

INDIAN HISTORY

LEADERS OF NATIONAL MOVEMENT

Gopal Krishna Gokhale (1866 - 1915)

- » Political guru of **MAHATMA GANDHI**.
- » He was the leader of moderate group in the Congress Party.
- » He played a commendable role in the imperial Legislative Council of which he was a member in 1902.
- » He founded 'The Servants of India Society' and served as President of the Indian National Congress in 1907.
- » Until Mahatma Gandhi appeared, Gopalakrishna Gokhale was the national leader of the freedom struggle.



Feroz Shah Mehta (1845 - 1915)

- » He was chosen the president of Indian National Congress in 1890.
- » His political ideology was, as was the case with most of the Indian leaders of his time, moderate and was hence not directly opposed to the crown's sovereignty but only demanded more autonomy for Indians to self-rule.

Badaruddin Tyabji (1844-1906)

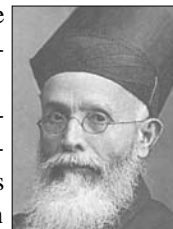
- » Leader of the Indian National Movement.
- » He was the first Indian barrister of the Bombay High Court.
- » He was the first Muslim to become the President of the National Congress (in 1887).



Dadabhai Naoroji (1825-1917)

- » Known as the Grand Old Man of India.
- » He was a prominent Congress leader and worked for Swaraj in England which was the centre of his political activities. He was associated with Bhikaji Cama.
- » He was the first Indian to be elected to the House of Commons from a London constituency (1862).
- » He was an MP in the Parliament of the UK between 1892 and 1895 and the first Asian to be a British MP.

- » In the 1906 Calcutta session he declared Swaraj for India following the partition of Bengal.
- » He was the author of the monumental work *Poverty and Un-British Rule in India*. In this book he describes the 'drain theory', i.e. the exploitation of Indian wealth by the British.
- » He organised the Indian Society in England.
- » He was President of the Indian National Congress three times.
- » He is also known as the Father of Indian Politics and Economics.
- » He suggested the name 'Congress' for the Indian National Congress. The word 'Congress', which means an assembly of people, was taken from North American history.



Surendranath Bannerji (1848-1925)

- » Indian patriot from Bengal, one of the first three candidates to pass the ICS Examination.
- » He entered the Indian Civil Service in 1869 but was dismissed for a minor irregularity.
- » He founded the Indian Association in 1876. He was President of the Indian National Congress twice (1895 and 1902) and led the anti-partition agitation in 1905.



Aurobindo Ghosh (1872-1950)

- » He was a freedom fighter, poet, scholar, yogi and philosopher.
- » Worked towards the cause of India's freedom, and for further evolution of life on earth.
- » The famous Alipore Bomb Case proved to be a turning point in Sri Aurobindo Ghosh's life. For a year Aurobindo was an undertrial prisoner in solitary confinement in the Alipore Central Jail.
- » He utilized this period of incarceration for an intense study and practice of the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita.

Lala Lajpat Rai (1865-1928)

- » Dedicated social worker and educationist who joined the Indian National Congress in 1888.
- » He supported the extremist leaders in the 1907 Congress split along with Tilak.
- » He started and edited a newspaper *Young India*, presided over the 1920 Congress session and became member of the Indian Legislative Assembly in 1923.
- » In 1920 he led the non-cooperation movement in Punjab and was sent to jail. When he visited Lahore on October 30, 1928 he suffered severe lathi blows in a police attack and later died of his injuries.
- » He is also called *Sher-e-Punjab* (*Punjab Kesari*).



Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1856-1920)

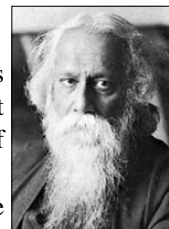
- » Aggressive freedom fighter popularly known as **Father of Indian Unrest**. He is also called **Lokmanya** (Loknayak is Jayaprakash Narayan).
- » His political career began in 1896 during the famine in the Deccan.
- » He was the first Indian leader to give the slogan 'Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it'.
- » He is the author of *Gita Rahasya* through which he taught the people to fight against oppression and unrighteousness.
- » He started two well-known newspapers *Kesari* (Marathi) and *Maratta* (English) to arouse national sentiments.
- » He was the founder leader of the Home Rule League in 1916 along with **ANNIE BESANT**.
- » Bal Gangadhar Tilak belonged to the extremist wing of Congress along with Lala Lajpat Rai and Bipin Chandra Pal. The conflict between moderates and extremists led to a split of Congress at the Surat session of Congress in 1907.
- » Congress was later united at Lucknow session in 1917 due to the efforts of Annie Besant and Sudhakar Rao.



- » The three leaders, Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal are known in the history of the Indian freedom movement as Lal, Bal and Pal.

Tagore, Rabindranath (1861-1941)

Rabindranath Tagore, also known as Gurudev, is one of our country's most distinguished and respected men of letters.



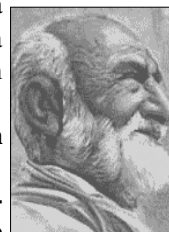
- » He was the first Indian and the first Asian to have won the Nobel Prize for Literature for his lyric *Gitanjali* (on November 13, 1913).
- » He was a great author and educationist who founded the Shantinikethan (1901) at Bolepur, West Bengal, which later became the Vishwabharati University.
- » The British Government knighted him with the title 'Sir' which he returned in 1919 in protest against the Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy.
- » His important books are *Bisarjan*, *Chitra*, *The Gardener*, *Gitanjali*, *Gora*, *Hungry Stones*, *The Wreck*, *Lipika* and *Post Office*.
- » His famous quotation is: "I am restless, I thirst for the distant, the far away."
- » Our national anthem, *Jana Gana Mana*, and the national anthem of Bangladesh 'Amar Sona Bangla....' were composed by Tagore.

Rash Bihari Bose (1886-1945)

- » He was a revolutionary leader against the British Raj in India
- » One of the key organisers of the Ghadar conspiracy and later, the Indian National Army.

Abdul Ghaffar Khan (1890-1988)

- » Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan was a staunch Congress man and a soldier of the Indian freedom struggle.
- » His admirers called him **Badshah Khan**, or the **King Khan**.
- » He was also called **Frontier Gandhi** because he organised the people of the North-West Frontier Province



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(NWFP) of undivided India (now merged with Pakistan) on Gandhian principles. These people were called **Red Shirts** for the colour of the uniforms they wore. After the partition of India in 1947, NWFP was merged into Pakistan but the struggle of Frontier Gandhi did not end with it and he continued to fight for the independence of his people, the Pakhtuns or Pathans (Pakhtoonistan).

- ▶ He was the first foreigner to be awarded the Bharat Ratna (1987), the second being **NELSON MANDELA**. He formed the movement known as *Khudai Khidmatgan (Servant of God)*.

Ambedkar, B.R. (1891-1956)

- ▶ Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar was an eminent jurist, social reformer and scheduled castes leader.
- ▶ He was born on April 14, 1891 at Mhow, Madhya Pradesh, into the Mahar community, which was an untouchable backward caste.
- ▶ He was the Chairman of Constitution Drafting Committee and is considered the Architect of the Indian Constitution.
- ▶ He was Minister of Law (1946-51) in the Nehru Cabinet.
- ▶ He was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1990.
- ▶ He was the main inspiration behind the inclusion of special provisions in the Constitution of India for the development of scheduled castes people.
- ▶ He attended all the three Round Table Conferences in London as a representative of the depressed classes of India.
- ▶ He was affectionately called Baba Saheb.
- ▶ He became a staunch Buddhist and converted to Buddhism in the last stage of his life.



Andrews, C.F. (1871-1940)

- ▶ Charles Freer Andrews was a British missionary and close associate of Mahatma Gandhi. He came to India in 1904 and devoted himself to India's freedom struggle.
- ▶ He came to be known as *Deena Bandhu*.



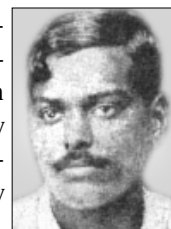
- ▶ He later went to South Africa to help Indians there at the request of **MAHATMA GANDHI**.

Asaf Ali (1888-1953)

- ▶ Indian nationalist leader and freedom fighter. A Minister in the interim Government (1946). He was India's first Ambassador to USA. He also worked as the governor of Orissa.

Azad, Chandrasekhar (1906-31)

- ▶ Chandrasekhar Azad was an Indian revolutionary who was involved in the Non-Cooperation Movement and the Assembly Bomb incident, the Delhi Conspiracy, the Lahore Conspiracy etc.

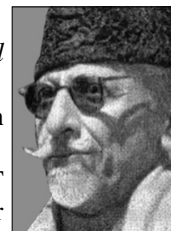


- ▶ He died fighting a lone battle with the police.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (1888-1958)

Nationalist Muslim scholar, President of the Indian National Congress.

- ▶ He founded *Al Hilal* and *Al Balagh* Urdu weeklies.
- ▶ He was free India's first Union Education Minister.
- ▶ He established UGC IIT (Kharoaghuo) and many other institutions.
- ▶ He was posthumously conferred the Bharat Ratna (1992).
- ▶ He wrote *India Wins Freedom*.



Bankim Chandra Chatterjee (1838-94)

- ▶ Celebrated Bengali novelist and author of *Vande Mataram*, the National Song of India is from his work *Anand Math*.
- ▶ He also wrote *Kapal Kundla*, *Durgesh Nandini*, *Chandra Sekhar*, *Vish Vriksha*.
- ▶ His famous book *Kamala Kanter Daftar* highlights the social evils that prevailed in society of that time.
- ▶ *Vande Mataram* was first sung at the 1896 session of the Indian National Congress. The English translation of *Vande Mataram* was made by **SRI AUROBINDO GOSH**.



Banerjee, W.C. (1844-1906)

- » W.C. Banerjee was the first President of the Indian National Congress held in 1885 at Bombay. He migrated to England in 1902 and worked for the Indian cause. He financed a journal called *India*.
- » The Indian National Congress was founded by a retired British civil servant **A.O. HUME**.



Annie Besant (1847-1933)

Irish by birth, but she became a staunch supporter of India's freedom struggle. Known as the Grand Old Lady of Indian Nationalism.

- » She became a member of the Theosophical Society in 1889 and became its President in 1907.
- » Mrs. Annie Besant joined Congress and in 1916 inaugurated the All India Home Rule League in Madras, with the support and co-operation of Lokmanya Tilak.
- » She played a prominent role in uniting militant and moderate leaders at the Congress session at Lucknow in 1920.
- » She was the first woman President of Indian National Congress (1917, Calcutta). Later she left Congress but continued to serve India.
- » She translated the *Bhagavad Gita* into English and wrote the book *Death and After*.



Bhagat Singh (1907-31)

He was a patriot and revolutionary, known as Shahid-e-Azam. He became a martyr on May 23, 1931 along with Sukhdev and Rajguru for participation in the Lahore Conspiracy case.

- » He was the first to raise the slogan *Inquilab Zindabad* which was coined by Muhammad Iqbal.
- » He was the leader of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army.
- » Bhagat Singh was sentenced to imprisonment for life for his part in the Central Legislative Assembly bomb case on April 8, 1929.
- » He founded Nau Jawan Bharat Sabha.



Cama Bhikaji (1861-1936)

- » Indian revolutionary leader.
- » She was the founder of the Free Indian Society in UK. She was the first to unfurl the flag at Stuttgart (Germany) during Social Congress session (1907).
- » She started a journal, *Bande Mataram*.

Bipin Chandra Pal (1858-1932)

- » One of the extremist leaders of the freedom struggle and an ardent supporter of the boycott of foreign goods, the Swadesi Movement and national education.
- » He did not believe in dominion status and wanted full-fledged independence. He achieved national stature after the partition of Bengal.
- » In the 1907 Surat Congress session, he fought for Tilak's candidature for the presidency. But Rashbihari Ghosh was selected. Later Congress split into two.
- » Bipin Chandra Pal along with **BAL GANGADHAR TILAK** and **LALA LAJPAT RAI** were known as Lal, Pal, Bal the famous extremist Congress leaders.



Subhash Chandra Bose (1896-1945)

- » Subhash Chandra Bose was the Indian freedom fighter also known as Netaji.
- » He resigned from the Indian Civil Service in 1921 and supported the non-cooperation movement led by **GANDHI**.
- » He was elected President of Congress in 1938 but left Congress in 1939 and formed the Forward Bloc party in that same year.
- » He was arrested during World War II but escaped from India and went to Japan where he took over the leadership of the Indian National Army (INA), also known as the Azad Hind Fauj, to fight the British, but he was unsuccessful due to Japan's surrender after the war. The INA was founded by **RASH BEHARI BOSE** together with Mohan Singh in 1942.



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- ▶ It was Netaji's wish to unfurl the national flag at Red Fort in Delhi. It is thus in remembrance of him that the National Flag is unfurled every year at Red Fort on Independence Day.
- ▶ He gave the slogan *Jai Hind* to the nation. Also "Dilli Chalo."
- ▶ He is believed to have died in an air crash in 1945 but it is still a controversy.
- ▶ His famous quote is "*Give me blood. I will give you freedom.*" He was posthumously decorated with the Bharat Ratna in 1992.
- ▶ 1997 was celebrated by our country as Subhash Chandra Bose Centenary Year.

C.R. Das (1870-1925)

- ▶ Chita Ranjan Das, also known as Deshbandhu, was a lawyer at the Calcutta Bar, and he entered politics in 1920.
- ▶ He presided over the Gaya Congress session and along with Motilal Nehru launched the Swaraj Party in 1923.
- ▶ He got Aurobindo Ghosh freed in the Alipur Bomb Case.
- ▶ The Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy was investigated by **Jawaharlal Nehru** and C.R. Das.
- ▶ He is also simply known as C.R.



Morarji Desai (1896-1995)

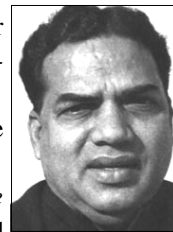
- ▶ Indian freedom fighter and the 4th Prime Minister of India.
- ▶ He was Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister under Congress rule.
- ▶ He was the first non-Congress Prime Minister; he headed a Janata Government in 1977.
- ▶ He is the only Indian to have received the **Bharat Ratna** (1991), the highest national award of India, and the **Nishan-e-Pakistan**, the highest civilian award of Pakistan.
- ▶ His books are *Nature Cure*, *Discourses on Gita* and *The Story of My Life*.



Gopalan, A.K. (1904-77)

A.K. Gopalan was a Communist leader from Kerala. He led the famous *Pattin-ijatha* to Madras from Malabar.

- ▶ He was arrested during the Guruvayur satyagraha.
- ▶ *Manninuvendi*, *Kodunkattinte Mattoli*, *I Saw a New World* and *My Memories* are his books.
- ▶ He was a Member of Parliament. His wife, Susheela Gopalan, was former Minister of Industry in Kerala.
- ▶ *Ente Jeevithakatha* is his autobiography.



Gulzarilal Nanda (1898-1998)

Freedom fighter, Gandhian and twice interim Prime Minister of India after **NEHRU's** and **LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI's** deaths.

- ▶ He was the first Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission.
- ▶ He received the Bharat Ratna in 1997.



Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar (1820-98)

- ▶ Indian social reformer and educationist from Bengal.
- ▶ He did pioneering work in the field of primary education and widow remarriage. It was due to his pressure that the British passed the Hindu Widow Remarriage Act 1856 during **LORD DALHOUSIE's** time.
- ▶ He was the founder of Bethune School in 1849, the first school exclusive for women.

Vakkom Abdul Khadar (1917-43)

Freedom fighter who was hanged on Sept 10th, 1943.

Khudiram Bose (1889-1908)

- ▶ Indian revolutionary. He took part in the looting of mailbags at Hatgachha and a bomb attack on the Bengal Governor's special train in 1907. He organised a plot in collaboration with Prafulla Chaki and threw a bomb at the carriage of Kingsford, the session judge of Muzaffarpur. He was hanged.

Kripalani, Acharya (1882-1982)

- ▶ Acharya Kripalani was the freedom fighter who

was President of Congress when India became independent.

- » He founded the Kisan Musdur Praja Party and the Praja Socialist Party. **SUCHETA KRIPALANI** was his wife.



Kripalani, Sucheta (1908-74)

- » Sucheta Kripalani was a freedom fighter and the first woman Chief Minister of independent India (Uttar Pradesh 1963-67).
- » She was the wife of **ACHARYA KRIPALANI**.



Annie Mascreeen (1902-63)

- » Annie Mascreeen was an Indian freedom fighter from Kerala. She was known as the Jhansi Rani of Travancore.
- » She was the first woman parliamentarian from Kerala. She was elected to the Legislative Assembly unopposed in the first general election and became a minister.

Motilal Nehru (1861-1931)

- » Father of **JAWAHARLAL NEHRU**, was a nationalist leader of the Gandhian era, and a noted lawyer of the Allahabad High Court.
- » Elected as Congress President twice; Leader of the Opposition in the Central Legislative Assembly; prepared a draft Constitution for India.
- » He donated his palatial house, Anand Bhavan (later known as Swaraj Bhavan), to the Congress Party.
- » He was the founder of the daily *Independent* (1919). He founded Swaraj Party along with **C.R. DAS**.



Pandey, Mangel (d. 1857)

- » First martyr of India's Freedom Movement on March 29, 1857.
- » He instigated his comrades to fight against the use of greased cartridges and sparked off the Sepoy Mutiny. He was court martialled and hanged.



Panduraug Shastri Athavale (1920-2003)

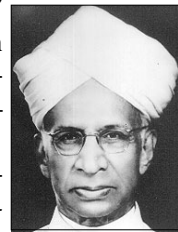
- » Indian social reformer.
- » He is the founder and leader of the Swadhyaya Movement.
- » He won the Templeton Award in 1997 which carries a purse of US\$1.2 million in recognition of his movement, which has liberated hundred of villagers in India from bondage of casteism and other social vices.
- » He won the Magsaysay Award in 1996.
- » He is affectionately known as 'dadaji'.

Sardar K.M. Panikkar (1894-1963)

- » Full name is Kovalam Madhava Panikkar.
- » Scholar, historian, diplomat, foreign minister in Patiala and Bikaner where he also later became Prime Minister and given the title of "Sardar".
- » He participated in the Round Table Conference in 1930-33.
- » After independence, he became Ambassador to China, Egypt and France. Member, States Reorganisation Commission.

Radhakrishnan, Dr. S. (1888-1975)

- » Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was the second President of India, 1962-67. He was the first Vice-President, 1952-62.
- » He was a distinguished philosopher and writer. He wrote *Religion and Society*, *The Hindu View of Life*, *An Idealist View of Life*, *Indian Philosophy*, *Bhagavad Gita*.
- » His birth day, Sept 5 is observed as Teacher's Day.
- » He won the Bharat Ratna in 1954 and the Templeton Prize in 1975.



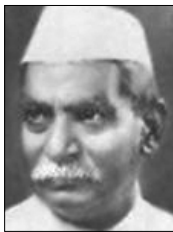
Rajagopalachari, C. (1878-1972)

- » Chakravarti Rajagopalachari was a veteran politician. He is popularly known as Rajaji.
- » He was the first and last Indian Governor-General of India 1948-50. Earlier he was Chief Minister of Madras State. He was the first person to win the Bharat Ratna in 1954.
- » He translated *The Bhagavad Gita*, *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata* and also wrote *The Nation's Voice*, *The Fatal Cart*, *Reconciliation: Why and How*

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Dr. Rajendra Prasad (1884-1963)

- ▶ First and the longest serving President of India, 1950-62, His famous work is *India Divided*.
- ▶ He remained Food and Agriculture Minister in the interim ministry and was elected President of the Constituent Assembly in 1947. He was awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1962.
- ▶ He edited a new Hindi Weekly called *Desh*.



Ram Manohar Lohia (1910-68)

- ▶ Indian socialist leader.
- ▶ He was the founder of the Congress Socialist Party.

Roy, M.N. (1889-1945)

- ▶ Manabendra Nath Roy, whose real name was Narendranath Bhattacharya Roy, was an Indian politician.
- ▶ He was the founder of the Indian Federation of Labour and the Radical Democratic Party.
- ▶ He was the only Indian to be a member of the Presidia of Communist International.



Lekshmi Saigal (1914)

- ▶ Captain Lekshmi Saigal was a freedom fighter.
- ▶ She was the commander of the Women's Regiment of INA.
- ▶ She was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 1998.
- ▶ Mrinalini Sarabai was her sister.
- ▶ She has contested in the Presidential Election against Dr.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam but failed. The left parties supported her.

Sarojini Naidu (1879-1949)

- ▶ Sarojini Naidu, called 'The Nightingale of India', was a great Indian poetess who wrote in the English language.
- ▶ She participated in India's freedom struggle and became President of the Indian National Congress in 1925. (She was the first Indian Woman President).



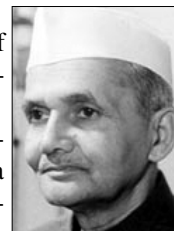
- ▶ She was the first woman Governor of a state (Uttar Pradesh) in India, (1947-49).
- ▶ Her famous works are *Bird of Time*, *The Song of India*, *Sceptred Flute*, *Broken Wings* and *Golden Threshold*.
- ▶ In 1930 she led the salt satyagraha from Darshan. She participated in the Round Table Conference of 1931.

V.D. Savarkar (1883-1966)

- ▶ Indian revolutionary leader who founded the Mitra Mandal, which aimed at achieving freedom by armed rebellion. He was the author of *The Indian War of Independence*.
- ▶ He was the founder of Abhinav Bharat and he started the Free India Society in London.
- ▶ He was called *veer* for his brave act of jumping into the sea from a ship when he was brought for trial to India from England.
- ▶ He was arrested in the Nasik Conspiracy Case and sentenced to transportation for life. He was freed in 1937.

Shastri, Lal Bahadur (1904-66)

- ▶ Lal Bahadur Shastri was the Indian statesman who succeeded **NEHRU** as the second Prime Minister of India (1964-66).
- ▶ He resigned from the Ministry of Railways following a railway accident in 1956.
- ▶ He signed the Tashkent Agreement with Ayub Khan for a ceasefire between India and Pakistan.
- ▶ He gave the nation the slogan "Jai Jawan, Jai Kissan".
- ▶ He was known as the Man of Peace.
- ▶ He triumphed over Pakistan, but unfortunately died in Tashkent on January 11, 1966, a few hours after he had signed the Indo-Pak accord.
- ▶ He was posthumously awarded Bharat Ratna. A memorial was set up at Vijay Ghat, Delhi, which shall always remind us about this great son of India.



Sukh Dev (d. 1931)

Indian patriot who was hanged by the British for his part in the Lahore Conspiracy along with **BHAGAT SINGH** and Shivram Rajguru on March 23, 1931.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel (1875-1950)

- » Home Minister in independent India's first cabinet, during which time he worked tirelessly for the integration of the Indian princely states.
- » He started his political career at Bardoli where he led peasants' agitation against increase in land revenue. He became a trusted lieutenant of Mahatma **GANDHI** at the same place.
- » He is the founder of *Satyagraha Patrika*.
- » He was in charge of Home, Information and Broadcasting in the Interim Ministry.
- » He was the first Deputy Prime Minister of India.
- » He is also known as the Iron Man of India, and the Bismarck of India.
- » He was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1991.



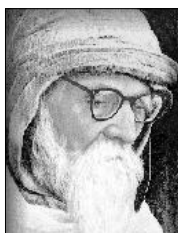
Vijayalakshmi Pandit (1900-90)

- » Sister of Jawaharlal Nehru.
- » She was the first woman Minister of an Indian state (Uttar Pradesh).
- » She holds the distinction of being the first woman to become President of the UN General Assembly and first Indian woman Ambassador to Moscow.



Vinoba Bhave (1895-1982)

- » Acharya Vinoba Bhave was a famous Indian social reformer.
- » He was the leader of the Sarvodaya Movement along with **JAYAPRAKASH NARAYAN**.
- » He is known for Shramdan and the Bhoodan Movement. He established his ashram at Paunar.
- » He was the first person to win the Magsaysay Award. He was awarded the Bharat Ratna in 1983.



Vivekananda (1862-1902)

- » Swami Vivekananda was a disciple of Rama krishna Paramahansa who championed Vedantic philosophy.

- » His famous talk at the Chicago Conference of World Religions in 1893 made Westerners realise the greatness of Hinduism for the first time.
- » He established the Ramakrishna Mission, in memory of his guru, Ramakrishna Paramahansa (1836-86).
- » His real name was Narendranath Dutta. His famous words are: "Be proud that you are an Indian; proudly claim I am an Indian, every Indian is my brother."

Jayaprakash Narayan (1902-1979)

- » Jayaprakash Narayan was a freedom fighter and political leader of India. Popularly called JP.
- » Narayan played a pivotal role in the Quit India movement. During the Quit India Movement too in 1942, JP was at the helm of the agitation.
- » Narayan is remembered for spearheading the opposition to Indira Gandhi during the 1970s era.

Jatin Banerjee

- » Jatin Banerjee is popularly known as "Bagha Jatin" for his fearlessness and courage. His name is a symbol of fearlessness and courage to millions of Indians.

Ashfaqulla Khan

- » Ashfaqulla Khan was one of the firebrand and young revolutionaries, who laid down their life for the sake of the motherland.
- » An important member of the Hindustan Republican Association, Khan, along with his associates executed the train dacoity at Kakori and was subsequently hanged by the British.

Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (1861-1946)

- » Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya was a national leader and a freedom fighter of India.
- » Born to an educated orthodox Hindu family at Prayag (Allahabad).
- » Malviya is known for achievements such as founding a university (Banaras Hindu University) in Benaras, India.
- » A postage stamp has been printed in India in his honor.

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Maulana Mohammad Ali

- » He is also addressed with the suffix Jauhar, which was his pen name, was an Indian Muslim nationalist and leader of the Khilafat movement.

Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed Ansari (1880-1936)

- » He was an Indian nationalist and political leader, and former president of the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League during the Indian Independence Movement.

Shivaram Rajguru (1908-1931)

- » Hari Shivaram Rajguru was an Indian revolutionary.
- » He is best known as an accomplice of Bhagat Singh and Sukhdev in the killing of a British police officer in 1928 in order to take revenge for the death of veteran leader Lala Lajpat Rai due to excessive police beating.
- » All three were convicted of the crime and hanged on March 23, 1931. Rajguru was hiding in Nagpur. He met Dr. K. B. Hedgewar and was hiding in one of the RSS worker's house. But after some days he went to Pune and later was arrested there.



Tantia Tope

- » like other freedom fighters, was one of the great heroes who fought courageously for India's freedom in 1857.

Mahadev Govind Ranade

- » He was a distinguished scholar, great social reformer, and an author from India.
- » He was a founding member of the Indian National Congress and owned several designations as member of the Bombay legislative council, member of the finance committee at the centre, and the judge of Bombay High Court.

Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit

- » The sister of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, she was the first woman to become the President of the United Nations General Assembly. She was an Indian envoy, who was born in the year 1900.
- » In the year 1979, she was chosen as the representative of India to the UN Human Rights Commission. Thereafter, she went far away from public life.
- » Her writings consist of The Evolution of India (1958) and The Scope of Happiness: A Personal Memoir (1979).

Independence, 1947 to 1950

The partition was promulgated in the Indian Independence Act 1947 and resulted in the dissolution of the British Indian Empire. On 3 June 1947, Louis Mountbatten, the last British Governor-General of India, announced the partition of the British Indian Empire. On 14 August 1947, Pakistan was declared a separate nation from them. (Later it became Islamic Republic of Pakistan and People's Republic of Bangladesh). At midnight, on 15 August 1947, India became an independent nation.

Prime Minister Nehru and Deputy Prime Minister Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel invited Mountbatten to continue as Governor General of India. He was replaced in June 1948 by Chakravarti Rajagopalachari. Patel took on the responsibility of unifying 565 princely states.

The Constituent Assembly completed the work of drafting the constitution on 26 November 1949; on 26 January 1950 the Republic of India was officially proclaimed. The Constituent Assembly elected Dr. Rajendra Prasad as the first President of India, taking over from Governor General Rajgopalachari.

Subsequently, a free and sovereign India absorbed three other territories: Goa (from Portuguese control in 1961), Pondicherry (which the French ceded in 1953–1954) and Sikkim which was absorbed in 1975. In 1952, India held its first general elections, with a voter turnout exceeding 62%.

FAMOUS STATEMENTS

- **Lord Dufferin** : *Congress was a microscopic minority.*
- **Lord Curzon** : Congress was 'tottering to its fall' and one of his greatest ambition in India was "to assist it (congress) a peaceful demise".
- **Charles Napier**: *'We have no right to seize Sind, yet we shall do so and a very advantageous, useful humane piece of rascality it will be'.*
- **Thomas Roe** : *"I know these people are best treated with the sword in one hand and the caducean in the other."*
- **Nabin Chandra Sen** : *"The battle of Plassey was followed by a night of eternal gloom for India"*.
- **John Sullivan** : *'Our system acts very much like a sponge drawing up all the good things from the banks of the Ganges and Squeezing them down on the banks Thames'.*
- **Tipu Sultan** - *'Better to die like a Soldier, than to live a miserable dependent on the infidels in the list of their pensioned Rajas and nobles.*
- **Peter the Great** of Russia "Bear in mind that the commerce of India is the commerce of the world".
- **Cornwallis**- *"Every native of Hindustan is corrupt"*.
- **William Bentinck** : *"The misery hardly find a parallel in history of commerce, the bones of the cotton weavers were bleaching the plains of India"*.
- **Rani of Jhansi** - *"With our own hands we shall not let our Azadshahi burry"*.
- **J.L. Nehru** : *"British power became the guardian and upholder of many and evil custom and practice which it other wise condemned."*
- **Cornwallis** : *"One third of Bengal has been transformed into a jungle inhabited only by wild beats"*
- **A.O. Hume** - *"A safety valve for the escape of great and growing forces generated by our action was urgently needed"*.
- **Dada Bhai Naroji** : Regarding law and orders *"pray strike on the back but dont strike on the belly"*.
- **Dufferin** : Branded the national leaders as *"Disloyal Babus"* *"Seditious Brahmins"* and *"Violent Villains"*.
- **Swami Vivekananda** "For our own motherland a junction of the two great system - Hinduism and Islam is the only hope.
- **Swami Vivekananda** "We are just don't touchists Our religion is our kitchen, our god is the cooking and our religion is don't touch me, I am holy. If this goes on for a century, everyone of us will be in a lunatic asylum.
- **Aurobindo Ghosh** : - *"Political freedom is the life breath of a nation"*.
- **Tilak** : *"Swaraj is my birth right and I will have it.*
- **Gandhiji** on the eve of Dandi March *"Sedition has become my religion"*.
- **Ram Krishna Paramahansa** "God is of no use to the hungry belly"
- **Swami Vivekananda**: *"Christianity wins its prosperity by cutting the throats of its fellowmen."*

Liberation of Pondicherry and Goa

- Goa was in the hands of Portuguese from 1510 AD onwards.
- The Liberation Army captured Dadra, Nagarhaveli on 22 July 1954.
- Goa, Daman and Diu were liberated from the Portuguese in 1964.
- Pondicherry was under the French.
- Since 1946, there were freedom struggles in Pondicherry.
- The legal hand over of Pondicherry was in 1962.
- Malayalam speaking Mahi, Telegu speaking Yanam and Tamil speaking Karakkal are the parts of Pondicherry.
- Pondicherry's new name is Puducherry.