



# Relocating the Amar Jawan Jyoti to National War Memorial

## Why in News

In a historic move, Amar Jawan Jyoti merged with the National War Memorial flame.

## Key Points

### ▪ Amar Jawan Jyoti:

- Established in 1972, it was to **mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 War**, which resulted in the **creation of Bangladesh**.
- The then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had inaugurated it on Republic Day 1972, after India defeated Pakistan in December 1971.
- The eternal flame at the Amar Jawan Jyoti underneath **India Gate** in central Delhi was an **iconic symbol of the nation's tributes** to the soldiers who have died for the country in various wars and conflicts since Independence.
  - The India Gate memorial was built by the British government in memory of the British Indian Army soldiers who lost their lives between 1914-1921.

### ▪ Reasons for the Relocation:

- The names inscribed on the **India Gate** are of only some martyrs who fought for the **British in World War 1** and the **Anglo Afghan War** & thus is a symbol of our colonial past.
- The names of all Indian martyrs from all the wars, including "1971 and wars before and after it are housed at the National War Memorial.

### ▪ National War Memorial:

- Inaugurated in 2019, it is around 400 meters from India Gate.
- The layout of the structure comprises four concentric circles, named:
  - the "Amar Chakra" or Circle of Immortality,
  - the "Veerta Chakra" or Circle of Bravery,
  - the "Tyag Chakra" or Circle of Sacrifice and
  - the "Rakshak Chakra" or Circle of Protection.
- The proposal for a National War Memorial was **first made in the 1960s**.
- The memorial is **dedicated to soldiers** who laid down their lives defending the nation during the **Sino-Indian war in 1962**, **Indo-Pak** wars in 1947, 1965 and 1971, Indian Peace Keeping Force Operations in Sri Lanka and in the Kargil Conflict in 1999.
- The National War Memorial also commemorates the soldiers who participated and made supreme sacrifices in **United Nations peace-keeping missions**, **Humanitarian Assistance Disaster Relief (HADR) operations**, **counterinsurgency operations** and **Low-Intensity Conflict Operations (LICO)**.



**[Source: IE](#)**

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