

Kanishka Tragedy

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Recently, Canada has said that the investigation into the **1985 bombing of Air India Flight 182 is still** "active and ongoing".

- On 23rd June 1985, Montreal-New Delhi Air India 'Kanishka' Flight 182 travelling from Canada to India via London, exploded off the Irish coast killing all 329 people on board, mostly Indians.
- Another explosion at Tokyo's Narita airport killed two Japanese baggage handlers while the flight was still in the air.
 - Investigators later revealed that this bomb was connected to the attack on Flight 182 and was meant for another Air India flight to Bangkok, but it detonated prematurely.
- The bombing was attributed to Sikh militants (Khalistanis) in retaliation for <u>'Operation Bluestar'</u> by the Indian Army in 1984.
 - 'Operation Bluestar' was a military operation ordered by the Indian government to remove Sikh militants from the Golden Temple in Amritsar.
 - The Khalistan movement is a separatist movement seeking to create a homeland for Sikhs by establishing an ethno-religious sovereign state called Khalistan in the Punjab region.

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