CHAPTER-VII

CONCLUSION
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The real successor of Kalaguru Bishnu Prasad Rabha and Jyoti Prasad Agarwala was Dr. Bhupen Hazarika. Dr. Bhupen Hazarika had an incomparable personality. The artist of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika was universal. He was a singer, music composer, journalist, prose writer, poet, film maker, artist, director, folk songs collector and educationist. His talent was versatile. However, he was very well known throughout the country and abroad as a music composer and singer and was the heart throb of the people of Assam. When he was just 11 years old he composed song *Kukhumbororor Putra Sri Sankargurue Dhorisile Namore Tan* through which he showed his talented personality at an early age.

In the songs composed by Dr. Hazarika, one can notice the social life of Assamese people. His songs reflect the simplicity and easy going life of the people. In his songs, the real picture of the hopes, joys, sorrow, success and failure of general people is reflected. One can realize the magnitude of the greatness of this music artist through his songs. Compared to several other artists Dr. Bhupen Hazarika’s talent was exceptional. He worked for the New York Television while editing the magazine, *New India* of the Indian Students’ Association. During the period when he was a research scholar he won a gold medal from Eleanor Roosevelt for his music. He went to America and established his ability in the field of music. On February 14, 1972 he participated in the Second International Music festival which was held in Berlin. He earned popularity...
by singing Assamese, Bengali and Hindi songs in the festival. He could sing in more than twenty languages.

His music transcended geographical boundaries and he was very popular in Bangladesh. He composed music for the film *Simona Periye* which was directed by a famous director of Bangladesh Allamgir Kabir. He was awarded as the best music director from the Bengali Chalachitra Samiti. At the request of Defence Ministry, he went to Srinagar, Ladakh, Leh etc, and sang at the barracks. Dr. Hazarika had a vast knowledge about folk culture. This knowledge helped him immensely when he had directed a Telefilm *Through Melody and Rhymes* on the subject of Indian folk song and folk dances. He was awarded by a film journalist committee of the Bengali film industry and from Bangladesh Journalist Association as the best music composer for the film *Simona Periye*. Dr. Bhupen Hazarika won gold medal from the Government of Arunachal Pradesh as a music composer of the film *Meri Dharam Meri Ma*. For his contribution towards Bengali films and music, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika was felicitated by the Bangladesh National Club, Bangladesh Sahitya Academy, Hrishik Shilpi Gosthi, Bangladesh Mahila Samiti, Dhaka club, Bangladesh Women Art Association, Ittefaak Kakat Goshti and from the P.G. Student’s Union body of Bangladesh University.

His personality is also reflected in his work for the society. He worked throughout his life to maintain the dignity of the different castes and communities of the North-East.

The role of Kalpana Lajmi in shaping the personality of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika is very important. She could understand his personality very well.

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika is no more among us. But his versatility will never die. Through his significant contributions, he has become immortal.
Dr. Hazarika endeavoured to give a new shape to Assamese nationality. It can be said that it was Dr. Bhupen Hazarika who introduced Assam and the entire north-east India to the whole world. Therefore, today everybody realises that without him Assam is incomplete. His outstanding personality was amazing.

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika got involved in politics in the later part of his life. During the Assam movement against illegal immigrants launched by ASSU, a cultural organization named the All Assam Janasanskritik Parishad was set up under the leadership of Dr. Hazarika. Bhupen Hazarika worked for Assamese culture also through his political activities by meeting several challenges he made valuable contributions to the political field also.

Today it is a matter of pride for every Assamese that Dr. Bhupen Hazarika's birth was a momentous occasion in the 20th century. Dr. Hazarika who was born in Assam, could impose his personality across the world. The first chapter of the thesis covers Dr. Hazarika's birth, education, service career and his family life. He fought against the vicissitudes of life. He lived a life facing all the complexities on his shoulders. He got the opportunity to get closely acquainted with Assam's art and culture at a very early stage in life. He came in touch with two iconic figures of Assam in that field, Jyoti Prasad Agarwala and Bishnu Prasad Rabha. These two played the most vital role in the transformation of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika as we know him today. His family life is also highlighted in the first chapter. Hazarika had a rich educational life. Starting from Cotton College to the Banaras Hindu University, he had the opportunity to study in prestigious institutions. He was fortunate enough to meet eminent persons like Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. Like education in the field of music also, he had the opportunity to study under virtual geniuses, which made him culturally rich.
After completing his education, he embarked on a working career. He gave glimpses of his acumen in the fields of teaching, editing newspapers and journals and in places of work like the Radio Centre. He started his family life in the meantime. His family life had its share of very tragic moments.

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika was blessed with a very strong personality. Everything he touched literally turned into gold because he was able to show his ability in every field he ventured into. It is not that he was known only as a song writer and singer. He was a journalist and a social worker. When he was in politics, he was involved with the people’s theatre movement-in all these area he has left an indelible stamp. All this is not possible for a lesser man to achieve. That is why it can be said that Dr. Bhupen Hazarika possessed a rare and amazing personality.

Even though Dr. Bhupen Hazarika was primarily associated with music, he was also an actor. He acted in the movie *Siraj* co-directed by Phani Sarma and Bishnu Rabha. He had also enacted a small role in the film *Indramalati*. One can find talent in him as an actor also. He started his career in music when he was a student of Tezpur High School. Thereafter he immersed himself completely in the world of music. He discussed music with the music directors, lyricists of those days. Music was his life. His songs have many strong forms. One can feel this if one tries to analyse his songs. The various spirits that his songs epitomize, the skill with which they have been written, their artistic picturization, the irrefutable truth they represent, the eternal experience, love, the choice of the words have made them famous and immortal. His songs reflected a deep sense of life, his pure, unalloyed sensitive mind. His songs have a deep humanism embedded in them, every word, every pronunciation in his songs, which are like history, have a very amazing quality. His songs reflect the whole gamut of emotions. His songs
are a call to the people to fight against exploitation. All these issues have been elaborately dealt with in the second chapter of the thesis, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika as a musician.

As a film director and music director, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika had a different identity. He made incomparable contribution to the world of Indian cinema by directing Assamese, Hindi and Bengali films and composing the music for nearly 31 Assamese, 15 Bengali, 14 Hindi, one Karbi, Bodo and Mising language films. And he was awarded the highest honour of Indian cinema Dada Saheb Phalke Award for his immense contributions. The fourth chapter of the thesis gives a brief description of the films he directed.

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika contributed in various ways, socially and politically to Assamese society. Through songs, journalism he tried to create a bond of brotherhood and harmony among the various tribes and communities inhabiting North East India. Through the Indian People Theatre Association and the people theatre’s movement and through politics, his contributions have been immense. Assam cannot be a healthy one if there is no peace, love and equality among the Bodos, Kacharis, Lalungs, Miri-Mikirs, Tai-Ahoms, Rabhas, Hajongs, Deoris, Chutias, Morans, Koch-Rajbongshis, Tea tribes indigenous Muslims living here. Steps were taken by him to develop the literature-culture of each of these communities. Dr. Hazarika was also actively involved in the political field in addition to the cultural field. He worked for the development of culture. He contested once for the State Assembly and twice for the Lok Sabha elections. In 1967, he won as an Independent candidate from the Nowboicha Legislative Assembly constituency. However, he lost both the times in the Lok Sabha elections first in 1971 from the Mangaldai seat as a candidate of the Jana Ganatantric party and in 2004 as a
candidate of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) from the Guwahati Lok Sabha seat. This has been discussed in the third chapter of the thesis.

Some of his remarkable activities towards social and political field have much impact on society in fifth Chapter of the thesis, the impact of Dr. Hazarika’s life and achievement on society and politics in Assam has been brought to focuses. After his demise, there was an unprecedented wave of shock which ran through his countless fans. The people of Assam were so shaken by his death that it could be only compared with the demise of some very nearest one. At that time, newspapers and magazines were full of emotional write-ups paying heart-felt tributes to the icon. One can get a feeling of his popularity, the respect which he enjoyed by going through these articles and messages. The people at large simply loved this man who tried to bring a novel and healthy thought process in the society through songs. The amazing atmosphere that prevailed following his death was a proof of the presence of his innumerable admirers. Through this pall of gloom, came out people’s feelings on him. While discussing Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, the importance of these views, these thoughts cannot be denied. What the common people, the artists, writers, journalists, politicians thought about Dr. Hazarika and Dr. Hazarika’s views, expressions on the common people have been also discussed in the fifth chapter of the thesis.

Dr. Bhupen Hazarika could never distance himself from controversies. His name got attached to political, family-centric, artistic, social, trust-related, will related, Kalpana Lajmi-centric, Lata Mangeshkar-centric, educational, funeral, Priyam Hazarika, Bharat Ratna centric etc controversies. In reality, he was pushed into controversies by the common people, his countless fans and the media. That was only because he was very close to all these people through songs. So if someone does or says something
which is unpalatable or cannot be accepted, then naturally those people give vent to their feelings and express their reactions. These have been discussed in the thesis’s sixth chapter.

After his death, people paid tributes to him in a very emotional manner. With his death, an age came to an end. Physically he may not be with us, but the genuine love expressed by lakhs and lakhs of people have given him immortality. The people’s artist Dr. Bhupen Hazarika will remain alive in the heart of every Assamese like the petal of a flower and his admirers hope that the future of Assamese language, culture and music will brighten further. In the absence of this world famous artist, the Assamese community, the government, his countless fans have a lot to do.

FINDINGS:

After discussion on Dr. Bhupen Hazarika’s life and activities it is found that the songs written by Dr. Hazarika are full humanism and social reform. For example:

1. His songs are a clear image of humanism.
2. His songs also reflect love for the fellow human being.
3. Dr. Hazarika’s songs have always spoken for unity among the people of various castes, tribes and communities living in Assam.
4. Dr. Hazarika’s songs also reflect his protest against the corruption which is actually seen in the contemporary society.
5. His songs also carry within themselves a fervent appeal to the people to work to rid the society of the ills afflicting it.
6. Some of his songs mention the Zamindari System and the exploitation and they also contain the ways in which such exploitation, deprivation can be obliterated.
7. His songs are full of patriotism, love for the nation.

8. The sacrifices made by the jawans of the security forces for the nation find mention in his songs as homage, tribute.

9. Dr. Hazarika’s songs also contributed for the freedom movement of neighbouring Bangladesh.

In a nutshell, it can be said that Dr. Hazarika’s songs were a commentary on every aspect of the society the good and the bad, the beautiful and the ugly, the open and the hidden.

SUGGESTIONS:

There are several areas to study the achievements or contributions of the artist of international fame, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika. The areas like literature, poetry, film direction, world tours, organizational skills etc. require discussion or analysis from different dimensions. To conserve his valuable work for all times to come and to publicize and popularize them, it is the need of the hour to take various steps. His songs have to be researched and analysed and taken before the new generation. The government should take all measures needed to get his songs translated into English and various other languages and place them before the world. The state government has already preserved his various creative works, awards, prizes, memorial signs etc at the Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra in Guwahati. Various organizations have already set up his statues at Lakhimpur, Bihpuria, Bokakhat, Guwahati, Dergaon, Sivsagar etc. His Samadhi near the Gauhati University has been constructed beautifully by the Assam Government. As this site lies on the way to the airport, it is hoped that it is developed in such a manner that domestic and international tourists are attracted enough to visit it. To keep Dr. Bhupen Hazarika alive, some of his creations may be included in the syllabus
of either schools or colleges. The government should take some steps so that the new generation can have a feel of his life philosophy, thinking, viewpoint, his creative works etc. In this context it is not possible to leave the subject of cooperation of the government or the common people aside.