**MINOR RESEARCH PROJECT**

**MRP (H) -448 /12-13/KLKE010/UGC-SWRO**

**Principal Investigator: Dr.Bindu K Ravi.**

**Assistant Professor of History.**

**THE KHILAFAT MOVEMENT IN MALABAR AND NATIONAL STRUGGLE**

**Summary of the Project**

Kerala played a prominent role in the non Co-operation movement. Malabar, the northern part of Kerala had a fairly large Muslim population so the congress and Khilafat movements merged themselves in to a single movement. The dynamic leadership of Gadhiji helped the growth of Khilafat movement in India. Mahatma Gandhi and Moulana Shoukat Ali visited Calicut on 18th Aug 1920, they were given a pompous welcome by the people of Malabar. After their visit Khilafat committees were organized in almost all the villages in Malabar. The Kerala Khilafat committee was organized in 1920, with Abdul Rahaman as secretary and Kattilasseri Muhammad Musaliyar as the president.

The message of the Khilafat movement in Malabar was that the Muslims need a strong Caliph, only a free India could help to achieve that. The Hindus also joined in the Khilafat movement because the common enemy of both the Hindus and the Muslims were the British. The entry of moplahs (Malabar Muslims) in the non-coperation movement was not liked by the caste Hindus in Malabar. The British officials who did not like the Hindu Muslim entente tried to break up it by the all means available to them. Massive khilafat meetings were conducted in important centers of Malabar. The British authority used extreme oppressive measures to suppress the movement. Khilafat volunteers were implicated in false case, arrested and punished by the British.

One of the important events related to the khilafat movement in Malabar was the Malabar Rebellion of 1921. The rebellion lasted for six months. It was suppressed by the Govt. by using draconian measures. After the rebellion the moplah rebels were hanged or deported to the Andaman islands. Gandhiji called off the non-coperation movement after the ChouriChouri incident. Thus the Khilafat issue came to an end in India.

**Objectives :**

* To understand the Socio – Political History of Malabar
* Highlight the Khilafat Movement in Malabar in the colonial period.
* Thereby open up a new historical path to the past of Malabar.

**Sources :-**

Both primary and secondary sources are used for the completion of the work. Regional achieves in Calicut supplied rich sources for the study. Personal interviews with historians like Dr. T.P Sankarankutty Nair, Dr. M.G.S Narayanan etc. supplied valuable information for the study.

The secondary sources like books, journals, periodicals, magazines are collected from various libraries like Kerala University library, K.C.H.R Thiruvananthapuram, VTM NSS College Library and Calicut University Library.

**Methodology :-**

Historical, analytical and descriptive methods are used for this study

**Findings :-**

The congress leaders viewed the Khilafat agitation as a golden opportunity to bring the Muslim masses in to the national movement. The Khilafat movement got its full support from India because of the active participation of Gandhiji. The Muslims of Malabar attained the zenith of their glory and prosperity mainly due to the tolerance support and Co-operation of the Hindu rules of Kerala, This systems changed after the Mysorean invasions. The Khilafat movement gave an opportunity to make the Hindus and the Muslims of Malabar to forget their century old rivalries and join together as brothers to flight for the freedom of the country. After the Rebellion of 1921, the congress Khilafat leaders exhorted the people of both the communities to stand united and forget and forgive the sad events happened during the period of the Rebellion.

When Mustafa Kamal Pasha became the President of the Turkish Republic, he abolished the age old institution of Khilafat on 3rd March 1924, with this the relevance of the Khilafat agitation came to an end. Although the Khilafat movement was a religions issue related to Turkey it had a remarkable effect on the Indian national movement.