

The immortal freedom fighters of India

March 12 ... the historic day when 92 years ago Mahatma Gandhi with the proclamation of Dandi March awakened the spirit of Swadeshi which shook the foundation of British rule. From this day last year, India started the Amrit Festival of Independence and today the people of the country are remembering their freedom fighters.

One year of Amrit Mahotsav



The struggle for independence in India was more than just a struggle for power and rights; there was a "colonial mindset" on one side, and the idea of "live and let live" on the other. There was a frenzy of racial superiority and materialism on the one hand, and a belief in humanity and spirituality on the other. India emerged victorious in this battle; India's tradition emerged victorious. The energy of equality, humanity and spirituality was also engaged in the freedom struggle of India. This is an opportunity to remember, re-remember every person who contributed, lived and died for the country, spent his youth for the country in this freedom struggle. At the same time, it is also

an opportunity to take some resolutions while remembering their dreams. This issue is being published between March 1 and 15, which reminds us of the Civil Disobedience Movement, which began on March 8, 1930, as well as the Dandi March, which began on March 12, 1930, under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. In the year 2021, on the completion of 91 years of Salt Satyagraha, Prime Minister Narendra Modi started the Amrit Mahotsav from Sabarmati Ashram by flagging off the padyatra. Read the stories of Sushila Didi, Satchidananda Hiranand Vatsyayan Agyeya, Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, Vishwanath Das, and others in this issue.

SUSHILA SOLD HER JEWELLERY FOR THE REVOLUTIONARIES

Born on March 5, 1905; died on January 13, 1963

Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das once came to Lahore. It is said that in that public meeting, Sushila Didi recited a Punjabi song written by her, "Jug-Jug Gagan Lehrae Jhanda Bharat Da", on hearing which "Deshbandhu" wept. Not only this, Bharat-Kokila Sarojini Naidu was also moved by listening to this song, and this song became the favourite song of the revolutionaries at that time. When Sushila Didi was young, her mother died, and she went on to join many revolutionary organisations



while completing her studies at the same time. Sushila Didi, born on March 5, 1905 in Dattochuhad, Punjab (modern-day Pakistan), was a patriotic woman who sold up to ten tolas of gold kept for her marriage in order to save revolutionaries trapped in the Kakori incident. Sushila Didi's mother kept this gold for her daughter's wedding. The principal of Sushila Didi's school introduced her to Durga

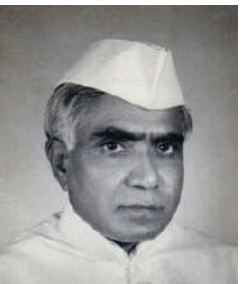
SUSHILA DIDI WAS A PATRIOTIC WOMAN WHO SOLD GOLD KEPT FOR HER MARRIAGE IN ORDER TO SAVE REVOLUTIONARIES TRAPPED IN THE KAKORI INCIDENT.

Bhabhi, and their relationship grew stronger over time, eventually forming a sister-in-law relationship. Sushila Mohan then became Sushila Didi for all the revolutionaries. Bhagat Singh is said to have respected Sushila Didi as an elder sister, and the two worked together to oppose many British government schemes and to help each other. Following the murder of British police officer Saunders, Bhagat Singh, accompanied by Durga Bhabhi, arrived in Calcutta disguised, and Sushila Didi kept Bhagat Singh where she herself was living so that the British government would not become aware of this. In the year 1933, Sushila Didi married a man who was also a freedom fighter. Her husband, Shyam Mohan, was a lawyer, and both he and she were imprisoned during the 1942 movement. During this time, Didi was in Lahore while Shyam Mohan was in Delhi. She continued to suffer torture to liberate the country, but she never gave up the fight.

BURGULA RAMAKRISHNA RAO STOOD UP AGAINST THE INJUSTICE OF THE NIZAM OF HYDERABAD AND THE BRITISH

Born on March 13, 1899; died on September 15, 1967

Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, the great freedom fighter and the first elected Chief Minister of Hyderabad, was a man who stood up and fought against the Nizam of Hyderabad's dictatorship and injustice. Not only that, but he fought the Nizam under the leadership of Swami Ramanand Teerth and many other leaders, and he was instrumental in bringing Hyderabad into the independent India. Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, who began his career as a lawyer in Hyderabad, was born into a Brahmin family in Telangana's Mahbubnagar district. After graduating from Ferguson College in Pune and the

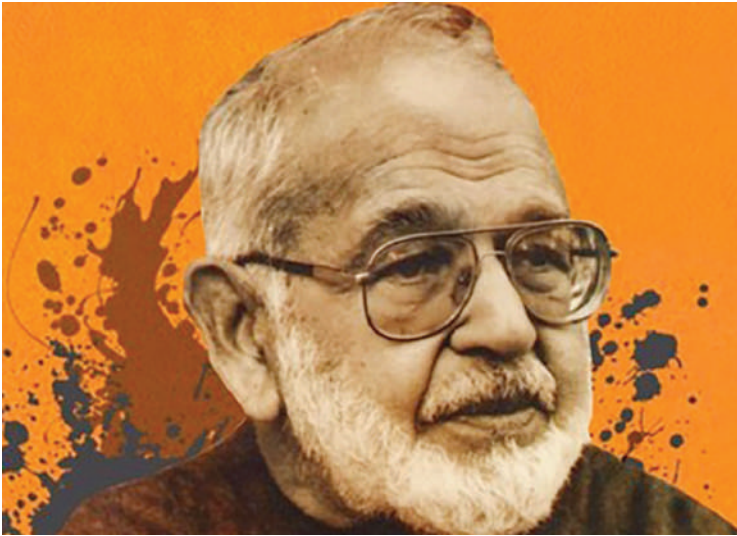


University of Mumbai in 1923, he began practising law in Hyderabad in 1924. During this time, he also began to participate in India's freedom struggle. He was an active participant in the Quit India Movement. During

this time, he was repeatedly imprisoned and tortured. Burgula Ramakrishna Rao, who was secretary of the "Hyderabad Social Conference," as well as a member of the "Hyderabad Reform Committee" and the "Hyderabad Political Conference," was elected an executive member of the State Congress in 1938 and secretary of the People's Convention in 1937. For three years, he was also the President of the Andhra Pradesh Congress. Rao, a multilingual man, was the first elected Chief Minister of Hyderabad State, serving from March 6, 1952, to October 31, 1956. Later in his career, he served as Governor of Kerala from November 22nd, 1956 to July 1st, 1960, and as Governor of Uttar Pradesh from July 1st, 1960 to April 15th, 1962. Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee released Burgula Ramakrishna Rao's biography at the Raj Bhavan in Hyderabad on August 31, 1999, and the Postal Department of the Government of India issued a postage stamp in his honour on March 13, 2000.

SATCHIDANANDA HIRANAND VATSYAYAN 'AGYEYA' : LEARNED TO MAKE BOMBS TO LIBERATE THE COUNTRY

Born: 7 March 1911, Death: 4 April 1987



Agyeya's famous works include "Bhagnadoot", "Chinta", "Ityalam", "Hari Ghaas Par Kshanna Bhar", "Bawra Aheri", "Aangan ke Paar Dwar", "Poorva", "Kitni Naon Mein Kitni Baar", "Kyonki Main Use Jaanta Hoon", "Sagar Mudra", "Pahle Main Sannata Bunta Hoon", "Shekhar, Ek Jeevani", "Nadi Ke Dweep", and "Apne Apne Ajnabi".

During India's freedom struggle, the name Sachchidanand Hiranand Vatsyayan, "Agyeya," refers to a revolutionary who was imprisoned in various jails from 1930 to 1936 for the country's independence, and was released after 6 years in jail and internment. Hindi litterateur Sachchidanand Hiranand Vatsyayan "Agyeya," was born on March 7, 1911 in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh, and received his early education at home because his father did not believe in schooling. He earned a BSc in Industrial Science from Lahore University before enrolling in an MA in English. While studying, he met Bhagat Singh and members of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Army—revolutionary Chandrashekhar Azad, Sukhdev, and Bhagwati Charan Vohra—and met the Naujawan Bharat Sabha for the first time. He joined the revolutionary movement in the middle of his studies, and it is said that he was caught making bombs during this time, but escaped. Later, he was apprehended and tried in such a way that he faced the death penalty. Agyeya was a writer who was at times revolutionary and at other times a soldier in the army. The impact of prison on Ajneya's writing life is significant, as he has been fighting for his country's independence his entire life. Reading his story, "Kothri Ki Baat," one can see how the agitators must

have grown strong. While Agyeya was imprisoned, his poetry collections "Bhagnadoot" and "Ityalam" were released. And the voice of revolution was heard loud and clear in this collection of poems. Munshi Premchand is said to have given Satchidananda Hiranand Vatsyayan the name "Agyeya." He had sent Premchand some of his compositions in which no one's name was mentioned. In such a case, Premchand asked for the author's name, and when it was not given, he stated that he would print the work under the pen name "Agyeya." Since then, the name "Agyeya" has been associated with Satchidananda Hiranand Vatsyayan. Following that, his works were published under the pen name Agyeya. Agyeya was a well-known Hindi poet, story writer, and novelist who also translated the works of many other writers from Hindi into English. Following the country's independence, he became totally involved in journalism and the literary world. Agyeya, a writer and journalist who made significant contributions to literature and journalism, began his career as a journalist with the Agra-based weekly "Sainik." Many Indian awards have been bestowed upon him, including the International Golden Wreath Award, the Sahitya Akademi Award, and the Jnanpith Award. He passed away on April 4, 1987.

FREEDOM FIGHTER VISHWANTH DAS: DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE COUNTRY

BORN: March 8, 1889, DIED: June 2, 1984

Pandit Vishwanath Das, a freedom fighter who dedicated his life to the service of the country, was greatly influenced by Mahatma Gandhi, and as a result of his influence, he abandoned his legal career and dedicated his life to the country's independence. In order to help the freedom movement, he joined the Congress in 1921 and began serving the country. Vishwanath Das, born on March 8, 1889 in the then-Madras Presidency's Ganjam district, fought alongside freedom fighters in the Civil Disobedience



Movement, Quit India Movement, and Salt Satyagraha to drive the British out of the country, and was imprisoned. In the Madras Presidency in 1920, he founded the Farmers' Union and

served on the Madras Council from 1920 to 1929. Vishwanath Das persuaded Mahatma Gandhi to establish an independent Odisha state. He, along with Krishnachandra Gajapati Narayan Dev and other companions, made significant contributions to the establishment of an Odia-speaking state. As a result of his efforts, Mahatma Gandhi was able to propose to the British that Odisha become a separate state. Vishwanath Das, a staunch Gandhian, was elected to the Legislative Assembly of the British Indian state of Odisha in 1936 and served as Premier (Prime Minister) from 1937 to 1939. He later resigned from this position. From 1947 to 1951, he was a member of India's Constituent Assembly from Odisha, and he was also a member of the All India Congress Committee for many years. He was thrice elected President of the Utkal Pradesh Congress Committee. ■



We are commemorating the history of the freedom struggle during the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence. Today, the country expresses gratitude to its freedom fighters. We draw inspiration and energy for our future from our history. That is why, in addition to the freedom struggle, the Amrit Mahotsav has also encompassed India's heritage for thousands of years.

- Narendra Modi Prime Minister



GLOBAL BRAINSTORMING ON 'REIMAGINING MUSEUMS'

A two-day first of its kind event to celebrate the glorious history of the country, its people, culture and achievements to commemorate the 75th anniversary of India's independence was held in Hyderabad. Titled 'Reimagining Museums in Hyderabad, the event was held India' under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, on February 15-16. Participants from countries like India, Australia, France, Italy, Singapore, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and America participated in this conference. The Government of India is developing 10 museums and supporting special museums such as the Textiles and Crafts Museums, Defense Museums and Railway Museums to recognize the contribution of tribal freedom fighters in the freedom struggle. Since 2014 till date, the Ministry of Culture has funded 110 museums across the country and in order to promote scientific temper, 18 science museums are also being developed. In addition, the Archaeological Survey of India under the ministry also operates 52 museums across the country.