

**An Introduction to Life Sketch of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya ji : The Architect of
Bhartiya Jana Sangh**

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Abstract

This research paper explains about the life sketch of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya ji in a comprehensive way. His entire life sketch has been explained from his birth to death. All the aspects related with life of this great visionary has been analysed in this research work ,viz., birth ,birth place ,parents early demise ,school education .higher education ,association with RSS and Jan Sangh ,his political career and his death in mysterious conditions. Thus this research paper illustrates about struggle of this great visionary who is considered to be the main architect of Bhartiya Janta Party.

Key Words: Association, Birth, Education, Higher, Jan Sangh, Life Sketch, Political Career, Place, Parents, School. RSS.

Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya ji was born on 25th September,1916 in village Nagla Chanderabhan in Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh¹. The name of his father was Bhagwati Prasad and his mother was Rampyari. She was very religious lady. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya ji was popularly known as Deena during his childhood. He had also a younger brother who was

¹ Sharma , Mahesh Chander, (1994) , Deendayal Upadhyaya: Kartitva Evam Vidhar ,Vashudha Publication, New Delhi:, p.1.

two year younger to Deena and his name was Shiv Dayal, who was two years younger to him. His father Bhagwati Prasad was an employee in railways therefore most of the times he remained outside the family. Because of this reason his father sent his family to his maternal grandfather Chuni Lal Shukla. He was also an employee of railways in Dhankia town of Rajasthan. Deendayal left his paternal house at this tender age and never returned to live there. His father left for his heavenly abode when he was just three years old. Mother of Deena was completely shocked over the death of her husband. After the death of her husband the health of his mother started deteriorating and resultantly she suffered from T.B. Mother of Deen Dayal died soon because of this disease. Both the brothers Deendayal and Shivdayal became orphans². Both the brother were completely shaken after losing their parents. Their maternal grandfather was also shocked over the death of her daughter and son-in-law. He resigned from his job and came to settle down in his village Gud-Ka Mandyee in Agra district of Uttar Pradesh. The maternal grandparents of these children brought up these children with love. But at that place no arrangement was made for education of these children. But in July 1925, Chuni Lal sent both the children along with their uncle, Radha Raman to Gangapur in Rajasthan for schooling. Deena was admitted to primary class at that place. But his maternal grandfather Chuni Lal also died In September 1926. His uncle Radha Raman also suffered from T.B. He underwent treatment of T.B. at Lucknow and Deena looked after his uncle with great care. The health of this person improved gradually. In March 1927, Deendayal returned to Gangapur and continued his studies. He was very intelligent student and completed his education up to fourth class from Gangapur.

² Sharma, Mahesh Chander, (1994) , **Deendayal Upadhyaya: Kartritva Evam Vichar** ,Vashudha Publication, New Delhi, p.5-10.

He completed his education up to 7th class at Kotla. He passed his 8th and 9th class in a school of Rajgarh. His younger brother suffered from typhoid in November 1934 in spite of all the efforts he died. Thus Deen Dayal remained all alone and this year he also faced another demise of his maternal grandmother.

His uncle Radha Raman took him along with him to Sikar and he joined Kalyan High School at that place. Deen Dayal stood first in tenth class and for securing this merit Maharaja Kalyan Singh of Sikar awarded him a gold medal and cash award. In 1935 he took admission in Birla College Pilani. In this institution he founded 'Zero' Association' to guide the academically weak students.

In 1937, he passed the intermediate board examination with distinction and on this achievement of Deen Dayal Maharaja of Sikar awarded him a gold medal and cash prize. He joined 'Sanatan Dharam College' at Kanpur. During his college days he joined R.S.S. in 1937. His friend Balwant Mahashabde facilitated for his joining in RSS. There he came in contact with Dr. Hedgewar, the founder of the R.S.S. Deen Dayal took keen interest in the activities of R.S.S. He passed B.A. in 1939 and joined St. John's College at Agra for post graduation in English and along with his studies he also continued his activities in R.S.S. He passed M.A. first year examination obtaining first class. During his M.A. studies his cousin Rama Devi fell seriously ill but in spite of all efforts he lost his cousin. Due to this incidence he lost his interest in studies and discontinued his M.A. studies. But later on his uncle persuaded him to take Administrative Services Examination. Deendayal cracked this exam but when he appeared for interview he was only candidate who wore 'dhoti' and 'kurta' with a cap on his head and other candidates made his

fun and ridiculed him as 'Pandit ji'. He topped the list of shortlisted candidates but did not join the service. Thereafter he joined B.T. course at Paryag and also got engaged in R.S.S. work. He passed B.T. in 1941. His uncle advised him to join a good job and get married. Deendayal was a brilliant student. He got opportunities to get a job and lead a comfortable life. He was selected for an administrative post and was offered a job of Headmaster in a higher secondary school but he was not interested in the offer. In this manner he once again turned down a plump post. This incidence showed his sense of sacrifice which Deen Dayal had for his nation. Now he decided to work for RSS for rest of his time. He added, "But in Lucknow, I was able to study the current situation and to form an idea of the vast field of work ahead, and I got the advice that instead of working in one particular town I would have to work in a whole district. That is how the paucity of available workers in the dormant Hindu Samaj has to be made up³". Shanti Bhushan wrote, "Deendayalji always wanted to dedicate his life to the country, because he believed that service of the country was not possible after taking up a government job while the country was in bondage. So he dedicated his life to the service of the country, and for this he chose the medium of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh⁴."

At the age of forty he became full fledged worker of RSS. When Indian freedom struggle was at its peak he was also participating in freedom movement. Deendayal was against the British Rule, but he did not join freedom struggle under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. However he was concerned to organize Hindu society as per the policies of R.S.S. Therefore he dedicated his life

³ Raje, Sudhakar, Ed, 1972, Upadhyaya, **Pandit Deendayal: A Profile**, Deendayal Research Institute, New Delhi, pp.161-166.

⁴ Bhushan, Shanti, "**Vicharak and Pracharak**," in **Destination**, Ed., Raje, Sudhakar, 1978, Deen Dayal Research Institute, , New Delhi p.77.

to work of RSS. Muslim extremism was on its peak in 1940 and the Muslim League demanded separate state for the Muslims. But Deendayal opposed the demand for partition of India.

The founder of R.S.S, Dr. Hedgewar died in 1940 thereafter Madhav Sadashivrao Goalwalkar became the supremo of R.S.S. and Deendayal worked under his leadership. He worked as Pracharak of R.S.S. in district Lakhimpur of Uttar Pradesh till 1944 and was promoted to joint provincial organiser in the organizational hierarchy of R.S.S. in Uttar Pradesh and continued till 1951. He worked on various positions in RSS to strengthen it. Deshmukh wrote , "Deendayal was gifted with a many faceted personality. He was an extraordinary successful organizer and had the knack of keeping people together. His role in the growth and development of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh in Uttar Pradesh was very significant⁵." In 1945 he founded "Rashtra Dharam Prakashan" in Lucknow and launched a monthly journal Rashtra Dharma⁶.Deen Dayal ji started weekly Panchajanya in 1948 and a daily Swadesh during 1949-50. Amongst these periodicals only Panchajanya achieved the status of an all-India weekly Journal and it is now published from Delhi. He also wrote two books , Samrat Chandragupta and Jagat Guru Sankracharya, which were published in 1946 and 1947 respectively.

After the independence of India Congress Party headed the government but deadlock erupted between Congress and R.S.S. As Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated by Nathu Ram Godhse and R.S.S. was accused of murder of Mahatma Gandhi, but its leaders disclaimed any involvement in this heinous crime.

⁵ Deshmukh ,Nana Ji, "**The Man and the Thought**," m *Destination*, p. 32

⁶ Sharma, Mahesh Chander, 1994 , **Deendayal Upadhyaya: Kartritva Evam Vichar** ,Vashudha Publication, New Delhi:, p.30-31.

The Congress government imposed a ban on R.S.S. and an inquiry was ordered but no evidence was found in this case. Therefore government had to remove ban on RSS. Nehru and Liaquat Ali signed an agreement on 8th April, 1950. R.S.S. declared that it was a unilateral pact and because of this incidence government was charged with surrendering of interests of India to Pakistan. R.S.S. opposed this agreement. Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherji, who was minister of industries in the Nehru government, also opposed the agreement strongly. He resigned from Congress cabinet and joined the opposition. Dr. Mukherji criticized the congress government and demanded from the government that Kashmir should be declared an integral part of India as early as possible. Meanwhile R.S.S. took decision to foerm a new political party. Vasant Nargolkar wrote , "it seems that those who wanted to protect the Hindu interests and promote the Hindu culture exclusively, began to feel the need for a political front to propagate their views through elections and representation in the legislature. Deendayal himself was one of them⁷".

Now the most dedicated persons were needed to accomplish this task and Deendayal was regarded as very important person in the R.S.S. He was considered the future architect and a vehicle of carrying out and promoting the principles and programmes of the R.S.S. in political field. Deen Dayal worked under direct supervision of Dr. S.P. Mukherji. But Deen Dayal did not like this work and he wanted to remain as a Pracharak. Deen Dayal remarked, 'whom else can I put into this nasty affair. Only a man, with such deep and unfaltering faith in organization work,

⁷ Nargolkar, Vasant, 1978, "**Gandhi, Lohia and Deendayal**," **Mahatma Gandhi, Lohia & Deendayal**, Ed.P.Parameswaran, Deendayal Research Institute, New Delhi,p.10.

can remain in this nasty affair and still be unaffected by it; he only can clean it up. None else can do it⁸."

But Deen Dayal was persuaded by M.S. Golwalkar to join this political party. . In September 1951, Deendayal Upadhyaya and Dr. S.P. Mukherji launched the Uttar Pradesh unit of B.J.S. in Lucknow. After a month a convention was held in New Delhi on October 21, 1951 and Dr. S.P. Mukherji was elected as its founder president. The first national level conference of B.J.S. was held in Kanpur from 29-31 December, 1952⁹. Deendayal was appointed its General Secretary. In this session of B.J.S., Deendayal was also entrusted with the responsibility of running the Satyagraha on Kashmir¹⁰.

This movement was started with the slogan - Ek Vidhan, Ek Nishan, Ek Pradhan (One Constitution, One Flag and One Prime Minister). Infact this movement was started against Article 370 of Indian constitution, which provided special status to state of Jammu and Kashmir. Dr. Mukherji led a batch of Satyagrahis towards Jammu and Kashmir. He was arrested and put in Srinagar jail where he died after a few days. Deendayal also contested a parliamentary election during his tenure as General Secretary of B.J.S. He contested 1963 by-elections from Jonpur parliamentary constituency unsuccessfully¹¹. During this year he also toured the United States,

⁸ Thengadi, D.B.1988, ***Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Ideology and Perception: An Inquest***, Suruchi Prakashan, New Delhi, p. 12.

⁹ Sharma, Mahesh Chander, (1994), ***Deendayal Upadhyaya: Kartritva Evam Vichar***, Vashudha Publication, New Delhi, p.70.

¹⁰ Raje, sudhakar, Ed., 1972, ***Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya: A Profile***, Deendayal Research Institute, New Delhi, p15.

¹¹ Sharma, Mahesh Chander, 1994, ***Deendayal Upadhyaya: Kartritva Evam Vichar***, Vashudha Publication, New Delhi; p.97.

U.K. and some other countries¹². During his tour he met various people and addressed press conferences. He addressed the annual function of R.S.S. in Nairobi in Africa¹³. In August, 1964 he released a significant document "Integral Humanism, The basis of B.J.S programme" in the five days study camp of B.J.S. held in Gwalior. The statement of "Principles and Policy", which contains extracts from the document drafted by Deendayal Upadhyaya was adopted by the Akhil Bhartiya Pratinidhi Sabha of B.J.S. in its meeting at Vijayawada held from 23 to 25 Jan., 1965. The core principles of Integral Humanism were discussed in the four lectures delivered by him in Mumbai from 22-25 April 1965. India and Pakistan signed the Kutch Agreement on 30th June, 1965. Deendayal opposed the pact and organised a 'Delhi Chalo' campaign against the agreement to put pressure upon the government. Procession was taken out in Delhi on 16th August, 1965. He said, "It was an act of gross betrayal of national rights and interests. Its terms are derogatory to a self-respecting nation¹⁴." He added, "What will the government do if the Tribunal gives a verdict against India? Will they go back upon the agreement or surrender 3500 square miles of Indian territory to Pakistan¹⁵." Deendayal Upadhyaya remained the General Secretary of B.J.S. for fifteen years (1953-67). He became President of Bhartya Jana Sangh after death of its President in December, 1967¹⁶. But he was murdered soon after becoming President of B.J.S. on 11th February, 1968 at Mughal Sarai.

¹² Thengadi, D.B., 1973, *His Legacy: Our Mission*, The Jayabharat Publications, Calicut, p.7.

¹³ **Deendayal Upadhyaya, Policies**, in Deendayal Upadhyaya Integral Documents, Interpretations, Contextualization, *Manthan*, 1991, 12, Nos.7-9 July-Sept.

¹⁴ Upadhyaya, Deendayal, **"Delhi Chalo"**, *Organiser*, 18, No.52, Aug.8, 1965, 1-2.

¹⁵ Upadhyaya Deendayal, **"The Great Betrayal"**, *Organiser*, 18, No.48, July 11, 1965, 2-15.

¹⁶ Upadhyaya, Deendayal, **"Full Text of B.J.S. Presidential Address"**, *Organiser*, 1, No.21, Dec.31, 1967, 7-14.

His contribution towards this political party cannot be forgotten at any cost because it was just because of his selfless efforts that this political party became strong. Deendayal efforts are widely acclaimed in political life of India. He earned repute not only as a sincere and dedicated worker but also as a foremost ideologue of the party. He was not an arm chair philosopher in an ivory tower but also an important activist and ideologue of a political party, who was interested in converting his ideas into reality.

Thus almost all the aspects related with life of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhaya ji have been examined in this paper which clearly explains about the life of this great visionary. Actually this legend's vision paved the way for creation of Bhartiya Janta Party in 1980.

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