

Red Salute to Com Burgula Narsing Rao – Freedom Fighter, Thinker, Teacher and Social Activist

Burgula Narsing Rao was born in Burgula village on the 14th March 1932 in a family of freedom fighters. His father B. Venkateshwar Rao, and his father's elder brother, B. Ramakrishna Rao along with their compatriots were all involved in the struggle for self-rule in Hyderabad state and in the nationalist struggle for Indian Independence. His childhood experiences shaped his ideas of nationalism and secularism. The nationalist Urdu daily "*Imroze*" was edited by Md. Shoebullah Khan and published from their house. As a teenager, he was an eye witness to the killing of Shoebullah Khan by the Razakars and this incident influenced his thinking on secularism and religion. In his youth he turned towards Marxism and Communism and grew up to be a student leader; he was the leader of the All Hyderabad Students Union. As a member of the Hyderabad District Committee of the Communist Party of India, he was active in the Communist Movement and the anti-Razakar movement, for which he was arrested in 1949 and sent to Chanchalguda prison. In 1952, he was in the forefront of the Mulki Movement which resulted in police firing in which 13 people lost their lives. It created a crisis situation for his uncle, Burgula Ramakrishna Rao's Cabinet. In 1954, he was elected as the General Secretary of the All Hyderabad Student's Union at its Lucknow Conference. He broke caste barriers by marrying his life partner, Dr. Mangutha in 1957.

After a stint of higher education in U. K. in the 1960s, he returned to Hyderabad to teach political science and involved himself actively in progressive causes. He was deeply active in promoting greater people's participation in civic institutions and towards this goal, he successfully carried on many developmental activities in Burgula. As quintessential Hyderabad, he had vast knowledge of Urdu Language and literature, Hyderabad history and culture, and his ability to absorb the best of cultures makes him a truly renaissance man. He leaves behind his wife Dr. Mangutha, daughter Malavika, and sons, Ajay and Vijay.

Com.Burgula Narsing Rao stood as a living link between the Great Telangana Peasant Struggle and the leadership of present day movements. All through his life, he remained a Communist with simple life style. While explaining his experiences he was focusing on how the activists engaged in organizing the class struggles, students, literary and cultural movements are to integrate among the people. He mentioned the instances how some comrades like Hasan Nasir, SVK Prasad, Paniharam, Ranga Chari, Seshagiri, Dr.Satyapal Tuli played a crucial role in the movement silently without being noticed. Com.Narsing Rao unveiled the statue of Paniharam in Kamareddy and also released a book published by TN Memorial Trust on Hasan Nasir in Siasat office. His demise threw many into sorrow and grief. The CC of CPI (ML) pays Red salutes to Com.B.Narsing Rao and deep condolences to the members of his family.

6-2-2021

Viswam
General secretary, CPI (ML)

* * *