



Memorials for Leaders

[Source: TH](#)

Recently, the cremation of former [Prime Minister \(PM\) Manmohan Singh](#) was held at open-to-public **Nigambodh Ghat**, a departure from previous practices of cremating at designated sites followed by the establishment of memorials.

- **Rules and Conventions:** Although there are **no specific rules mandating memorials** for former PMs, they were generally cremated at designated sites, and most have memorials in Delhi or elsewhere.
- **Origins and Legacy of Memorials: Raj Ghat (Mahatma Gandhi)** set the precedent for leader memorials, signifying peace and national unity.
 - Leaders like **Jawaharlal Nehru (Shanti Van)**, **Lal Bahadur Shastri (Vijay Ghat)**, **Indira Gandhi (Shakti Sthal)** and **Atal Bihari Vajpayee (Smriti Sthal)** followed the tradition of memorials symbolizing their legacies.
- **Political Ideologies:** Memorials often reflect political ideologies, for instance, **P.V. Narasimha Rao's Gyan Bhumi** was established by the current NDA government after being previously denied by Congress, while **VP Singh** remains the only former PM without a memorial.
- **Maintenance of Memorials:** Memorials are primarily maintained by **State Governments, local municipalities**, and **occasionally the Central Government** through the Ministry of Urban Development.
- **Memorials Across India & Symbolism: Rajendra Prasad (Bihar), B R Ambedkar (Mumbai), Morarji Desai (Ahmedabad) and Gulzarilal Nanda- Interim PM (Ahmedabad).**
 - Memorial names reflect leader identities, e.g., **Shastri's Vijay Ghat (victory)**, **Indira's Shakti Sthal (strength)**, and **Charan Singh's Kisan Ghat (farmer leadership)**.

Read More: [Dr. Manmohan Singh, PM Dedicates Salt Satyagraha Memorial to Nation](#)

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtiiias.com/printpdf/memorials-for-leaders>