

Veer Savarkar Jayanti

Why in News

On 28th May, India paid tribute to the freedom fighter, Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (Veer Savarkar) on his birth anniversary.

- He was an Indian independence activist, politician, lawyer and writer.
- He is also known as Swatantryaveer Savarkar.

Key Points

- Birth: Born on 28th May,1883 in Bhagur, a village near Nashik in Maharashtra.
- Related Organisations and Work:
 - Founded a secret society called Abhinav Bharat Society.
 - Went to the United Kingdom and was involved with organizations such as India House and the Free India Society.
 - He was the president of Hindu Mahasabha from 1937 to 1943.
 - Savarkar wrote a book titled 'The History of the War of Indian Independence' in which he wrote about the guerilla warfare tricks used in 1857 Sepoy Mutiny.
 - He also wrote the book 'Hindutva: who is hindu?'.
- Trial and Sentences:
 - **Arrested in 1909** on charges of plotting an armed revolt against the <u>Morley-Minto reform</u> (<u>Indian Councils Act 1909</u>).
 - Arrested in 1910 for his connections with the revolutionary group India House.
 - One of the charges on Savarkar was abetment to murder of Nashik Collector Jackson and the second was waging a conspiracy under Indian Penal Code 121-A against the King emperor.
 - Following the two trials, Savarkar was convicted and sentenced to 50-years
 imprisonment also known as Kala Pani and transported in 1911 to the Cellular Jail in
 the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- **Death:** He died on 26th February 1966 due to fasting on his own wish of death.

Abhinav Bharat Society (Young India Society)

- It was a secret society founded by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar and his brother Ganesh Damodar Savarkar in 1904.
- Initially founded at Nasik as Mitra Mela, the society was associated with several revolutionaries and political activists with branches in various parts of India and London.

India House

- It was founded by Shyamji Kishan Verma in 1905 in London.
- It was opened to promote nationalist views among Indian students in London.

Free India Society

• **Savarkar** went to London in 1906. He soon founded the Free India Society, based on the thoughts of the Italian nationalist Giuseppe Mazzini (Savarkar had written a biography of Mazzini).

Hindu Mahasabha

- Akhil Bharat Hindu Mahasabha is one of the oldest organizations of India as it was formed in 1907. Eminent leaders extended this Organization in 1915 on ALL India basis.
- The Eminent personalities who founded this Organisation and who presided over the ALL INDIA Sessions held include Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Lal Lajpat Rai, Veer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, etc.

Source: PIB

