



"Fellow citizens, we cannot escape history."

- Abraham Lincoln

Dear Reader,

We are often told not to brood over the past, to live in the present, and to plan for the future. However, there are valuable lessons to be learnt from the days gone by. One such example is of the formation of the United Nations after the failure of the League of Nations. History might not repeat itself in absolute terms, but it certainly has an uncanny pattern. How else do we justify the reflection of Napoleon's Russian Campaign in Hitler's Operation Barbarossa?

The purpose behind starting a history publication is to deliberate on the manner in which societies and civilisations function in contemporary times and provide an insight into world affairs. We hope this serves to influence the opinion of every history enthusiast with a desire to reason. The endeavour is to create a link between the past, present, and the future, and hence the name Triveni, the confluence of three sacred rivers at the Indian city of Prayagraj.

In this edition, we will help the reader understand how the Naxalite movement grew from being a mere protest to one of the greatest threats to Indian sovereignty and how history's most romantic kiss had its roots in oppression. Keeping current affairs in mind, we have contemplated on the legitimacy of reservations in contemporary India and discussed the Sedition laws in the Indian Democracy.

We hope that you enjoy every aspect of this publication with articles focusing on History and Politics, updates on the current affairs; the Indian medal tally at the Olympics and suggested movies and readings pertaining to both World and Indian History.

I would, however, like to caution the reader before they venture further: this publication is an opinion newsletter and all the pieces included are the authors' opinions only, without any affiliation to the publication at large. Not all of the views here may align with everybody's, but I hope you appreciate the spirit of antiquity these pages carry.

Happy reading!

Bhavya Uniyal.
Editor-in-chief

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The Iron Lady: Margaret Thatcher

The 1970s were an extremely difficult time for Britain. This low point was known as “The Winter of Discontent”. The inflation rate in 1975 was twenty-seven percent. Recurrent strikes, by coal miners, doctors, printers, and even grave diggers, were extremely common. And when it felt like all hope was lost, Margaret Thatcher came to Britain’s rescue.

Born on October the 13th 1925, Thatcher was a staunch individualist. Her middle-class childhood couldn’t predict the vibrant future ahead of her. Starting off as a Chemistry major at Oxford she was rejected for a position at a British chemical giant due to her headstrong attitude. Consequentially, she entered politics as a Conservative party candidate. After facing her fair share of struggles, she finally entered Parliament in 1959. In 1975, Thatcher had come up with an iconic line about the opposition Labor party which is often quoted in contemporary times,

*“They’ve got the usual socialist disease.
They’ve run out of other people’s money.”*

Being a flagbearer of Individualism and Capitalism, she wanted people to have sovereignty over their hard-earned money. The essence of Thatcherism was an amalgamation of Friedman thought and privatisation. It was essentially about raising productivity and creating jobs, defeating inflation, and restoring prosperity to the middle class. This was just the push that the British economy needed.



Even in the sphere of military affairs, The Falkland’s war against Argentina established her irrevocably in the public eye as the new Britannia, a warrior queen gloried in victory. And of course, it ensured a landslide Conservative win in the 1983 elections. It took great courage to send The Royal Navy task force to the South Atlantic. In fact, many in her own party pushed for a negotiated settlement. But the lady was not for turning because inversion to her was morally and legally wrong.

After her strong decision, a Soviet magazine nicknamed Thatcher “The Iron Lady”. With US President Ronald Reagan’s support, she was unhesitant in her opposition to the Soviet Union. When the Soviets deployed intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Eastern Europe, she fully supported Reagan’s counter move to send American cruise and Pershing missiles to Western Europe. Margaret Thatcher was right about most things: she was right that the British Trade Union had become too powerful, she was right that inefficient nationalized industries had to be privatized and she was right that the West could win The Cold War. Though the damage caused to Britain in the 1970s seemed irreversible, Margaret Thatcher cured the economy of the disease of inflation and industrial unrest. With her efforts to re-establish Britain as a property-owned democracy and with her brave foreign policy, she restored Britain’s hold over the world.

Slavery, the Civil War and the Ku Klux Klan

Slavery was the devil born out of colonization, agricultural settlement, and an absurd belief that the White Man was “superior” to all others. This article chalks out the beginning of the scarring journey of the oppression faced by black people by briefly discussing slavery, the American Civil War, and the Ku Klux Klan.

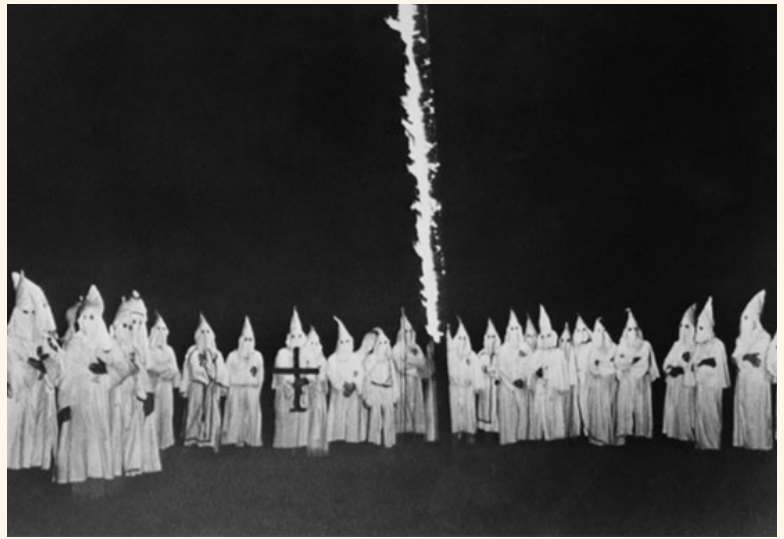
Slavery is said to have originated in Sumeria. At first it was passive and came as a result of debt. It was only in the middle ages that it spread to the rest of the world including Europe, Medieval Asia, and the Americas. Then, the slave trade came into practice. Millions of Africans were transported (in appalling conditions) by sea route to the Caribbean and the Americas. They were to work in the fields, or as domestic servants. Historians digging into this practice, reveal horrifying details of slaves being mutilated, beaten up, branded, and whipped not only as punishment but also to assert dominance.

Albeit late, a few realized that slavery was a horrendous concept and must be abolished altogether. This led to the Abolitionist Movement. European countries began discarding slavery and slave traders were caught and persecuted. The Americans however, “needed” the slaves, especially in the South. The North was inclined to get rid of slavery, but the South was adamant to continue it mainly because they required them to do agricultural labor free of cost.

This difference in opinion led to the formation of the Union (the North under the leadership of President Abraham Lincoln) that was against slavery, and the Confederates in the South, who were Pro-Slavery.

The Civil War between the North and South went on from 1861 to 1865. A significant feature of the War was the signing of the ever-popular “Emancipation Proclamation” by Abraham Lincoln in 1863, which was a sliver of hope for all slaves.

Even after the Civil War, some white men refused to accept racial equality. They were staunch in their belief of 'White Supremacy' and founded one of the most notorious cults of all time, “the Ku Klux Klan.” Their agenda was vain and simple, to torture the Blacks who were fighting for their freedom, through violence and intimidation to reinstate White Supremacy. To achieve their objective, they whipped and even killed thousands of Blacks. The members of the clan would cover their faces with characteristic white masks to instill fear in the black men and to escape federal prosecution. Gradually, the Ku Klux Klan's prominence declined due to the lack of uniform national leadership.



What may give you goosebumps, is that slavery is still practised in Haiti and some other countries. While we might find comfort in acknowledging that this is history, the harsh truth is, we haven't done so, at least not completely. One such instance that serves as the reality check of our progress is the recent murder of George Floyd which gave rise to the 'Black Lives Matter' Movement in the US last year making us realize that racism still plagues our society. On the brighter side, it is reassuring to know that Floyd's murderer, Officer Derek Chauvin has been sentenced to prison for 22 and a half years. We have carried fragments of this brutal past to the present, this fight is not yet over, and it is our duty as citizens to rid our society of such ailments.

Himanshi Gupta, PreSC-A

The Swinging Sixties

After over 70 million deaths and immense destruction, the post-World War II period was an extremely dull world to live in. The postwar period saw a shift towards consumerism which precipitated economic recovery. Tired of all the negativity, people decided that they wanted to look at life with a more optimistic lens, and started focusing on their own pleasures, which emerged in the form of a cultural revolution, absorbed with hedonism and positivity. This decade was an era of counterculture led by the youth, where they rejected mainstream societal norms. The hippie culture, founded around this time, took a stand against mob mentality and promoted openness and tolerance as alternatives to restrictions prevalent in the middle-class society. They offered an alternative lifestyle different from the mainstream represented by long hair and loose clothing.



Their peculiar taste in rock music was synchronized with the rising fame of the bands like 'The Beatles' and 'The Rolling Stones'. It was also observed that their lyrics had undertones of peace and critiqued violence even though no war was going on. This change-over had a ripple effect across the Atlantic on America and was famously titled, 'the British Invasion'. Women's clothing saw a confident turn as Mary Quant revolutionized the 'miniskirt' (named after the Mini Cooper) and inspired many young women to embrace their femininity more fashionably.

Be it the Civil Rights Movement, or the Vietnam War protests and the Chicago 7 trial, the atmosphere was politically charged with youth activism. The early 1960s saw light shine on Martin Luther King, where his renowned speech 'I have a dream speech' resonated with millions of African Americans as they all marched for equality, and the world finally saw the two races come together when President Johnson passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The sixties were a decade of revolution and of hope. It was a time when people stood together for the cause of love and reconciliation. Twiggy, a prominent English model of the sixties rightly said, "The sixties were a time when ordinary people could do extraordinary things".

Anjali Agarwal, SC-A

KARGIL DIWAS

Remembering our fallen martyrs

On 26th July, 2021, our country celebrated its 22nd Kargil Vijay Diwas. This day not only commemorated India's victory over Pakistan, but also lauded the resilience and sacrifice of Indian soldiers, while paying tribute to the Kargil martyrs. The Kargil war was initiated in May, 1999 and ended after three months of intense struggle in July, in the Kargil district of Kashmir along the Line of Control.

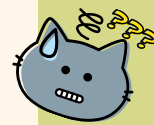
The conflict was orchestrated by the then Pakistani Army Chief, Parwez Musharraf without informing the Pakistani Prime, Minister Nawaz Sharif. To retaliate against the Pakistan infiltration of the Indian territory, the Indian Army launched Operation Vijay under the guidance of PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee and succeeded in evicting the intruders and reclaimed the Tiger Hill. The 1999 war was also the first televised war that enabled people across the nation to witness the valour and courage of our soldiers.

It is a seldom known fact that the Indian Air force played an instrumental role in assuring India's victory, by launching Operation Safed Sagar with only one week of training. This operation utilised air power from the height of 32,000 feet, targeting Mujahideens and Pakistani troops.

All Indian soldiers fought valiantly to protect their motherland and the contributions can never be forgotten. One such soldier was Captain Vikram Batra PVC, who served in the 13 Jammu Kashmir Rifles Unit and played an instrumental role in reclaiming point 4875, a strategically important peak for the Indian Army. His bravery and mettle earned him the title of '*Shershah*', meaning the 'Lion King'. Captain Vikram Batra PVC achieved martyrdom on the 7th of July 1999, at the tender age of 24. He was awarded the Param Vir Chakra posthumously.

His story is one such example of the gallantry and perseverance displayed by the Indian soldiers against all odds. The valour, bravery, and sacrifices of the Indian soldiers will always be a source of inspiration and motivation for generations to come. Our flag does not fly high because the wind moves, it flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it.


Bhavya Uniyal, SC-A



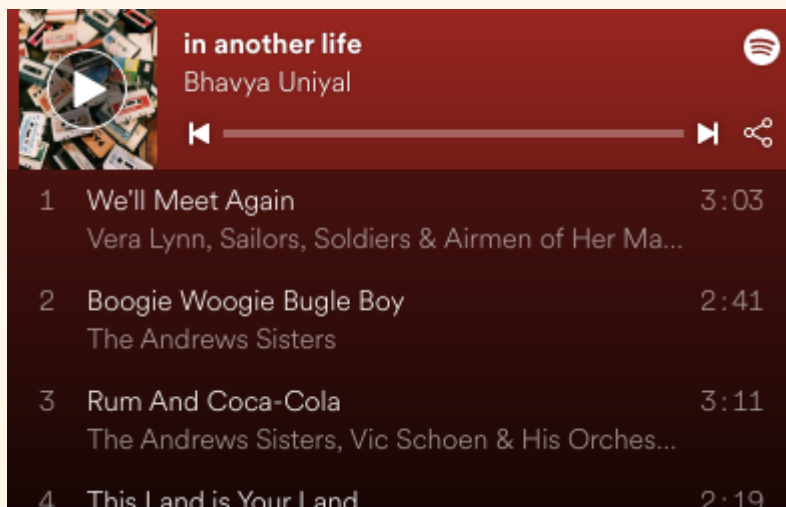
Trivia Time

The De Facto line between India and Pakistan is known as the LOC, that is, Line of Control.

Old School Tunes



Historical music holds the essence of history within its words and tunes. It brings the past to life and reinforces the power it holds. The playlist (code below) placed here contains a few of the most powerful wartime and protest songs. We hope you enjoy listening to these songs while appreciating the weight of history every lyric and melody of theirs carry!



India At The Tokyo Olympics 2020



Events

Javelin Throw
Wrestling (57 kg)
Weight Lifting- Women(49kg)
Women Single's Badminton
Women's Welterweight Boxing
Hockey (Men's)
Wrestling (65 kg)

Athlete

Neeraj Chopra
Ravi Kumar Dahiya
Mirabai Chanu
PV Sindhu
Lovline Borgohain
Indian Hockey Team
Bajrang Punia

Medal

Gold
Silver
Silver
Bronze
Bronze
Bronze
Bronze

Total Tally: 7 Medals (1 Gold, 2 Silver, 4 Bronze)

Sedition... or Repression?

"The use of sedition is like giving a saw to the carpenter to cut a piece of wood and he uses it to cut the entire forest itself."— N.V. Ramana, Chief Justice

Article 124(a) of the IPC, which criminalises the act of sedition, is probably one of the most controversial and contested laws that exists in post-independence India.

This law punishes those who bring, or attempt to bring, into hatred and contempt or excite disaffection towards the government established by law, with either imprisonment or fine, or both. The 'purpose' of the law is to ensure that the unity, integrity and sovereignty of India is safeguarded. The Sedition law was first used by the British to silence and imprison those Indians, who dared to speak against the 'Mighty Empire' or criticised the policies of the government. Our politicians have learnt well from their predecessors and (more often than not) use this draconian law to their advantage.

One must never forget that there is a huge difference between criticising the policies of the government and inciting hatred towards the country. While the former is not only legal, but also the duty of every citizen, it is only the latter which is criminalised. Unfortunately, not only common people, but very often the higher authorities like the police, have also mistaken the two to be the same, which is why in the past decade there have been many unfair and unjust arrests under this law.

Let us take the example of 21-year-old climate activist from Bangalore, Disha Ravi. She was arrested under this law for putting out a tweet during the Farmers' Protest. The NDA government argued upon how a tweet posted by a young climate activist could break the unity and integrity of the Indian state. The police nonetheless, filed sedition charges with no evidence, violating the Supreme Court ruling, which say sedition only applies when there is incitement to violence.

Due to an increase in instances of misuse of the Sedition law by police and government authorities, the Supreme Court has recently decided to finally review the constitutional validity of Article 124(a) and its relevance in current times. We can only hope that the apex court recognises that the negatives of this law far outweigh the positive aspects, and being the largest democracy of the world, it is time that India did away with this oppressive law.

Aditi Bhojnagarwala, SC-C





OF LEGENDS AND FOLKLORE

What do you call a Yeti Gardener?
A hairy Potter.

There have been innumerable studies conducted in the past years that have looked into the natural instinct of our species to believe in supernatural phenomena. Most psychologists believe that this was hardwired into our brains as an adaptive design for survival, perhaps to safeguard us from the more brutal truths of the world.

The element of 'supernatural' has transformed our society in unexpected ways: from barbaric atrocities like the Salem witch trials to some of the finest pieces of literature ever written: for instance, *The Raven* by Edgar Allan Poe, among countless others.

While the existence of most mythological creatures like vampires, fairies and dragons is generally perceived as far-fetched, a great deal of controversy arises when beings have more definitive evidence and are genetically possible: the Loch Ness monster and Bigfoot have been central to this conversation. These legends have inspired many works of entertainment. You may remember seeing the *Phineas & Ferb* episodes 'The Lake Nose Monster' and 'Get That Bigfoot Outa My Face!'

Public interest in the Loch Ness monster sky-rocketed when a couple saw it on land in 1933. Ever since then, media and tourist frenzy has been responsible for adding a staggering 54 million dollars to Scotland's economy annually. Even after all the excitement died down, and most evidence was discredited, around 4,000 residents came forward with accounts of their sightings, including quite a few celebrities revealing their own experiences sighting these creatures. Even though the infamous 'Surgeon's photo' later turned out to be a fake, investigators continue to scour the area.

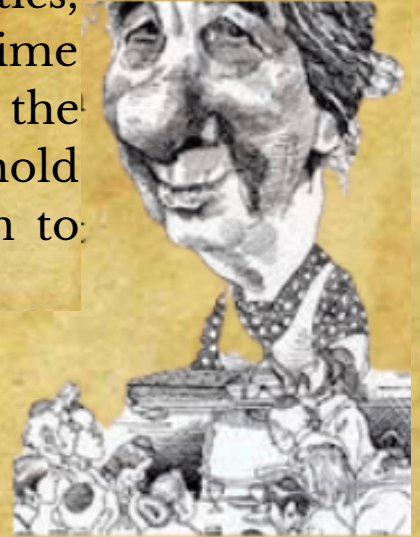
Known as Sasquatch in Canada and Yeti in India, Bigfoot is said to be an eight foot tall ape-like creature. North American settlers started reporting sightings of the beast during the late 1800s with the occasional finding of footprints, sporadic encounters and a few grainy photos and videos adding to the mystery. The most pertinent proof captured is the 1967 film shot by Roger Patterson and Bob Gimlin in Northern California. Interest was revived in 2019 when the Indian army found footprints measuring 32 by 15 inches, apparent proof of the existence of the Yeti. As summed up by David J. Daegling, 'Even if you have a million pieces of evidence, if all the evidence is inconclusive, you can't count it all to make something conclusive.' Nevertheless, whether these creatures are fake or mythical, they sure provide one with much scope for imagination!

Ananya Makker, PreSC-A and Shubhika Khanna, PreSC-C



THE IRON

Rightly titled the Iron Lady of Israeli Politics, Golda Meir, elected to the office of Prime Minister of Israel on March 17, 1969, was the world's fourth and Israel's only woman to hold the position. She was also the first woman to hold the office in the Middle East.



“Whether women are better than men I cannot say - but can say they are certainly no worse.”

Golda Meir



Indira Gandhi was the first female Prime Minister of India. From initially being disregarded as a dumb doll, "Goongi Gudiya", she went on to become the most influential PM in the history of India. She is also known for gifting India both its most controversial phases and fairly progressive policies.

“Let's not forget that in India the symbol of strength is a woman- The Goddess Shakti”

Indira Gandhi

LADIES

Angela Merkel is a German politician who became the first female Chancellor of Germany in 2005 and continues to hold the office. Merkel's decision of not seeking another term as chancellor poses a threat to create a large power vacuum. Her handling of the Syrian refugee crisis along with the revival of the Euro, are a few of her most prominent contributions.



*Always be more than
you appear and never
appear to be more
than you are.*

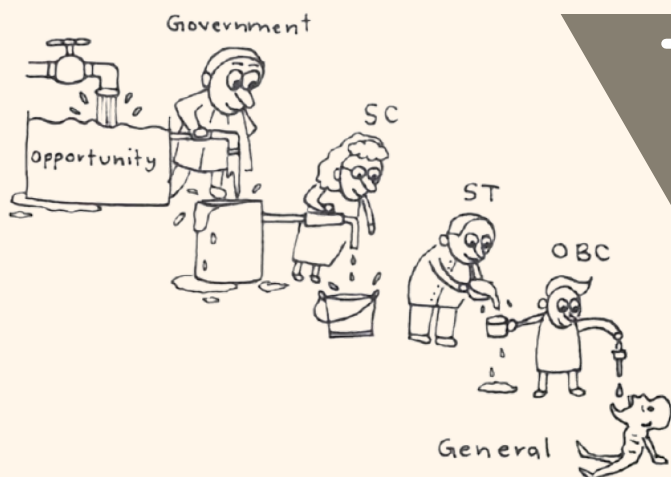
Angela Merkel



Sirimavo Bandaranaike was a stateswoman who became the world's first woman prime minister and served for three terms as the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. She played a major role in the revival of Buddhism and instilled a sense of cultural pride in the Sinhalese people.

*"As a woman and mother, I
call upon the nations of the
world to desist from violence
in their dealings with each
other"*

Sirimavo
Bandaranaike



RESERVATIONS IN INDIA

India has had a long tryst with reservations. In fact, the first recorded reservation dates back to 1831. Under the British Raj, the Madras Presidency has had reservations since 1831. By 1921, reservations for ST's, SC's and OBC's were introduced. The Maharaja of the princely state Kolhapur, Shahu, created reservations for the non-Brahmin caste in 1902.

Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar both fought for equal rights for 'untouchables' and the Dalits. The Round Table Conference of 1932 was a significant landmark in the history of reservations as it led to the Poona Pact. Under this pact, the lower classes were assigned a specific number of seats from certain constituencies and only they could vote in these.

Post-independence, the government undertook several measures and policies to reserve a certain number of seats in public jobs and government-aided educational institutions for SC's and ST's. Policies of reservations were strongly backed by the constitution, which states the equality of status and opportunity under the Right to Equality.

Today, the reservations for different castes occupy 59.5% of available seats for jobs and higher education which means that a seat, a highly deserving person from the General category could have got, goes to someone from the reserved category. When the reservations were first proposed, India was just learning to stand on its own and discrimination based on the caste system was still prevalent. Therefore, it was a good policy to help secure the equality of the lower classes. However, the question that arises today is: do we still need reservations?

The answer to that question is no. Reservations should certainly not be given consideration over merit. Denying India the service of meritorious candidates, who see themselves being overtaken by others with lower academic performance or brilliance, is unjust. Yes, it is the duty of the government to provide equality of status and opportunity in India but reservation is only one of the methods of social upliftment. Today, the way reservation is implemented and executed in India is largely governed by vote-bank politics. As an example, take the recent increase in the reservation cap. Different castes are continuing to benefit under the flag of protective discrimination while the general citizen suffers. Reservations are not caste protection anymore, they are just a way for the politicians to secure their vote banks. There are many other methods like providing scholarships, funds, coaching, and other welfare schemes or even reservations on the basis of monetary status that the government should consider.

Jitya Bagga, SC-C

The V-J Day Kiss

and the Victory over Japan Day

It is often said that a photo is worth a thousand words. In still life, it is a captured memory that creates history for generations to come. In the year 1945, on 2nd September, the Second World War came to an end. Alfred Eisenstaedt, a renowned American photographer and photojournalist of that time, captured what would be regarded as one of the most awe-inspiring and iconic photographs of that era- The V-J Day Kiss. Even six decades later, the photograph hasn't lost its relevance and is often mistaken as WWII'S most romantic kiss.

The most pressing task in the American hands after the unexpected attack on Pearl Harbor was to raise a credible military force. Eventually, America's military had grown to nearly 2.2 million soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines. The country faced severe challenges such as moving into a wartime economy, building an army, and rapidly training troops. The US entry into the war no doubt, turned the tide in favor of the Allied powers, but this victory came at a price. A report mentions that many soldiers suffered from PTSD because of the sheer trauma partaking in the war gave them. Thus, this photograph portrays a sense of triumph, elation, and gratification amongst the American sailors after the great surrender of the Japanese. A kiss symbolises their reaction to victory, how it brought a feeling of contentment, and of finally returning home (which was uncertain as they were on the battlefield) for every one part of the battle. However, this was not the most 'romantic' kiss but actually an act of harassment faced by women in the postmodern era where the sexual etiquette of American streets also served as a reminder to women that they were different and less powerful.

The victim clearly stated that it was a 'forced kiss'. The war intensified this compact, as obliging men in uniform became a national duty.

Dhwani Goyal, SC-B

Trivia Time

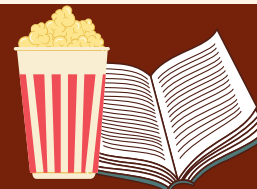
Q. During World War II, who was the dictator of Italy?

Q. Who was the first democratically elected President of Russia?

1. Benito Mussolini 2. Boris Yeltsin



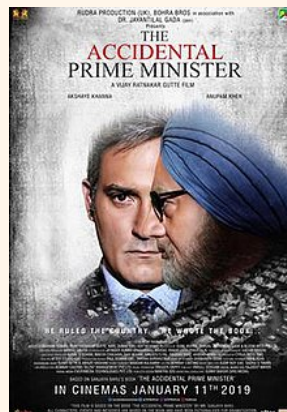
RECOMMENDATIONS



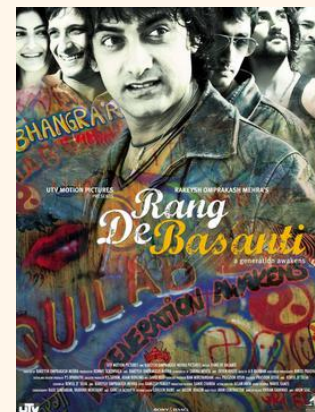
The Trial of the Chicago 7
Swinging Sixties



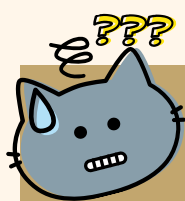
Schindler's List
The Holocaust



The Accidental Prime Minister
Contemporary Indian Politics



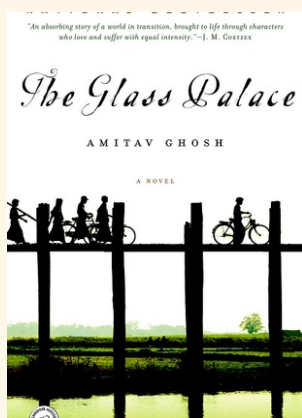
Rang De Basanti
Indian Independence Struggle



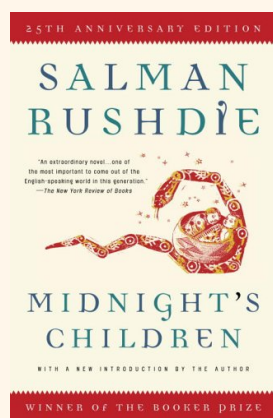
Trivia Time

- Q. The Hundred Years War was fought between what two countries?
- Q. Which Greek historian is known as the "Father of History"?
- Q. Who spoke "At the stroke of midnight, when the world sleeps, India awakes to life and freedom"?

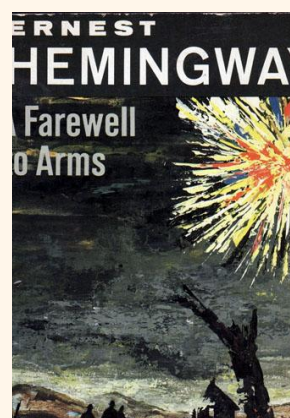
1. France and England 2. Herodotus 3. Jawaharlal Nehru



The Glass Palace-
Amitav Ghosh
WWII, INA



Midnight's Children- Salman Rushdie
Contemporary India



Farewell to Arms-
Ernest Hemingway
WWI



1984- Goerge Orwell
satire on the regime in the USSR

NAXALITES

The past and the present

On 3 April, 2021, Naxalite-Maoist insurgents of the Communist Party of India carried out an ambush against Indian security forces. The Sukma-Bijapur attack took place at the eponymous Sukma-Bijapur border in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh. It resulted in the deaths of 22 security personnel and 9 Naxalites, the worst toll in such an attack since 2017.

The term 'Naxal' comes from the village of Naxalbari in West Bengal, where the Naxalbari uprising of 1967 occurred. People who are engaged in the insurgency are called Naxals or Naxalites. Naxalism is considered to be a major threat to the internal security of India. Over the decade, the Left-Wing Extremism movement has impacted 40% of India's territory and 35% of its population. Now, after 50 years of ongoing conflict between the government and the Maoists, the question that arises is- "Why is the Naxalite movement in a particular territorial stretch?"

In some states like Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat, despite a high population of Adivasis and Dalits, there is little influence exerted by the Naxalites. Poverty does create deprivation but other factors like denial of justice and human dignity cause alienation. This results in the conviction that relief can be provided outside the system by breaking the current order. To present such violent upheavals, widespread awareness and consciousness of positions is likely to be of paramount importance. Here the Maoists have played a significant role, by stepping into the craters of dalit and adivasi deprivation and promulgating the organisation of the oppressed for their rights.

The main reason of the revolt was inequality in land holdings. The majority of households controlled just 9% of available agricultural land until the early 1970's. Underemployment of landless laborers led them to take loans on exorbitant rates of interest and harvest failures in 1965-67 added to their distress. The Green Revolution also had a skewed impact and benefitted only the wheat producing areas. In West Bengal, due to the above stated reasons, the unemployed student activists felt alienated and became vulnerable to the ideology of CPI (ML) [Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist)].

Jiya Gupta, SC-A

Trivia Time

Q1. Napoleon was exiled to the Saint Helena after the defeat in the war of ...

Q2. In 1936, Jesse Owens won 4 Gold medals at the Summer Olympics in what city?

1. Waterloo 2. Berlin, Germany

50 years of the 1971 Indo-Pak War



The India-Pakistan war of 1971 started on December 3rd 1971, after which Pakistan surrendered to India. This war saw a landslide victory for India and was fought during the zenith of Indira Gandhi's premiership. This war is iconic for various reasons: for one, it is not only one of the shortest wars in the history of India (lasting for only 13 days), but it also led to the formation of Bangladesh as an independent nation.

East Pakistan had been formed after the 1947 Mountbatten Plan. A direct result of this was a large-scale displacement of Bengali people to Pakistan. 1970 was a time of political turmoil in East Pakistan, when Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the chairman of the Pakistan People's Party, refused to yield his premiership to East Pakistan Awami League, who had secured a majority in the General Elections. Furthermore, the Pakistani military's widespread genocide against Bengali citizens, violence against women, killing of intellectuals and persecution of Biharis (particularly aimed at the minority Hindu population in Bengal) led to the migration of approximately 10 million refugees into the North-Eastern states of India.

The influx of impoverished East Pakistani refugees strained India's already overburdened economy. Feeling the economic strain, on 28th April, 1971 Indira Gandhi's Cabinet ordered the Chief of Army, General Sam Manekshaw to "Go into East Pakistan". However, Manekshaw refused to go to war against Pakistan as the monsoon season was approaching and Indian tanks were being refitted and it was decided that war would be fought only when it was favorable for India.

The confrontation between India and Pakistan began on the 3rd of December, 1971, with Pakistan launching an airstrike on eleven Indian Airbases. The Indian Defence Forces rose up to the occasion and fought on two fronts. On December 16, 1971 Pakistan ultimately called for a unilateral ceasefire and surrendered its entire four-tier military to the Indian Army, hence ending the India-Pakistan war of 1971. The end of the war saw the formation of a new country, Bangladesh.

To celebrate the 50th year of India's victory over Pakistan Prime Minister, Narendra Modi along with Chief of Defence Staff and Tri-Service Chiefs paid homage to the martyred soldiers by lighting up "Swarnim Vijay Mashaal". Four lighted victory torches were carried to various parts of the country including to the villages of Param Vir Chakra and Mahavir Chakra Awardees of 1971. The IAF conducted aerobic stunts to commemorate the victory it had secured over Pakistan in 1971.

Jahanvi Dugar, SC-C

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