

WHEN TWO STREAMS MET

Lessons From India's Freedom Struggle

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Dedicated to the
Efforts and Struggles for Strengthening
Justice, Equality, Communal Harmony, and Unity in Diversity in India

This initiative is the result of the combined efforts of four writers to bring out inspiring life-stories of freedom fighters for our times. We hope to continue this effort in future publications.

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Introduction

The freedom movement, extending over two centuries against British rule in India, is one of the most inspiring chapters of Indian history. When we look at the extreme hardships that the freedom fighters were able to face and overcome with smiling determination, we marvel at these people who were able to achieve this and stand up in respect and admiration.

But it is certainly not adequate to merely admire. The same spirit of rising above petty issues to successfully face the biggest challenges of our times in the areas of justice, equality, environment protection, democracy, and peace is certainly needed today. The same determination is needed; similar hard work and preparations are needed. A similar deep commitment to some higher ideals in life is needed.

Despite this clear need, the inspiring stories of even some of our most courageous and committed freedom fighters are fading from public memory. This book is an effort in the direction of remembering those great sacrifices (*jara yaad karo qurbani*) to gather strength and inspiration for facing the very great challenges of the twenty-first century.

Bharat Dogra