CONCLUSION
Present day Cuttack, traditionally known as "Kataka" from time immemorial is the oldest city of Orissa. As Mumbai turned into Bombay and Kolkata into Calcutta with the British occupation so also "Kataka" has been christened Cuttack with the spread and growth of British taste. The importance of Cuttack to the people of Orissa in particular is so much so that it is no more the name of the city – it is not merely a proper name, but has grown to be connotative. With the cultural growth of the geographical land called Orissa and the frequent change in the Historical lines of different kingdoms under the name Orissa present day city Cutt has played such a vital and indispensable role that "katak" has entered into the laxicons and go to mean connotations like "City" and "Military Camp". Though the ages, this "City" has been the "accommodating place of military camps of the rulers and thus "Kataka" has required a figurative meaning for military camps. "Khurdha" another ancient capital town of a kingdom is described as "khurdha Kawtaka" too and in the same line other capitals of kingdoms were so fixed with the term "Kataka". Also "Kataka" goes to mean "city". Thus the importance of "Cuttack" (alias Kataka) cannot be ignored even though the capital of Orissa has been shifted to Bhubaneswar – because of the dearth of required land space for a modern capital of an independent province.

Though none participated from Orissa is the first session of INC held on 26th December 1885 in Gopal Das Tejpal Sanskrit College, Bombay, it could generate unprecedented enthusiasm among the intellectuals of Orissa so as to convene a general meeting in the building of Cuttack Printing Press Company on the 3rd March 1886 to resolve unanimously (i) to send delegate from Orissa to the
next INC and (ii) to help whole heartedly to co-operate implementing the resolution of the INC. Consequently the second session of INC held in Calcutta in 1886 was attended by Madhusudan Das, Golak Ch. Bose, Kalipad Benerjee & Hariballab Ghose as the nominee of the Utkal Sabha. And it was an humble beginning of an organised movement farthered from Cuttack. On the 19th December 1886, in another meeting of the Utkal Sabha presided over by Kalipada Banerjee resolutions were adopted (i) to appeal the Govt. to reconstituted the Legislative Assembly and (ii) to introduce adult franchise.

The ball rolled and gathered momentum. Mr. Madhusudan Das (to be popularly known as Utkal Gaurab i.e. Pride of Orissa later on) and Sri Gouri Shaknar Roy (to be popularly known later on as Utkalara Baraputra i.e. the Gifted son of Orissa two illustrious personalities of Cuttack got nominated by Utkal Sabha to take part actively in the deliberations of the 3rd Session of the INC held at Madras in 1887. setting up of a permanent meeting venue called the Cuttack Town Hall and a lodging called “Kayastha Boarding” at Kathagadasahi to house the participants coming far off Cuttack were land mark attempts to accelerate the cause of the National Movement. A permanent meeting place and a secured shelter house for the activities intensified the movement resulting in the launching of the Swaraj Movement.

At this stage it will be unjust on our part, if we fail to give importance to the fact that Cuttack could house both extremists and liberals in its heart simultaneously. Further, while preparing a strong and wide spread rostrum for the formation of separate Orissa Province Cuttack could not neglect to
spearhead the national movement. When the seed of provincialism was sprouting, the Nationalism was spreading its branches sky high with a lot of vigour and enthusiasm.

After 1907, when the militants dominated the Freedom Movement in all India level, Cuttack was not lagging behind. It is indeed gratifying to note that one Mr. Harendra Nath Kanungo, an inhabitant of Cuttack city is known to have inaugurated Terrorist Movement in Calcutta. Dr. Atal Bihari Acharya and Shasanka Shekhar Banerjee who belonged to Cuttack city were associates of the gang responsible for loot and dacoity in the house of one Sadei Sahu of Chainpur village to use the looted gold and silver worth six thousand rupees for the cause of the freedom of India.

Establishment of an institution like "Bharati Mandir" in Bakharabad in Cuttack city is a remarkable feature in the annals of freedom movement in India. Any movement without proper knowledge and study of revolutionary history is a step into a blind alley. Thus students inspired with the ideals of freedom and boosted with spirit and enthusiasm gathered in a club treasured with a sizeable numbers of books and journals pertaining to the political affairs. Students, advocate and intellectuals in other fields of Cuttack used to assemble there every evening to discuss on the events taking place in the political scenario of India. This Bharati Mandir is surely and certainly responsible to build up hundreds and thousands of freedom fighters notable amongst them are torch bearers like Harekrushna Mahatab, Naba Krushna Choudhury, Nityananda Kanungo.
Cuttack has seen grand building of aristocratic people converted into Ashram to shelter the freedom fighters, dwelling place of people with simple living and high thinking.

Cuttack has got Gandhi in its fold to hold several rounds of meetings with muslims, students and young advocates, women to discuss on matters relating to the boycott of foreign clothes and other goods, school and college and lucrative govt. jobs.

March 1921 saw the birth of Utkal Pradesh Congress Committee a district branch of National Congress, Cuttack city being its head quarters.

Cuttack responded to the Khilafat Movement in right earnest. The Muslims of Cuttack constituted a Khilafat Committee with Dr. Ekram Ali as its President and Kadamrasul its office.

Cuttack saw rail – roko. Trains carrying foreign clothes were detained in Cuttack. Though this could not be for a long period, it was a lesson to all quarters – people in general and the administrator learnt lessons meant for them. The arrest of Harekrushna Mahatab and others had a tremendous impact and it added a feather to the cap of Cuttack.

And that was not all. Cuttack could attract illustrious people like Rajgopal Chari, Motilal Nehru, Dr. Ansari, V.J. Patel to discuss with natives like Gopabandhu Choudhury, Nilakantha Das, Godabarish Mishra etc. regarding the feasibility of a Civil Disobedience Movement stored in future.

The visit of Subhash Ch. Bose to Cuttack in the 3rd week of August 1922 geared up the spirit of people of Orissa.
The 1923 conference of the Utkal Provincial Congress Committee held at Cuttack with Acharya Pratap Chandra Roy in the chair resolved to implement the programme of the Swaraj Party founded by Desabandhu Chittaranjan Das.

If in 1921, Cuttack attracted the attention of Gandhi for the first time, in 1925, it invited him for the second time and in 1927 for the third & on 16th May 1934 for the fourth time and Mira Ben as a representative of Gandhi in May 1942.

Gopabandhu Dash, the pivotal person of all the provincial activities was though born in Suando of Puri district and established a school of his ideas and ideals at Satyabadi, Cuttack was his main ground. The death of Gopabandhu came as a shock to the people of Cuttack. All business sectors, political activities, cultural curricular came to a halt.

As per the decision of Lahore Session of Indian National Congress (December 1929) chaired by Nehru, the country celebrated January 26, 1930 as the Independence day. The National Flag was hoisted in the Swaraj Ashram and Lokaseba Ashram of Cuttack. And thus Cuttack took the leadership in Orissa in Celebrating the Independence Day.

The 1929, historic Lahore Session of INC, decided to launch Civil Disobedience Movement. The first step in this direction was to break salt law. As per the directive of the INC to the Provincial Congress Committees, the Utkal Provincial Congress Committee had its meeting in the residence of Gopabandhu Choudhury with Hare Krishna Mahatab in the chair. Most of the executive members were of the opinion not to launch such a movement separately in Orissa but to go Dandi and join with Gandhi.
When we can have a never ending glorious records of the events centered round the Cuttack for the making of the national movement we have one or two peculiar and amazing incidents which caused the rise of eyebrow of the patriots and intellectuals outside the Geographical boundary of Orissa. The treatment of Orissa to Simon Commission is one of them. The people of Orissa showed two-fold reaction to the Simon Commission. The congress members from Orissa shared the reaction of the India National Congress. But many leading men outside the national mainstream took it an opportunity. They wanted to focus the long standing demands of the people of Orissa for the formation of a separate state by wholeheartedly supporting Simon Commission. The last phase of the freedom struggle in Orissa, "Quit India Movement" began from Cuttack. A pioneer educational institution "Ravenshaw College", Cuttack took the lead of the movement. They launched strike which ultimately took the shape of violence and spread to other parts of Orissa. Thus Cuttack played a prominent role during the years of the struggle for freedom in Orissa. It was the bee-hive of the political activities and radiating centre of policies and programme of the moment.