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## **FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND THEIR SACRIFICES**

Indians has always shown resilience under pressure. Trial by fire has been the strongest point for Indian Freedom Fighters. They have left behind a legacy of courage, fortitude and their unconquerable spirit. The sacrifices of Indian Freedom Fighters are the reason India today stands proud and is walking into the era of New India. This freedom of India is a result of a long and consistent struggle spanning 2 centuries. These 20 years of struggle saw countless freedom fighters.

The path to India's Independence was no an easy task. Several sacrifices of Indian freedom fighters were made for the country. People like, Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Mangal Pandey, Chandra Shekhar Azad, Sukhdev, Rani Lakshmi Bai, Lal Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and many more. These remarkable men and women fought against the British Empire and attained 'Swadesh' for their nation at the cost of their lives.

The sacrifices of Indian freedom fighters have made an indelible mark in history, a particular trio stands out and have become an embodiment for freedom fighters all over the world. Bhagat Sing, Sukhdev and Rajguru were the trio who stand against the British Empire. They were a socialist and revolutionary and the youngest freedom fighters India have ever seen. The trio were martyred on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 1931 for the assasination of the British officer John Saunders, to avenge the death of Lala Lajpat Rai. Another associate of theirs, Chandra Shekhar Azad was also ambushed in a park, where he shot himself with his last bullet. These people were great freedom fighters. They would rather die than surrender to the British Empire. Such was their courage and their dignity.

Some of the famous freedom fighters who inspired and encouraged people to work for their country due to their patriotism. As we all know the father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi was the great leader of the freedom movement. He was saying 'work is worship'. Truth and non-violence were his weapons to fight against the British Empire. He contributed a lot to the Indian Freedom Movement. He made unity among Indians and generated the spirit of patriotism. He joined the Civil Disobedience Movement to curb the tax on Salt and the brutal rules of the Britishers. He joined actively in the Quit India Movement against the Britishers. He utilized his time, efforts, energy and spirit to achieve freedom in India instead of expecting anything for his contribution.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was one of the great leaders who gave up everything and fought for the freedom of India. He was the first Prime Minister of India after India got independence. He joined Mahatma Gandhi against discarding the legislation produced by the Britishers. He was imprisoned with Gandhiji for standing against the Salt Act. He was imprisoned a number of times in spite of stopping himself to fight against the injustice of Britishers.

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was a great and courageous leader who also fought against the Britishers. His campaign for freedom was, 'Give me your blood and I will give you freedom'. He raised the Indian National Army to show the powers of Indians to the Britishers with the help of Hitler.

Rani Lakshmi Bai was also a great freedom fighter. She fought for the freedom of the nation in spite of many struggles and hardship. She never gave up her nation because of her child. She took him to fight against injustice in the war. Her story to achieve freedom is more inspiring and vigorous.

Independent India was the aim of every freedom fighter. They will always be memorable for their patriotism and love for the country.

As Indians living and flourishing in an Independent New India, we should always remember the sacrifices of Indian Freedom Fighters and cherish the gift of freedom that they have bestowed upon us. Every year, 23<sup>rd</sup> March is celebrated as 'Martyrs' Day' to pay our homage to these freedom fighters. The stories of sacrifices of India's freedom fighters have been etched in the pages of

India history entwined with our rich heritage, shall never be forgotten. We should also respect the struggles and sacrifices of the freedom fighters and make developed and prosperous country.

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## **ROLE OF CITIZEN IN NATION BUILDING**

A citizen of a country is an individual recognised under the custom of law as being a legal member of a sovereign nation or allegiance of a government in exchange for its protection, whether at home or abroad. A citizen is one of the dominant pillars of the country.

Citizens have a prominent role in nation building. They are the reason for the existence of a nation. There are many duties they have to fulfill to be a good and useful citizen. A strong nation is the result of the work of a strong citizen. Each citizen has a responsibility to make his or her community a decent place to inhabit. When you are a responsible citizen, it implies that you know your duty adequately and will volunteer for numerous things that are required by the community or the society in general.

A responsible citizen abides by the law and order of the country. They are entitled to exercise all the fundamental duties and rights, such as casting a vote, paying government taxes and protecting the country from corruptions. Being a good and responsible citizen of a country, one must engage in activities or assist in tackling issues such as keeping the environment clean, raising money for charity, conserving electricity, water and natural resources or protecting public properties, etc.

India is a democratic country where its citizens live freely. Democracy in the country can function only when its citizens have both rights and responsibilities. Rights and responsibilities are the two sides of a coin that goes hand in hand with us wherever home, society, state or country we live in.

A democratic system of the country is entirely founded on the freedom of its citizens to enjoy their rights. They can choose the people to represent them.

A good citizen must be always careful in choosing their representatives. They should never be blinded by greed and must always keep their nation first and work for the safeguard of their nation.

The future of a nation is in the hands of each citizens. It is the duty of every citizen to help develop their country and everyone has an equal part in it, big or small, young or old. It is the duty of a citizen to make their nation stand put the most in the world, be it in the academic field or music, sports, technology, etc. We should make us of our abilities and talents for our country.

A citizen must never defame their country or must never be the one to destroy their nation due to power and greed. It is their duty to protect their nation and their fellow citizen. A nation with harmoniuos and peace loving citizen are envious by other country and they are the most powerful country.

Each citizen must love their nation which is like a mother to them and who embrace them and must always protect it from anything that can destroy it.

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## **INDEPENDENT INDIA – A BETTER INDIA**

India had been born under the rule of the British Crown from 1858, who drained its wealth and resources and yet used the country for trading. The people bought the same resources they produced in a much higher price from them since they controlled the trade.

But the people of India awakened from their arduous state and began to fight for their right and what had been theirs. Battles were fought and thousands of precious lives were lost, but they were not in vain when the Britishers left the country and India became a free nation, without anyone to rule them anymore.

It was in the year 1947, thousands of Indians lose their lives for the love of their country, and many more freedom fighters still fight the British with all their might, they finally left India on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, which marked the day of India's Independence.

There were shouts of joy and happiness in the country. India is now free and will rule for itself. A new era dawned on India and while celebrating their freedom, India had a long way to go in order to catch up with the rest of the world. It is not an easy task. It will take a lot of strength and effort to shape the newly independent country.

After independence, the leaders of the country immediately faced the problems which arise due to the partition of the country, millions of refugees who needed shelter and the wars with Pakistan and Bangladesh. However, India was not drained of its wealth. The leaders at that time must have been desperate. With millions of population to feed and another million refugees to shelter, the country is sure to face many challenges and difficulties.

But since it is now a free country who ruled for itself, there's always a way to solve its problems. It will walk towards the path of change and development with the guidance of its strong and able leaders who loved their country.

After its independence, India had developed in numerous ways and is still developing. Since it is a free country, it can make the best decisions for the country and expand its influence to the rest of the world.

Though it may not be the richest and among the highly developed country in the world, being a free state is far better than being under the rule of another country. It will develop slowly as time pass and could become one of the super powers.

The development in the health sector is immense, with increase in hospitals, Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and doctors and nurses. The public system is essentially free for all Indian residents. In 2019, the total net government spending on health care was \$36 billion or 1.23% of its GDP. The Indian constitution makes the provision of health care in India the responsibility of the State Governments, rather than the central federal government.

It makes every state responsible for "raising the level of nutrition and the standard of living of its people and the improvement of public health as among its primary duties". Since the country's independence, the public health care system has been entirely funded through general taxation.

The country had been healthier after independence with the development and changes in the health sector. And also due to the development in public health engineering.

Apart from health, India had developed in technology, machines and industries. It had one of the largest pool of scientists in the world. All these development surely made the lives of thousand Indians easier.

Distribution of basic amenities is carried out equally and the people of the country are happy and free. The development processes and changes that took place in the country in 70 decades is numerous.

Being independent, the country could change and develop in several ways and they would not be easily mentioned in one essay. We are all witnesses that our country develop and changes have occurred in our daily lives.

Being independent is honourable and it put the country among the countries of the world. It lead us to develop in ways we think was the best and define ourselves.

Thus, India as an independent country is better than India who was under the British rule., where it was captive and was deprived of its rights and fundamental needs. Since we won our independence, we are going on the right path to development and the lives of million Indians have been easier with easy access to health care facilities, technology and daily basic needs.

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## **ROLE OF CITIZENS IN NATION BUILDING**

India is a vast and diverse country and the home for many races, tribes, ethnicity. It is the second most populated country after China, India after much struggle and sacrifices of its people and freedom fighter gained Independence on 15<sup>th</sup> of August, 1947. Since then, the national leaders and its people worked together to create a nation and to develop the country to reach its highest potential. The framers of the Constitution were insightful and had framed the longest, one of the most detailed Constitution. It was adopted by the First Parliament on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 1950. The Citizen of India rights, duties and responsibilities of being a citizen of India was clearly stated in the constitution which is not violated in the common circumstances but they are not absolute either and are subject to provisions and restrictions in case of emergency. The citizen of a country is an individual recognised under the custom or law as being a legal member of a sovereign nation or allegiance to a government in exchange for its protection, whether at home or abroad. The role of citizen in nation building, even and after Independence cannot be underestimated in a democratic country like India.

India is a democratic country which alone shows that the role of citizen is fundamental in governing and administration of the country. A country development and progress are hugely dependent on its citizen. Every state or country even India provides its citizen with some fundamental civil rights such as personal rights, moral rights, economic rights and political rights etc.

Every citizen must be familiar and aware of their rights, duties and responsibilities to be a good citizen of the country. A right is a freedom enjoyed by an individual that is protected by the state. The citizen should be active participant in the process and steps taken to bring development and necessary change. They must actively participate and be informed about the

administration, policies and governance of the country to check the leaders and representatives. They must participate in the election and casting of vote in is every citizen rights and responsibilities.

The citizen should contribute their talents, knowledge and skills for the development and progress of the community, society and the nation. They must engage in activities or assist in tackling issues that are occurring in the country, keeping the environment clean and promote and create awareness for those much-needed subject. They must protect and preserve the resources of the country, the water resources, its wildlife, natural vegetation, its forest, electricity and public properties etc.

The preservation of one's culture practices, customs, language and heritage etc. is very much necessary in a diverse country like India. The Six fundamental rights to their citizen: Right to Equality, Right to Religion, Right Against Exploitation, Right to Culture and Education, Right to Freedom, Right to Constitutional Remedies. All these protect and give duties and responsibilities to each citizen. Under Article 51A, it's been stated that it shall be the duty of every citizen of India – to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem. To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom. To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India.

To defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so.

To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities, to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women. To value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture.

To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers, wildlife and to have compassion for all living creatures. To develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform. To safeguard public property and to abjure violence. To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity, so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement who is a parent or guardian, to provide opportunities for education to his child, or as the case may be, ward between

the age of six to fourteen years. The constitution book delineates every responsibility and duty that an Indian citizen is expected to abide by. As a citizen of the country, we are morally and legally required to perform our duties stated by the government.

The citizen of India are blessed with one of the finest, encompassing almost all areas and sphere for its diverse population. It safeguards and protect its citizen with several rights, duties and responsibilities. The citizen of a country are the wealth and foundation of a country. India is a democratic country today thanks to the freedom fighters and the citizens who fight for freedom sacrificing their lives for the nation. India is one of the fastest developing countries and each and every citizen contribution make a difference, especially if the citizen of India despite our differences if we work together in unity 'we can be the most developed and progressed nation. When we work together in unity miracle happens, that is also how we gain Independence. I am proud to be Indian and will abide by the constitution to be a responsible citizen for my country.

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### **INDEPENDENT INDIA, A BETTER INDIA**

From the ruling of British empire, India got independence in August 15, 1947. During the British rule, the wealth of India was consumed and robbed away. The people of India are also exploited to the worst depth. There is no way that the country can prosper. They suffer all kinds of pain, poverty, discrimination and there cannot be a growth in the standard of living on the masses of the people. It was like a hell came down to earth. There was much of discrimination on the high and low classes of the citizens. They are not treated equally and the word of equality was buried down to the ground. This makes the whole country suffer because majority of the people are lower class citizens.

After the revolt and the sacrifices of many great leaders and people of India, the country of India was given freedom and declared 'Independent India.' There was a huge work need to be carried out for the healing of India. A long list of constitution was made and every possible step was taken making India the largest democratic country in the world.

The freedom and rights given to the people learn to stand on their feet and enjoy their freedom and rights in a peaceful and meaningful way. The citizens of India enjoy their independence. They are given education, health care facilities, skills, technology etc. which is a great and important means for making India a better India.

Education helps them to be literate and make them find a way to be an efficient citizen and live efficiently for the country. Being an educated being, a person is well developed mentally, spiritually, physically and emotionally, which in turn helps him to be a good citizen of India which again will make India a better country. They are also given the right to vote and choose their own leader which is an ideal opportunity not all human beings are able to get. One must know this right and should avail it.

An important thing for a country is globalisation. India traded with other countries made GDP higher which is an important index for the country's growth. India exports its production to other countries and made revenue. This may not be possible if India does not get its independence. They will still be exploited and suppressed by the British empire. India also imports all kinds of materials needed for its citizens and trade with other countries. Private companies are set up and foreign investment enters giving an increase in the income level. Many foreign companies also set up their firms and companies in India, using the labour forces of India. This again helps in increasing the income level of the people giving and providing wealth to the country.

India developed in many areas after the independence. In medical fields, many scientists and doctors developed new techniques and skills. India is also known to be a country advanced in medicine development. Many knowledge and techniques came from India. A number of Noble Prize winners are from India as well.

Many industries set up, calling many investors to invest in India. When there is an increase in direct foreign investment, it leads to an increase in country's growth rate. All these are possible only because of the freedom in the country.

All the freedom fighters, who sacrifice their lives for the freedom of India, for the independence of India should be respected and honoured by the present generations and their future generations. For this, it should be given importance in school curriculum and set the young ones know the importance of freedom and their rights. Without freedom, everyone is in a cage without a bar.