

# SARDAR PATEL:AN OUT SPOKEN PERSON

By Dr. Vasant Patel\*

Acquaintance of so many aspects of personality of Sardar Patel can be had from his lectures. So many attributes of his character like his daring, his fearlessness, his brilliance, his inexhaustible patience, his speech against injustice etc. is brought out from his lectures. Brilliance and power of Gujarati language of Sardar Patel is as good as contribution of Gandhiji in transforming of Gujarati prose.

Sardar Patel has never thought of pureness or impureness of language in terms of grammar or literature. It seems that poet Akhaji, who was blunt, batter but true speaking and well wisher of society was ideal of Sardar Patel. Speech of Akhaji becomes naturally literary which was blossomed from his heart effortlessly by seeing pains of people. It comes down across heart. We can see a unique application of sharp science of figures of speech, idioms and powerful native language in speech of Akhaji. Base of speech of sharp satire of Akhaji is echoes from sharp speech of Sardar Patel frequently.

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\*Asst. Prof. P.G.Dept. of History, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar.  
Dist.:Anand.

“Bhashane shu vadage bhur, je ranma jite te shur” (he is the real warrior, who wins the battle.) Of course, attractive creation which is seen in prose of lectures but real achievement of prose is remained in effectiveness of depth of meaning and subtleness which is expressed in one’s speech. Prevalent proverbs, idioms and to whom critics say as rural that domestic simile and metaphors rise out from speech of Sardar effortlessly. Poetic sentiments like fearlessness, fierce and satire flow out vary naturally from his speech. Acquaintance of inspiring and mettle speech is happened from speech of Sardar of Bardoli powerfully. Here, a try has been done to present various aspects of his personality on the basis of public speeches <sup>(1)</sup> spoken by Sardar Patel.

The first beginning of public speeches of Sardar was done on the occasion of Kheda Satyagrah. The first public speech of Sardar was done at raj village on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1918 to farmers who resided on the bank of Mahi River. Presentation of his justice, fearlessness and firmness is seen from his lecture. “Passionate what you have should be used for fighting of justice...Leave raising scythe...maintain brotherhood, humble man and etiquette, ask our rights firmly...government will test severally but there is no happiness without pain.” <sup>(2)</sup>

He says while making understand meaning of Satyagraha and non-cooperation to people of Kheda district: “Hardest heart can be made obeyed by love. Our love should be as powerful as harsh of opposite person, and

then we can win surely. That is the secret of struggle of Satyagraha...Non-cooperation is a great war between state and people maintaining limit of rules and regulation.”<sup>(3)</sup> He opposed black rule of Rolet Act in this way: “What is the mistake of stone if a person tries to exchange stone at the time of difficulty saving it for long time and believing it as jewel? We kept faith in British justice and this is the result.”<sup>(4)</sup>

One can see intense patriotism of Sardar Patel in his address given on the occasion of fourth Gujarat Political conference, that he was people loving, knower tendency of people: “There are so many parties in us. We use our sense and energy in cutting each other. We cannot suffer our differences; we should learn his qualifies following his character, other than finding their demerits from whom we want to take justice.”<sup>(5)</sup> He says while making understand secret of success of Nagpur Flag Satyagrah. “We opposed what was among of government. There was truth and non-violence in our struggle so we could win the government.”<sup>(6)</sup>

And see his politeness and humbleness after victory in Nagpur Flag Satyagraha: “We should be more polite of the time of victory. God is the giver of victory or defeat. One who keeps vanity of the time of victory, his losses of the same time.”<sup>(7)</sup> Hear his true speech while making understand people to oppose ‘Haidiavers” firmly in Borsad. Satyagraha which was sharp as well: Here deceit will not do. This path is of suffering difficulty. It is of self-control and patience. Decide not to submit tax if you have love with

your reputation, if you are not friend of robbers, and if you are sober and true,”<sup>(8)</sup>

His speech on the occasion of victory of Borsad Satyagraha was the speech given and also written in golden fonts in the history of freedom fighting movement. “You show your love, when I make you fight against government but when I make you fight your love, with me will be known, whether it is right or wrong. If you unite, maintain non-violence, leave alcohol, and then I will not fight against you. Government is illusion. It is a fortress made up of air. It is a bubble of water. We have a cover in our eyes so we have acquainted.”<sup>(9)</sup>

We can hear patience and braveness in his speech which was full of fearlessness, braveness, inspiring and transparent as well. “You are become smooth due to fear. There is your quality that you do not learn quarreling. But, we should not be so smooth that we have no enough vexations to fight against injustice. It is fearlessness.”<sup>(10)</sup> Sharpness, satire, figure of speech and luster of Gujarati language are naturally proved in all these speeches of Bardoli lectures of Sardar Patel. “Mad elephant believes in arrogance. But what account to me of theses mosquitoes who have killed tigers and lions. I make understand that mosquito that let the elephant move whatever it wants but enter in its ear when time permits.”<sup>(11)</sup>

And see a best example which is weaver in his natural, easy and unfailling speech. “So many fragments are made from earthen pot. But one

such fragment is enough to break the pot. Then why a fragment should have to fear from pot. If there is fear, it is to pot and not to fragment.”<sup>(12)</sup> Discipline, training and thoughts of freedom which were in his mind are expressed in his speech given in fifth Kathiawad Conference. “There is shortage of training and organization, shortage of duty of police. We have not habited to give order; we wrongly believe freedom to uncontrolled behaviour in this age of personal freedom.”<sup>(13)</sup>

Quality of social reforming is seen remained in his speech which was full of slander while youths of Bihar were shouting for “victory of revolution”. “What you are shouting for revolution. You have not done revolution in your life. You are inclined to old customs and beliefs you have no enough courage to break this curtain.”<sup>(14)</sup> His speech proves his spokes manhood, discipline, fearlessness and open hardness given of the time of ‘public address respecting’ to while freedom fighting struggle of 1930 at Ahmedabad. “A post of commander is given to me. But I am a farmer. I will make my point clear. I will not put my fact both in milk and curd. Intrigue will not do against me.”<sup>(15)</sup>

And hear power of heart and brain of people and a tinkle of his firm faith regarding power of soul of people. “Government can break our heads but cannot break our heart. Remember that their bullet can break our soul.”<sup>(16)</sup> When some Muslims assaulted on him factually in procession of conference of Bhavnagar Praja Mandal secretly, Sardar was saved due to

his some colleagues. He told to such cowards who assaulted secretly. "I wish unity of each caste, if true unity is to be maintained. We should find out them. Who are behind this assault? I hate cowards. I will never ready to company cowards." <sup>(17)</sup>

Here irony and satire in his speech which was given for pitiable position of native kings in dependent India. Boys of 'Targala' move with sword in drama-school. Whatever freedom is there in those boys, even such freedom is not in these native kings. Some states are so small that of six to seven villages and owned of these villages is called king. One cannot become free merely with putting a crown on his head." <sup>(18)</sup> Anger against British kingdom and his strong fascination to make India free is expressed in his speech which was given on the occasion of giving congratulation to people of Vadodara state which was joined to Indian union. "British say that what will happen if we go back but we say that please go from here. Let it be happened whatever will happen to us." <sup>(19)</sup>

His anger against British is also expressed in his speech which was given to citizens of Mumbai. "(They) say that to whom we entrust this country. I say that entrust if to an Indian, let he be a thief and go from here." <sup>(20)</sup> He acquainted his reality and open heartedness in the answer to a 'public address respecting' given by Raipur congress. "You have praised me. If I believe whatever is written in it, then my feet will be in air. But I am used to put my feet on earth." <sup>(21)</sup> When the country became free, there

were all-round riots in India and there was absence of law and order. Heart of Sardar had a tender feeling in his heart by seeing pitiable condition of people and madness of people. Affliction for affected people and his feeling for people both are seen in his address which was given in Ramlila ground on 11-08-1947. "When you cut heads of each other and people of the world see a fiasco, poison which was in heart of British is now brought out. People will not be separated in castes. Our country is partitioned. But people of India are not partitioned." (22)

At the end, let us see some examples how proverbs and idioms of Gujarati language, domestic figure of ornaments, specific peculiarities are used in his speech subtle and strength in his several speeches.

- ❖ "We should leave our drawbacks. What are in us..."
- ❖ "Now the age of maintaining religion of body and money is likely to finish."
- ❖ "Harry for civil disobedience is not Kesariya but it is just like miscalculated enterprise."
- ❖ "I am telling to such seed to Bardoli."
- ❖ He has to die who is borne then why we should die like a Holo (dove like bird)?"
- ❖ "A solid lamp (Ganagu) will not dissolve even one hundred quintal woods are burned"

- ❖ “Brahman who exampalizes Smriti for marriage of dolls is not Brahmin, but he is devil.”
- ❖ “A wise man should walk by pre-thinking of worst conditions.
- ❖ See that a defective cat does not cross from ill men.”
- ❖ “There is no medicine for broken and no one can break unbroken.”
- ❖ We will not do such a work that a ghost goes and another ghost comes. One cannot sink in his father’s well.”

While thinking to all these Sardar was a shrewd leader who has made Gujarati language powerful by so many ways.



**References:**

1. Sardar Vallabhbhai Na Bhashano. Ed. By Narhari Parikh and Uttamchand Shah.
2. Sardar Vallabhbhai Na Bhashano, First edition, p.3.
3. ibid, p. 07.
4. ibid, p. 15.
5. ibid, p. 24.
6. ibid, p. 80.
7. ibid, p. 81.
8. ibid, p. 84.
9. ibid, p. 103.
10. ibid, p. 150.
11. ibid, p. 152.
12. ibid, p. 152.
13. ibid, p. 193.
14. ibid, p. 261.
15. ibid, p. 239.
16. ibid, p. 240.
17. ibid, p. 433.
18. ibid, p. 324.
19. ibid, p. 472.
20. ibid, p. 517.
21. ibid, p. 463.
22. ibid, p. 635.