

INDIAN MYTHOLOGY & HISTORY

**REVOLUTIONARIES
OF INDIAN
INDEPENDENCE**

TIMELINE

	-3000 BCE	-2500 BCE	-2000 BCE	-1500 BCE	-1000 BCE	-500 BCE	0 CE	500 CE	1000 CE	1500 CE	2000 CE
	5000 ya	4500 ya	4000 ya	3500 ya	3000 ya	2500 ya	2000 ya	1500 ya	1000 ya	500 ya	now
India	Indus Valley Civilization			Gangetic Valley Vedic Civilization			Jainism/ Buddhism Mouryas	Satavahans/ Sakas/ Hunas	Guptas/ Adi Sankara	Muslim Invasion	Mughals/ Marathas/ British/ Independent India
Mesopotamia	Mesopotamian						Parthian	Romans	Islamic		
Egypt	Egyptian					Greek	Byzantine		Islamic		
Europe		Greek				Greeks / Romans	Romans	Byzantine / Romans / Dark Ages		Renaissance / Colonization / Industrial Revolution / World Wars	
Persia		Ancient Persian				Persian			Islamic		
China			Ancient China			Imperial China					Ming, Qing, Communists
Americas		Mayan			Aztecs & Incas						Europeans

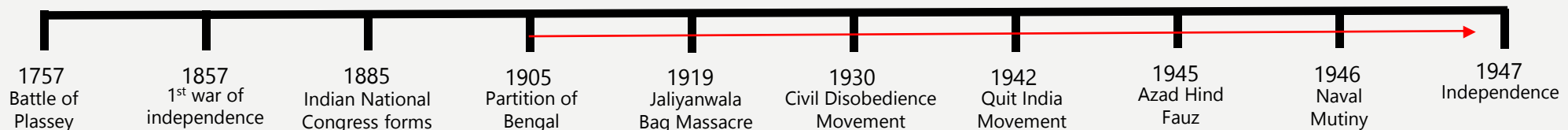


BRONZE AGE

IRON AGE

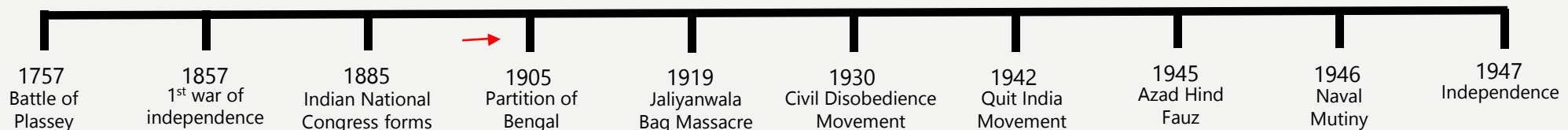
LIST OF REVOLUTIONARIES

- Birsa Munda – Tribal Leader
- Ram Prasad Bismil
- Rash Behari Bose
- Bhagat Singh
- Shivaram Rajguru
- Sukhdev
- Subhas Chandra Bose
- Sri Alluri Sitarama Raju
- Vinayak Damodar Savarkar
- Chapekar Brothers
- Udham Singh
- Batukeshwar Dutt
- Shyamji Krishna Varma
- Jatin Das
- Kartar Singh Sarabha
- Madan Lal Dhingra
- Barakatullah
- Madan Lal Dhingra



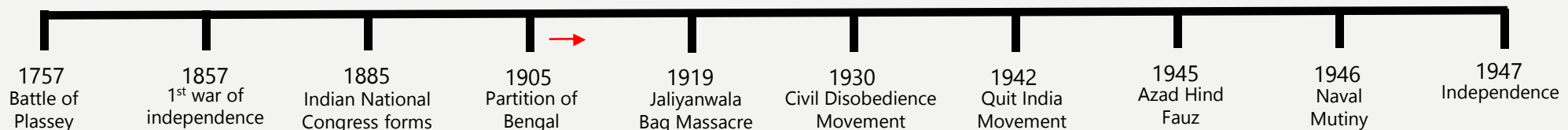
THE FIRST CASE: CHAPEKAR BROTHERS (1897)

- First political assassination of a British officer in India post 1857 Revolt.
- Brothers Damodar, Balkrishna and Vasudeo Chapekar shot at WC Rand, ICS, Chairman of the Special Plague Committee in 1897.
- Rand's military escort Lieutenant Ayerst died on the spot whereas Rand died a few days later due to wounds.
- The brothers were against the atrocities committed by the British authorities under Rand during the plague epidemic in Pune.
- The government in order to curb the spread of the epidemic ended up harassing Indians and employing extreme measures.
- All the three brothers were hanged for the assassination.



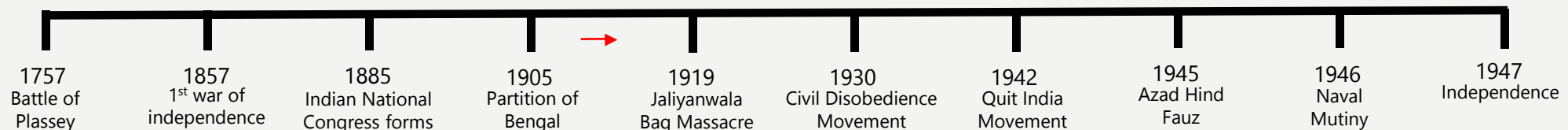
ALIPORE BOMB CONSPIRACY CASE (1908)

- Douglas Kingsford was an unpopular British Chief Magistrate who was the target of the bomb thrown at Muzaffarpur (Northern Bihar).
- Unfortunately, the carriage at which the bomb was targeted contained two English ladies and not Kingsford. The two women died in the attack.
- Revolutionaries who threw the bomb were Prafulla Chaki and Khudiram Bose.
- Chaki committed suicide while Bose, then only 18 years of age, was caught and sentenced to death by hanging.
- The other people who were tried in the case were Aurobindo Ghosh and his brother Barin Ghosh, Kanailal Dutt, Satyendranath Bose and more than 30 others.
- They were all members of the Anushilan Samiti in Calcutta.
- Aurobindo Ghosh was acquitted due to lack of evidence and others served varying life-terms in prison.



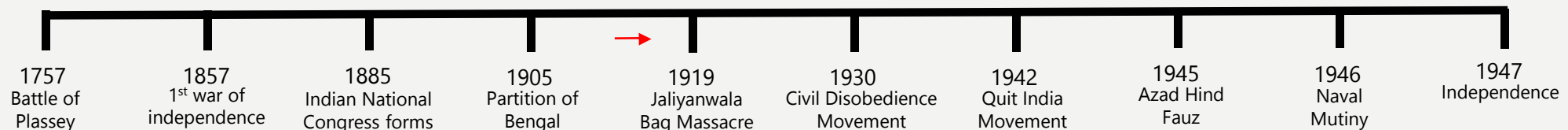
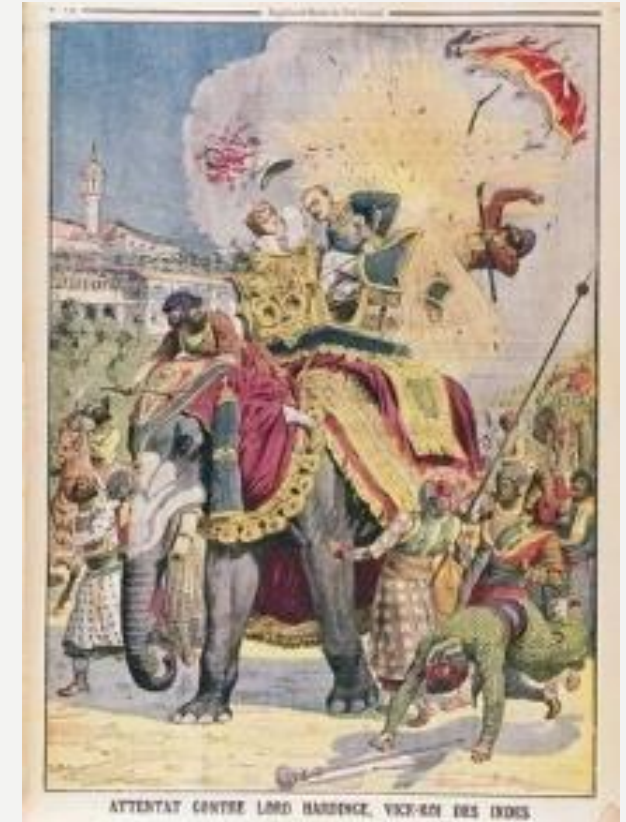
CURZON WYLLIE'S ASSASSINATION [1909]

- The India House was an organisation in London involved in the freedom struggle of India mainly engaging Indian students in the UK as its participants.
- Patrons of this organisation included Shyamji Krishna Varma and Bhikaiji Cama.
- India House became the centre of revolutionary activities for Indian independence outside India.
- The organisation was liquidated after the assassination of an army officer Curzon Wylie by its member Madan Lal Dhingra in 1909.



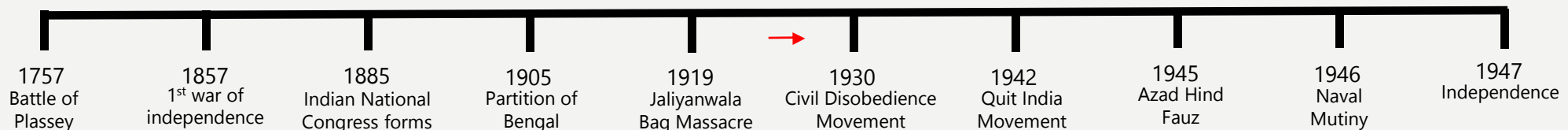
DELHI-LAHORE CONSPIRACY CASE (1912)

- This was an assassination attempt on Lord Hardinge, the then Viceroy of India.
- The revolutionaries were led by Rashbehari Bose.
- A homemade bomb was thrown into the viceroy's howdah (elephant-carriage) during a ceremonial procession in Delhi. The occasion was the transfer of the British capital from Calcutta to Delhi.
- Lord Hardinge was injured while an Indian attendant was killed.
- Bose escaped being caught whereas a few others were convicted for their roles in the conspiracy.
- Rashbehari Bose settled in Japan and later invited Subhash Chandra Bose to attack British using Japanese help.



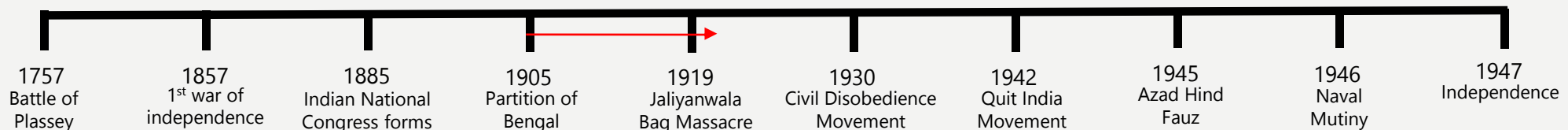
KAKORI CONSPIRACY (1925)

- This was a case of a train robbery that occurred near Kakori in Uttar Pradesh.
- The attack was led by youth of the Hindustan Republican Association (later renamed Hindustan Socialist Republican Association) including Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqulla Khan, Chandrashekhar Azad, Rajendra Lahiri, Thakur Roshan Singh and others.
- It was believed that the train carried money bags belonging to the British government.
- One person was killed during the robbery.
- The revolutionaries were arrested and tried in court.
- Bismil, Khan, Lahiri and Roshan Singh were sentenced to death. Others were sentenced to deportation or imprisonment.



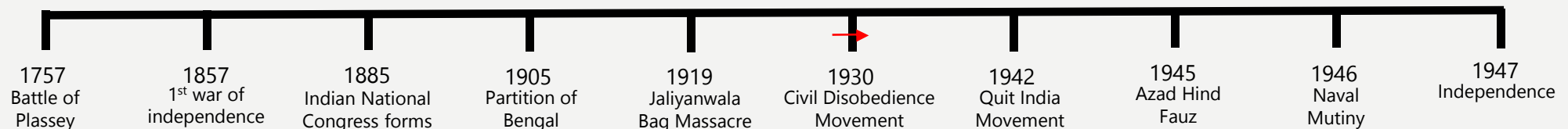
VINAYAK SAVARKAR

- He founded the 'Free India Society'. He believed and advocated the use of arms to free Bharat from the British and created a network of Bharatiyas in England, equipped with weapons.
- In 1908, brought out an authentic informative researched work on The Great Indian Revolt of 1857, which was named, "The Indian War of Independence, 1857". The British government immediately enforced a ban on the publication in both Britain and India.
- He was arrested and sent to India. He tried to escape in France but was captured again.
- He was moved to the Cellular Jail in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, but released in 1921 under agreement that he will not fight against British.



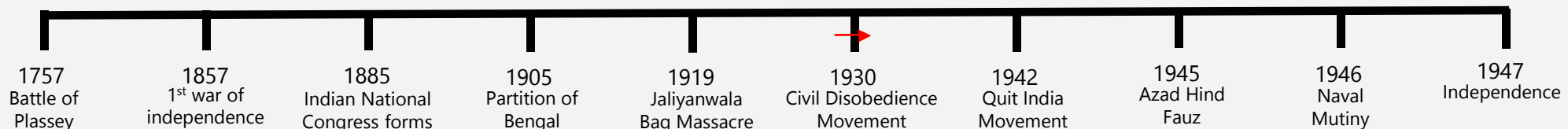
CHITTAGONG ARMOURY RAID (1930)

- This was an attempt by revolutionaries to raid the police armoury and the auxiliary forces armoury from Chittagong (now in Bangladesh).
- They were led by Surya Sen. Others involved were Ganesh Ghosh, Lokenath Bal, Pritilata Waddedar, Kalpana Dutta, Ambika Chakraborty, Subodh Roy, etc.
- The raiders were not able to locate any arms but were able to cut telephone and telegraph wires.
- After the raid, Sen hoisted the Indian flag at the police armoury.
- Many of the revolutionaries involved escaped but some were caught and tried.
- The government came down heavily on the revolutionaries. Many were sentenced to imprisonment, deported to the Andaman, and Surya Sen was sentenced to death by hanging. Sen was brutally tortured by the police before he was hanged.



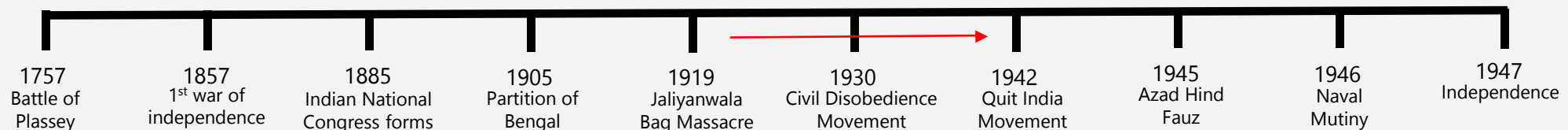
CENTRAL ASSEMBLY BOMB CASE [1929]

- Revolutionaries Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt sought to draw attention to their revolution by throwing a bomb along with leaflets in the Assembly House at Delhi.
- They did not attempt to escape and were arrested and jailed for the act.
- Their intention was not to hurt anyone but to popularise their revolutionary activities and philosophy.
- Bhagat Singh was re-arrested in connection with the murder of a British police officer, JP Saunders. This case was called the Lahore Conspiracy Case.
- Saunders was killed mistakenly as the real target was another police officer, James Scott, who was responsible for the lathi charge that killed Lala Lajpat Rai.
- Others involved in this killing were Sukhdev, Rajguru and Chandrashekhar Azad.
- They were all members of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association.
- While in prison, Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev along with other political prisoners went on a hunger strike to demand better conditions of prisoners in the jails.
- After the trial, all three were sentenced and executed by hanging in March 1931. Azad was martyred the same year in February in a gun battle with the police in a park in Allahabad.



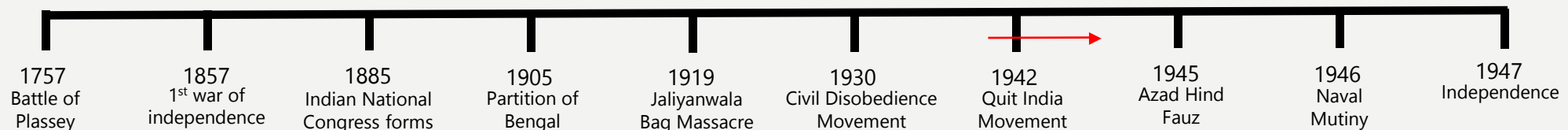
SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

- Subhas Chandra Bose is one of the most eminent freedom fighters of India.
- Born in Cuttack, then in Bengal Province into an affluent family. Educated in Calcutta acquiring a degree in philosophy. Selected for the Indian Civil Services (ICS) but refused to take up service since he did not want to serve the British government.
- Bose joined the Indian National Congress (INC) in 1921. He also started a newspaper called 'Swaraj'.
- He was the President of the All India Youth Congress and also the Secretary of the Bengal State Congress. In 1924, he became the CEO of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation. In 1930, he became the Mayor of Calcutta.
- Bose authored the book 'The Indian Struggle' which covers the Indian independence movement from 1920 to 1942. The book was banned by the British government.
- He coined the term 'Jai Hind'. His charisma and powerful personality inspired many people into the freedom struggle and continues to inspire Indians. He was called Netaji.



BOSE – IMPRISONMENT AND ESCAPE

- At the start of the Second World War, Bose protested against the government for not consulting Indians before dragging them into the war. He was arrested when he organised protests in Calcutta for the removal of the monument memorialising the Black Hole of Calcutta.
- He was released after a few days but was kept under surveillance. He then made his escape from the country in 1941 to Germany via Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. He had previously travelled to Europe and met with Indian students and European political leaders.
- In Germany, he met with the Nazi leaders and hoped to stage an armed struggle against the British to gain independence. He hoped to befriend the Axis powers since they were against his 'enemy' the British.
- He founded the Indian Legion out of about 4500 Indian soldiers who were in the British army and had been taken prisoners by the Germans from North Africa.
- In 1943, he left Germany for Japan disillusioned with German support for Azad Hind.



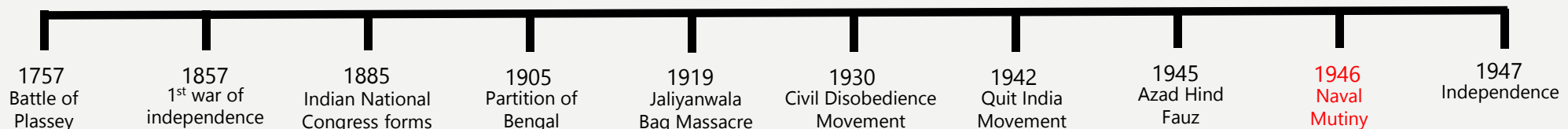
BOSE – INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY

- Bose's arrival in Japan revived the Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauj) which had been formed earlier with Japanese help.
- Azad Hind or the Provisional Government of Free India was established as a government-in-exile with Bose as the head. Its headquarters was in Singapore. The INA was its military.
- Bose motivated the troops with his fiery speeches. His famous quote is, "Give me blood, and I shall give you freedom!"
- The INA supported the Japanese army in its invasion of northeast India and also took control of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. However, they were forced to retreat by the British forces.
- Bose died of third-degree burns which he suffered in a plane crash in Taiwan on 18 August 1945.



NAVAL MUTINY (1946)

- The Royal Indian Navy Mutiny in Bombay Harbor started as a strike soldiers demanding better food and accommodation.
- On 19 February a Naval Central Strike committee was formed with Leading Signalmen Lieutenant M.S. Khan and Petty Officer Telegraphist Madan Singh elected as president and vice-president respectively.
- The strikers were inspired by the INA trials and the persona of Subhas Chandra Bose. Soon, the strike evolved into open revolt with many cities joining the Bombay sailors. Sailors from Karachi, Calcutta, Poona, Vizag and Cochin joined involving 66 ships and shore establishments.
- The city of Bombay particularly was tense. Hundreds of protestors targeted the British residents and officers of the city. They even took control of Butcher Island where the entire ammunition of the Bombay Presidency was stored.
- The open revolt struck at the heart of the British establishment who now realised that the armed forces, which was one of their key tools in maintaining their mastery over the subcontinent, could no longer be relied upon.
- The revolt, however, failed to see support from the Indian leadership who perhaps saw a mutiny, so close to independence, as a danger. Only the Communist Party of India and the INC's Aruna Asaf Ali openly supported the sailors.
- The mutiny came to an end with the intervention of Sardar Patel. The mutineers surrendered on 23 February 1946.
- A total of 7 sailors and 1 officer were killed. 476 sailors were discharged as a result of the mutiny. They were not taken into the Indian or Pakistani navies after independence.
- It is noteworthy to point out that there was massive public support for the mutineers. During the violence in Bombay that ensued because of the strike, over 200 civilians had died.



PARTITION

- The Indian National Congress and the Muslim League were unable to come to an agreement on how to go about independence. While the League wanted a separate homeland, the INC was opposed to the idea of partitioning the country.
- Jinnah proclaimed “Direct Action Day” on 16th August 1946. As there was no clarity on the partition, people were on their nerves, especially those who were living in a community where the majority religion did not match with theirs. Violence broke out in many parts of Bengal, Bihar, the United Provinces and Punjab. There was large-scale killing, rape and torture. Even children and the elderly were not spared.
- To stop the tide of brutality and prevent an all-out civil war in the country, the Congress, headed by Vallabhbhai Patel on this issue, approved of the partition plan.

