

PREFACE

For well over four decades, preceding the transfer of power, the Indian political scene was stormed by a galaxy of leaders and illustrious personalities. Jawaharlal Nehru was one of those who played a crucial role in the political and constitutional evolution of India, emerging as an outstanding leader of the National Movement. Though there are several works on Nehru, the fact is that there has been no systematic study of his political activities and the significance of his immense role in the National Movement. It is therefore felt that there is still much scope for studying the work and thoughts of Nehru who was also a great thinker and a writer.

In the present thesis, an attempt is made to analyse and evaluate in an objective manner, the role of Nehru in India's National Movement. Further, it is the purpose of the study to put Nehru's thoughts and activities in a proper perspective, with a view to evaluate his monumental role in the National Movement. His participation in national politics during the most turbulent period (1912-1947) of the national struggle for freedom will be assessed with the help of a large body of unpublished and published source material collected at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi. This point of focus and frame of reference should make this a fruitful study.

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