



Birth Anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai

[Source: PIB](#)

The [Prime Minister \(PM\)](#) paid tribute to freedom fighter [Lala Lajpat Rai](#) on his **160th birth anniversary**.

Lala Lajpat Rai

- **About:** He was born on **28th January 1865** in **Ferozepur** district of Punjab.
 - Known as **Punjab Kesari**, he was an inspiring **leader, social reformer**.
- **Freedom Contribution:** He was a prominent [Indian National Congress \(INC\)](#) leader and key member of the **Lal-Bal-Pal trio**, opposed the [Partition of Bengal \(1905\)](#) and supported the [Non-Cooperation Movement \(1920\)](#).
 - He founded the **Home Rule League of America (1917)** to support **India's Home Rule Movement** started by **Bal Gangadhar Tilak** and **Annie Besant** in 1916 and protested against the [Rowlatt Act](#) and [Jallianwala Bagh massacre](#).
 - He led the opposition movement of [Simon Commission \(1928\)](#) where he **died from injuries sustained in a lathi charge**.

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LALAJPAT RAI

28 January 1865 - 17 November 1928



BRIEF PROFILE

- Also called **Punjab Kesari**
- Influenced by **Swami Dayananda Saraswati** - joined **Arya Samaj** in Lahore
- **Lal-Bal-Pal** trio (extremist leaders) with **Bipin Chandra Pal** and **Bal Gangadhar Tilak**
- Involved with the **Hindu Mahasabha**

POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- 1907 - **Deported to Burma without trial** but returned due to lack of evidence
- 1917 - Founded **Home Rule League of America** (New York)
- 1920 - **Presided INC (special) session (Calcutta)** where Gandhiji moved the **Non-Cooperation resolution**
- 1920 - Elected (**first**) **President of the All India Trade Union Congress**
- 1926 - Elected **deputy leader** of the **Central Legislative Assembly**
- 1928 - Moved a resolution in the assembly **against Simon Commission**

SOCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- 1886 - Founded **DAV Movement**
- 1897 - Founded **Hindu Relief movement** (to help famine-stricken people and prevent them falling into the clutches of the missionaries)
- 1921 - Founded the **Servants of People Society** (to enlist, train national missionaries for the service of the motherland)

Note: Servants of People Society is different from Servants of Indian Society founded by GK Gokhale in 1905

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Institution -**
 - 1894 - Co-founded **Punjab National Bank**
- **Important Literary Works -**
 - 1908 - **The Story of My Deportation**
 - 1915 - **Arya Samaj**
 - 1916 - **Young India, The United States of America: A Hindu's Impression**
 - 1917 - **England's Debt to India: A Historical Narrative of Britain's Fiscal Policy in India**
 - 1928 - **Unhappy India**

DEATH

- 1928 - Died of injuries due to the brutal lathi-charge by James Scott while leading a silent protest against Simon Commission in Lahore



Drishti IAS

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