

LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AND CHALLENGE PUBLIC CAREER OF Dr. J.JAYALALITHA



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Abstract:-Dr. J.Jeyalalithaa is the present Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. She is the first elected woman Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. By dint of her ability, sincerity, and hard work , she has risen to the present higher position of the Tamil Nadu State. The people and leaders of the Tamil Nadu call her as 'Iron Lady', 'Revolutionary Lady', 'Joan of Arc', 'Champion of Women Casue', 'Humanist' and so on. He political career started with humble beginning. Now her political career is in top level in the political ladder. She proved her a challenging revolutionary leader because of her individual talents and abilities. She is called now the 'Messiah of the Tamils' and .Mother of the Tamils'. Her undaunted spirit and endless efforts enabled her to march forward in the problematic situation and circumstances. She is a role model Chief Minister. After the demise of M.G.Ramachandran, she lead the AIADMK Party successfully to capture power in Tamil Nadu. Her achievements are numerous in all fields and she had developed the Tamil Nadu State in all fronts.

Keywords:Leadership, AIADMK, M.G.R., Chief Minister, Ramanan, Thiruvalluvar, C.N.Annadurai, Tamil Nadu

INTRODUCTION

Leadership

Different novelties points out different qualities for leaders. Wiper's idea on a good leader is noteworthy.¹ He combines the law with the leaders. Wiper says that the leaders who have got this position as per the law could definitely do some good and deliver law and justice because they possess common sense. These laws are amended for the cause of the people who respect culture, law and justice. Also Wiper continues that the special quality of a leader is that he should know how to win the confidence of the people. This could happen only on political He has stated four types of party service . They are on human nature. Selfless service of fellow party men creates a situation for a leadership.²

A novelist called Vedojil refers some of the qualities that a successive leader should possess like physical fitness, height, dressing sense, power, strength, physique, well - built appearance and intelligence, friendly nature, self-confidence, quick decision making, willingness, fluent speech, and affectionate. Also people like Murray Ronge and Charles Henry has suggested some qualities for leadership.

Men with high self confidence, satisfied professionals and a well taught behaviours and those who are willing to take the responsibility and well known in handling different situations are expected to become renowned leaders. They are ready to identify themselves with their party's ambitions and also gives useful ideas to the people with whom they practice friendly nature. These leaders are at their best of intelligence when they face opposition party members. In fact they remain the models who would deliver the responsibilities given to them by the party. They have the special ability to deliver more when compared to other leaders from their postings. Next if we see what are all the qualities that a good leader must possess , he should have maturity to meet the emerging situation, knowing more about human nature, giving respect to others feelings, freedom, , teaching sense and communicative skills.

Further, it is pointed out there are four types of leaders. The are, 1. Special capabilities of leader to achieve the target .2.With shaped talents and capabilities, he who looks like a God and absolutely extraordinary. 3. It is a quality which is created all by him and not compelled by others. If people do not recognize him, his ideas get failed.4. A leader who has special powers can be recognized well at the time of crisis.³

J.Jayalalithaa , Leader of AIADMK Party

A leader of a party is like a guide who has certain power on the party, and a person who indeed makes decision on behalf of the party and materializes it. J.Jayalalithaa is the chief who has been chosen by AIADMK party men to lead them to form a AIADMK government and also she remains a leader who would make others to follow her.⁴

The party chief is the person, who led the party, manages the party, controls the party fuel the party and sets a particular target for the party to achieve. To achieve these targets, the party chief should possess a special quality to challenge political turmoil.⁵

A well known artist called Douglas Meckrigger has noted down four points for a successive leader that states. (i) Leader's character (ii) The understanding (iii) need of the party men of qualities and (iv) Fundamental ideas, habits, cultures, planned projects of the party and social economic concerns of government.⁶ The capacity of particular leader to remain in one's heart for a longtime is considered to make great impact on country. Hence, the special talents and capacity of the leader to overcome problems and induce welfare schemes to the people would make the leader successful.⁷

When J.Jayalalithaa was a opposition leader of Tamil Nadu, she made counter attack on the ruling party in all its defaults. She was then appreciated by V.Gopalasmy as ' Joan of Arc of Tamils' . The Tamil people will start searching her if she keep low profile for few days. She faces anyone and anything and reminds the people that she is still in Tamil Nadu politics.⁸

Jayalalithaa is able to combine the party men and got votes to the success. MGR used to be close with people but Jaya is little different. She is always thinking welfare of the people in very constructive step. In this regard, she surpasses her master. This difference is a unique character in her leadership.

When she took part in Assembly meeting held on 31st June 2006 she fist spoke about "minority government". She pointed out that In budget there was a deficiency 207.27 crores and now it has gone to 1,12, 923 crores. But this was teased ruling party minister as Church Park student was poor in mathematics which was immediately hit back by her saying the she got centum in school mathematics.⁹

CHALLENGING CASES AND CAREER

It is said when a politician is shrouded with corruption charges, he never gets back to the lost position forever. Even Rajiv Gandhi couldn't recover from Bofors Case. From 1996 to 2001 every day a case was registered against Jayalalithaa but she faced all these cases bravely and worked on it. There were a lot of discriminations and scripts in media.¹⁰ But Jayalalithaa recovered from forty three cases slapped on her which shows her capability. Without family or caste background, she has boomed into politics. Indira Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi and Benazir Bhutto came to power because of their family background. Even Jayalalithaa's mother Sandhya would not be expected that her daughter would become such a personality someday. Even M.G.R. feared that AIADMK would disappear after his life. But Jayalalithaa emerged as a strong leader.

In 1970 there was an exhibition in Bangalore. Jayalalithaa was to perform in that stage. But she couldn't attend the dance as she was busy in cinema shooting. She was warned by Vattom Nagaraju as being a Kannadian why are you cancelling a Kanada program. After few months when she was in a shooting for 'Ganga Gowri', a gang held her and she bravely proclaimed that she is a Tamilian none can do anything to her.

On 30th September 1989, Jayalalithaa blamed the Government suspecting that there is a foul play in bringing in Andhra Rice. She was remanded by Tamil Nadu Government for which she stated she is ready face anything. A case was filed against Jayalalithaa in October 1989. She went to Hyderabad and collected enough proof and fought against the case. As a sequence, the then Tamil Nadu Food Minister, Arcot Veerasamy was transferred and later resigned.¹¹

In a Case relating Coal Import from Australia during her period, it was stated that there was loss to a cost of 6.50 crores to Government. In this case too Jayalalithaa was released without any proof.

In 2001 after her victory in Assembly Elections, she shocked the whole state by arresting DMK chief Karunanidhi at a midnight. It was in a rude manner for flyover case. This gave a great blow to the Government as she was only completed a single month in office. She was blamed. Her party was to break and also there law order problem.¹²

There was another case on her regarding the Pleasant Stay Hotel which was constructed crossing the limits. On 2nd February 2000, the court awarded a year imprisonment to Jayalalithaa. But this was stopped by High Court. Then all of the accused were released by High Court in May 2002.

In another case of buying 45,302 Colour TVs for the welfare of people to be kept in Panchayat offices from BPL Company, it was said that there was a loss 8.3 crores to government. But this case also showed less proof and she was released.¹³

Jayalalithaa is the person who respects justice and confronts injustice in 1996. she was accused in Tansi land Scandal along with Sasikala, Director Srinivasan, Ex-Minister Asif, in the judgment. Both were sentenced to two years imprisonment. Due to this she could not her presence in 2001 election. In the final judgment, it is said that no one can sale government land and hence she was acquitted.

Next she was accused in Income Tax Case. She was having properties worth 66.65 crores. In 1990-1991, she had 1,88,75,400 and it was suddenly raised to 5,81,94,815 and also she was receiving only Rs. 86,860 before she could come into politics.¹⁴

On 17th March 1993 she came to Kumbakonam Mahamagam which led to overcrowding. Due to this, a compound was collapsed and many people fell into the pond and people run over seniors and children. Within thirty minutes, there were forty-eight dead bodies in the pond. The whole state was shocked as this was a great blow for the government.

Spiritual Belief

Even in Jaya TV, morning prayers, poojas and Vedas are telecasted. This T.V provides spiritual programmes. In 1991 when she was elected as CM, she took it on behalf of God.¹⁵ She has an incomparable people's support than the other leaders. She had the ability of fuelling the party man to achieve their goodness through her speech.

She starts her day with a prayer and then spends time in meetings, party activities etc. She is capable of providing counter attacks over the views of the opposition party leaders. MGR gave the job of counter attacking opposition leader to Jayalalithaa. She used to lure the people in her dramatic speech and would ask the question, Which side they are? They would say in AIADMK.¹⁶

She has staunch faith in God and religion. Her family observes a strict dedication to God. She has done special poojas in all the renowned Temples of Tamil Nadu. Though she respects God's will, she has a lot of beliefs in self confidence.¹⁷

Individual Talents

Fluent speaking is one of her specific talents. She can speak affectionately, caring, joking, aggressively and revolutionarily. Hence AIADMK party men got a talented leader. She goes out with little points but she expresses politics from local to international. She surprised every other speakers in her first speech itself. Her able speech elevated her soon.

Jayalalithaa has not given any clue about who will succeed her. It is being viewed that there is no AIADMK party after her. She has been considered as 'Rough Woman' who would perhaps will not forgive those who try to cheat her, and she is also appreciated as successor of MGR. It is like how there is no DMK history without Anna, there is no AIADMK history without J. Jayalalithaa.¹⁸

When Jayalalithaa began to write everyone expected that she would write about her experience in cinema. But her essay in Thuglaq (Tamil Fortnightly) got a great hit. She stopped writing about politics in first week, and concentrated on Doctors' carelessness and pregnancy law. This write-up shocked MGR. Indeed, Jayalalithaa is more vulnerable in expressing her desires even in writing.

It is said that Raavan who managed to kidnap Sita never dared to touch her was due to her gift and determined heart and willing to do anything that has saved her virginity. Ravan was only able to just look at her from a distance. Likewise many leaders believed that Jayalalithaa would abide off when she is defeated in the polls. But she never abided to anyone and continued to be tireless warrior which never shattered her hope. Her hope provides shelter to her. Jayalalithaa's victory has made everyone understand this to each everyone.

It is Jayalalithaa who has broken barriers for womanhood. She has proved that women are born to serve as well as to rule. It is noted that Ravan who kidnapped Sita had to be very cautious as well as it is said he was in great fear. Likewise Jayalalithaa's history also reads out that those who are responsible for the defeat of AIADMK, scored to their worst seeing that a woman who is stripped in the Legislature in front of everyone and ashamed in politics have managed to come over the issue. This could be done only because of self-determination and above all the love she had for the people. She has won the respect of every woman from all over Tamil Nadu. She has special contribution for womanhood. Hence the women's support was the reason behind her victory in election. There were many who worked for the elevation of the women society. They were Bharathi, Thiru Vi. Kalyanasundara Mudaliar, Bharathidasan etc. There is also a famous saying that "If a man loves his land, he maintains patriotism. If he loves women, he maintains humanity".

Jayalalithaa is a gifted person for this society which is suffering from various problems and selfishness of certain leaders. In this democratic nation, there is lot of corruption and exploitation etc. But this tendency gradually began to change with the ascendancy of Jayalalithaa in power. Indeed, Jayalalithaa is known for her courage and intelligence.¹⁹

Jayalalithaa is known for her motherly heart. Hence, the people of Tamil Nadu graciously call her as 'Gracious Amma'. Bharathidasan states that a motherly heart is a wonderful heart which does not retaliate to anyone but showers affection and love for everyone. But if there is any foul play rooting then it would make its way to destroy it.²⁰

For many centuries women have been underplayed in society. They are suppressed by male dominated society. A woman should be under the control of her husband and then under her son. Even the Indian polity has male domination. Hence, women have to stand up and fight for their rights, otherwise they will be under continuous suppression. But Jayalalithaa has proved everyone that a lady can do much wonders even in male dominating politics.

The Country which has peace will give a prosperous life. This is very well known to Jayalalithaa. When she first attended the office, there was no peace or enough food in the Country. Hence Jayalalithaa is particular in seeing that the state should secure peace and people should live a happy as well as prosperous life.²¹

Thiruvalluvar has mentioned that in a place where there is poverty and diseases there will not be any growth. Hence many emperors who have got their names in the history have tried to remove poverty. Thiruvalluvar states that the rule which fades out poverty, disease and secures people from outsiders is the best rule.

When she was in cinema she was the one who implemented foreign accessories into Tamil Cinema but she followed them strictly in Indian cultural setting. Jayalalithaa's reign is the 'Golden Era in Tamil Cinema History'.²²

When she was in cinema field, Jayalalithaa implemented many techniques in Arts, Culture, and Science from other countries. In her period, national arts, culture and tourism department saw a phenomenal growth.²³

In Indian History certain emperors' era is treated as the Golden Age. This is because they have shown spectacular skills for the development of various fields including arts. Likewise Jayalalithaa's regime also had all this specialties which could be considered as 'Golden Era' (1991-1995). She was well appreciated by eminent personalities like K.R. Narayanan, the President by saying that every citizen should have concern about nation as well as Tamil Language like J. Jayalalithaa.²⁴

Jayalalithaa is quoted by a saying that the most profile women of Twenty -First Century. Like Sri Lanka's Thondaiman, Japan's renowned historian, Noboru Karashima has applauded Jayalalithaa as one of the glorious women in the history. She is compared to 'Joan of Arc for Bravery' and 'Jhansi Rani of Tamil Nadu'. Today many nations and regions have named Jayalalithaa as 'Revolutionary Woman'.²⁵ It was thought that after the defeat in 1996 elections AIADMK would probably be uprooted from politics, and the opposition leaders rejoiced in it but Jayalalithaa proved everyone that nothing can stop her onward march.²⁶

Achievements

Jayalalithaa proudly held the Tamil Conference in Thanjavur in 1995 which made everyone to thing about her love for Tamil. She declared that there would be soon a Tamil University to strengthen the Tamil language. It was appreciated by the then President R. Venkataman who viewed that she has made this meeting to be remembered in the history of Tamil Nadu. Indeed, Jayalalithaa followed the footsteps of C.N. Annadurai (Anna) in upbrining Tamil language which shows her dedication to it.²⁷

When Jayalalithaa was Chief Minister as well as opposition leader, she was role model to everyone including Central Government. In a business meeting in Delhi, she was appreciated by business magnets and also predicted that one day she would become leader of Central Government. Within two years of her regime, she commissioned forty five new business concerns at the cost of 12,936 crores. She did it as a woman CM. Also she was appreciated by German students and researchers as a mother who is responsible for development and unity of Tamil Nadu.²⁸

Jayalalithaa is the youngest person to become Chief Minister. She is very young to Rajaji, Kamaraj, Bakhtavachalam Annadurai, Karunanidhi. She is young and efficient enough to do good for people. If one thinks Jayalalithaa is better with other counterparts, she would deserve for it.²⁹

When she is compared with other women counterparts, she is in the top rank. Sucheta Kriplani, the first woman Chief Minister in any Indian State was in the post for three years in Uttar Pradesh. Likewise Assam's Chief Minister Syed Anwar Taimur lost the same in a year. It was Jayalalithaa who helped to get victory in 1984 election. Even late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi appreciated Jayalalithaa for having won such a confidence in fellow party men.³⁰

Jayalalithaa is the first woman Chief Minister in the history of Tamil Nadu elected in 1991. By winning people's affection and interest, she took the works for the people's cause at day and night. She is first woman to do so in Asian Continent not only as first Chief Minister but also as best Chief Minister.³¹

So far those who are selected as Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, not has known six languages that too on writing. But Jayalalithaa possess language efficiency in Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Hindi and English. She respect and venerate Tamil language more than her own mother tongue.

The distance between leader and members of the party was maintained for the past fifty years. To lure the people, money played a great role in election. The guarantee of winning election comes out when the leaders' expectations and richness are shared with fellow party men.³² Jayalalithaa's leadership has a coincidence with attracting people. Her concern for the people makes the people's attraction towards her. When DMK's Chief Annadurai passed away in 1969, this type of feeling of anxiety drew the people towards Anna's funeral march in huge number.

M. Karunanidhi who rose to the top post failed to win over the support of the people and it was the reason behind the formation of AIADMK by MGR. Karunanidhi could not manage to get the Chief Minister post until MGR passed away. It was because Karunanidhi lacked the vision of attracting people.

After the demise of MGR, Janaki Ramachandran, wife of MGR was installed against Jayalalithaa in campaigns. She did not show any interest in politics. She was just a Home woman. But Jayalalithaa was made the Secretary of AIADMK in 1982 by MGR.³³ She published novels and essays in Kalki even before she joined politics.

Generally, a leader should possess top qualities like communication skills to express ideas to the people. A leader should direct the party in a right direction. This is to achieve the desired goal. In the initial period of the leadership, Jayalalithaa lost in the Assembly election. There were only four members of her party in the Assembly but she was not deterred. Though there were many obstacles on her way, she managed to develop her party. The defeat of 1996 election paved the way for her closeness to Sasikala. Jayalalithaa dismissed some of the prominent members of the party. Among them the notable were R.M. Veerappan,

Muthusamy, S.D. Somasundaram, Aranganayagam, and Kannappan. Due to this action, the party was divided. Those who were eliminated from the party started a new group and suspended Jayalalithaa from her General Secretary post. For this, they indirectly received encouragement from DMK.

Opposition parties planned to drive away Jayalalithaa from Tamil Nadu. But she came to know that there is some black sheep in her own party. She knows loyalists as well. After she was named as General Secretary in the party, she travelled throughout Tamil Nadu.³⁴

Jayalalithaa's life shows that there is lot of ups and downs in her life. She was elected as CM in 1991 election and was in power till May 1996. There is no doubt that those five years were wonderful. The 1996 election results were much disappointing to her. Almost All AIADMK members lost. For a while, she spent her time just watching cricket and never interested in cinemas. She honoured female rights but did not under rate the man who loved. She strongly proposed that a woman should possess intelligence, sharpness, brilliance as well as courage and will power.³⁵

After the demise of MGR, it is not said that a successor is named by someone but a successor come by hard work, intelligence, and intention. Today Jayalalithaa has been accepted as the successor of MGR by people of Tamil Nadu.

Election Campaign - Tactics

In the history of Tamil Nadu politics Jayalalithaa behaved in a soft manner. In a peculiar way she handles challenges and difficult situation, and play a great role in every political issue. She is capable of making extraordinary decision in the time of political crisis.³⁶ Her ability of handling situation is thrown much during her election campaign. She has special ability in decision making and handling crisis. She can easily deliver her ideas to the common people. As she has a wide range of ability, she also shouldered wide range responsibilities.

The Tamil Nadu politics revolve around political awareness and identity. In the history of Dravidian politics, it was C.N Annadurai who had won the confidence of people which was followed by MGR and he tried to make Jayalalithaa as his successor. It was Jayalalithaa who became second in command. But after the death of MGR, AIADMK did split into two divisions. Resolving all these odds, Jayalalithaa has proved everyone that she also has the confidence of people.³⁷

During the election campaign, Jayalalithaa made a face to face communication with people and expressed the ideas and party's ambitions. In which no one can be compared to her type of campaigning. She has left a ineffaceable mark on youngsters, women etc. Also she clearly expresses the ways in which her party is doing charity for the cause of abandoned people.³⁸

She never showed willingness in announcing about her party participation. She highlighted the problems that the Tamil Nadu is going to face in future. While selecting the candidate, she looks some things. They are 1. The spending ability of Constituent. 2. Looking whether he is a person from the caste has majority in the constituency. 3. Candidate's name inside the party. 4. Candidate's ability to win. 5. Referring whether he belongs to that constituency. 6. Constituent's post in the party. 7. The job which he is going to possess if he gets selected and 8. The candidate's offer of respecting the party criteria.

Jayalalithaa was aware that during the elections advertising banners are more popular than the real election notices and news. Hence she was interested in making these banners in an attractive type which could even love people who are considered as literates, loyalists and so on.

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