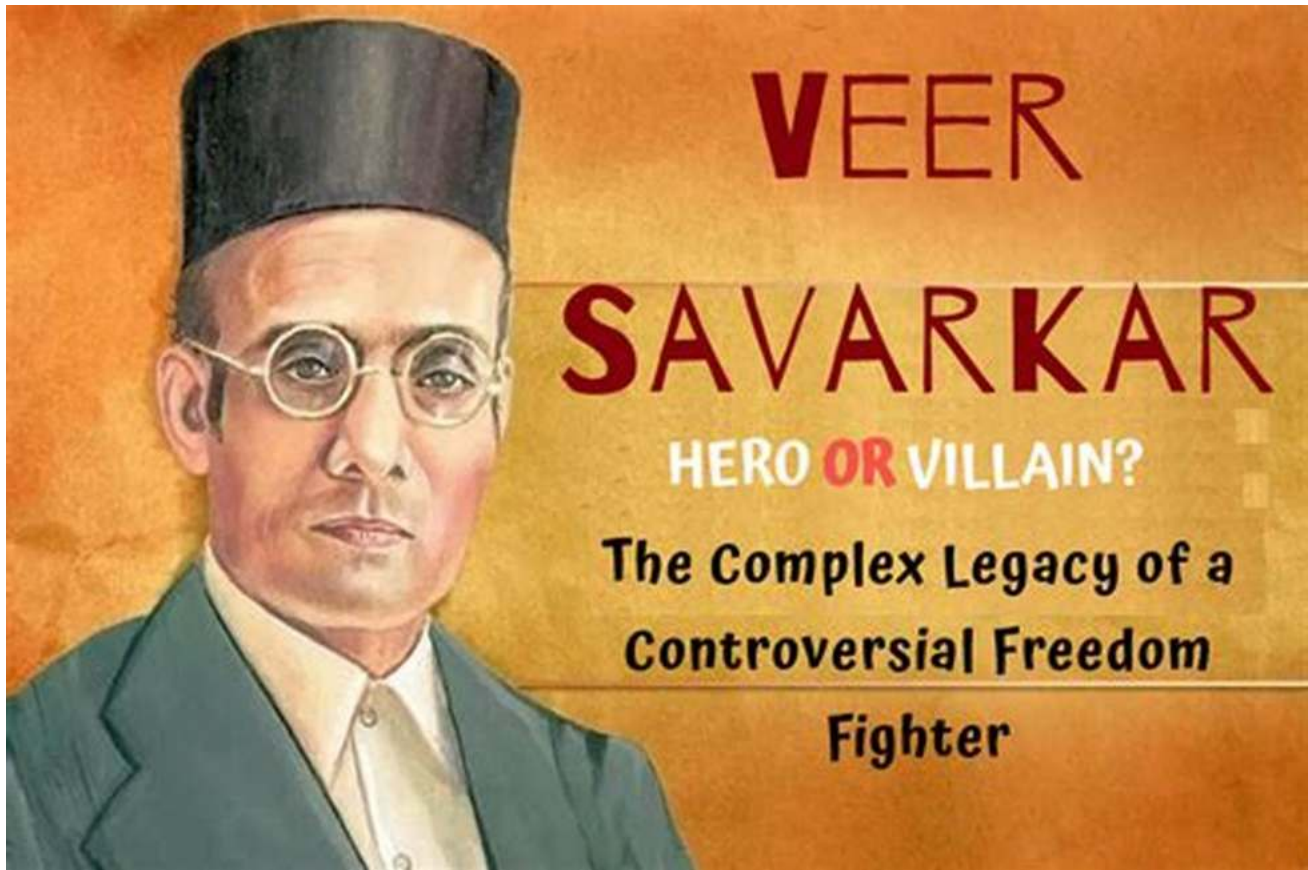
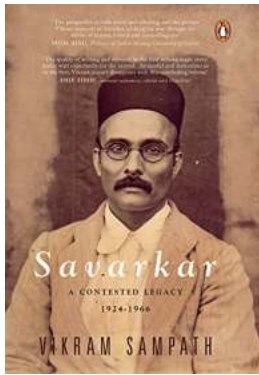


The Controversial Legacy of Veer Savarkar: From Patriot to Polarizing Figure



When it comes to the history of modern India, one cannot ignore the name of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, popularly known as Veer Savarkar. His life and work have been the subject of much debate and dispute. While many consider him a freedom fighter, others view him as a polarizing figure with a contested legacy.

Savarkar was born on May 28, 1883, in Bhagur, a small town near Nashik in present-day Maharashtra. He was enrolled in Fergusson College, Pune, where his passion for independence and nationalism started to grow. Savarkar played a prominent role in the formation of the revolutionary secret society called Abhinav Bharat, which aimed to overthrow British rule in India.



Savarkar (Part 2): A Contested Legacy, 1924-1966

by Vikram Sampath (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

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File size : 3238 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
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Print length : 910 pages



His outspoken ideas and revolutionary activities drew the attention of the British authorities, resulting in his arrest in 1909. Savarkar was sentenced to two life terms totaling fifty years of imprisonment. He was first incarcerated at the Cellular Jail in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, famously known as Kala Pani.

During his confinement, Savarkar faced unimaginable hardships and torture. However, he never wavered in his belief in the Indian struggle for freedom and continued to inspire fellow inmates with his words and actions. His experience at the Cellular Jail became a turning point in his life, shaping his future political ideology.

After serving a significant portion of his sentence, Savarkar was moved to mainland India and eventually released in 1924. He emerged as one of the foremost leaders of the Hindu nationalist movement, advocating for the protection and promotion of Hindu culture and identity.

However, Savarkar's legacy is not without controversies. His alleged role in the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi in 1948 has been a subject of intense scrutiny

and criticism. Many accuse him of propagating an ideology that promotes hatred and divisiveness among different communities.

Supporters of Savarkar argue that he was a visionary who foresaw the danger of Islamic fundamentalism and strived for the preservation of Hindu identity. They believe that his contributions to the Indian independence movement and his promotion of Hindu nationalism are often overshadowed by his critics.

Savarkar's accomplishments and beliefs can be viewed in multiple ways. Some celebrate him as a fearless freedom fighter, a poet, and a philosopher who dedicated his life to the service of the nation. Others criticize him for his provocative ideas and associations.

It is crucial to understand that history is rarely black and white. People like Savarkar, who have left a lasting impact, often evoke diverse and conflicting perspectives. Exploring his life and legacy can provide insights into the complex nature of Indian history and politics.

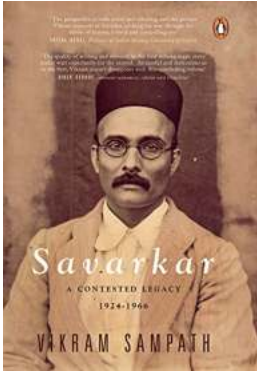
Ultimately, the assessment of Savarkar's legacy lies in the hands of the people. It is up to each individual to critically analyze the historical evidence and form their own opinion about this controversial figure.

In , Veer Savarkar remains a contentious and enigmatic personality in Indian history. His contributions and ideologies continue to spark intense debates even decades after his death in 1966. Whether he is remembered as a patriot or a divisive figure, there is no denying the profound impact he has had on shaping the cultural and political landscape of modern India.

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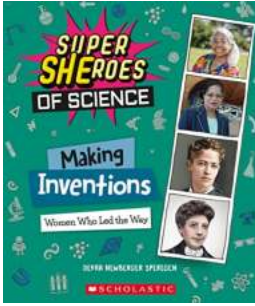


Was Savarkar really a co-conspirator in the Gandhi murder?

Was there a pogrom against a particular community after Gandhi's assassination?

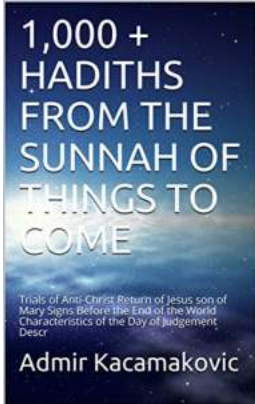
Decades after his death, Vinayak Damodar Savarkar continues to uniquely influence India's political scenario. An optimistic advocate of Hindu-Muslim unity in his treatise on the 1857 War of Independence, what was it that transformed him into a proponent of 'Hindutva'? A former president of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha, Savarkar was a severe critic of the Congress's appeasement politics. After Gandhi's murder, Savarkar was charged as a co-conspirator in the assassination. While he was acquitted by the court, Savarkar is still alleged to have played a role in Gandhi's assassination, a topic that is often discussed and debated.

In this concluding volume of the Savarkar series, exploring a vast range of original archival documents from across India and outside it, in English and several Indian languages, historian Vikram Sampath brings to light the life and works of Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, one of the most contentious political thinkers and leaders of the twentieth century.



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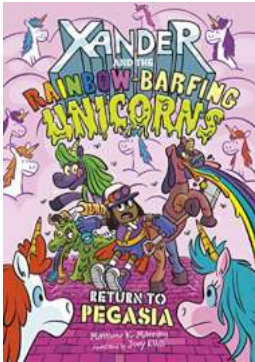


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