CHAPTER II

Faizabad at a Glance
2.1 Introduction:

There are several traditions regarding the origin of the name and founding of Faizabad. It is supposed to be associated with a great saint who lived a local place on the right bank of Sarju river about half way between Faizabad. The Bhar and Rajbhars and Soeris were believed to have been in occupation of this region in prehistoric times, throughout the Faizabad district. The Bhars seem to have been assimilated into various Hindu castes and adopted their customs and habits. The present Faizabad, the previous Ayoudhya, was the main centre of education, and it is situated at East-South 18 Km from the Faizabad. The history of Faizabad becomes more important with the occasions of Firoz Tughluq (1351-88), the next Sultan of Delhi. In 1358-59, he marched against sultan Sikandar of Bengal but was compelled by reason of rain to halt at Faizabad. It was here that he conceived the idea of founding a town in the neighbourhood which might serve as a focal point for his military operations in Bengal. Before his time there was no town of an extent there but the sultan observing it as a suitable site on the bank of river Sarju. He stayed there for six months and caused a new town to be built, which he named Faizabad to commemorate the name of his cousin Muhammad Jauna.
From 1484-1525, Faizabad was under the control of Lodis. After defeating Ibrahim Lodi in 1526 at Panipat, Babur, sent Humayun with sultan Janaid and Haider Malik, towards Faizabad. Muhammad was defeated and driven out of Faizabad was made the governor of Faizabad.

"In March 1858, Kunwar Singh, the favour freedom fighter of Shahabad (in Bihar) marched towards Azamgarh and this caused anxiety to the British. Therefore, Edward Lugard was directed to march from Lucknow to Faizabad. When he reached Tighra on April 11, his troops were attacked by a force of 3,000 under Ghulam Husain. In the ensuing fight the freedom fighters lost. The next day Lugard reached Akbarpur and on 13th he arrived at Faizabad, where he relieved the Gurkha garrison by three companies of the 37th foot. He then proceeded towards Azamgarh, Ambedkar Nagar was still tense. In May, 1858, Joshi Singh made a raid on Machhlishahar, but he was defeated by the combined attacks made on him from every side. Both in Ayodhya and the Akbarpur, the British forces had a really tough time but in the end the Indian forces under Sangram Singh and Drigpal Singh were defeated and the British re-established their authority in the district."

"The history of Faizabad for the next thirty years or so is most uneventful. It continued to be a district under a district magistrate and this period may be viewed as one of administrative consolidation and establishment of law and order on a firm basis. It was only when the Indian National Congress was formed in 1885 that Faizabad had also some
political excitement and nearly a decade later a meeting was held in which was also attended by some government servants."

"In 1909, the annual session of the Indian National Congress was held at Varanasi and was attended by some young men of Faizabad. On return they conveyed the Congress message of the use of Swadeshi and the boycott of foreign made goods throughout the district with the result that although there was no political organisation in the district at that time, there was some sort of political consciousness which was further spread by the partition of Bengal in 1905. At the time the First World War started, one Mujtaba Husain, a noted revolutionary with vibrant nationalisation left Faizabad for America to learn the art of preparing bombs. The British wanted to apprehend him and unfortunately someone persuaded him to return to India. He was betrayed by his friend, arrested and convicted. His death sentence was, however, commuted to transportation for life. In 1917, a branch of the Home Rule League which was founded in 1916 by Annie Besant, started functioning in Fazabad also. The news of indiscriminate firing on unarmed and peaceful gathering at Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar (Punjab State) on April 13, 1919, had its impact on the patriotic young men of Faizabad who established a branch of the Indian National Congress, enrolled volunteers and held protest meetings and demonstrations in the district.

"In 1920, Mahatma Gandhi launched the famous Non-co-operation movement. His call for non-co-operation the use of Swadeshi, Khadi and
Charkha (spinning wheel), and boycott of foreign goods, cloth, and government schools and colleges, picketing of liquor shops, and found encouraging response in Faizabad also as in other parts of the State. The Aman Sabhas started by the government to undo the influence of the Congress entirely failed in their objectives and died a natural death. During this movement such nationalist leaders like Motilal Nehru, Smt. Sarojini Naidu, Jawaharlal Nehru, Madan Mohan Malaviya, Shaukat Ali and Mohammad Ali visited the district. They all addressed largely attended Congress meetings in Faizabad."

"The Non-co-operation movement, however, started by sending batches of volunteers to court arrest in defiance of the prohibitory orders. The number of such arrests and convictions then was only 75 and would have shot up but Mahatma Gandhi suspended the Non-co-operation movement in 1922 after the Chauri Chaura incident (in Gorakhpur district) which involved loss of a few human lives. The movement had no doubt aroused the consciousness of the people against alien rule and gave them confidence and courage to fight the British."

"In 1928, when the Simon Commission visited India, protest processions and demonstrations were organised in the district as elsewhere. Placards and banners with the words, "Simon go back" were displayed and black flags waved."

"In October, 1929, Faizabad was visited by Mahatma Gandhi. He was given a rousing reception by the people. He addressed a large audience
there. The Civil Disobedience movement was started in 1930 and the people of Faizabad took an active part in it. British goods and government schools were boycotted, shops selling liquor were picketed and foreign cloths and clothes were burnt publicly, and Khadi became popular. As a protest against Mahatma Gandhi's arrest that year for defying the Salt Act agitation took the shape of protest meetings; processions and hartals. The Salt Act was violated in Faizabad and contraband salt was manufactured."

"The government, alarmed at the mass enthusiasm for the movement, resorted to respective measures to curb it, meetings and processions were broken up by force and peaceful and unarmed demonstrators were subjected to lathi charges and wholesale arrests of not only Congress volunteers but even of those who remotely suspected of national sympathy."

"In spite of these repressive measures, the people of the district kept up their non-violent struggle, by courting arrests, organising political meetings and defying bans. They also hoisted he Congress flag in 1932 on the municipal board and district board buildings. The Civil Disobedience movement continued till 1934. In this connection about 72 persons were convicted and imprisoned in the district, and the total amount of fines imposed and realised from the people of the district amounted to Rs. 1,370. In 1935, the golden jubilee of the Indian National Congress was also celebrated in Faizabad with enthusiasm."
The district participated in the elections held under the Government of India Act, 1935. Two seats in the Provincial Legislative Assembly were allotted to the district and both were won by the Congress candidates. In 1937, the Congress ministry was formed in Uttar Pradesh. With the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the ministry resigned as the Congress decided not to co-operate with the government in the war effort.

In 1940-41 the campaign took the form of Individual Satyagraha and 3,000 volunteers were enrolled in the district to participate in the anti-war movement. About 157 people courted arrest in the district and were summarily tried and sentenced to imprisonment."

The Quit India movement was started in the district on August 10, 1942 when the news of the arrest of Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders on the previous day, reached Faizabad. On August 11, the Congress leaders and the students took out processions in Faizabad town and almost all the shopkeepers of the towns of the district observed hartal. The next day government offices and courts were picketed. At about noon a large crowd came to the collectorate to hoist the tri-colour flag on its building but it was dispersed by the police opening fire on the crowd.

2.2 About education and communication:

Faizabad is known as in its culture and education. It has created various eminent leaders, scientists, engineers and administrators serving all over India and abroad. Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Awadh University,
Faizabad (U.P.) is working in the field of education as a good affiliating University in India. It is connected from Allahabad, Varanasi, Mirzapur, Bhadohi, Jaunpur, Sultanpur by road and train. Faizabad is very famous for birth place of Lard Rama having culture and also well known for education centre in India.