



Maharashtra 65th Foundation Day

Why in News?

Maharashtra celebrated its **65th Foundation Day** on **1st May 2025** with grand events across the State, showcasing its **rich cultural, historical, and social legacy**.

Key Points

- **Historical Significance of Maharashtra Day:**
 - **Pre- Independence:**
 - Before independence, present-day Maharashtra and Gujarat were part of **the Bombay Presidency**—a large British administrative region with diverse linguistic and cultural communities.
 - **Post-Independence:**
 - After [India gained independence in 1947](#), the Bombay Presidency was **reorganized into Bombay State**.
 - The new state **included both Marathi and Gujarati-speaking populations**, leading to **rising linguistic tensions** over time.
 - Marathi-speaking citizens launched the **Samyukta Maharashtra Samiti**, demanding a separate state for Marathi speakers.
 - The **Gujarati-speaking community began advocating for the formation of a separate state** of Gujarat.
 - **Fazal Ali Commission:**
 - In **1953**, the Central Government appointed **the Fazal Ali Commission** to examine state boundaries and recommend reorganization.
 - Based on the Commission's report, **the States Reorganisation Act, 1956** was enacted.
 - However, **Bombay State remained undivided**, leading to further discontent as it was not reorganized on a linguistic basis.
 - The **United Maharashtra Movement (Samyukta Maharashtra Andolan)** gained widespread support and witnessed several instances of protest and martyrdom.
 - **Formation of Maharashtra and Gujarat:**
 - Responding to mass movements, the Central Government passed **the Bombay Reorganisation Act, 1960**.
 - On 1 May 1960, Bombay State was officially divided into two separate states:
 - **Maharashtra** for **Marathi and Konkani-speaking** people.
 - **Gujarat** for **Gujarati and Kutchi-speaking** communities.
 - **Significance of the Reorganisation:**
 - The formation of Maharashtra and Gujarat provided **constitutional recognition to linguistic identity in India**.
 - It set a **precedent for future state formations** based on language and cultural cohesion.
- **State-Level Celebrations:**
 - The **state Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis** paid homage to **martyrs of the Samyukta Maharashtra Movement** at Hutatma Chowk in Mumbai.
 - He reiterated the State's vision of becoming a trillion-dollar economy, drawing

inspiration from figures like [Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj](#) and [Dr. B.R. Ambedkar](#).

- CM announced a **new 100-day development initiative** aimed at accelerating **infrastructure growth** and **strengthening the State's economy**.
- He also **announced a Cabinet-approved policy to develop Maharashtra's shipbuilding**, shipbreaking, and ship repair sectors.
 - The policy aims to **build a robust industrial ecosystem**, boost economic growth, and generate substantial employment.
- In Mumbai, [Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan](#) and former Governor **Ramesh Bais** participated in ceremonial events, **paying tributes to** Maharashtra's historical icons including **Shivaji Maharaj**, [B.G. Tilak](#), [V.D. Savarkar](#), [Jyotirao and Savitribai Phule](#), and **Dr. Ambedkar**.

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