PREFACE

During the British period, Indian society experienced a structural transformation, though to subserve its own interests. It inaugurated modern means of communication and educational system. Introduction of English education provided an opportunity to study the national struggle for freedom in different countries. Indian liberation movement derived inspiration from other national struggles in various countries of the world. Italian freedom struggle ranked one of the foremost among them.

This is a study of the impact of Italian nationalism on Indian freedom struggle spanning from the Italian renaissance up to the era of fascist Italy on the one hand; and from the Indian renaissance, as the landmark of the emergence of Indian nationalism, to Indian independence in 1947. This study analyses the historical overview of the Italian renaissance with special reference to its impact on Indian renaissance and subsequently the emergence of Indian nationalism. This study critically surveys the major development of Italy’s and India’s national movement, and political thought and actions of the nationalist leaders of these two countries. The main focus of this study is to evaluate the extent to which Italian nationalist leaders influenced Indian freedom struggle.

An attempt has been made to describe and analyses the emergence and development of Italian fascism under Mussolini; and the response of India’s nationalists to it. The importance of this study lies in the fact that it adopts a framework of investigation which incorporates all the diverse and interrelated issues in order to provide critical and total analyses on the subject.

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