

# STORIES

## Unsung Heroes of India's Freedom Struggle

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### Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan - Frontier Gandhi

*Place: North West Frontier, Pakistan*

Many years ago, in what is now Pakistan, a Pathan warrior was born — not one who wished to fight with the sword, but with peace and love. His name was Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, affectionately called **Frontier Gandhi**.



At the time, Pathans were often stereotyped as hot-tempered and quarrelsome. But Khan Sahib told his people — ***“True courage is not in raising the sword, but in keeping one’s anger under control.”***

He dedicated his entire life to the path of non-violence and service. He formed an organisation called ***Khudai Khidmatgar*** — meaning **Servants of God**. Its members did not carry weapons; they wore red shirts and spread the message of service, truth, and brotherhood. Thousands of Pathans joined — **including children!**

These children were fearless. They moved from village to village, keeping watch on British officials’ movements, making people aware, and troubling the British through satyagraha — without any violence! They were unafraid of going to jail or being beaten by the police. Once, a British officer even remarked, ***“We have never seen anyone as brave as these children!”***

The British were astonished — such courageous people, yet without weapons! But Khan Sahib stood firm — ***“We don’t want revenge, we want change.”***

His philosophy transformed the image of the Pathans. He showed the world that the real test of bravery lies in forgiving others and fighting for the country through peaceful means.

**Lesson:** Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan teaches us — when the heart is big, there is never any need for violence.

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### Allah Bux Soomro

*Place: Sindh*



It was a difficult time. India was under British rule. Every corner of the country yearned for freedom. Protests were erupting in some places, slogans were being raised in others. But alongside this struggle, another dangerous shadow was spreading — some people were speaking of dividing India in the name of religion.

At such a time, a fearless leader stepped forward — **Allah Bux Soomro**. He was born in 1890 in a simple family in Sindh province. He was neither from a royal family nor a big landlord.

But in his heart burned a deep love for the country and immense courage to fight for justice. At a young age, he entered politics. Through honesty and hard work, he became the Prime Minister of Sindh province. Yet power never went to his head. He always mingled with the people, listened to their troubles, and said, ***“I am not a leader, I am a servant of the people!”***

When the country needed freedom the most, some tried to build walls between Hindus and Muslims. But Allah Bux did not remain silent. He founded the **Azad Party** and declared clearly — ***“India is one, no one can divide it! Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians — all are children of this soil.”***

As a protest against British rule, **he renounced all titles and awards given by the British**. He joined the Quit India Movement of 1942. Like Gandhi, he firmly believed in non-violence and unity. His dream was an independent and undivided India.

**He led many Muslim rallies opposing the partition of India.** Millions of Hindus and Muslims came together in his movement. This angered those who wanted India to be divided.

On **14 May 1943**, while going to attend a programme, he was shot dead by two armed men... and the country lost a true son.

**Lesson:** Allah Bux Soomro showed that true patriotism goes beyond religion, caste, or language. If the heart is brave and the intention pure, no force can break us. His story still tells us today —

***“Fear not, speak the truth! Do not fight among yourselves, walk together!”***

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### The Story of Magician Shobharam

*Place: Ajmer, Rajasthan*

In a small village in Ajmer, there lived a simple and straightforward boy — Shobharam Geharwar. He came from the Dalit community. He looked ordinary, but in his heart burned an intense flame of freedom.

By the age of just 14–15, he had plunged into the freedom struggle. He had no weapons, no high education. But he had a different kind of power — **the art of blending in under any disguise!** Sometimes a farmer, sometimes a laborer, sometimes a saint — changing his appearance, he would evade the eyes of the British police.

Once, none other than Chandrashekhar Azad took him to a secret forest location where bombs were being made. Even when the police were nearby, Shobharam would slip away quietly — like a magician! That's why people called him '**The Magician of Ajmer.**'

One amusing yet dangerous incident occurred in his life. His companions once set off an explosion of gunpowder by the riverside, and just then, by chance, a tiger came to drink water. The sound of the blast scared the tiger away... but it threw the British police party into total confusion! In that chaos, Shobharam and his companions escaped unharmed.

Shobharam also **worked as a human postman.** Since the British government used to inspect letters, contacting underground revolutionaries had become difficult. But he bravely carried messages — often risking his life. Once, the police even shot him in the leg, yet he still managed to escape!

After independence, Shobharam never sought any position, award, or publicity. He always said — **"I worked for the country, not for my name."**

It is because of brave, clever, and selfless patriots like Shobharam that we are free today. They had no greed for power — only the longing to live for the nation.

**Lesson:** Whether young or old — it is important to speak out against injustice. True strength does not lie in a high chair, but in a big heart, courage, and firm determination.



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### Hausa Patil: The Brave Sister of the Forest

*Place: Satara, Maharashtra*



Have you ever imagined someone fighting the British without a gun, without an army, and without fear? Hausa Patil was one such courageous woman — by day she would plough her fields, and by night she would fight for freedom in the forests! From a small village in Maharashtra, she openly challenged British rule — without stopping, without fear.

At that time, a secret parallel government called ***Prati Sarkar*** had been set up to fight against the British — the people's own government! Hausa Didi worked tirelessly for this cause — carrying messages under the cover of darkness, giving medicines to injured comrades, secretly bringing food and clothes away from the eyes of the British... She would often say, "***The soil of my village has fed me; now it's time to give something back to it!***"

Hausa Didi's greatest strength was her courage and cleverness. Once, when British soldiers came to her village to capture her, the local women hid her in different places — sometimes in the rice fields, sometimes near the village well, sometimes along forest trails.

One of her most thrilling adventures was crossing the Krishna River. It was a dark night, the river was in full flood, and there was no bridge. But Hausa Didi did not lose courage. She and her companions crossed the river bravely — sometimes on wooden planks, sometimes on the broken wheel of a bullock cart. The current was strong, the water was ice-cold — but the fire in their hearts burned hotter!

In the history of our freedom struggle, we hear many great names, but we must never forget simple yet extraordinary women like Hausa Patil. She often said, "***We didn't do anything big; we only did what was needed.***"

**Lesson:** Hausa Patil was not a queen; she had neither sword nor army. Yet she was a true warrior. She showed that even small acts, when done with sincerity, can play a big role in freeing a nation. Today, we can go to school and express our thoughts freely because Hausa Didi and thousands like her won that freedom for us. We too should strive to be fearless, bold, and true patriots like her.

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### Usha Mehta - The Quietest Yet the Loudest Voice

*Place: Surat, Gujarat*

The year was 1920. The place — Surat city in Gujarat. There, a tiny, adorable baby girl was born. Her name was Usha Mehta. While other children enjoyed playing in the courtyard, a blazing flame of patriotism already burned in Usha's heart.



Once, when she was just 8 years old, she took part in Gandhiji's Civil Disobedience

Movement. Little Usha shouted powerful slogans — ***“British, Quit India!”***

In 1942, Gandhiji launched the Quit India Movement. The British government panicked and arrested all major leaders, including Gandhiji and Nehruji. A big question now arose — how would Gandhiji's message and the real news reach the people?

At this crucial moment, **Usha Didi devised a daring plan.** Along with a few trusted companions, she started **a secret radio station** — *“Congress Radio.”* Broadcasting from a hidden room, every day Usha Didi would send out real news about the movement, Gandhiji's and other leaders' speeches, and instructions on the next steps to take.

The British police got wind of it and began an investigation. Many times, Usha Didi and her team had to run from place to place, hiding with their radio equipment, but they never gave up. Finally, on 12 August 1942, the British caught her. She was subjected to intense interrogation and threats — but Usha Didi stood firm like a rock. **She never revealed the names of any of her companions.** She was sentenced to prison, but in her heart she carried only one dream — ***“My India must be free!”***

After independence, Usha Mehta devoted her life to education, women's empowerment, and social service. The Government of India honoured her with several awards, including the ***Padma Vibhushan.***

**Lesson:** Serving the country has no age limit — it only needs courage. Even a young girl can raise her voice and make history. There is no power greater than truth and courage.