

# **HISTORY OF MOVEMENT AND CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE BODOS FOR BODOLAND FROM THE GOHPUR**

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Bodos of the Gohpur has a dream of separate state i.e. Bodoland. So they had been participating in any programme of movement for separate state Bodoland launched by ABSU or any other organization. Before the launching of movement by ABSU for separate state Bodoland led by Upendra Nath Brahma when there was the movement of Udayachal launched by PTCA during that time also the Bodo and other tribal people of Gohpur participated in the movement and various programme launched by PTCA. The mentionable PTCA leaders from Gohpur were Baputy Payeng, Thaneswar Narzary, Sochimohan Basumatary, Khiran Narzary, Deben Islary, Dutta Boro, Khena Basumatary, Suren Narzary and many others. Those tribal leaders raised voice for separate state Udayachal from Gohpur area. Social worker of Gohpur Sobharam Goyary, Bodan Narzary were also supported the demand of Udayachal.

Since then non tribal of Gohpur disliked such movement of separate state. They thought that this separate state will make harm for them and this will bring disunity in the area. Besides this many tribal village were established in the northern part of Gohpur clearing the forest area during the decade of 1960 to 1970. Such establishment of new village and occupying of new land clearing the forest area was also became the headache matter for non tribal during that time. But there were also some old Bodo villages were existed under Gohpur P/S prior to the Independence of India. Occupying of new land by the Bodos in the northern part of Gohpur became a matter of jealousy for some souvinist non tribal. This resulted addition of fuel in the fire of anger and hatred between the Bodo and some souvinist Assamese. So when there was AASU movement of foreigner issue in 1983 the communal riot broke out between Bodo and non Bodo by misunderstanding to each other. During this public riot and communal clashes, many property and lives were lost belonging to the Bodo and non Bodos. Hundreds of villages were set fired belonging to Bodo and non Bodos. Many people were killed and suffered from both side. A group of Bodo Doudini (belonging to women spiritual group) were slained in this carnage. More than 20 Bodo people were killed in this communal clashes at Gohpur.

Again after just four year of this riot and communal clashes ABSU launched a movement for separate state Bodoland led by Upendra Nath Brahma in 1987. In this movement Gohpur's Bodo completely supported to the movement for separate state. Gohpur's Bodo could understand the suppression and exploitation upon them by some souvinist Assamese and Assam Govt. During that time ABSU leader from Gohpur were Mr. Nityananda Basumatary, Rwmwi Rwmwi (Romon) Basumatary, Lojen Basumatary, Kamala Mochahary, Piyarilal Basumatary, Banerwar Basumatary, Mongeswar Boro and many others. Some Anchalik ABSU leaders from Gohpur were Mr. Biyaram Narzary, Someswar Basumatary, Rakesh Uzir, Raju Mohan Basumatary, Lal Basumatary, Ringkhang Basumatary, Prasanta Basumatary, Krishna Basumatary, Dijen Baglary, Subash Wary, Gobinda Brahma, Orkhi Islary and many others. Some frontal head of ABWWF district leaders during that period were Smt. Phuleswari Narzary, Premeswari Mochahary, Niruda Basumatary, Nolosri Basumatary, Madhabi Daimary, Urmila Narzary, Thoroni Goyary, Junaki Basumatary, Fwisali Narzary and many others. Some Anchalik ABWWF leaders were Kheswari Mochahary, Niyoti Narzary, Anu Basumatary, Purnima Basumatary, Nabwthi Basumatary, Binu Basumatary, Girija Narzary, Ranimai Mochahary, Eli Narzary, Kokila Basumatary, Komlabati Iswary, Bwijonti Mochahary and many others.

The district leader of BPAC from Gohpur were Shri Tharani Basumatary, Sunil Mochahary, Rajen Basumatary, Beremwdwi (Binanda) Mochahary, Amarendra Narzary, Gonesh Mochahary, Ajit Mochahary, Ananda Basumatary, Pranay Basumatary and many others.

The district Volunteer Force leaders were Mr. Bipin Goyary, Chandreswar Narzary, Ranasing Basumatary, Sailen Narzary and many others.

The Frontal head of the Anchalik Volunteer Force leaders were Shri Bimal Basumatary, Pradip Basumatary, Tarzan Ramchiary, Rustel Narzary, Mwlao Basumatary, Joleswar Basumatary, Dilip Basumatary, Dabid Narzary, Moneswar Narzary, Kamal Mochahary, Kamal Narzary, Korteng Basumatary, Promod Basumatary, Subir Narzary, Pradip Basumatary, Jogen Basumatary, Subha Narzary, Dondisoron Basumatary, Bigen Narzary, Khaosling Basumatary, SaithingLengra Basumatary, Mohendra Narzary and many others.

During that time ABSU President Upendra Nath Brahma, BPAC Chairman Sansuma Khungur Bwiswmuthiary, ABWWF President Pramila Rani Brahma and many Bodo leaders including Mr. Hagrama Mohilary visited at Gohpur to organize the public meeting. The Bodos of the Gohpur spearheaded the movement as per their calling and invitation. Dharna, Hortal, Road Blocked, Train Rokho, Mass Rally, Procession took place

as the part of movement. Dwikhrong Basumatary and Gobinda Brahma sang the Bodo National Songs to inspire and arouse the masses to take part in the movement. Dwikhrong Basumatary's from Gohpur heart touching National Patriotic Songs aroused and inspired all over Assam among the Bodos to jump in the movement.

But such democratic movement was not liked and tolerated by some souvinist Assamese. They tried to obstruct and resist such democratic movement. The Assam Police also instigated and helped them in this regard. Many ABSU, BPAC, VF worker were arrested by the Police and sent them to jail. Some ABWWF workers were molestrated and raped by police, army and anti movement supporter. As a result the movement also turned into violence. The gun battle and encounter took place between Bodos and Police Bn. many times in the Bodo area. Many Bodo people were shot death, shot wounded, killed by the police and anti movement supporter. Still Bodos of the Gohpur were not tired and retreated. Their target was only to achieve the Bodoland. Their slogan was only **"Do or Die for Bodoland"** The Govt. took repressive measure to suppress the movement. The police resorted their firing. Firing become the order of the day. They used the shoot at sight policy. The Bodo youths of the Gohpur also pledged to sacrifice their life for the cause of Bodoland. To scare away the police from Bodo area and to prevent their repressive measure the anger Bodo youth retaliate the police by encountering and attacking their camp/outpost at Rajgarh of Gohpur. Dangerous encounter took place between Bodo youths and police at Rajgarh, Gohpur.

At last when ABSU took decision to declare 1000 (one thousand) hour Assam Bondh starting from 15<sup>th</sup> August 1989. The communal riot and carnage broke out at Gohpur starting from 8<sup>th</sup> August to 15<sup>th</sup> August 1989. The police indulged and helped the anti supporter of Bodoland Movement. The Bodos villages were set fired line by line one after another by anti movement supporter with the help of Assam Police Bn. Many innocent Bodo people including women and child who were unable to run away were killed. There was no flying of bus, train. All means of communication was cut off. Town, shop, market were closed. Killing murdering, shooting, looting, scaring, chasing of one group to another group become the order of the day. The Govt. administration was completely paralysed and collapsed. There was nothing of govt. administration, govt. rule and law. Behaviour of human being was degraded to the behaviour of animal and beast. This incident of carnage and mass-massacre shocked and influenced all over the Assam. Such communal clashes and riot continued for one week starting from 8<sup>th</sup> August to 15<sup>th</sup> August 1989. Thousand of Bodos houses were set ablazed by the anti movement supporter, with the help of Assam Police Bn. Bodos had to fled away in the jungle of neighbouring state of Arunachal Pradesh. In Assam it become automatically undeclared

Assam Bandh. Arunachal Govt helped the sheltering Bodos in Arunachal Pradesh in the camp like Kokila, Hollongi, Magoni, Chatrang and Sessa. Total 534 Bodo people had lost their lives in this mass-massacre. So it is a black mark in the history of Assam during Bodoland movement. The then Hon'ble CM of Arunachal Pradesh Mr. Gegong Apang highlighted the Gohpur's this incident and intimated the whole matter to central govt, led by P.M. Rajiv Gandhi. As a result the central govt, compelled and agreed to invite ABSU to talk for the solution of Bodoland issue and tripartite talk started on 28<sup>th</sup> August 1989. Thus we can definitely say that the carnage and mass-massacre incident of Gohpur was the key opener of the door of the Delhi tripartite talk for the first time. After long discussion in 1993 BAC accord was held. But unfortunately Gohpur was excluded from that BAC agreement. And only on when accord was declared the Bodos of the Gohpur could able to think of their defeatness in the struggle of Bodoland movement. On that day of accord no one Bodo of Gohpur could help to stop their tears of eyes. No provision was kept in the accord for the compensation of lost of lives and property, and wounded person in movement even on humanitarian ground. That is why Gohpur's Bodo are still economically lagging behind in the region. The circumstances was very cruel and betrayal for the Bodos of the Gohpur.

Again in 1995 BLT started arms struggle for separate state Bodoland led by Hagrama Mohilary. In this arms struggle also many Bodo youths joined from Gohpur. Bodos from Gohpur supported in this struggle. Many BLT cadres sacrificed their valuable life. Some of them are Ranasing Basumatary, Mohan Uzir, Shanti Basumatary, Pranjeet Basumatary, Monjay Wary and many others. The accord was held in 2003 with govt. and BLT leaders and BTC or BTAD was created. But unfortunately this time also Bodos of the Gohpur were excluded from BTC accord.

Thus, Bodos of the Gohpur has many contribution and sacrifices towards the creation of BAC and BTC. But they had been depriving from their dues. Recently we are also depriving from third bodo accord of B.T.R.( Bodoland Teritorial Region). Still Bodos of the Gohpur are hopeful towards the separate state Bodoland. The bodos of the Gohpur also awaiting for good result in coming days regarding the solution of vex Bodo problem. At last it is my big clarion call to all Bodos of the world to be united to fulfil our demand which is the greatest demand of the century for Bodos i.e. separate state **BODOLAND.**