This study belongs to one of the most complicated areas of Soviet foreign policy which was directly guided and dictated by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. During the period of this research work, i.e., 1919-1943, the institution of Soviet foreign policy was hardly in making owing to which one could find no difference between the government and party. In this study we have tried to investigate the roots of Soviet policy towards anti-colonial movement in Asia with a special case of Communist International and India.

The study consists of six chapters which begins with a brief historical and ideological background that led to the adoption of anti-colonial foundation as a pillar of Soviet foreign policy immediately after the Bolsheviks came in power in October 1917. The same foundation took an institutional shape through the Communist International when it was established in March 1919.

The second chapter deals with the Soviet strategy in the formation of Communist International as its main aim was to play a dual role in an extremely hostile international atmosphere during that period. On the one hand the Soviets tried to intensify the anti-colonial struggles in the colonies, particularly in the East and on the other, they got definite success in getting new communist parties established in all the Continents of the World. The formation of the Communist International also provided the Soviets ever-biggest means of bargaining with the hostile western powers.

In third chapter, we have discussed the role played by the
Communist International in helping the anti-colonial movement in India between 1920 and 1924, as this period had marked the great beginning of "Non-cooperation" movement under the leadership of Gandhiji. This period also marked the emergence of different communist groups for the first time, particularly in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Lahore. Though this period faced with the failure of the "Non-cooperation" movement due to its withdrawal by Gandhiji after 'Chauri Chaura' incidents, the emergence of communists provided a new turn to the anti-colonial movement in India.

The fourth chapter has been devoted to the formation of the Communist Party of India and the policy of the Communist International during 1925-1934. As already mentioned, the emergence of communists and the formation of the CPI was a historical phenomenon in Indian politics. For the first time an organised party under the direct guidance of Communist International put forward the slogan of complete independence and revolution after throwing out the British colonial rule in India. During this period, hectic activities of the Communist International strengthened its deep relations with Indian revolutionaries which put farreaching impact on the future politics in the country. In 1928, the penultimate Congress (Sixth) of the Comintern which became historical landmark particularly in the international communist movement. As it is remarkable fact that the ideological difference became so sharp in the Communist International that the leaders, like Trostky (USSR) and M. N. Roy of India, were expelled immediately after the Sixth Congress of the Comintern. The period between 1928 and 1934
was marked by extreme sectarianism in anti-colonial movement. The Communist Party of India vigorously pursued left deviationist policies in relation to Indian National Congress.

In the fifth chapter, we have discussed about the new role of Communist International, whose Seventh Congress held in 1935, became another landmark in guiding Indian communist movement. However, Hitler's attack on Soviet Union again forced the Indian communists to isolate themselves from the mainstream of the anti-colonial movement. The concluding year of this study, the 1943 was marked by the dissolution of the Communist International itself whose marks could be seen on the communist movement for many years all over the World.

The last chapter has drawn the conclusion of this study which may always create academic interest among the scholars of this area.

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For the collection of source material in India, I relied on the libraries of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, Indian Council of World Affairs, Indian Parliament and National Archive of India, New Delhi. Here I should like to express my thanks to the library staff members for their assistance.

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Finally, I alone, am responsible for the views expressed and errors committed in this work.

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