

## QUICK REVISION MODULE (UPSC PRELIMS 2024) MODERN INDIAN HISTORY

# REVOLUTIONARY NATIONALISM

Damodar Chapekar & Balkrishna Chapekar	1897	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1897- Chapekar brothers killed 2 British officers, <b>Rand &amp; Ayerst</b>.</li> <li>• It can be termed as the <b>first example of political assassination</b>.</li> </ul>
V.D. Savarkar & his brother GD Savarkar	1904	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of <b>Abhinav Bharat (Young India Society)</b>.</li> </ul>
Shyamjee Krishnavarma	1905	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He started <b>India House(Bharat Swashasan Samiti)</b> in London</li> <li>• It released a magazine <b>Indian Sociologist</b></li> <li>• VD Savarkar and Lala Hardayal were associated with this organization</li> </ul>

Taraknath Das	1907	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation of Indian Independent League.</li> </ul>
Madam Cama	1908-09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Foundation of Paris Society in Paris India.</li> <li>(b) Foundation of Independent India Society.</li> <li>(c) Publication of <b>Bande Matram</b>.</li> </ul>
	1908	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alipore Bomb Conspiracy case.</li> </ul>
	1912	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delhi Conspiracy case.</li> </ul>
Hardayal and Sohan Singh Bhakna	1913	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundation of <b>Ghadar Party</b> in San-Francisco, USA.</li> </ul>
Hindu-German Conspiracy	1914-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>It was a series of attempts by Indian Nationalist groups to create a Pan-Indian rebellion against the British Rule during WW-I.</b></li> <li>• <b>Support from the Germans, Turkey(Ottoman) &amp; Irish Republican Movement,</b></li> </ul>
	1928	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bhagat Singh established the <b>Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA)</b> along with Sukhdev, Chandrashekhar Azad and others.</li> </ul>
Batukeshwar Dutta	1929	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Throwing of a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly.</li> </ul>
Jatin Das	1929	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Died of 64 days Hunger Strike.</li> </ul>
	1931	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Sukhdev were hanged on <b>23rd March,1931.</b></li> <li>• This day is observed as '<b>Martyrs' Day</b>' or '<b>Shaheed Diwas</b>' or '<b>Sarvodaya Day</b>' in their honour.</li> </ul>

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## What is Revolutionary Terrorism/Nationalism?

It was a byproduct of the process of the growth of militant nationalism in India

Methodology involved was **individual heroic actions**- This was the strategy of Russian nihilists & Irish Nationalists.

**Bipin Chandra Pal** is known as the '**Father of Revolutionary Thoughts**'

### Phase 1 Before WW-I

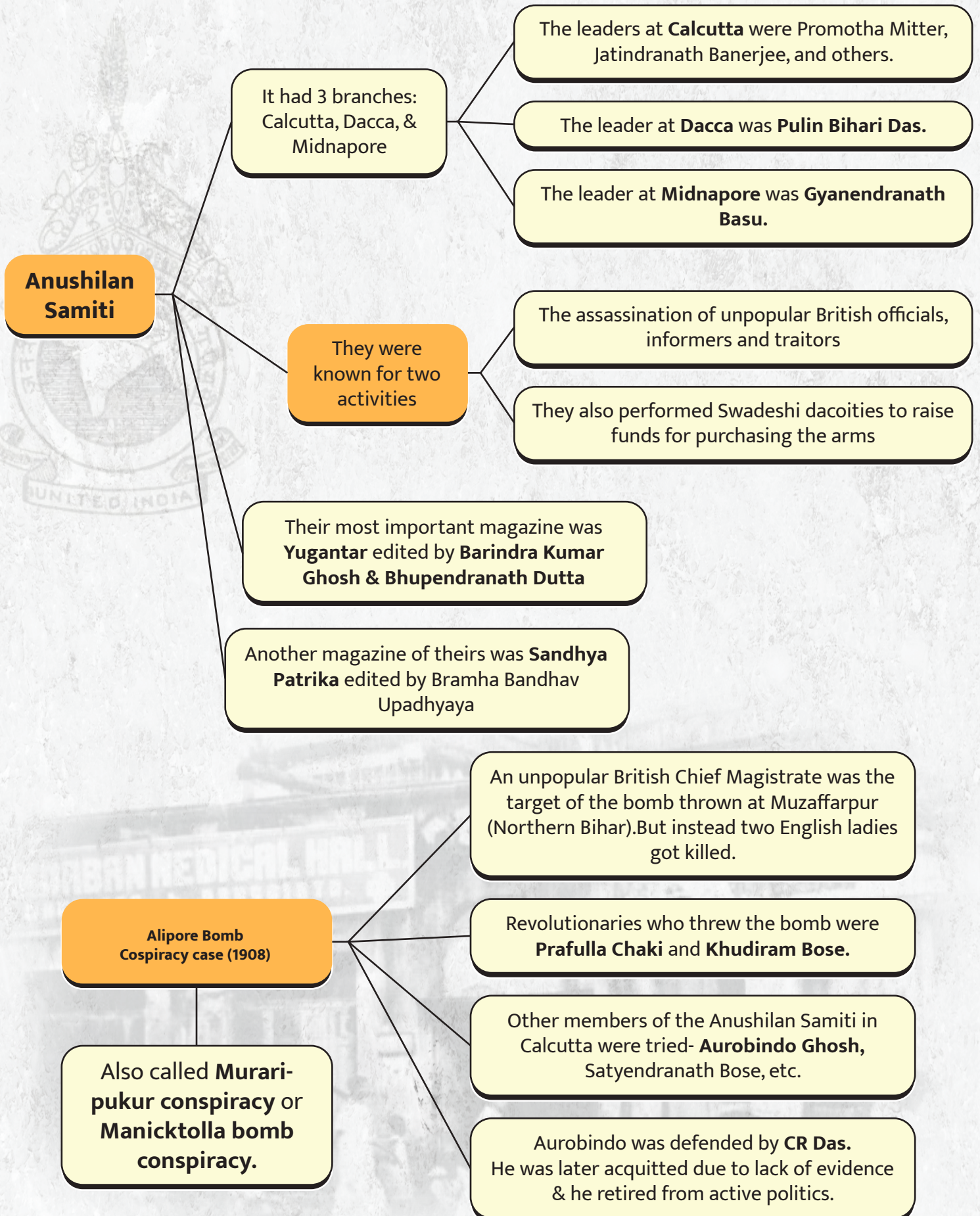
- Disappointment among the youth from the working pattern of the moderates.
- Repression of extremist leaders & Swadeshi movement becoming leaderless.
- Suppressive policies of the Government.
- Inspiration from revolutionary activities abroad. Eg: Japan defeated imperialist Russia.

### Phase 2 After WW-I

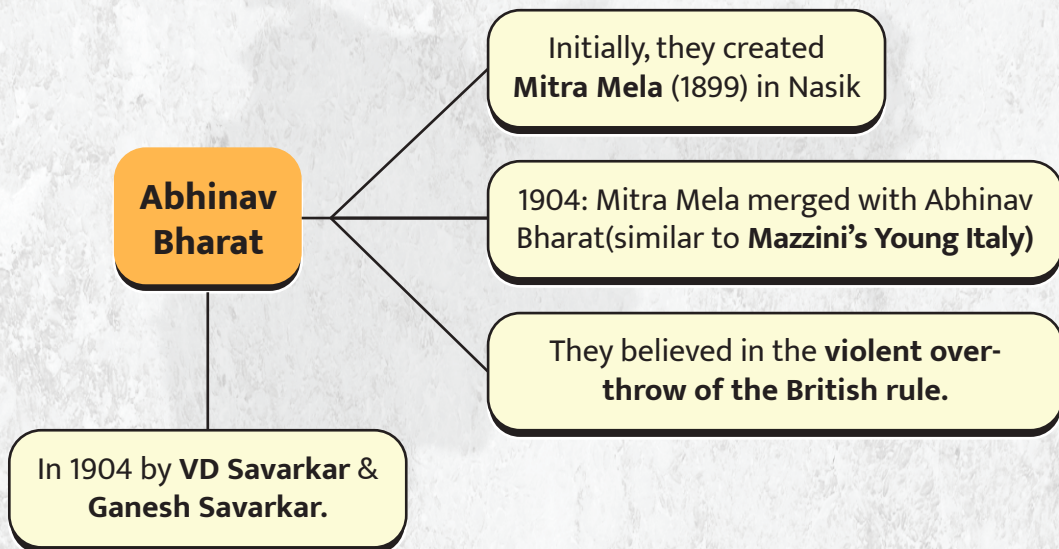
- Sudden withdrawal of Non-cooperation movement.
- Youth were drawn to the idea that violent methods alone would free India.
- The upsurge of working class trade unionism after the war.
- Russian Revolution.
- Newly sprouting Communist groups with their emphasis on Marxism and Socialism.
- Novel and Books such as **Bandi Jiwan** by Sachin Sanyal & **Pather Dabi** by Sharatchandra.

# PHASE 1: BEFORE WW1

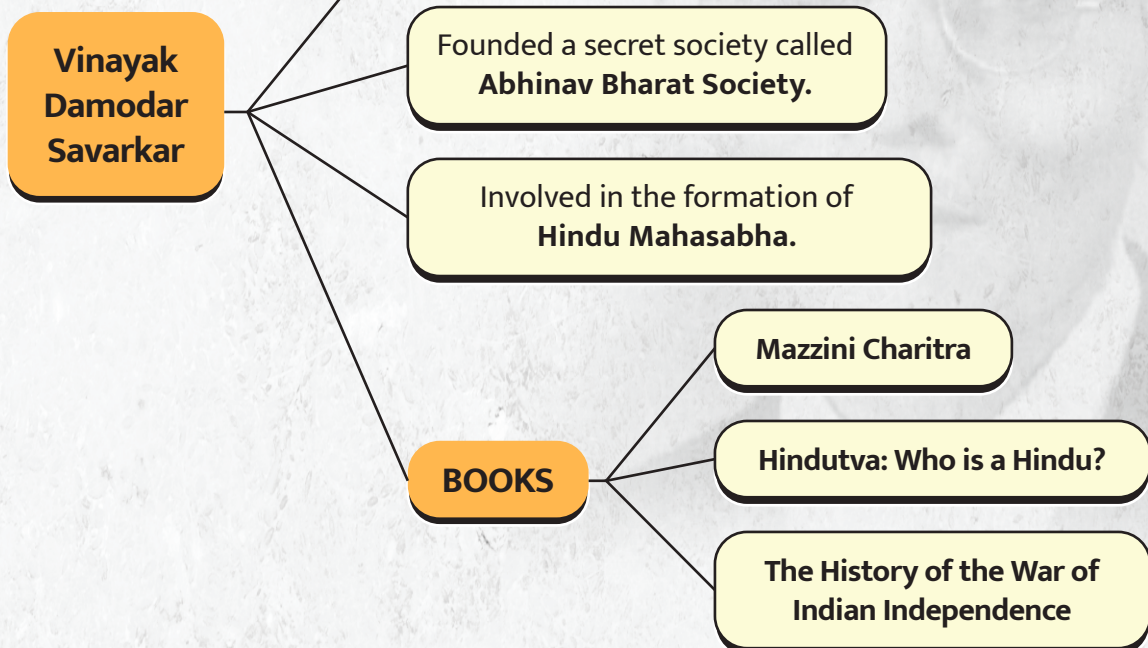
## BENGAL REGION

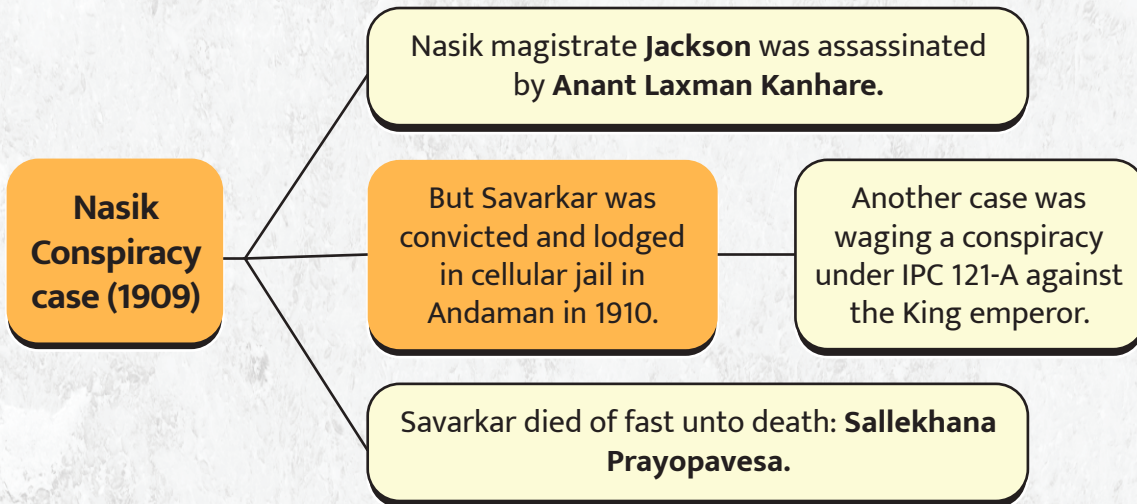


# MAHARASHTRA

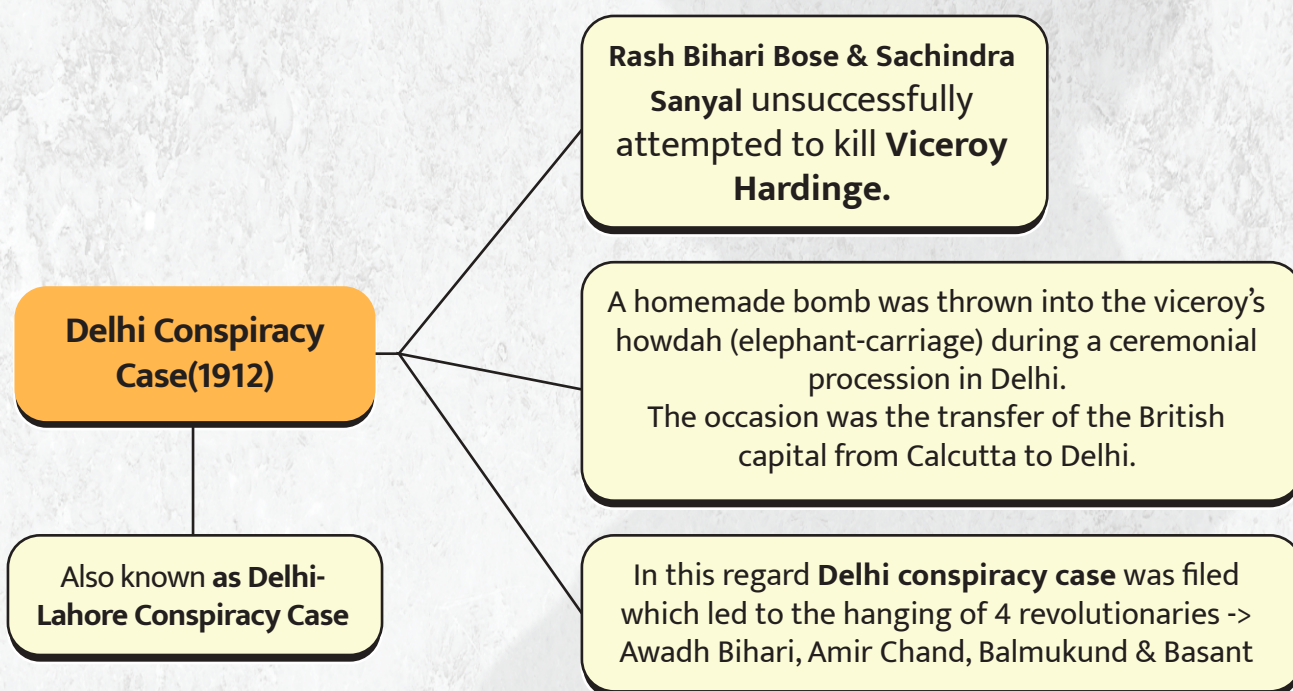


# VD SAVARKAR

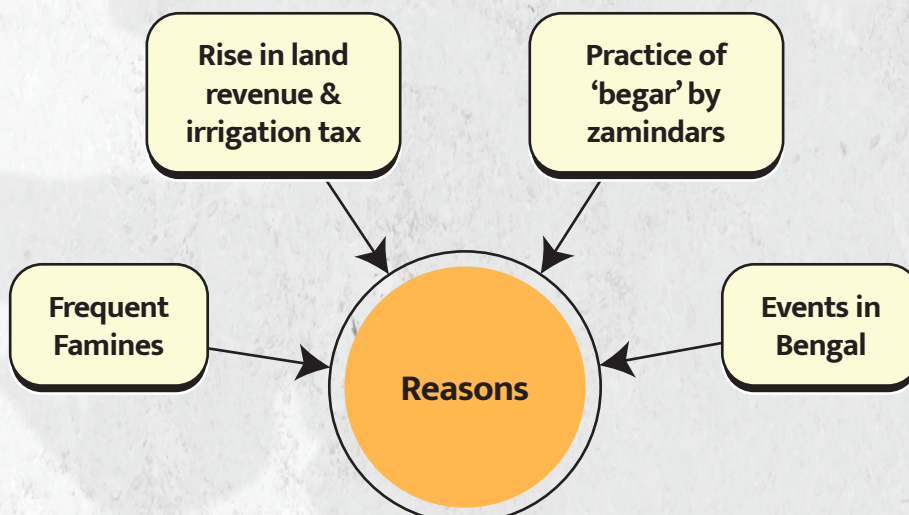




## DELHI



## PUNJAB





**Lala  
Lajpat Rai**

Also called '**Punjab Kesari**'

Was influenced by **Swami Dayananda Saraswati** and joined the Arya Samaj in Lahore. He believed that the ideals of Indian-culture combined with nationalism will lead to the establishment of a secular state.

Along with Bipin Chandra Pal and Bal Gangadhar Tilak, he formed the **Lal-Bal-Pal trio of extremist leaders**.

### **Contributions**

He fought against untouchability.

He founded the **Home Rule League of America** in 1917 in New York

He was the editor of the **Arya Gazette**, which he had founded.

He founded the **Servants of People Society** in 1921.

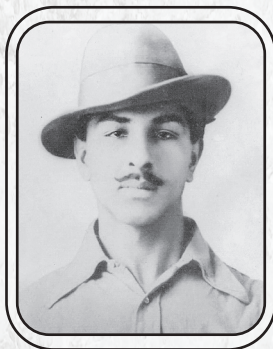
He co-founded the **Punjab National Bank** in 1894.

He was leading a silent protest against the Simon Commission in Lahore when he was **brutally lathi-charged** by Superintendent of Police, **James Scott**. He died of injuries later.

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# BHAGAT SINGH



Inspired by leftist writings he read widely, Singh was an **atheist and against capitalism**. Bhagat Singh wrote -> **'Why I am An Atheist'**

**Bharat Mata journal** by Ajit Singh (Bhagat Singh's uncle).

Initially, he supported Mahatma Gandhi and the NCM(Non-Cooperation Movement). However, when Gandhi withdrew NCM in the wake of the Chauri Chaura incident, Bhagat Singh turned to revolutionary nationalism.

He founded the **Naujawan Bharat Sabha (1926)**. This organisation aimed to encourage revolution against British rule by rallying the peasants and workers

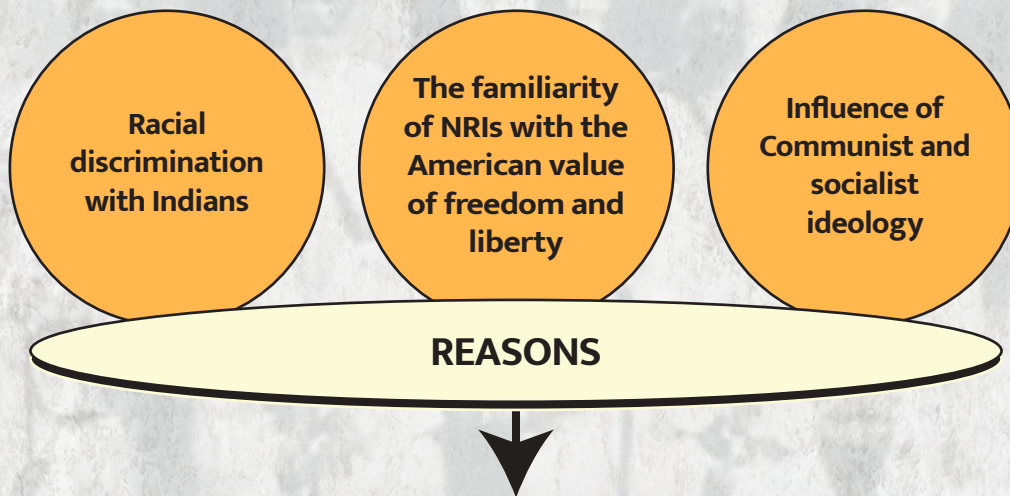
In 1928, he established the **Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA)** along with Sukhdev, Chandrashekhar Azad and others.

They decided to avenge the death of their leader **Lala Lajpat Rai**. But, in a case of mistaken identity, they assassinated another **police official Saunders**. This was part of the **Lahore Conspiracy Case**.

**Central Assembly Bombing Case**--On 8th April 1929, a harmless bomb was thrown in the Central Assembly at Delhi, from the Visitors' Gallery. They also threw pamphlets and raised pro-revolutionary slogans. Their stated aim was **'to make the deaf hear'**.

Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Sukhdev were hanged on **23rd March, 1931**. This day is observed as **'Martyrs' Day'** or **'Shaheed Diwas'** or **'Sarvodaya Day'** in their honour.

# GADAR MOVEMENT



It was initiated by NRIs especially in Canada and the Western Coast of the USA.

The first meeting was held in the house of **Kashiram** attended by **Bhai Paramanad, Harnam Singh Tundilal, Sohan Singh Bhakna.**

In the meeting, it was decided to establish **Yugantar Ashram** in San Francisco & also decided to release a weekly publication(newspaper/magazine) **the Gadar** to expose the exploitative nature of the British rule.



#### • Activities of the Gadarites:

- » They tried to spread anti-British sentiment and unite the people of India against the British.
- » They incited the Indian army to revolt.
- » They tried to enlist the help of Germany.
- » They supported provincial temporary Govt in Afghanistan created by Mahindra Pratap Singh and Barkatullah.



#### • Weakness of Gadar movement:

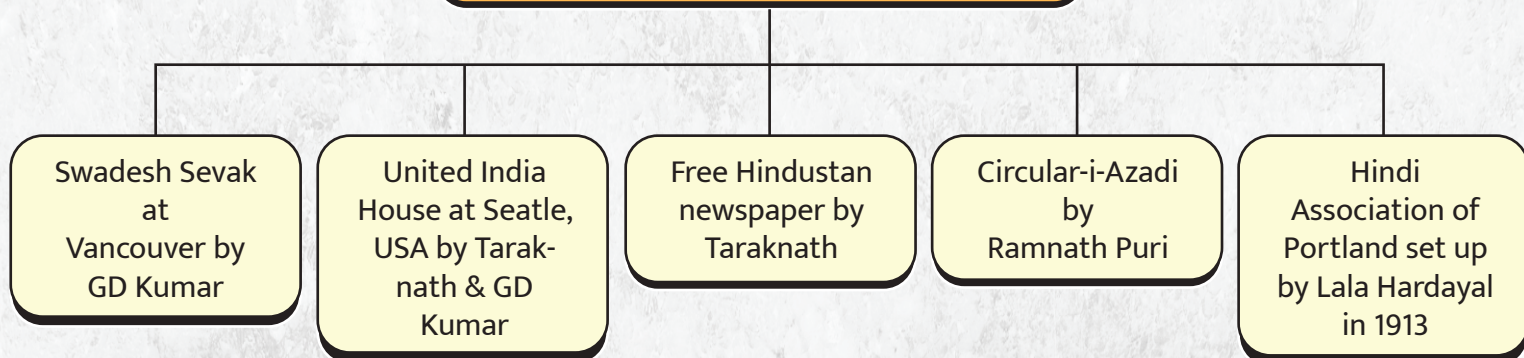
- » Gadar movement had many flaws at the level of organisation, ideology, strategy & finances.
- » They also underestimated their level of preparation.
- » The movement failed to generate sustained and effective leadership.



#### • Contribution of Gadar Movement:

- » It led to the spread of nationalism and unity among NRIs.
- » It popularised socialist, democratic & secular views in India.
- » At the international level freedom of India became an important topic of discussion.

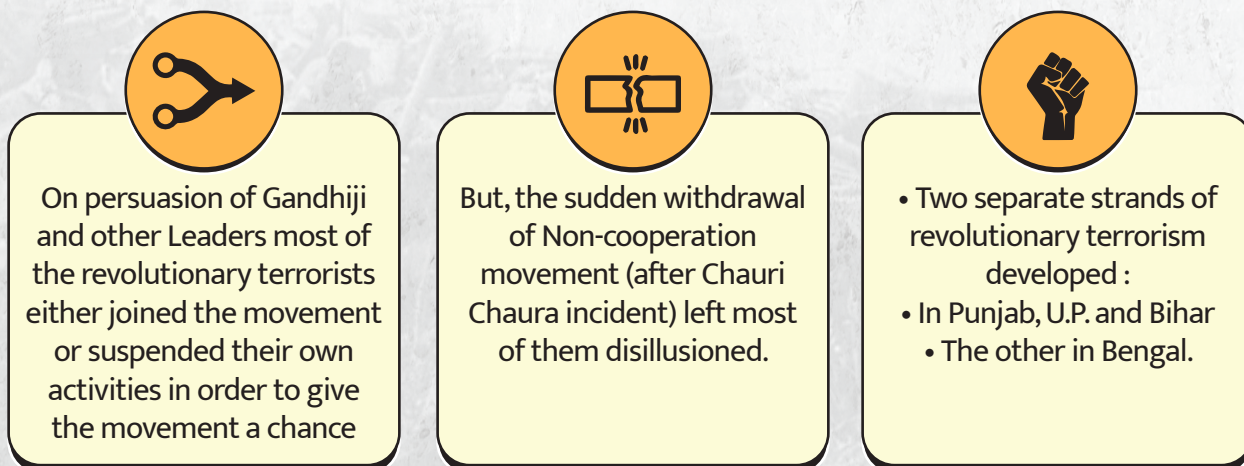
Canada & USA, many organizations and newspapers were set up to voice against the British



## Komagata Maru incident

- » A ship named Komagata Maru was commissioned to carry some Indians to Canada.
- » It was carrying 376 passengers who were immigrants from Punjab, India. Of these, only 24 were granted admittance in Canada.
- » At that time, Canada had laws restricting entry of migrants of Asian origin
- » The rest were forced to return back to India.
- » Finally, when they reached the Coast of **Budge-Budge(In Bengal)** they clashed with the British authorities which led to death of many Indians.
- » In this scenario, Indians decided to revolt against the British under the leadership of **Rash Bihari Bose**.

## PHASE 2: AFTER WW1





## Revolutionary Terrorism in Punjab-UP-Bihar

- The revolutionary terrorist activity in this region was dominated by the **Hindustan Republican Association/Army or HRA** (Later renamed **Hindustan Socialist Republican Association or HSRA**).
- HRA was founded in October 1924 in Kanpur by **Ramprasad Bismil, Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee and Sachin Sanyal**.
- Its aim was to organise an armed revolution to overthrow the colonial government.
- To establish in its place a Federal Republic of United States of India whose basic principle would be adult franchise.

- **HSRA ACTIVITIES:**  
The HSRA leadership now decided to let the people know about its changed objectives and the need for a revolution by the masses.
- Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt were asked to throw a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly on April 8, 1929 against the passage of the Public Safety Bill and Trade Disputes Bill
- The bombs had been deliberately made harmless and were aimed at making 'the deaf hear'.
- The objective was to get arrested and to use the trial court as a forum for propaganda so that people would become familiar with their movement and ideology.

- **Official Reaction**  
**Lahore conspiracy case-** Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were tried & later hanged(1931).
- In jail, the revolutionaries protested against the horrible conditions through a fast, and demanded honourable and decent treatment as political prisoners.
- **Jatin Das** became the first martyr on the 64th day of his fast.

### Kakori Train Robbery (August 1925)

Kakori proved to be a setback

The HRA men held up a train at Kakori,(near Lucknow), & looted its official money.

Government crackdown after the Kakori robbery led to arrests & hanging of many.

## Revolutionary Terrorism in Bengal

During the 1920s, many revolutionary groups reorganized their underground activities, while many continued working under congress

Many cooperated with C. R. Das in his Swarajist work.

One led by J. M. Sengupta (Anushilan group joined forces with him)

After Das's death (1925), the Bengal Congress broke up into two factions

The other led by Subhash Bose (Yugantar group backed him)

Actions of the reorganised groups included an assassination attempt on the notorious Calcutta Police Commissioner, Charles Tegart (another man named Day got killed) by **Gopinath Saha** in 1924.

Government, armed with a new ordinance, came down heavily on revolutionaries.

Many including Subhash Bose were arrested. Gopinath Saha was hanged.

## CHITTAGONG ARMOURY RAID (APRIL 1930):

**Surya Sen** decided to organise an armed rebellion. They had planned to occupy two main armouries in Chittagong to seize and supply arms to the revolutionaries, destroy telephone and telegraph lines and to dislocate the railway link of Chittagong with the rest of Bengal.

The raid was conducted in April 1930 and involved 65 activists under the banner of Indian Republican Army—Chittagong Branch.

The raid was quite successful. Sen hoisted the national flag, took salute and proclaimed a provisional revolutionary government. But later **Surya Sen was arrested and hanged** in January 1934

The Chittagong raid fired the imagination of the revolutionary-minded youth and recruits poured into the revolutionary terrorist groups in a steady stream.

# WOMEN PERSONALITIES

## Women in Revolutionary Terrorism

The women provided shelter, carried messages and also fought with guns in hand

**Pritilata Waddedar** died while conducting a raid.

**Kalpana Dutt**- was arrested and tried along with Surya Sen and given a life sentence

**Shanti Ghosh & Suniti Chanderi(1931)**- School girls of Comilla shot dead the district magistrate.

**Bina Das(1932)**- fired point blank at the governor while receiving her degree at the convocation

# MADAM BHIKAJI CAMA



## Madam Bhikaji Cama:

She was a Parsi lady who was married to a pro-British lawyer Rustom Cama.

1896- Bubonic plague spread in Bombay Presidency & she contacted this disease.

She was sent to Britain for treatment where she came in contact with Shyamji Krishna Verma & Dada-bhai Naroji

1905-She created the **Paris Indian Society** with the help of SR Rana & MB Godrej

At the **International Socialist Conference** at Stuttgart, she raised the first flag of India's independence with the words written in middle Vande Matram