



Mahapurush Srimanta Sankardeva as the Propounder of Communism

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Abstract:

Neo-Vaishnavite Movement is a vivid and epoch-making great event for Community lives which was flourished in 15th Century in Assam. Srimanta Sankardeva was an epoch-maker of the phenomena. Mahapurush Srimanta Sankardeva was succeeded to link Assam into the main stream movement which witnessed the birth of new ideas leading to the rise of new religions, founded on the liberal doctrine of Bhakti which shaped a revolutionary character in India. After the establishment of Empire in Assam by the Ahoms, they became successful to dominate the entire Brahmaputra Valley. But those inhabitants included many tribes and diverse races with their own and distinct faith and creeds. At that time, it was Sankardeva, who through the propagation the “Eksaran Harinaam Dharma” (Submission to Lord Krishna and Krishna alone) has introduced the Assamese Community as a whole with Communism for the first time based on the foundation of concept of one India. Gurujana (“The Saint” Sankardeva was also known as) had upheld the ‘Bhakti-Dharma’ (Hindu religious faith and practices with devotion to God) as the religion of Common People mixing the Communist perception. He had taken ‘Bhakti-Movement’ as equipment to establish a Communist Society indifference to caste, creed or colour division, to disregard of traditional rites, rituals and ceremonies in 15th Century. Mahapurush (Great Saint) Sankardeva had accepted the Sri Krishna Culture as basic powerful foundation for the establishment of Pure and New Democratic-Communist Society. He preached the message of ‘Bhakti’ in the language of the people, which he placed superior to liberation (*Mukti*). Srimanta Sankardeva will remain as the lighting force for time immemorial among the contemporary Assamese separatist society through his preaching of democratic communism.

0.01: The Bhakti (Devotion to God) Movement of India is the Changing Event or Spirit of Indian History. The Bhakti Movement(s) of various parts of India are conceptualized with diversified manners for the various environment and cause of effects relations. The fruitfulness of waves of Bhakti Movement has been being consumed by the people of Assam, which was established through ‘Eksaran’ Path of Neo-Vaishnavite Religion by Mahapurush (Great Saint) Srimanta Sankardeva carrying the waves of Bhakti Movement to Assam. The waves of Bhakti-Movement provided enrichments in all sides and every nook and corner in Assam. The ‘Eksaran Naam Dharma’ (Spiritual Faith on One God concept) which was established by the Gurujana (Great Saint or Spiritual Leader) has introduced the Assamese Community as a whole with Communism for the first time based on the foundation of Undivided Indian Nation. Gurujana (Religious Leader) had tried to establish the Communism in the scattered Assamese society through the Eksaran Naam Dharma without maintaining apolitical philosophy. It is a scholarly

matter of research how Sankardeva had carried the waves of Communist Philosophy before three centuries of its rise, to clean the derogating and degenerated social characters of Assam?

0.02: Communism and Karl Marx are, as if, the both sides (head and tail) of a coin. Cancelling the imperialism from the heart of the World, Karl Marx introduced a political movement to establish the Communism. Karl Marx advocated for the motion of proletariat dictatorship to delete Capitalist exploitation and oppression. It is turned to probable condition against the motion of only Capitalist thoughts for the development process to establish the society based on the Marxist philosophy or for development of practice of Communism in the various parts of the World now a days. The Communist Movement will be run in the society up to the time of ending of Class Struggle raised for the economic differences. There are no differences between ruling class and oppressed class of people as per Marxist philosophy and the aim of Marxism is to establish proletariat dictatorship in the society. According to communist's, economy is the main power of society, community and nation. Economy transforms all aspects of the society. The Communist phenomenon is to involve for building up as the holder of the equal rights for the interest of the security of the main energy or power of production labour, peasant and daily wage earners.

The Communism as a Political thought (Ism) has been influencing its effect with depth across the whole World from the 18th Century to the age of Globalization. Overcoming the influences in the political field, Communism has offered the influences with depth in the field of Literature and other arts in the ever-changing World. The series of events in modern World like Russian Revolution, establishment of Socialism in China, Freedom Fighting of Vietnam have made more popular the Communist thoughts and revolutions. If the Communism spreads climbing the top layers of political thoughts and next spreading over vast of the circumferences and activities of the society then the fruitfulness would be mass consumable.

0.03: Neo-Vaishnavite Movement is a distinguished and vivid epoch-making great event for Community Lives which was established in 15th Century in Assam. Not only in the aspect of the religious field, but also the 'Neo-Vaishnavite Movement' embraced all other aspects of Assamese society. Of course, the guide of 'Bhakti-Movement' in Assam Mahapurush Sankardeva tried to tie up the Assamese community with the flavours of integrity through his spiritual perception. Sankardeva has no vested interest to make unite the Assamese community and to delete of caste system. The aim of Sankardeva was to establish 'Bhaktibad' (Ism for spiritual devotions), but he had played prominent roles to delete the barriers made by the caste system to overcome the aims and objects in this regard.

'Bhakti' (devotional faith) is a subject linked with the human mind(s). The uprising of Bhaktibad had created emotional influences in Assamese society. The language of Bhaktibad with superb medicinal elements for the establishment of flavor of unity was effective to root out the disease of discrimination available among the people. The entries gate were always open in religion established by Mahapurush Sankardeva, and he planted the breed of people's culture smashing the wall of class discrimination developed based on the economic dignity. He established the Communism building up the 'Neo-Vaishnavite Religious Path' where splendor of religious performances and immoral conducts were available in Assam with deviated tunes. The great saint Sankardeva established the great examples of Communist Ideology planting the languages of Bhakti-Dharma in the hearts of common people and so embraced the Govinda of Garo tribe, Narottam of Naga tribe, Paramananda Mising tribe, Purnanda of Koivarta caste, Haridhan of ornament maker caste, Gopal of Kalita clan, Jairam of 'Bhot' clan and Chand kha of Muslim community as Aatoi (grandfather) to attain the goal . He was against casteism and expressed his communist thought and the quotes from his teaching will make it clear:

"Those who are interested in the Name of Lord Krishna, for them a high caste like Brahman is not required; simply, one should recite the Name of Hari; there is no barrier of caste-distinction in Devotion or Bhakti".

“Worship all creatures just like Vishnu; God should be conceived in all creatures”.

“By remembering the Name of God even the lowest of the low may obtain liberation”.

Sankardeva felt that the entity of the God was available even in the hearts and souls of all animals like dog, fox, etc and said,

“The soul of a dog, a jackal or of a donkey is God; knowing this, serve them all”

So, Sankardeva without having the scholastic knowledge of communism, became the dignified path finder of communism in Assamese society for recognizing the cosmopolitanism in religion.

A few well flavored stories of the book ‘Katha Gurucharit’ do it transparent about the mass Communist thoughts of Sankardeva. Such two noted stories are stated below:

One day at the time of singing a verse of the Dashama the Guru with devotees (Bhakta) were fully involved with the devotional flavours (Bhakti-Rash). At that moment aged Sarbbajay Aatoi did urinate on the spot without his knowledge. Observing the situation all the devotees insulted Sarbbajai Aatoi and left out the place. But Gurujana brought Sarbbajai Aatoi and arranged for bathing without any hesitation and dressed up Aatoi with the cleaned dress.

When the news item of demise of Jayanti Madhai Aatoi due to suffering from pox, the tears from both the eyes of Gurujana went down along with the ink was available on his hand. But Gurujana was not faded up even at the demise of his own son. Mahapurush Sankardeva even in his personal life strictly followed the Communist Ideology.

The imperishable glory of Mahapurush Sankardeva lies upon the Naamghars and all the Sattra (Monasteries) which he established. The roles of the Naamghars are infinite for the integrity of Assamese community. The floor of Naamghar was the holy place for worship and at the same time was the center place for social justice. One side of Naamghar was used for the 14th ‘Prasanga’ and the other side was used, as if, as a court for justice in the rural society. The Naamghar was the official institute for the teaching and training of singing, dancing and various art of Assam. The harmony was intact in the society through the training on cultural activities and observation of various festivals etcetera. Never-the-less, Sankardeva may (should) be counted as a great talented person linked with Religious Liberalism and Communism as a whole.

0.04: Mahapurush Srimanta Sankardeva adapted the Sri-Krishna Culture as a powerful base to create an integrated Assamese society which was discriminated with all sides of spiritual, cultural and worldly conditions. He built up the foundation of Communism through Bhakti; but the process was not an easy one. The oppressed class of people was helped for the social achievements involving with self-moved conditions for the innovative inspirations led by the Gurujana. The name of Sankardeva would be ever crystallized as a Communist Philosopher in reference to Communist Movement.

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