

The Great Revolutionerist Part I

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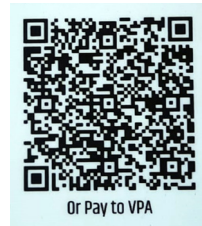
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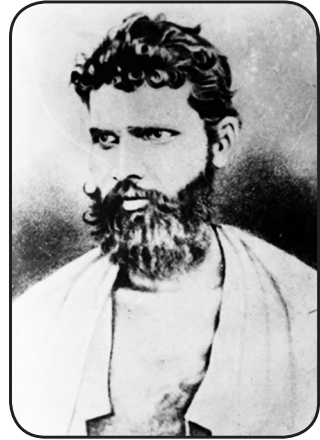
कर्नाळा चॅरिटेबल ट्रस्ट पुणे या संस्थेस दिलेल्या देणग्या आयकर

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KRANTIVEER

**VASUDEO
BALWANT
PHADAKE
1845-1883**



The history of the independance Movement of India is the history of sacrifices of the great revolutionaries, freedom fighters and noted luminaries. Vasudeo Balwant Phadake, the pioneer of the revolutionaries, is one of them.

Vasudeo born in 1845 at Shirdhon Dist-Raigad near Panvel city in the Kokan region of Maharashtra, Vasudeo Balwant Phadake, became the great name in the world galaxy of the revolutionaries in India. He was fair in colour with sparkling eyes. His grandfather, Anantrao Phadake was the Killiedar of Fort Karnala. But in 1818, he lost the battle with the British soldiers, and he surrendered to them. Further, till his death, he always remembered The fort.

Anantrao loved Vasudeo immensely. Vasudeo had learnt swimming, horse-riding, lathi charging and many other heroic deeds in

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his childhood. Truly, he was born with courage.

After the death of Anantrao, Vasudeo went to Kalyan for his education. But Vasudeo had created his interest in other games. Yet he learnt English well. When he was of twelve, he read about the War of **Independence of 1857**. He read about Tatya Tope, Rani of Jhansi and Nanasahab Peshawa. He liked stories of sacrifices and courageous activities. In school he was not interested in studying.

When Balwantrao noticed notorious activities of the son, he took Vasudeo to Pune. He was admitted in the Poona High School. He developed here his interests in reading religious books. He joined wrestling school. Before completing his matriculation examination, Vasudeo left his school. He then joined service in the Railway department of Bombay. His officer had a bad habit of scolding, abusing his subordinates in the office. Vasudeo did not tolerate his insult. He was quite angry with him. He openly told the officer.” If you speak in rude language, I’ll throw you out of the office, with your chair itself”. It resulted into dismissal of Vasudeo from the service. He became jobless. He began to search for service. Everywhere his outspoken trait of his mind brought him into troubles. At last he sought service in the Defense Account of Pune.

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His mother's name was Saraswatibai. She had four children, but she was careful about Vasudeo. She was worried about him as she was aware about his notorious activities so she thought that after marriage he would become responsible man. He was married then.

His officer in the Accounts office was a British and he was very cunning. When Vasudeo's mother died, Vasudeo did not get leave. He became furious. He decided to take revenge of the Britishers. His mother died **in 1870**. Within a year after his mother's death, Vasudeo lost his son, and immediately after two years he lost his wife too! Only daughter of four years, Mathubai remained with him. He began to take care of her. But this could not resist home from call of mother nation. So he married Godawari to take care of Mathubai & dedicated himself for nation.

He was in grief of his mother's death. He loved her deeply. It was quite difficult for him to forget her. One day he met with an unknown person. That unknown person convinced Vasudeo to think over his motherhood. He asked Vasudeo to do something for this motherhood. He gave Vasudeo a sword a symbol of revolt. He became contemplative. He forgot his personal loss, and he began to think of his motherhood. That was turning point of his life. He was completely changed. He began to think of his Hindustan. A new man emerged out of the abyss of misunderstanding with a new vision of life. Pune that time

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was a centre for learning. It was the centre for revolutionary activities. He had grabbed the opportunity of listening to the great orators, political leaders and social workers. Once he listened to the great Justice, Mahadeo Govind Ranade. Ranade spoke about the present condition of the country. Vasudeo was inspired by those speeches. This conceived the seed of unrest in him. He established 'Aikyawardhini Sanstha' in Pune. He began to work with a great personality like Sarvajanic Kaka- Gopalrao Joshi. He decided to make use of swadeshi things. He became the devotee of Shri Guru Dutta. Perhaps he wanted to seek blessings of God for his efforts for the Independence of the country. He published '**Datta Mahatmya**' in 1873.

He thought of education for masses and founded an educational Institute. He began to teach students. His main intension was making all old as well as young people aware of the meaning of freedom, the meaning of Swarajya (a self- rule), and the meaning Swadeshi. He enlightened the people through public speeches. He began to arrange meetings with people. His horizon began to expand. He thought of touring extensively. He decided to take the survey of their condition. He visited Vidarbha, Marathawada, Malawa and Gujarath. He found exploitation by the Britishers everywhere.

Vasudeo was burning with anger. He realized that people will support him. He began to form groups of like-minded people. His mission was to free!

British rulers were aware of such revolutionary activities. They were showed enough to understand the meaning of the organizations. They understood the challenge posed by Vasudeo Phadake to them. The Britishers were cruel, liars and vindictive by nature. They declare the award of rupees four thousand for Vasudeo Balwant Phadake. Vasudeo was so clever that he then announced the award of rupees five thousand for those who would kill the British Governor or any officer in Maharashtra. The rulers became more furious. Now revolutionary activities of Vasudeo were expanding. His followers his colleagues remained faithful to him. They were loyal to him.

Many of them were killed while fighting with the Britishers. Vasudeo mourned deeply over their loss. He became introvert, and began to be more and more religious minded person. He went to Gangapur to pray. It is a well-known place of God, Shri Dattatreya in Karnataka. He also went to Shri Shailya. He prude there for success in his efforts to regain freedom of his country. Now the Britishers were chasing him. He wanted to deceive them. He became a Sanyasi, and becoming a 'Kashikar Baba' remained in Gangapur. Daniel, the British Officer was searching for him. He learnt whereabouts of Vasudeo Phadake and he arrived in Gangapur to arrest him. But prior to his arrival in Gangapur, Vasudeo had fled to

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Sangam, a religious place in the Karnataka. Again he went to Devamavadagi in order to avoid his arrest. He was sick. He thought that perhaps the Britishers may not be able to recognize him here. But unfortunately he was wrong. On **20th July, 1879**, Daniel came to Devamavadagi, and he caught Vasudeo in his sleep. Daniel was happy. It was then sure that the Britishers will not let him free. Luck had turned it back to Vasudeo. In the course of time, Daniel brought him to court of Law. The court gave its verdict on **Nov.7,1879**. He was accused of the conspiracy against the rulers. It was a grave crime, Vasudeo had committed against the Britishers. He was sentenced to a life imprisonment. Like a criminal he was taken to prison at Thana. And from there to Eden on **9th January, 1880**. He suffered there from tuberculosis. He was courageous and all powerful, but T.B. made him helpless. Yet he tried to escape from Eden. On **13th October, 1880** he succeeded in running away from the prison. He ran twelve miles continuously but again he was caught and he was sent to prison again. Now he was suffering acutely from T.B. Dr. Haripant Barve was looking after him.

He became a very close friend of Vasudeo. Dr. Barve helped by all ways immensely. But his efforts to cure Vasudeo were in vain. Vasudeo Balwant Phadake died on **17th February, 1883** at 4.15 p.m. away from his motherhood in Eden. The great revolutionary, the great

patriot, the lover of the motherland breathed his last for his country's freedom. He will be remembered as the pioneer of the revolutionaries in the history of the Independence of India

Remember:

Vasudeo was born in 1845. For his education he was sent to Kalyan. But he was interested more in outdoor games. He was influenced by the story of the War of Independence:1857. Further his father sent him to Pune.

He began to work in Railway office. But he was upset by the abuses of the Whites. Once he retorted the officer and he lost his service.

Due to his upright nature, his officer did not allow him to go to see his sick mother. He felt for the people. He began his work of enlightening them.

He had seen exploitation of the Whites. He wanted to fight with them. The Britishers were searching for him. But he went on changing his place. At last he was arrested. He was accused of conspiracy against him. He was then put to jail. On 9th January, 1880, he was sent to Eden. (He died there on 17th February, 1883).

[He was the great patriot, a revolutionary and the great lover of the motherland).





KRANTIVEER

MADANLAL DHINGRA 1884-1909

Madanlal was just twenty-five when he was hanged. He belonged to a well-to-do family in Punjab. His father, Dittamal was a Civil Surgeon. Madanlal has six brothers and a sister named Kakirani. His two brothers, Modanlal and Biharilal were doctors. His elder brother, Kundanlal was a businessman. His other two brothers; Chamanlal and Chunilal were Bars-at-Law and he himself and Bhajanlal were students.

Madanlal was **born in 1884**. His father was very impetuous. Since his childhood Madanlal had nourished dislikes for the Whites. He had seen how these Whites hate Indians. He had taught them calling Indians as the 'Black People'. But his father disliked this attitude of his son towards Britishers. Often times he used to scold him. Always they were quarreling with each other. His father asked him to leave college and work with his elder brother in his business. So Madanlal left his education and joined Simala-Kalka Tonga Service instead of working with his brother. But he was not

happy in the job. He wanted to go to England. His father did not like to send Madanlal to England. On the contrary, he thought of marrying his son. He thought that perhaps the marriage may bring change in Madanlal. Soon Madanlal got married. He became a father of a child. Yet he was not happy in married life. He wanted to do something for his motherland.

When he found that his father would not send him to England, he one day stealthily left house for Mumbai. He met there, with the caption of the boat. Madanlal requested him for a job. The caption enquired about him and offered him a job of putting coal into the engine. The boat first sailed to Australia via Turkistan. When the boat reached to Australia, Madanlal went to see the coastal town. When he returned to the boat, the captain of the boat was quite angry with him. He abused Madanlal. Madanlal tolerated it to some extent, but later he crossed the limit. It resulted into dismissal of Madanlal. He returned to India with distorted vision. Dittamal, his father, now seemed to have changed his views about Madanlal. He thought of sending Madanlal to England. On **26th May, 1906**, he sailed to England. He reached England on **10th of June, 1906**. It was the turning point of his life.

After reaching England, he joined A.M.I.C.E, Engineering College. He soon became popular among the students there. Besides education, he cultivated

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his interest in music, ball-dancing and films. Once while wandering on roads in England, he saw the India House. His curiosity rose and he went in. There he met with a fair looking, slim man with spectacles. He was Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. He was the incarnation of patriotism. Madanlal came under the spell of Savarkar. Their acquaintance grew in close friendship. He joined 'Abhinav Bharat'-an organization of the youth.

Savarkar decided to celebrate the Golden Jubilee year of the War of **Independence of 1857**. Earlier the Britishers had staged many incidents of **the 1857 war** that glorified the Whites more. The Britishers had termed the war as the Mutiny of the Indians. Savarkar wanted to bring forth the reality of it. He chalked out the plan of the celebration. He invited all like-minded people from all quarters of the world. More than five hundred students came to attend the function from Britain, Germany, Ireland and France. Barister Sardarsing Rana was the first President of the function. Savarkar rose to address the meeting. He referred to the background of the **1857 War**. He then appealed to the members for the fund. Medals prepared in the memory of the martyrs of **1857** were purchased by almost all. Indian youth put these medals on their chests and began to walk on the roads of England freely. It created conflict between the Britishers and the Indians. Madanlal began to take part in all activities. He was courageous. He wanted

to act courageously. So sometimes he did not attend the meetings in the India House. But he never missed lectures of Savarkar. But, one day he missed lecture by Savarkar and engaged himself in dancing with his friends. Savarkar went to his room to stop the noise that disturbed him in his lecture. So he stopped the lecture in the middle of it and come to Madanlal's room. Madanlal was surprised. He asked Savarkar, "Has time for martyrdom come?" and savarkar immediately told him," If a martyr is determined and ready; the time for martyrdom must have come," and Savarkar asked him whether to come to his room.

They discussed the issue of Sir Curzon Wiley. Savarkar briefed him about Curzon Vailey and his rules. He was very critical about Indians. He had given the Indians the bar-at-Law degree to Savarkar and Harnamsingh. Lord Curzon Wiley had been to India prior to our birth and he had complete knowledge of India and the Hindi Language. He had proved himself very cruel and stern administrator. He was the man responsible for departure of Lokmanya Tilak to Mandalay. Madanlal was listening to Savarkar, and at once expressed himself in a very passionate language that, this man has no right to live in the world. Savarkar noticed anger mounting in Madanlal. He told him to be cool and quiet.

Madanlal received a letter from the India House to

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meet Curzon Wiley. When he learnt that his brother to had referred to Madanlal to Curzon Wailey, he became angry. He went to see Curzon Wiley in the India Housse. During their conversation Wiley requested Madanlal to become a member of national India Association. At last Madanlal enrolled himself as the member of the Association. It helped him further to create contact with Curzon Wiley. Once he heard that Lord Curzon and Fullar were addressing the meeting in Royal Colonial Institute. He knew that Lord Curzon and Fullar had ruthlessly suppressed the agitations of Indians on the issue of the partition of Bengal. He wanted to kill them. He hurriedly went there, but he was late. He became nervous.

Savarkar was addressing the meeting when he learnt about the annual celebration of the National Indian Association on **1st July 1909**. It was to be held at the first floor of the Imperial Institute in the Jahangir Hall. Madanlal was the Associate Member of the Association. He knew that Lord Curzon was attending the function. He told about it to Savarkar and said that he was going to kill Lord Curzon there.

Then Savarkar plainly said to him that he would be arrested there and then time he has his explanation. He asked him whether he had prepared it. When Savarkar learnt that Madanlal had not prepared the statement, he himself had begun to prepare it in excellent English,

He gave it to Madanlal to mug it-up for his defense. Savarkar knew that the court would not give Madanlal permission to read the statement in the court. So he managed it to get published in the newspapers in other countries.

Madanlal went to attend the function with his loaded revolver. After the function was over he waited for Wiley to descend the stairs. When he came just before him, He killed Lord Curzon Wiley. He was soon arrested there. It was night, and Madanlal was taken to the police station. During the trial Madanlal explained everything to the court. He was at last sentenced to death. He was happy for his deed of killing Wiley. He was the first Indian to kill the British in England. Madanlal was hanged on 17th August, 1909 in England. Later the remains of his body were brought to India on **12th Dececmber, 1976** and religious rites were performed in Haridwar. He became the constant source of inspiration to the youth in India.

*** Madanlal was born in Punjab in 1884. His father was a rich man. He had seven sons and a daughter. Madanlal wanted to do something for his motherland. He faced many difficulties for this.**

He went to England and joined there Engineering College. In London he met with Veer Savarkar. It was the turning point in his life. Lord

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Curzon Wiley was responsible for the partition of Bengal and for many punishments to the Indians.

Veer Savarkar lived in the India House in London. In 1907, he had arranged the Golden Jubilee celebration of the 'War of Independence 1857' in England.

Madanlal killed Curzon Wiley in 1909. Before it, Savarkar had prepared a written statement of Madanlal. Further, Veer Savarkar managed to publish it in the newspaper. After killing of Curzon Wiley, Madanlal was arrested. Later he was sentenced to death. He was hanged on 17th August, 1909.

