

Essay No. 01

Shaheed – e – Azam

Bhagat Singh

Bhagat Singh is one of the greatest martyrs that India has produced. He is the icon and model of young people in particular.

He was born on Nov. 11, 1907 at Banga village in the district of Lyallpur in Pak. His father, kishan Singh and uncle Ajit Singh, both were revolutionary and were released from jail on the day he was born.

He was a very brilliant student at school. The famous revolutionary Kartar Singh Sarabha was his model. Even as a child he was greatly moved by the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. He expressed his desire to grow guns in the Indian soil to force the British rulers to quit India.

He learnt about the brutal death of Lala Lajpat Rai at the hands of a British police officer in 1928 while leading a peaceful but noisy demonstration against the Simon commission. In order to avenge the murder of Lajpat Rai, he killed Saunders. He along with his companions, Rajguru and Sukhdev was hanged on 23rd march. 1931 on the bank of Ravi near Ferozepur. Earlier he had floated Naujawan Bharat Sabha and also thrown a bomb in the Assembly. He wanted a free, secular, happy prosperous India. Indians can never forget his sacrifice for the motherland.

Essay No. 02

Sardar Bhagat Singh

India: Great Martyr

Birth: 1907 Death: Martyrdom: 1931

The martyrdom of Sardar Bhagat Singh gave new momentum to the freedom struggle of India and showed a new path 'to the younger generations of the country. The entire nation recalls his sacrifice with deep gratitude even today.

Bhagat Singh was born on 28th September, 1907 at Banga Village of Layalpur district (in West Punjab) in a reputed Sikh family of freedom fighters. His father and uncles had participated in the freedom movement, and this created a positive

influence on Bhagat Singh. At school, Bhagat Singh was a very good and disciplined student. When he was studying just in 9th class he jumped into the non-Cooperation Movement launched by Gandhiji. In 1923, Bhagat Singh passed his Intermediate examination. When he forced to marry, he ran away from home and came to Kanpur where he got work in the paper Pratap, run by Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi. In Kanpur Bhagat Singh also came into contact with another well-known revolutionary, Chandra Shekhar 'Azad'. Bhagat Singh also associated himself with the 'Saunders Assassination Case' in which Bhagat Singh together with Sukhdev, Rajguru and Chandra Shekhar Azad shot dead a police officer, Saunders who was responsible for lathi charge on Lala Lajpat Rai when he was leading a protest against Simon Commission when he visited Lahore in 1928. Bhagat Singh was also the hero of the sensational 'Assembly Bomb Case' (1929). After throwing bomb in the Central Assembly on 8th April, 1929 in protest against the 'Public Safety Sill', Bhagat Singh surrendered to the police. In the 'Lahore Conspiracy Case' he was handed death sentence. On 23 March, 1931 Bhagat Singh together with Rajguru and Sukhdev were hanged.

Bhagat Singh and his associates showed no sign of fear of death and kissed the noose chanting Inquilab Zindabad'. (Long live the revolution)

Essay No-03

Bhagat Singh

Bhagat Singh was born in a Sikh family of farmers in the village of Banga of Layalpur district of Punjab (now in Pakistan) on September 27th of 1907. His family stood for patriotism, reform, and freedom of the country. His grandfather Arjun Singh was drawn to Arya Samaj, a reformist movement of Hinduism, and took keen interest in proceedings of the Indian National Congress. Bhagat Singh's father Kishen Singh and uncle Ajit Singh were members of Gadar Party founded in the U.S. in early years of the 20th century to rout British rule in India. Both were jailed for alleged anti-British activities. Young Bhagat Singh was brought up in a politically charged state of Punjab which was left with a seething memory of the Jallianwala Bagh massacre of more than 400 innocent lives and thousands injured (1919). As a lad of fourteen he went to this spot to collect soil from the park of Jallianwala (bagh) in his lunch box, sanctified by the blood of the innocent and kept it as a memento for life. Bhagat Singh studied at the National College founded by Lala Lajpat Rai, a great revolutionary leader and reformist. To avoid early marriage, he ran away from home and, became a member of the youth organisation Nujawan Bharat Sabha which had memberships of all sects and religions. He met Chandra Shekhar Azaad, B.K. Dutt and other revolutionaries. They used to print handouts and newspapers in secret and spread political

awareness in India through Urdu, Punjabi and English. These were all banned activities in India at that time punishable with imprisonment.

In 1928, when Simon commission arrived in India. The prominent leaders like Lala Lajpat Rai; Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya etc. decided to protest to the commission in open about their displeasure. Bhagat Singh also participated in the protest an eyewitness to the gruesome beating to Lala Lajpat Rai by police superintendent scot. Bhagat decided to take the revenge from Lala Lajpat Rai succumbed to the injuries. y he killed Mr. Sanders, a junior officer, in case of mistaken identity. He had to flee from Lahore to escape death punishment.

Instead of finding the root cause for discontent of Indians, the British government took to more repressive measures. Under the Defense of India Act, it gave more power to the police to arrest persons to stop processions with suspicious movements and actions. The act brought in the council was defeated by one vote. Even then it was to be passed in the form of an ordinance in the "interest of the public." No doubt the British were keen to arrest all leaders who opposed its arbitrary actions, and Bhagat Singh who was in hiding all this while, volunteered to throw a bomb in the central assembly where the meeting to pass the ordinance was being held. It was a carefully laid out plot, not to cause death or injury but to draw the attention of the government, that the modes of its suppression could no more be tolerated. It was agreed that Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt would court arrest after throwing the bomb. Accordingly, on April 8, 1929, Bhagat Singh and Barkeswar Dutt threw handouts, and bombed in the corridor not to cause injury and courted arrest after shouting slogans. Inqlab zindabad (Lona Live, Revolutions) Meanwhile the killers of Sanders were identified by the treachery of Bhagat Singh's friends who became "Approves." Bhagat Singh thought the court would be a proper venue to get publicity for the cause of freedom, and did not want to disown the crime. He gave a fiery statement giving reasons for killing which was symbolic of freedom struggle. He wanted to be shot like a soldier, and not die at the gallows. But, his plea was rejected, and he was hanged on the 23rd of March 1931. He was only 23 then. Bhagat Singh became a legendary hero for the masses.

Innumerable songs were composed about him, and the youth, throughout the country made him their idol. He became a symbol of bravery and of the struggle to free India.