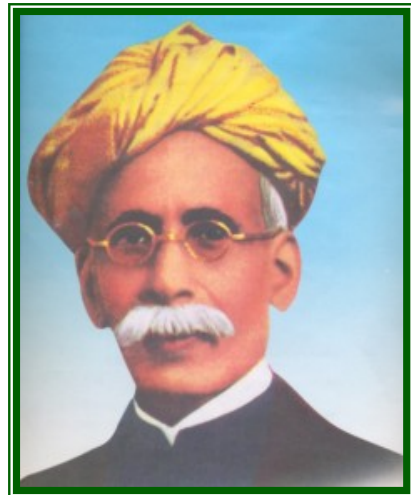
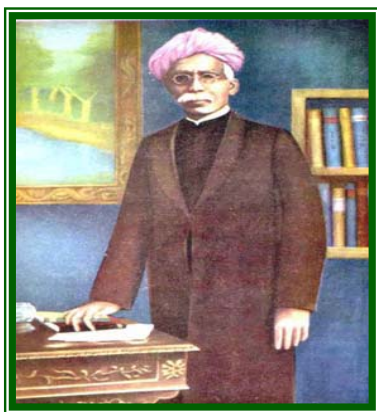


The distinguished National leader Madhusudan Das, was the maker of the first linguistic State of Orissa. Madhusudan, also known as *Utkal Gourab* (Orissa's Pride) was the vanguard in the *Swadeshi* Industrialization. This great leader was born on 28 April 1848 in Satyabhamapur village, near about 20 kilometers from Cuttack District of Orissa. His father was Choudhury Raghunath Das and mother was Parbati Debi. In his childhood he was called as Govindaballabh. In Orissa, people used to call him 'Madhu Baristar' (Advocate Madhusudan). He was the first Oriya who completed B.A. After passing the entrance examination in 1864, he went to Calcutta (now Kolkata) for higher studies. He stayed there for 15 years from 1866 to 1881, and completed his MA and BL degrees. As a whole, He was the first Graduate, M.A. and B.L. of Orissa.



Orissa's history says, the emergence of *Utkal Gourab* Madhusudan Das changed the entire socio-political gamut of Orissa and created new vigor in the minds of Oriya young men. This created patriotism and Oriya nationalism in those young men's hearts and minds. In the year 1903 "Ganjam Jatiya Samiti" was formed at Rambha which was attended by Utkal Gourab Madhusudan Das.



The major agenda of this meeting was "all round development of Orissa".

The success of "*Ganjam Jatiya Samiti*" meeting inspired Madhu Babu as a result of which an organisation namely "*Utkal Sammilani*" was formed to solve different problems of Oriyas. The first session of "Utkal Sammilani" held at Idga Padia of Cuttack on 30th December 1903.

Madhubabu was an excellent orator in Oriya, English and Bengali. He has written a number of poems and articles in Oriya and English which contain high sense of patriotism among people of Orissa. During his whole life he gave away all his earnings generously for the higher education of poor children.

ROLE IN NATIONAL MOVEMENTS

Mr. Das's contribution in all major national movements of our country is tremendous. He always worked for the political, economical and social upliftment of our State of Orissa. Starting from *Swedeshi* Movement to Co-operative movement he played a major role. During this period he decided to launch a multi-faced co-operative with rural agricultural base having a *Swedeshi* touch in form of "The Cuttack Co-operative Store". This step helped in safeguarding the interest of the primary agriculturists and *Swedeshi* artisans. As a part of this *Swedeshi* Movement he formed "Orissa Art Wares" with an objective to impart training to run "Fly Shuttel Looms" which was the latest weaving technology of those days.



Madhusudan Das is also acclaimed as a great Legislator and Journalist. He was the first Oriya to be the member of Legislative Council and Member of Central Legislative Assembly. He was the first Oriya to sail overseas. He had the distinction of being the first Indian

Minister. This great man has written many important poems like *“Utkal Santan”*, *“Jati Itihash”* and *“Jananira Ukti”*.

Madhusudan lived a full epoch-making eventful life. After his much awaited dreams being fulfilled he died on 04.02.1934 at the age of 86. Throughout his entire life he fought to bring the dismembered Oriya people together and created the province of Orissa for them. His immense contribution towards the State and Nation would be admired forever.