

NATIONAL INTEGRATION

LESSON - 24

NATIONAL FLAG

The following components will be learnt in this lesson:

- Discription ➤ Occassions of Usage

Introduction : Every country has a national flag of its own. It inculcates a sense of pride in every citizen. Protecting the national flag is every individual's duty. The tricolour flag symbolically represents our freedom. It brings people together of different castes, creed and culture under one umbrella and signifies unity of the people in the country. It instils national pride among all individuals. The national flag serves as a representation of our country at the international level.

ORIGIN OF NATIONAL FLAG:

- In the year 1907 a handful of patriotic individuals formed the National flag.
- In the year 1916 some Hindu youth formed a flag made of 5 red and 4 green colours.
- A flag made of 3 colours and a wheel at the centre was formed in the year 1921.
- In the year 1931 the Indian National Congress unveiled a flag of saffron colour with a blue wheel at the top left corner of the flag.
- The constitutional committee approved the present "tricolour" flag on 22nd july 1947.

Description of our National Flag:

Our National flag has 3 colours, Saffron at the top, White in the middle and Green at the bottom. There is dark blue wheel called as the 'Ashok Chakra' at the centre of the white strip.

- Saffron : Denotes Strength and Sacrifice.
- White : Denotes truth and peace.
- Green : Denotes Prosperity

Ashok Chakra : It is a wheel with 24 spokes. It has been taken from the Ashok sthamba at Saranath. The 24 spokes indicated 24 hours of a day and also denotes the progress of our country. The blue colour of the wheel denotes the blue sea and sky.

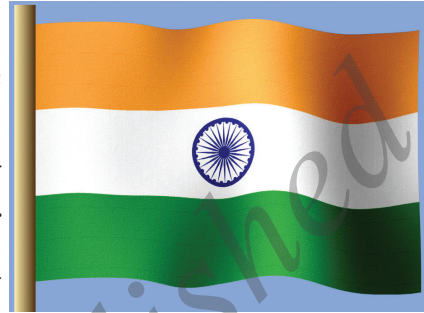


fig. 24.1

Occasions in which the National flag is used:

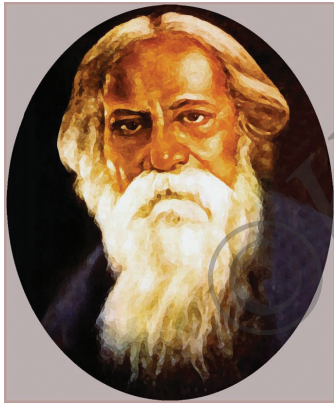
- The hoisted flag should always be honoured and properly displayed.
- The flag should be made to fly from sunrise to sunset.
- The National flag may be hoisted daily on all the Government and government recognized institutions in a proper way.
- It is compulsory for all schools and colleges to hoist the national flag on national festivals like 15th August and 26th January.

In International sporting events the national flag of the gold medal winning team/individual will be hoisted and the national anthem will be played.

“Medals and prizes are the possession of achievers and not of lazy persons.”

LESSON - 25**NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Jana Gana Mana is our national anthem. The first 13 lines of national anthem is taken from the work 'Geetanjali' written by the Nobel Prize Winner and a renowned Poet Rabindranath Tagore. The national anthem is to be sung within a span of 48 to 52 seconds. This song was constitutionally declared as the National anthem in the year 1950 January 24th.



Jana Gana Mana Adhinayaka Jayahe ।

Bharat Bhagya Vidhata ॥

Punjab Sindhu Gujarat Maratha ।

Dravid Utkala Vanga ॥

Vindya Himachala Yamuna Ganga ।

Uchhala Jaladhi Taranga ॥

Tava shubh naame jaage ।

Tava shubh Ashisha Maage ॥

Gaahe tava jaya Gatha ।

Jana Gana Mangala Dhayaka Jaya he ।

Bharat Bhagya Vidhata ।

Jaya he ... Jaya he... Jaya he... ॥

Jaya Jaya Jaya Jaya he.... ॥

SUMMARY:

You are the ruler of the minds of all people, dispenser of India's destiny. The name rouses the hearts of Punjab, Sindh, Gujarat, Maratha. Dravid, Orissa and Bengal. Your name echoes in the hills of Vindhyas and Himalayas, mingles in the music of Yamuna and Ganga rivers and is chanted by the waves of the Indian Sea. They pray for your blessing and sing your praise. The salvation of all people is in your hand, you are the dispenser of India's destiny. Victory, Victory, Victory to you.

Exercises

I Fill in the Blanks.

1. National flag is hoisted on _____ days.
2. The National anthem is taken from _____.
3. There are _____ number of spokes in the Ashoka Chakra.

II Tick the appropriate answer.

1. Date on which the National flag was officially hoisted
 - a) July 22 nd 1947
 - b) Jan 20 th 1947
 - c) June 22 1947
 - d) July 22 1948
2. Ashok Chakra is at the centre of the strap with the colour
 - a. Saffron
 - b. White
 - c. Green
 - d. Blue
3. Only the first _____ lines are taken from the Geetanjali
 - a. 13
 - b. 15
 - c. 10
 - d. 14

III Match the Following.

A	B
i. Saffron	48-52 Seconds
ii. National Anthem	National festival
iii. White	Sacrifice
iv. January 26	truth

IV Answer the following questions in one sentence each.

1. Which are the colours found in the national flag?
2. When was the national anthem accepted?
3. What does the green colour in the flag denote?
