

PERSONALITES

M EVS Sep 2025





























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Personalities in News

Raja Prithu Rae

Assam Cabinet has decided that a new flyover being constructed in the heart of Guwahati would be named after Prithu, a 13th century ruler.

- ▶ He ruled **Kamrupa (Assam)** during the **early 13th century.**
- ▶ He belonged to the **Khen Dynasty**, tracing **lineage to Narakasura**.
 - ➤ They worshipped Goddess Kamteswari (an incarnation of Goddess Durga)
 - ▶ Khen rulers emerged as local chieftains after the fall of the Pala Dynasty.
 - > The Khen dynasty marked the **beginning of the Kamata Kingdom**, also known as **Kamru, Kamrud, Kamrupa, Kamata, Koch, or Koch Hajo.**

Key Contributions

- Raja Prithu Rae defeated Bakhtiyar Khilji who attacked Kamrupa.
 - ▶ The **Kanai Varasi rock inscription** is proof of the destruction of the Turks.
- ▶ He pardoned prisoners of war and followed the principles of Dharma Yuddha.



Ethical Values

Courage and Compassionate Leadership

- He exhibited bravery by successfully defending Kamrupa against Bakhtiyar Khilji.
- His decision to pardon prisoners of war after victory reflects his compassionate and principled leadership rooted in justice and humanity.



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Dadabhai Naoroji (1825–1917)

Dadabhai Naoroji also known as the **"Grand Old Man of India"** and **"official Ambassador of India"** was an Indian Parsi scholar, trader and politician.

He was a founding member and thrice president of the Indian National Congress (in 1886, 1893, and 1906).

Key Contributions

- Social Reform
 - Promoted Women's Education: Founded Literary and Scientific Society (1848) which established 6 schools for girls by 1849.
 - > Spread reformist ideas: Founded Rast Goftar newspaper, Co-founded Rahnumai Mazdayasan Sabha (1851) to reform Parsi society.
- Economic Contributions
 - Drain of Wealth Theory: Highlighted how British policies drained India's wealth through taxation, salaries, pensions, and remittances.
 - Major Literary works: Poverty of India (1876), Poverty and Un-British Rule in India (1901)
 - Exposed colonial exploitation at forums like East India Association.
- Political Contributions
 - Moderate Leader: Advocated constitutional and peaceful methods like petitions, prayers, and protests.
 - > Founded the London Indian Society in 1865 and the East India Association in 1866.
 - First Indian MP in British Parliament: Elected for the Liberal Party in Finsbury Central at the 1892 general election.
 - Declared Swaraj (self-government): As concrete political goal of the Indian National Congress (INC) in 1906.
 - Mentorship: Naoroji played a crucial role in mentoring future INC leaders such as Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Gopal Krishna Gokhale.



Critical thought and Social equality

- ▶ He is known in the history of Indian economic thought for his pioneering work in **assessing India's national income** and widely known for his unfavourable opinion of the economic consequences of British rule in India.
- He did not believe in caste restrictions and was a pioneer of women's education and an upholder of equal laws for men and women.



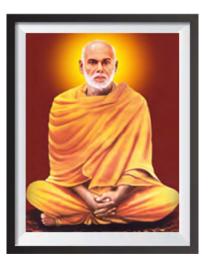
Sree Narayana Guru (1856-1928)

The Birth anniversary of Sree Narayan Guru celebrated.

He was a saint & social reformer of India.

Key Contribution

- He propagated the idea of 'One Caste, One Religion, One God'.
- ▶ He founded the 'Sree Narayana Dharma ParipalanaYogam' (SNDP) for upliftment and education of Ezhava community.
- ▶ He launched the Aruvipuram movement, one of the first moments for equal rights to temple entry.
- ▶ He lent support to Vaikkom Satyagraha for temple entry (1924-25) in Travancore.
- Founded Ashram dedicated to principle-**Om Sahodaryam Sarvatra** (all human beings are equal in the eyes of God).



Ethical Values

Egalitarianism and Pluralism

- > He was the champion of the rights of lower caste oppressed in the twentieth century Kerala. He overturned the social system of entire Kerala, while following simple means of ethical writings and social mobilization.
- > He played a significant role in reforming the society by asserting his pluralist view with equality and liberty.



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M. Visvesvaraya (1861-1962)

Recently, the birth anniversary of M. Visvesvaraya was celebrated as national engineers day.

- Born in Muddenahalli, Karnataka.
- > Studied civil engineering from College of Engineering, Pune.

Key Contributions

- Engineering Contributions:
 - ▶ He constructed **pipe syphon** across one of Panjra river's channels aiding **water management.**
 - ▶ He introduced a **block system of irrigation** in the Deccan canals distributing benefits of irrigation to a wider population and solving the problem of muddy waters.
 - Developed a system of automatic water floodgates.
 - Chief engineer responsible for the construction of the Krishna Raja Sagara Dam in Mysore.
- Administrator: Served as diwan of mysore establishing university of Mysore.
- **Scholar:** Published books, "Reconstructing India" and "Planned Economy of India" on Indian economy.
- Recognition: He was conferred India's highest honour, the Bharat Ratna in 1955.



Egalitarianism and Pluralism

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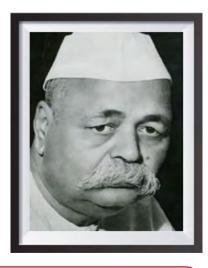
Govind Ballabh Pant (1887-1961)

Recently, his birth anniversary was celebrated.

- Born in Almora, Uttarakhand.
- He started Kumaon Parishad in 1916.
- Got elected to the United Provinces Legislative Council on a Swaraj Party ticket in 1923.

Key Contributions

- Took part in the Salt March, Quit India Movement and was arrested in 1930 for planning the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- He was the first Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh.
- Linguistic Reorganization of States: during his tenure as India's home minister from 1955 to 1961
- Rewards and recognition: Received Bharat Ratna in 1957.



Ethical Values

Justice and Public Service

- His legal representation of revolutionaries and active participation in movements for India's independence highlight his value for advocating freedom and justice.
- His contributions in governance and policy-making exemplify a life dedicated to public service and nation-building, focusing on creating a unified and democratic India.



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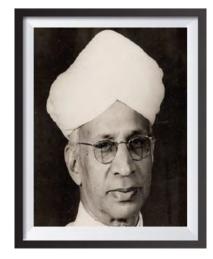
Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (1888-1975)

Birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan is celebrated all across India as Teachers' Day

- > He was a renowned Indian philosopher.
- He was a firm believer in the principles of education as a transformative tool for society.

Key Contributions

- Worked as Professors of Eastern Religions and Ethics at the University of Oxford.
- Served as an Indian delegate to the League of Nations during the 1930s
- He also served as the Indian Ambassador to the Soviet Union from 1949 to 1952.
- He served as the Vice-President (1952-1962) and President of India (1962-1967).
- He compared Eastern and Western philosophies and interpreted Indian philosophy for Western audiences.
- **Literary works:** The Principal Upanishads, The Hindu view of Life, Indian Philosophy, The Philosophy of the Upanishads, An Idealist View of Life, East and West: Some Reflections



Ethical Values

Leadership and Scholar

- He introduced the thinking of western idealist philosophers into Indian thought. He placed Indian philosophy on world map.
- He was an educator who made significant contributions to the realm of education. The report of the University Education Commission 1940-49 is greatest contribution to educational thinking and practice.

Acharya Vinoba Bhave (1895-1982)

Acharya Vinoba Bhave Birth Anniversary was celebrated recently.

- > Born at Gagode, a tribal hamlet in Maharashtra.
- He is considered as a National Teacher of India and the Spiritual Successor Of Mahatma Gandhi.

Key Contributions:

- Participated in the Quit India Movement and was first satyagrahi in the Individual Disobedience campaign.
- He taught students at Sabarmati ashram and carried out experiments in constructive work like khadi, education and sanitation.
- To organise village-service, Vinoba established Gram-seva Mandal in 1934.
- ▶ He is Best Known For The **Bhoodan Movement(1951).**
 - lt was a voluntary, non-violent socio-political movement in India aimed at **redistributing** land to landless peasants.
- Literary Works: 'Gitai' and 'Gita Pravachane', 'Sthitaprajna-Darshan' ('The Steadfast Wisdom'), 'Gitai Chintanika', 'Jnanadevanchi Bhajane', 'Ishavasya-Vrutti' 'Vichar-Pothi' and 'Swarajya-Shastra'.



Communitarianism and Social equality

- > The Bhoodan movement attracted admiration from all over the world and was commended for being the only experiment of his kind to incite voluntary social justice.
- Vinoba Bhave worked tirelessly towards eradicating social evils like inequality. He dedicated his life to serve the poor and the downtrodden, and stood up for their rights.

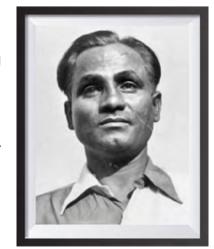


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Major Dhyan Chand (1905 - 1979)

PM paid tribute to Major Dhyan Chand on National Sports Day.

- Famously known as 'Hockey Wizard' and 'The Magician' due to his stick work and understanding of the game.
- He enlisted in the British Indian Army as a sepoy (private).
- ▶ He played a crucial role in securing India's Olympic gold medals in 1928, 1932, and 1936.
- > He received the Padma Bhushan (1956).
- Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, given for outstanding sports performance over four years, is named in his honour.



Values

Perfection and Mastery

- His control over ball and goal scoring during the game was considered as magical and unbelievable.
- He dominated the sports for almost two decades as no other player emerged anywhere who can match the talent of Dhyan Chand.

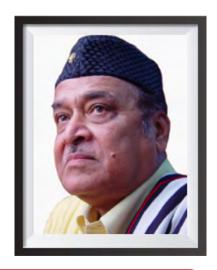
Bhupen Hazarika (1926-2011)

Prime Minister addressed the 100th birth anniversary celebrations of Dr. Bhupen Hazarika

- Born in Assam, he is popularly known as the "Bard of Brahmaputra" and "Sudhakantha" (the Nightingale).
- > Conferred with Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, and Bharat Ratna.

Key Contributions:

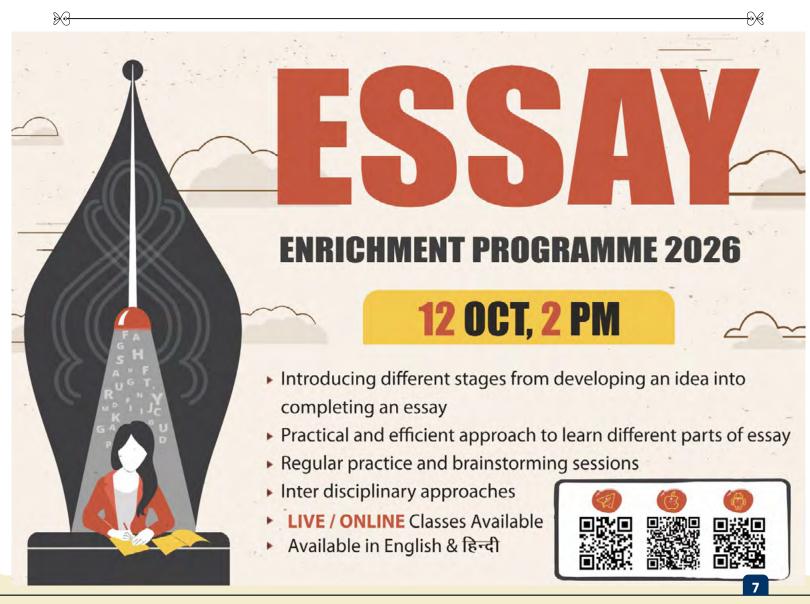
- He was a humanist whose songs promoted themes of communal harmony, optimism, justice, a message of protest, revolutionary zeal and empathy amongst people.
- > Created **evergreen songs like Manuhe Manuhar Babe**, Moi Eti Jajabor, Bistirno Parore, blending Assamese folk with universal messages of humanity, justice, and harmony.
- > He promoted **emotion of brotherhood and unity** amongst the tribes of region.



Ethical Values

Humanism and Social Harmony

- > Through his soulful music and lyrics, he promoted empathy, justice, and unity across communities and cultures.
- > His art served as a powerful tool to voice the concerns of the marginalized and foster communal





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