

Political life of Shaheed Ghulam Muhammad

Banadi Baloch

Chairman Ghulam Muhammad was born on January 1, 1959, in Mand, the hometown of the national poet Mulla Fazul, in the house of Muhammad Ayub Baloch. He was born during the harsh rule of General Ayub Khan, known for his cruelty, at a time when Baloch bloodshed was common. However, Chairman Ghulam Muhammad was raised by a courageous mother, Bibi Hairnisa. Initially named Naseer Ahmed Khan, in the honour of Meer Naseer Khan Noori, but his grandfather called him Ghulam Muhammad. Once, in his childhood, they visited a hospital, and on the way back, his father showed him two tombs, symbolizing bravery and courage inherited from their ancestors who fought against the British. He had a deep interest in listening to stories of Baloch ancestors who fought for freedom. His father often recounted tales of brave martyrs who sacrificed their lives for their land, sparking's keen interest. From an early age, he displayed a talent for reciting poetry beautifully. He had a strong interest in both politics and poet.

He began his education at Soro (Mand) School in 1965. At the age of eight, in 1967, when the Baloch Student Organization (BSO) was founded, he actively participated in BSO circles and other programs, eagerly absorbing knowledge. During the height of BSO's influence in the Bhutto era, Ghulam Muhammad participated in all political activities under the guidance of Shaheed Fida Ahmad.

In 1974, he became the Zonal Secretary of Mand Zone amidst Balochistan's turmoil, where political workers were being targeted by the state. Despite the adversities, he continued his work with great enthusiasm and strategic planning, aiming to foster the nation against state oppression.

Due to curfews and state atrocities against political workers, he went underground for some periods. upon returning home, his mother expressed her anguish over the harm he was facing. However, he reassured her, stating that his actions were for a cause he believed in, one that would make her proud. He emphasized his commitment to securing the independence of their land, refusing to let State repression upon Baloch

During Bhutto's reign, many Baloch families migrated to Afghanistan but he further strengthened his resolve and ideological vision. He remained focused solely on the independence of the nation, demonstrating remarkable foresight and determination.

He sacrificed his personal desires to serve his nation diligently, guided initially by Shaheed Fida Ahmed, whose mentorship had a profound impact on the Baloch cause.

The Bhutto era strengthen Baloch political workers ideologically, with suppression only fuelling their resistance. Those efforts intensified to nationalist ideas in Baloch youth, emphasizing unity and the struggle for independence.

In 1979, upon his return from Qatar, he urged his brother to arrange a meeting with Sheer Muhammad Marri, a renowned Baloch guerrilla fighter. During their encounter, Marri advised him against aligning with Ghaus Bakhsh Bezanjo and Attaullah Mengal, considering them rebellious to the Baloch cause.

In 1980, he completed his matriculation from Government High School Soro (Mand) with distinction, followed by further education in Karachi in 1981, where he joined Sindh Muslim College. Amidst his studies, he actively participated in political activities, forming connections with fellow activists.

In 1982, his dedication for Baloch cause led to his appointment as the General Secretary of the Karachi Zone. His honesty and courage in managing student activities and nurturing ideological vision were widely appreciated.

Recognizing the need for Baloch politics in Karachi, he mobilized Baloch youth, successfully organizing BSO's political program in the area.

In 1984, under Shaheed Fida Ahmed's leadership, BSO reunited under its original ideology, with Ghulam Muhammad being appointed as the provisional president of BSO Sindh.

In 1985, after completing his graduation, he joined the University of Balochistan where he further continued his political activism. In 1986, during the 8th council session of BSO, he was selected as the Junior Vice Chairman. His political qualities and insight promoted organizational unity and adherence to decisions.

In 1987, amidst challenges from Kahoor Khan and the creation of BSO SOBH, Ghulam Muhammad played a crucial role unifying BSO once again. Along with Shaheed Fida Ahmed, they founded the Baloch National Youth Movement (BNYM), aiming to fight for Balochistan's victory.

At the first gathering of BNYM, they declared a departure from parliamentary politics, stating that Baloch issues could not be resolved through parliamentary means. This stance resonated with many BSO workers, who openly supported BNYM for the Baloch cause. In 1987, BSO and BNYM organized a public gathering in Mand, where the revolutionary spirit was worth watching, Baloch women and children waving BSO flags and chanting slogans in support of both organizations.

Following Shaheed Fida Ahmed's tenure, Waheed Baloch became Chairman, and Shaheed Ghulam Muhammad became the Secretary-General of BSO. Guided by Shaheed Fida Ahmed's ideology, Ghulam Muhammad emphasized rejecting parliamentary politics and focused on the real vision for the Baloch struggle. As the General Secretary of BSO, he met with the Afghan ambassador, initially denying support for the ANP movement in Quetta, but eventually gave them aid during their strike.

In the 1990 Council Session, he was chosen as the Chairman of BSO. In this role, he reiterated that parliamentary politics did not serve the interests of Baloch youth or the Baloch cause. In 1991, state violence erupted when members of the organization were martyred during a conflict at the Agriculture College in Mastung.

Following Shaheed Fida Ahmed's death, BNYM split again, leading to the formation of a new party, (BNM) by Dr. Malik and Dr. Abdul Hai. Ghulam Muhammad joined BNM after his BSO membership. In 1993, he concluded his first political career with BSO, having served sincerely from 1973 to 1993, during which he excelled in student politics.

Transitioning to party politics, Ghulam Muhammad joined BNM in 1993, aiming to continue Shaheed Fida Ahmed's vision. Despite challenges and rebellious acts by Dr. Abdul Hai and Dr. Malik, he remained steadfastly connected to the party. He was then appointed as the Zonal President of Kech.

During internal conflicts within the party, Ghulam Muhammad remained resolute, affirming that such rebellions were not sincere in serving the Baloch cause. In 1997-1998, after the failure of party, Akhtar Mengal, Dr. Hai, and Mahmood Khan Achakzai introduced PONAM Alliance. Ghulam Muhammad, as the Junior Vice President, clarified that BNM had no affiliation with PONAM.

The 2002 Pakistani Elections, where Dr. Malik and Dr. Hai participated. While chairman Ghulam Muhammad embarked on a revolutionary journey by establishing a new organizing body within BNM, standing alongside Lala Muneer, Shaheed Rasool Bakhsh, and Waja Muhammad Hussain Baloch.

In the 2004 Council Session of BNM, Shaheed Ghulam Muhammad declared that the party should support armed struggle for Baloch liberation, for armed organizations, and complete disengagement from parliamentary politics. Despite state repression, he continued to lead the party, advocating for national liberation and internationalizing Baloch issues. After all his struggle and fight for Baloch freedom. State threatened him and his family trying to suppress his voice for Baloch freedom movement.

He was illegally abducted on December 3rd, 2006. His abduction resulted in widespread demonstrations, so he was later released on October 10th, 2007. In the 2008 Council Session, he was re-elected as president, reiterating the party's goals for national liberation despite State repression. In 3rd April 2009 he again become the victim of illegal abduction alongside Lala Muneer (then Voice Chairman of BNM) and Sheer Muhammad (then central committee member of BRP). In 10th April 2009 after a week of his abduction his bullet riddled body was found in Murgaap along with Lala Muneer and Sheer Muhammad

He was someone who possessed a strong ideology, a national vision, and profound knowledge of history. In every moment of his life, he advocated for the rights of Baloch nation and fought against the injustices upon the Baloch people and their land. He was a personality with awareness and wisdom of all kinds of knowledge. He presented a perspective to the Baloch people that has now elevated the Baloch nation to a commendable position in the world. He often used to say, "We shouldn't celebrate martyrdom but remain prepared for it."