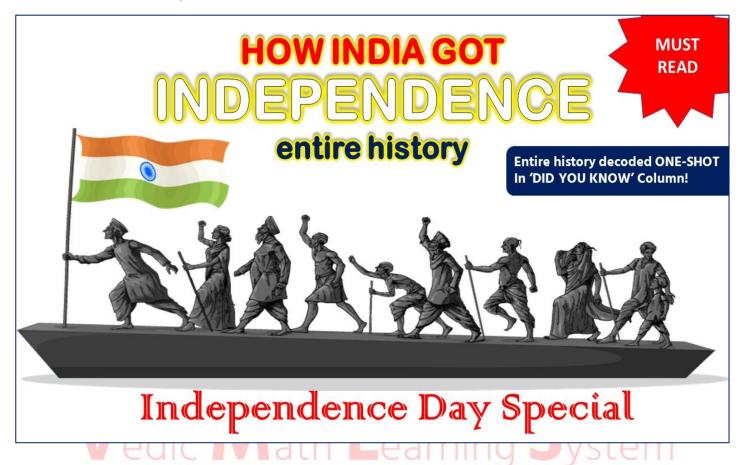
HOW INDIA GOT INDEPENDENCE – A MUST READ ARTICLE

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A Very Happy Independence Day to all the readers. As we celebrate our 74th Independence Day, we must recollect and cherish the Sacrifices made by countless individuals to attain the much-deserved freedom. From 1857 to 1947, we present a vivid account of the major events which lead to our independence. Every individual, every student and parent must read the entire article carefully in order to cherish and enjoy the freedom that we have right now.



1857 - First Uprising

The 'Uprising of 1857' in India is considered a major initiative against the rule of the British East India Company during 1857-58, which acted as a powerful initiative against the sovereign power of the British Raj. The revolt began on May 10, 1857, in the form of a mutiny by the company's sepoys in the military city of Meerut. Due to the great sacrifices and bravery of Nana Saheb Peshwa, Rani Lakshmibai, Rao Tularam and many such great heroes, this revolt engraved in the history of India with golden letters.

1885 - Establishment of the Indian National Congress

On 28 December 1885, the Indian National Congress was formed at Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College, Bombay. There were 72 delegates present at that time. A.O. Hume took over as secretary general, and Vyomeshchandra Banerjee of Calcutta was elected as the very first president. The first stimulus of nationalist



sentiment among the members of the Congress took place was when the desire for representation in the Government arose, which can fulfil the need for suffrage (right to vote) in the issues of Indian administration and government issues. Nationalist Congressmen saw themselves as loyal to the committee, but as part of the Country, they wanted an active role in the governance of their country.

1905 - Partition of Bengal

The first partition of Bengal took place in 1905 by the British Raj officials under the guise of regional reorganization. Following the declaration of partition by the Viceroy of India(then), Lord Curzon, on 16 October (1905), on 20 July 1905, the eastern parts of Bengal (which were predominantly a Muslim region) were separated from the Hindu-populated western areas. The Hindus of West Bengal, who dominated the business and rural life of Bengal, had lodged a complaint against this partition. The Hindus were outraged at the British Raj's policy of 'divide and rule'.

In 1911, Bengal reunited

There was a strong reaction of Hindus mainly against the partition of Bengal. The wave of anger in Bengal had turned on. The nationalists and other leaders of the Indian National Congress started a huge movement. People hated the 'divide and rule' policy of the British Raj. The day of partition of Bengal was observed by the people of Bengal as a 'day of mourning'. The partition of Bengal started a political crisis against the British Raj. Mass protests, including boycotts of British goods, unrest and mass rallies, intensified the agitation. In 1911, Lord Hardinge reunited Bengal in response to quell the Bengalis' aggression displayed by the Swadeshi movement against 'Divide and Rule' policy of the British crown.

1915 - Mahatma Gandhi returns to India

1917 - Champaran Satyagraha

The Champaran Satyagraha of 1917 was the first movement in India under the leadership of Gandhiji. The 'Champaran Satyagraha' is considered historically very important in the Indian independence movement. It was a peasant uprising that took place in the Champaran district of Bihar(India) during the British colonial period. Farmers in Champaran opposed growing indigo. The main reason for this protest was that farmers were forced to grow indigo despite not being given adequate compensation. Many tenant farmers were forced to grow indigo on some part of their land as a condition of their tenancy. This indigo was used to create color. The Germans invented cheap synthetic dyes so the demand for Indigo decreased. However, German color ceased to be available during World War I and so Indigo became profitable again. Thus, many tenants were once again forced to grow it on a portion of their land. Naturally, this caused great anger and resentment among the peasants. When Gandhiji returned to India from South Africa in 1915, he saw the peasantry of North India being oppressed by Indigo planters. He tried to use the same methods of 'satyagraha' that he used in Africa. Decided to organize a mass uprising by the people in protest against injustice. The Champaran Satyagraha was the first popular Satyagraha movement. The Champaran Satyagraha guided India's youth and freedom struggle in a proper direction.





1919-Jallianwala Bagh

Jallianwala Bagh was neither a park nor a garden. It was an empty field surrounded by high walled houses. The Jallianwala Bagh massacre took place on April 13, 1919 - on the day of Baisakhi. Approximately 10,000 were gathered to protest peacefully against the 'Rowlatt Act' declared by the British government. At that moment, General Dyer arrived at Jallianwala Bagh with about 50 soldiers, and without warning, gave his soldiers shooting orders by shouting "Fire!". The firing lasted 10 to 15 minutes. Approximately 1,650 rounds of ammunition were fired at the crowd. In addition to those killed by the ammunition, several more died trying to escape by jumping into a well in the garden. The British government passed the Rowlatt Act, which empowered the police to arrest anyone without any specific reason. The purpose of the Act was to curb the growing nationalist insurgency in the country. Gandhi called on the people to satyagraha against such a tyrannical "act".

1919 - Khilafat Movement

The Khilafat movement, also known as the Indian Muslim Movement (1919-24), was an Islamist movement started by Muslims in British India under the leadership of Shaukat Ali, Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar, Hakim Ajmal Khan, and Abul Kalam Azad. This was an attempt to restore the Khalifa of the Ottoman khilafat, considered the leader of Sunni Muslims as an effective political right. The British Raj considered the Khalifa invalid. So the whole Muslim society was waging a movement against the British Raj. With Gandhiji's support for the Khilafat movement, the Muslim support for the national non-cooperation movement. It was in opposition to the sanctions imposed on the Khalifa and the Ottoman Empire by the Treaty of Sevres after World War I. The movement broke down in late 1922 when Turkey gained a more favorable position after World War I and moved towards secularism. By 1924, Turkey had abolished the role of Khalifa.

1921 - Non-cooperation movement

A 'movement of non-cooperation' is a movement of a citizen to refuse to comply with certain laws, demands or orders of the government. It is also called the 'Civil Disobedience Movement'. By some definitions, to call civil disobedience "civil" must be nonviolent. Therefore, civil disobedience is equated with 'peaceful protest' or 'non-violent resistance'.

1929 - General Assembly bomb blast

In 1929, Shaheed Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt bombed the Delhi Central Assembly to arrest the court. The bombing was not intended to harm anyone, but to oppose the passage of two oppressive bills, the "Public Safety Bill" and the "Trade Disputes Bill."

"If deaf people to hear, the voice must be very loud," Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt said at the hearing of the bomb blast case in the Delhi Central Assembly on April 88, 1929 - almost 98 years ago. His work led to a youth movement that changed the course of India's independence movement. According to the plan, Bhagat Singh and Dutt succeeded and closed the assembly seat and surrendered to the police. Bhagat Singh

was later sentenced to death while Dutt was sentenced to life imprisonment. The courage of these two freedom fighters was one of the main reasons for our country's independence.

1930 - Dandi March

The 'Salt Satyagraha' was carried out in India from March to April 1930 by Mohandas Gandhi as part of a non-cooperation movement to oppose British rule in India. During this time, thousands of Indians accompanied Gandhiji on foot to the Arabian Sea, about 240 miles from the Gandhi Ashram in Ahmedabad. As a result of this march, about 60,000 people, including Gandhiji, were arrested.

Britain's Salt Act of 1882 prohibited Indians from collecting or selling salt. Salt is mainly added to the diet which is very necessary. Indian citizens had to buy salt from the British rulers, that too after paying heavy taxes!

1942 - Azad Hind Fauj

The military organization 'Azad Hind Fauj' was founded by Mohan Singh with the participation of Indian prisoners of war in Singapore. Against Japan in World War II, Britain lost the Singapore. With the slogan "Asia for Asiatics", Japan wanted to increase its strength against the British with Indian troops. About 45,000 Indian troops gathered and the Japanese army decided to form the Azad Hind Fauj in 1942. The 'Azad Hind Fauj' is also known as Bose's 'Indian National Army'. The Azad Hind Fauj played a very important role in India's independence.

1942 - Ouit India Movement

The Quit India Movement, also known as the 'August Movement', was a movement initiated by Mahatma Gandhi during the Bombay session of the All India Congress Committee during World War II, demanding an end to British rule in India.

1947 - India gained independence.

This day commemorates the great freedom fighters of India without whose sacrifices it would have been almost impossible to break free from the clutches of British rule. They sacrificed their life, family and dreams of a happy life to make the a single idea of 'Azad Bharat' possible. They did not hesitate to sacrifice their lives to provide a 'dignified life' to future generations of India. Tribute to such heroes of Mother India!

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