

# **Life and Teachings of Patriots**



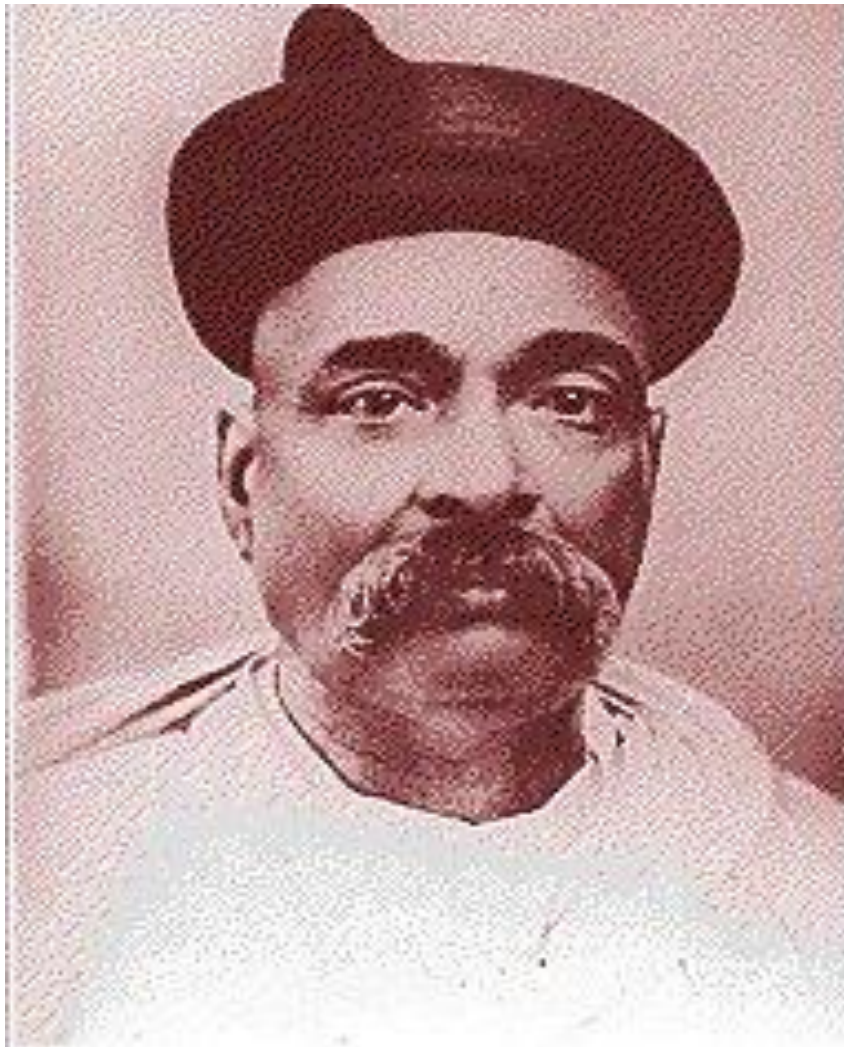
**Compiled from the speeches of**  
***Sadguru Sri Nannagaru***



Our national leaders like Patel, Rajendra Prasad, Shastri etc., thought about the nation only for all the 24 hours. They never had the time to think about themselves. Such people are equivalent to gods. They don't require any other spiritual efforts (like circumambulating the Holy Hill Arunachala etc.,) to attain liberation.

-Sadguru Sri Nannagaru

# Lokamanya Bala Gangadhar Tilak



Tilak is called as ' The Maker of Modern India'.

Chanting the name of Lord krishna, he attained the title of 'Lokamanya' (ie the Most revered one by the world).

Tilak was not completely inclined towards non violence. Rather he used to say: "Sword to Sword."

Gandhiji said : " When I sat beside Tilak, I got the feeling of sitting beside an ocean. I felt as if waves are coming onto me."

**‘God grabbed away our grandson to light the  
fire called cholera’**

Once Tilak's grandson died of cholera at a tender age of 15. Many people in that village died of cholera at that point of time. When people came to console Tilak, he said: " To light the fire of Bhogi (a festival in India), wooden sticks are collected from every house. Similarly to light the fire called cholera, GOD collected people from every house; in that process, *GOD also grabbed away my grandson as our contribution towards the same.*" Tilak spoke thus but did not lament upon the loss of his grandson.

## The Courage of Tilak

Tilak was informed that the British might imprison him at any moment. However, when the British authorities approached Tilak to arrest, they found him in deep sleep. *Such was the courage of Tilak.*

**‘There is no point in asking the Britishers to forgive me’.**

While undergoing imprisonment, Tilak got a letter that his wife expired. The English authorities told Tilak: "We are willing to permit you to go home, provided you are ready to make a request of pardon."

Tilak then said: "Will my wife come back alive even if I go home? *There is no point in asking the Britishers to forgive me.*"

**'I will take up the role and responsibility of  
your Mother'**

Tilak then wrote a letter consoling his children: "Don't be distressed with the death of your Mother and thereby don't neglect your studies. I promise you that after returning back from exile, *I will take up the role and responsibility of your Mother.* I will try my level best to see that you don't miss your Mother."



## ‘You only have the right to work and not upon the results thereof’

In the jail, Tilak wrote a big commentary on Gita. Tilak said: "My commentary on Gita can be compared with Hanuman's crossing the ocean ie., I did not get into the depth of Gita."

Tilak's favorite sloka in the Gita: "*You only have the right to work and not upon the results thereof.* Let not the results of your action be your motive, nor be attached to inaction."

Tilak considered this sloka as the very essence of Gita.

## **The entire Geetha is imbibed in these four :**

Tilak said: As a bed is supported by four legs, even the entire Gita is imbibed in the following *four* points:

- a) You only have the right to work
- b) You don't have the right towards the result of the work.
- c) Don't become the cause for the result of your action, be it good or bad.
- d) As you are not responsible for the result of your action, don't adopt inaction.

**‘GOD allots a particular work to every person to carry on’**

Once Swami Vivekananda invited Tilak to Belur Math. Accordingly Tilak went to Belur Math along with his companions. Tilak said:

"Swamiji, we are involved in politics; however your work is ever lasting. Why shouldn't we exchange our roles? I will adopt Sanyasa and you take up Politics."

Swamiji replied: "*GOD allots a particular work to every person to carry on. Therefore one has to carry on their allotted work.* Hence we need not exchange our roles."

## ‘ A New leader is about to come’

Just before Shirdi Sai Baba left his mortal frame, Tilak visited Baba. Baba said: "*A new leader is about to come.*" Tilak left his body very shortly after this and Gandhiji became the leader.

**‘Swaraj is my birth right and I will certainly have it’**

Tilak's slogan: "Even if the sky falls upon me, I will crush it under my feet and march forward towards freedom. *Swaraj is my birth right and I will certainly have it.*"

# **Sri Rajagopalachari, the** **Madras Fox**



Sarojini Naidu described Rajaji as 'The Madras Fox '.

In one of his speeches,  
Mr. Nehru said: "Rajaji is  
not only older than me but  
is also wiser than me."

**‘I Prayed the Lord to bestow my Communist brothers with good thinking faculty’**

Once Rajaji visited Tirumala before going to the Parliament. The Communists who were atheists tried to tease him by asking: “What was your prayer to Lord Venkateshwara?” Then Rajaji silenced them by saying: *“I prayed that may Lord Venkateshwara bestow my Communist brothers with good thinking faculty.”*



## **Rajaji had the capability to visualize the next 100 years**

The tricky point with Rajaji was that he would clearly perceive as to what existed within our Heart but would never reveal as to what existed within his Heart. *Rajaji had the capability to visualize as to what would happen in the coming 100 years.*

Rajaji said to one of the ex-ministers, which turned out to be true: "You are craving for a separate Andhra state.

But you will not have any political future if a separate state of Andhra emerges."

**‘You will become one of the important personalities of India in future’**

Once Rajaji was showing the rooms within his college to Swami Vivekananda. There was a Photo of Lord Krishna in one of the rooms. Looking at the same, Swamiji posed the question to Rajaji: “Why is Krishna blue in color?”

Rajaji, a great intellect, replied: “Since the sky which is infinite is blue in color, even Lord Krishna is infinite and hence is blue in color.” *Swamiji blessed Rajaji that he would become one of the important personalities of India in future.*

## Rajaji never reacted when criticized

Rajaji is equivalent to fire ie., an embodiment of purity.

Gandhiji was emotional but Rajaji wasn't.

If anyone criticized him, *he would not react*, rather he would say:

"You admit that you have committed a mistake. Then how can I repeat the same?"

**'The sheep may eat the grass but the fence cannot afford to do the same'**

Even after becoming Mahatma, Gandhiji got into a situation where he would have swerved from the path of righteousness. Then Kasturbha, Gandhi's wife, secretly wrote a letter to Rajaji, narrating the same. Then Rajaji replied: "We may commit mistakes, but you being a Mahatma, cannot afford to do the same. The sheep (i.e. we) may eat the grass but the fence (i.e. Gandhiji) cannot afford to do the same. Though you may not put your wrong thoughts into action, you are answerable for each and every of your thought to GOD. The entire population of India (400 million) would own up your mistake for they totally identify themselves with you. 400 million of people implying 800 millions of eyes adore you as their ideal. Don't forget the same. If your thoughts

are not virtuous, how can you be called Mahatma? "

**Rajaji , You are the keeper of my conscience!**

Then Gandhiji replied back:  
" *Rajaji, you are the keeper of my conscience.* I did not commit any mistake (externally), yet my thinking has been in a wrong direction. Wrong thinking is an indication of my weakness. You restored my mind onto the right path through your good advice."

## 'I appreciate your concentration'

Once while delivering a speech, someone from the audience threw a stone at Rajaji and ran away. Rajaji asked the police to catch hold of him but not to punish him. When the culprit was brought, Rajaji praised him saying: "You wanted to hit me with a stone and could do it exactly. *I appreciate your concentration*" Rajaji also presented him with a gift as a token of appreciation.

## **Rajaji never used the ink in office for his personal letters**

There are some surprising incidents regarding Rajaji that are incredible. While holding the highest post in the state as a Chief Minister, he was so particular even about the ink he used, that he never used it for his personal letters. When he had to write a personal letter, he would use the ink at home. He did not use the Government's pen for personal purpose and vice versa.

**‘The Co-passenger found his watch exactly at the place as hinted by Rajaji’.**

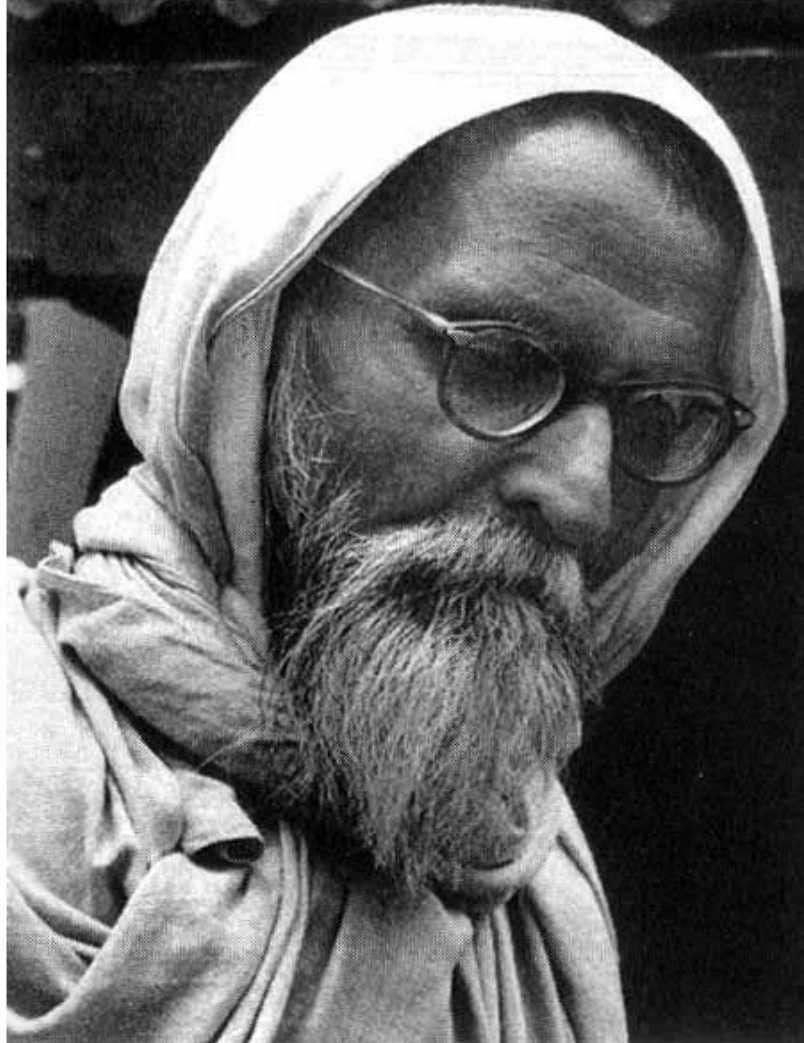
Once Rajaji was travelling by a train. Just when the train started, one of the co-passengers started shouting that he lost his precious watch. It was immediately arranged to stop the train. Apparently the watch was not visible where the train stopped. Rajaji called the co-passenger and told him the exact distance to go back to find his watch. The co-passenger went back and found his watch exactly at the place as hinted by Rajaji.



## **‘The Bha English!’**

Once Kasturbha Gandhi visited Chennai. Kasturbha wanted to buy a sari and was accompanied by Rajaji. Kasturbha was very poor in speaking English. So she asked the shop keeper: “Color go?” (Will the sari lose its color on being washed?) The shopkeeper was clueless as to what Kasturbha asked him about. Then Rajaji explained the shopkeeper and said: "Don't blame that Kasturbha is weak in English. Rather consider the language she spoke as 'Bha English'."

# **Acharya Vinobha Bhave**



**I just tore the letter from Gandhiji but I would never forget His Love for me.**

Once when Vinobha bhave was teaching Bhagavad Gita to the son of Jamanlal Bajaj, he received a letter from Gandhiji which stated:

"I have not seen any other Mahatma greater than you in the entire country." After reading it Vinobha bhave immediately tore the letter and threw it in dustbin. The son of Jamanlal Bajaj asked Vinobha: "Why did you tear the letter that you received from Gandhiji, who is adored by the entire nation?" Then Vinobha replied:

"If I preserve the letter, there is a chance that my ego may increase whenever I read it again and again. However *I just tore the letter from Gandhiji but I would never forget His Love for me.*"

# **Sri Lal Bahadur Shastriji**



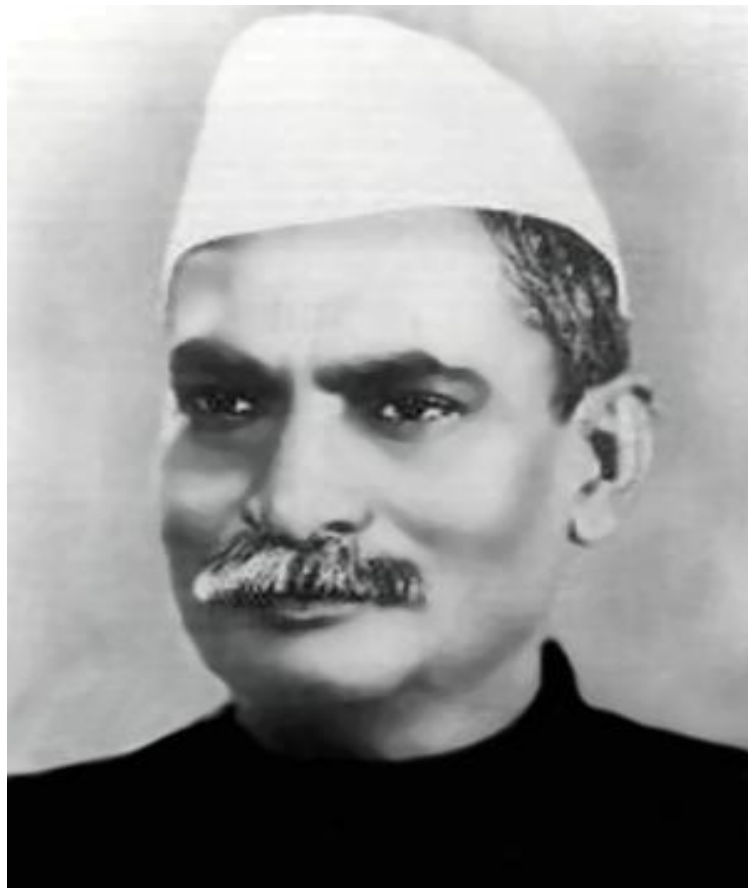
**Oh! Sri Rama take me into your lap ,**

**Dear Father!**

In the last moments of Lal Bahadur Shastriji, the doctors told him: “We regret that we are unable to help you.” But Shastriji disregarded those words and prayed thus: “Oh! Sri Rama, take me into your lap, Dear Father!”

He remembered this prayer during the last moments of his life only due to his selfless service to the nation.

# **Babu Rajendra Prasad, the first** **'President of india'**



## **Honesty is the best policy**

Rajendra Prasad was appointed as the first President of India with a salary of Rs. 10000. He immediately wrote a letter to the Govt. of India: "Rs.5000 is enough for my sustenance." His wife passed away after a while. Then he again wrote to the Govt. of India: "Rs.3000 is sufficient for my survival." Such was his honesty.

## **Unconditional Surrender**

Gandhiji said: "Patel, Nehru etc., do love me but it is only Rajendra Prasad who abides by my will without questioning back. Even if I give him poison to drink, he will consume it without any second thought. Such is his *Unconditional Surrender*."

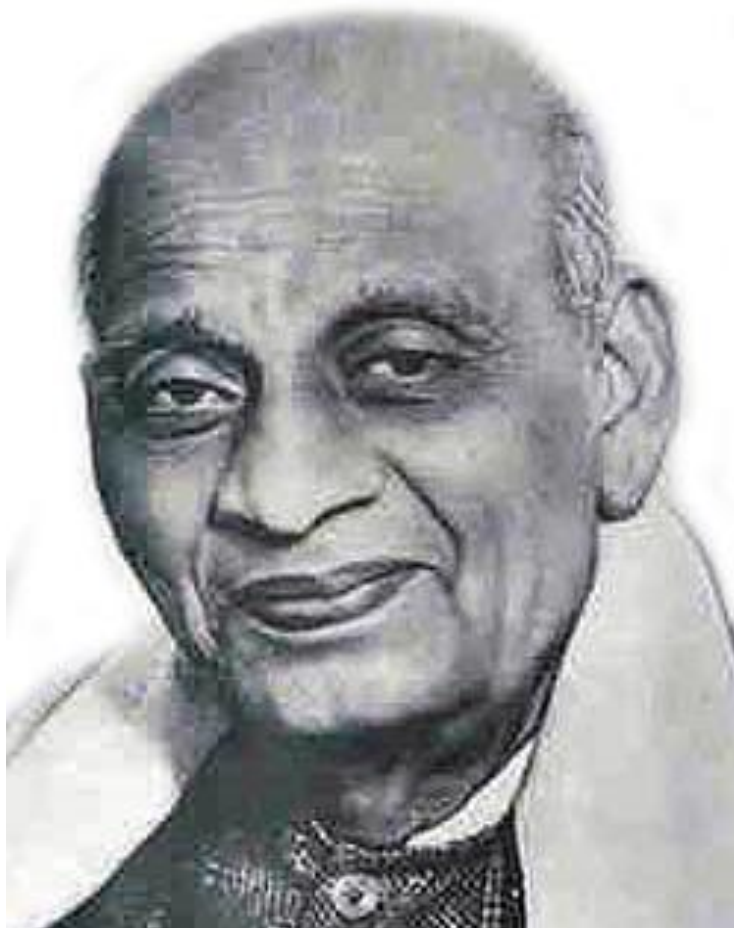
**It is the same Power that exists here which is also driving Gandhiji**

When Rajendra Prasad visited Bhagavan Ramana, he sat in a corner and did not talk to Bhagavan. However at the time of departure from Ramana ashram, Rajendra Prasad asked Bhagavan: "Is there was any message from Bhagavan to be delivered to Bapuji (ie. Gandhiji)?"

Bhagavan then replied: "When a Heart communicates with a Heart in Silence, what is the need for words? *It is the same Power that exists here which is also driving Gandhiji.*"



# **Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, the** **'Iron man of India'**



**I am neither interested in becoming a PM nor a Deputy PM. I don't need any post.**

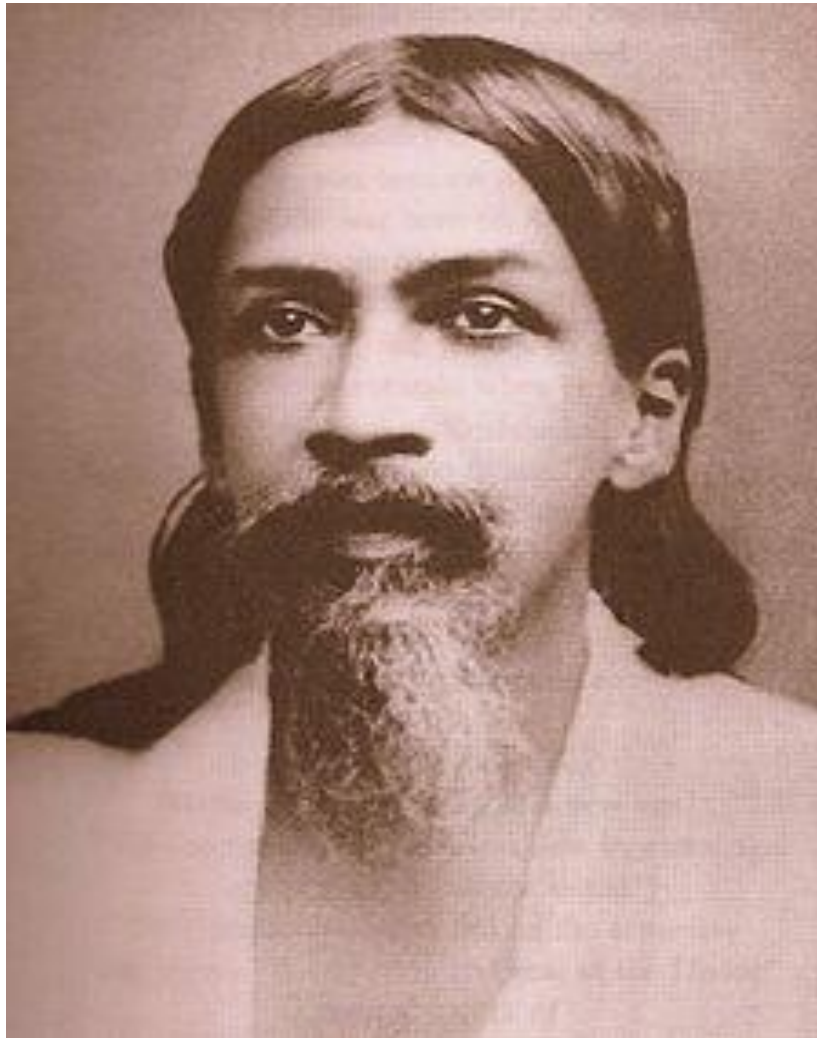
Gandhiji asked: “Patel, you should grant me a boon. You must not contest for the Prime ministerial post as 80% of the people would vote in your favour. Nehru is not willing to enter the cabinet if he is not offered the post of PM. Therefore become Deputy PM.”

Patel said, “I am neither interested in becoming a PM nor a Deputy PM. I don't need any post. ”

Among the political leaders, I love Rajendra Prasad and Sardar Patel very much. Both of them talked less and worked more. Both of them were devotees. One could recognize the devotion of Rajendra Prasad. However Patel's devotion is not revealed. He possessed devotion in the depths of his Heart. The Somnath temple in Gujarat was destroyed during a war in the past. After attaining freedom, it was Patel who collected donations and got the temple renovated. Both of them worked practically during the freedom fight and served the nation accordingly.

- Sadguru Nannagaru

# Sri Aurobindo Ghosh



Sri Aurobindo Ghosh was a great patriot who transformed into a great Spiritual Guru on being exiled during the freedom fight. Incidentally India attained Independence on his birthday ie. 15<sup>th</sup> August.

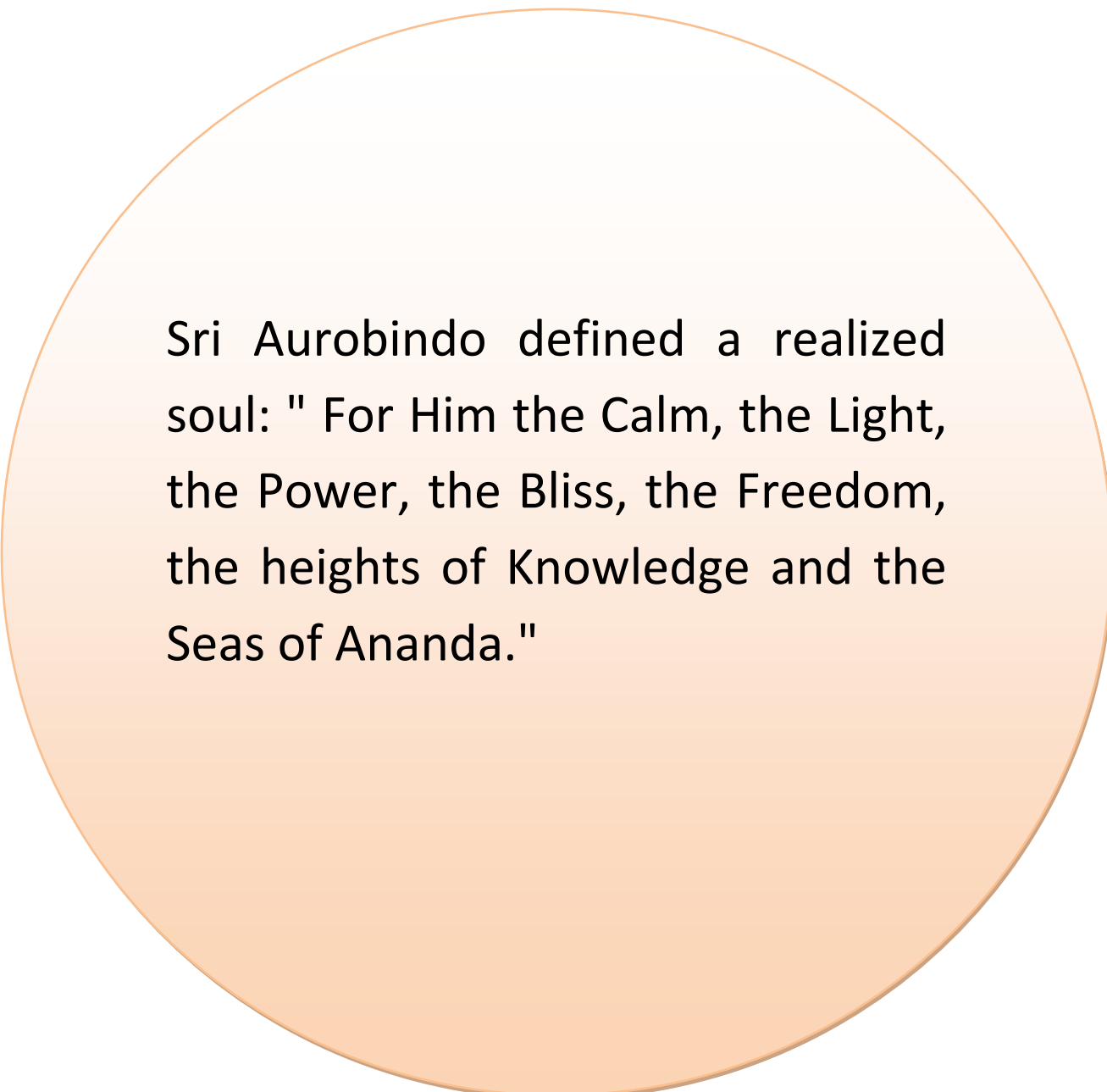
## **Quotes of Sri Aurobindo**

Sri Aurobindo said in Savithri,  
“You may possess any number of good qualities but you cannot survive/progress if you don’t possess ‘Courage’ and ‘Love’.”

Even a person who incurred a thousand mistakes may progress spiritually but not a selfish man.

The importance of a person, the glory of a person can never be measured by his external activities.

It is the darkest nights that prepares the greatest dawns.



Sri Aurobindo defined a realized soul: " For Him the Calm, the Light, the Power, the Bliss, the Freedom, the heights of Knowledge and the Seas of Ananda."

# **‘Netaji’ Subhash Chandra Bose**





## **Netaji, the secret devotee**

Only two people can be called as leaders in our freedom fight. They are Mahatma Gandhi and Subhash Chandra Bose. Nehru, Patel etc., were only followers of Gandhiji. But Subhash Chandra Bose was a leader. Though Gandhiji and Subhash Chandra Bose differed in their views, they fearlessly followed in whatever they believed in. Gandhiji was a devotee. Everyone was aware of it. However Netaji (Subhash Chandra Bose) possessed secret devotion. He carried a small book of Gita with him and read the same whenever he was alone. He never revealed his devotion. Once Netaji was asked to inaugurate a book of Swami Vivekananda. Speaking on this occasion Netaji said, "When I am not even eligible to sit at his feet, what can I speak about Swamiji?"

**If I cry in my last moments, I will be insulting them who trusted me and sacrificed their lives**

The aero-plane in which Netaji was travelling crashed and Netaji's body was half burnt which brought him very near to death. Even in such a situation Netaji maintained his composure and no tears came out from his eyes. Someone asked him: "Don't you feel any pain? How are you able to maintain your composure? "

Netaji replied: "Many lakhs of people trusted me and sacrificed their lives for the sake of nation. If I cry out of pain in this moment, I will be insulting all their sacrifices."

He is our Beloved Netaji....



Your Heart is widened through Patriotism.  
Patriotism leads you to Universalism.

- Sadguru Nannagaru