



The Untiring Legacy of Bijan Dhar in The Communist Movement of Tripura.

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Abstract:-

The first 'Vidyasagar Ratna' awardee in the state, the veteran academician of Tripura, Ananta Krishna Dhar and his wife Induprava Dhar had nine children. Bijan Dhar was the eldest one. The entire Dhar family and the lineage are dedicated to the honesty, empathy for The people from every sphere of life irrespective of caste, creed, gender, haves- have nots, religion. The family is well-educated and multi-talented. Anantakrishna Dhar was a hard-nut to crack in his external personality, but very soft in his interior. The sense and sensibilities towards everybody in the society. Dhar family maintains it consistently till the date which they inherited from the nature and instinct of their mother Induprava and their grandmother Surabala Dhar. In 1964, Ananta Krishna, an H.M of Dhaka Pilot school became compelled to leave the - then East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) with the deep mental injury of partition. Ananta Krishna himself was a playwright, singer-composer, journalist and footballer and a famous academician, and very importantly his lineage towards left ideology reflected prominently through his works. Such a man chose a mohammedan village in Sonamura, its not surprising. He never believed in institutionalised religion but in humanism. His children inherited all his thoughts and philosophy very naturally. The family is no more living in the village, but still the 'Sura kutir', the name of the house is still well-preserved by the generous mohammedan villagers. Now, when there is a hatred in the name of religion in the society, this is one of the best examples of humanitarian bonding and love between Dhar family and the villagers. The old grandmother Surabala Devi lived there alone amongst the villagers with utmost care and respect. In this ambience, Bijan Dhar got nourished and grew up.

Key words:-

Simple life, Honesty, Empathy To The Common People, Conviction To The Ideology.

Introduction:-

The children of Ananta Krishna Dhar lead simple and self-respectful life. But why to discuss of Bijan Dhar ? He was extraordinarily brilliant in his studies and a very good singer, composer, writer and an eloquent speaker. Always a first boy in the class, Bijan Dhar had a profound Knowledge in English , Maths & Science. In his childhood days he was daring and indomitable to climb a tall tree for guavas to distribute those fruits among others, to find ' gangetic koi' fishes into the deep holes in the stormy night with the accompany of his younger brother to preserve the fishes in the sieve.

Bijan Dhar could have been an officer or academician, but neither he chose, this is the prime curiosity! Why he chose a life without any administrative power, vehicle or a financially stable life! He didn't have even a single bank account! Yet, his wife was a primary level school teacher. As a wage he got Rs.3000/= every month which he spent among his comrades' needs. Even when his father had sold the ancestral house, The amount Bijan Dhar received from his father donated to his party fund very silently.

Aims & goals of the study:-

1. To understand BiJan Dhar.
2. what led him to choose to be a communist party worker?
3. Emphasis on the legacy to respect every human being.
- 4.To understand the ideology,not to underrate it.
- 5.The dedication of the family towards the ideology even under so many obstacles.
- 6.To evaluate such kind of silent workers in the contribution of the society.

Analysis:-

Bijan Dhar was born in 3rd January ,1951, in the Shiyalora Gram, Borura Thana of Comilla Zila of East Pakistan in a very noble family. His parents made him learn to be honest, curious to quench the thirst for knowledge and the ethical attitude towards lifestyle. Always the first boy in class, Bijan was fluent in chanting Geeta slokas, Ramayana & Mahabharata, even though he excelled in Maths, Science and English. The Dhar family is free from any superstition and any type of having 'institutionalised religion, yet having respectful attitude to each and every one of the society and treat people as human being respectfully. They are inclined to scientific temperament.In 1964, when the Dhar family came to Tripura, Ananta Babu joined Ranirbajar Vidyamandir H/S School as an H.M. After the secondary education in the same school, Bijan got admitted to the most prestigious school of Tripura: Netaji Subhas Vidyaniketan. Meanwhile he got attached to Anil Sarkar, Khagen Das and Srish Bhattacharjee,the famous teachers of Ranirbajar Vidyamandir H/S School. They were involved in communist party (Marxist) in Tripura. Bijan got actively involved in the students movement in 1970s. He became the state president of SFI, Tripura.

In 1968,when his father joined Belonia Vidhyapith H/S School,Bijan went to their ancestral house in Sonamura, Madhuban, later the village was named by Bijan; 'Sanghati Palli'; signifies the communal harmony between the Muhammedans and Hindus. In the meantime Bijan passed H/S Exam with good marks and got admitted to M.B.B. College with Maths honours but the surroundings were not convenient to run the study properly. During the emergency 1975-77,Bijan remained underground for more than a year before he was subsequently arrested and jailed for five months in the Central Jail of Agartala. All the leaders were imprisoned at that time including Nripen Chakraborty and Dasarath Dev. To escape from the hands of police he had to swim for several hours across the longest river of Tripura: Gomati .In imprisonment he completed his graduation.In Sonamura, he got acquainted to Samar Chowdhury and became influenced by his wisdom and honesty. He got married to Ila Dasgupta. Their daughter 'Purbasha' was born in 1981.It was 1984,a huge mass gathering from the CPI(M) was called in the children's park.Two politburo members: EMS Nambudiripad and Basavpunnaih were the main speakers.Bijan Dhar was called from Sunamura to interpret the speeches of those speakers delivered in English.Bijan stood in one corner and for two hours at a stretch he interpreted their speech in Bengali instantly. He had a high fever,wrapping in a shawl,he did the job.The-Then chief minister of the state Nripen Chakraborty offered him a chair,but before his leaderships Bijan was not at all willing to sit on a chair. In the meanwhile, the new Govt. led by CPI(M) and Left front was formed in 1979. Bijan became the party Secretary of Sonamura sub-division.In this period, he influenced the

youngsters towards the Communist ideology by his silent works and his reasonable elocution. Already he was elected to the State Committee (1978) and became the member of State Secretariat in 1995. The load of party works were getting increased. The-Then Party Secretary Baidyanath Majumder and other leaders called him to Agartala. Though his parents or others of the family lived in Agartala, Bijan decided to stay alone in the party state committee office for his own convenience for the party works. In 2008, Bijan Dhar was elected as the Secretary of the Tripura State Committee of the party at its 19th State conference. He continued in the post till 2018. In 2002 he was elected to the central committee member at its 17th Party Congress, As The Secretary of The party for one decade Bijan Dhar had an important contribution to enhance the party organisation. Since 2018 he had been the Convenor of the Left front.

Erudite & well-versed in Marxist Theory, Bijan Dhar contributed immensely to educate the rank and file of the party in the state. In the party classes he discussed in very lucid & witty manner to make the topics more comprehensible. Young generations got attracted to the theory of Dialectical Materialism, Historical Materialism. The Theory of Surplus Value, Class Struggle, Supremacy of the Proletariat and Communism. Alongwith, Karl Marx, his lecture on 'Anti-Duhring' by Frederick Engels is still remembered by the listeners present that evening.

Instead of various health complications Bijan Dhar remained always in the forefront of all the movements. When, in 2018, the new Govt. was formed in the state, the common party workers were being attacked, throughout the state, the houses were burnt, Bijan Dhar rushed here and there to stand with his comrades. In social networking sites when he raised the voice for resistance, above one hundred F.I.Rs were launched against him, in every P.S Bijan Dhar gave him presence physically. He was not an escapist. A tireless and a punctual worker like Bijan Dhar is rare. In 11th October, 2021 he breathed his last. While talking, always he used 'we' instead of 'I'. That's one of the unique characteristics of Bijan Dhar.

Conclusion:- Once in ADC oath taking ceremony at Khumulwng, Bijan Dhar got up on the stage along with the victorious ADC elected members mistakenly. He could realise his wrong deed and became sorry. In the following day he made it a press message saying that he apologised to everyone, not being an elected one he got up on the stage. While interacting in the countless Press Meets, Bijan Dhar developed the art of exchange of thoughts with the journalists in an aesthetic manner. As an introvert person he always believed in silent works for the welfare of the poor section of the society. Personally also innumerable people were helped by him. Before his demise, he wrote an article; 'A Letter of an American Mother to her daughter working in China'. In his writings and speeches always he warned the people against the danger of capitalism and their monopoly aggression. He was an ideologue in the Marxist Theory.

In Sonamura, when he noticed brilliance in administrators even in the interior areas, at once he recommended those human resources to be utilised properly. Still, those officers have been continuing their jobs skilfully. A few of them are from Tribal Community, a few from the Muhammedan background. The excellent phenomenon in him was to make instant decision according to the demand of the situation, which seems so tough now a days. His legacy of wisdom, empathy, respectful attitude to everyone, an honest lifestyle would be carried out by the young generations in the state.

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