

REVOLUTIONARIES POST 1922

- ☐ Repression of Revolutionaries during WWI via use of Defence of India Act 1915.
- ☐ Amnesty in 1920 led to release from Jails.
- ☐ Joined NCM enthusiastically but disappointed with withdrawal
- ☐ neither interested in Parliamentary politics of Swarajists/Pro Changers, nor in Constructive Work (*CW) of No Changers/Gandhians, therefore revived revolutionary activities.
- ☐ due to Russian Revolution (*RR1917), there was rise in popularity of communism worldwide & revolutionaries got attracted to Marxist ideas i.e. believed not just in end of colonial oppression but also class oppression (*Landed class vs peasant class, Capitalist class vs Working Class).
- ☐ Also attracted to **method of armed struggle** as now felt that non violent methods have failed.
- ☐ were also **deeply secular**

Hindustan Republican Army/Association (HRA 1924)

- ☐ HRA1924 setup by - Ram Prasad **Bismil**, **Ashfaqullah** Khan, **Jogesh Chatterjee**, Chandrashekhar **Azad** & **Sachin Sanyal** [*associated with Delhi Conspiracy Case of 1912 + wrote Bandi Jeevan- which was a guide to revolutionary activities).
- ☐ GOAL = Armed revolution to setup a "United States of India" with universal adult franchise

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- Needed money for arms, hence in **1925 Kakori Robbery case**, HRA1924 looted cash from train but then many arrested + **Ram Prasad Bismil & Ashfaqulla Khan** were **hanged** (though Chandrashekhar Azad not caught). Hence HRA1924 went inactive.

Hindustan Socialist Republican Army/Association (HSRA1928)

- Azad & Bhagat Singh revived HRA1924 as HSRA1928 which had all revolutionaries of North India. Eg Sukhdev, Rajguru, Bhagwati Charan Vohra
- **Lahore Conspiracy Case 1928**- Bhagat Singh took revenge of death of Lala Lajpat Rai (**Sher-e-Punjab**) due to injuries during anti Simon commission protests in November 1928 + **John Saunders, DSP** was killed instead of **James Scott, SP** who had personally assaulted Lala Lajpat. Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were hanged after trial on **23 March 1931** while Azad was killed in an encounter in 1931.

1929 Bomb in CLA by Bhagat Singh & B.K. Dutt

- CLA was discussing **Public Safety bill & Trade Disputes bill** aimed at curbing Working Class (*WC) movement & communists as British feared the rising communist influence.
- Bomb was harmless + leaflets with phrase **"to make the deaf hear"**, thrown in CLA.
- Bhagat Singh courted arrest + did **propaganda in court** during trial to inspire nationalism among masses.

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Revolutionaries in Bengal

- Revolutionaries supported Swarajist C.R. Das & this led to repression of Bengal Swarajists.
- CR Das died in 1925 & then **factionalism** weakened Bengal Congress as 2 groups developed in Bengal Congress
 - **S.C. Bose** (had support of revolutionary group- **Yugantar**)
 - **J.M. Sen Gupta** (had support of Revolutionary group **Anushilan Samiti**)
- Further, repression after failed attempt on life of Police Commissioner by **Gopinath Saha** led to arrest of S.C. Bose and repression.

Chittagong Armory Raid 1930-33

- While MG was leading CDM 1930-34, revolutionaries began armed struggle in East Bengal under **Surya Sen**, a teacher.
- He set up **Indian Republican Army (IRA)** & mobilized even women in it.
- They **raided Chittagong Armory** & began armed struggle + declared a **Provisional Revolutionary Govt** + cutoff Chittagong from rest of Bengal by destroying communication systems & railway lines + when Br attacked, then moved to hills and villages for guerilla warfare.
- By 1933, they were crushed but they greatly inspired nationalism
- For 1st time after 1857, there was group action in armed struggle + many Muslims & women fought & died as part of IRA. Eg **Pritilata Waddadar** was a martyr & **Kalpana Dutt** got life imprisonment.

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- School girls **Shanti Ghosh & Suniti Chaudhary** shot dead DM in 1931 & **Bina Das** shot at LG Jackson during convocation ceremony in 1932 (*he survived) .
- Muslim villagers gave food & shelter.
- 1933, Nehru arrested on Sedition Charges when supported IRA
- 1934 Surya Sen- captured & hanged
- therefore, revolutionary movement post NCM2022 came to end.

Overall assessment of Revolutionaries of 1920s-30s

- No use of religious symbolism
- Developed political ideology e.g. favored socialism.
- Bhagat Singh & HSRA1928
 - **"Philosophy of Bomb"** by Bhagwati Charan Vohra & Azad defined revolution as **"Independence- Social, Economic & Political"** + Bhagat Singh was a Marxist & defined Socialism as **End of - Capitalism & Class Domination;**
 - Argued that **real independence** will come when there is freedom from exploitation. Thus peasants & workers need to be freed from oppression of landlords & capitalists.
 - Supported **class rights** of Workers & Peasants
 - Favored **socialism** in State policy e.g. wanted nationalisation of large scale industries.
 - Were deeply **secular** e.g. Bhagat Singh argued that Communalism is as big an enemy as Colonialism.

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- While in jail, Bhagat Singh set up a library as he believed more in **power of pen**. He stated that he has acted like a terrorist but he isn't a terrorist. He didn't appeal to youth to follow path of revolutionary activities but to join INC & INM. For this he worked actively in **Lahore Student Union** (setup in 1923 by Lala Lajpat Rai) + he setup **Punjab Naujawan Bharat Sabha 1926** to educate youth on mass politics.
- He started a **hunger strike** in jail against inhuman living conditions of prisoners & Jatin Das died on 64th day due to forced feeding.
- revolutionaries were more politically aware & ideologically strong this time
- Philosophy of Bomb written by Vohra & Azad- defined revolution as independence-political, social & economic & elaborated Ideology of revolutionaries (*not criminals, not misguided)
- **Deeply secular**: e.g. Bhagat Singh argued, that communalism is as big enemy as colonialism.