

## **Tilak, Mohani and Surat Congress: An Example of Political Disablement**

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The Congress leadership was divided in those days in the groups called moderates and extremists. Leaders like Dada Bhai Naoroji<sup>1</sup>, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta<sup>2</sup>, Gopal Krishna Gokhale<sup>3</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup>. Dadabhai Naoroji (1825-1917) was a leading social reformer during the second half of the nineteenth century. He was the founder member of Indian National Congress and many times became its president. He was a great speaker, both in English and Gujarati. His speeches were remarkable for their simplicity and force fullness. Known as 'The Grand Old Man of India'. He was a patriot and a nationalist of a high order but he belonged to moderate group of the Indian national Congress. In this connection see for details Dadabhai Naoroji, *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India*, (Reprint), New Delhi, Commonwealth Publishers, 1988; Masani, R.P., *Dadabhai Naoroji*, New Delhi, Publication Division, Government of India, 1960; Munni Rawal, *Dadabhai Naoroji : A Prophet of Indian Nationalism (1885-1900)*, New Delhi, 1989; Zaidi, A.M., *The Indian National Congress Veterans: The Grand Little Man of India Dadabhai Naoroji*, vol. I, New Delhi, Indian Institute of Applied Political Research, 1985.

<sup>2</sup>. Pheroze Shah Mehta (1845-1915). A pioneering nationalist and popularly known as the uncrowned king of Bombay. He belonged to moderate group of the Congress. See S.P. Sen (ed.), *Dictionary of National Biography*, vol. III, Calcutta, Institute of Historical Studies, 1974.

<sup>3</sup>. Gopal Krishna Gokhale (1866-1915) became the member of the Indian National Congress 1889. In 1890 he was elected Honorary Secretary of the Sarvajanik Sabha of Poona. He was the President of Indian national Congress 1905. See for details, D.G. Karve & D.V. Ambedkar (ed.), *Speeches and Writings of Gopal Krishna Gokhale*, Bombay, Asia Publishing House, 1966. D.B. Mathur, *Gokhale A Political Biography: A Study of His Service and Political Ideas*, Bombay, Manaktalas, 1966; John, S. Hoyland (ed.), *Gopal Krishna Gokhale: His Life and Speeches*, (Reprint), Calcutta, Y.M.C.A. Publishing House, 1948; Nanda, B.R., *Gokhale: The Indian Moderates and the British Raj*, vol. I & II, Delhi, Oxford University Press, 1977; Stanley, A. Wolpert, *Tilak and*