



Veer Kunwar Singh

Why in News?

- The Government will pay tribute to freedom fighter Veer Kunwar Singh (1777-1858) on his birth anniversary (23rd April).



Who was Kunwar Singh?

- He **belonged to a family of the Ujjainiya clan of the Parmar Rajputs of Jagdispur**, currently a part of **Bhojpur district, Bihar**.
- He was the **chief organiser of the fight against the British in Bihar**. He is popularly known as Veer Kunwar Singh.
- Singh led the **Indian Rebellion of 1857** in Bihar. He was nearly eighty and in failing health when he was called upon to take up arms.
- He was **assisted by both his brother**, Babu Amar Singh and his commander-in-chief, Hare Krishna Singh. Some argue that the latter was the real reason behind Kunwar Singh's initial military success.
- He gave a good fight and **harried British forces for nearly a year and remained invincible until the end**. He was an **expert in the art of guerilla warfare**.
- He passed away on 26th April 1858.
- To honour his contribution to India's freedom movement, the **Republic of India issued a commemorative stamp on 23th April 1966**.
 - The **Government of Bihar established the Veer Kunwar Singh University**, Arrah in 1992.
 - In 2017, the **Veer Kunwar Singh Setu**, also known as the Arrah-Chhapra Bridge, was inaugurated to connect north and south Bihar.
 - In 2018, to celebrate the 160th anniversary of Kunwar Singh's death, the government of Bihar relocated a statue of him to Hardinge Park. The park was also officially renamed as **'Veer Kunwar Singh Azadi Park'**.

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