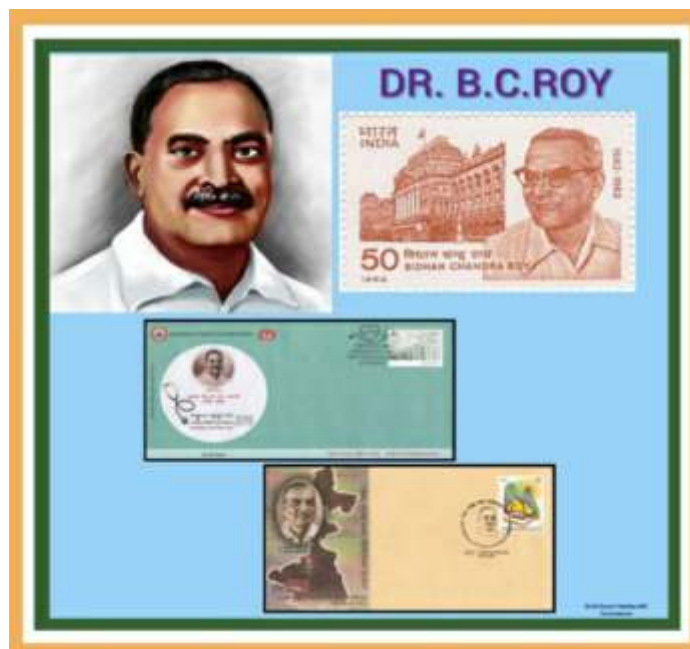


History

Bharat Ratna Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy

July 1, 1882-July 1, 1962

*A Legendary India's Iconic Physician,
Freedom Fighter, Politician,
Educationist, and Philanthropist*



His contributions...

- Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy was born and brought up in the Patna district of Bihar. His father was an excise inspector and his mother was a devoted social worker they were the strong followers of the Brahma Samaj movement.
- His mother deeply influenced his personality by teaching Bhagavad Gita and the writings of Rabindranath Tagore.
- After completing his Bachelor's degree in mathematics, he joined to study medicine at Calcutta Medical College in 1901.
- While being a medical student, he was deeply impressed by the inscription "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might". This became a source of inspiration for him throughout his life. After his studies, he started his practice under State Health Service.
- But he was ambitious to do higher studies at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. Being an Indian, Dr.B.C. Roy's application was rejected, and finally got admission after 30 meetings with the Dean of the institution.



The Medical **Bulletin**

- Dr. B.C.Roy was one, who first completed both MRCP in Medicine and FRCS in Surgery at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London in 2 years and 3 months duration and returned to India in 1911.
- Moreover, Dr. Roy was a famous freedom fighter and a good friend of Mahatma Gandhi. He had a strong belief that freedom would remain a dream unless people become healthy and strong in mind and body.
- Dr. Roy further started his Political career in 1925 and served for Calcutta Corporation from 1930-31 and as Mayor in 1933.
- During his period, he implemented free education, and free medical aid and established the infrastructure of the Calcutta city.
- After India's independence, he became the second Chief Minister of West Bengal in 1948 and he served in that post for 14 years until his death.
- He was recognized as an “Architect of Modern Bengal.” Because, he established industrial hubs out of Calcutta city and also founded 5 cities in Bengal, namely Durgapur, Kalyani, Bidan Nagar, Ashok Nagar, and Habra.
- He also pioneered the founding of the Indian Medical Association in 1928 and the Medical Council of India (MCI). Also, he served as the first President of MCI.
- Consequently, he established Calcutta’s First Postgraduate Medical College, Infectious Disease Hospitals, and the Indian Institute of Mental Health.
- Finally, his enormous contribution was honoured with countries highest civilian award “Bharat Ratna” in 1961.
- In addition, his birthday July 1st, (which is incidentally his death day) has been declared celebrated as "National Doctors Day".
- In 1962, an annual award in the name of Dr. B.C. Roy National Award was initiated by the Medical Council of India, for rewarding outstanding service in the field of medicine, science, philosophy, politics, literature, and arts.

***Dr. Gowri Shankar
Coimbatore***