

FREEDOM FIGHTERS WHO INSPIRED THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT

Our freedom fighters not only endured many difficulties but also abandoned all the comforts of life to fight for the independence of the nation. In several cases, they sacrificed everything for the freedom of Maa Bharti. Many even left their studies to participate in the freedom struggle without being bothered about their future and career. For them, the freedom of the motherland was the supreme cause. It is only because of the high-spirited efforts of our freedom fighters that India attained freedom on August 15, 1947.

On February 4, 1922, a police station was set on fire in Chauri-Chaura, which is about 20 km west of Gorakhpur. This incident gave a new direction to the freedom struggle. However, it is very unfortunate that the martyrs of Chauri Chaura did not receive the recognition that they deserved. The martyrs of Chauri Chaura may not have been given a prominent place in the annals of history but their blood shed for freedom is definitely present in the country's soil, which always inspires. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 'Chauri Chaura' Centenary Celebrations at Chauri

Chaura, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh on February 4, 2021. The day marks 100 years of the 'Chauri Chaura' incident, a landmark event in the country's fight for independence. The Prime Minister also released a postal stamp dedicated to the Chauri Chaura centenary event. This

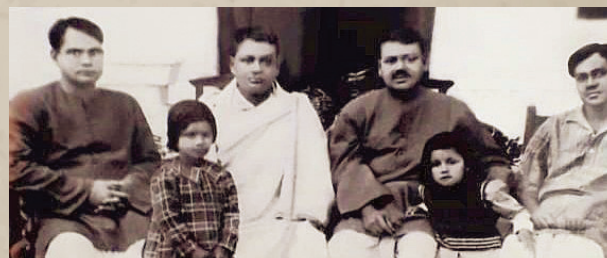
ceremony was held at a time when country was entering its 75th year of independence. This time in the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav section, the stories of Subhadra Kumari Chauhan, Sachindra Nath Sanyal, Satguru Ram Singh, and Gandhian thinker Maganbhai Desai will enlighten the readers. These great personalities not only fought for the independence of the country but also contributed significantly to strengthening the foundation of post-Independent India.



Sachindra Nath Sanyal

THE FREEDOM FIGHTER WHO WAS INCARCERATED IN THE CELLULAR JAIL TWICE

SACHINDRA NATH SANYAL USED TO SAY- I HAD RESOLVED WHEN I WAS A CHILD THAT INDIA HAS TO BE MADE FREE AND I HAVE TO LEAD A LIFE DEVOTED TO THE COUNTRY FOR THIS



Sachindra Nath Sanyal (Second from left)

Among all the freedom fighters, Shachindra Nath Sanyal was the only revolutionary who was jailed twice in Kala Pani. He faced repeated arrests and house arrests but despite suffering so much whenever he came back raised a rebellion against the British empire. His campaign to free the motherland never ceased. Born on 3 April 1893 in Varanasi, Shachindra Nath Sanyal with his courage and patriotism inspired the new generation of revolutionaries.

While studying at the Queen's College in Banaras he formed the first revolutionary party of Kashi, Anushilan Samiti. He was also the founding member of the Hindustan Republican Association. He faced trial for his involvement in the Lahore conspiracy and Banaras conspiracy. Sanyal was arrested in 1915 and sent to Kalapani. He remained in touch with Rash Behari Bose for a long time in pursuit to free India. On 9 August 1925, members of the revolutionary party led by Ramprasad Bismil looted a train at a place called Kakori carrying British Government Treasury's moneybags. Shachindra Nath Sanyal was also arrested in this case. His younger brother Bhupendra and Manmath Nath were sentenced to 5 years and 14 years imprisonment respectively. Shachindranath Sanyal has a deep bonding with Gorakhpur. After being diagnosed with TB he breathed his last in Gorakhpur.

Subhadra Kumari Chauhan Born: 16 August 1904, Died: 15 February 1948

First Indian woman to participate in the non-cooperation movement



SUBHADRA KUMARI CHAUHAN WROTE HER POEMS, STORIES AND COMPOSITIONS IN VERY EASY WORDS. SHE WAS A VERSATILE WRITER WHO WROTE IN VARIOUS GENRE FROM HEROIC SAGAS TO POEMS FOR CHILDREN. IN HER STORIES SHE SHARED THOUGHTS ON THE LIFE OF THE MIDDLE CLASS APART FROM STIRRING NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS.

Subhadra Kumari Chauhan, who has the distinct recognition of being the first Indian woman to participate in the noncooperation movement was born on 16 August 1904 in the house of Thakur Ramnath Singh in Nihalpur village of Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh. She initially attended the Crosthwaite Girls' School in Prayagraj and passed the middle-school exams in 1919. She moved to Jabalpur in the same year after marrying Thakur Laxman Singh Chauhan of Khandwa. She not only participated in the non-cooperation movement but wrote many inspiring patriotic poems. She played an active role in the freedom struggle of India, because of which she had to go to jail many times and suffer torture. She had also shared her experiences of these tortures in her stories. She inspired other people to join the freedom struggle through the medium of her literary creativity. She also gave fiery revolutionary speeches to motivate people. It was only through her very famous poem 'Khoob Ladi Mardaani' that the story of Rani Laxmibai could reach door-to-door in India and children could know the valor and indomitable courage of the queen of Jhansi.

Despite the male dominance in the literary field at that time, she carved a niche for herself getting recognition at the national level. Her first poem was published only at the age of nine. In total, 88 poems and 46 short stories were published. 'Bikhare Moti', 'Unmadini' (1934), 'Seedhe Sadhe Chitra' (1947), along with poetry collections 'Mukul', 'Khilonewala', 'Ye Kadamb Ka Ped' and 'Tridhara' were published. An Indian Coast Guard ship has been named after her. A conscious writer with a national outlook, Chauhan's poems mainly focused on the difficulties faced by Indian women such as 'gender and caste discrimination'. Google commemorated her 117th birth anniversary with a creative doodle last year. Subhadra Kumari Chauhan died on February 15, 1948, at the age of 44. Prime Minister Narendra Modi planted a Kadamba tree on the lawn of the Prime Minister's residence on June 5, 2015, on the occasion of World Environment Day. On this occasion, he narrated the lines of Subhadra Kumari Chauhan's poem 'If this Kadamba tree was on the banks of the mother Yamuna. I too sit on it to become Kanhaiya slowly'.



Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav gives us an opportunity to live the memories of the freedom struggle; gives us an opportunity to experience them. This is an inspiring festival, a motivating occasion, to display the will to do something, to take new resolves for the country. Let us continue to be inspired by the great personalities of the freedom struggle, continue to further strengthen our efforts for the country"

- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Maganbhai Desai 11 October 1889, Died: 1 February 1969

Gandhian thinker Maganbhai Desai never compromised with ideology

Maganbhai Desai not only took part in the freedom struggle of India, but he also actively participated in social reforms before and after the independence of the country. He was born on 11 October 1889 in Dharmaj village of Kheda district, Gujarat in a pious family and never compromised

FREEDOM FIGHTER, EDUCATIONIST, AND LEADING EXPONENT OF GANDHIAN THOUGHTS MAGANBHAI DESAI ALSO MADE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIAL ISSUES

on his ideology. It is said that when Maganbhai Desai was studying in Mumbai, after listening to Mahatma Gandhi's speech, he left his studies after being impressed by him. He later completed his studies and continued working as a teacher. Maganbhai Desai became very active with the Civil Disobedience Movement in 1930 and was subsequently arrested by the British government in 1932. Even during the Quit India Movement, he was very active against the oppressive British rule and continued to participate in the movement. It

was Maganbhai Desai who started a magazine called 'Education and Literature' in October 1939 to promote Gandhi's ideas. He was its editor till April 1961. Even after the independence of the country, he propagated Gandhian values by promoting the cause of education, indigenous industries, and prohibition of alcohol. He also advocated providing education in the mother tongue from primary level to university. Maganbhai Desai, a strong supporter, and exponent of Gandhian ideology was associated with more than 30 regional and national level committees related to Khadi, Hindi, alcohol prohibition, Sarvodaya, adult education, and Gandhian literature. He wrote articles and books on various subjects like education, culture, history, Gandhian philosophy, religion, politics, economics, sociology among others. Apart from being an excellent journalist, he also translated some books. After leaving Gujarat Vidyapeeth, he remained editor of the weekly Satyagraha from August 1961 until his death. Maganbhai Desai died on 1 February 1969.

Satguru Ram Singh 3 February 1816, Died: 29 November 1885

Satguru Ram Singh started the 'Kuka Movement' to liberate the country

He was a Sikh philosopher, reformer, and freedom fighter who organized Indian citizens for complete freedom of the country about 150 years ago. His teachings are equally relevant today in the 21st century.

He also strongly supported reverence for the cow, simple marriage ceremonies, widow remarriages, and mass marriages with minimum expenditure. He led the first rebellion against the British. Satguru Ram Singh was born on 3 February 1816 in a village in Ludhiana district in Punjab. He led the Namdhari sect and started the Kuka movement to liberate the country a month before the revolt of 1857. He also strongly

advocated a boycott of goods made in Britain. Satguru also campaigned strongly against the practice of Sati and urged people to remarry widows to enable them to live with self-respect in society. He also started a new mass marriage system, in which weddings were solemnized at a cost of just 1 rupee and 25 paise. He worked hard to abolish the dowry system. Also, he spread religious awareness among the masses with an aim to inculcate the spirit of self-respect and willingness to sacrifice for the country. He died on 29 November 1885. In 2016, the Government of India had officially decided to celebrate the 200th birth anniversary of Satguru Ram Singh. ■