

# LIGHT

WEEKLY BULLETIN August 10th, 2022 - Vol. 45 No. 06

President - Rtn. Abinash K Singh ● Secretary - Rtn. Debasis Das ● TREASURER - Rtn. Chiranjib Sha ● Editor - PP Tanu Roy

## The History - From 'Kesariya' to 'Tiranga'

Flags are the pictorial representation of the character of a kingdom, state, nation, or organization. It assimilates the history, polity, cultural and civilisational nature of a group. The symbol and colour it carries signify the sentiments and sacredness of a civilization.

From Ramayana to Mahabharat and Gupta to Chola, for centuries, flags have played a significant role in traditional war and diplomacy. As the **Bharatvarsha** evolved, from small clans to dynasty-ruled kingdoms and from imperial colonies to a nation-state, the history of the evolution of flags has been fascinating. As history moved, the colour and symbol of a flag also evolved. We can understand the mass killings, change of king and kingdom, ruler's character, nature of society, and foreign attacks by simply reading the history of a flag. The symbol and colour of a flag speak louder about history than written history. Today we will trace the true history of **Bharatvarsha** by understanding the evolution of the flags.



The hard truth of the pre-independence period is that India never had a National Flag that could represent it as one nation. There were flags of heroes and dynasties, rulers and warriors but not of India – the country. The need for having a flag wasn't really felt by Indians until the partition of Bengal was announced. That day was declared as the national day of mourning. A year later, on the anniversary of anti-partition movement a flag was unfurled.

The Berlin Committee Flag - It was designed by Sachindra Prasad Bose. After the partition was annulled people forgot about the flag. Madam Bhikaji Rustom Cama who attended the 2nd International Socialist Congress in Germany gave a speech about the political fight with British and waved the flag.



It was made by Hem Chandra Das. Years later in 1917, during the Home Rule Movement Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Mrs. Anne Besant designed a flag.

In 1921 Gandhiji asked to plan for a national flag which was then designed by Pingley Venkayya.



Gandhiji was fascinated with the idea of having a 'Charkha' in the flag as it represented self reliance, progress and common man. It was also called the Swaraj flag, the Gandhi flag and the Charkha Flag. However, in 1931, a seven-member flag committee was established in Karachi to modify the flag.

The big day for India came when Lord Mountbatten announced the decision to free India. The need to have a Flag that is acceptable to all parties was realized and an ad-hoc flag committee was headed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad to design the flag for free India. Gandhiji's consent was taken and Pingley Venkayya's flag was decided to be modified. Instead of the Charkha, the emblem on Ashoka's Sarnath pillar the wheel was decided upon. None of the colours had any communal significance. The National Flag was adopted on 22 July, 1947.



**Anniversary Greetings :**

Aug 11th Spouse Sheela &amp; IPP Amitav Ganguly



## *Stephanie A. Urchick is selected to be the 2024-25 President of Rotary International*

Stephanie A. Urchick, of the Rotary McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for ***President of Rotary International for 2024-25***, a decision that would make her only the second woman to hold that position. She will be declared the President-nominee on October 1st if no challenging candidates have been suggested.

“Measures taken by Rotary leadership to survive and end critical challenges often make our organization stronger and more resilient for future events,” Urchick says. “This kind of essential leadership also creates new levels of cooperation, even among rivals, when Rotarians pull together as people of action to serve and solve a crisis.”

“Measures taken by Rotary leadership to survive and end critical challenges often make our organization stronger and more resilient for future events,” Urchick says. “This kind of essential leadership also creates new levels of cooperation, even among rivals, when Rotarians pull together as people of action to serve and solve a crisis.”

### ***Making regionalization a priority is crucial, says Urchick.***

“Because Rotary operates in more than 200 countries and regions, it is vital to recognize that the organization has the potential to become more efficient and effective by understanding and reacting to how regional differences affect the way Rotarians work together to address providing service, promoting integrity, and advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace,” Urchick says.

Urchick is partner and chief operating officer of Doctors at Work LLC, a consulting and training company. She holds a doctorate in leadership studies from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

A Rotary member since 1991, Urchick has travelled to Vietnam to help build a primary school and to the Dominican Republic to install water filters. She studies several Slavic languages, has mentored new Rotarians in Ukraine, and coordinated a Rotary Foundation grant project in Poland.

Urchick has served Rotary in many roles, including as a Director, Foundation Trustee, and Chair of the RI Strategic Planning Committee and the Foundation’s Centennial Celebration Committee. She currently serves on the Election Review Committee and the Operations Review Committee. She is a Rotary Foundation Major Donor and a member of the Bequest Society.





### *3 Thoughts on attracting Members and keeping them*

Membership is the backbone of organizations like Rotary. Here are a few thoughts:

#### ***Fun Activities***

Rotaract clubs should host activities that attract young people. Socializing and having fun is a good thing and complements service. Picnics, beach parties, and happy hours are just some of the activities you can plan.

#### ***Service Projects***

At the same time, service is what draws many people to Rotaract and Rotary — the ability to join together with others to take action and achieve more than you could ever do on your own. We should continue to partner with other Rotaract and Rotary clubs in our communities to improve our neighbourhoods. It's like when you plant a tree and you help the ecosystem. A member who gets involved in service projects becomes an impact maker in their community.

#### ***Print, Broadcast, and Social media***

There is no substitute for publicity. And social media makes it easier than ever. We can attract prospective members, but also people who want to support us and work with us. Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, WhatsApp and more should be used for timely updates on our programs and the projects we engage in. But don't limit your updates to just one or two platforms like WhatsApp and Facebook. Use the full spectrum and don't forget print media such as newspapers and magazines, or broadcast media.

*Attracting members isn't the end of the story. We must also sustain our clubs and engage our members. Here are a few thoughts about that.*

#### ***Providing engaging club meetings and programs***

Have you ever attended a club meeting and left feeling disappointed? You are not alone. A club meeting without rich content or a worthwhile program will kill the morale of members faster than just about anything. We need to have interesting programs, and also fellowship opportunities.

#### ***Promoting your club identity***

What makes your club unique? What activities are you known for in your community? Make sure you maintain these and let other people know about them. And make sure club meetings are convenient for club members. Plan activities that are accessible to a majority of your members. If most of them work, don't plan midday service projects.

#### ***Provide strong leadership***

Strong leaders move clubs forward and measure the pulse of a club's vital signs. Train people to take over as leaders. Invest time in future leaders. It can make all the difference between a strong club and a fading one. New members feel more comfortable if there is solid leadership driving the club forward.

## *Don't Break the Link*

Nature is a big chain of living and non living beings. A Harmonious existence of chain needs holding of the one by another.

While all other creatures are perfectly adhering to the principle, humans have one way relationship with nature.

While nature gives, gives and gives, humans take, take and take endlessly.

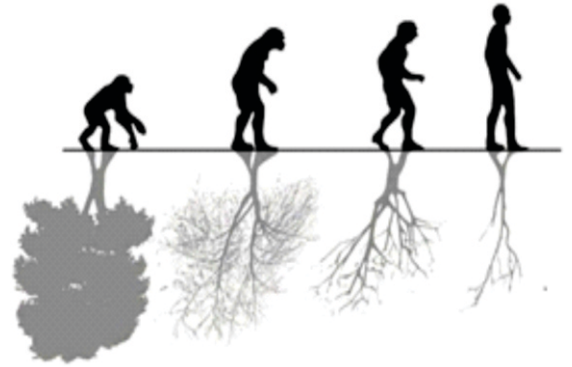
In the process, humans have not only harmed the nature but damaged it too by over exploitation and not compensating at all.

All our love and concern for nature ends in mere observing national or international days and organising functions.

As a race, we may or may not do it, but at Individual level we can make it a habit to give more to the nature than we take from it.

One should continue the link of Giving and Taking from the nature at least to keep ourselves Happy.

***The first conditions of happiness is that the link between humans and nature, which shall not be broken.***



## *Creating positive change: Rotary's Empowering Girls initiative*

What does it mean to be empowered? For girls throughout the world, empowerment is the ability to make choices and create positive change in their own lives, as well as in their families and communities.

Empowered girls become empowered women. Reaching out to the girls of our world is the heart and purpose of Rotary's Empowering Girls Initiative. Our stories of supporting girls are interwoven with their stories of empowerment, like the story of Atupele, a girl in Malawi.

I first became aware of Atupele when she was in primary school through my volunteer work with a local organization serving at-risk children in rural villages. Atupele was orphaned by AIDS as an infant. With Rotary club funding and assistance from Malawi Children's Village, Atupele was raised by her grandmother.

Atupele was smart and determined. She wanted to go to secondary school, but had no money for tuition, uniforms or books. Rotary club funding and donor support provided Atupele with a scholarship. When she passed the entrance exams for nursing school, donor funding subsidized her studies.

In her first year at nursing school, Atupele suffered gender violence and became pregnant. Forced to return to her village, Atupele's hopes of becoming a nurse faded.

Atupele gave birth to a daughter. Unfortunately, her baby did not survive. Throughout those dark times, Atupele never gave up her dream of becoming a nurse. With sheer determination, encouragement from Malawi Children's Village and Rotary support, Atupele returned to school and completed her nursing studies. Today, in her own words, "I





am working as a pediatric nursing officer. I do the following: delivering babies, prenatal and postnatal care and clinic, as well as adult nursing.”

Atupele’s journey has not been easy, and she continues to face challenges as a healthcare professional in a country where the ratio of care is one nurse for more than 2,000 patients. Despite significant barriers, Atupele has persevered. She has created positive change in her own life, and is a valued member of her family and community.

This is why our club, district and Rotary Action Group projects to empower girls are so important, and why these stories matter. Now in its second year, Rotary’s Empowering Girls Initiative has launched thousands of projects and activities, from gender-based violence awareness and prevention in South Africa and South America, to vocational skills training and micro-lending programs in India, to menstrual health and hygiene education, products and gender-specific bathrooms in schools worldwide.

**What can your club do?** Support the girls of our world and partner with a Rotary Action Group or community organizations on an Empowering Girls project. Tell your stories on social media and in your community. List your activities in the Empowering Girls campaign on Rotary Showcase.

*In the Chichewa language of Malawi, Atupele means “gift.”* The most valuable gifts we can offer to girls are a voice in their own futures, the opportunity to choose for themselves and the ability to create positive change in their own lives, families and communities.

*“Freedom is not given, it is taken!” – Subhash Chandra Bose*

To honour India’s 75th Anniversary of Independence, as well as the rich history, culture, and accomplishments of its people, “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” is an initiative of the Indian Government.



‘Atmanirbhar Bharat’ fuels the goal of activating India 2.0, and this Mahotsav is dedicated to the people of India who have not only been essential in bringing India thus far in its evolutionary path, but also have the capacity and potential to achieve that vision.

The “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’s” formal journey began on March 12th, 2021, and will culminate on August 15th, 2023.

The centrepiece of the celebrations is the launch of a new collection on Google Arts & Culture named ‘India ki Udaan’. This special collection, whose literal translation means “India takes Flight”, this initiative offers a unique view of some of India’s remarkable moments and lets people discover India’s history, its iconic personalities, its proudest scientific and sporting achievements, and how women in India continue to inspire the world.

**Freedom or Liberty is a state of the mind; man’s thinking is what influences his**

being free. Till the mind remains shackled with prejudices, the overt freedom is just a stark reminder of what liberty should not remain confined to. Every life is independent, an individual entity as is expounded by the Bhagavad Gita and by acknowledging one's own freedom, can man be truly 'free'. When a person treats himself as a living being in harmony with nature, to be respected as an embodiment of life itself, only then can man be truly 'free'. As long as men use social norms as a guise to enslave fellow human beings, true freedom can never be achieved. True freedom is when one man does not fear another man! When by respecting each and every living being on this planet, an individual empowers himself to 'live and let live', only then will we have achieved freedom in its truest sense!

As I look at the India of 2022, with its myriad achievements in a spectrum of fields, the progress the country has made and the success of the many ventures it embarked upon, it is a proud feeling. The feature common to making these ventures successful, is that individual minds with independent thinking came together to create a common ground for a common purpose. When individual freedom is respected, each individual contributes according to his ability, every endeavour whether individual or community will be a success. Only people who can exercise their free will can be successful as human beings. A free will exercised with reason and rational thinking is what truly liberates people and then the world will be '**Vasudhaiva Kutukbakam**' – the world will be a family as mentioned in the Maha Upanishad.



*Prtn. Tanu Roy, Indian Patriot*

## **MINUTES OF THE 2185TH RWM**

### **HELD ON AUGUST 2ND, 2022 AT BNR OFFICERS' CLUB, GARDEN REACH**

1. President Abinash called the RWM to order and requested to rise for the National Anthem.
2. AG Pradumnya Choudhary called a Zonal Meeting of Zone-20 Clubs on July 29th, at Conclave. AG proposed to organise a meeting regarding Joint Global Grant project and also exchange the ideas and fellowship among the members of all five clubs. The club leaders agreed.
3. Deep Tube-well installation at Bharatgarh, Sundarbans, PP Naresh Kr Jain agreed to help in the documentation of application for Helping Grant and follow up with EIRWT for the project.
4. Regarding the project "Annapurna", an initiative by RILM and in association with our club will distribute 680 food packets to the students of Shree Shambhu Sadan Vidyalaya on August 4th, 2022.
5. Regarding the Rotavision Project, 104 spectacles will be distributed to the beneficiaries on August 4th, 2022 August, at Bamangachhi, Howrah. The Eye check-up camp was held on May 24th, 2022. Two future camps were proposed at Salkia & Sankrail.
6. PP Prosenjit was requested to talk to Mr. Sudip Majumder about Nivedita Vocational Centre at Roypur; regarding future plannings.
7. PP Dr. Arabinda Ray was assigned Chairman - Thalassaemia Projects, and was requested to form a committee. Rtn. Dr. Subrata Lahari was assigned Chairman - Cervical Cancer Awareness & Prevention.
8. It was decided that the projects of Community Service (Non Medical) will continue with the title, 'SAHAY'. The name had been proposed by our ex-member Sandip K Mukherjee.
9. Members were informed that souvenir advertisement collection amounted to Rs. 1, 45,000 (approx).
10. The 75th year of Independence: Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav will be celebrated on August 10th, 2022 7 pm at BNROC. Registration charge Rs 400.
11. On August 15th, 2022 flag hoisting will be held at 'Na Manusher Swarga' at Bakhrahat. Food packets will be provided to under-privileged students.
12. 2nd Board Meeting will be hosted by PP Dr. JK Singh, PP Ranjit K Basu, PP Sanjay V Bhatt & PP Capt. Ashfaque Ahmed on August 17th, 2022 at BNROC.
13. Club Secretary, Rtn. Debasis conducted Club business.
14. Minutes of the last RWM were confirmed. President terminated the meeting.





Ministry of Culture  
Government of India

75  
Azadi Ka  
Amrit Mahotsav  
For Our Tiranga  
17-19 August 2023

*Our love for our Tiranga knows no bounds*

*Show your Tiranga love by hoisting the flag at your homes  
Click a selfie and upload it on <https://harghartiranga.com/>*

harghartiranga.com

75  
आज़ादी का  
अमृत महोत्सव



Ministry of Culture  
Government of India

75  
Azadi Ka  
Amrit Mahotsav  
For Our Tiranga  
17-19 August 2023

THEN	NOW
<b>The Flag can be hoisted only from sunrise to sunset</b>	<b>The Flag can now be hoisted in homes for 24hours</b>

harghartiranga.com