Chapter - 7

MOVEMENT FOR THE LINGUISTIC STATE

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The merger of Nizam's dominion into the Indian Union instead of solving the problems of the people, actually created new issues. One of the major issues confronting the newly established State of Hyderabad was the lack of cohesion among the multi lingual factions of the territory. The Telugu speaking people of the area had already launched the movement for the establishment of Visala Andhra on the principles of linguistic unity. The Kannada speaking people of the territory did not lack far behind the movement for the creation of Andhra and launched a movement which grew from strength to strength in course of time and ultimately resulted in the integration of the three districts of erstwhile Nizam dominion into the newly established Mysore State, later on renamed as Karnataka. The present chapter proposes to project the great movement for the formation of the United Karnataka with special reference to the struggle carried out in the districts of Hyderabad Karnataka.

The movement for linguistic provinces can be traced back to the last quarter of the 19th century and the Oriya speaking people were the pioneers in the country\(^1\). In 1896 the Biharis under the leadership of Sri. Mahesh Narayan started the movement for a separate province of Bihar on the ground that the Hindi speaking people of Bihar formed a distinct group in the Bengal presidency, which then consisted of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa\(^2\). The partition of Bengal in
1905 by Lord Curzon made the question of linguistic provinces a nation wide issue. The British government on the recommendations of 'Hardinge despatch' cancelled the partition of Bengal in 1912 and created the provinces of Bihar and Orissa on linguistic criteria.

The British Statesmen like H.H. Risley and Lionel Curtis were of the opinion that 'more than the race and religion of the people' the language should be the basis for any territorial redistribution.

The States during the British set up were not formed on the basis of geographical, cultural, economical and linguistic principles. The British were past masters in the art of divide and rule policy. They had allowed the native rulers to manage their own regions. The British carved out different provinces on the administrative grounds and the Kannada people with a rich cultural heritage were scattered in different parts under different administration. The British had their own apprehensions about the danger that could be posed by the people with common language. They had encouraged even the rulers of princely States to Start English medium schools which naturally were expected to discourage the study of local languages like Kannada, Marathi, Hindi, Telugu and so on. The Britishers never liked the people with common language to come together. They were interested in always keeping a communication gap between the rulers and the ruled.
The Mont-ford Report (1918), the Simon Commission (1928) and the Moti-lal Nehru Report (15th August, 1928) all recognised the fact that the provinces as existed had no rational basis behind their creation. ("But historically, the language has been the most potent ally of nationalism")

The leaders of Indian National movement recognised the significance of the native languages for the growth of nationalism and culture. It was the linguistic spirit of the region that led to the formation of the 'Nizam Karnataka Parishat' in 1937 at Hyderabad under the presidentship of P. Krishna Rao, a famous vakil from Raichur. This gave a substantial stimulus to the movement for freedom and unification of Karnataka.

I. DEMAND FOR SEPARATE UNITED KARNATAKA:

Karnataka is a comprehensive and significant term denoting Kannada language, literature and culture. The earliest references to Karnataka appear in the Sabha Parva and Bhisma Parva of Mahabharata. A copper plate of Kadambas dated 450 A.D. describes this land as 'Samagra Karnata Desa'. In Kaviraja Marga of Nuptunga, we come across the names of Kisu-volalu, Kopana nagara, Puligere and Okkunda. Obviously they formed part of Karnataka. It is mentioned that the land of Karnataka extended from Kaveri to Godavari. The poem runs:
The present state of Karnataka had been mainly distributed among five administrations and in more than 14 other small princely states. The five administrations were the Bombay presidency the Madras presidency, the Mysore presidency, the Nizam state and the Coorg. Thus the Kannada region had been hopelessly mutilated and it was dismembered into ineffective minorities. It presented a broken image of itself, woefully lacking in cohesion which prevented the healthy development of Kannada language and culture. The Kannadigas in Raichur, Bidar and Gulbarga districts in the erstwhile Hyderabad state were reeling under the influence of Urdu, the official language of the state. The fanatic policy of the Nizam and the Razakars spoiled the fair name of Kannada culture which was inherited from the Chalukyas, Rastrakutas, Hoysalas and Vijayanagar rulers. The Kannadigas wanted their language to flourish and occupy important place in education and administration also. Awareness of this situation made the Kannada people particularly eager to unite and demand a separate province of their own.  

In 1880 Deputy Channabasappa took the initial lead in organising the people of Bombay Karnataka and fought for the introduction of Kannada in the schools of the area. The
glorious heritage of Karnataka came to be re-discovered as a result of the pioneering work of western scholars like Fleet, Rice, Kittle and others. The works of cultural institutions like 'Karnataka Vidyavardhaka Sangha', founded in Dharwar (1890) the Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Bangalore (1915) and the encouragement given to Kannada by the Mysore University, popularised the cause for the formation of united Karnataka. In 1915, the first Kannada Sahitya Sammelana held at Bangalore on May 3rd, 4th and 5th passed a resolution demanding a separate state for Kannada speaking people.\[11\]

The first political conference which demanded the formation of separate province for Kannadigas was held at Dharwar in 1920 under the presidency of V.P. Madhava Rao, former Diwan of Mysore. In persuance of the resolution passed in this conference, Raghavendra Rao Kadapa, a great admirer of Kannada language and culture toured the whole of Karnataka including Hyderabad Karnataka area and in the same year he led 800 delegates to the Nagapur session of A.I.C.C. to secure strong voice for the formation of linguistic congress provinces. Under the directions of Gandhiji, the Nagapur session of the Congress accepted the principle of forming linguistic provinces to intensify the freedom movement and to develop the regional culture. Keeping with the spirit of resolution, Congress Committees were reorganised and the country was divided into 21 linguistic provinces and as a
result of it Karnataka provincial Congress Committee came into existence. This was indeed a land mark in the history of agitation for the unification of Karnataka.

II. ROLE OF JOURNALS AND LITERARY WORKS:

Parallel to the freedom struggle, the nationalists also fought for the unification of Kannada speaking areas. The journals such as Samyukta Karnataka, Navayuga, Visala Karnataka, Prapancha of Hubli, Nagarika of Gulbarga, Lokavani and Tungabhadra of Koppal, Viswakalyana of Yadageri, Kannada Nudi of Bangalore, Vagbhushan, Navakarnataka, Karnataka Vaibhava of Bijapur and Navasandesha of Bellary, Amaravani of Raichur and Prabhuddha Karnataka of Mysore etc. published the various articles and poems on the heritage of Karnataka which in turn brought about a steady growth of the Kannada and Karnataka consciousness and sentiments in the minds of the scattered Kannadigas to fight for the unification of Karnataka under single administration. The literary activities undertaken by Karnataka Sangha Raichur created the congenial atmosphere for the people to fight for their linguistic state.

The outstanding literary works such as Karnataka Gatavaibhava of Alur Venkata Rao, Hand Book of Kannada of D.K. Bharadwaja, Karnataka Veerakshatriyaru of S.B. Joshi and other works made Kannadigas to understand their glorious past
and fight for the unification of their motherland. Alur Venkat Rao, the Kannada Kulapurohita, thought that 'national feelings could not be aroused without the study of local history of Karnataka' His theory was that the integrity of India lies in the integration of Kannada speaking areas. He stressed the need on the use of Kannada language as an administrative language to promote unity and ensure all round development of the people.

III. INSPIRATION FROM PATRIOTIC SONGS:

The prominent men of letters who inspired the Kannadigas in different presidencies and princely states to stand unitedly to secure united Karnataka were B.M. Sreekantaiah, B. Sivamurthy Swamy, K.V. Puttappa, D.R. Bendre, Govind Pai, Masti Venkatesa Iyyangar, G.P. Raja Ratnam, Burli Bindumadhava, A.N. Krishna Rao, Manvi Narasinga Rao, Siddayya Puranik, Jayadevi Tai Ligade, Santarasa and others. The Patriotic songs such as:
1) ಪ್ರವೇಶಮಾಡಿ ಹೋಗಿ ಸಮೂಹ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು،
ಮಾಡಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಸಾಧಿಸಿ ಬರುತ್ತು.

2) ಈ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಸಾಯಿ ಸರಕಾರು.

3) ನಿಂದ ರೇಳು, ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಾರೆ.

4) ಮಾಡಿದವರು ಸಾಯಿ ಸರಕಾರು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ;
ಮಾಡಿದವರು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡ.

5) ಎರಡನೆ ತಮ್ಮದೊಡ್ಡ ಸೋರು.
ತಮ್ಮಗಳನ್ನು ಸುಂದರಿಸಿ ಮುಂದಾಯಿಸಲು ಸೋರು.

6) ಒಂದು ತೊಡೆ ಮಾಧ್ಯಮಾದಿರು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು;
ತಮ್ಮ ತೊಡೆಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡ ಸೋರು.

7) ಅದನ್ನು ಸಹಾಯಿಸಿದರು ಹೋಗಿ ಹೋಗಿ ಸರಕಾರು.
ಸಹಾಯವನ್ನು ರೇಳುವ ಸಮಯ ಇರುವುದು.

- ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳು ಸೋರುವುದು.
8) ವೇ ಸ್ವರೂಪ ಬಲಿಕೆ
ನೀಗೆ ಸ್ವರೂಪ ಸತ್ವದೇವಾರ
ಸಹ ಮಾನೆಯುವ ಜೀವನನ್ನು
ನೃತ್ತಿ ಸುತ್ತ ಸುತ್ತ
ನೀಗೆ ಕೈ ನಡೆಯ.

- ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ

9) ಅದು ಸಾರಾದಾಳು ಸೆಂಗಿ ಮರ್ಜಿ,
ಎಚ್ಚ್ಯೂ ನೇರ ನಿಲ್ಲ ಸಾಗಿ,
ನಣಿಯಂತ ಪ್ರಸಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ಕ್ಕೆ,

- ಮಹಾವಿಧೇಯ ಸ್ವರೂಪ ಬಿಡು.

10) ಹೆಂಗಿಲ್ಲ ಹೊಗುರಕೆ ಸಹಾಯದ ಉದಯವು
ಹನ್ನೆ ಹೊಯ್ದ ಸುತ್ತ ಸುತ್ತ
ನೃತ್ತಿ ಸುತ್ತ ಸುತ್ತ

- ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ

ನೀಗೆ ಸ್ವರೂಪ ಸತ್ವದೇವಾರ
ಸಹ ಮಾನೆಯುವ ಜೀವನನ್ನು
ನೃತ್ತಿ ಸುತ್ತ ಸುತ್ತ
ನೀಗೆ ಕೈ ನಡೆಯ.

- ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ

11) ಸುತ್ತ ಸುತ್ತ ಸತ್ತಿ ಸತ್ತಿ ಸತ್ತಿ
ಹೊಗು ನಣಿಯಂತ
ಮಾನೆಯುವ ಜೀವನನ್ನು
ನೃತ್ತಿ ಸುತ್ತ ಸುತ್ತ

- ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ
Thus no opportunity was lost by the poets in composing the patriotic songs to awaken the people to fight for the cause of united Karnataka. Under the inspiration of these songs, the prominent men of letters from Hyderabad Karnataka such as D.K. Bheemasena Rao, Jayadevi Tai Ligade, Keerthana Kesari Jayaramachar, Bettadur Channagasappa (Manvi Taluk), Sugaveera Shrama, Shantarasa (Raichur), Saranaiah Swami of Mahagaon, Poet Gurulinga Siddha, Vyakarana Tirth Chandrasekhar Shastri of Yadagiri, Manvi Narasinga Rao, Devendra Kumar Hakre and Panchakshari Hiremath under took the whirlwind tour in the Nizam Karnataka region and moulded the public opinion in favour of the merger to form the Vishala Karnataka. Another point to be noted in this connection lies in the fact that the Nizam’s provincial Veerasaiva Parishat which was established in 1935 at Udgir, played an important role in organising Kannada functions under the guidance of Prabhu Rao Kable Wale throughout the Hyderabad State and supported the formation of linguistic state. Vyakarana Tirth Chandrasekhar Shastrigalu, the founder Principal of Sankar Sanskrit College, Yadagiri had the distinction to preside over the 25th Kannada Sahitya Sammelana at Dharwad in 1940.

IV. HYDERABAD PRADESA KARNATAKA SANGHA:

The problems of the people of the Hyderabad Karnataka did not find solution in the merger of Hyderabad in the
Indian Union. The Kannadigas of Hyderabad State were not satisfied with this merger. The question of freedom from Muslim autocracy was a minor question in comparison with the question of these Kannadigas finding their rightful place in the new Karnataka province. There could be no peace for these people until they were allowed to merge with their kinsmen in other parts and work out their own destiny. Thus efforts were made by the Nizam’s Karnataka Parishat, (a socio economic and political organisation of Kannadigas of the erstwhile Hyderabad state) to encourage the people of Bidar, Gulbarga and Raichur, who were losing their cultural distinctiveness, to extend their wholehearted support for the formation of united Karnataka.

The conferences of this Parishat were held at Hyderabad (1937), Bidar (1940) and at Shorapur (1942), Yadgiri and Raichur under the presidency of P. Kishan Rao, Janardhana Rao Desai, (both from Raichur) and Anna Rao Ganamukhi and Hanumantha Rao Kakkeri respectively. The activities of the Nizam Karnataka Parishat brought the Kannada fraternity of the area on a single platform and increased the self-consciousness and unity of the Kannadigas. Besides, the atrocities committed by the Razakars on Hindu population prior to Police Action were so barbaric that they opened the eyes of the Hindus to their condition and made them to support the cause of the movement for the creation of Linguistic States.
V. ALL KARNATAKA LITERARY CONFERENCE AND K.P.C.C. MEETING:

It was only after the integration of the Hyderabad State into the Union of India in September 1948, the movement for the formation of Linguistic States gained greater momentum owing to the work carried out by All Karnataka Literary Conferences. It may be recalled that the 32nd All Karnataka Literary Conference held at Gulbarga on 5th, 6th and 7th March, 1949 under the Presidentship of Uttangi Channappa in the premises of Sri. Saranabasaveswara Temple (Anubhava Mantap Stage) was a mile-stone event as it stimulated the interest of the Kannadigas of Hyderabad Karnataka in preserving their glorious culture and in developing the language.\(^{17}\)

This conference which was held in high emotion and spirit was graced by the attendance of Poojya Doddappa Appa, Swami Ramananda Tirth, S. Nijalingappa, Jeena Raj Hegde, Janardhana Rao Desai, G.V. Hallikeri, Jayadevi Tai Ligade, Channabasava Pattada Devaru of Bhalki, Ambli Channabasappa, M.P. Patil, S.R. Kanti, Alavandi Sivamurthy Swami, Chandrasekhara Patil, Prabhu Rao Kamble vale, Sardar Saranagoud Inamdar (Reception Committee Chairman of this Conference), Siddaiah Puranik, Kapatral Krishna Rao, Vyakaranateertha Chandrasekhar Sastri, Sirur Veerabhadra and other writers, Socio-political workers and poets.\(^{18}\)
Under the guidance of Swami Ramananda Tirth, the political workers viz Chandrasekhara Patil, Sardar Sarana Goud, G. Madhava Rao, Mahadevappa Rampure, B. Ashwath Rao, J.R. Desai and Sivamurthy Swamy, toured the entire Hyderabad Karnataka to enrol the delegates and to collect contribution from the public for the conference with great enthusiasm. They actively participated in the proceedings of the conference and in carrying on the message of the Conference to the masses. In the Presidential address, Uttangi Channappa said "

In this conference, the people of Hyderabad Karnataka respectfully remembered the cooperation and help that was extended to them by people from all over Karnataka during their struggle against the Razakars in the years 1947-48. This paved the way for the development of love and attachment of people in Hyderabad Karnataka with the rest of Karnataka. This development served as a prelude to the later determined and concerted efforts of the people to merge in the State of Karnataka.

Resolutions of the Conference:

1. Resolved to oppose the policy of the government with one voice in regarding the appointment of Ex. Rajas particularly the Nizam-Mir Osman Ali Khan as Rajapramukha's or governors of the States. It may be recalled that the nationalists sacrificed their life against the tyranny of the Nizam and the conference viewed that the appointment of such a person as 'Rajapramukha' of Hyderabad naturally irked the sentiments of the people.
ಅನ್ಮೃತ ವಿಮೃತ ಮತ್ತು ವಿನಾಶ.

"ನನ್ನ ತಲೆಗೆ ಸುಂದರ ನೀರಿನ ಪುಟ್ಟ ಸಂಧ್ಯಾನ"

ನಾನಾ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದರ ಜೀವನವಿಷ್ಟ ಜೀವಿಸಿದ್ದು. ಪುರುಷು ಸ್ವತಂತ್ರ ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯ ಸಂಬಂದಿಯೇ ತಮ್ಮ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಯ ಖಂಡಕ್ಕೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು. ನನ್ನ ಸಂಧ್ಯೆಯಿಂದ ಸಂಧ್ಯೆಗೆ ಕೂಡಾ ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು. ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿ ಸಂಧ್ಯೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ನನ್ನ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು. ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿ ಸಂಧ್ಯೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾನೆ.

ನನ್ನ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು. ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿ ಸಂಧ್ಯೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿ ಸಂಧ್ಯೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿ ಸಂಧ್ಯೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿ ಸಂಧ್ಯೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾನೆ. ಸಹಜಕರ್ತೆಯಾಗಿ ಸಂಧ್ಯೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದಾನೆ.
2. The Conference urged the government to open kannada schools and called upon the merchant community of Hyderabad Karnataka to keep their accounts in Kannada to protect the Kannada culture from the onslaught of urdu influence.

3. This conference demanded that the Hyderabad State should be disintegrated and Kannada speaking areas of the State be merged in Karnataka²².

K.P.C.C. MEETING AT DAVANGERE:

In view of these trends and ardent Zeal and enthusiasm of the people of this part of Karnataka, S. Nijalingappa, the president of the K.P.C.C. and Karnataka Ekikarana Mahasamiti was pleased to convene the K.P.C.C. Meeting at Davangere in November 1949. The people from all parts of Karnataka including those of Mysore and Hyderabad States attended the meeting.

The meeting passed a comprehensive resolution demanding "the carving out a new unified Karnataka State inclusive of Mysore with the Maharaja of Mysore as the constitutional head with the provision of Hyderabad Karnataka areas joining as and when it became feasible²³.

VI. ACTIVITIES OF RAITA-PARISHAT AND H.P.K.C.:

Encouraged by the resolution passed by the K.P.C.C. at Davanagere, the first Raita Parishat of Koppalnadu which was held at Munirabad under the Presidentship of Talluru Rayana Gouda Patil of Bailahongal in 1949, supported the merger of
Hyderabad Karnataka in Visala Karnataka. It may be recalled here that on 12.12.1948, the first Raita Parishat of Yelburga taluka was held at the village of Kuduremoti under the chairmanship of Sirur Veerabhadrappa and passed a resolution to disintegrate the erstwhile Hyderabad State to facilitate the formation of the linguistic States.

In the meanwhile, Janardhana Rao Desai convened the Hyderabad Pradesa Karnataka congress meeting at Thandur (Gulbarga dist.) in November 1950 which decided to launch a movement to secure an independent State for Kannada speaking people. For this purpose, H.P.K.C. formed an Action Committee which consisted of Alavandi Sivamurthy Swami (Raichur dist.), Sardar Sārana Goud Inamdar (Gulbarga dist.) and R.V. Bidappa (Bidar dist.). The Action Committee toured the whole of Hyderabad Karnataka and constituted the taluka level Karnataka Ekikarana Samitis to enlist the support of the people for the unification.

VII. IMPACT OF POTTISRIRAMULU'S FAST UNTO DEATH:

After the 1st general elections in 1952, when the congress returned to power with massive majority, it took no initiative in the direction of forming the linguistic States. Alavandi Sivamurthy Swamy, the then M.P. from Koppal constituency and secretary of All India Linguistic Conference held at west Bengal and Punjab in 1952, moved a non-official
resolution in Parliament in July 1952 and urged the Prime
minister Pandit Nehru to take immediate steps for the
formation of linguistic States to save democracy and to
maintain the integrity of the nation. But the resolution was
defeated on the floor of the house owing to the Congress
party whip\textsuperscript{26}. Following this incident, the K.P.C.C. led by
S. Nijalingappa and Hosamani Siddappa, the president of the
Karnataka unification Mahasabha, called upon M.L.A’s and
M.P’s of Mysore, Madras, Bombay and Hyderabad State to tender
their resignations inorder to bring pressure on the
Government to pursue the policy of formation of Linguistic
States\textsuperscript{27}.

In the meanwhile on 19th october, 1952, Potti Sree
Ramulu an Andhra leader undertook a fast unto death to force
the Government to create Andhra State. He died on 15th
December 1952, after 58 days of fasting. This was followed by
roits in Andhra causing damage to Government property worth
of Rs. 10 millions. Soon after this event, Prime minister
Nehru announced on 19th December 1952 in parliament the
decision of the Government to establish the Andhra State\textsuperscript{28}.
This announcement raised new hopes among kannadigas. But
shocking news for the lovers of linguistic States awaited.

\textbf{VIII. PROTEST AGAINST THE NANAL NAGAR A.I.C.C.RESOLUTION:}

It is to be noted here that on 17th September 1953,
A.I.C.C. in its session at Hyderabad (Nanal Nagar) passed the
The leaders who worked for the merger of Hyderabad Karnataka to form the united Karnataka

Y. Chandrasekhar Sastrigalu

Smt. Jaya Devi Tai Legade

Jagannatha Rao Chandrki and Ramchandra Veerappa speaking on the merger of Hyderabad Karnataka issue with S. Nijlingappa
resolution that "Apart from Andhra, no other linguistic State be formed for the time being". The Nanal Nagar resolution caused widespread resentment in Karnataka. The all party conference was convened soon at Davanagere in 1953 to oppose the Nanal Nagar resolution. The conference elected Alavandi Sivamurthy Swami as the President of Akhanda Karanata Rajya Nirmana Samiti. The Samiti compelled the Government to set aside the Nanal Nagar resolution and constitute a Boundaries Commission to take up the formation of linguistic States.

The M.L.As and M.Ps from Hyderabad Karnataka viz., Swami Ramanand Tirth, Jagannatha Rao Chandariki, AnnaRao Ganamukhi, Veerendra Patil, Chandra Sekhara Patil and others registered their strong protest to the Nanal Nagar resolution. Thus the unification movement gained greater momentum in Karnataka.

IX. PANDIT NEHRU'S VIEWS ON HYDERABAD STATE:

At this critical juncture, the people of Hyderabad State had to convince Pandit Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India on the urgent need of disintegrating the former Nizam State on linguistic basis. Swami Ramananda Tirth, Chairman of the reception Committee of 63rd A.I.C.C. session held at Govinda Rao Nanal Nagar in Hyderabad on 17th September 1953, in his welcome address publicly advocated the necessity of trifurcation of Hyderabad for the first time on
the congress platform much against the strong feelings of Pandit Nehru about maintaining the 'Status quo'. Pandit Nehru had some how come to admire the 'Composite culture of Hyderabad State which he did not want to disturb'. Because in his opinion the division of Hyderabad State would mean wiping out of a 'Cosmopolitan culture' having been built by the different communities and people speaking different languages in the State.

But Swamiji, S. Nijalingappa and B.G. Kher wanted the abolition of the identity of the Nizam State. They argued that Hyderabad State was a political ulcer in the body politic of India and so, they decided to nip this (fanatic forces) in the bud to maintain the integrity of the nation and to develop the regional languages and culture. It was in this background these leaders played an important role in mobilising the public opinion in favour of trifurcating the Hyderabad State and supported the merger of three linguistic zones viz., the Marathwada into Samyukta Maharashtra, Telangana into Visala Andhra and Karnataka into Visala Karnataka.

X. AKHANDA KARNATAKA RAJYA NIRMANA SAMITI:

By August 1953 the Akhanda Karnataka Rajya Nirmana Samiti intensified the movement for the unification of Karnataka. The President of K.P.C.C. - Nijalingappa, the
president of the Akhanda Karnataka Rajya Nirmana Samiti - Alavandi Sivamurthy Swami and Swami Ramanand Tirth, H.P.C.C. leaders and M.Ps from Gulbarga and others met Pandit Nehru on 14th September 1953 and explained the gravity of situation in Karnataka. The reasons behind the defeat of the Congress candidates in the recent by-elections at the hands of the All Karnataka Ekikarana Candidates' were also explained. They argued that any further delay in appointing the boundaries commission would vanish the influence of Congress party in the State. It may be recalled that the Ekikarana Samiti candidates viz., Siddappa kambli and advocate Pujar defeated the Congress Candidates in Ron and Hubli constituencies. The defeat of Annadanappa Doddameti (Ron Constituency) the Stalwart of Congress in Bombay Karnataka was a great shock to congressmen in the State.35

The agitation for the linguistic State gained fillip day by day in Karnataka. Huge processions were organised. Bandha and Haratalas were observed. All over Karnataka about 6000 agitaitonists including M.L.As and M.Ps were detained. The movement reached its climax. The political leaders of Hyderabad Karnataka irrespective of their party spirit inspired the students, the youth associations and members of Gramasabha to go on indefinite period of strike to focus the attention of the Government of India to take immediate measures on the formation of united karnataka. At number of
places leaders went on hunger strike, demanding the formation of Visala Karnataka and to discourage the anti-unification forces. Annadanappa Doddameti at Jakkali in Ron taluk, Sankaragoud Patil at Alavandi (Raichur Dist.) Chandrasekhar Patil of Mahagaon at Jagat Circle in Gulbarga and Prabhu Rao Kamblevale at Udgir (Now in Maharashtra) started fast. The Raita Parishat, Mataladinni (Yelbarga taluk) and Congress leaders of Raichur district offered Satyagraha at Hampi for the formation of Karnataka. They demanded the resignations from the office bearers of K.P.C.C. and the elected representatives. Their slogan was "Resignations! Resignations! No more resolutions". The police had to intervene and disperse the huge gathering at Hubli and Hampi by Lathi charge and resort to firing.  

XI. THE FAZAL ALI COMMISSION:

In view of this situation, the Home Ministry notified on December 29th, 1953, the appointment of the States Reorganisation Commission, popularly known as Fazal Ali Commission after its chairman to report on the Reorganisation of States on Linguistic basis. K.M.Panniker and H.N.Kunjru were the members of the commission.

There was a jubilant mood all over Karnataka over the decision of the Central Government to set up this commission. The people were anxious to put forth their views before the
Fazal Ali Commission on the formation of Linguistic States. Because it was their firm conviction that "A linguistic province produces what democracy needs, namely - social homogenity. No democracy can exist with a foreign language".  

Criteria of the Commission

Though the linguistic principle was regarded the basic factor in determining the re-organisation of States, the commission was also instructed to give equal importance to such other factors like "The unity and security of the country and financial and administrative consideration". The commission examined different criteria such as village as a unit, taluka as unit and revenue circle as unit to decide the principles for re-distribution of the territories. Accordingly in a village, where the people speaking a particular language exceeded 50%, it was kept in the region of that particular language. The principle of revenue circle unit was considered by the commission in the redistribution of the boundaries. Belgaum was included in the State of Karnataka under revenue circle unit principle. The Kannadigas lost the places of Alumpur, Gadval, Alur, Adoni, Tandur, Sholapur, Rayadurg, Kalyanadurg and Kasaragod under the principles of 'Taluk unit' as majority of the people in these talukas speak non-kannada. Generally for the whole of the state taluk was considered as until for bifurcation. That
means if in a taluka of a district, kannada is the language spoken by the majority of the people, and if the taluka is adjoining the area where the language spoken by the people is either Marathi or Telugu, that taluka will remain in Karnataka even though there were revenue circles where predominantly the language of the adjoining area was spoken. 39

The Crisis

Some political leaders particularly of Mysore were propagating against the formation of Samykta Karnataka. 'Mysore for Mysoreans' was their slogan. At the same time, there was a mispropaganda that only Veerasaiva Community leaders were interested in the merger of Hyderabad Karnataka area to form Visala Karnataka. Few leaders went to the extent of advocating two karnatakas theory. It was most unfortunate development and irked the feelings of Kannadigas as it was a great hurdle in the way of achieving the clutural integration. The feelings of few Reddies and Vakkaligas in Mysore State was that Lingayats will predominate the politics of the State if unification is achieved. 40 This was nothing but narow mindedness malicious approach originated out of power politics. In the mean time, the leaders of Akhanda Karnataka Rajya Nirmana Samiti, K.P.C.C. and Kannada Shitya Parishat issued an appeal calling upon all parts of kannadigas to sink differences of caste and discard the antiunification elements. 41
Illustration No. 19

Hanumantayya and S. Nijalingappa with the legislatures of Hyderabad and Karnataka on the eve of unification movement in 1954 at Hyderabad.
At this juncture, Kengal Hanumantayya, the then Chief Minister of Mysore State besides advocating the cause of the linguistic states, came out with a statement that "Karnataka could be formed by the inclusion in the Mysore State all the adjoining Kannada areas of Bombay, Madras, Hyderabad and Kodagu. This unambiguous statement dispelled the impression in certain sections that Mysore was not in favour of unification of Karnataka. Even the small princely State of Sandur supported the move, even though at once stage the ruler was reported to be claiming a separate identity for his state.\(^{42}\) Kengal Hanumantayya, as Chief Minister of Mysore, was able to see that the state legislature passed the resolution supporting the formation of single or united Karnataka.

**XII. VISIT OF EKIKARANA LEADERS:**

Popular leaders of Hyderabad Karnataka such as Janardhana Rao Desai, R.V.Bidappa, Alavandi Sivamurthy Swami, G.K.Pranesachar and others accompanied the leaders of Ekkikarana Samiti - S.Nijalingappa, K.Hanumantaiah, Hosmani Siddappa, Doddameti, Hallikeri and Jayadevi Tai Legade to make whirlwind tour of Hyderabad Karnataka to mobilise the public opinion and collect their memorandums to be submitted before the Fazal Ali Commission. Mass signature campaign was undertaken with great success. The people even in the far off villages showed their enthusiasm for the merger of
Hyderabad Karnataka into united karnataka for their security, unity and for their all sided progress and development.\textsuperscript{43} The people felt that their area which was woefully neglected by the Nizam, had remained backward and its' interests and aspirations could be protected if it was merged in the united karnataka.\textsuperscript{44}

Above all, in this part of Karnataka, Kannada had been reduced to the position of only a spoken language.\textsuperscript{45} The Karnataka culture received greater jolt on account of Urdu and Marathi influence. So for all round development of the region, language and culture, the people of Hyderabad Karnataka put-forth their views before the Fazal Ali Commission at Shai-Manzil in Hyderabad, to form an independent state for kannadigas.\textsuperscript{46}

A. Community-wise Memorandums

The Fazal Ali Commission visited 104 places which involved travelling over 38000 miles receive 1,52,250 documents which include the memorandums from the public during the period from 8th April 1954 to 10th October, 1955.\textsuperscript{47}

In this context, arrangements were made to submit the community wise memorandums by their respective leaders of Nizam's karnataka Area to dispell the impression that was created in certain sections of the society by the vested
interests that only Veerasaiva Community leaders were interested in merging this region in Karnataka State. For instance in Gulbarga district Mahamad Ali, represented Muslim Community, Ramchandra Veerappa and Sivaraya Moga represented the Harijans, Tej Singh Rathod voiced interest of Lambanis, Mallesappa represented Bestha Samaj, Kolur Mallappa represented Kurub Community, Jagannatha Rao Chandariki represented the Brahmin Community, Chandrasekhara Patil, Gangadhara Namosi, R.V.Bidappa and Sardar Saranagoud Inamdar represented the Veerasaiva Community while submitting memorandums before the Fazal Ali Commission at Hyderabad in the last week of May in 1954. They argued for the inclusion of Hyderabad karnataka in Visala-karnataka. Prabhu Rao Kamble Vale (now settled at Bidar) of Udgir, a pioneer of Kannada language and culture along with Krishna Rao Kaptral argued for the inclusion of Sholapur, Akkalakot, Dudani, Myndargi and Udgir (which also represented the heritage of Karnataka culture) in the formation of New Karnataka State. The three major political parties in the Hyderabad State namely; the Congress, the Communist Party and Socialist Party favoured the disintegration of Hyderabad State. Those who opposed the disintegration of Hyderabad were few and many of them were Muslims.

B. Turmoil and Tranquillity

On the reorganisation of states, the Fazal Ali Commission submitted its report to the Union Government on
30th September, 1955 for the implementation. However the report of the commission was not received by the people of Karnataka as the commission’s recommendations resulted not only in the exclusion of predominantly kannada areas all along the border including Sholapur and Kasaragod, but also contained the strange proposal regarding the Bellary district that the talukas of Siruguppa, Bellary and Hospet including T.B. Dam be excluded from the Karnataka State. 50

This proposal relating to the Bellary district created a storm in karnataka as well as in parliment. Karnataka had to fight its way for justice regarding Bellary. Akhanda Karnataka Rajya Nirmana Samiti organised batch by batch Satyagraha at Hampi in january, 1956, to register their strong opposition for the exclusion of Bellary. Alavandi Sivamurthy Swami, Yajaman Santarudrappa, Y.Mahabaleswarappa, Allam karibasappa, Tekur Subramannyam of Bellary, Yeligar Timmappa of Sandur and student leaders of the entire district started the agitation to retain Bellary district. The agitation posed law and order problem when Pro-Andhra and Pro-Karnataka agitators organised the huge processions to demonstrate their strength for the inclusion of Bellary in their respective States. The question of life and death of thousands of people involved in this movement was to be decided by the decision of the Government of India. All Karnataka M.Ps led by S.Nijalingappa and Swami Ramanand Tirth
pleaded strongly for the inclusion of Bellary in Karnataka on the grounds of Linguistic, Ethnical, and Economic consideration.

The earlier demand for the inclusion of Bellary district in Karnataka did not arise.

Consequent upon the right decision of the Constituent Assembly.

XIII. RISE AND FALL OF THE KARNATAK RASISANABHAYA

A.I.C.C. was sent to India to implement the linguistic stages.

Tellers from the representatives were sent to the Legislative Council.

ionalists of Raichur district offering Satyagraha at Hampi under the leadership of vandi Shivamurthy Swami demanding the inclusion of Bellary district on 19-1-1956.
pleaded strongly for the inclusion of Bellary in Karnataka on the grounds of Linguistic, Geographical and Economic considerations. They recalled the attention of Prime Minister Nehru to the report of the Laksmi Sankar Misra who in 1953 itself recommended the transfer of Bellary from Madras presidency to the Mysore State and the question of excluding Bellary now from the Mysore State does not arise. The Parliament had to yeild to the logical arguments of Kannadigas and announced the retainment of Bellary district in Karnataka. Thus normalcy was restored in Karnataka consequent upon the right decision of the parliament.51

XIII. RISE OF NEW MYSORE STATE:

A.I.C.C. which met at Amrutsar on 10-2-1956 endorsed to implement the S.R.C. report for the formation of linguistic states. The states reorganisation bill had been sent to the Legislatures of the concerned States for their opinion. But the congress high command had already issued 'whip' to the Congress Party Legislatures to accept the Bill in toto without suggesting any amendments. However the opposition was unanimous in opposing the Congress move of recommending the 'States Reorganisation Bill' as it is. It is interesting to note here that the opposition in parliament succeeded in convincing the Government in securing more than 2/3 majority in favour of the formation of (1) Samyukta Karnataka including Bellary (2) Samyukta Maharashtra including Bomby and (3) Visal Andhra including Telangana.52
With the acceptance of the S.R.C. report in parliament on 25-8-1956 and the enactment that followed on 30-8-1956, the Karnataka State statutorily known as "Greater Mysore" (New Mysore) including Hyderabad Karnataka consisting of Bidar, Gulbarga and Raichur districts came into existence on 1st of November 1956.

The greater Mysore comprised the following:

i) The princely State of Mysore including Bellary, which was added to it upon the formation of Andhra Pradesh in 1953.

ii) Belgaum district, (except the Chandgad taluk) the entire Dharwar, Bijapur and North Canara districts from Bombay State.

iii) The following regions from the Madras State:
   a) South Canara except Kasargod and the Amindivi Islands.
   b) Kollegal taluk in the Coimbatore district.

iv) The whole of Coorg.

v) The following areas from the Hyderabad State.
   a) Gulbarga district except Kodamagal and Thandur
   b) Raichur district except Alampur and Gadwal taluks
   c) Bidar, Balki, Ouradh and Humnabad talukas from the district of Bidar.

XIV. NAMING OF THE STATE:

The Fazal Ali Commission had proposed that the new state of Kannadigas should be called Karnataka.\textsuperscript{53} In fact it was the opinion of the people and the life ambition of Alur Venkata Rao (Kannada Kulapurohita) that the new state be
Men who fought for the liberation and integration of Hyderabad Karnataka!
Men who fought for the liberation and integration of Hyderabad Karnataka
called as 'Karnataka' since it was an expression of the aspirations and unity of Kannadigas and their culture. The nationalists were not happy about the name 'Mysore' for it was an expression of Princely State. Some how, the leaders of the Old Mysore State had a sentimental attachment to the name of Mysore. The Central Government too was inclined to hurt the feelings of the Old Mysoreans including the Ex-Maharaja of Mysore. Therefore the name Mysore was favoured by the majority in parliament. On 1st November 1973, the state was re-named as Karnataka during the Chief Ministership of Devaraj Urs and this event was culminating point in the history of her integration. The action of the Urs Government was an expression of gratitude to those who fought for the unification of the State and an inspiration to the present generation to enrich the Karnataka culture and language.

Thus after a prolonged struggle against the autocratic rule of the Nizam, the people of Hyderabad Karnataka had at last the satisfaction of being an integral part of their own soil, of joining their own kith and kin with the same cultural and linguistic heritage. But they were disillusioned when actually they were treated as 'Backward people' and looked down by the Government officials of the new Mysore State. Let us forget the evil past and bury our discriminations to enrich the cultural heritage of the united Karnataka on secular spirit.
Notes and References


3. Ibid. p.334.

4. Basavaraj, K.R., History and Culture of Karnataka, p.370. H.H. Risley served as the secretary to the Governor General of India in the Home Department during the period of Lord Curzon. Lionel Curtis was the father of Dyarchy in India.

5. Devlgaonker, V.P., S.D.R., pp.6-7.


10. Devlgaonkar, V.P., S.D.R. pp.6-8. The land of Karnataka was scattered under the following administration: Bombay, Madras presidencies, Kodagu, Mysore and Hyderabad.


12. Basavaraja, K.R., History and Culture of Karnataka, p.371. The functions at Vidhyaranya Mandir and Vijayanagar exhibition during the I.N.C. session at Belgaum in 1924 started with the invocation songs: 'Rise our beautiful Kannada land and Vandemataram'. As a result of it, Karnataka Ekikarana Sangha was formed at Belgaum.

14. Extracts from the book entitled *Nada Ahadugalu* (Ed.) Burli Bindumadhava, Minchinaballi publication, Dharwar.


17. Hampa Nagarajaiah, (Ed.) *Sammelanadhyaksharu.*, pp.43-157 (Extracts) prior to Police Action, 14th, 20th and 26th *Karnataka Sayitya Sammelanas* were held at Gulbarga, Raichur and Hyderabad under the presidentship of B.M. Sreekantaiah, Panje Mangesa Rao and A.R. Krishna Sastri respectively.

18. Interview with Channabasava Pattadadevaru Bhalki on 20-5-1988 vide Saradar Sarana Goud, *S.D.R.* pp.7-9. Uttangi Channappa has immortalised his name and fame in the literary history of the Karnataka by editing the original "Sarvajna Vachanas".


22. Saradar Sarana Goud Inamdar., *Tape sound*. In obedience to the resolution No.2 of the conference, Sri.Sharanabasaveswara High School in Kannada medium was established at Gulbarga in June, 1949. Subramanyam, who was the chairman of the Constituent Assembly of Mysore, presided and S.Nijalingappa, the K.P.C.C. president inaugurated the conference.

23. Basavaraja, K.R., *op.cit.*, pp. 374-375. The Maharaja of Mysore was noble and progressive in nature. The Kannada literature and culture received new colour and shape during the rule of Odeyars.


28. "*The Hindu*": dt. 16th and 20th December, 1952. pp.1-3. Justice K.N. Wanchoo Committee was setup on 21-12-1952 to study the financial and other implications following the decision of the Government to create Andhara State. Nehru ultimately had to yield to the public opinion and the demand for Andhra was conceded. Andhra was separated from Madras presidency with Karnool as its Capital.


32. Devlgaonkar, V.P., S.D.R., p.12.

33. Chandrika Jaganatha Rao, op.cit., p.8. Also vide "*Deccan Chronicle*", dt. 18-9-1953. Pandit Nehru said: the need of the hour is to fight poverty and unemployment and improve the conditions of life of the people. In view of this, all possible talks of the disintegration of the State would be put down with the help of armed forces.

34. Devlgaonkar, V.P., S.D.O.C.P..pp.5-6.


36. Javere Gowda, D., *Karnataka Ruvari* p.123. The government appointed one man commission of justice L.S. Mishra to go into the problem of Bellary taluk. As per the recommendations, the Bellary was merged in Mysore State in 1953.


42. Devlgaonker, V.P., S.D.R. pp. 16-17. 56 members of Mysore State legislature authorised Kengal Hanumanthaiah, the then Chief Minister of Mysore State to take up the cause of united Karnataka. It is to be noted that he led the delegation of Mysore legislatures to oppose the Nanalnagar A.I.C.C. resolution.


44. Devlgaonker, V.P., Tape sound.


46. Sarada Sarana Goud Inamadar., Tape sound.

47. Government of Mysore, Karnataka Through Ages, p.955.

48. Letter correspondence of Sankar Setty Patil with Chandrasekhar Patil dt. 24-8-1954. See Appendix part of the thesis for the original letter.


51. Interview with S.Nijalingappa at Chitradurga. (5-8-1988) and with Yajaman Santharudrappa at Bellary on 20-1-1989. Justice L.S. Mishra submitted 36 points report to the union government which was accepted by the government in 1953. Extracts from the Diary of S.N. Nijalingappa dt. 11th and 14th March, 1953.

52. Devlgaonker, V.P., S.D.R. p.15. There was wide spread dissatisfaction in Maharashtra as the Fazal Ali Commission rejected the plea of Maharastrians over Bombay city. S.Nijalingappa served as member of the advisory committee constituted by the speaker of Lok Sabha to examine the S.R.C. report. Vide Dairy of S.Nijalingappa dt. 12-2-1956.

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