

# NATIONALIST HISTORIOGRAPHY AND TARACHAND(PART-2)

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# TARACHAND

- Tara Chand was an Indian archaeologist and historian specialising in the Ancient History and Culture of India. He taught at Allahabad University and served as Vice-Chancellor in the 1940s.
- Chand later went on to serve as the Ambassador of India to Iran, and as Education Advisor within the Government of India.
- Tara Chand was son of Munshi Kripa Narain .He was born at Sialkot o 17 June 1888 and died on 14 Oct. 1973.From 1951 to 1956 he was ambassador to Tehran.



# HIS WORKS

- *Chand, Tara (1922). Influence of Islam on Indian Culture. Read Books. ISBN 9781406730401.*
- *Chand, Tara (1966).Material and ideological factors in Indian history. University of Allahabad.*
- *Chand, Tara (1967).History of the freeddom Movement in India. Publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.*
- *Chand, Tara (1979).Society and state in the Mughal Period.Book Traders.*
- *Chand, Tara (1990). Educational Technology. Anmol. ISBN 8170413990.*
- *Chand, Tara (1997). Modern Child Psychology. Anmol. ISBN 8170416531.*
- *Chand, Tara (2002). Educational Psychology. Anmol. ISBN 8170416523.*
- *Chand, Tara (2003). Principles of Teaching. Anmol. ISBN 8170413958*



# HISTORY WRITINGS

- In 1955 the Government of India made Tara Chand undertake the writing of the history of the Freedom Movement for which he utilized the services of some experts of his choice . Tarachand in his History of Freedom Movement , without claiming his work to be definitive expects that it will be ‘superseded again and again’ with new additions to knowledge. Tara Chand states that his approach is dialectical: state of society before the British arrival (thesis), the British rule (antithesis) and Freedom Movement (synthesis). This model was rejected by R.C. Majumdar and he concentrates on the ‘political account of independence’.



# HISTORY WRITINGS

- Both Majumdar and Tarachand share certain striking similarity in their views , for example , they believe that Indian nationalism was of recent growth, and had not existed in pre-British India. But on the Revolt of 1857 they differ violently. Tara Chand calls it a national revolt ‘the last attempt of the effete old order to recover its departed glory’. Majumdar regards it, as a too well known , as the ‘first great and direct challenge to the British rule in India’ and is neither ‘first’ nor ‘national’ , nor ‘ a war of independence’. While Tara Chand waxes eloquent on the foundation of the Congress and describes it as ‘ the most remarkable event in Indian history’ , Majumdar , somewhat reticent , chronicles the event with brief explanation about its foundation.



# HISTORY WRITINGS

- Majumdar and Tara Chand differ widely in the analysis of the communal problem. Majumdar firmly believes that the Hindus and Muslims constitute two separate nations , while Tara Chand states they represent composite culture. He states that the idea that Hindus and Muslims were separate communities divided by religion took birth with the aid of British midwife, and not before.
- The British were really responsible , Tara Chand maintains , for the separate electorate as they had instigated the Muslims to make this demand. He denounces the British for their ‘Divide and Rule’ policy. But he also criticizes the congress for the shortsighted policy in ignoring Jinnah which wounded his vanity. He holds the Congress responsible for the ‘sudden emergence of Jinnah as the arbiter of India’s destiny’.



# HISTORY WRITINGS

- Tara Chand concedes that the Muslims had certain legitimate grievances , but they were exaggerated. He does not spare the Muslims for seeing the national problem from a narrow point of view. He is very critical of Sir Mohammad Iqbal and Jinnah.
- Majumdar believes that Pakistan lay in the logic of history, but Tara Chand resigns himself to the philosophical contemplation that Pakistan was brought into being by some unkind fate.
- Majumdar disputes Gandhi as the Father of Indian nationalism which honour , he thinks , only Surendranath Banerjee deserves. Majumdar declares that Gandhi failed because he could not preserve the unity of India. According to him his worst sin was that he imported mysticism into politics.



# HISTORY WRITINGS

- To Tara Chand Gandhi's role was revolutionary, but to Majumdar, it was negative. In Majumdar's views world forces and the unrest in the Indian army made freedom possible but Tara Chand holds that without Gandhi things would not have worked out.
- Tara Chand studied history at Oxford and his favourites were Ranke, Acton and E. Lipson.
- Tara Chand describes not only the events but also the social and institutional configuration. His work is characterized by his wide learning and breadth of interpretation, and is a study of social and economic life with politics thrown in.

(Concluded)