



Birth Anniversary of Bhagat Singh

Why in News?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tribute to revolutionary Bhagat Singh on his **birth anniversary**, praising his courage as a great source of inspiration.



Key Points

- **Birth:** Bhagat Singh was born on 28th September, 1907, in Banga, Punjab, British India (now in Pakistan). He came from a Sikh family actively involved in anti-colonial activities; his father, Kishan Singh, and uncle, Ajit Singh, were prominent freedom fighters.
- **Early Life:** Witnessed the [Jallianwala Bagh massacre](#) at the age of 12, which instilled a deep sense of patriotism and a vow to fight for India's freedom.
- **Education:** Joined the National College, Lahore, founded by [Lala Lajpat Rai](#), which emphasised the [Swadeshi Movement](#) and provided a platform for revolutionary ideas.
- **Revolutionary Organisations:** Bhagat Singh became a member of the [Hindustan Republican Association \(HRA\)](#) in 1924, later renaming it the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) in 1928.
 - Naujawan Bharat Sabha was founded by Bhagat Singh in 1926, aimed at mobilising youth for the freedom struggle.
- **Major Actions:** Involved in the assassination of police officer J.P. Saunders in 1928 (Lahore Conspiracy Case) as retaliation for Lala Lajpat Rai's death due to police brutality.
 - Threw a bomb in the **Central Legislative Assembly** on 18th April 1929, with B.K. Dutt to protest against repressive British laws.
- **Arrest and Trial:** Arrested in 1929 for the bomb incident and later charged with murder in the [Lahore Conspiracy Case](#). He was tried, convicted, and sentenced to death.
 - Executed on 23rd March 1931, along with fellow revolutionaries Sukhdev and Rajguru, in Lahore. Bhagat Singh is affectionately known as Shahid-e-Azam, the greatest of martyrs.
- **Literary Contributions:** Authored significant works, including **Why I Am an Atheist**, The Jail Notebook and Other Writings, and several political manifestos advocating for socialism and revolution.

- In his early work, Vishwa Prem (Universal Love), Singh proclaimed the importance of equality. He envisioned a **world free of hunger and war**, where humanity transcends boundaries of race and nationality.
- **Ideologies:** Advocated **Marxist and socialist ideologies**, emphasising rationalism, equality, and justice. **Critiqued organised religion**, viewing it as a form of mental and physical slavery.
- **Legacy:** Celebrated as a national hero and martyr; his birth anniversary and the date of his execution are observed annually to honour his contributions to India's freedom struggle.
 - Every year, 23rd March is observed as **Martyrs' Day** as a tribute to freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, and Rajguru.

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/birth-anniversary-of-bhagat-singh>

