

“A Theoretical Study on Prof. N.K. Sahu Contribution towards Modern History of Odisha”

Dr. Sumitab Nayak

Lect-in-History, Department of History, M.D College, Mandosil, Bargarh, Odisha, India

ABSTRACT

N.K. Sahu has contributed a lot for the reconstruction and enrichment of the modern history of Odisha. If Professor N.K. Sahu's contributions to the study of modern Odisha history are not acknowledged, the field of modern Odisha history will continue to be underrepresented in the historiography of the state. He took a great deal of motivation from Surendra Sai,¹ who had challenged the British authority in Sambalpur during the Great Rebellion of 1857. Surendra Sai was a revolutionary who had played an important part in that uprising. By penning a book with the title “*Veer Surendra Sai*”,² which was presented to the public as part of the festivities commemorating the one hundredth anniversary of the hero's passing, he paid a fitting tribute to the incomparable hero of Odisha. In response to a request from the State Government of Odisha, he penned a colossal work titled *History of Orissa Police*,³ which is used as a guidebook for students attending the Police Training Academy at Angul. These two publications are enough testimony to the scholarship of N.K. Sahu, which he has reflected in writing several aspects of the Modern History of Odisha, and these books provide ample witness to his scholarship.

Keywords: Freedom, N.K. Sahu, Surendra Sai, Odisha, Police, British, Revolution.

INTRODUCTION

The book entitled “*Veer Surendra Sai*” written by N.K. Sahu provides a wide range of knowledge on modern history of Odisha. The Chauhan-Rajput Clan was well-known for its bravery and patriotism, and Veer Surendra Sai was a member of that clan.⁴The Chauhans established themselves as a powerful power in the 8th century A.D., and from the 9th century to the 13th century A.D., they ruled the region that was located in the vicinity of Asirgarh.⁵The 'Tak Chauhans' were a branch of the Chauhan clan that participated in the battle of Tarain in 1191 and 1192 A.D. against Muhammad of Ghore. They were instrumental in the victory of the Chauhans.⁶However, with the death of Prithviraj Chauhan, who was both the first and the last ruler of Delhi, the Chauhan dynasty saw a collapse and spread out over India. According to *Kosalananda*,⁷which was written by Pandit Gangadhar Mishra, Ramaideva was not only a descendant of the Chauhan who had established in Patnagarh in Odisha, but he was also the founder of the Chauhan dynasty in Odisha. *Kosalananda* was created by Pandit Gangadhar Mishra. The poet followed the lineage of Ramaideva all the way back to Visaladeva, who gave his life in battle against the Sultan of Delhi in the first quarter of the 14th century A.D. Ramaideva's ancestry was discovered by the poet. In addition to his reputation for bravery and strength, Ramaideva attained the position of Governor of Patnagarh after marrying the daughter of King Narsimhadeva-III of Odisha. His son Bhanudeva-III took over as ruler after him.⁸

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In this article i have used different research design and survey data methods. Data was obtained via consulting written primary sources and archives. Likewise, secondary data were collected from written materials such as internet, journals, newspapers, published and unpublished materials. Thus, consolidated sources about topics of the study and related issues were reconciled and interpreted by narrative analysis systematic methods.

British Occupation of Sambalpur:

N.K. Sahu has provided a detailed description of the British occupation of Sambalpur in Chapter II of his book. In 1751, the Marathas were successful in capturing eastern Odisha; but, it wasn't until 1800 A.D. that they were able to take Sambalpur. Yet, this was just for a short period of time. After a short period of time, conflict erupted between Raghuji Bhonsle and

Bhup Singh, and eventually, in 1804, the British took possession of Sambalpur. In the year 1804, Major Broughtan was successful in seizing possession of Sambalpur from Tantia Pharnavis.⁹ On December 17, 1803, the East India Company and Raghujji Bhonsle-II came to an agreement that would become known as the Treaty of Deogaon. As a direct consequence of this, the Marathas handed up control of Cuttack to the British. Broughton wrote a letter to Rani Ratna Kumari of Sambalpur and other Principal Zamindars on March 26, 1804, informing them that an agreement had been signed between the British Government and the Court of Berar. As a result of this agreement, these chiefs would either voluntarily return to the authority and the dominions of the Marathas or they would be required to pay the British Government the revenue that they were paying to Raghujji Bhonsle. Broughton informed them.¹⁰

Family Background Of Surendra Sai:

The family of Surendra Sai was briefly covered by Prof. N.K. Sahu in this discussion.¹¹ He was the firstborn child of Dharam Sai and Revati Devi, who were both members of the Chauhan family. Surendra Sai was born on the day of the full moon in the year 1809. At Khinda, Surendra Sai was educated in reading, writing, and mathematics. His uncle Balaram Sai instructed him in guerrilla warfare and physical culture. He was skilled in the arts of shooting, horseback riding, and archery. The environment in which he was raised in instilled in him a profound sense of patriotism, although he loathed British control from the time he was a young child.¹² Surendra Sai weds Suvarna Kumari, daughter of Zamindar Hathibari, in the region of Sundergarh at the moment. She served as Surendra Sai's primary source of motivation throughout the entire ordeal. Surendra Sai had complete and utter loyalty from all of his younger siblings, who were all willing to do whatever their older brother asked of them.

After joining his nephew Surendra Sai in the revolution, Balaram Sai, Surendra Sai's uncle, resigned his position as Dewan of Sambalpur. Surendra Sai was Balaram Sai's nephew. As was mentioned earlier, the British government imprisoned Surendra Sai, his brother Udanta Sai, and his uncle Balaram Sai behind bars at the Hazaribagh Zail in the Central Province in 1840 in order to put an end to the movement. Balaram Sai passed away while he was incarcerated, but Surendra Sai and his brother Udanta were finally set free in the year 1857. Mitrabhanu, Surendra Sai's son, was educated in the revolutionary spirit by his mother Suvarna Kumari and his aunt Anjana, and he joined the rebellion in support of his father. Mitrabhanu was given the name Mitrabhanu. Surendra Sai and each of his brothers were instrumental in the uprising that took place.

Great Rebellion Of 1857 And Surendra Sai :

In 1857, a widespread uprising against the authority of the British took place, and it was known as the "Great Rebellion." The Revolt took a dramatic turn towards evicting the British from Indian territory under the excellent leadership of Nana Saheb, Tatyta Tope, Laxmi Bai, Kunwar Singh, and many others. The overthrow of British rule in India was the ultimate goal of the Revolt. In addition, Jagu Dewan and Raja Arjun Singh of Porahat played an important part in the uprising; nonetheless, on September 23, 1857, Lieutenant Birch conquered Porahat and confiscated the Estate. In October of 1857, Jagu Dewan, also known as Jagabandhu Patnaik, was apprehended and changed his name. He was the first person from Odisha to die as a martyr during the 1857 movement.¹³ The initial stirrings of the Great Rebellion of 1857 made their way to Hazaribagh. The dissident sepoys were successful in breaking into both of Hazaribagh's jails, which allowed them to free a large number of inmates. After being released from jail, Surendra Sai and his brother Udanta made their way towards Sambalpur as quickly as they could. There sparked a political uproar in Sambalpur as a consequence. Both of them were treated quite well by the citizens of Sambalpur and their respective families. The British government had become more concerned about the dire circumstances.¹⁴

N.K. Sahu has described the role that Surendra Sai played in the revolution of 1857 in chapter VI of the book. Almost immediately after being let out of Hazaribagh Prison, he began his journey to Sambalpur. The government of the United Kingdom began making preparations to deal with the crisis. The capture of both Surendra Sai and Udanth Sai is rewarded with a sum totaling Rs. 250, as stated by Captain Leigh's announcement. As a response to the request made by Captain Leigh, two companies of troops were dispatched from Cuttack to Sambalpur in order to put down the revolt. Because Captain Leigh was concerned about Surendra Sai's capabilities, he dispatched two sepoys and a Parwanah to meet with him as soon as possible.¹⁵ When Surendra Sai and his brother arrived in Sambalpur, they met with Captain Leigh and asked him to commute the remaining portion of their sentence. However, Captain Leigh told Surendra Sai to dissolve his soldiers and wait for the orders of the Government rather than granting their request. Capt. Dalton expressed his opinion that if the remaining portion of Surendra Sai's sentence was commuted, then he should not be permitted to stay at Sambalpur and he would have no claim to the ruling post of Sambalpur. It was learned from secret agencies that the revolutionaries were travelling around Sambalpur when the British were planning to exile Surendra Sai from Sambalpur. Around this time, the British were contemplating of sending Surendra Sai into exile from Sambalpur.

Although R.N. Shore accepted the recommendation, he contended that the amount was significantly lower when taking into account the annual income from Sambalpur as well as the pension that had been previously provided to the Queens of the

royal family. He went on to clarify that the compassion provided towards the Sai family was not due to any weakness of the Government but rather out of a genuine wish to achieve sustainable peace in the district. He said that this was explained in further detail. In addition, Major Impey proposed to the Government of Central Provinces that Surendra Sai be awarded a pension of 1,200 rupees per year, with the possibility that it could be enhanced to 1,500 rupees. The suggestion to pay Surendra Sai a yearly pension of 1,200 rupees was sent along to him by the Chief Commissioner.¹⁶ The Governor General in Council accepted the proposal, concurred that Rs.1200 was an appropriate amount for Surendra Sai, and authorised the payment to continue indefinitely. In addition, the services provided by Major Impey and R.N. Shore were acknowledged by the Governor General, and the sanction order was sent to Sir Charles Wood, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, together with any and all correspondences about the matter. The British government has expressed delight over it, and they have praised Major Impey for his contributions in putting an end to the revolution.¹⁷

Course Of The Rebellion Of Surendra Sai:

Even after Surendra Sai turned himself in, his brother and other rebel leaders such as Kamal Singh, Mohan Singh, and Salikram Bariha kept fighting for the Chauhan family's right to be Gadee of Sambalpur. This was the case even after Surendra Sai had surrendered. The efforts of Major Impey to negotiate a cease-fire with the rebels were fruitless. Mahadev, Bijaya Rout, and Hara BagartyGumanu, amongst others, were some of those who backed Kamal Singh. They engaged in unlawful behaviour, including the commission of crimes and dacoities, and they brought about anarchy. It was pretended by the authorities to be the work of Surendra Sai, but Major Impey did not believe their explanation. The reorganisation of the police force was the first significant challenge that the government faced after Sambalpur was moved from the jurisdiction of the Commissioner in Cuttack to that of the Central Provinces. The position of Superintendent of Police was given to J.N.Berill, while the position of Deputy Inspector General of Police was given to Captain Stewart in the state of Chhatisgarh.

As Surendra Sai and six other rebels were brought to Asirgarh fort, there were already eleven Arab Chiefs being held in captivity within the fort. As a result, within a span of just four months, a brand-new structure was built for Surendra Sai and the other individuals. Although there are no records to indicate in which cell Surendra Sai lived and drew his last breath, Prof. Sahu, who travelled to the fort on his own, stated that the seven suits that were created for the seven convicts were lined up in a line from east to west. Each room featured its own private bathroom as well as a sizable water storage tank just in front of the room. Within the confines of the fort, they were free to walk around as they pleased.¹⁸ In 1866, Surendra Sai and six other individuals, together with their attorney M.T.Pearson, presented a petition to the Governor General in Council protesting the unlawful arrest of the individuals. The Governor-General was unable to identify any grounds for changing the directives. In order to determine whether or not their incarceration was in accordance with the law, the Government of India questioned the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces. The response given by the Chief Commissioner did not meet my expectations. The British administrators and officers did not come to a consensus about the decision to release Surendra Sai and his followers, citing a variety of different reasons for their disagreement. In 1876, the topic of release was brought up once more by the Commissioner of Chhatisgarh; however, at that point, Medini Sai had already passed away. Mitrabhanu Sai and Dhruva Sai were granted their freedom on the condition that they would never set foot in the Sambalpur district again. Dhruva Sai and Medini Sai were initially allowed to go free in November 1876 after posting surety bonds in the amounts of s.1000 and Rs.5000; however, they were not completely released until January 1877.¹⁹ The other four, Surendra Sai, Udanta Sai, Kamal Singh, and Khageswar Dao, chose to spend the rest of their life inside the fort. Veer Surendra Sai died suddenly in the early hours of the morning on February 28th, 1884, and was cremated within the fort after his death.²⁰ The life and times of a great revolutionary and patriot were brought to a close with the passing of Surendra Sai.

POSITION OF SURENDRA SAI IN THE COURSE OF HISTORY

A personal reflection on Veer Surendra Sai is offered here by Prof. Sahu. In 1827, when he was only 18 years old, Surendra Sai began his lifelong career as a born rebel and an adversary of British power. He battled for 37 years against the British in several battles. He spent the first 17 years of his life incarcerated in the Hazaribagh Prison, and the latter 19 years of his life confined within the Asirgarh Fort. He was not just a revolutionary, but also an inspiring leader who persuaded the Gonds, Binjhals, and Khands to rebel against the alien control of their land. His sphere of influence is approximately 80,000 square kilometres, stretching from Bastar and Jeypore to Sargaja and Jaspur, as well as from the district of Sambalpur all the way to the state of Rewa. N.K. Sahu states the following in his evaluation of Surendra Sai:

“ The oppressed indigenous people were defended by Surendra Sai, who fought for their rights. It wasn't just the freedom of Sambalpur that motivated him; rather, it was the idealism that drove him to fight against British imperialism. Although the 1857 Revolution was defeated by the end of 1858, Surendra Sai continued to fight bravely well into the following decade. The British generals like as Major Forster, Captain Lucie Smith, and others who are credited with suppressing the

revolution in other regions of the country were unable to capture Surendra Sai. Major Impey, upon realising his talent and ability to battle in the hills and jungles, as well as the popular support that was behind him, attempted to adopt conciliatory methods in an effort to settle down the revolution. Surendra Sai, who is considered to be one of the most influential revolutionary figures in history and a fierce warrior who never experienced defeat in his entire life, capitulated with complete trust in the sincerity and credibility of the British government.”²¹

The revolt did not come to a successful conclusion with Surendra Sai's capitulation. As a result, members of the British bureaucracy and the military hatched a plan to kidnap Surendra Sai and his relatives. The British judiciary was responsible for exposing the deceptive attitude of the administration, but Surendra Sai and six other followers were imprisoned in Asirgarh fort, which was also the location where the great leader passed away. Surendra Sai was the most competent candidate for the position of Gadee of Sambalpur. Not only did the regular people revere him tremendously, but so did the zamindars, the gauntias, and the feudatory chiefs. He was a courageous patriot who inspired the confidence of the people. He was a magnificent martyr who battled for his country and his people against one of the biggest powers in the world. He died for his country and for his people. He did not give up because he was defeated, but rather because the British on their side offered him peace and amnesty, and he placed his hopes in the kindness and generosity of the British administrators.²²

An objective examination of Surendra Sai's revolutionary activities indicates that he battled not just for regional interests but also against British supremacy. This conclusion is reached as a result of Sai's efforts. As a result, he is comparable to Garibaldi of Italy as well as Kossuth of Hungary. In the annals of the Freedom Movement, he holds a firm and unique position, and he is someone who deserves the attention of the entire nation.

History Of Orissa Police- 1961:

His massive work, *History of Orissa Police*, was published in 1961, at the time when N.K. Sahu was serving as the State Editor and Gazetteer for the Government of Orissa. This was the second significant contribution that Prof. Sahu made to the contemporary history of Odisha. Even in modern times, the trainees of the Odisha Police Department refer to this book as the Bible. The esteemed historian and contemporary leader Dr. H.K. Mahtab, who served as Chief Minister of Orissa during the time period covered in this book, penned the book's forward. On the occasion of the Centenary Celebration of Indian Police in Odisha in 1961, Sri J. C. Ghosh, I.G.Police, and Sri S.K. Ghosh, I.P.S. asked Prof. Sahu to prepare this volume within a time frame of four months. In order to do so, N.K. Sahu was required to go through a great deal of trouble and anguish.²³

In this book, he provides a thoughtful analysis of the development of law and order, police administration, criminal behaviour, and the legal system from ancient times up until the present day. It was in fact a condition of 'Matshya Nyaya,' which Kautilya later on reflected in his Arthashastra and affirmed that the King had the ultimate power to maintain law and order. "Bigger fish consuming the lesser ones." He argued that the Arthashastra's depiction of a system of police administration and espionage was devised with the intention of reducing criminal activity and preserving law and order.

Description Of Law And Order (Police Administration From Ancient To Modern Orissa) In The History Of Orissa Police Book:

From the Vedic literature and the Dharma Sastras, N.K. Sahu has deduced the necessity of upholding law and order and providing protection for the vulnerable against the powerful. The ancient Indian thinkers were the first to consider the concept of a state that was ordered. Ancient Greeks and Romans both made efforts at establishing world order and peace during their time. According to the Aitareya Brahmana,²⁴ god vanished when he and the people of the world were unable to establish peace and order by acts of kindness. But, in response to Prajapati's petition, God incarnated the king as a man in order to safeguard humankind. The divine qualities of the Moon, the Sun, Indra, Vishnu, Vaisravana, and Yama are all combined within the King to form a single divine being. Hence, the monarch is symbolic of the state, which is accountable for the maintenance of order, regulation, and safety. Taking into consideration the 'Santi Parva' of Mahabharat, Professor Sahu here gives the picture of the state of nature, which was a state of complete and utter happiness.²⁵ On the basis of these sources, the Muslim rulers of the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughals attempted to build their very own legal system and police administration. The Brits are given credit for bringing contemporary techniques of administration and village police by the time the 19th century rolled around. Asoka's administration oversaw the formation of a police force in Kalinga.

Police Administration Under Kharavela:

After Asoka, Kharavela of the Chedi dynasty is said to have been the one who established an organised police administration in Kalinga. This is something that N.K. Sahu mentions. It is known from the sculptures located on Khandagiri and Udayagiri that policemen were accompanying the monarch and princes on religious processions as well as hunting expeditions at the time. Under the reign of Kharavela, there were many tiers of law enforcement authorities, including female officers in some capacities. During that time period, the police played a vital role, and the only reason why

community life in Kalinga was tranquil was due to an efficient police administration. The military success that Kharavela had contributed to an increase in his sense of internal security. N.K. Sahu made the observation that Kharavela's goal was to instill patriotism, lawfulness, and consciousness in the populace.²⁶ His control of the police department made improving society a higher priority than cracking down on wrongdoing and corruption. During the time of Kharavela, the police therefore played an important part in the governance of the state. Next Kharavela comes Kalinga from the Police Administration. Prof. Sahu hypothesises that the political and administrative history of Odisha between the 3rd to 5th centuries A.D. was not available with material that can give a picture regarding the Police administration of this country. Hence, the political state of Kalinga following Kharavela is unclear. Near the close of the third century A.D., the kingdom of Kalinga fell under the control of King Guhasiva. As a result of Guhasiva's passing, the dominance of the Murunda in Kalinga was brought to an end, and the history of Kalinga began a new direction. The prevailing philosophy of Indian philosophers has a significant impact on the way in which the monarchs manage their administration. The officers engaged in military and police functions were 'Mahasenapati', 'Dandanayaka', 'Mahadandanayaka', 'Senagapas', 'Gaulmikas', 'Arakshadhikritas', 'Asvavarikas', 'Bhatamanushyas', etc.²⁷

Police Administration In Odisha During The Medieval Period:

Throughout the early mediaeval period, the records kept by the Eastern Gangas and the Sailodbhavas indicate that there was an organised administration in place in Kalinga. The 'Dandapasika' or the 'Dandodharanika' oversaw the operations of the Police Department.²⁸ They were accountable for the upkeep of law and order across the nation, as well as the apprehending of thieves and other offenders and the meting out of appropriate punishments to those individuals. The Dandapasika was supported by a vast number of subordinates, such as 'Chatas', 'Bhatas', 'Vallabhas', and 'Vaiswasikas', etc., and the king would frequently rely on them.

Prof. Sahu was of the opinion that the individuals referred to as "Vallabhas" and "Viswsikas" were most likely the loyal officials of the King and that they were responsible for the intelligence wing's operations. The 'Dutaka' was an executive officer who served as the officer in charge of the registration of records. In addition, he was responsible for the tasks of the police-patrol. According to the job description, the "Pratiharin" was the high-chamberlain, and his responsibilities included taking care of the royal household as well as ensuring that the Palace remained peaceful and orderly.²⁹ As per the Kanasa Copper Plate Grant,⁶³ the police officials in order of rank were, 'Mahasamanta-Maharaja', 'Rajaputra', 'Kumaramatya', 'Uparika', 'Vishayapati', 'Tadayuktaka', 'Dandavasika', 'Stanantarika' and others like, 'Chatas' and 'Bhatas' etc.³⁰

Police System In Odisha Under The Mughals And Marathas:

In the year 1576 A.D., Odisha was subjugated by the Mughuls and placed under their Suzerainty. This occurred under the reign of Akbar. As part of Raja Todarmal's reforms to the administrative structure, the nation was reorganised into 'Sarkars', 'Praganas', and 'Taluks', and new officers were given titles such as 'Talukdar', 'Kanungo', and 'Makadam.' The Dewan was responsible for the collection of land revenue and the upkeep and maintenance of peace and order. They worked under the direction of the 'Subhadar.' Under the direction of the Dewan, the members of the 'Darogas' carried out their duties as police officers. At the district level, the police system was well organised, and individuals known as "Kotwals" were appointed in the district headquarters and sub-divisions to ensure that peace and order were preserved. The 'Fauzdar' was an officer of the court who worked under the 'Qazi' and was also responsible for performing police duties. Both the "Choukidar" and the "Rahdar" were local police officials who worked in the villages.³¹ On the other hand, things got much worse during the reigns of Jahangir, Shahjahan, and Aurangzeb.

In 1751, the Marathas were successful in seizing control of the ruling power in Odisha, and they immediately started about the process of reorganising the administration following the model of the Mughul administration. The entire state of Odisha was divided up into two sections and given the names "Mughalbandi" and "Garjat." The Moghulbandi region mostly encompassed the coastal plain that ran from the Suvarnarekha river in the north to the Chilka lake in the south. This plain reached all the way from the north to the south. The Marathas subdivided this region into five distinct "Chaklas," or divisions, which included the cities of Pipli, Cuttack, Bhadrak, Soro, and Balasore. Each Chakla was made up of a certain number of Praganas, and there were a total of 150 Praganas that were managed by 32 Amils. During the reign of the Marathas, one of the most prominent executive police officers was known as the "Kotwal." Prof. Sahu claims, with proof from the Oriya writer Brajanath Badajena's Samara Taranga, that in the Garjat area the military and police worked together to maintain the region's peace and security.³²

Police Administration in Odisha During The British Rule:

One of the most important events in the history of Odisha was the British occupation of the region in the year 1803. The British government restructured the administration of Odisha by appointing a commissioner for the general superintendence of Cuttack. During this time, Cuttack was the capital of Odisha. There were two Magistrates in Cuttack; one served the Northern section of the city, while the other served the Southern division. Both of them were accountable to the

Commissioners. Under regulation number four passed in 1804, the criminal law and rules that were in effect in Bengal were extended to the state of Odisha. In accordance with the regulation, the Magistrates were granted judicial powers in addition to the authority to exercise supervision over the Police. The Magistrates were given the authority to form thanas and appoint police 'Darogas' (Police Stations). The Britishers appointed "Darogas" and "Khandayats" to supervise police functions, while the "Paikas" were in charge of carrying out the responsibilities of the local police force. In this location, N.K. Sahu made the discovery of the "Goyenda system," which was developed by the Brits to learn confidential information about individuals, government officials, and criminals. The Goyendas continue to serve in the police force despite the fact that they have a physical disability. In the year 1829, the position of Superintendent of Police was terminated, and the Collector - Magistrate position was established in its place. In the year 1829, the position of Divisional Commissioner was established, and with it came the task of maintaining order within the Police Department.³³

The Arms Act Of 1878:

The Indian Arms Act - XI 1878 was put into effect over the entirety of British India, with the exceptions of Angul and Banki.³⁴ The people who lived in these two Mahals required firearms in order to defend themselves against the wild animals that roamed their lands, which is why it was forbidden for them to own it. Yet, there was not truly any rainforest in Banki, and wild animals were noticeably absent from the area. So, according to Prof. Sahu's reasoning, Banki and Angul Mahalas were most likely disregarded because the territory in question belonged to the Garjat region. The exemption that had been granted to Banki was afterwards revoked by Notification No. 2356 dated December 31, 1879, issued by the Home Department of the Government of India.³⁵ This was done due to the widespread belief that the exemption should not have been granted. Also, in the year 1902, the British authorities in Bengal established the Police Commission, which made a number of suggestions for how the Police Department should be improved. During the time period between 1860 and 1960, there was a significant shift in the administration and management structure of the police force. During the course of this century, a variety of new police policies and regulations were enacted, and the administration of law enforcement grew to become an essential component of everyday civic life. With the conclusion of the Police Commission in the year 1902, the Government of Bengal authorised the formation of the Police Band, which had a Band Master, a Band Sergeant, and a total of 24 Bandsmen. In 1921, the Secretary of State approved the Police Band Party for membership in the political system. Following the reorganization that resulted in the formation of the new Province of Bihar and Orissa, the top police officers were composed of the following personnel: 03 Nos. of Deputy Inspectors General, 25 Nos. of Superintendents of Police, 25 Nos. of Assistant Superintendents of Police.³⁶ The Royal Commission on Public Service in India, which was established in 1912, the Government of India Act, which was passed in 1919, and the Lee Commission, which was established in 1923 were all indicators that pointed in the direction of Police records.

Police Administration In Odisha Since 1st April 1936 :

On April 1, 1936, the Old Odisha Division, a portion of the Madras Presidency, and a little piece of the Central Provinces were merged together to form the new province of Odisha. There are six districts that make up the brand new province of Odisha. On April 1, 1936, Mr. E.A.O. Perkin was appointed as the first Inspector General of Police for the newly formed Province. Mr. I.C. Mc Nally was promoted to the position of Assistant Inspector General of Police and was given responsibility for the Criminal Investigation Department. A Superintendent was chosen to lead each of the six districts, as well as a Superintendent for the Railway district and another Superintendent for the C.I.D. There were a total of six Deputy Superintendents in the state of Orissa, one each for the districts of Cuttack, Puri, Sambalpur, and Ganjam, as well as for the Railways and the Criminal Investigation Department. One of the three Assistant Superintendents was assigned to the Angul Subdivision of Cuttack, while the other two were assigned to the Koraput area.³⁷

The government authorised four inspectors, fourteen sub-inspectors, ten assistant sub-inspectors, four havildars, and fifty-seven constables; however, the majority of these individuals chose to return to Madras and the central provinces, which resulted in a decrease in the force's overall strength. After that, these positions of inferior authority were appointed to their new occupants. 1937 saw the adoption of a standard weighting system across the entirety of the province. With the General Elections of 1937 in the provinces, the populace gained power over the police force. During the time of King George VI's coronation, the Odisha Police Department was represented in the United Kingdom by a Dy.Supt., one Inspector, one S.I., one Havildar, and two constables. Moreover, there was one Havildar. The author did a wonderful job of illustrating the significance of the role performed by the provincial police in this story. 106. In 1938, the Police Department dealt with issues pertaining to agrarian disturbances, youth movements, and student unrest.

Military Police Administration In Odisha:

N.K. Sahu has conducted extensive research into the foundations of Odisha's Military Police Administration. He mentions Act-V from 1861 as the first statute that established a separation between the police and the armed services. Just after the famine that occurred in 1866 in Balasore, Odisha, there was an increase in the frequency of violence and disorder, which necessitated a reorganisation of the police force along military lines.³⁸As a direct result of this, the government of Bengal

issued orders to provide talwars to one-third of the police officers working in the Balasore district. In accordance with the Act of 1892, which led to the establishment of the province of Bihar and Odisha, two companies of Military Police were established in the newly formed province. Company 'A' was composed of nearly equal numbers of Hindus and Muslims and was stationed in Bhagalpur. In contrast, company 'B' was made up of Gurkhas and was located in Ranchi. As Odisha was established as a distinct province on April 1, 1936, the presence of military police became significantly more noticeable throughout the province.

Railway Police Force In Odisha:

It is important to note that Prof. Sahu did not omit to discuss the development of the railway police force in Odisha. It goes without saying that the British introduced the railroad system to India in 1853 while it was still under their governance, and Lord Dalhousie was in charge of that. Because of the rise in train traffic, protecting the railways, the passengers, and the commodities became increasingly difficult. As a result, in December of 1866, a Special Railway Police Force was established. From the very beginning, the responsibilities of the Railway Police were split between the Government Police and the private police. The Government Police were in charge of monitoring passenger traffic, and the private police were in charge of monitoring goods sheds and waggons. In 1899, the Madras-Kolkata line was extended via Odisha, which resulted in the construction of the first railway line in the state of Odisha. On April 1, 1936, the New Province of Odisha was established, and it was provisionally decided that the new province would administer the entire line of the Bengal Nagpur Railway in both Bengal and Bihar. Additionally, it was decided that the post of Superintendent of Police, B.N. Railway, along with its complementary inferior charge, should be assigned to that Province. The New Province of Odisha was given these responsibilities on April 1, 1936.

Other Departments Under The Police Administration:

There were also other departments which Sahu has mentioned in his book which are given below:

Traffic Police Of Odisha:

The activities of road patrolling and traffic control carried out by the Odisha Police are not left out of N.K. Sahu's discussion at any point. The creation of the new province of Odisha in 1936 led to a large increase in the amount of road traffic in the towns of Cuttack, Puri, Balasore, Sambalpur, and Berhampur. As a result, 400 policemen were assigned to town patrol in 1937. 1940 was the year when the town of Cuttack saw the first implementation of a traffic police system, and 1941 was the year that Berhampur followed suit. According to the information provided by the author, by the year 1952, traffic police had been established in all of Odisha's major cities. In 1960, in order to prevent roadblocks, the number of traffic police officers in both Cuttack and Bhubaneswar was raised.³⁹

Police Fire Brigade In Odisha:

Also Sahu offers some insight into the development of the Police Fire Brigade in the state of Odisha. He claims that because Odisha is such a poor and economically underdeveloped state, the majority of the population lives in thatched huts, which are always at risk of catching fire. As a result, on March 1, 1942, the first Fire Service in Odisha was established in Cuttack with one Sergeant Major, one Sub-Inspector, two Havildars, and eleven constables. This was done with the intention of reducing the number of fires that occurred. Together with the establishment of the position of Fire Officer on June 21st, 1943, the purchase of contemporary fire-fighting equipment was also made. By July 1944, trained fire men had been distributed to a number of different districts. The Odisha Fire Service was turned into a permanent establishment on March 1, 1946. At that time, it had a Fire Officer, Six Station Officers, Six Asst. Station Officers, 25 Havildars, and 85 Firemen. In 1950, a Sub-Fire Station was established in Bhubaneswar, and in 1954, one was established in Sambalpur. Aska, Sonapur, Athgarh, Jeypore, Dhenkanal, and Bhadrak together with Khurda were the locations of the first seven 'C' class Fire Stations to operate in 1955.⁴⁰

Radio Service For The Police Department:

The wireless grid for the Police Department went into operation on April 1, 1943, with the installation of ten R.A.F. type 1082/1083 sets that were obtained on loan from the Eastern Command. On matters pertaining to wireless communications, the Assistant Inspector General served both as the Controlling Officer of the Wireless Grid System and as the Liaison Officer to the Government of Orissa. He was responsible for both of these roles. 1946 saw the installation of wireless stations in the headquarters of six different districts, as well as the sub-divisional headquarters of Angul and Russelkunda. Following its installation on a permanent basis in 1948, the Odisha Police Wireless Grid System saw a rise in employee strength in the years that followed. By the year 1958, the state of Odisha had a total of 33 wireless stations, and the wireless Grid was equipped with 18 VHF sets.⁴¹ Cuttack is home to the Grid's primary workshop, which has been an integral component of the organization's border patrol and protection efforts.

Pigeon Delivery Service For The Police Department In Odisha:

The Carrier Pigeon Service was first formed in Odisha in 1944 on an experimental basis in the districts of Balasore and Koraput. Prof. Sahu has provided a description of this service, which can be found below. 1946 saw the expansion of its jurisdiction to include the districts of Ganjam, Puri, and Sambalpur. At the request of the Police Superintendent, a trained pigeon sub-inspector was stationed in Cuttack with the mission of inspecting the lofts and providing advice regarding the management of lofts. The pigeon service was helpful in areas that lacked appropriate workers as well as roads that were difficult to reach in order to transport messages from one location to another. Almost immediately after the unification of the states, the Carrier Pigeon Service was expanded to include all of Odisha's districts. By 1953, the overall number of Pigeons had increased to 614, while the number of Squeakers had decreased to 234. During the second general election held in Odisha in 1957, the Midterm Election held in 1961, the flood that occurred in 1959, and other times when natural disasters occurred, the Police Pigeon service was of great assistance. The development of more efficient methods of communication and transportation, on the other hand, led to the Pigeon Carrier Service being deemed unnecessary.

Police Relief Fund:

Almost immediately following the establishment of Odisha as a self-governing province, the state of Odisha gave birth to the idea of police welfare. The government instituted several forms of social assistance, such as the betterment of health and sanitation, the provision of housing, and the provision of relief for those who were in need. The Police Relief Fund was established in February of 1937, and construction of family housing for police officers and junior authorities began in 1946. In 1947, measures were implemented to combat the spread of malaria in Police Colony, and the year 1947 also saw the opening of amusement facilities in Police Clubs and Police Canteens. In 1949, the position of Police Welfare Officer was established, and canteens as well as recreation clubs were opened up at the district headquarters. In 1951, preparations were made to begin the process of establishing elementary and primary schools in police lines for the purpose of educating the children of police officers.

Police Family Welfare Associations:

The goal of establishing Police Family Welfare Associations at district headquarters was to foster an atmosphere that was friendly and cooperative while promoting the welfare of police personnel. Maternity and child welfare centres first opened their doors in Jharsuguda, Bhawanipatna, and Sambalpur Police Line in 1957. In 1958, a training class focusing on Cottage Industries, Arts and Crafts was made available in Cuttack for the purpose of instructing the female members of the families of police personnel. In 1959, the activities of welfare organisations within the district were brought under the purview of the Welfare Advisory Board. Beginning in 1959, the Relief Fund was split into two separate funds: the Police Sports Fund and the Welfare Fund.

Education For Police Personnel During The British Period:

Professor Sahu has made an effort to clarify the educational opportunities available to Indian police officers. When the British first established a police force in India, they hired individuals from the commissioned ranks of the indigenous armed forces to serve as police officers. After the year 1893, the recruitment of police officers in England and India transitioned to the use of competitive examinations. The Police Commission that met in 1902-03 suggested that officers receive at least two years' worth of training at an English residential university in the areas of Criminal Law and Practice, the taking of notes of cases in Criminal Courts, Indian Language, Indian History, Geography, Ethnology, and Riding. But, the government did not agree to it, and instead they mandated that the rider spend 18 months training in India after they passed the test. In the province of Bihar-Odisha, there was once a Police Training College located at Hazaribagh. In 1914, a training school for constables was established in Chauliaganj, which was located in Cuttack. On the other hand, by the first of January 1925, the Cuttack Constable Training School was merged with the Nathnagar Training School.⁴²

CONCLUSION

Thus, it is important to note that N.K. Sahu was responsible for the creation of two enormous masterpieces that are now considered to be integral components of the modern history of Odisha. By revealing Veer Surendra Sai's bravery and heroism directed against the British authority in Sambalpur, he shed light on the important role that Veer Surendra Sai played on a national scale. He had done an excellent job of exposing the failure of the British government as well as the unlawful confinement of Surendra Sai at Asirgarh Fort, which is where he passed away. In the same vein, he never lied to the state government of Odisha, in whom they had placed their trust so that he might write the history of the Odisha Police. Professor Sahu shed some light on the development of the police system across ancient, mediaeval, British, and post-independence periods. His explanation of the development of the police system in Odisha, including the Police Band, the Police organisation at the district level, the Military Police, the Railway Police, the Criminal Investigation Department, the Fire Service, the Radio Service, and the Pigeon Service, among other things, is a significant contribution to the history of modern Odisha.

REFERENCES

- [1]. N.K.Sahu, Veer Surendra Sai, Department of Culture, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar, 1985.pp.5-9.
- [2]. Ibid.P.6
- [3]. N.K.Sahu, History of Orissa Police, Bhubaneswar, 1961.
- [4]. 'Genealogy of Chauhan Rulers of Patna' N.K.Sahu. Veer Surendra Sai, pp.393-394.
- [5]. Ibid.p.393.
- [6]. Ibid,
- [7]. G.Mishra, Kosalananda, Cuttack, 1929,XXII, p.12.
- [8]. Ibid.XX, pp.48-51.
- [9]. Letter No.3, Dt. 19 January, 1804, From the Commissioner for the Affairs of Cuttack to Governor-General Wellesley.
- [10]. Ibid.,
- [11]. Letter of Col. Broughtan, Date 26 March, 1804 to Rani Ratna Kumari of Sambalpur and Principal Zamindars.
- [12]. Ibid.
- [13]. L.S.S.O'Malley, Bengal District Gazetteers, Sambalpur, Calcutta, 1909, p.34.
- [14]. R. Temple, Report on the Zamindaries and Petty Chieftainships in the Central Provinces, 1863,p.23.
- [15]. Ibid.,
- [16]. Lt. no. 182, Date 16 May 1862. From Major Impey to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.
- [17]. Lt. Date 14 Feb 1862, From Major Impey to R.N.Shore, Commi- sioner of Cuttack.
- [18]. Lt.No.3523, Dt. 1 Aug 1864, From C. Bernard, Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, to Col. H. M. Durand, Secretary to the Government of India.
- [19]. Lt. Dt. 28 March 1865, From the Secretary to Government of India to the Secretary to the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.
- [20]. Lt.No. 1600 Dt.17 March 1865 from Lt. Col. H.D.Taylor, Inspector General of Police, Central Provinces, to the Secretary to Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces.
- [21]. N.K.Sahu, op.cit., p.303.
- [22]. Lt.No.P 3/134, Dt.28 Feb 1884, from C. Thomas Moore, Commandant Asirgarh with appended Medical Certificate by M. Collies, officiating garrison surgeon, Asirgarh.
- [23]. N.K.Sahu, op. cit., pp.319-20.
- [24]. T.H.Aufrecht, (ed), Aitrea Brahmana, Bonn, 1879, I. 350.
- [25]. Mahabharat, 'Santi Parva',p. 59.
- [26]. Ibid., p.36.
- [27]. Ibid., p.40.
- [28]. El, Vol.IX. p.6.
- [29]. Annual Report of the Archaeological Survey of India, 1903- 04, pp.280, 283.
- [30]. El, XXVIII, p.332.
- [31]. Ibid., p.66-73.
- [32]. Ibid., pp.77-83.
- [33]. Ibid., pp.86-87.
- [34]. Government of India Notification No. 2356 of Home Department dt.31.12.1879.
- [35]. Lt.No.230, dt.22 Feb 1895, Cuttack, from the Magistrate of Cuttack G.Stevenson to the Commissioner of Orissa Division.
- [36]. Mr.L.F.Morshead's note dated, the 20 August 1912 to the Chief Secretary, Bihar and Orissa in response to the telegram from the Government of India, Home Department No. 1246 Police, dated the 19 August 1912.
- [37]. N.K.Sahu, op.cit., pp.197.
- [38]. N.K.Sahu, op.cit., pp.292-321.
- [39]. Ibid. pp.371-72.
- [40]. Ibid., pp.377-78.
- [41]. Ibid., pp.379-81.
- [42]. Ibid., pp.382-85.