

Bipin Chandra Pal

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In news : Recently, Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting (IB) inaugurated a photo-exhibition to showcase the struggles of various freedom fighters Bipin Chandra Pal is one of them

A brief History of Bipin Chandra Pal

- He was an Indian nationalist, writer, orator, social reformer and Indian independence movement freedom fighter
- Birth: 7th November 1858, Habiganj Sylhet district, Bangladesh
- Bipin ji He was one third of the “Lal Bal Pal” triumvirat
- Education: He studied and taught at the Church Mission Society College (now the St. Paul’s Cathedral Mission College), an affiliated college of the University of Calcutta
- Brahma Samaj: After his first wife died, he married a widow and joined the Brahma Samaj
- He was also associated with Indian National Congress and India House

His Contributions:

- He known as the *Father of Revolutionary Thoughts* in India and was one of the freedom fighters of India
- Pal stood against the partition of Bengal by the colonial British government.
- 1887: He made a strong plea for repeal of the Arms Act which was discriminatory in nature
- He was one of the main architects of the Swadeshi movement along with Sri Aurobindo.
- He popularized the concepts of *swadeshi* (exclusive

use of Indian-made goods) and *swaraj*

- His programme consisted of Swadeshi, boycott and national education. He preached and encouraged the use of Swadeshi and the boycott of foreign goods to eradicate poverty and unemployment.
- Bipin wanted to remove social evils from the form and arouse the feelings of nationalism through national criticism.
 - He also set up a school called Anushilan Samiti and began a tour of the country to propagate his philosophy.
- Pal had no faith in mild protests in the form of non-cooperation with the British colonialists.
- He opposed the caste system and advocated widow remarriage. He advocated 48 hours of work week and demanded for the hike in wages of workers.
- He expressed his disdain for Gandhi's ways, which he criticised for being rooted in "magic" instead of "logic"
- His overriding concern in his writings from 1912 to 1920 was to achieve confederation of the different regions and different communities within India.
- In 1920, Pal was among the senior Congress leaders who opposed Gandhi's resolution on non-cooperation over the fact that it didn't address self-government.
- During the last six years of his life, he parted company with the Congress and led a secluded life. Sri Aurobindo referred to him as one of *mightiest prophets of nationalism*.

As a journalist

- He worked for *Bengal Public Opinion*, *The Tribune* and *New India*, where he propagated his brand of nationalism
- He wrote several articles warning India of the changes happening in China and other geopolitical situations

- Pal served as the founder editor of Paridarshak, before going on to edit several other English and Bengali newspapers from Calcutta, Lahore, Allahabad and London.
- In 1906, Pal started a daily called Vande Mataram