

Indira Gandhi as Durga in Indian politics

Sunita Kumari

Research Scholar, Department- Political Science, RKDF University, Ranchi

ABSTRACT

Mrs. Indira Gandhi's name is immortal as the most popular politician of the 20th century. Mrs Gandhi was the most powerful woman of this millennium, who may have always been controversial, but with whom the people of India had such an emotional connect that it is difficult to express in words. It would not be wrong to say that Indira was a woman of tough decisions. She was a soft-spoken woman with an impressive personality and knew the art of implementing her tough decisions fearlessly. Indira Gandhi's one-and-a-half-decade journey as prime minister of the world's largest democracy was both dramatic and terrifying. Political experts believe that she was a wonderful politician, whether it was the decision to impose emergency in the country or the attack on separatists in Punjab, once she took a decision, she did not back down. Indira had inherited power but the situation was very difficult, Indira was the target of the opposition, even she was called a dumb doll, but Indira showed stars to her opponents in the day itself, she stopped speaking to those who called her a dumb doll. Did it The past, present and future of this country seem to be united by being associated with Mrs. Indira Gandhi in such a way that it is not possible to separate the two. Fact: Due to the closeness of this history, Mrs. Gandhi's personality developed amazingly and in her personality, the qualities like foresight, unshakable self-confidence of resolved thinking, continuous enthusiasm and strong feeling for world peace were included together.

Keywords: Indira Gandhi, politician, history, personality, self- confidence

INTRODUCTION

Mrs. Gandhi was always in the company of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Certainly she was a history in herself, whose overall impact is clearly visible on Mrs. Gandhi's philosophy of life. Because of her fearlessness and amazing courage, the leader of her opposition, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, called Indira the incarnation of Durga. Mrs. Indira Gandhi is called the iron lady and history maker of India. Undoubtedly, she did many such works, due to which she became immortal forever in Indian history. The efforts made by him to eradicate poverty are commendable, so it is said about him that he made public respect accessible to the corridor of power and today the decision of public participation in power was the result of his thinking. The rights that the Gram Panchayat has got in the country today, it is because of him only.

Mrs. Gandhi made it clear that India has a sense of coordination. India does not want tension and war in the world. It is the result of Mrs. Gandhi's feeling that India is the leader of the world's non-aligned movement. It is the result of Mrs. Gandhi's continuous efforts that even after creating a deadlock by some countries, the countries of the world could agree on a world dialogue to understand each other's problems and to think about the proper development of all. "She made constant efforts to create a suitable atmosphere for world talks, and this effort yielded promising results in the three-day conference of seven major capitalist countries in Vasio (France) that began on June 6, 1982".

Going back in history, such a vibrant woman is not found till ages back. Mrs. Gandhi was a woman of generous and infinite patience without any sense of vengeance. He was not seen to be indifferent to the problems.

Due to this quality, she was called Iron Lady. Whether the problem was arranging housing, food and clothes for crores of refugees during the freedom struggle of Bangladesh, communal riots happening in different parts of the country, living abroad. Whether it was the problem of migrant Indians or finding ways to relax the tension and maintain peace in the world, she never lost her balance but found solutions to all the problems of Dharapur. She was always aware of the safety and facilities of the weaker section of the society. He always took care not to allow misuse of power. When a person like Jaiprakash Narayan incited the army to rebel and a few capitalists spoiled the economy, Mrs. Gandhi tried to maintain the same system by declaring a state of emergency in the country and she declared the emergency on June 26,

1975. Saved the situation from getting worse. Defeated for the first time in the 1977 general elections and embroiled in an escalating conflict with separatists, mostly from Punjab, after returning to power in 1980, Indira Priyadarshini Gandhi served as Prime minister of India for three consecutive terms from 1966 to 1977.

Biography of Mrs. Gandhi:

When Indira Gandhi was born, most of the mothers wanted that their sons should get son Ratna who would take their legacy and carry forward their name. At the birth of Indira, her grandmother was a little sad and said that it is a girl. But his grandfather told his wife that Jawahar, this daughter would prove to be better than a thousand sons. When Indira Gandhi was born, the First World War was nearing its end. The Gandhian era had begun in India. Gandhiji's influence was spreading all around and Gandhiji was determined to fight his countrymen against foreign rule. The young Jawaharlal Nehru, who returned after spending several years in England, was greatly attracted by his personality because of his views that India's independence could be won through non-violent non-cooperation. In this way, Indira Gandhi was born in a historical era from every point of view.

Indira, called Durga in Indian politics, was born on 19 November 1917 to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and his wife Kamla Nehru, she was their only child. Indira's paternal grandfather Motilal Nehru was a wealthy barrister from Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh. He had immense affection for his grandparents, parents. Indira was young but the events taking place in her house had a big impact. Indira's early education was in Pune, which lasted for 4 years, which Indira finished in only 3 years, after that she studied at Shantiniketan. Indira described the qualities of art, culture and civilization. Indira learned Manipuri dance and also showed interest in art and music. Indira Gandhi's mother's health worsened, her father took her to Switzerland, where she completed her studies in a nearby school, eventually her mother's death in 1936. After that, Nehru ji got admission in Oxford University where she started studying history. She was in Britain in 1939. This was the time when Indira was maturing politically. Indira also studied at the Visva Bharati Vidyalaya built by Rabindra Nath Tagore in Santiniketan, where Ravindra Nath Tagore named her Priyadarshini for her prowess. Indira was married to Feroze Gandhi on 26 March 1942. In 1944, the first son was born in his house, whose name was Rajiv Gandhi and in 1946, Sanjay Gandhi was born. Now two flowers were blooming freely in Indira's courtyard. Indeed Indira Gandhi was very fortunate, who got the love of two sons, both of whom started turning from black to flowers. Pandit Nehru had great love for Indira's sons. After becoming Prime Minister, Indira remained very tense for 1 or 2 years, she used to feel uncomfortable and try to avoid those programs where she had to speak, due to nervousness, her head started to ache. The opposition was always the aggressor, meanwhile, Indira took many revolutionary decisions, due to which she came to be known as Durga in Indian politics.

Major works of Indira Gandhi:

Nationalization of Banks On July 9, 1969, the session of the Congress General Committee started in Pune, Bangalore. Indira ji's determined personality emerged from this convention. She wanted that some such decisions should be taken in this session, which would strengthen the dynamic policies of the Congress. That's why they kept the subjects related to nationalization of banks, civil property limit control and minimum wage fixation of laborers in the session for decision. Deep differences arose among the members of the committee on the question of nationalization of banks. SK Patil and Morarji Bhai were criticized for their criticism. Morarji Bhai, being his Finance Minister, spoke of not allowing this proposal to be accepted and SK Patil gave a statement against it even to the press. Despite this huge opposition, Mrs. Gandhi stood firm for the acceptance of these proposals. Despite opposition, Mrs. Gandhi succeeded in getting the resolution approved. This decision was welcomed all over the country and he nationalized 14 big banks, the banking services which were limited to big businessmen and farmers now started reaching the general public and common farmers of the country.

Work done by Indira for the landless and weaker sections of the society Prepared a 10-point program to improve the condition of the poor people. Privy purses of kings and nationalization of banks were also included in this programme. She had to face huge hurdles in implementing the 10-point program but Indira Gandhi was not discouraged by this. When the session of the Congress was called to give a practical shape to the 10-point programme, Chandrashekhar openly said that those who do not believe in the socialist policies of the Congress should be thrown out of the Congress. Indira encouraged the Green Revolution, as a result of which earlier India had to import food grains from America, India started exporting food grains. Loan moratorium and loan waiver schemes were made practical in rural areas. Debt-free and loan schemes were made to increase the working capacity of the weaker sections. Funds were collected by the provincial governments to give loans to the weaker sections of the people. In order to improve the economic condition of agricultural laborers, minimum wages were fixed by law. Arrangements were made to punish those who neglected it, workers were forcibly released from industries, lockout retrenchment was also banned and plans were made to invest more and more capital in heavy industries to improve the economic development of the country. Went.

Creation of Bangladesh

In East Pakistan, the army of Pakistan had made the lives of common people hell, Pakistan's military dictator Yahya Khan had ordered to crush the feelings of the people of East Pakistan with military force on 25 March 1971. After this Sheikh Mujib was arrested. Refugees from East Pakistan started coming to India, with massacres in Bangladesh, houses were set on fire. People were thrown out of their homes. Lakhs of people were crossing the border and reaching India. Due to this India's economy collapsed, but Mrs. Gandhi did not panic, she kept preparing her countrymen to face this crisis. India has always welcomed refugees, how could it abandon that tradition now? Gradually the number of these refugees reached one crore but Mrs. Gandhi did not give up. Arrangements were made for them to stay and eat, for this arrangement they took all the public places. Schools and colleges were all closed. The freedom fighters of Bangladesh named their organization Mukti Vahini. On 3 December 1971, Indira was holding a public meeting in Lakata. In the evening of the same day, Pakistani Air Force planes bombed the military air bases of Pathankot, Srinagar, Amritsar, Jodhpur and Agra on the Indian air border, Indira decided to teach Pakistan a lesson. Indian Army gave a befitting reply to Pakistan, the war ended in 13 days, on 16 December our army captured 93000 soldiers of Pakistan, Indira changed not only the history of Pakistan but also the geography, East Pakistan became independent. On the initiative of Indira, a new country named Bangladesh was formed.

Historic victory in 1971 Lok Sabha elections:

Election of 1971 was Mahabharata, The Kauravas (opposition parties) were all united against the Pandavas (Indira Gandhi). This was the first time after independence that no political party in the country contested the Lok Sabha seats alone. The Congress (that) had made an alliance with many parties. The election took place, there was a huge improvement in the condition of the Congress. It got 350 seats, while it had 221 members when the Lok Sabha was dissolved. Due to which the Congress (N) had gained 129 seats. The Congress (WoH) got only 16 seats and became only a regional party. The surprising thing is that all the main opponents of Indira ji bit the dust. SK Patil, Sucheta Kriplani etc. maharathis could not emerge victorious. The public gave full support to Indira. Indira described her victory as the victory of democracy, secularism and above all the people. On 17 March 1971, she was elected leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party in the Poona Lok Sabha and formed her new cabinet on 18 March. Right to property Socio-economic changes in the constitution and the biggest slogan "(remove poverty) Mrs. Gandhi made Harijan leader Jagjivan Ram sit on the post of Congress (N) president. Mrs Gandhi had become a symbol of change in the Congress party and the country.

Indira's nuclear test in 1974:

On May 18, 1974, Indira showed the threat of her power to the whole world by conducting nuclear tests in Pokhran. Indira, who had got the title of Gungi Gudiya, had now become The Iron Lady. On 18 May 1974, a nuclear explosion was carried out peacefully in Pokhran, Rajasthan. The test was named Smiling Buddha because it was Buddha Purnima that day. It was a fission test. It was done several feet below the ground and it is believed that 12 kilotons of TNT was released from it. The purpose of this nuclear test Smiling Buddha was to see whether the home-made nuclear device explodes or not. It was Indira who shocked the whole world by getting the first nuclear test done. No one had any idea that India would achieve the feat of attaining nuclear power.

CONCLUSION

Indira Gandhi's tenure shows what kind of national leader Mrs. Indira Gandhi was, who has enhanced India's pride at the international level. She was one of the great presidents of the world who took over the reins of a vast country like India. That too at the time when there was a heavy storm, who after Nehru could not even remove this question mark, the then Prime Minister Late Lal Bahadur Shastri, that he died suddenly. And Mrs. Gandhi came to the responsibility of running the country and she handled the reins of the country very well. is counted in His personality and work is inspirational, the work done by him in the education world during his prime ministership and his political life is ideal. Therefore, the work done by Mrs. Indira Gandhi as the Prime Minister was commendable. And that is why she was called Durga in Indian politics.

REFERENCES

- [1]. WWW Orphoneline. o r g
- [2]. WW PM India. G O V. I N
- [3]. Https Ruddh Navbharat Times. indiatimes.com
- [4]. Https rwdh H.I.M. Wikipedia. o r g
- [5]. Nirmohi Deepchandra □ World's most struggling woman Mrs. Indira Gandhi?
- [6]. Chaubey Awadhesh Kumar □ Indira Gandhi.



- [7]. Ghosh Sagarika and Indira the most powerful Prime Minister of India
- [8]. Iyer, Shankar A.C. Dental India: A History of the Nations Passage
- [9]. Bhagat, Usha. Indira ji's role
- [10]. Gandhi, Indira.