

Death Conspiracy of Subhas Chandra Bose

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INTRODUCTION

It's been 73 years since we got independence from British rule. From colonies, we are now a major growing country in the world which has a great impact on Asia as well as in the world. It is just due to the contribution of the great freedom fighter. Their struggle to give us a free nation is something which can never be forgotten. Many of those leaders, one such leader who had a dominating and respected character, the one who struggled in his own way to gain freedom. He travelled the world so that he could make his country free from Britishers. Even Nazis recognized him as a leader who came to Germany to free his country. Though being such a great leader and an influential personality due to different ideologies he resigned the national congress and reached for help from different countries believing that enemy of my enemy is a friend. Being such a great leader it is surprising to believe that his death is still a mystery. After his disappearance in 1945, he was believed that he died in plane crash, become a saint, joined USSR and so many more theories. (Dhar, 2005).

What is surprising to see is after so many research and investigation his death is still a mystery. A book lead to rest: the controversy over Subhas Chandra Bose death written by Ashis Ray and forwarded by Subhas Chandra daughter Anita Pfaff may give some clarity over his disappearance. A DNA test was conducted of ashes of Subhas Chandra Bose which was said to have been placed in Renkoji temple in Tokyo, Japan, after the plane crash. In this research we have acquired the information

about the major theories of the death of Subhas Chandra Bose in hope to find the truth and to get the death mystery solved of the legendary leader (Ray, 2018).

The plane crash in 1945:

Subhas Chandra Bose who is known as one of the most influential leader and patriot person his death was a great loss. It was difficult for whole country to bear the pain of his death but what is interesting to know is that dying on the plane crash was not accepted by many people. It was hard to believe that a legend like that could die so tragically. What Japanese proposed that and what Indian government also believe is that Subhas Chandra Bose (Netaji) died in plane crash in Taiwan along with the Japanese high official General Shidei on August 18, 1945.

It was said that the plane in which Subhas Chandra Bose was overloaded. During the take off a loud sound was heard by the passengers that sound was enough for passengers to know that something bad had happened. This was basically the start of this unfortunate event which was said to have taken life of our greatest leader Subhas Chandra Bose. It was said that the portside engine fell off. The plane crashed instantly and broke into two pieces. There was a huge explosion according to the people present there. The chief pilot, co pilot and General Shidea were instantly killed. Bose and one more passenger were conscious but hurt. Bose had a little injury but was still fine at that time. He was covered with gasoline. Both of them tried to escape from the rear door of the plane but the door was blocked with luggage. So

when they saw that the rear door was blocked they had no other way but to escape from the front door. The path to front door was bursting with flames. They had no other option but to try their luck. They ran through the door. When the ground staff approached to rescue them they saw two people running towards them escaping from front door. What is surprising to know was that one of them was burning with fire. It was almost as a human torch was approaching. That human torch was Bose who because of the gasoline on him caught fire and was badly burned. He was taken to the Nanmon Military Hospital south of Taihoku. It was observed that he had third degree burns on many parts of his body specially the chest. He was given proper medication but soon went in coma and passed away after few hours.

This was not believed by many people specially the Tamilians who believed that he could not die so easily. A man with such a strong character was difficult to forget. With this many theories came to support that he did not die. Many great faces like General G D Bakshi believed that he escaped there. No one at that time was really sure that if he really died there or not. According to the Japanese government they believed that he died in plane crash. They said that they cremated his body in Taihoku crematorium. Lieutenant Tatsuo Hayashida a Japanese officer carried Bose's ashes to the president of the Tokyo Indian Independence League. The name of the Tokyo Indian president league was Rama Murti.

On 14 September a memorial service was held for Bose in Tokyo and a few days later the ashes were turned over to the priest of the Renkôji Temple of Nichiren Buddhism in Tokyo. What is interesting to know is that netaji neither body nor the ashes were given or even seen by his family. We can say that no one close him actually ever saw his dead body or ashes (Getz, 2001; Dhar, 2012).

Figgess Report, 1946:

Due to the rumor that he did not died, an investigation was held to know the truth. This task was given to colonel John Figgess. Figgess files were highly confidential they were not made public. Figgess was interviewed by a historian Leonard A. Gordon Leonard also interviewed the witnesses who were there at time when Netaji was taken of the hospital. Soon a photocopy of the Figgess report was made public. It was clear from the report and from interview that he died in plane crash.

Shah Nawaz Committee, 1956:

To come to a conclusion a committee of three man was formed which included Shah Nawaz Khan who was Member of Parliament and former Lieutenant Colonel in the Indian National Army and a known defendant in the INA Trials. Other members of the committee were S. N. Maitra who was nominated by the Government of West Bengal. The third member was Netaji elder Suresh Chandra Bose. They interviewed around 67 victims from India, Thailand, and Vietnam who survived the plane crash. They interviewed the doctor who was in the hospital. They also interviewed the passenger who got out with Netaji (Dhar, 2005).

Shah Nawaz and S.N. Maitra came to conclusion that Netaji died in the plane crash. But Suresh Chandra Bose, brother of Netaji had a different conclusion about it. He believed that shah and Maitra were hiding some evidence from them. He believed that Jawaharlal Nehru had directed both the members to hide the truth by saying that he died in a crash. Suresh refused to sign on the final report believing that dying in the plane crash was a lie (Lall, 2016; Banerjee, 2002).

Khosla Commission, 1970:

In the year 1970 a one man commission was appointed by the government to enquire about the death of Bose. This committee was held by G.D. Khosla who was the sole member of committee. It was aid that he had other duties so he the report in 1974. He not only looked in the death of Netaji but also the reason why the stories of Bose being made.

Justice Khosla believed that most stories were made due to political impact and to gain attention. P.M. Karapurkar who worked as agent in central bank of India at Sholapur claimed that he receives messages from Bose with the help of radio waves. He said that he receives that he receives messages by tuning his body like radio receiving device.

Mukherjee Commission, 2005:

In 1999 one more commission was held in which retired Supreme Court judge Manoj Kumar Mukherjee was appointed. He perused many documents about the death of Bose. The files were usually from different countries like Russia, Taiwan and Japan. He said that all the oral accounts and statement gave a conclusion that he died in plane crash. Mukherjee believed that oral resources of people were not reliable. He did not believe

that he died in plane crash. Mukherjee even visited many countries like Japan, Russia and Taiwan. Mukherjee concluded that Netaji did not die that day. He believed that there was a secret plan. This secret plan was to safely reach USSR. The other passenger who was believed to escape with Bose from front door was also involved in this theory. He also reported that the ashes in the Renkoji temple were not of Bose but of Ichiro Okura who was a Japanese soldier. Mukherjee submitted the report on November 8, 2005 but the Indian government rejected this report.

After so many inquiry no such answer could be founded which could give justice to your beloved Subhas Chandra Bose. Most of the commission concluded that he died in air crash but still there were many small things which made us believe that the plane crash theory can surely be false and was made to accomplish some different motive (Dhar, 2005, 2012).

The Gumnami Baba theory:

The first two theories about the death of Netaji was that he died in he plane crash in Taiwan, Japan the other theory point towards that he was being sick to death in soviet, Russia. But until his death only a few got to know about Gumnami Baba existence. From 1950 to 1985, according to the follower of netaji he lived in various parts of Uttar Pradesh portraying as Gumnami Baba. Gumnami Baba term was given by the local media whereas it was never used by his followers and they used of call him Bhagwan ji in the owner of Subhas Chandra Bose. After the death of Gumnami Baba in 1985 hundreds of objects were found in his room which was related to Netaji and the people who were related to him during the independence period.

According to Times of India report, followers of the great leader Subhas Chandra Bose came forward to share their encounters with Gumnami Baba/Netaji. According to Surajit Dasgupta

There was no mistaking it was Netaji, his hair has thin, much more than what we were used to see in his photographs. He had a flowing beard but the features were exactly the same, only he had aged. The eyes were so powerful; I had to turn away immediately (Dasgupta, 2016).

During the period 1970-1985 Bejoy Nag met Bhagwan ji /Gumnami baba around 14 times. On the request of Gumnami baba he collected and delivered photographs of Netaji's mother, father and school teacher.

Sunil Gupta was the close associate of Netaji and met Bhagwan ji on special occasion like *durga puja* and on his birthday on January 23. Leela Roy was in constant touch with Netaji between 1922 and 1941 and during the short span of 7 years, she used to send money on useful items every month through emissaries to Netaji (1963 to 1970). The matter changed suddenly and unexpectedly at the time when he niece of great leader Subhas Chandra Bose, Lalita Bose came in Faizabad where the holy men took his last breath. She went through all the stuff of Gumnami Baba and concluded that he was her uncle (Banerjee, 2002).

Lalita tried to convince the chief minister of state Veer Bahadur Singh to make a proper inquiry committee but the matter was not in the hands of chief minister then Lalita filed suit in Allahabad high court with the help of eminent lawyer Robin Mitra. In the response the state governments refuse to reply and filed a counter affidavit after spa of 30 years. Although it's a classic suit taking us back to the square one and leaving us with same question that who was Gumnami Baba actually. By keeping in mind all the facts of this theory points towards that Netaji did not die in plane crash, rather than this they lived in Uttar Pradesh using someone else name as his identity for rest of his life.

According to the followers of Netaji the person who was living there in Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh was none another than but Subhas Chandra Bose. Netaji never accepted this till his death in 1985. He lived with same identity as Gumnami Baba / Bhagwan ji for everyone & with a great identity as a holy men or the great freedom fighter of our country took his last breathe.

Killed by Britishers :

The British believed that Netaji didn't die in plane crash. They claimed that with the help of soviet ambassador Jawb Malik, Bose had been able to set up an embassy of Azad hind government in Siberia. In the mean time Japanese intelligence agencies purposely plotted the theory of plane crash so that the Indian samurai can safely escape to soviet unions. The proof of this theory is that after escaping from Japan, there were three radio broadcast from Siberia. This was the tie when British came to know about Bose's escape. The British spoke to soviet authorities and demanded that they be authorized to interrogate Bose. During the interrogation period he must have been Tortured to such an extent that he slipped into amnesia.

After the release, he was a vegetable mash till his death. In 2016 on Netaji's 119th birth anniversary hundred secret files were made public by the prime minister Narendra Modi. According to one of the documents of 1945 sent by the control commission of the allies and Saigon to the supreme allied commander in Singapore, (Lord Mountbatten) stated that seven persons including three big personalities were arrested by the authorities it added that they were also the members of Hikrian- kikan, an organization coordinating between the Japanese government and the provisional government of free India which was added by Subhas Chandra Bose (Banerjee, 2002).

With so many theories about the death or we can say disappearance of Subhas Chandra Bose what we analyze here is that due to Subhas Chandra Bose popularity he became a victim of multiple rumors. Bose was always seen as a hope of justice, a light that will give people freedom. A personality like that to disappear was not accepted by the people. When no valid explanation was given to the people they soon started making own assumptions which lead to number of rumors. It becomes more difficult to find the truth. Moreover his impact over the political area was also very wide which lead to believe that something fishy might had happened. Being an expert in hiding things it was believed that he might have changed his personality and was living as Gumnami Baba. Thus with some many theories the major theory which was believed by the Indian as well as the Japanese government was that he died in the plane crash in 1945, Taiwan. This theory that he died in a plane crash was told to public by the government in spite of many flaws in the commissions that took place to find the truth. This theory was widely accepted. What we here see is that with so many theories most of them seem fake and were made to hide the truth. What is common in all the theories is that Subhas Chandra Bose never returned. Whether he died in a plane crash and cremated in Tokyo where his body was not recovered and given to his family or he changed his identity and never accepted that was him. He was never found. It was like he disappeared in a thin air. No cogent evidence was there which cannot be questioned. His disappearance was one of the greatest losses that our country could handle (Lall, 2016; Getz, 2001).

Conclusion:

With some many theories we concluded it solely

based on our assumptions. We might not know about what happened to him but what we know for sure is that the plane crash theory in which he died in plane accident is false. The way this accident happened and his death looks quite suspicious. A great and a strong man to die just because his clothes were covered with gasoline and caught fire do not satisfy. Moreover when the first commission was appointed named Figges commission who investigated what was interesting was that his report was made confidential and not made public at that time. After some time the report was made confidential and it stated that Bose died in crash. If the report states that Bose died in crash then the files were not produced to the people in the start. This leaves a doubt that they might have changed it earlier to satisfy the people to believe that he died that day.

When the second commission was made which was three men team. This included Shah Nawaz, S.N. Maitra and Suresh Chandra Bose a deep investigation was in what many people were interviewed about the plane crash. When both Nawaz and Maitra concluded that he died on plane crash Suresh believed that he did not die in the plane crash. He believed that something important is being hid from him. He believed that Jawaharlal Nehru was behind hiding the truth. Even the brother of Subhas Chandra Bose believed that some political conspiracy was held and he did not die that day.

In the third research the investigator Khosla believed that many stories were made to gain political goals and to get attention from world but who knows that maybe one of the theories might be true. Mukherjee commission was the last investigation held about the death of Subhas Chandra Bose. Retired Supreme Court judge concluded and wrote in his final report that Subhas Chandra Bose never died in a plane crash but he actually escaped to USSR. This investigation was done with lot of research and to come to a conclusion like that shows that he might have seen something that's why he concluded this in his research. But the surprising thing was that the governments decline the report. This shows that government again hide the fact that Netaji survived the crash.

We believe that the plane crash theory was a lie and was made to hide some crucial evidence about the disappearance of Netaji. We believe that Jawaharlal Nehru knew the truth about his disappearance of Netaji. He might have a hand in plotting the killing of Subhas Chandra Bose or may have helped him to

disappear. We believe that there is a chance that Jawaharlal Nehru might know the truth. The Gumnami Baba theory might be true if we believe that the stuff found from Gumnami Baba had some connections with Netaji. But what if those things were given to Gumnami Baba by the Bose worshippers as a tribute and when he died people start thinking that he was Bose. Gumnami Baba never ever accepted that he was Bose but it is worthy to mention that Bose was master of disguise and if he really wanted to hide then he would never accept that he is Netaji.

Hence we believe that he survived the plane crash, the plane crash in Taiwan was not the end of the great leader. We are not sure what happened afterwards; he might have gone to Russia or may have changed his identity but one thing for sure that our hero did not die that day. Subhas Chandra Bose or Netaji will always be remembered by the patriots of this country. The one who's slogan 'Jai Hind' will always be used as our country

national slogan.

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