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నిర్బంధాలు, అజ్ఞాత జీవితం, ఆదాయం లేక పిల్లలు, భార్య ఆకలితో అలమటిస్తున్నా నమ్మిన సిద్ధాంతానికై మనోదైర్యాన్ని వీడకుండా పోరాడిన అవిశ్రాంత యోధుడు. రాష్ట్రస్థాయిపార్టీ బాధ్యతల్ని మోస్తున్నా విజయవాడలో ఒక మిత్రుని భాళీ స్థలంలో పూరిపాక నిర్మించుకుని కాలంగడిపారు. అనారోగ్యంతో జ్ఞాపక శక్తిని కోల్పోయిన స్థితిలో కూడ ఏనాడు అసంతృప్తి కాని, పార్టీకి నష్టం కలిగించే పల్లెత్తుమాట కాని మాట్లాడని క్రమశిక్షణ కలిగిన కార్యకర్త రామం. జీవిత చరమాంకంలో సుమారు ఆరు సంవత్సరాలు మతిస్థిమితం లేకుండా, ఎవరినీ గుర్తుపట్టలేని స్థితిలో మృత్యువుతో మూగగా పోరాడుతూ ఆ మహావీరుడు 1994 నవంబరు 27న తన 84వ ఏట కన్నుమూశారు.

సంప్రదించిన అధారములు

1. ఉద్ధరాజు రామంగారి రుమార్లు బాపిరాజు గారి గుండి సేకరించిన రామంగారి జీవిత చరిత్ర కరపత్రాలు, కొన్ని ఆంధ్రపత్రిక పేర్లు
2. ఉద్ధరాజు రామం భవనం ప్రారంభ సంచిక, సావనీర్, సి.పి.ఐ(యం) ఏలూరు, 1994
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OUTRAGES AT PALACOLE IN 1942 QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT

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Palacole is situated at a distance of 9.6 km., from Narsapur. It has a railway station on the Nidadavole-Narsapur branch line. The people of Palacole actively took part in the Non-Cooperation, Salt Satyagraha and individual Civil Disobedience Movements. In 1942 Addepalli Satyanarayana Murty,* the President of town Congress Committee and Chairman, Municipal its of Palacole played a prominent role in the politics of Congress organisation in Palacole. On August 10, 1942, he issued an appeal to the people of West Godavari in general and to the business community in particular to stop exporting the necessary commodities to the areas outside the district, anticipating their scarcity in times of war and the natural calamities. He also appealed to look after the welfare of the poor by giving them loans, etc. He emphasized that every village and every town should become self-sufficient.¹

The people of Palacole were deeply shocked by the arrests of Gandhi and other Congress leaders on August 12, 1942. The Palacole Municipal Council approved the resolution of the A.I.C.C. strongly condemning the measures adopted by the government for putting down breaches of peace and resolving to close schools and office under its management on August 14 as a mark of protest.²

On the very day, telegraph wires were cut between Palacole and Lankalacoderu and also near Veeravasaram and Gorintada. The train services were dislocated.³ On August 16, railway sleepers were removed near Lankalacoderu.⁴

On 16th the death of Heeralal Mahadeva Desai was announced over All India Radio. This sensational news made the people of Palacole suspect the government of foul play. Next day, the town of Palacole observed a complete *hartal* as a protest against the sudden death of Mahadeva Desai. Under the leadership of Datla Sitarama Raju,* a great procession was conducted in which about 2,000 people participated. He organised a meeting at local municipal high school grounds and delivered an inflammable speech to execute the resolution of All India Congress Committee: expressing condolence on the death of Mahadeva Desai, the students decided to boycott the school for 10 days.⁵ Datla Sitarama Raju was immediately arrested by the Palacole police and was sentenced to six months rigorous imprisonment from September 22, 1942.

Police stations also became targets of attack. On the August 17, the crowd at Palacole smashed the quarters of the Sub-Inspector and the police constables. They also assaulted the police on duty

in the Sub-Jail and the Sub-Treasury and caused serious injuries to one of the policemen and took possession of the carbines from them. Seeing the situation getting out of control, the reserve police opened fire on the mob in which one person was killed.⁶

On the same day about 12.00 noon, a mob about 2,000 stormed the Palacole railway station under the leadership of Tatamki Narasimha Sarma, Tadi Simhachalam, Paparti Venkata Raju, Pilla Bullaiah, Pratti Krishna Rao and Raja Suryanarayana Raju.

Tatamki Narasimha Murty broke open the doors of store room with crowbars, took tins of kerosene oil, and set fire to the railway station and records. Tadi Simhachalam, Raja Suryanarayana Raju and some other students set fire to all the wooden furniture making use of the kerosene in the station. All the parcels in the station, ticket stock and cash were burnt. The goods shed was gutted. The yarn and cloth bales in the shed were worth sixty thousand rupees.⁷ But in the government records it was shown as one lakh of rupees.⁸ Then the mob of agitators went to the toddy shops and burnt them down, as the owners of the shops did not respond positively to the appeals of the picketeers.⁹

Then a mob of two thousand strong tried to break open the cloth shops on the main road. But Addepalli Satyanarayana Murty, Municipal Chairman received the news of the violent acts of the mob and went to the market. He courageously faced the crowd and prevented them from looting the shops. He promised the crowd that he would see that the poor would be supplied with 8 sares (8 kgs.) of rice each for one rupee, and it was done immediately.¹⁰ He also promised that the same thing would be continued. Later, after two hours some people forced their entry into the rice shops on the outskirts of the village and took away some bags of rice. On receiving this news, Bolla Venkata Subba Rao, a prominent local leader rushed to the spot and prevented people from indulging in such improper and violent activities.¹¹

On August 20, Palacole Municipal Council passed two resolutions at an urgent meeting at 3.30 P.M. under the Chairmanship of Addepalli

Satyanarayana Murty. It passed a condolence resolution on the sudden death of Mahadeva Desai and adjourned the meeting for 5 minutes. They passed another resolution to close the local high school from 18th to 27th and all the elementary schools from 19th to 26th in the month.¹² On August 23, association of village officers, Narsapur taluk met at Palacole, passed a resolution condemning the arrests of National Congress leaders and demanded their release. The association appealed to the British Raj to establish the National Government with the help of all political parties to maintain peace in the village.¹³

On August 27, Poduri Perraju* was arrested in Palacole under the Defence of India Rules and sentenced to 6 months rigorous imprisonment by Joint Magistrate, Narsapur. On August 31, Addepalli Satyanarayana Murty, Kakarlamudi Bhaskara Rao were arrested and taken as detenués.¹⁴

On September 3, 1942 the Palacole Municipal Council was superseded for a period of six months by the Madras Government, for passing a resolution on August 12, 1942, condemning the arrest of Congress leaders. T.D. Suryanarayana Rao, Ex-Councillor was appointed as special officer of Palacole Municipality.¹⁵ Government prohibited the meetings, processions and gathering of not more than 5 persons from September 9, 1942 to October 9, 1942.¹⁶ On September 18, 1942 in Pedamamidipalli village situated in the Palacole station limits of the West Godavari District, three persons addressed a meeting of about 50 people and made fiery speeches. They were arrested and prosecuted.¹⁷

As a response to the arrest of Addepalli Satyanarayana Murty, the Municipal Chairman, local high school students started picketing at Municipal High School on September 21, 1942. The police and civil guards arrested Gatali Venkata Vijaya Rama Rao, Bommakanti Prabhakara Sastri, Datla Sitarama Raju, Allu Ramalingayya, Mamillapalli Somayajulu, Ravuri Srirama Murti, Kalidindi Narayana Raju. A nuisance case was registered against them. The Sub-Magistrate, Narsapur conducted trial and fined Rs.20/- each or in default two days imprisonment. All the students refused to pay the fine. Therefore they were put in prison for two days.¹⁸

The railway authorities had estimated the value of the damage caused to their properties at Palacole and Lankalacoderu railway stations and telegraph lines at Rs.55,071/-.¹⁹ Under Section 3 of the Collective Fines Ordinance, 1942, No.XX of 1942, His Excellency the Governor of Madras were hereby pleased to impose a collective fine of Rs.1,01,257/- on the inhabitants of Palacole village.²⁰ Collection of fine was started on January 26, 1943 and within 4 days approximately almost all the fine was collected.²¹

On February 14, 1943, the Government of Madras reinstated the municipal council with 16 nominated members and they would continue to be members till February 16, 1944.²² It met in municipal building on March 1, under the presidentship of P.M. Nayak, I.C.S., Sub-Collector, Narsapur, Bolla Subba Rao was elected Municipal Chairman.²³

In connection with the burning of the railway goodsshed at Palacole on August 17, 1942, the Sub-Inspector of police filed a charge-sheet against (1) Tatamki Narasimha Sarma, (2) Tadi Simhachalam, (3) Paparti Venkata Raju, (4) Pilla Bullaiah, (5) Pratti Krishna Rao, and (6) Raja Suryanarayana Raju on September 19, 1942 in the court of Joint Magistrate, Narsapur. The accused pleaded 'not guilty'.²⁴ All the seven accused were convicted and sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for two years and to receive 5 stripes. Moreover they were convicted to various sentences in different cases. The judge ordered that the sentences on all the seven accused should run concurrently.²⁵

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10. *Andhra Patrika*, August 26, 1942, p.4.
11. *Ibid.*, August 23, 1942, p.4.
12. *Ibid.*
13. *Ibid.*, August 27, 1942, p.3.
14. *Ibid.*, August 31, 1942, p.4; and *Krishna Patrika*, September 19, 1942, p.10.
15. *Andhra Patrika*, September 4, 1942, p.3.
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22. *Ibid.*, February 15, 1943, p.2.
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