





















# Patriot Driven To Madness Cruel Official Persecution A Fit Case For Consideration

(It was urged by Mr. Jannadas Mehta and other members of the Democratic Party in the Bombay Assembly that if the Bardoli and the Karnatak peasants were to be given back the forfeited lands, the principle should be extended to all cases in which properties had been confiscated by Government for political reasons. This would make the policy uniform and equitable and would remove the invidiousness of the present limited restoration of lands.

We reproduce below a petition sent to the Governor by the son of a deceased patriot, the late Waman Sakharam Khare of Nasik. The offence in this case was propaganda for Swadeshi and the cash allowances known as 'Mokasa allowances' were not hereditary in the family but were purchased by the late Mr. W. S. Khare himself.

The stark perversity of Government action will be seen from triple punishment inflicted on the late Mr. Khare. Besides taking heavy surities under Chapter VIII of the Criminal Procedure Code, Mr. Khare's Samad to practise as a pleader was suspended and the 'Mokasa allowances' purchased by him were forfeited. It is no wonder that owing to this cruel blow the late Mr. Khare developed temporary insanity and was for three years detained in a Lunatic Asylum. This is, in our opinion, a fit case for the consideration of the Congress Ministry, because Mr. Khare suffered for a strictly non-violent and Congress movement. —E. M.]

To, His Excellency, The Governor-in-Council, BOMBAY.

The humble petition of Prabhakar Waman Khare residing at Nasik, most respectfully sheweth—That allowances of a total amount of Rs. 253-7-0 were annually payable to the petitioner—the late Waman Sakharam Khare.

The late Mr. Khare purchased these allowances by two different deeds, 30 years ago in the name of Waman Khare was entered in Government Records with respect to the allowances purchased by these two deeds as payee under the orders of the Commission and he had been receiving the money up till 1908.

2. Waman Sakharam Khare took an active part in the political and economic movements in the country carried on by the Indian National Congress. He advocated Self-Government and appealed to the masses to use Swadeshi cloth and other home made goods to the exclusion of foreign goods and in the course of this he gave up drinking. He was an important and responsible position such as the Vice-President of the Municipality of Nasik and the District Board of Nasik, and he practised as a pleader in the different courts of Nasik District, and to carry on his propaganda work he delivered speeches in different villages and towns.

3. As the attitude of Government 30 years ago towards these movements was one of suspicion, the proceedings in the year 1908 were taken against the late Mr. Waman Sakharam Khare under Chapter VIII of the Criminal Procedure Code on information that he had been disseminating seditious matter by means of speeches and as a result of the proceedings the late Mr. Khare was ordered by the District Magistrate of Nasik to execute a personal bond of Rs. 2500 with sureties of a substantial and respectable security for Rs. 1000 each to be of good behaviour for one year. The bond was immediately complied with. The late Mr. Khare as a pleader was suspended and taken back. This followed the order of the forfeiture of the Mokasa allowances which were 'fit till then' annually to the late Mr. Khare.

4. Soon after these orders were made, the late Mr. Khare developed symptoms of temporary insanity so serious that he had to be detained in the Lunatic Asylum at Dhawar for about three years. Some time after the late Mr. Khare was discharged from the asylum. Then he made an application to the High Court, Bombay, praying for the reinstatement of the late Mr. Khare on the ground of the application and was granted the same by an order directing the release on 25-5-1915. But by the time Mr. Khare was sent back he had become physically and mentally so weak that he could no more do any kind of work, neither professional nor public, and he retired and spent his life and ultimately died in Nasik on 12th Jan. 1928.

5. The petitioner may be permitted to state a great deal of what has taken place in the political atmosphere of the country after the introduction of the Provincial Autonomy in this Presidency. Responsible Government has

been accepted as the ideal for the Country. Words, ideas, phrases which were denounced as seditious 30 years ago are no longer understood to spread any longer under Government and the leaders of the Indian National Congress are chosen as Ministers, and a great deal of work has been issued from persons in office and authority to use Swadeshi goods to the exclusion of foreign goods in Government offices.

6. Under these changed circumstances, the petitioner humbly submits, the continuance of forfeiture of the Mokasa allowances against the interest of the petitioner is not proper and just. The late Mr. Khare did nothing wrong by his speeches in 1908 than enhance the reputation of the Congress and popularise the movement of temperance, use of home-made goods and exclusion of foreign goods. These radical changes in the attitude of Government towards these movements will be noted, largely weigh with your Excellency in considering the prayer of the petitioner.

7. The provisions of Chapter VIII of the Criminal Procedure Code in which Sections 108 and 118 occur are only preventive in their scope and object. They are not intended to punish offences. The order of forfeiture of the Mokasa allowances should be understood to have been made with the same object as the order of personal recognizance with sureties.

8. The petitioner therefore, humbly submits that the order of forfeiture of the Mokasa Cash allowances against the petitioner may be annulled and the allowances may be made annually by payable to the petitioner as he is the only heir of the deceased Waman Sakharam Khare and that the arrears ordered to be paid to the petitioner or his order under the circumstances, for which he prays for the long life and prosperity of your Excellency.

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,  
Sd/-P. W. KHARE,  
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## Driven From Lisbon To Paris

### PORTUGAL—A COLONY OF BRITISH CAPITAL

At last I sailed away to Lisbon with a few shillings to land. My acquaintances on board were a Portuguese couple and a mechanic both English. During the travel they were different from the "high brow" Englishmen we are accustomed to deal with in India. Who was the high brow Englishman in India?

#### Indian Culture

When I landed in Lisbon, I was informed that I had to pay a head-tax upon landing and it amounted to £ 1. I had not a penny again, I would not be allowed to pass the bar unless I paid. The English mechanic volunteered to lend me the money out if I repaid. I agreed and gave him my friend's address in Cascaes near Lisbon, where all people who can afford rent or own a villa for residence in summer is King Manuel's time. I thought I would somehow settle down in Portugal with the help of my friend. I was too tired already with a year of continuing wandering without a penny, though it were by every wind and wave, I was first put up in my friend's villa but the very next day after my arrival it was transferred to the house of a Member of Parliament—very nice elderly gentleman—Dr. Lacorda. He was interested in Indian culture and used to read a lot of books and calculated the age of the earth more exactly than any and that their invention of the decimal system had revolutionised mathematics and thus all sciences.

#### Juice of Rotten Grapes

When I first landed, my dress was very shabby and I could not introduce me in that style in that town. So my friend kindly gave me the suit of a brother of his who had died some months earlier. I was only sleeping in Dr. Lacorda's villa except in my friend's house nearby. I made acquaintance with wine for the first time. When table wine was served and I tried it, I could not understand what the pleasure there was in drinking the juice which nearly smelted of rotten grapes. I did not think it had alcohol in it, however little, nor was considered medicinal in properties. For the first time, I was living in a European family and had to learn to use knife and fork properly at table, especially as my hosts were aristocrats. Except my friend, none of the family understood any English. But my friend was most of the time away on duty and it devolved upon the other members to keep me engaged. So gradually, I tried and could understand what was being said at table, which they thought was a great progress.

The English mechanic companion on board steamer came to me

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and my friend generously paid what I owed him.

I was living like a well-to-do tourist thanks to the good position of my friend's family, and it is more than a great honour done to me when people that I was also guest of the Dr. M. P.

#### Secret Servicemen

I was also taken into the Casino there and introduced to several people. My dreams of settling down in Portugal were shaken in a couple of days. One fine morning my friend rushed into my room in Dr. Lacorda's house, asking me to dress up quickly as I was summoned to the Ministry of the Interior. He said that in the dead of night, Secret Servicemen had come to his house and wanted to remove me at once but when they were told I was sleeping in the M. P.'s house, they could not do so, as he was immune as parliamentarian. Thus I was spared the misery of sleeping in the lock-up down in Portugal but to be taken to Lisbon and to the Ministry of the Interior. In those days, if anyone was denounced even anonymously as an anarchist or a terrorist, he was arrested as he was once spied upon by the Island of Macao in China to die a slow death there, unless someone warder killed the accused quickly. Not only the man accused but all his relations and friends had to be prepared to be deported. Yet in the streets of Lisbon, there was no sign of revolt and all the "devilish" and dancing night clubs were quiet in Portugal. I was not so much worried about my fate as that of my friend and his family, as I did not see any terror since the visit of the Secret Servicemen in the dead of night. I had not been two days when the trouble started although I entered the party late and was not travelling like a long escorted by a man had to mystery to me how and why especially the latter. The Government considered me so dangerous as the Minister of the Interior was not an hour is very much to be avoided by a man in the ordinary, below the ordinary, walk of life.

We went to Lisbon early in the morning and the Ministry of the Interior in Lisbon was as it were the Interior in London and dangerous business to the State. But hours passed till the gentleman entered his office in the afternoon past 3 P. M. If any office-work came on some morning, he will be warned. But the important ministers who save the State can come any hours late. So mine was not his comes-perhaps.

#### Do You Know Bomb-Making?

At last, the Minister entered into his own domain in respectable style. After a few minutes, the potential energy of the State law and order was asked to come in. The Minister was kind enough to give me a seat in spite of my criminal position.

There was a letter before him which he read first. While reading he asked me where I came from. I told him I came from India. He said you go there 2-3 times a week. I said I wanted to join the Ruffians. What did you want to do there?—I liked to help them in fighting? Oh, you wanted to become what is his name—(Ighamk) chief of S. India, yes—Shivaji? He remarked, adding "you want to found an empire like him!" I told him in answer: I am not a great man nor would you be on like Shivaji. "Yes, yes, I know", he retorted.

The next question was: Do you know bomb-making?—"Sorry no". He kept quiet instead of putting

further questions on that point, as I thought, he would.

The third question was: What do you intend to do here? "I only want to settle down and make my life myself in Portugal." "I have no objection in staying here but you must place your name under police supervision and cannot change your residence without my permission. I answered: "No, I don't want to stay in this country under these conditions since I wanted to live as a free man." "Sorry, I cannot do otherwise." Then I am going away from this country? "Where do you want to go to?" "I will leave for France." "All right: When are you leaving? I have to send a man to see that you leave." I fixed my eyes on the word "and immediately he can send his man at a particular hour to "see me off."

He asked me to write my answers to the three questions on a paper and sign it. Why I saw that the questions came from the Ministry in Lisbon, and he had to send a signed paper (from me). I saw the heading of the letter on the table.

This "minister" of an independent country was formerly chief officer of Portuguese India and he studied the history to the effect that Shivaji was not in every school-child "knows" that India. If Shivaji was European, history might be written otherwise, as a ruler, whether he failed or succeeded, to found an Empire.

#### A Colony of British Capital

I suspected that Portugal was a colony of British capital, for all the municipal works were done by the successive British Companies, such as tram, gas, electricity, and I was told by a man from Portuguese East Africa that he holds "her colonies" only with the benignity of the British authorities in the adjacent British territory. If someone escaped to Portuguese East Africa, the British authorities sent British policemen to catch him and the action was ratified formally later by the Portuguese authorities. I have known a case where an Indian refugee fled away from Goa with only a semblance of formality. But I never thought till I had to answer the Minister of the Interior in Portugal, that Portugal itself was colony in spite of a different colour painted on the map of Europe. No wonder, Portugal was a colony in the side of the allies during the Great War.

On the appointed morning, the plain-clothesman came to the house and saw that I was ready to start and accompanied and observed me till I got into the train for Paris. He was not in my mind. I was also glad to lift the burden of my friend's family about deportation to Macao by leaving the land, although one was never sure that he would be deported for giving me refuge. But Lacorda himself would have been deported if it was not for his high and respected position.

#### Annual Reading

Send your date and time of the time of writing the letter and approximate age. You will be furnished with a list of books on the following lines: income, expenses, unrecouped, and all important accounts. Give your reading time. Give your reading monthly details. Rs. 1-8. One year's reading mostly especially for merchants and business men. Give your questions regarding future Hanuman Joytisha Ashramam, Tirutani, S. India.

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