PARMAR SSC

BHAGAT SINGH & REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES



Bhagat Singh and revolutionary activities

Rise of Socialism & Trade Unions

- In the early 20th century, the influence of Socialism began to grow in India, inspired by global events.



Theory of Socialism:

- The theory was proposed by **Karl Marx.**
- **He stated: "The only option to remove the rich classes from society is mass struggle".**
- **Reason:** The Russian Revolution of 1917 significantly influenced Indian revolutionaries.

Growth of Trade Unions:

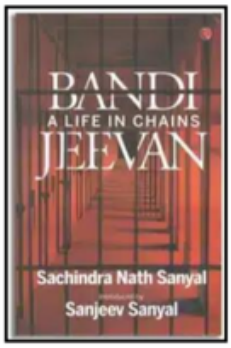
- **AITUC (All India Trade Union Congress):** Formed in 1920.
- **Founding Leaders: Lala Lajpat Rai (First President), Joseph Baptista, and N. M. Joshi.**
- **The Pioneer: N. M. Lokhande** is revered as the **"Father of the Trade Union Movement"** in India. He established the **Bombay Mill Hands Association.**

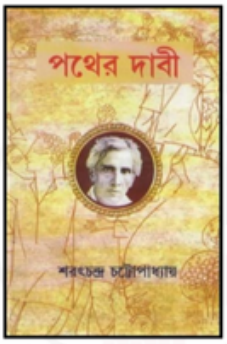
Formation of the Communist Party:

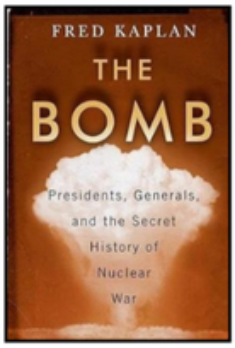
- **In Tashkent (1920):** The Communist Party of India (CPI) was first formed by **M. N. Roy** in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- **1924 (Kanpur Bolshevik Conspiracy Case):** A British crackdown on communist activities in India. The case involved S. A. Dange, Muzaffar Ahmad, Shaukat Usmani, and Nalini Gupta
- **Formalisation (1925):** The CPI was formally established within India at Kanpur.
- **1929:** The famous **Meerut Conspiracy Case** occurred.

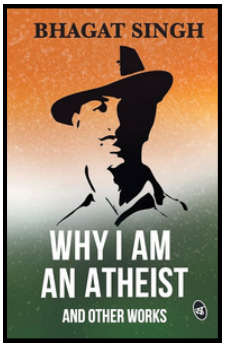
Revolutionary Novels and Literature

Book / Work	Author	Details
Bandi Jeevan	Sachindra Nath Sanyal	Often called the "Bible of Revolutionaries".
Pather Dabi	Sharatchandra Chatterjee	A highly influential Bengali novel.
Philosophy of Bomb	Bhagwati Charan Vohra	A manifesto defending the use of force.
Why i am an Atheist	Bhagat Singh	An essay written by Bhagat Singh while in prison.









Revolutionary Activities

In 2021, the Uttar Pradesh government renamed the "Kakori Train Robbery" as the "Kakori Train Action."

Hindustan Republican Association (HRA)

- **Formed:** 1924 in Kanpur.
- **Founders:** Ram Prasad Bismil, J. C. Chatterjee, and Sachindra Nath Sanyal.
- **Kakori Train Robbery/Action (1925):**
  - **Incident:** Revolutionaries looted the 8-Down Train at Kakori village near Lucknow to fund activities.
  - **Martyrs (Hanged):** Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqullah Khan, Roshan Singh, and Rajendra Lahiri.

Naujawan Bharat Sabha

- **Formed:** 1926 in Punjab by Bhagat Singh.
- **Ideology:** Bhagat Singh fully accepted Marxism.

Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA)

The word "**Socialist**" was added to HRA to reflect the goal of a socialist state.

- **Reorganization:** In 1928, HRA was transformed into HSRA.
- **Location:** Feroz Shah Kotla, Delhi.
- **Leaders:** Chandrashekhar Azad, Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev.

The Saunders Murder (1928)

Lalaji's Quote: "Every blow aimed at me is a nail in the coffin of British Imperialism."

- **Context:** To avenge the death of Lala Lajpat Rai, who died due to a lathi charge ordered by Scott.
- **Incident:** Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, and Rajguru mistakenly killed J.P. Saunders (Assistant Superintendent of Police) in Lahore instead of Scott.

Central Legislative Assembly Bombing (1929)

- **Date:** April 8, 1929.
- **Place:** Central Legislative Assembly, Delhi.
- **Revolutionaries:** Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt.
- **Reason:** To protest against the "Public Safety Bill" (1928) (termed Anti-National) and the "Trade Disputes Bill" (1929).
- **Purpose:** Not to kill anyone, but "To Make the Deaf Hear".
- **Outcome:** They did not run away; they surrendered to use the court as a platform to spread their ideology.

The Trials, Hunger Strike & Executions

The Hunger Strike (1929)

- **Issue:** Upon arrest, Bhagat Singh and others demanded treatment as "Political Prisoners" (better food, books), which was denied.
- **First Hunger Strike:** Started in June 1929.
- Martyrdom of Jatin Das:
  - Jatindra Nath Das died on September 13, 1929, after a 63-day hunger strike.
  - The British accepted some demands, but later backed out.
- **2nd Hunger Strike (1930):** Launched because the British reneged on their promises.

The Lahore Conspiracy Case Trial

- A special L.C.C. Ordinance (1930) was passed by the Viceroy to run the trial Ex-parte (without the accused present) because the revolutionaries were boycotting the court.
- The Betrayers (Approvers/Government Witnesses):
  These associates turned against Bhagat Singh and testified for the British:
  - Hans Raj Vohra
  - Jai Gopal
  - Phanindranath Ghosh
  - Sobha Singh

> **Slogans of Bhagat Singh**
> "**Inquilab Zindabad**" (Long Live Revolution). (Note: Coined by Hasrat Mohani in 1921, popularized by Bhagat Singh).
> "**Down with Imperialism**" (Samrajyavaad ka Naash ho).

The Execution

- **Bhagat Singh's Letter:** He wrote to Lord Irwin, stating the hunger strike was a fight for principles, started before the trial.
- **The Verdict:** Death sentence delivered on Oct 7, 1930.
- **The Hanging:**
  - **Scheduled:** March 24, 1931.
  - **Actual Execution:** March 23, 1931. (Shaheed Diwas)
  - **Martyrs:** Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Rajguru.

30 Jan, the day Gandhiji died is also celebrated as "**Shaheed Diwas**".

Other Revolutionary Heroes

Chandrashekhar Azad

- **Attempt on Viceroy:** In 1929, he attempted to blow up Lord Irwin's train near Delhi, but the Viceroy survived.
- **Martyrdom:**
  - **Date:** February 27, 1931.
  - **Location:** Alfred Park, Allahabad.
  - He shot himself to keep his pledge of never being caught alive. The park is now named Chandrashekhar Azad Park.





Chittagong Armoury Raid (1930)

- **Leader:** Surya Sen (Master Da).
- **Event:** Seized the armouries in Chittagong (Bengal) in April 1930.

- **Fate:** Surya Sen was arrested in 1933 and hanged in Jan 1934.

Women Revolutionaries:

- **Pritilata Waddedar**: Attacked the Pahartali European Club (died consuming cyanide).
- **Kalpana Dutta**: Arrested with Surya Sen.
- **Suniti Chaudhary & Santi Ghosh:** Shot dead the District Magistrate (DM) Charles Stevens.
- **Bina Das**: Fired shots at Governor Stanley Jackson during her convocation.

The Simon Commission (1927-28)

- **Background:** The **Government of India Act 1919** was to be reviewed after 10 years, but the commission was appointed early in 1927 (8 years later) by the British conservative government.
- **Chairman:** **Sir John Simon**.
- **Composition**: It was a **7-member commission**. All members were White, with no Indian representation.

Note: Clement Attlee (future PM of Britain) was a member of this commission.

- **The Protest**:
  - The commission arrived in India in 1928.
  - **Slogan:** "**Simon Go Back**" (Coined by Yusuf Meherally).
  - **Lala Lajpat Rai:** Led the protest in Lahore. He was hit by Scott during a lathi charge and died due to injuries.
- **Recommendations of the Commission:**
  - Abolition of **Dyarchy**.
  - Introduction of a Federal System of government.
  - Extended **voting rights**
  - Separate Muslim Electorate.
  - Rejected the separation of Sindh from Bombay
  - The Demand of frontier for equal status was also neglected.
  - It rejected **1/3rd Muslim seat** reservation in the Central Assembly.

Madras Session of Congress of 1927

- **President:** **M. A. Ansari.**
- It was a special Session which passed a resolution,
- Calling for boycott of Simon Commission.

Response to Simon Commission

- The then Secretary, **Birkenhead** challenged the Indian leaders to draft their own Constitution.
- Congress set up a committee under the chairmanship of **Motilal Nehru** which presented **Nehru Report.**

Demands in Nehru Report

- Rejected Separate Electorate.
- Demand for Dominion status.
- Linguistic provinces, 19 Fundamental Rights, and a
- Responsible Government.

- Delhi Proposals were given by Muslim League (1927).
- Jinnah presented his 14 points (1929).

Bardoli Satyagraha (1928)

- **Issue:** Protest against a 22% hike in tax rates.
- **Leader:** Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- **Title:** The title "Sardar" was given to him by the women of Bardoli.



- **SC Bose, JL Nehru and Srinivasa Iyengar** formed Indian Independence League in 1928. The league was formed in opposition to the Nehru Report.
- **Those in support of Simon Commission**: B R Ambedkar and Hindu Mahasabha (founded in 1915 by Madan Mohan Malaviya)
- Hindu Mahasabha Initially supported the commission but later boycotted it.

- **Muddiman Committee:** Focused on Diarchic dispensation (investigating the working of the Diarchy system under the 1919 Act).
- **Linlithgow Commission:** Focused on Agriculture (officially the Royal Commission on Agriculture).
- **Lee Commission:** Focused on the Recruitment of British officers (specifically regarding the Indianization of the Civil Services).



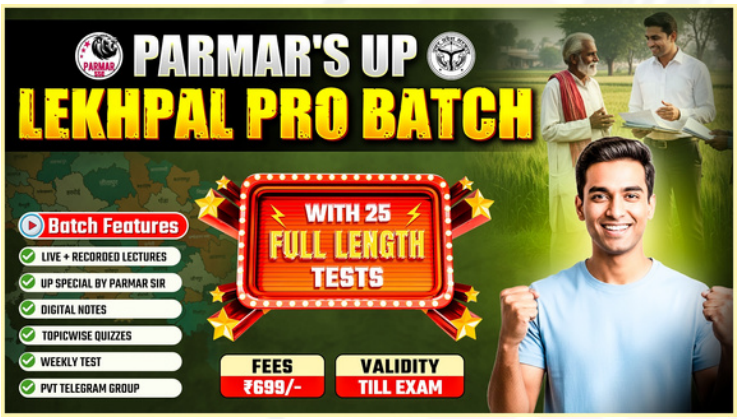


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