



## Veer Savarkar

**For Prelims:** Veer Savarkar, Morley-Minto reform (Indian Councils Act 1909), Abhinav Bharat Society, India House, Free India Society, Hindu Mahasabha

**For Mains:** Veer Savarkar and his role in freedom struggle, Veer Savarkar

### Why in News?

Recently, the Prime Minister has **paid tributes to freedom fighter Veer Savarkar** on his Punya tithi (26<sup>th</sup> February).



### Who was Veer Savarkar?

- **Birth:** Born on 28<sup>th</sup> May, 1883 in Bhagur, a village near **Nashik in Maharashtra.**
- **Related Organisations and Work:**
  - Founded a secret society called **Abhinav Bharat Society.**
  - Went to the United Kingdom and was **involved with organizations such as India House and the Free India Society.**
  - He was the **president of Hindu Mahasabha from 1937 to 1943.**
  - Savarkar wrote a book titled '**The History of the War of Indian Independence**' in which he wrote about the guerilla warfare tricks used in **1857 Sepoy Mutiny.**
  - He also wrote the book '**Hindutva: who is hindu?**'.
- **Trial and Sentences:**
  - **Arrested in 1909** on charges of plotting an armed revolt against the **Morley-Minto reform (Indian Councils Act 1909).**

- **Arrested in 1910** for his connections with the **revolutionary group India House**.
- One of the charges on Savarkar was **abetment to murder of Nashik Collector Jackson** and the second was waging a conspiracy under Indian Penal Code 121-A against the King emperor.
- Following the two trials, Savarkar was **convicted and sentenced to 50-years imprisonment** also known as **Kala Pani** and transported in 1911 to the Cellular Jail in the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands**.
- **Death:** He died on **26<sup>th</sup> February 1966** due to fasting on his own wish of death.

### **Abhinav Bharat Society (Young India Society)**

- It was a secret society founded by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar and his brother Ganesh Damodar Savarkar **in 1904**.
- Initially founded at Nasik as Mitra Mela, the society was associated with several revolutionaries and political activists with branches in various parts of India and London.

### **India House**

- It was **founded by Shyamji Kishan Verma in 1905** in London.
- It was opened to promote nationalist views among Indian students in London.

### **Free India Society**

- **Savarkar** went to London in 1906. He soon founded the Free India Society, based on the thoughts of the Italian nationalist Giuseppe Mazzini (Savarkar had written a biography of Mazzini).

### **Hindu Mahasabha**

- **Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha** is one of the oldest organizations of India as it was **formed in 1907**. Eminent leaders **extended this Organization in 1915 on ALL India basis**.
- The Eminent personalities who founded this Organisation and who presided over the ALL INDIA Sessions held include Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Lal Lajpat Rai, Veer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, etc.

**Source: PIB**

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