CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

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CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

6.1: Introduction:

Maulana Azad was one of the most important national leaders of India, who have contributed his entire life for the freedom movement of India. His patriotism, dedication to the country, contribution in framing educational policies & developmental approach towards the country, and while playing role as national leader, he published newspapers like Al Hilal and Al Balagh through which he attempted to infuse a spirit of nationalism.

The entire country knows him as a national leader, educationist and journalist of high calibre. However, the role of Maulana Azad as a journalist is not properly studied and examined by researcher. In this background the present study has been undertaken. In this work a proper treatment was given to the topic and new light has been thrown on different dimensions of Maulana Azad as a journalist. Perhaps, this can be treated as a first attempt of its kind. Maulana Azad was a search-light in vernacular Urdu press, because in the pre-Maulana age, the press was traditional.
Conservative and medieval Maulana brought this Urdu press from traditional to modernity and from feudal to national line of action. The important characteristics, style of thinking and vision of his understanding were studied for the first time and now in this chapter a brief summary of research has been presented and findings have been drawn in nutshell here.

This is a scientific study based on proper methodology. The data collection is important activity of research work. Without proper and reliable data it is not possible to complete research work in scientific manner. For this research work the data collection has been done mainly from the documentary sources and other published material. The data sources of primary and secondary types have been utilized for this work.

The researcher was planned to utilize published and unpublished works of and works on Maulana Azad by other writers and researchers. The data was collected from Aligarh Muslim, Jamia Miliya and Osmania, Hyderabad Central Universities. Information was also collected from internet. The data collected from the work done by authors and published work and speeches of Maulana Azad and various books and articles was properly crystallized and neatly analyzed by using scientific methods of analysis.
6.2. Findings and suggestions

The findings and suggestions of this research work have been presented here in the following manner:

1) Nationalism was essence of Maulana Azad's writings and there was socio cultural impact of his writings on the contemporary society.

2) His writings and speeches have brought a dawn of awakening in Indian society. His newspapers have contributed for the Freedom of Press Act on one side and for achieving freedom for India on the other side.

3) Journalism was a vehicle of freedom and socio-economic change. In Maulana's fearless expressions formed a backbone of his communication.

4) Maulana Azad was a top ranking nationalist leader and he had clear vision regarding political democracy, social change, religious perspective, educational change and so on.

5) Maulana Azad as a journalist was outcome of nationalism and he brought Urdu press in mainstream.

6) Maulana Azad's speeches were vehicle of nationalism. He had culminated his clear cut national spirit both through his writings and speeches.
7) Maulana Azad’s writings were unique and they have contributed for enriching Indian Journalism.

8) Maulana Azad through his articles, speeches, developed the feeling of patriotism. His writings were for all Indians and not for particular religious group. His ideas were vehicle for national unity and total change. Here Maulana was a symbol of national and secular ideas of freedom movement.

9) Maulana Azad as a journalist made a remarkable contribution in development of secularism, nationalism, modernity and educational development of a country. His speeches truly testify this phenomenon.

10) Maulana Azad’s contribution as a journalist has not been appropriately recorded in the history of press and hence this work has tried to provide justice to his role as a journalist.

11) The journalistic contribution of Azad is full of spirit of nationalism. Maulana Azad’s style of journalistic writing was more communicative and simple to understand. His speeches were also full of rich content and appeal.
6.3. Chapter summary:

Now on this background a brief chapter summary has been presented here:

Chapter I: Maulana Azad: Life and Contribution;

In this chapter a brief history of pre-Maulana period of Urdu journalism has been traced and review of Urdu press from 1857 to 1912 was specifically presented. Further aspects such as family background, birth, childhood, early education, upbringing and introduction to western knowledge have also been highlighted in this chapter. Especially, early writings of Maulana have also been introduced here.

Chapter II: Research methodology:

In this chapter proper and scientific research method was explained. Tools and techniques of data collection were also discussed. This chapter provides a new dimension to this research work.

Chapter III: Maulana Azad as a National Leader:

In this chapter three major dimensions of Maulana Azad as a national leader have been discussed. The three dimensions are as under:

Political career: Maulana Azad as a national leader, took part in freedom movement and joined Congress at the face of Khilafat
Movement and Non-cooperation Movement combined under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Maulana Azad as a Congress President in 1939 was a climax of his career. In this part his political ideas have been summarized in nutshell.

Educational career: Maulana Azad was a prominent educationist of his time. When he became Education Minister of Union Government in January 1947, he laid emphasis on higher education in particular and secondary education in general. To improve the academic system, Maulana Azad passed certain resolutions. He appointed the Univesity Education Commission in 1948 and Secondary Education Commission in 1952. Maulana Azad was an effective and equally excellent educationist and his views on national education have been presented in this part. This is core analysis of his journalistic writings.

Cultural career: Maulana Azad laid prime emphasis on culture for character building. He appreciated the Indian culture and the advocated that it is the responsibility of all of us to safeguard our culture at any cost. The cultural vision of Azad was perfectly well defined and well designed.

Religious: Azad put forth a new concept of common citizenship for Muslims and non-Muslims. He drew inspiration from his religious conviction through writings and thoughts of prominent political
thinkers and spiritual stewards. The spiritual and religious ideas of Maulana Azad were studied here and this can be treated as a new understanding.

Chapter IV: Maulana Azad as a Journalist:
In this chapter Maulana Azad’s contribution as a journalist was presented. His earliest publication as well as survey of literature of his writings has also been presented. Here his three newspapers Al Hilal and Al Balagh were prominently discussed.
Thus, in this chapter a totally new understanding of Maulana has been presented based on new source materials published and unpublished.

Chapter V: Maulana Azad as a communicator: Study of speeches.
In these chapter top speeches/other writings like telegrams, letters etc. of Maulana Azad available in various books and newspapers were studied. A qualitative content analysis was made and his ideas on different national aspects were properly summarized.
This is a unique effort made by researcher here.

Chapter VI: Conclusion and suggestions:
In this chapter first chapter summary was presented and brief findings were also presented one after other. New theoretical frame work has been presented here in this chapter.
6.4: New theoretical framework:

Maulana Azad was a top ranking Indian journalist having perfect nationalist vision. His two publications amply testify this phenomenon.

Al Hilal was a core of his contribution. The first issue of Al Hilal was published in July 1912. He manifestly edited this illustrated Urdu newspaper, which was being published every week. The said paper was designed on the western pattern of newspapers and in this process Azad was having a learned scholars and translators with him.

The objective of the Al Hilal was to spread political message as enumerated by Azad. In the issue of 8th September 1912 he published a letter from a friend who sought guidance on certain issue. Azad at the outset thanked the concerned friend for his generous appreciation of his religious expressions and views in the light of the following two points:

(a) political issues must be separated from religion

(b) Which group among the existing political group in India supports the cause of Al Hilal?

This was a unique example of attaining the journalistic goal by Al Hilal. In the issues of Al Hilal notices were also published.
6.5. Summary:

The model and design of the Al Hilal was on the lines of Egyptian paper Al Minor, which was being edited by Mohammed Rashid Raza (1865-1953). Raza was a great supporter of Pan Islamic and has met Azad in Lucknow.

Al Hilal was a scholarly venture to educate the Ulema, who in Azad’s opinion would be able to influence the Muslims and regenerate them. Al Hilal dealt generally with religious social and literary topics, but the political instances were always there to drive out foreign rulers from India. There was hardly any issue of Al Hilal which did not carry interpretation of some verses of the Quran. For Azad Islam was a answer to all the problems of humanity, but any difficult was that there was very few real scholars to comprehend the true significance of it. Some of his articles on contemporary Islam which appeared as a message. These articles shocked the very foundation of divide and rule policy of British raj. Through this newspaper Azad educated the Muslims and exhorted them to give up the mentality of aloofness and antagonism. Azad’s perfection in writings can be exhibited through his writings and speeches.

Maulana Azad’s writings truly manifest his perfect nationalist spirit, his liberal democratic ideas and secular viewpoint. His role as a
journalist was in tune with bringing the Muslims in the main stream of nationalist movement.

Al Balagh was also yet another newspaper which was published in the year 1915 from Calcutta. But the accounts of editorial and views written in both the newspapers were prominently related to issues on religion. In one of his writings he wrote that “The cause of decline of Muslims is disinclination from God and the teachings of religion and accepting the theory of the division of society.” Thus both the newspapers were mirrors of his writings.

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Maulana Azad was a journalist of number of newspapers. His views were firm like a rock and he manifested the truth through his writings which were true in its originality.

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Thus both the newspapers were mirrors of his writings he truly reflected hopes and aspirations of Indian minorities and brought them in the mainstream of nation building. His literary abilities, his urge for social service and his fascination towards nation building has been truly reflected in every inch and corner of his newspapers. It is true that he has reflected his editorial abilities and his brilliant scholarship through his writings in all the publications he had developed during the historical curse of time.

Maulana Azad’s contribution to Urdu journalism can be summarized as below:

1. Azad started the first political journal with photograph. The journal due to its good setting, beautiful get up and lay out frim and compact articles, and photos was an indication of higher advancement in techniques of Urdu journalism. The newspaper of that standard was rare at the prevalent time.

2. Azad took a bold and brave step to print his journal using “type”. The readers of that time did not like to read printed works in “type”. This notion was proved wrong as far as journalism is considered because the publication figure of Al Hilal reached more than 10000 numbers.

3. Azad first time introduced its readers about different varieties of topics and subjects. Therefore, the highest standard of
features, articles and composition were published on topics like Religion, Politics, Economics, Psychology, Geography, History, Biography, Social Science, Literature and present day problems and situations. Thus, it has shown the way for the journalistic world that this also can be done and incorporated in the journal.

4. The articles and works of well known authors of that time like Shibli, Iqbal, Hasrat Mohani, Sayyed Sulaiman Nadvi were published in Al Hilal. The roping in of the inteligentia of the society to contribute their work in the newspaper to reach the readers is also an important function of newspaper.

5. Maulana Azad introduced the new style of Urdu prose in Urdu journalism. Azad’s style of eloquence, power of oratory, verse and choice of Arabic, Persian and Urdu words were very useful and impressive during the period of agitation. It has shown the way for other newspapers to innovate different styles to achieve the set objectives.

6. The Al Hilal has also shown the way to Urdu newspapers to cover international news beside national news for its readers. Al Hilal covered the news and politics of Islamic world, Middle and Eastern Asia, Turki and Europe.
Al Hilal has contributed in increasing the Urdu vocabulary by giving new words, idioms, phrases, and scientific terms. Thus Maulana Azad has enriched Indian journalism through his able contribution.

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