

NCERT Chapter on Veer Abdul Hameed

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Why in News?

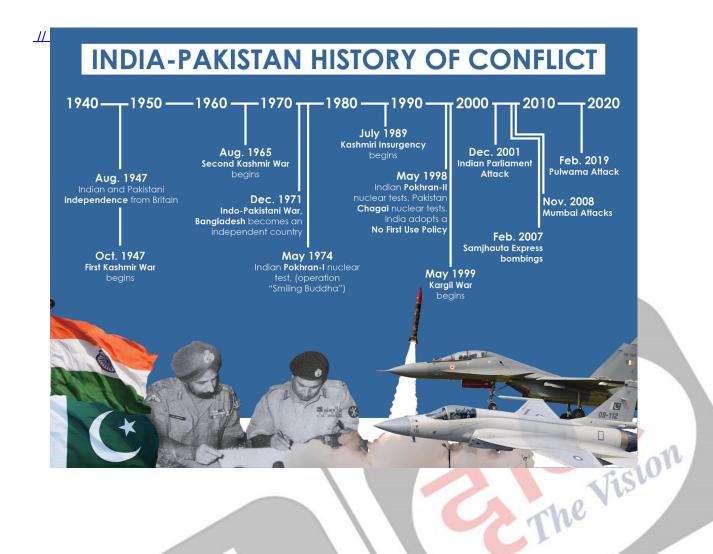
Recently, a chapter titled <u>'Veer Abdul Hameed'</u> and a poem titled <u>'National War Memorial'</u> have been included in the **NCERT** curriculum of Class VI.

What are the Key Facts About Changes in the NCERT Textbook?

- Chapter on 'Veer Abdul Hameed': It honours Company Quarter Master Havildar (CQMH)
 Abdul Hameed. He is a war hero from the <u>India-Pakistan war 1965</u> who was awarded the <u>Param Veer Chakra</u> posthumously.
 - His story of bravery and supreme sacrifice is intended to inspire students with real-life examples of patriotism and devotion to duty.
- Poem on 'National War Memorial': It aims to cultivate a deep sense of respect for the soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the nation, and to promote a spirit of national pride and remembrance for their bravery.
 - The National War Memorial stands testimony to the sacrifices made by our soldiers during various conflicts, <u>United Nations Operations</u>, <u>Humanitarian Assistance and</u> <u>Disaster Response Operations</u> since Independence.
 - It was inaugurated on 25th Feb 2019 at the India Gate complex, New Delhi.
- Aligned with NEP 2020 and NCF 2023: The changes are aligned with the vision of the <u>National Education Policy (NEP) 2020</u> and <u>National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2023</u>.
 - NEP 2020 and NCF 2023 emphasise holistic education that promotes ethical values, patriotism, and the development of responsible citizens.

What are the Key Facts About Veer Abdul Hameed?

- About Abdul Hamid: He served with the 4th Grenadiers Battalion of the <u>Indian Army</u> and was part of India's defence force in the <u>Battle of Asal Uttar</u> during the <u>India-Pakistan War in 1965</u>.
- Battle of Asal Uttar: The Battle of Asal Uttar took place in early September 1965, near the India-Pakistan border in Punjab, close to the town of Khem Karan.
 - Pakistan aimed to invade India, capture Khem Karan, and advance towards the Beas River bridge to isolate strategic areas like Amritsar.
 - Utilizing a significant number of superior Patton tanks, Pakistan's offensive surprised Indian forces, initially forcing a retreat.
 - This was one of the largest tank battles of the 1965 India-Pakistan War.
- Role of Abdul Hamid: Abdul Hameed was stationed near Chima village on the Amritsar-Khem Karan road, leading a detachment of Recoilless Guns to target enemy tanks.
 - On 10th September 1965, he spotted four Pakistani Patton tanks, destroying three and damaging one. He was subsequently killed by fire from another tank.
- **Recognition:** The site of his death is now part of a war memorial.
 - A captured **Pakistani Patton tank stands guard** at the entrance of the building, with its **turret down**, as a tribute to the Indian soldiers who fought and died in the battle.



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