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# AMCHEM ZUZ.

(Our Struggle)

## IN GOA

(SPECIAL)

Ever since the present phase of the Goan Freedom struggle was commenced in 1946 the Portuguese have freely been using barbarous and inhuman methods for suppressing the Freedom struggle. It is well known that Indians, including Goans, are a peace loving people and consequently they could not but follow the footsteps of Mahatmaji and conduct the struggle for liberation on non-violent lines. Each time satyagraha took place in Goa, it was followed by repression of the worst type which was visited not only on Satyagrahis but on their families and even on their friends. On mere suspicion thousands of Goans were picked up and beaten or jailed.

The freedom struggle was intensified with the Satyagraha of 15th August 1953 and it is well known with what harshness those satyagrahis, Indian or Goan, were treated, resulting in savage sentences of as much as 28 years imprisonment on Shri. Anthony D'Souza and others, quite apart from the merciless beatings.

The second phase of the intensified satyagraha took place on 15th August 1954 and the world knows with what results. Non-violent and unarmed persons were shot at as they walked into Goa. This shocked the conscience of the world and infuriated the people of India, and the Indian Government was forced to stop the participation of Indian Citizens in the Satyagraha Movement if only to prevent brutalities being committed on its citizens which would force the hands of India to take some drastic action against the Portuguese Government, which India was entirely against doing in view of the peaceful policy it has been advocating and following in all matters. India has given the world the tenets of peace which are embodied in the Pancha Shila which in this Atomic age is the plank of salvation.

Under the circumstances described above, the Nationalists inside Goa were left in a very difficult situation as to how they could free their dear motherland from the Portuguese Fascist Rule. Satyagraha which was the natural weapon for the peace loving Goan who adopted it was found to result only in butchery. In their desperation the Nationalists, frustrated and disappointed, adopted other methods of violence and assault on the Portuguese Authorities and their strongholds. This is a situation which much against the desires of the Nationalists, has been forced on them by the Portuguese and if they do not quit fast as they must do eventually, these

activities will be greatly intensified. Cyprus and Algeria are a lesson as to what Nationalists determined to do or die for their motherland can achieve even in the face of mighty odds. Goan Nationalists are no less determined.

It has been alleged by the Portuguese propaganda that these violent happenings inside Goa are financed and supported by the Indian Government. Some of us Nationalists hope that this were true, but the contrary is the case, for had the Indian Government assisted the Goan Nationalists, or not put a check on their activities, the violence and the disasters on the Portuguese would have been far greater than they are, for, with the might and the vastness of the Indian resources there would be no difficulty in wiping out the Portuguese in a short while. On the contrary the Government of India has been putting all forms of difficulties in the way of violence by Nationalists and any form of violence has not only been deprecated, but even stopped by the Government of India whenever possible.

However, more recently the Portuguese appear to have learnt better, for in a recent press conference the Governor General of Goa, Bernard Guedes admitted that the activities inside Goa were the work of Goan Nationalists.

A sure sign of the approaching end of the Portuguese Rule in Goa, Daman & Diu is

- (1) financial bankruptcy as depicted in the budgetary position, for the Government is living on loans, and
- (2) the desire on the part of high Portuguese and Goan officials to leave Goa for appointments elsewhere. There has been a rush of applications for transfers from Goa, Daman and Diu to other Portuguese Colonies. Even judges for the High Court in Goa are becoming scarce to get.

While Nationalist Goans are doing their bit for the liberation of their Motherland, we have the unfortunate instances of a few Goans in Bombay and elsewhere in India abusing the hospitality shown to us by the Indian Government. They are actively operating as propaganda agents for the Portuguese and doing great harm particularly among the illiterate section of the Goans. The amazing thing is that these Portuguese stooges are among those who are extremely well off in India and are drawn from the richer classes of Goans in India. We Nationalists will take action against these elements who are a danger not only to free Goa but also to free India and see that they are eliminated entirely from our midst. We

call upon the India Government to take action against such elements who are in the nature of saboteurs of the freedom movement and enemies of India.

Of interest to the public will be some of the incidents that have taken place inside Goa. In a leaflet of this type unfortunately only very few of the actual incidents can be brought out.

11-2-1955 Police outpost at Assonora raided, Policemen overpowered and their arms taken away. No injury on either side.

17-2-1955 Shri. Bala Raya Napari, of Assonora, was tortured to death in police custody at Mapuca. He was arrested along with several others in connection with and soon after the raid on the Assonora police outpost.

27-3-1955 The underground attempted to blow up the Governor General's Palace (Palacio de Idalcao) in Panjim by a time bomb, which was discovered before it went off.

13-4-1955 Cuncolim police outpost was raided. One policeman was shot dead and the remaining 6 overpowered. Their arms and ammunition were captured.

27-5-1955 Aldona police outpost was assaulted. One policeman was wounded in the exchange of fire. Fire arms were seized by the underground.

10-6-1955 An attempt to blow up railway tunnel No. 10 was made by the underground workers of ERGOA. Tunnel sustained serious damage.

25-6-1955 Shri Amirchand Gupta, an Indian satyagrahi who entered Goa in the sixth batch of satyagrahis, was cruelly beaten to death by the Portuguese police at Kiranpanim.

30-6-1955 The Railway bridge No. 120, between Sanvordem and Kallay, was blown up by the underground workers of ERGOA. The bridge sustained serious damage.

30-6-1955 A mine at Surla in Bicholim taluka was attacked by the underground workers of EROGA. Considerable quantity of explosive materials worth over Rs. 50,000/- was taken away.

3-7-1955 Shri Nityanand Shah and Baburao Thorat, two Indian satyagrahis, were shot dead by the Portuguese police at Patradevi.

25-7-1955 An armed police party of 40 strong headed by Agente Monteiro arrived at Savoi-Verem to terrorise the villagers and to retaliate against them. The whole village was rounded up. A curfew was imposed for one month continuously. Over 50 persons were arrested and beaten brutally. Innocent villagers were fired upon indiscriminately resulting in one casualty. The arrested persons included the village police patil Shri Padmaker Savaikar and his daughter Smt. Sharada Savaikar.

2-8-1955 Nagar Haveli Liberation day was celebrated by the Azad Gomantak Dal with token liberation of Two Goan villages namely Nayem and Surla.

14-8-1955 Shri. Krishna Shambe Shett, of Pomburpa, was tied to a tree and was shot dead by the Goa Police, for refusing to confess certain information.

14-8-1955 Shri Sakharam Yeshwant Shirodkar, of Skoshim, was shot by the police while trying to escape across a river. The resulting serious injuries disabled him from swimming across and drowned in the river.

27-10-1955 Betim Police outpost was raided by the underground workers. One head constable lost his life in the exchange of fire that resulted there.

Shri. Mohan Kanade, an underground worker, sustained serious injuries and fell in the hands of the police. The others escaped with arms and ammunition.

30-11-1955 Golauli outpost was raided by the underground workers of ERGOA. A wall of the post was blown up. Police overpowered and their arms seized.

-11-1955 Shri. Prabhakar Venenkar, of Savoi Verem, died in hospital as a result of bullet injuries sustained by him. He was arrested by the police in connection with the Savoi Verem incident and shot at in the round up.

16-1-1956 A police jeep was ambushed on its way to Chandel. The driver of the jeep was seriously wounded and succumbed to the injuries subsequently. Arms were captured and the jeep set on fire.

5-3-1956 Shri. Bala Gopal Desai and Babu Vishnu Gavans, two brave underground patriots, put up a tough fight against the notorious Agente Monteiro and his armed party of 40 strong, at Xetards, and fell down wounded after injuring Monteiro and killing 5 Portuguese European soldiers. wounded Desai and Gavans were later shot dead cruelly and cremated at Chandel without intimating their relatives.

8-2-1956 A mine of Abdul Kader at Talaulim in Sanguem was destroyed by the underground workers of ERGOA. Buildings were blown down and explosives captured.

13-3-1956 A carriage of a train was blown up by a time bomb between Sanvordem and Kallay. 2 Military personnel and some of the staff of M/s. Chowgule's mine were injured, of whom one Mr. Tony Fernandes later succumbed to the injuries.

3-3-1956 A railway trolley carrying cash of several thousands was ambushed at Caranzo and cash seized. One policeman, Vitorino Queiroz, lost his life in the exchange of fire.

15-4-1956 Dr. Jose Quadros, judge of the Military Tribunal of Goa, sustained serious injuries as a result of an explosion of a parcel containing a bomb in his hand. Three more similar parcels addressed to Cap. Fortunato de Miranda, Damodar Mangalji and Vassudev Deshpandhu were recovered on the same day and taken charge by the police.

27-4-1956 Eng. Maciel Chaves a relative of the Portuguese Foreign Member Paulo Cunha, was shot dead in an encounter with the underground workers at Pale in Satari.

3-5-1956 One policeman, Ibrahim Khan, was shot dead and one police informant, Avelino, was injured by the Portuguese soldiers at Shiroda (Ponda) in the attempt to arrest the imaginary terrorists.

5-5-1956 2 Portuguese European soldiers, tired of the Salazar regime, fled to India for asylum.

2-6-1956 Shri. Krishna Porobo, of Panjim, died as a result of severe beating by the Portuguese police to force out a confession. He was arrested in connection with Eng. Chaves' death. This cold blooded murder was later covered by a false story.

11-6-1955 A mine at Pirla (Quepem) was attacked and destroyed by the underground workers of ERGOA. Machinery and other goods including buildings worth Rs. 2,00,000/- were burnt to ashes. Explosives were captured by the underground workers.

6-1956 Mass arrests of citizens from all over Goa has taken place. This includes prominent citizens and some known Portuguese supporters. Among those arrested are Shamba Kirtani, Frank Sequeira, Alvaro Furtado, Javar Dias, Vinginkar, Illidio D'Costa, Costa Frias, Vasant Naik, Vinayak Naik, Antonio Colaco, Alvaro Costa. Some of these have been brutally tortured.

1-7-1956 Lord Mahadeo's temple at Kamarkhan in Sanguem taluka was raided and desecrated by the Goan police aided by the Portuguese European soldiers. The Holy "Linga" was displaced and the images of Shri Ganapati and Nandi were mutilated. The priest of temple, a young disabled boy, was severely beaten.

31-7-1956 An omnibus of the capacity of 23 passengers was stopped and destroyed by the nderground workers at Nercel in Ponda.

14-8-1956 A train taking Portuguese soldiers and manned by European personnel was attacked by nationalists between Collem and Kalay and some Portuguese soldiers lost their lives in this encounter.

More recently the mines owned by M/s. Dempo & Co. and Timphs Brothers were attacked and severe damage done.

