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Important Days

International Day of Persons with Disabilities: While an international observance, this day is highly significant in India, where it is often referred to as World Day of the Handicapped or Divyangjan Diwas. It is dedicated to promoting the rights, dignity, and well-being of persons with disabilities and increasing awareness of the benefits of integrating persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic, and cultural life.

Birth Anniversaries – Indian Personalities

Dr. Rajendra Prasad (1884–1963): (3 December 1884 – 28 February 1963) was an Indian politician, lawyer, journalist and scholar who served as the first president of India from 1950 to 1962. He joined the Indian National Congress during the Indian independence movement and became a major leader from the region of Bihar. A supporter of Mahatma Gandhi, Prasad was imprisoned by British authorities during the Salt Satyagraha of 1930 and the Quit India movement of 1942. After the constituent assembly 1946 elections, Prasad served as 1st Minister of Food and Agriculture in the central government from 1947 to 1948. Upon independence in 1947, Prasad was elected as President of the Constituent Assembly of India, which prepared the Constitution of India and which served as its provisional Parliament.

Khudiram Bose (1889–1908): (3 December 1889 – 11 August 1908) was an Indian nationalist from Bengal Presidency who opposed British rule of India. For his role in the Muzaffarpur Conspiracy Case, along with Prafulla Chaki, he was sentenced to death, for the attempted assassination of a British judge, Magistrate



Douglas Kingsford, by throwing bombs on the carriage they suspected the man was in. Magistrate Kingsford,

however, was seated in a different carriage, and the throwing of bombs resulted in the deaths of two British women. Prafulla fatally shot himself before the arrest. Khudiram was arrested and tried for the murder of the two women, ultimately being sentenced to death. He was one of the first Indian revolutionaries in Bengal to be executed by the British.

Nandalal Bose (1882–1966): (3 December 1882 – 15 April 1966) was one of the pioneers of modern Indian



art and a key figure of Contextual Modernism. A pupil of Abanindranath Tagore, Bose was known for his "Indian style" of painting. He became the principal of Kala Bhavan, Santiniketan in 1921. He was influenced by the Tagore family and

the murals of Ajanta; his classic works include paintings of scenes from Indian mythologies, women, and village life. Today, many critics consider his paintings among India's most important modern paintings. In 1976, the Archaeological Survey of India, Department of Culture, Govt. of India declared his works among the "nine artists" whose work, "not being antiquities", were to be henceforth considered "to be art treasures, having regard to their artistic and aesthetic value".

Yashpal (1903–1976): (3 December 1903 – 26 December 1976) was a Hindi-language writer, political commentator, a socialist and an essayist. He wrote in a range of genres, including essays, novels and short stories, as well as a play, two travel books and an autobiography. He won the Hindi-language Sahitya Akademi Award for his novel Meri Teri Uski Baat in 1976 and was also a





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recipient of the Padma Bhushan. Yashpal was born on 3 December 1903 in the village of Bhumpal, (present-day Hamirpur district) situated within the Kangra Hills in British India. His mother was poor and had sole responsibility for raising her two sons. He grew up in an era when the popularity of the Indian independence movement was steadily increasing and with a mother who was a keen supporter of Arya Samaj.

Death Anniversaries – Indian Personalities

Major Dhyan Chand (1905–1979): (29 August 1905 – 3 December 1979) was an Indian field hockey player. He is widely regarded as the greatest field hockey player in history. He was known for his extraordinary ball control and goal-scoring feats, in addition to earning three Olympic gold medals, in 1928, 1932 and 1936, during an era where India dominated field hockey. Dhyan Chand's influence extended beyond these victories, as India won the field hockey event in seven out of eight Olympics from 1928 to 1964. Known as The Wizard or The Magician of hockey for his superb ball control, Chand played internationally from 1926 to 1949, where he scored 570 goals in 185 matches according to his autobiography, Goal, and over 1,000 goals in his entire domestic and international career.

Lance Naik Albert Ekka (1942–1971): (27 December 1942 – 3 December 1971) was an Indian soldier. He was killed in action in the Battle of Gangasagar, during the Indo-Pakistan War of 1971. He was posthumously awarded India's highest military award, the Param Vir Chakra, for his valour in the face of the enemy. Albert Ekka was born on 27 December 1942, in village Zari in Gumla, Jharkhand. His parents were Julius Ekka and Mariam Ekka. Ekka's family belonged to an Adivasi tribe



. Hunting was a common sport among the Adivasis, and Ekka was interested in it from his childhood. With his experience of hunting in jungles, he was able to be a better soldier with his skilful use of ground and movements. As he grew, Ekka developed interest for the army, and was enrolled in the Bihar Regiment on 27 December 1962.

Historical event for India

Start of the Indo-Pakistani War of 1971

The most critical historical event on this day is:

1971: Formal Beginning of the Indo-Pakistani War: The full-scale war between India and Pakistan officially began on December 3, 1971.

The Catalyst: Hostilities commenced when the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) launched preemptive air strikes on several Indian airfields in the western sector (Operation Chengiz Khan).

India's Response: In response to the unprovoked attack, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi declared war on Pakistan, and India launched a swift, coordinated military, naval, and air counter-offensive on both the Western and Eastern fronts.

The Outcome: The 13-day war ended on December 16, 1971, with the decisive surrender of the Pakistani military in Dhaka, leading to the creation of the independent nation of Bangladesh (formerly East Pakistan).

Bhopal Gas Tragedy

The night of December 2nd–3rd is remembered for the world's worst industrial disaster:

1984: Bhopal Gas Disaster: A highly toxic gas, methyl isocyanate (MIC), leaked from the Union Carbide India





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Limited (UCIL) pesticide plant in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

The leak occurred in the late hours of December 2nd and spread in the early hours of December 3rd, 1984, over densely populated areas.

It resulted in thousands of immediate deaths and inflicted severe, lifelong injuries on hundreds of thousands of people, making it a monumental tragedy in India's industrial and environmental history.

Earlier Historical Event

An earlier event also falls on this day:

1829: Abolition of Sati (Partial Step): While the final legal regulation prohibiting Sati (the ritual practice of a Hindu widow immolating herself on her deceased husband's pyre) was passed by the Governor-General, Lord William Bentinck, on December 4, 1829, the legislative process and public decrees were happening around this date, marking the effective ban of the practice in the Bengal Presidency.

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International Observances

International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD): Established by the UN General Assembly in 1992, the day promotes an understanding of disability issues and mobilizes support for the dignity, rights, and well-being of persons with disabilities. The goal is to increase awareness of the gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic, and cultural life.

Birth Anniversaries – International Personalities

Joseph Conrad (1857–1924): Polish-born British novelist, regarded as one of the greatest writers in English literature. His most famous works include *Heart of Darkness* and *Lord Jim*.

Death Anniversaries – International Personalities





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Robert Louis Stevenson (1850–1894): Scottish novelist, poet, and travel writer, best known for classics like *Treasure Island*, *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and *Kidnapped*.

Pierre-Auguste Renoir (1841–1919): A leading French Impressionist painter whose central subject was the human figure and beauty, particularly women.

Mary Baker Eddy (1821–1910): American religious leader who founded the Christian Science movement.

International Historical Events

Scientific & Medical Breakthroughs

1967: First Human Heart Transplant South African cardiac surgeon Dr. Christiaan Barnard and his team performed the world's first human-to-human heart transplant operation at Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa. The recipient, Louis Washkansky, lived for 18 days with the new heart, marking a monumental, though controversial, milestone in medical history.

1973: Pioneer 10 Sends Back First Close-Up Images of Jupiter: The American robotic space probe Pioneer 10, launched in March 1972, successfully flew past Jupiter, providing the first detailed, close-up images of the planet and its moons. This was a critical mission for deep space exploration.

Technology & Communication Milestones

1992: First SMS Text Message Sent: The very first Short Message Service (SMS) text message was sent by Neil Papworth, a test engineer in the UK, to a mobile phone. The message simply read, "Merry Christmas." This event marked the beginning of mobile texting as a major form of global communication.

1910: First Public Demonstration of Neon Lights

French inventor and engineer Georges Claude publicly demonstrated his groundbreaking neon light at the Paris Motor Show. This invention ushered in a new era of commercial advertising and urban illumination.

Political & Social Events

1997: Ottawa Treaty (Mine Ban Treaty) Opened for Signatures: The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (known as the Ottawa Treaty) was opened for signatures in Ottawa, Canada. This landmark treaty aims to eliminate anti-personnel landmines worldwide.

1818: Illinois Admitted to the Union: Illinois officially became the **21st state** of the United States of America.

Sports-related Historical Events Internationally

Cricket World Record

2000: Australia Sets Test Winning Streak Record On December 3, 2000, Australia defeated the West Indies in a Test match in Adelaide to record their 12th consecutive Test match victory. This win officially set a new world record for the most consecutive Test wins, surpassing the previous record of 11 held by the West Indies.

American Football Milestone

1898: First Professional Football All-Star Game: The Duquesne Country and Athletic Club defeated an all-star collection of early football players 16–0. This event is widely considered the first all-star game for professional American football, marking an early development in the structure of the professional league.





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