Rupasa supported the Paiks. The Rajas of Kanika, Kujang, Nayagarh and Ghumusur aided Jagabandhu and Dalabehera Mirhaidar Alli of Jadupur was an important Muslim rebel⁷ (Pradhan: 2007).

While the revolt started from Banapur and Khurda, it quickly spread to other parts of Odisha such as Puri, Pipili and Cuttack and to several remote villages, including

Kanika, Kujang and Pattamundai. The rebellion of 1817 of Khurda is a mass movement. It was also known as national movement because all sections of society were actively participated in this rebellion.

7. Outcome of the revolt.

The British took tough operations and numerous Paiks were killed. The Raja died as a British prisoner in November, 1817. The leader of the rebellion, Jagabandhu, surrendered to the British in 1825 and lived as their prisoner in Cuttack until 1829, when he died.

8. Impact of the revolt:

The impact of the rebellion of 1817 was far reaching. The heroic performance of Paiks during the time of great rebellion created national awareness among the common people. The great sons of Khurda Godavarish Mishra, Godavarish Mohapatra, Pranatha Pattanaik, Sachi Routary, Gangadhar Paikaray and Gokul Mohan Rai Chudamani and Purna Chandra Mohanty were greatly inspired and became fearless freedom fighters. The rebellion of 1817 is the landmark in the history of Indian freedom struggle and source of inspiration for the future generation.

9. Resistance Movement in Tapangagarh (1827):

After ten years of Paik Rebellion, the valiant Paiks of Tapangagarh had fought against the Britishers in 1827 under the able stewardship of Shri Madhab Chandra Routray, the Dalbehera of Tapang, their Dalbehera rebelled against the oppressive rule of the British.¹⁰ (Paikray-2005). At the instigation of Madhaba Chandra, the people refused to pay rent to the British. The British authorities took a strong view of the situation and Lieutenant Colonel Harcourt sent an ultimatum to the Dalbehera of Tapang to clear the arrear rent immediately and surrenders himself in the court at Khurda. But Dalbehera Madhab Chandra paid little heed to the ultimatum and prepared himself for a confrontation with the British. Col. Harcourt marched to Tapang with a contingent of British force in June 1827 and met the rebels in the battle field of Khandagoda near Tapang. After a protracted fight the rebels were repelled and the revolt was finally subdued. Dalbehera subsequently surrendered to the British and was pardoned for his nobility and bravery.

10. Banapur Rebellion of 1836

The Daleis, Dalbeheras and Khandayats rose against the British though Buxi Jagabandhu had surrendered on the 25th of May, 1825 in response to the unconditional pardon of the Company Government. After eight years of Tapangagarh Rebellion, the people of Banapur rose against the British rule and had declared them independent and free in 1836¹¹ (Ibid). The person responsible for the mass upsurge of such magnitude was none other than Shri Krutibas Patasani, the brave son of Shyam Sundar Patasani, and the Dalbehera of Arang¹²(Ibid).

It was the auspicious day of 1st June 1836, a meeting had been convened by Shri Krutibas Patasani in Arang, which was attended by Sardar Panchanan Nayak, Sardar Lochan Bisoi of Rodang, Shri Siba Bisoi, Shri Sadhu Jani, Shri Dina Jani and many others¹³ (Ibid). In this meeting it was resolved and decided that Banapur must be freed and declared independent of British rule. But as customs and traditions demand a king must declare the independence and therefore this meeting elected Sardar Panchanan Nayak as their leader and he was named as Raja Saran Singh¹⁴ (Ibid). After this election, the meeting changed into a Durbar and Raja Saran Singh nominated Dalbehera Krutibas Patasani, as his minister and general¹⁵ (Ibid).

The Raja declared the independence of Banapur at this assembly of Paik leaders and it was also decided and resolved to launch attack on different police-stations and Government officials to defy the laws of the British rule. According to this decision, on 4th June 1836, General Krutibas Patasani and Sardar Lochan Bisoi started their war expedition and advanced from the hilly tract towards the plain land of Banapur¹⁶(Ibid) The Dalbeheras and Paiks of Iribadi, Sana Sarapur, Betuli, Balei, Burigan, Gutaspur, Balidihi, Bhusmkpada and Bheteswar joined with them being armed with swords, country- made guns, bow and arrows¹⁷(Ibid) The Police got to know the news of the advancement of the Paik rebels and issued orders to the Daleis and Dalbeheras of different Garhs to send their Paik troops but the orders were not duly honoured.

The police force of Banapur had modern arms, ammunitions and explosives at their disposal and to help them in resistance eighteen more Sepoys from Khurda rushed to Banapur. The Police force with their superior arms and explosives resisted vigorously against

the attack of the rebels and the rebels had to retreat. But at last the police had to face defeat and fled away for life. The rebels set fire to the Banapur police station and burnt it. They also looted the houses of the rich merchants who were helping the British¹⁸ (Ibid).

On 5th June, 1836 the rebels assembled at Bheteswar Ghati which became their main centre of activities. From this place Raja Saran Singh issued orders and summoned the Daleis and Dalbeheras of different villages to send their Paik troops. To meet the war expenditure, Magan (donation) was collected from the people. Huge preparations were made for launching attack rebels at Barkul on 6th June morning. Raja Saran Singh marched forward by palanquin and General Krutibas on his horse. The Paiks of Kantabal also joined the rebels and the troops arrived at Barkul in the evening. The police and the Government officials had already fled away before the arrival of the rebels. The rebels stayed in the night in the nearby villages of Barkul and Chilka and returned to Bheteswar Ghati on 7th June 1836¹⁹ (Ibid).

The rich persons and the business community became panic-stricken by the declaration of independence by the rebels in apprehension of danger to their lives and properties. Therefore they conspired among themselves and planned to make this rebellion a failure.

According to their plan and tactics they came with a proposal to Raja Saran Singh and General Krutibas Patasani for the attack of Tangi police station and assured their full support to the rebels in case of attack. They also invited the rebel leaders and their followers to a grand feast to be given in their honour. The rebel leaders with their followers attended the feast at Bhimpur given by the conspirators without knowing their ill designs. The rebels had kept and heaped all their arms and weapons in one place while enjoying the feast. Availing this opportunity, the traitors took away all the arms and weapons of the rebels with the help of their people and arrested the Paiks in a defenseless condition²⁰ (Ibid).

Raja Saran Singh, General Krutibas Patasani and Sardar Lochan Bisoi managed to escape and fled from the clutches of the British police officers and the traitors, creating much panic in their hearts and minds. The rebel leaders went to Nayagarh and stayed there incognito, but were soon captured by the king of Nayagarh and were handed over to the British officials. General Krutibas, Sardar Panchanan alias Raja Saran Singh were awarded death punishment²¹ (Ibid).

A Government order was issued to the effect that no member of Krutibas's family would be entitled to use the designation of "Dalbehera". The Jagir lands of Krutibas Patsani were made "Khas" and were withdrawn by the Britishers. The inhabitants of Niladri Prasad, Berhampur, Jirapada and Nuagan were ordered to vacate their native places. The rebellion was crushed and suppressed and peace was restored in Banapur²² (Ibid).

Krutibas Patsani was a great patriot, an able general, a powerful organiser and a man of determination. Though he was well aware of the fate of Buxi Jagabandhu, the hero of Paik Rebellion of 1817, his brave heart and freedom loving spirit impelled him not to submit before the British but to wage war against their injustice and tyranny. He was the crusader of Banapur Rebellion of 1836 who could venture to fight against the mighty British rulers against heavy odds.²³ (Pradhan: 2007)

11. Kandh Rebellion in Ghumsar:

Ghumsar was one of the oldest Zamindary of Southern India. The Kondhs regarded the Bhanja Rajas of Ghumsar as their protectors, who used to decide their tribal disputes. The person who maintained liaison between the Kondhs and the Raja was an officer designated as Dora Bisoi. The Rajas appointed him as his duty in the Kondh tracts to look after the affairs there. He was Benuiah Kandha born in the village Binjigiri, located near Kullada of the lower Ghumsar area. He was a 'Maliah Bisoi' or 'Head Agent' of the Kandhas of Ghumsar area of Odisha. He was a good sword-fighter and a wrestler of high quality. Apart from, his being Dora Bisoi, Kamala Lochan received the title of "Birabara Patro" from the Raja Dhananjaya Bhanja. He had also the distinction of being the 'Abhaya' (The defender) of the Jakro tribe of Kondhs Raja Dhananjaya Bhanja.

When the company officials were interfered with the affairs of succession in the Zamindary, the Raja of Ghumsar could not tolerate and rise in rebellion against in the company authority in defence of their hereditary rights, status and power. The rebellious conduct of the Rajas and non – payment of necessary tribute by them led the British to take over the Ghumsar estate in 1836. Kamal Lochan Dora Bisoi, provided leadership to it from 1835 to 1837. He became the leader of the Kandhas and 'Agent of Kandha affairs' to the king of Ghumsar and the king appointed him as the Commander-in-chief of the Ghumsar army.

12. Factors responsible for the discontentment of Dora Bisoi:

There were many factors which led Dora to revolt against the British.

First, the suppression of Meriah in the Kandha dominated area of Ghumsar was a direct attack of British on the traditional religious faith of the Kandhas. Along with that the activities of the Christian missionaries, infuriated the Kandhas and made them rebellious.

Secondly, the land revenue up to 50% was collected from the people through forceful method which wounded the sentiment of the tribals. So, the tribal people became irritated and wanted to take revenge against the British.

Thirdly, the Bhanja rulers of Ghumsur had no friendly relation with the British. Being apprehensive to be captured by the British authority, Dhananjay Bhanja the ruler of Ghumsur fled to the jungle and sought the assistance of the Kandhas. The Kandhas wanted to help him as he was their ruler.

Lastly, the dissolution of the Bhanja ruling family after the death of Dhananjay Bhanja in 1835 became the immediate cause of the rebellion. After his death, Brundaban Bhanja and Jagannath Bhanja, two members of the royal family became rebellious and got the supported by Dora Bisoi, the tribal chief of the Kandhas of Ghumsar.

13. Revolt of Dora Bisoi and the British operation:

The Kondhs found a leader in the person like Kamala Lochan Dora Bisoi, who made it a mass movement and rebellion broke out in Ghumsar under the leadership in 1835 to the restoration of Bhanja family to power²⁴ (Das-2016).

The rebellious Kandhas attacked a British detachment between Udaygiri and Durga Prasad. In that encounter, thirteen soldiers (Sepoys) and two European officers named Lieutenant Bromly and Ensign Gibbon were killed. Prior to that the British forces had captured some Kandhas and took others as prisoners after this incident. On the other hand,

the Kandhas under Dora Bisoi gave a tough resistance to the British forces. By this, the British also became cruel to suppress the rebellious Kandhas of Ghumsar.

14. Special operation of British forces to arrest Dora Bisoi

In order to capture the family members of Dhananjay Bhanja, Captain Butler on 14th February, 1836, led the British troop to the Ghats. He had two point responsibilities to perform:

1. to capture the royal members and
2. to rescue to treasury which had been taken by Dhananjay Bhanja.

A vigorous military operation was undertaken by the British to suppress the Kondh insurgents. Several contingents of troops were posted at several strategic points like Kondhs. Nuagam, Bellaguntha, Nimapadara, Chamunda, Buguda, Vishnuchakra, Pailipada, Badaborosing,, Aska and Sorada to suppress the rebellion led by Dora Bisoi. Most of the insurgents were either shot dead or hung upon the trees.

In order to arrest Dora, the British entered into Ambhajhara and Jiripada but they could not get success. Till that time Dora was playing as the key leader of the movement. The British searched in many places to arrest him. He moved from place to place and at last sought refuge at Angul. Being failure to capture Dora Bisoi, the British, declared a prize of 5,000 rupees who would capture him.

As per instruction of Henry Ricketts, the Commissioner of Odisha, the Tributary Chief of Angul, Raja Somnath Singh, betrayed Dora Bisoi and had played a plot and handed over Dora Bisoi to the British forces in 1837. He was made a state prisoner in Ooty near Madras. There he breathed his last in 1846²⁵ (Sethy: 2015).

However, the capture and imprisonment of Dora Bisoi did not end the struggle of the Kondhs against the British Government. The place of Dora Bisoi was taken over by his nephew Chakra Bisoi. Ram Singh Bukshi, father of Chakra Bisoi was killed by British troops in 1837 and this incident left a bitter scar on the mind of his son. He received inspiration and military training from his uncle during the days of haunts and wanders in the jungle as fugitive. He posed a great threat to the British authority from 1846 to 1856.

15. Factors responsible for the rebellion under Chakra Bisoi were:

(1) The death of Dora Bisoi had left a scar in the mind of Chakra. He wanted to take revenge of the death of his uncle Dora Bisoi.

(2) The actions of S.C. Macpherson, the Meriah Agent disturbed the Kandhas a lot as he had interfered in the religion of the Kandhas. He rescued Meriahs and threatened the Kandhas of dire consequences who violated the law regarding Meriah. Further, he punished the Kandhas mercilessly.

(3) On the other hand, Captain Macpherson was humiliated in his camp at Bisipara in 1846. He was forced by the Kandha revolutionaries to surrender the Meriahs whom he had rescued from the Kandha area. Otherwise the Kandhas would have killed him. This achievement of the Kandhas under the leadership of Chakra made them courageous.

Finally, the Kandhas installed Pitambar, the minor son of Dhananjay Bhanja as the king of Ghumsar. This emboldened them and being surcharged with enthusiasm, they looted the British camp.

16. Chakra Bisoi and British Imperialism:

In December 1846, a massive revolt erupted in Ghumsar under the leadership of Chakra Bisoi. He was popularly known as the staunchest “Champion of Meriah” all over the Kondhmals. They were determined to secure the restoration of the Bhanja family to power and to establish the influence of his own family in Ghumsar and also among the Kondhs. In course of uprising, Chakra Bisoi and his followers made a victorious march into Kullada and enthroned one, ‘Rajapila’ ‘Pitambar Bhanja’, a twelve years old illegitimate son of the late Dhananjay Bhanja, as the Raja of Ghumsar. Chakra Bisoi pleaded with Maj. Macpherson and others to refrain from taking measures for suppression of Meriah sacrifice. But his pleading proved of no avail.

He convinced the Kondhs that they would incur the anger of Earth Goddess, Tari Pennu, if they would surrender the victims (Meriahs) to the Government. Soon, thereafter a large mob of Kondhs assembled before the Agents camp at Bissipura, six miles south of Phulbani, the former headquarters of the Kondhmals, and demanded the resolution of the Meriah victims, promising that the latter’s lives would be spared.

Kondhs attacked the camp of the Agent, for which Macpherson marched with a large force and burnt some villages of the Kondhs in the Kondhmala to create panic among the Kondhs. The Madras Government felt disturbed at the recurrence of the rebellion in Ghusar and sent Major General Dyce, Commanding the Madras Army to putdown the rebellion with heavy hands. The authorities believed that the rising was due to combined efforts of the Baud-Kondh leader, Nabaghana Kanhar and Chakra Bisoi and the Raja of Angul secretly helping them. Major General Dyce made certain severe allegations against Captain Macpherson and his assistants. He did not use conciliatory measures but used coercive measures like burning, plundering, destruction of grains etc. to suppress the rebels. These revealing remarks of General Dyce shows that the Kondh insurrection of 1846-47 in Ghumsar Mahals was more attributable to the oppression and mal- administration of the Agent and his assistants than to the fomentation and incitement of Chakra Bisoi and Nabaghana Kanhar.

G.H. Bushby, the Secretary to the Government of India, intimated General Dyce that the object of the Supreme Government of India was to persuade the Kondhs “to abandon a savage and inhuman rite gradually by measures of conciliation and persuasion and not by recourses to force and violence.

Accordingly Lieutenant Colonel Cambell was appointed as the Agent in place of Captain Macpherson for Meriah Agency by the end of April, 1847. The tactful policy of persuasion followed by Lt. Colonel Campbell yielded tremendous result. Within no time he won over most of the Kondh Chiefs, ‘Who swore to abstain henceforth from offering of human victims’.

Not only the Kondhs of Ghumsar but also the Kondhmals promptly responded to Chakra Bisoi’s call for rebellion. However Major General Dyce succeeded in quelling this Kondh rising but Chakra Bisoi escaped. Captain Dunlop received information the Chakra Bisoi fled from Ghusar and entered the jungles of Anul estate. British Government doubted that Somnath Singh, the Raja of Angul was supporting the rebels in opposition to the British rule. So, he was expelled from his estate and Angul was taken over by the Government in 1846.

In 1848 relentless efforts were made to apprehend Chakra Bisoi, who was hiding alternatively in Baud and Sonapur. Chakra Bisoi maintained his sway over the Ghumsar Mahals although he retired from active confrontation with the Government for four

years since 1848. The Ghusar rebel chief, Chakra Bisoi was reported to have gone into the Jungles of Paralakhemundi Zamindary and joined hands with Dandasena, the leader of the Paralakhemundi rebels. All attempts to arrest him proved to be futile. The Raja of Madanpur was removed from the management of his estate for providing shelter to Chakra Bisoi. But the Commissioner of Nagpur did not allow the Commissioner of Orissa to interfere with affairs of Madanpur and Kalahandi which remained under his authority. It is believed that the rebel Chief Chakra Bisoi breathed his last before the outbreak of the Mutiny of 1857.

17. Results of the revolt

After the capture of their leader Dora Bisoi, other rebellious leaders were captured later. They were tried and awarded severe punishment. As a result of which Dora received life imprisonment and died inside the Ooty prison in 1846. 40 rebellious persons were awarded death sentences, 29 received confinement for life and 2 others received the same sentence for 8 years. Similarly, others got imprisonment who was involved in the rebellion of Ghumsar. After the arrest of Dora Bisoi and other rebellious leaders, the British Government made new agreement with the Kandhas. The British appointed Sam Bisoi as the Chief of the Kandhas who had played a great role to capture of Kamal Lochan Dora. After this, the rebellion organized Dora Bisoi ended.

18. . Sambalpur rebellion:

In Sambalpur, the spirit of rebellion was most fierce under the leadership of Surendra Sai, the Chauhan Prince of Sambalpur. It was 30 years before the Great Rising of 1857 that Surendra Sai launched a resistance movement against the British over a succession issue. He could not be captured and kept the flame of revolt aglow till 1864 while the Great Revolt collapsed in 1858. At last, he was captured in 1864 and was detained in Asirgarh fort, where he breathed his last on February 28, 1884.

There were yet a few other veteran leaders of Sambalpur region whose significant role in the Indian Mutiny of 1857 can't be ignored. Madho Singh, the Zamindar of Ghens located in Sambalpur region and his three sons namely Kunjal Singh, Hatee Singh and Bairi Singh took active part in fighting against British rule. Madho Singh was captured and hanged to death in 1858. In 1865, the three brothers were arrested. Of them Hatee Singh was

sentenced to transportation for life and died in the Jail. Kunjal Singh was sentenced to death and Bairi Singh died at Sambalpur. The rebellion in Sambalpur was suppressed ruthlessly. Although the Mutiny in India collapsed in 1858, fighting in Sambalpur continued up to 1862 and this was perhaps the last district in India in which the numbers of disturbances of 1857 were finally stamped out.

19. Conclusion:

These above briefly discussed rebellions were strongly suppressed by the British tyrannically and oppressively. However, the rebels left a permanent foot prints for upcoming generations and a great lesson for the British. These resistance movements were purely localized and regionalized so the British easily put down. Their sacrifice and endeavour later on took a shape of national movement in the later part of the 19th century.

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