

# UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES

(A TRIBUTE TO THE GREAT PERSONALITIES OF MUMBAI)



**07 TO 21 SEPT 2025**

(11 AM TO 07 PM)



**P. L. DESHPANDE MAHARASHTRA  
KALA ACADEMY, PRABHADEVI, MUMBAI,  
MAHARASHTRA 400025**



**YouTube**

**कला संवाद  
(Kala Samvad)**

**CURETED BY NANDOO SARSWATI  
MOB. NO.: +91 9702299575**



# UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES

(A TRIBUTE TO THE GREAT PERSONALITIES OF MUMBAI)



**Rajkumar Sharma**

Editor & Publisher,  
Kala Samvad Mumbai (India)

## Organizer's Note:

### A Tribute to the Great Personalities of Mumbai

Welcome to this special 15-day exhibition—a heartfelt homage to the legendary individuals whose vision, courage, and determination laid the foundation of the city we proudly call Mumbai.

These portraits are more than artistic expressions; they are windows into the lives of pioneers, reformers, dreamers, and doers—men and women who transformed Mumbai from a coastal settlement into a global metropolis. Their legacies live on in every street, skyline, and story this city holds.

It is both an honor and a responsibility to present their stories to you. May their lives remind us of what is possible when conviction meets purpose. May their spirit continue to inspire future generations to shape Mumbai's journey with the same passion and resilience.

Thank you for joining us in remembering those who made Mumbai what it is today.

## Curator Note :

### A Tribute to the Great Personalities of Mumbai

This exhibition is a celebration of legacy—an artistic tribute to the towering figures who shaped the cultural, social, and architectural fabric of Mumbai.

Each portrait you see has been created using state-of-the-art AI technology, skillfully guided by the artistic vision of Rajkumar Sharma. The result is a fusion of history and innovation—a timeless tribute brought to life through modern tools.

These images are not merely representations—they are reflections of the dreams, struggles, and achievements of those who redefined what Mumbai could become. Through this visual journey, we invite you to connect with the spirit of a city built by greatness.

We hope this experience stirs pride, curiosity, and a renewed sense of appreciation for the people who helped turn Mumbai into a beacon of resilience, diversity, and ambition.



**Nandoo Sarswati**

Artist & Curator



**Harshit R. Sharma**

Creative Concept Designer  
Team Kala Samvad

### A Tribute to the Great Personalities of Mumbai

I'm a young and passionate college student with a creative mindset and a strong eye for original concepts. As a concept designer and creative thinker, I love turning ideas into visuals and exploring fresh ways to solve problems. I'm always learning, experimenting, and pushing the boundaries of imagination to bring bold, innovative ideas to life.

# UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES

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# MUMBAI MONSOON

(15 DAYS GROUP ART EXHIBITION)

(Inauguration: 07th September 2025, Time: 04:30pm)

Date: 07<sup>th</sup> To 21 Sept., 2025 | Time: 11:00am to 07:00pm

## Chief Guest

**Shri Ashish Shelar**

Minister of Information Technology  
& Cultural affairs GOM

**H.E. Aliaksandr Matsukou**

(Consulate General of the Republic  
of Belarus in Mumbai)

## Guest of Honor:

**H.E. Shirani Ariyaratne**

Consul (Commercial) at Consulate  
General of Sri Lanka in Mumbai.

**H.E. Adriana Villanueva Becerril**

(Deputy Consul General of  
Mexico in Mumbai).

**Padma Shri Premjit Baria**

(Eminent Artist, Diu  
(DNH, Daman & Diu)

**Padma Shri Dr Mukesh Batra**

(Founder, Dr Batra's Healthcare)

**Padma Shri Dr Prakash Kothari**

(Ex. Professor & HOD., Seth G. S.  
Medical College and KEM Hospital)

**Padma Shri Uday V. Deshpande**

(Mallakhamb Guru)

**IAS Nidhi Choudhari**

(Director, National Gallery  
of Modern Arts Mumbai)

**IAS Prerna Patil**

(Joint Commissioner,  
GST Department, Mumbai)

**IRS Prashant Patil**

(Additional Commissioner,  
Custom Department, Mumbai)

**Prof. Waghmare**

(Ex. Director of Directorate  
of Art, Maharashtra)

**Brinda Miller**

(Hon. Chairperson of the  
Kala Ghoda Association)

## VVIP Invitees Guest:

**Dr. Uttam V. Jain**

(Patron, Hindustan Chamber  
of Commerce, Mumbai)

**Mr. Shikharchand Jain**

(Ex. President, Hindustan Chamber  
of Commerce, Mumbai)

**Mr. Ganpat Kothari**

(CMD, Kothari Group, Mumbai)

**Mr. Kishor Khabiya Jain**

(CMD, Khabiya Group, Mumbai)

**Mr. Mahendra Kalantri**

(Director, Acclaim Syst. Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai)

**Mr. Jagdish Purohit**

(Chairman, India Press, Mumbai)

**Mr. Vibhuraj Kapoor**

(Owner, Beyond Art Gallery, Mumbai)

**Mr. Rishiraj Sethi**

(Owner, Aura Art Gallery, Mumbai)

**Mr. Santosh Pednekar**

(Assistant Director, Nehru Centre  
Art Gallery, Mumbai)

**Mr. Sandip Prabhakar**

(Assistant Curator,  
Bajaj Art Gallery, Mumbai)

**Mr. Sanjay Nikam**

(Artist & Curator, Gandhi Film  
Foundation Art Gallery Mumbai)

**Mr. Rajan Jadhav**

(Founder Director,  
Answer Group & WAC)

**Prof. Mogglan Shravasti**

(Ex Professor, Sir J.J. School of Art Mumbai)

**Prof. Hemant Samant**

(Writer & General Secretary, JUM)



कला संवाद  
(Kala Samvad)

**Rajkumar Sharma**

+91 9322098431

**Nandoo Sarswati**

+91 9702299575

Organized by Kala Samvad (Online Media for Art & Culture)

कला संवाद | Kala Samvad - <https://kalasamvad.in>

1st Floor, P. L. Deshpande Maharashtra Kala  
Academy, Ravindra Natya Mandir, Near Shree  
Siddhivinayak Ganpati Temple, Sayani Road,  
Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400025.



## Lagacy Index

Name and Time (Birth – Death):

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<b>William Hornby</b> (11 March 1723 – 18 November 1803)	<b>Acharya Vinoba Bhave</b> (11 September 1895 – 15 November 1982)
<b>Rajmata Ahilyabai Holkar</b> (31 May 1725 – 13 August 1795)	<b>A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada</b> (01 September 1896 – 14 November 1977)
<b>Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy</b> (15 July 1783 – 14 April 1859)	<b>Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy Tata</b> (29 July 1904 – 29 November 1993)
<b>Jagannath Shankar Sheth</b> (10 February 1803 – 31 July 1865)	<b>Acharya Tulsi</b> (20 October 1914 – 23 June 1997)
<b>Premchand Roychand Jain</b> (09 November 1831 – 26 June 1906)	<b>Ramanand Sagar</b> (29 December 1917 – 12 December 2005)
<b>Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata</b> (03 March 1839 – 19 May 1904)	<b>Purushottam Laxman Deshpande</b> (08 November 1919 – 12 June 2000)
<b>Raja Ravi Varma</b> (29 April 1848 – 02 October 1906)	<b>Pandurang Shastri Athavale</b> (19 October 1920 – 25 October 2003)
<b>Bal Gangadhar Tilak</b> (23 July 1856 – 01 August 1920)	<b>R.K. Laxman</b> (24 October 1921 – 26 January 2015)
<b>Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve</b> (18 April 1858 – 09 November 1962)	<b>Lata Mangeshkar</b> (28 September 1929 – 06 February 2022)
<b>Dr. Waldemar Mordecai Haffkine</b> (15 March 1860 – 26 October 1930)	<b>Acharya Osho (Rajneesh)</b> (11 December 1931 – 19 January 1990)
<b>Rabindranath Tagore</b> (07 May 1861 – 07 August 1941)	<b>Ratan Naval Tata</b> (28 December 1937 – 09 October 2024)
<b>Swami Vivekananda</b> (12 January 1863 – 04 July 1902)	<b>Ravindra Jain</b> (28 February 1944 – 09 October 2015)
<b>Dadasaheb Phalke</b> (30 April 1870 – 16 February 1944)	<b>Acharya Shri Vidyasagar Ji Maharaj</b> (10 October 1946 – 18 February 2024)
<b>George Wittet</b> (1878 – 10 September 1926)	<b>Purshottamdas H. Purohit</b> (02 August 1920 – 23 July 1990)
<b>Vinayak Damodar Savarkar</b> (28 May 1883 – 26 February 1966)	<b>Shri Nanasaheb Dharmadhikari</b> (01 March 1922 – 08 July 2008)
<b>Jamnalal Bajaj</b> (04 November 1889 – 11 February 1942)	<b>Shantilal Lalji Furia</b> (04 December 1943 – 09 July 2022)

**William Hornby** (11 March 1723 – 18 November 1803)  
(Visionary Urban Reformer and Governor of Bombay (1771–1784))

As Governor of Bombay during a pivotal era, William Hornby reshaped the city's future through bold infrastructural reforms and independent leadership.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Hornby Vellard Project (1782):** Led a major land reclamation effort to block Worli Creek—beginning the unification of Bombay's seven islands into one landmass.
- **Urban Development:** Upgraded drainage, expanded fortifications, and encouraged settlement beyond the city's original Fort walls.
- **Economic Vision:** Promoted trade and infrastructure, helping transform Bombay into a rising commercial hub.
- **Independent Leadership:** Defied East India Company orders when necessary, prioritizing local needs over rigid colonial directives.

**Legacy:** Hornby's transformative vision faced resistance, but his efforts proved foundational to the making of modern Mumbai. The Hornby Vellard remains a landmark in the city's evolution—a testament to his enduring impact.



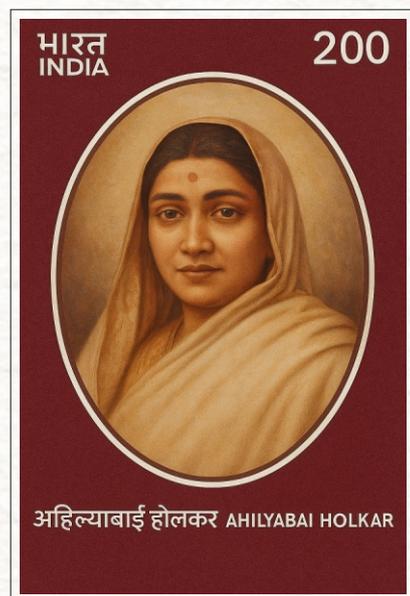
**Rajmata Ahilyabai Holkar** (31 May 1725 – 13 August 1795)  
(Visionary Reformer and Queen of Malwa (1767–1795))

As ruler of the Malwa kingdom, Ahilyabai Holkar was renowned for her just governance, social reforms, and religious devotion.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Inclusive Governance:** Promoted justice, agriculture, trade, and public welfare through personal engagement with her subjects.
- **Religious Contributions:** Rebuilt and funded temples across India, including the Kashi Vishwanath Temple in Varanasi.
- **Infrastructure Development:** Constructed ghats, roads, wells, and rest houses for pilgrims and the poor.
- **Philanthropy in Mumbai:** Supported the renovation of Walkeshwar Temple and civic amenities for pilgrims along the western coast.

**Legacy:** Ahilyabai's wise and compassionate rule left a lasting impact, inspiring generations as a symbol of female leadership and devotion. Her contributions continue to be celebrated across India.



**Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy** (15 July 1783 – 14 April 1859)  
(Philanthropist, Merchant, and the First Indian Knighted by the British Crown)

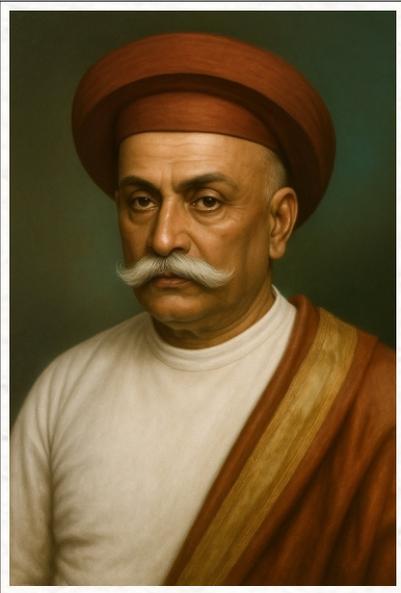
Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy was a pioneering Parsi-Indian trader and philanthropist who became the first Indian to be knighted (1842) and later made a baronet (1857) by the British Crown.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Business Success:** Built immense wealth through trade with China, particularly in cotton and opium.
- **Healthcare:** Founded Sir J. J. Hospital (1845), one of Mumbai's largest public hospitals, and supported numerous medical institutions.
- **Education:** Established the Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy School of Art (1857), promoting education across communities.
- **Infrastructure & Philanthropy:** Funded wells, roads, rest houses, and contributed to disaster relief globally, with secular humanitarianism.

**Legacy:** Jejeebhoy's philanthropy transformed Mumbai's social landscape. Today, institutions and landmarks like Sir J. J. Road and the School of Art honor his lasting impact.





### Jagannath Shankar Sheth (10 February 1803 – 31 July 1865)

(A Founder of Modern Bombay; Social Reformer, Educationist, and Civic Leader of 19th Century India)

Jagannath “Nana” Shankarsheth was a pioneering reformer and philanthropist who helped shape modern Bombay’s education, infrastructure, and civic life.

#### Key Achievements:

- **Education Pioneer:** Co-founded the Native School of Bombay (1822), precursor to Mumbai University; supported English education and women’s schooling.
- **Philanthropy:** Funded schools, hospitals, water tanks, and cremation grounds, serving diverse communities.
- **Urban Development:** Instrumental in planning roads, drainage, and public buildings via the Bombay Improvement Committee.
- **Railway Leadership:** First Indian director of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, contributing to India’s first passenger train in 1853.
- **Political Influence:** Nominated to Bombay Legislative Council (1861); advocated Hindu social reforms, women’s education, and fought untouchability.

**Legacy:** Remembered as a visionary who bridged tradition and modernity. Mumbai’s “Nana Chowk” honors his enduring impact.



### Premchand Roychand Jain (09 November 1831 – 26 June 1906)

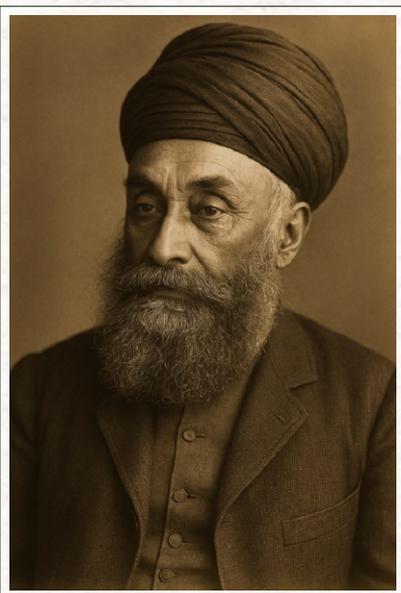
(Founder of Bombay Stock Exchange; Business Magnate, Financier, and Philanthropist)

Premchand Roychand was a pioneering Indian businessman known as Bombay’s “Cotton King” and “Bullion King.” He was a key founder of the Bombay Stock Exchange in 1875, helping formalize stock trading in India.

#### Key Achievements:

- **Stock Exchange Founder:** Instrumental in establishing the BSE, India’s first stock market.
- **Cotton & Bullion Trade:** Profited hugely during the American Civil War cotton boom; later faced financial setbacks.
- **Industry Leader:** Director of Bank of Bombay and Bombay, Baroda & Central India Railway; active in railways, insurance, and shipping.
- **Philanthropy & Legacy:**
  - Founded the prestigious Premchand Roychand Scholarship (1866) for higher education.
  - Funded Mumbai’s iconic Rajabai Clock Tower (1878), named after his mother.
  - Supported Jain temples and community institutions.

**Legacy:** Premchand Roychand remains a symbol of Indian entrepreneurial spirit and philanthropy during colonial times.



### Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata (03 March 1839 - 19 May 1904)

(Father of Indian Industry; Industrialist, Visionary, and Nation-BUILDER)

Jamsetji Tata laid the foundation of India’s industrial revolution and founded the Tata Group, now one of India’s largest conglomerates.

#### Key Achievements:

- **Tata Steel:** Envisioned India’s first steel plant; his son later established Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO) in 1907.
- **Hydroelectric Power:** Pioneered development of clean energy, leading to Tata Power, India’s first large-scale electricity provider.
- **Indian Institute of Science:** Funded and advocated for this premier scientific research institute in Bangalore.
- **Taj Mahal Palace Hotel (1903):** Built India’s first luxury hotel open to Indians, symbolizing Indian hospitality.

**Vision & Legacy:** Advocated self-reliance, education, ethical capitalism, and employee welfare. Jamshedpur city stands as a testament to his industrial legacy.

**Raja Ravi Varma** (29 April 1848–02 October 1906)  
(Father of Modern Indian Art; Painter, Innovator, and Cultural Icon)

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Raja Ravi Varma revolutionized Indian art by blending traditional Indian themes with European realism, making art accessible to all through mass-produced prints.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Fusion of Styles:** Combined Indian mythology with European oil painting techniques, creating a new visual language.
- **Mass Prints:** Founded Ravi Varma Press (1894) in Bombay to produce affordable lithographs of Hindu gods, epics, and Indian women.
- **Iconic Portrayals:** Shaped popular images of Hindu goddesses and Indian women, influencing art, fashion, and cinema.

**Recognition & Legacy:**

- Awarded the title “Raja” by Lord Curzon; won international prizes.
- Known as the father of modern Indian art, his work transformed visual culture and inspired generations.



**Bal Gangadhar Tilak** (23 July 1856–01 August 1920)  
(Pioneer of Indian Nationalism, Freedom Fighter, Reformer, and Advocate of Indigenous Pride)

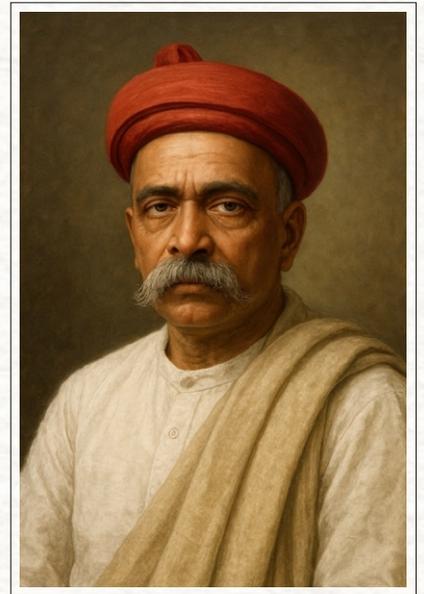
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Known as Lokmanya Tilak, he was a fiery nationalist who ignited the call for Swaraj (self-rule) and shaped early Indian independence efforts.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Political Leadership:** First mass leader of Indian nationalism; demanded complete independence; part of the Lal-Bal-Pal trio.
- **Journalism:** Used newspapers Kesari and The Mahratta to inspire national consciousness.
- **Cultural Revival:** Popularized Ganesh Chaturthi and Shivaji Jayanti as symbols of unity and resistance.
- **Philosophy & Writings:** Authored Gita Rahasya during imprisonment, promoting Karma Yoga and selfless action.

**Legacy:** Called the “Father of Indian Unrest” by the British, Tilak’s fearless nationalism inspired generations, paving the way for India’s freedom.



**Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve** (18 April 1858–09 November 1962)  
(Founder of SNDT Women’s University & Champion of Women’s Rights)

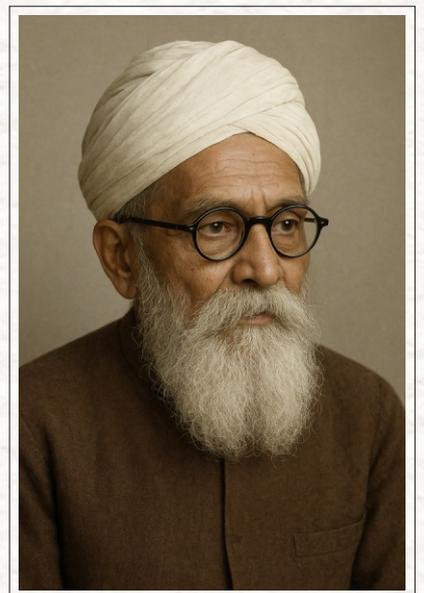
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A pioneering social reformer and educator, Karve dedicated his life to advancing women’s education and social upliftment.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Women’s Education:** Founded SNDT Women’s University in 1916—the first women’s university in India. Believed educating women uplifts entire families.
- **Widow Remarriage:** Promoted widow remarriage at a time of social taboo; married a widow himself to lead by example.
- **Social Reform:** Advocated for women’s dignity, education, and fought against caste discrimination.

**Legacy:** Awarded Bharat Ratna in 1958 for his lifelong service. His vision lives on through SNDT University and ongoing women’s empowerment efforts. August 18 is celebrated as Women’s Education Day in Maharashtra.





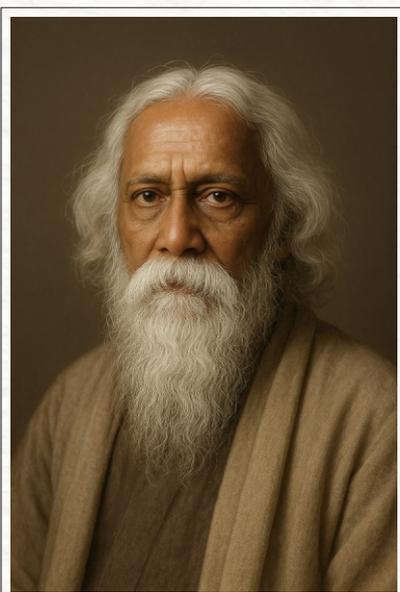
**Dr. Waldemar Mordecai Haffkine** (15 March 1860–11 September 1930)  
(Vaccine Pioneer of India & Developer of the World's First Cholera Vaccine)

A Jewish-Russian bacteriologist, Haffkine revolutionized medicine by developing life-saving vaccines during deadly epidemics.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Cholera Vaccine (1892):** Created the world's first cholera vaccine, tested it on himself, and helped save thousands globally, especially in India.
- **Plague Vaccine (1897):** Developed the plague vaccine amid Bombay's outbreak, again self-testing, which curbed the deadly epidemic.
- **Indian Contributions:** Founded Mumbai's Plague Research Laboratory (now Haffkine Institute), advancing biomedical research despite political challenges.

**Legacy:** Honored worldwide for selfless dedication, his vaccines saved millions. The Haffkine Institute remains a premier research center. Praised by Einstein and Gandhi, he refused to patent his life-saving vaccines.



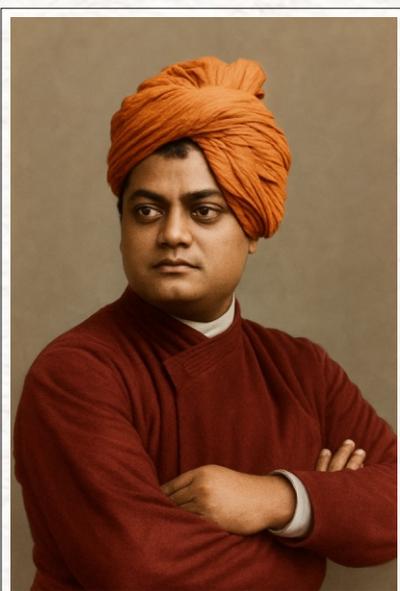
**Rabindranath Tagore** (07 May 1861–07 August 1941)  
(First Asian Nobel Laureate & Bard of Bengal)

A poet, philosopher, artist, and educationist, Tagore reshaped Indian culture and became a global icon of literature and thought.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Nobel Prize in Literature (1913):** First Asian to win for Gitanjali, a collection of spiritual poems.
- **National Anthems:** Wrote Jana Gana Mana (India) and Amar Shonar Bangla (Bangladesh). His style influenced Sri Lanka's anthem.
- **Literary Legacy:** Authored poems, plays, novels, and songs, including Gora, Kabuliwala, and The Home and the World.
- **Music & Art:** Created Rabindra Sangeet, a unique musical genre; his paintings gained international acclaim.
- **Education:** Founded Visva-Bharati University (1921), promoting global cultural exchange and holistic learning.
- **Political Stance:** Knighted in 1915, renounced it in 1919 protesting Jallianwala Bagh massacre, championed spiritual nationalism.

**Legacy:** A global humanist, Tagore inspired leaders worldwide, bridging East and West. Revered as "Gurudev," his impact on literature and culture remains profound.



**Swami Vivekananda** (12 January 1863–04 July 1902)  
(Hindu Saint, Philosopher & Spiritual Leader)

A key figure in reviving Hinduism and spreading Indian philosophy worldwide, Vivekananda inspired millions with his message of universal brotherhood and self-empowerment.

**Key Achievements:**

- **World Parliament of Religions, Chicago (1893):** Delivered the iconic opening speech starting with "Sisters and Brothers of America..." that introduced Vedanta and Hindu spirituality to the West.
- **Disciple of Sri Ramakrishna:** Adopted monastic vows and carried forward the message of religious unity and service to humanity.
- **Founded Ramakrishna Mission (1897):** An organization blending spiritual growth with social service—education, healthcare, disaster relief, and rural development.
- **Philosophy:** Promoted Advaita Vedanta (non-dualism) and Karma Yoga (selfless action). Famous quote: "Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached."
- **Vision:** Advocated youth empowerment, education, and national regeneration free from superstition and caste barriers.

**Legacy:** National Youth Day in India is celebrated on his birthday, January 12. Influenced freedom fighters and leaders like Gandhi, Nehru, and Bose. Left a lasting spiritual and cultural impact globally.

**Notable Works:** Raja Yoga, Jnana Yoga, Karma Yoga, Lectures from Colombo to Almora, Complete Works of Swami Vivekananda.

**Dadasaheb Phalke** (30 April 1870 – 16 February 1944)  
(Father of Indian Cinema & Pioneer of Indigenous Filmmaking)

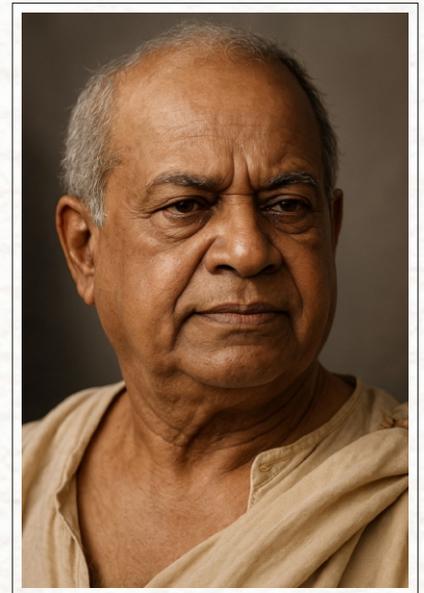
A visionary filmmaker and cultural icon, Phalke laid the foundation of Indian cinema, blending myth, innovation, and national identity.

**Key Achievements:**

- **India's First Feature Film (1913):** Directed Raja Harishchandra, the first full-length Indian film, marking the birth of Indian cinema.
- **Multifaceted Creator:** Filmmaker, producer, writer, editor, set and costume designer—mastered every aspect of production.
- **Cultural Storytelling:** Focused on Indian mythology and epics (e.g., Lanka Dahan, Shri Krishna Janma), preserving heritage through film.
- **Industry Builder:** Founded Phalke Films Company; trained actors, technicians, and helped create a self-sustaining film ecosystem.
- **Women in Cinema:** Cast Durgabai Kamat and Kamalabai Gokhale in Mohini Bhasmasur (1913), breaking gender barriers on screen.
- **Prolific Filmmaking:** Made 95 feature films and 27 short films between 1913–1937, setting cinematic benchmarks.

**Recognition & Legacy:**

- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award was instituted in 1969 by the Government of India.
- It is the highest honor in Indian cinema, awarded annually for lifetime contributions to the industry.
- Regarded as the Father of Indian Cinema, Phalke's vision continues to inspire generations of filmmakers.



**George Wittet** (1878 – 10 September 1926)  
(Architect | Pioneer of Indo-Saracenic Architecture)

George Wittet was a Scottish architect whose work defined the architectural landscape of colonial-era India. A key figure in the Indo-Saracenic movement, he skillfully blended Indian, Islamic, and European styles, creating iconic buildings, particularly in Mumbai.

**Key Achievements:**

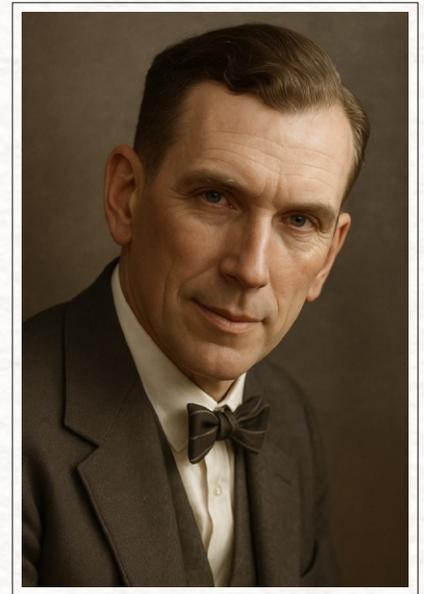
- **Gateway of India (Mumbai, 1924):** A monumental structure commemorating King George V's visit, symbolizing the fusion of Hindu, Islamic, and European architectural styles.
- **Prince of Wales Museum (Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya):** A landmark that showcases Wittet's mastery in combining cultural and architectural traditions.
- **Notable Works:** Including the Institute of Science, KEM Hospital, Ballard Estate, Cowasji Jehangir Hall (National Gallery of Modern Art), and several Tata Group buildings.
- **Tata & Co. Projects:** Designed over 40 significant buildings for the Tata Group, including the Bombay House, the company's corporate headquarters.

**Professional Achievements:**

- **First President of the Indian Institute of Architects (IIA):** Elected in 1917, Wittet played a pivotal role in shaping professional architectural standards in India.
- **Architectural Style:** A leading proponent of the Indo-Saracenic style, his designs blended local traditions with colonial influences, defining early 20th-century Indian architecture.

**Legacy:** Wittet's architectural contributions remain integral to Mumbai's skyline, blending tradition with modernity.

- His work continues to be celebrated for its lasting impact on India's colonial-era architecture.



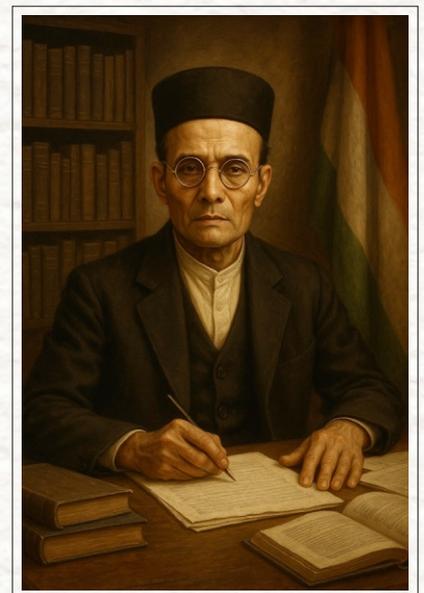
**Vinayak Damodar Savarkar** (28 May 1883 – 26 February 1966)  
(Freedom Fighter | Politician | Ideologue of Hindutva)

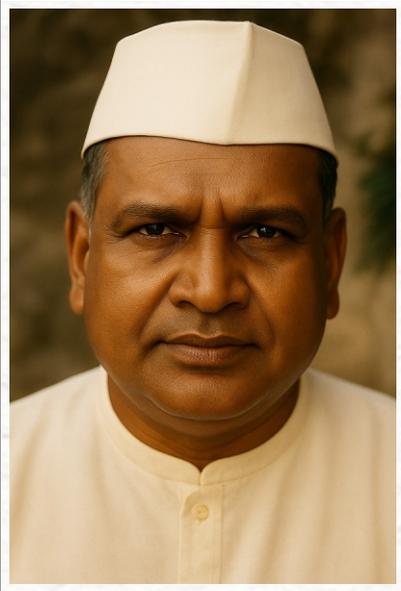
Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, popularly known as Veer Savarkar, was a revolutionary freedom fighter, lawyer, writer, and the father of Hindutva ideology. His fierce opposition to British colonialism and his contributions to shaping India's cultural nationalism have left a lasting impact.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Revolutionary Activities:** Founded the Abhinav Bharat Society, a secret organization that advocated for armed resistance against British rule.
- **The First War of Indian Independence:** Authored a groundbreaking book that redefined the 1857 revolt as India's first war of independence.
- **Imprisonment:** Sentenced to life imprisonment and deported to the infamous Cellular Jail in Andaman, where he was held for over a decade.
- **Hindutva Ideology:** Advocated for a cultural nationalism rooted in Hindu identity, with his 1923 pamphlet "Hindutva: Who is a Hindu?" being a key document in defining Hindu nationalism.
- **Political Influence:** Played a prominent role in the Hindu Mahasabha and became its president in 1937, promoting his vision of Hindu unity and nationalism.

**Legacy:** Savarkar's life and ideas continue to influence debates on Indian nationalism, religion, and identity. He is commemorated with landmarks like Veer Savarkar Airport in Port Blair, and his ideas remain a cornerstone for many political and ideological movements in contemporary India.





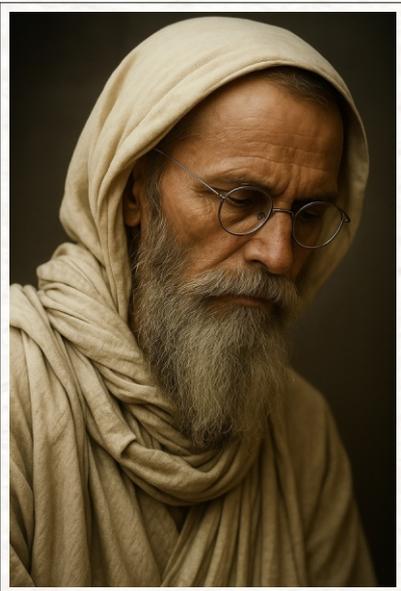
**Jamnalal Bajaj** (4 November 1889 – 11 February 1942)  
(Industrialist | Freedom Fighter | Philanthropist)

Jamnalal Bajaj was a pioneering Indian industrialist, a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi, and a philanthropist who championed ethical business practices and social reform, particularly in rural development. He played a key role in India's independence struggle while building a business empire grounded in Gandhian values.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Founder of Bajaj Group:** Established one of India's leading industrial conglomerates, emphasizing ethical business practices and social responsibility.
- **Freedom Movement:** Actively participated in major campaigns like the Non-Cooperation Movement and Salt Satyagraha, enduring multiple imprisonments for his activism.
- **Philanthropy:** Founded the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation, supporting education, rural development, and the upliftment of marginalized communities.
- **Swadeshi Advocate:** Promoted indigenous products and worked to eradicate untouchability, aligning with Gandhian ideals.

**Legacy:** Jamnalal Bajaj's commitment to ethical business and social causes continues to inspire generations. The Jamnalal Bajaj Award, established in 1978, honors outstanding contributions to social work and rural development.



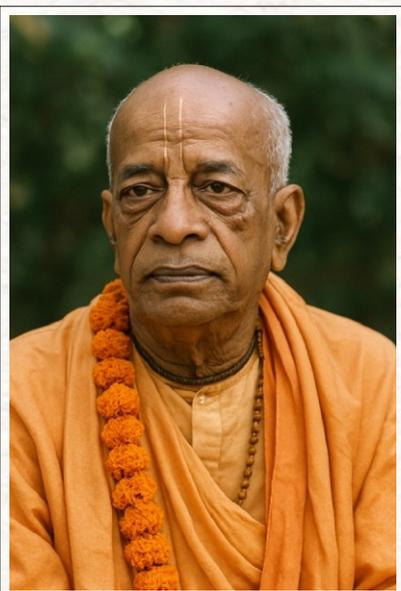
**Acharya Vinoba Bhave** (11 September 1895 – 15 November 1982)  
(Founder of the Bhoodan Movement | Spiritual Leader | Social Reformer)

Acharya Vinoba Bhave was a renowned freedom fighter, social reformer, and spiritual leader, best known for initiating the Bhoodan Movement, which aimed to address land inequality through non-violent means.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Bhoodan Movement (1951):** Launched in Pochampally, Telangana, urging wealthy landowners to voluntarily donate land to the landless. Collected over 4 million acres of land, benefitting thousands of landless farmers and Dalits.
- **Freedom Movement:** A key figure in Gandhian non-violent movements, was imprisoned multiple times for civil disobedience.
- **Sarvodaya Philosophy:** Advocated for the welfare of all, promoting love, justice, and collective well-being.

**Awards:** Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership (1958), Bharat Ratna (1983, posthumously).  
**Legacy:** Revered as Gandhi's spiritual heir and "National Teacher of India," Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan and Sarvodaya movements left a lasting impact on India's rural development and social justice.



**A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada** (1 September 1896 – 14 November 1977)  
(Founder of ISKCON | Spiritual Leader | Scholar)

A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada was a spiritual teacher and the founder of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), widely known as the Hare Krishna movement. His teachings and devotion to spreading Krishna consciousness have had a profound global impact.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Founding ISKCON:** Established the International Society for Krishna Consciousness in 1966 in New York, which quickly expanded worldwide.
- **Spreading Krishna Consciousness:** Emphasized the chanting of the Hare Krishna mantra, bhakti yoga, and the study of sacred texts like the Bhagavad Gita and Srimad Bhagavatam.
- **Literary Contributions:** Translated and wrote commentaries on major Vedic scriptures, making them accessible to millions globally.

**Journey to the West:** In 1965, at 69, he journeyed to the U.S. with little money and a strong mission to spread Krishna consciousness.

**Legacy:** By the time of his passing, ISKCON had grown into a worldwide movement, with temples, schools, and publishing houses across the globe. His teachings continue to inspire millions, with temples like ISKCON Mumbai (Juhu) becoming major cultural and spiritual hubs.

**J.R.D. Tata (Jehangir Ratanji Dadabhoy Tata)** (29 July 1904 – 29 November 1993)  
(Father of Indian Civil Aviation | Industrialist | Philanthropist)

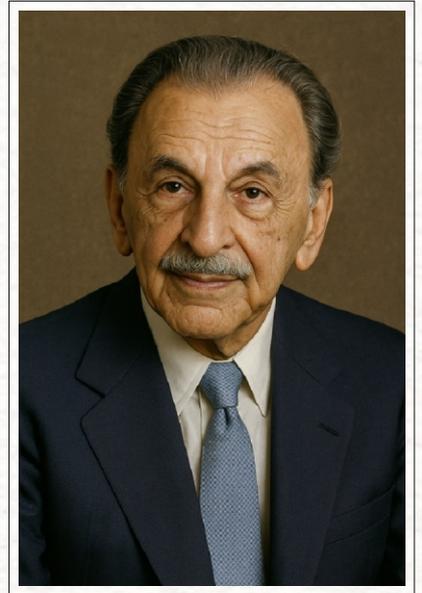
J.R.D. Tata was a visionary industrialist and philanthropist, credited with pioneering Indian aviation and playing a key role in shaping the country's modern industrial framework. Renowned for his integrity and commitment to social responsibility, he revolutionized both the aviation industry and the Tata Group.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Pioneer in Aviation:** Became India's first licensed pilot in 1929; founded Tata Airlines (later Air India) in 1932; and piloted India's first airmail flight in the same year.
- **Leadership at Tata Group:** As Chairman (1938–1991), he expanded the Tata Group from 14 to over 90 companies across diverse sectors, including steel, hospitality, IT, and automobiles.
- **Social Welfare Initiatives:** Introduced progressive labor policies such as the 8-hour workday and paid leave, and actively supported education, healthcare, and rural development through Tata Trusts.

**Awards:** Bharat Ratna (1992), Padma Vibhushan (1957), Tony Jannus Award (1979), UNESCO International Award for Peace (1992).

**Legacy:** J.R.D. Tata is remembered for his contributions to India's industrialization, ethical business practices, and his transformative impact on Indian aviation. He remains an enduring symbol of leadership, integrity, and social responsibility.



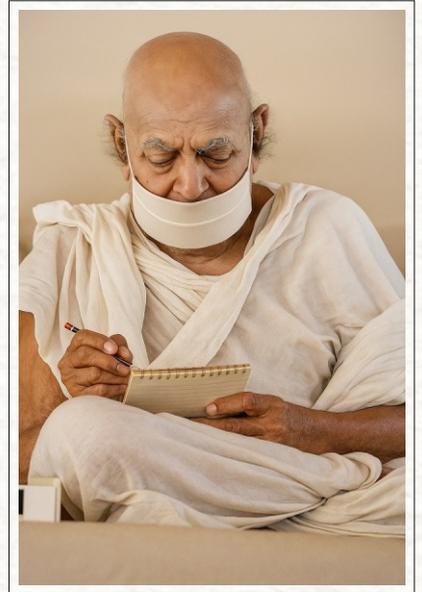
**Acharya Tulsi** (20 October 1914 – 23 May 1997)  
(Jain Leader, Reformer & Philosopher)

Acharya Tulsi was a prominent Jain Saint and the 9th Acharya of the Terapanth sect, leading for over 60 years with a focus on reform and spiritual discipline. Initiated at age 11, he became Acharya at 22, championing ethical living beyond religious lines.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Anuvrat Movement (1949):** A socio-spiritual campaign promoting universal values like non-violence and truthfulness through small vows applicable to all.
- **Preksha Meditation:** Developed a meditation system blending Jain philosophy and modern psychology for self-purification.
- **Jain Unity:** Advocated ethical, non-ritualistic living and greater harmony among Jain sects.
- **Scholarship:** Authored and inspired numerous works; promoted translation of Jain texts.

**Legacy:** Founder of Jain Vishva Bharati Institute, his teachings continue to inspire spiritual leaders and lay followers worldwide.



**Ramanand Sagar** (29 December 1917 – 12 December 2005)  
(Creator of the Iconic Indian Television Series Ramayan)

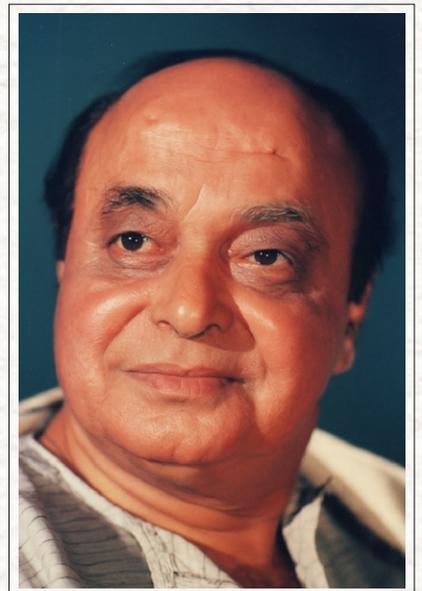
Ramanand Sagar, born Chandramauli Chopra, was a celebrated Indian filmmaker, writer, and director, best known for the landmark TV series Ramayan (1987–88), which became one of the most-watched shows in Indian history and a cultural phenomenon.

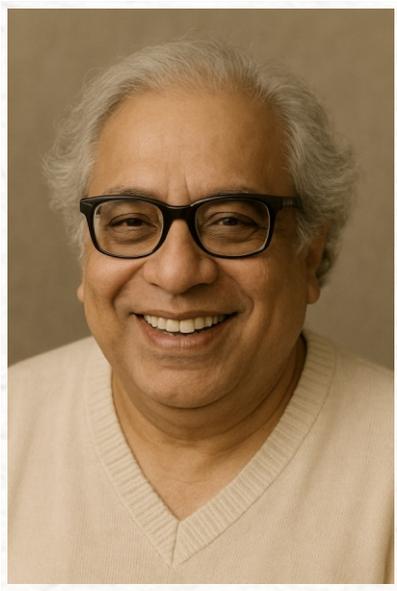
**Key Achievements:**

- **Television:** Produced mythological classics including Ramayan, Shri Krishna (1993–97), Luv Kush, and Jai Ganga Maiya under Sagar Arts, reviving mass interest in Indian epics.
- **Film:** Directed and wrote popular Bollywood films from the 1950s to 1970s, such as Arzoo (1965), Ankhen (1968), and Geet (1970).

**Awards:** Padma Shri (2000), Multiple Filmfare Awards for writing and direction

**Legacy:** Ramanand Sagar's work brought mythological storytelling into the mainstream, inspiring generations. His family continues his legacy in film and television production.





**Purushottam Laxman Deshpande** (8 November 1919–12 June 2000)  
(Beloved Marathi Writer, Humorist & Cultural Icon)

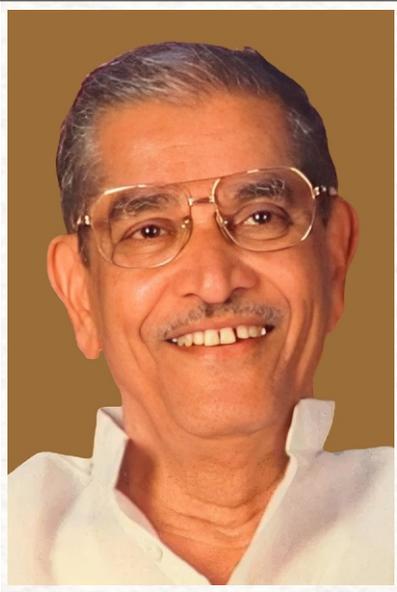
Pu La Deshpande was a versatile Marathi writer, humorist, actor, musician, and filmmaker, renowned for his wit, social insight, and storytelling. Born in Mumbai, he became a household name through his humorous essays, travelogues, and plays.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Literature:** Famous works include *Vyakti Ani Valli*, *Batatyachi Chaal*, and *Apoorvai*, beloved for their humor and empathy.
- **Theatre & Cinema:** Contributed as a playwright, actor, and composer in Marathi theatre and films with plays like *Tujhe Ahe Tujpashi* and *Asa Mi Asami*.
- **Music & Oratory:** A trained classical musician and captivating orator, known for his engaging storytelling.

**Awards:** Padma Shri (1966), Padma Bhushan (1990), Sahitya Akademi Award (1965), Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1967), Fellowship (1979), Kalidas Samman (1987), Maharashtra Bhushan (1996).

**Legacy:** Pu La Deshpande remains an enduring cultural icon whose work continues to entertain, inspire, and influence Marathi literature and performing arts.



**Pandurang Shastri Athavale** (19 October 1920–25 October 2003)  
(Spiritual Philosopher | Social Thinker | Founder of the Swadhyaya Movement)

Pandurang Shastri Athavale was a revered philosopher and spiritual reformer who founded the Swadhyaya Movement, a global initiative rooted in self-knowledge (Swadhyaya), inner divinity, and devotion-based social transformation. His work empowered individuals to discover God within and to uplift society through collective self-effort without political or religious conversion.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Swadhyaya Movement Founder:** Launched a devotional movement in the 1950s that reached over 1,00,000 villages globally.
- **Philosophical Vision:** Emphasized Bhakti (devotion), Svadharma (self-duty), and Yogic farming- spiritualizing daily work.
- **Community Transformation:** Encouraged concepts like Yukta Farming, Divine Brotherhood, and Selfless Seva.
- **Scriptural Foundation:** Based teachings on the Bhagavad Gita, Upanishads, and Indian philosophical traditions.
- **Youth Engagement:** Mobilized youth and rural populations for social change through inner awakening.
- **Non-political Approach:** Rejected political activism, focusing instead on individual transformation as a path to societal renewal.
- **Global Reach:** The movement spread across India, UK, USA, Canada, Africa, Middle East, and Far East.

**Recognition & Legacy:** Templeton Prize (1997), Ramon Magsaysay Award (1996), Padma Vibhushan (1999).

**Legacy:** Pandurang Shastri Athavale's life was devoted to spiritual self-discovery, universal brotherhood, and constructive social action. His non-sectarian, scripturally grounded message continues to transform lives and communities across the world.



**R.K. Laxman** (24 October 1921–26 January 2015)  
(Creator of "The Common Man")

Rasipuram Krishnaswami Laxman, known as R.K. Laxman, was one of India's most celebrated cartoonists, famous for his creation "The Common Man," who humorously depicted the everyday struggles and ironies of Indian life.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Cartooning:** Longtime creator of the You Said It cartoon strip in The Times of India, known for sharp political and social satire delivered with wit and empathy.
- **Iconic Character:** "The Common Man" became a beloved symbol representing the average Indian citizen's perspective.

**Awards:** Padma Vibhushan (2005), Padma Bhushan (1973), Ramon Magsaysay Award (1984).

**Legacy:** Younger brother of renowned author R.K. Narayan, Laxman's cartoons continue to resonate, with his museum in Pune preserving his original works. His timeless humor shaped India's self-view with honesty and heart.

**Lata Mangeshkar** (28 September 1929 – 6 February 2022)  
(*The Nightingale of India*)

Lata Mangeshkar was an iconic Indian playback singer whose voice defined generations of Indian cinema. With a career spanning over seven decades, she sang more than 30,000 songs in over 36 languages, predominantly in Hindi and Marathi.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Playback Singing:** Rose to fame with “Aayega Aanewala” from Mahal (1949). Collaborated with legendary composers from Naushad to A.R. Rahman.
- **Versatility:** Delivered timeless classics like “Lag Jaa Gale,” “Pyar Kiya to Darna Kya,” “Ae Mere Watan Ke Logon,” and “Tujhe Dekha To.”
- **Cultural Icon:** Her voice became synonymous with the emotional expression of Indian cinema and inspired countless artists globally.

**Awards:** Bharat Ratna (2001), Padma Vibhushan (1999), Padma Bhushan (1969), Dadasaheb Phalke Award (1989), Maharashtra Bhushan (1997), etc.

**Legacy:** Lata Mangeshkar remains the unparalleled voice of Indian music, remembered for her devotion, humility, and timeless contribution to the nation’s cultural heritage.



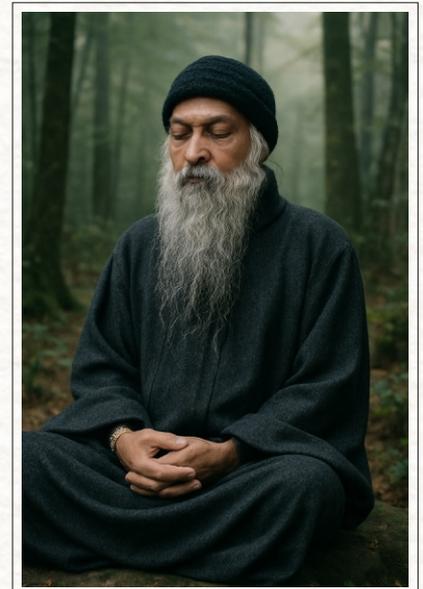
**Acharya Osho** (11 December 1931 – 19 January 1990)  
(*Spiritual Mystic | Philosopher | Founder of the Neo-Sannyas Movement*)

Acharya Osho, also known as Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, was a revolutionary spiritual teacher who combined mysticism with modernity. His teachings on meditation, love, and individual freedom challenged conventional views and reshaped the spiritual landscape of the 20th century.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Founder of the Rajneesh Movement:** Established a global spiritual movement promoting self-exploration, freedom from societal constraints, and the integration of meditation into daily life.
- **Dynamic Meditation (1970s):** Developed a cathartic form of meditation to release emotional blockages and achieve spiritual awakening in the modern world.
- **Zorba the Buddha:** Proposed the concept of a balanced life combining material enjoyment with spiritual enlightenment.
- **Literary Contributions:** Authored over 600 books on philosophy, meditation, and personal growth, translated into dozens of languages worldwide.
- **Osho International Meditation Resort:** Established a global hub for meditation and self-discovery in Pune, India.

**Legacy:** Osho’s teachings continue to inspire millions worldwide, emphasizing freedom, love, and self-exploration. His ideas on spirituality, personal transformation, and living authentically remain influential across cultures.



**Ratan Naval Tata** (28 December 1937 – 9 October 2024)  
(*Industrialist | Visionary | Philanthropist*)

Ratan Tata was one of India's most influential business leaders, best known for his leadership of the Tata Group, where he drove the conglomerate’s modernization and global expansion with integrity and vision.

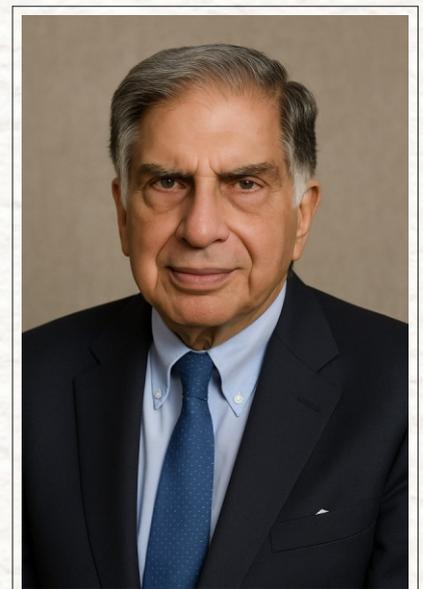
**Key Achievements:**

- **Tata Group Leadership:** Joined in 1962, became Chairman of Tata Sons (1991–2012) and Interim Chairman (2016–2017).
- **Global Acquisitions:** Led landmark acquisitions such as Tata Tea’s purchase of Tetley (2000), Tata Steel’s acquisition of Corus (2007), and Tata Motors’ acquisition of Jaguar Land Rover (2008).
- **Innovation:** Launched the Tata Nano (2008), the world’s most affordable car, and elevated Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to a global IT giant.

**Philanthropy:** Through Tata Trusts, focused on healthcare, education, rural development, and crisis relief.

**Awards:** Padma Bhushan (2000), Padma Vibhushan (2008), Knight Grand Cross of the British Empire (GCIE) (2023), and honorary doctorates from Cornell, Harvard, and Cambridge.

**Legacy:** Ratan Tata remains a role model for ethical leadership, innovation, and social responsibility, inspiring future generations of leaders and entrepreneurs worldwide.





**Ravindra Jain** (28 February 1944 – 9 October 2015)  
(*Legendary Indian Music Composer, Lyricist, and Playback Singer*)

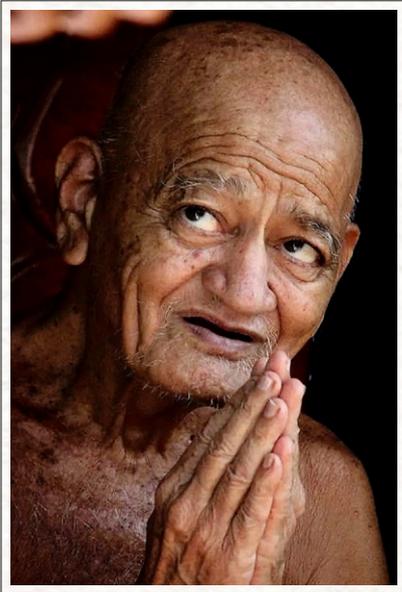
Ravindra Jain was a legendary Indian music composer, lyricist, and playback singer, celebrated for his contributions to Indian cinema and devotional music. Born blind, his remarkable talent and deep understanding of classical music made him a respected figure in the industry.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Film Music:** Rose to prominence with compositions in films like *Chor Machaye Shor* (1974), *Geet Gaata Chal* (1975), *Ram Teri Ganga Maili* (1985), and *Henna* (1991).
- **Television Icon:** Composed the music for the epic series *Ramayan* (1987) and *Shri Krishna*, creating an enduring legacy in devotional music.
- **Devotional Songs:** Known for his timeless bhajans and devotional compositions that resonate with spiritual depth.
- **Notable Collaborations:** Worked with renowned playback singers like Kishore Kumar, Lata Mangeshkar, Yesudas, and Hemlata.

**Awards:** Padma Shri (2015), Multiple Filmfare Awards, and other honors.

**Legacy:** Ravindra Jain remains a symbol of how talent can transcend limitations. His music continues to inspire, touching hearts across generations.



**Acharya Vidyasagar Maharaj** (10 October 1946 – 18 February 2024)  
(*Renowned Digambara Jain Saint | Scholar | Spiritual Leader*)

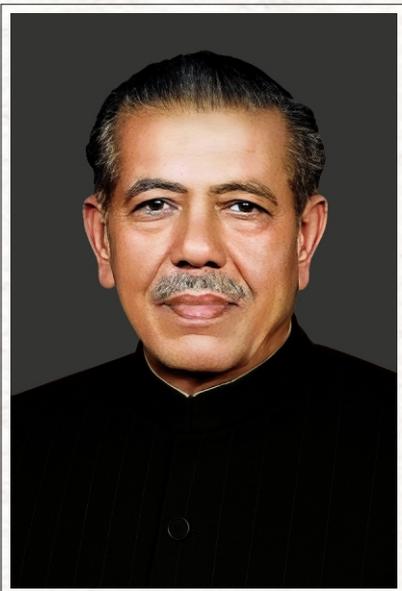
Acharya Shri Vidyasagar Ji Maharaj was a revered Digambara Jain Saint, scholar, and spiritual leader, celebrated for his profound knowledge, ascetic lifestyle, and teachings that have inspired millions.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Monastic Leadership:** Became a Saint in 1968 under Acharya Shri Gyansagar Ji Maharaj; led the spiritual and ethical guidance of numerous disciples.
- **Scholarship:** A renowned scholar of Jain Agamas, Sanskrit, Prakrit, and philosophy, contributing extensively to Jain literature.
- **Literary Contributions:** Authored significant works like *Mookmati* (a philosophical poem) and *Bahubalishatak* (a poem on the life of Bahubali).
- **Lifestyle:** Known for his strict adherence to Jain principles including celibacy, non-violence, and renunciation of material possessions.

**Philanthropy:** Promoted values of education, service, and self-discipline, inspiring the establishment of temples, educational institutions, and charitable trusts.

**Legacy:** Acharya Shri Vidyasagar Ji Maharaj remains a beacon of humility, scholarship, and simplicity, significantly reviving interest in Jain traditions and ethics, especially among the youth.



**Purshottamdas H. Purohit** (02 August 1920 – 23 July 1990)  
(*Karmayogi | Unsung Freedom Fighter | Visionary Entrepreneur | Philanthropist*)

Purshottamdas H. Purohit was a selfless freedom fighter, pioneering entrepreneur, and compassionate humanitarian who dedicated his life to service, social responsibility, and nation-building.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Freedom Struggle:** Played a silent but crucial role supporting the Azad Hind Movement by carrying sensitive messages across Europe during WWII, inspired by leaders like Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Sardar Patel, and Lal Bahadur Shastri.
- **Entrepreneurship:** Founded the Adarsh Group of Hotels in Mumbai, fostering inclusive employment and post-independence economic growth.
- **Public Service:** Served as Justice of Peace and Special Executive Magistrate for the Government of Maharashtra, providing leadership during social crises like floods and droughts.
- **Philanthropy:** Established the P.H. Purohit (Rawatsingh) Charitable Trust and the Sarojdevi Purshottamdas Purohit Ayushman Arogya Mandir hospital, improving healthcare and welfare in his native village.

**Legacy & Recognition:** Honored by naming of Purshottamdas H. Purohit Marg in Mumbai (1991) and a commemorative postage stamp issued by the Government of India in 2025. Purshottamdas H. Purohit exemplified the spirit of a true karmayogi — tirelessly serving the nation through quiet dedication, visionary entrepreneurship, and humanitarian efforts. His life remains an inspiring example of resilience, humility, and selfless patriotism.

**Shri Nanasahab Dharmadhikari** (01 March 1922 – 08 July 2008)  
(Spiritual Leader | Social Reformer | Rationalist)

Shri Nanasahab Dharmadhikari was a visionary spiritual leader and reformer who devoted his life to reviving rational, practical spirituality rooted in Indian philosophy. His teachings aimed to eliminate superstition, promote self-discipline, and foster ethical, service-oriented living.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Spiritual Foundation:** Deeply influenced by Saint Samarth Ramdas and his work Shrimat Dasbodh
- **Movement Founded:** 8 October 1943 (Vijayadashami), beginning with a discourse to five listeners in Revdanda
- **Core Teachings:** Based on Dasbodh, Manache Shlok, and Atmaram; focused on rational spirituality and ethical conduct
- **Weekly Discourses (Nirupan):** Central to his outreach and community building
- **Social Reform:** Advocated elimination of blind faith and rituals; encouraged seva (selfless service), discipline, and rational thought
- **Grassroots Reach:** Personally walked 70+ km to remote villages to spread his message
- **Global Presence:** Followers in UAE, UK, Australia, Singapore, Iran, Nigeria, and beyond
- **Organization:** Founded Shree Samarth Prasadik Aadhyaत्मिक Seva Samiti

**Recognition & Legacy:**

- Awarded the Maharashtra Bhushan (2008) — the state's highest civilian honor
- Movement carried forward by his son and successor Dr. Shri Appasaheb Dharmadhikari
- Inspired over 10 million followers worldwide

**Legacy:** Shri Nanasahab Dharmadhikari's life was dedicated to bridging ancient wisdom with modern relevance. His rational approach to spirituality and unwavering commitment to public service remain a guiding light for millions.



**Shantilal Lalji Furia** (4th December 1943 – 9th July 2022)  
Educational Publisher | Entrepreneur | Visionary

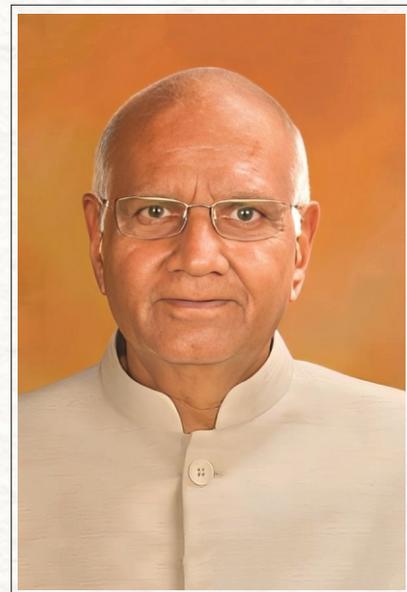
Shantilal Lalji Furia was a pioneering figure in Indian education, whose lifelong commitment to improving the learning experience helped shape the educational publishing landscape of the nation. As the co-founder of Jeevandeep Edumedia Pvt. Ltd., he played a vital role in developing curriculum-aligned, accessible, and high-quality educational content that reached millions of students across India.

**Key Achievements:**

- **Co-Founder, Jeevandeep Edumedia Pvt. Ltd.** - alongside his brothers Hasmukh and Harish Furia.
- Developed widely used textbooks, workbooks, and learning aids, adopted by thousands of schools nationwide.
- Launched the Periwinkle brand in 2008, introducing engaging, animated, and interactive content for early learners.
- Registered the Periwinkle Books trademark in 2007, building a trusted and recognizable name in Indian education.
- Championed the early adoption of digital tools to support learning in both classrooms and at home.

**Leadership & Community Involvement:** • President, Bombay Booksellers' Association • Mantri, Rayan Mahajan Pramukh, Rayan Mahajan • Advisory Board Member, Swami Vivekanand Shikshan Sanstha • Trustee, Deravasi Mahajan, Mumbai

**Legacy:** Shantilal Lalji Furia passed away on 9th July 2022, but his vision continues to guide the work of Jeevandeep Edumedia Pvt. Ltd. He is remembered as a visionary leader, who bridged the gap between traditional methods and modern educational innovation. His legacy endures through the countless students, educators, and institutions empowered by his contributions — leaving an indelible mark on Indian education.



## UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES

(A TRIBUTE TO THE GREAT PERSONALITIES OF MUMBAI)

Welcome to this special 15-day exhibition - a heartfelt homage to the legendary individuals whose vision, courage, and determination laid the foundation of the city we proudly call Mumbai. These portraits are more than artistic expressions; they are windows into the lives of pioneers, reformers, dreamers, and doers—men and women who transformed Mumbai from a coastal settlement into a global metropolis. Their legacies live on in every street, skyline, and story this city holds. It is both an honor and a responsibility to present their stories to you. May their lives remind us of what is possible when conviction meets purpose. May their spirit continue to inspire future generations to shape Mumbai's journey with the same passion and resilience.

**Thank you for joining us in remembering those who made Mumbai what it is today.**

**Rajkumar Sharma**

Editor & Publisher,  
Kala Samvad Mumbai (India)

**Nandoo Sarswati**

Artist & Curator

**Harshit R. Sharma**

Creative Concept Designer  
Team Kala Samvad