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Important Days

National Press Day (India) : This day is observed annually on November 16th to commemorate the establishment of the Press Council of India (PCI) on this date in 1966. It symbolizes the freedom and responsibility of the press in India and acts as an occasion to celebrate independent journalism in a democratic society.



Birth Anniversaries – Indian Personalities

Akbar Allahabadi (1846): Syed Akbar Hussain (16 November, 1846–9 September, 1921), popularly known as Akbar Allahabadi was an Indian poet, regarded as one of the greatest satirists in Urdu literature. The most popular of Akbar's verse poked fun at the cultural dilemma posed by the onslaught of Western culture. His ire was mostly directed towards the natives he considered to be outlandishly pseudo-western. In the Indian community he became known as 'Lisanul-Asr' (lit. 'Poet of the age'). Akbar Allahabadi was born in the town of Bara, in the district of Allahabad, to a family of Sayyids who originally came to India from Persia as soldiers. His grandfather, Sayyid Fazl-i-Mohammad, had Shia leanings but his three sons, Wasil 'Ali, Waris 'Ali and Tafazzul Hussain were all Sunnis. Akbar's father, Moulvi Tafazzul Hussain served as a Naib Tehsildar to his brother Waris 'Ali, who was the Tehsildar, and his mother belonged to a zamindar family of Jagdishpur village from the Gaya district in Bihar.



Mihir Sen (1930): (16 November 1930 – 11 June 1997)



was a famous Indian long distance swimmer and lawyer. He was the first Asian to conquer the English Channel from Dover to Calais in 1958, and did so in the fastest time (14 hrs & 45 mins). He was the only man to swim the oceans of the five continents in one calendar year (1966). These included the Palk Strait, Dardanelles, Bosphorus, Gibraltar, and the entire length of the Panama Canal. This unique achievement earned him a place in The Guinness Book of Records as the "world's greatest long distance swimmer".

Pullela Gopichand (1973): Born 16 November 1973 is an Indian former badminton player. Currently, he is the Chief National Coach for the India national badminton team. He won the All England Open Badminton Championships in 2001, becoming the second Indian to achieve this feat after Prakash Padukone. He runs the Gopichand Badminton Academy. He received the Arjuna Award in 1999, the Khel Ratna Award (highest sporting honor in India) in 2001, the Dronacharya Award in 2009 and the Padma Bhushan – India's third highest civilian award – in 2014. He is the only Indian coach to win the "Honorable Mention" by the International Olympic Committee at the 2019 Coaches Lifetime Achievement Awards.



Death Anniversaries – Indian Personalities

Uda Devi (1857): Uda Devi Pasi (1830-1857) was an Indian woman freedom fighter who participated in the war on behalf of Indian soldiers against the British East India Company, during the Indian Rebellion of 1857. She was a member of the women's battalion of Wajid.





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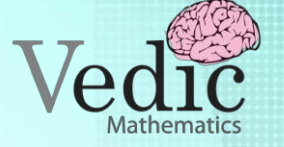
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Ali Shah, the last Nawab of Awadh. While upper caste histories highlight the resistance contributions of upper

caste heroines like Jhansi Ki Rani, the reality was also that the battles for independence from British colonial rule also featured Dalit resistance fighters like Uda Devi Pasi. Uda Devi Pasi and other female Dalit participants are today remembered as the warriors or "Dalit Veeranganas" of the 1857 Indian Rebellion. She was married to Makka Pasi who was a soldier in the army of Hazrat Mahal.

Kartar Singh Sarabha (1915): (24 May 1896 — 16 November 1915) was an Indian revolutionary. He was 15-years old when he became a member of the Ghadar Party; he then became a leading luminary member and started fighting for the independence movement. He was one of the most active members of the movement. In November 1915 at Central Jail, Lahore, he was executed for his role in the movement. He was 19 years old. Kartar Singh was born to Mangal Singh Grewal and Sahib Kaur, a Jat Sikh family in Sarabha, a village near Ludhiana in Punjab. He was very young when his father died and consequently his grandfather brought him up.



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International Observances

International Day for Tolerance: Declared by the UN General Assembly in 1996 following the adoption of a Declaration of Principles on Tolerance by UNESCO in 1995. The day is observed globally to promote mutual respect, appreciation of diversity, and raise public awareness of the dangers of intolerance. It is linked to the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence, which is awarded every two years on this date.



Birth Anniversaries – International Personalities

W. C. Handy (1873): American composer and musician, widely known as the "Father of the Blues."

George S. Kaufman (1889): American playwright, director, and producer who won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama.





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Paul Hindemith (1895): Influential German composer, violist, and conductor.

Chinua Achebe (1930): Celebrated Nigerian novelist, poet, and critic, best known for *Things Fall Apart*.

Death Anniversaries – International Personalities

Louis Riel (1885): Canadian Métis leader and founder of the province of Manitoba, who was executed for high treason.

International Historical Events

Political & Organizational Milestones

1945: Founding of UNESCO The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was officially founded. Headquartered in Paris, its mission is to build peace through international cooperation in education, science, and culture.

1988: Estonia Declares Sovereignty The Supreme Soviet of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic issued the Declaration of Sovereignty, declaring that Estonian laws were paramount over Soviet laws. This was a pivotal, early step in the Singing Revolution that led to Estonia's full independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

1988: Benazir Bhutto Elected in Pakistan Following the first open elections in Pakistan in over a decade, Benazir Bhutto was elected Prime Minister. She became the first woman in modern history to lead a Muslim-majority nation.

1940: Warsaw Ghetto Sealed During World War II, the Nazis closed off the Warsaw Ghetto in occupied Poland from the outside world. This was the largest of the Jewish ghettos established by the Nazis.

1933: US and Soviet Union Resume Diplomatic Relations U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt officially announced that the United States and the Soviet Union had resumed formal diplomatic relations, which had been suspended since 1919.

1922: End of the Ottoman Empire The Ottoman Empire was officially ended when the title of Sultan was abolished, and the last Sultan, Mehmed VI, departed the capital. This event paved the way for the declaration of the Republic of Turkey.

Science and Exploration

1965: Soviets Launch Venera 3 The Soviet Union launched the Venera 3 space probe toward Venus. It became the first spacecraft to reach the surface of another planet (though contact was lost before it could transmit data).

1938: LSD is First Synthesized Swiss chemist Albert Hofmann first synthesized LSD (Lysergic acid diethylamide) at the Sandoz Laboratories in Basel, Switzerland.

Culture and Entertainment

2001: First Harry Potter Film Released *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* (known as *Sorcerer's Stone* in the US) was released. It marked the blockbuster cinematic debut of J.K. Rowling's beloved book series, launching one of the most successful film franchises in history.

1959: The Sound of Music Opens The famous Broadway musical *The Sound of Music*, by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, premiered at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre in New York City.

Sports-related Historical Events In India

2013: Post-Retirement Honor for Sachin Tendulkar: The day after his final international match (on Nov





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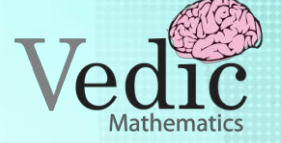
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15th), the Government of India officially announced that Sachin Tendulkar would be awarded the Bharat Ratna, the country's highest civilian honor. He became the first sportsperson and the youngest person ever to receive this award.

1983: Kapil Dev's Heroics: Indian cricket legend and all-rounder Kapil Dev delivered one of his career-best bowling performances, taking an incredible 9 wickets for 83 runs against the West Indies in a Test match in Ahmedabad. However, despite this exceptional effort, India lost the match.

Sports-related Historical Events Internationally

2005: Australia Qualifies for the FIFA World Cup: Australia defeated Uruguay in a dramatic penalty shootout in Sydney, qualifying for the 2006 FIFA World Cup. This was a massive historical moment, as it ended a 31-year drought since their previous World Cup appearance in 1974.

2003: Lionel Messi's Debut for FC Barcelona: A 16-year-old Lionel Messi made his unofficial debut for the FC Barcelona senior team, coming on as a substitute in a friendly match against Porto. This event marked the beginning of the career of arguably the greatest football player of his generation.

1969: US President Attends an NFL Game: U.S. President Richard Nixon became the first sitting president to attend a regular season NFL game, watching the Dallas Cowboys play the Washington Redskins.

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