

Veer Savarkar and Mahatma Gandhi

Veer Savarkar and Gandhiji, both had an impact on the independence fight. Both had different thoughts and methods, at times, contradictory to each other!! Veer Savarkar was promoter of armed revolution whereas Gandhiji was Satya and Ahimsa practitioner. Savarkar advocated industrialisation when Gandhiji was promoting spinning wheel as a magic power to make a great nation. Savarkar considered the British as enemy but Gandhiji considered the British as friend and well-wisher. In case of eradication of untouchability, using Indian products, opposition to English, etc, they had quite similar opinions. Today, Indian Government is promoting Gandhian theories and photos everywhere, but Savarkar is considered untouchable.

This is an attempt to compare and review biography of Savarkar and Gandhi, based on their own words wherever possible. You can decide which thoughts will be beneficial for India!!

Veer Savarkar	Mahatma Gandhi
Born on 18 th May, 1883 at Bhagur, Maharashtra	Born on 2 nd October, 1869 at Porbandar, Kathewad
Childhood – Highly intelligent, sharp memory, poet, great reading, desire to be heroic like Shivaji. When martyr Chaphekar was hanged, he vowed to carry on the fight!	Childhood – General intelligence, weak in Sanskrit, good at geometry, wanted to be “satyanitha” (believer in truth) like Harishchandra, did not participate in sports, did not exercise to save time, made friendship with Sheikh Mehtab and tried non-veg, visit to prostitute, then repented and vowed to his father not to do such sins.
In 1896, when Chaphekar garlanded statue of queen with chappels and blackened the face of the statue, Savarkar made a poem (povada) and taught his friends.	In 1896, when Gandhiji was 27 years, he came back to India and was a member of queens diamond jubilee celebrations and he taught children the national anthem of England – “God save the queen”.
In 1897, when Savarkar participated in a speech competition, the judges could not believe that the speech was written by him, but still awarded him for the superb delivery of the speech.	In 1896, Gandhiji was not courageous in meetings, as such, he could not read his speech in a meeting so his speech had to be read by Mr. Vachha.
In 1899, Savarkar formed an organisation “Rashtrabhakta Samooh” to build up an armed revolution against the British.	In 1899, in Boar war, Gandhiji helped the British since he felt it as his duty towards the queen.
In 1904, Savarkar was advocating armed revolution. He argued that independence is impossible without worshipping the goddess of	In 1904, Gandhiji started a newspaper “Indian Opinion” the purpose was to bring closer Kind Edward’s Indian and European subjects together,

<p>arms. Savarkar also organised a march at Nashik where foreign goods were burned in public. Savarkar demanded for full freedom, when even the Congress was only asking for colonial independence.</p>	<p>changing the public opinion to desirable course, communicating Hindi people their vices and help them to get their judicious rights”</p>
<p>In 1906, while travelling to London on a ship, Savarkar made friends and communicated that improvement in British governance is not the objective, we do not want British government!</p>	<p>In 1906, when Jhulu in Africa were fighting their independence war against British, Gandhiji formulated a 24 men medical volunteer team to help British in the war. British sent this team to the front. Gandhiji realised there that angry white people act inhumanly against the Black people.</p>
<p>In 1907, Savarkar celebrated openly in London the 50th memorial day of the Indian warriors of the 1857 war of Independence and honoured them as freedom fighters. In the same period, Savarkar and his colleagues learnt the art of making bombs and taught and spread the skill in India. He printed the books on how to make bombs and got them sent to India. He distributed instigating circulars against British in the Hindi armed soldiers. Savarkar and his colleagues brought many Indians under the oath for the armed revolution against the British. One such bomb blast in Muzzaffarpur lead to many arrests. Khudiram Bose was hanged. Lokamanya Tilak was arrested and sentenced for 6 years.</p>	<p>In 1907, when British approved Transvale Act, Gandhiji formed Satyagraha organisation. Gandhiji and his colleagues were arrested for not registering as per the requirement of the Act, and sentenced for 2 months. However, after 20 days, Gandhiji met and discussed with General Smats and it was agreed that Hindi people will register on their own under the Act. Gandhiji then started instructing people accordingly, but many did not like this. One such person, who charged that Gandhiji took 15000 pounds from Smats, attacked on Gandhiji on 20th Feb, 1908. Finally, Smats did not backtrack the Act, due to which, there was a movement and Gandhiji was arrested and sentenced for 2 months. In a meeting held at London protesting the arrest, speeches by Lala Lajpat Rai, Sir Bhavnagari and Savarkar were conducted.</p>
<p>In 1909 July, Savarkar’s colleague Madanlal Dhigra killed British officer Karzan Vaylee. Dhingra openly admitted the act and mentioned that what he wanted to say was written on a paper in my pocket, which has been confiscated by the British. It has been later discovered that the speech written on the paper was written by Veer Savarkar. The speech contained message mentioning that the nation which is captured and controlled by foreign arms is always under war. The unarmed people of such nation cannot fight the armed forces of the foreign country in an open battle. Therefore, i shot the bullets by waiting for suitable opportunity. Since I could not collect cannon or other more destructive weapons, i only used a gun. Till the time the well-wisher of</p>	<p>In 1909 July, Gandhiji went to London along with Seth Haji Habib to discuss with General Botha and General Smats. General Botha and Smats offered some reforms, which Seth Habib agreed, but Gandhiji sent a message to the British that Seth Habib is representative of the rich, where as I am the representative of the public in general. They are not fighting for few reforms, but for principles. During same visit, Gandhiji came in contact with Savarkar’s revolutionary group. In a meeting on Dashara presided by Gandhiji, Savarkar gave a speech. Gandhiji exclaimed that thought there are differences of opinion, I am proud to get a chance to sit next to Savarkarji. The country will enjoy the fruits of his selflessness and patriotism.</p>

<p>mankind and the god worshipping Hindusthan is free and strong, my final wish is to take birth again and again as Hindu.</p>	
<p>On 5th July, in an open meeting at London, Savarkar opposed the resolution to condemn Dhingra!!</p> <p>The speech of Dhingra, which was confiscated and hidden by the British, was published in open by Veer Savarkar in various newspapers.</p> <p>In 1908, Savarkar wrote biography of Mazini.</p> <p>Savarkar then wrote a book on the war of independence of 1857, which was confiscated by the British even before publication. However, Hardayal, Bhagat Singh, Netaji Bose etc published its unauthorised reprints.</p>	<p>After Dhingra episode, while going from London to Africa, Gandhiji wrote a book "Hindswaraj". Gandhiji explained the reason for this book as "to mend the ways of the growing violent revolutionary groups. In London, i came across many revolutionaries, and i was impressed by their bra very. However, I felt that their enthusiasm is going in wrong direction. Volence and armed acts are not solutions to India's problems. We have to find out another method which emphasises on sacrifice and inner strength than outside earthly strengths. If we act in this manner, British will become our servants instead of our rulers. British Government confiscated this book.</p>
<p>In February 1909, Savarkar's brother Babarav Savarkar was arrested and sent to Andamans in June. In December, Anant Kanhere killed the collector of Nashik - Collector Jackson. The government later claimed that the gun he used was sent by Savarkar. On 19th April, Kanhere, Karve and Deshpande were hanged. The Congress or the congress president Gokhale or anyone else did not dare to openly admire the martyrs.</p>	<p>In 1909, Gandhiji was practising law in Africa. He was collecting funds to help the families who had been helpless due to their participation in Satyagraha. Congress president Gokhale said that "I can tell you without any doubt that that there is no other person other than Gandhiji born in this world who is as pious, gallant and brave person as Gandhiji. Gandhiji is the bravest of the brave and the most patriotic of all the patriots!!"</p>
<p>In 1910, Savarkar was arrested in London. While he was being brought to India by a ship, he tried to run away with his world-famous jump into the sea at Marseilles in France. He was later sentenced two life-imprisonments, i.e. 50 years of jail at Andaman and all his wealth was confiscated.</p>	<p>In 1910, a german gentleman - Harman Kalenkakh donated his 1100 acres of land to Gandhiji to help the Satyagrahi families. Gandhiji opened Tolstoy agricultural centre at this place, where 40 young, 3 old, 5 women and 30 children lived following self-sufficiency. Gandhiji learnt the art of making chappel. He then stopped practising law.</p>
<p>In 1911, Savarkar was sent to Andamans for 50 years imprisonment. Mumbai University took away his BA degree. He was kept in a dungeon for an year. Then he had to work on manual oil-extracting mill, making ropes using coir, etc which are difficult even for a person who has been working on physical effort throughout his life.</p> <p>Savarkar organised the political prisoners while lead to strikes in jail!!</p> <p>Due to his sufferings, Savarkar felt like opting for suicide, however, he did not do so because he felt by doing this he may be helping British to do what</p>	<p>In 1911, Gokhale went to Capetown on invitation by Gandhiji. On meeting General Botha and Smats, Gokhale told Gandhiji that he has taken a promise from them to revoke the Act and now Gandhi should come back to India like a winner.</p> <p>However, General Smats did not adhere to his promise. Workers started a big strike in Africa which stopped all business. General Smat's secretary sent a message to Gandhiji that General Smats did not want to see Gandhiji and he can do whatever he wanted to. Gandhiji started a march. The march costed daily expenses of 250 pounds.</p>

<p>they could not do themselves!!</p> <p>One co-prisoner Nani Gopal was fasting against the British unruly behaviour in the jail, Savarkar advised him that instead of giving away life in this manner without any impact, it would be better to do something to harm the enemy and then die.</p> <p>Savarkar always argued that the cruel enemy should be attacked when he is in difficult situation.</p>	<p>For this, Gokhale sent him 2000 pounds per month. Gandhiji was arrested and sentenced 9 months jail or 80 pounds fine. Gandhiji opted for jail. However, he was released within 40 days. At this time, the Railway workers at Pritoria were also on strike, so the British was in difficult situation. However, Gandhiji stopped his Satyagraha plan since he decided that he should not be taking advantage of their difficult situation.</p>
<p>In 1914, Savarkar was disappointed to be in jail at the time of first world war since he wanted to take full advantage of the situation. His followers Virendra Chattopadhyay, Champakraman Pillay, Lala Hardayal etc contacted British enemy, i.e. Germany. Pillay even came through Indian Ocean with German warship Emden with plans to release political prisoners at Andaman and the ship even fired blasts near Madras. The difficulty of British is the golden opportunity of freedom for India – was the clear belief. When the news that Emden may reach Andaman to free the prisoners spread out, the security near Savarkar’s prison was increased. Hardayal had distributed the book 1857 war of independence (written by Savarkar) in Indian soldiers and as per the history explained in the book, in February 1915, one brigade in India started independence fight against the British!!</p>	<p>In 1914, Gandhiji reached London. At this time, Congress committee members Bhupendranath Basu, Jinha, Lajapatrai etc were at London. In London, Gandhiji’s Indian friends and British officers organised a function to show reverence. In another meeting addressing Indian residents in London, Gandhiji mentioned that in his opinion, we should not take advantage of such difficult time the British are facing. He organised signatures from various people who agreed to this principle and sent the statement to the government. Gandhiji learned the first aid treatment and helped British. Gandhiji here got infected of lung disease and therefore travelled to India. He met Mumbai governor Wellington and promised the governor that he will inform him in advance before doing anything against government since it was his principle to inform him in this manner.</p>
<p>In Andamans, Savarkar started the fight against untouchability and advocated breaking of caste differences to make the nation powerful.</p>	<p>In 1915, at Mayapuram, Gandhiji mentioned that he is going to teach what is Hinduism. He said, from what he had learnt from outside India, he had thought there is no untouchability in Hinduism. If untouchability is necessary part of Hinduism, i will myself revolt against the Hinduism.</p>
<p>In 1915, Savarkar was in jail and facing various difficult hardwork punishments. During this time, he trained many criminals to read and write and brought them together. He advocated Hindi as national language there. He reconverted Hindus who were earlier forcefully converted to Christianity or Islam.</p> <p>Savarkar advocated use of arms to free India and also advocated that the patriots should also marry and have children since that will have impact on the future of India.</p>	<p>In 1915, Gandhiji formed a Satyagraha Ashram at Ahmedabad . The rules were: (1) A person should vow to speak truth. Even for his country’s benefit, he should not resort to a lie. (2) Non-violence does not only mean not killing any living being, but it also means not harming even person who is harming you. You should love your enemy. Such person will not bow against injustice. However, he will not punish the unjust person, but will himself bear the punishment and win the unjust person with self-distress. (3) Satya and Ahimsa cannot be practised without brahma-charya. Brahma-charya</p>

	not only means not looking at woman other than your own wife, but it means not even having sexual relations with your wife.
Savarkar continued to face difficult time at the jail and was not even getting better class after due period as per the jail's rules.	On birthday ceremony of England King on June 3, 1915, Gandhiji was awarded Kaiser-E-Hind by the British for helping British in Boer and Zulu wars, not taking advantage when British were in difficulty, promoting non-violence and discouraging Indians from fighting armed war against the British.
In 1915, Lahore conspiracy created sensation in India. British officers used to be afraid of Indian revolutionaries. Savarkar followers used to kill unjust British officials and used to go death punishment with smiling faces, without a hint of fear.	In 1916, in a meeting at Kashi, Gandhiji commented that he knew that there is a breed of revolutionaries in India. But I am myself a revolutionary and there is a big difference between my way and their ways. I will tell them openly that while I respect your patriotism and bravery, I do not believe in their methods. Let us tell the government what is wrong openly and face whatever is the punishment with smiling faces.
Since 1910, Savarkar thought and promoted Hindi as National language. He believed in pure language and advocated not to use unnecessary English or Farsi words in Hindi.	In 1916, during his speech, Gandhiji mentioned that he was feeling apologetic that he could not speak in Hindi and had to speak in English. Later, while Gandhiji thought Hindi should be the national language, he promoted use of more and more Farsi (Urdu) words. In 1925, Congress resolved that Hindi should be the national language for India.
After the first world war, in 1919, there were a number of armed fights in Gujarat and Punjab. Several people arrested during these fights were sent to Andamans. Savarkar taught them to read and write, organised them and taught them that independence is not possible without armed fight.	In 1919, when armed fight erupted in Ahmedabad, martial law was called for. Gandhiji reached there and in his speech, exclaimed that the things that have happened in this city are shameful. I have told you hundreds of times that independence is not possible using violent ways.
Savarkar was 8 years in Andaman jails. When he was bed-ridden and it was thought that he may not survive, Savarkar was provided some concessions such as having milk, walking in open ground within the compound of jail. He was later moved to Ratnagiri Jail (Yerawada jail) where these concessions also were revoked!	In 1919, in Amritsar, when police fired at the people, people were angry and killed 5 or 6 police. At Jalianwala Bagh, in a meeting called to condemn the British, General Dyer ordered firing innocent people, 379 people were killed. Later, Gandhiji stopped the Satyagraha movement. (Udham Singh, a revolutionary killed General Dyer in London in 1940.) Gandhiji exclaimed that while he was in sorrow for

	the killing of innocent brothers, he was more sorrowful for the killing of few British people!!
<p>In Yerawada, there were a lot of new political activists arrested during non-cooperation movement. Savarkar started giving speeches in the jail explaining the history of India and the armed revolutionary movement.</p> <p>Savarkar believed that Hindu and Muslims should have equal rights and all should fight for their independence without expecting anything more than other communities.</p>	<p>Gandhiji wanted Muslims to participate in independent movement and he felt that we should do whatever they want because only after Hindu Muslim unity, we can get independence. Gandhiji then offered to participate in Khilaphat movement of Islam (which was not at all liked to India) in exchange of Muslims participating in non-cooperation movement of India.</p> <p>In 1920, Gandhiji returned Kaisar-E-Hind award as a part of non-cooperation movement and wrote to Viceroy Chemsfard that he was feeling very sad to return the award, but he had to return it as non-cooperation as a part of Khilaphat movement.</p>
<p>In 1924, Savarkar was released on certain conditions. The main conditions – (1) Not to participate in politics for 5 years. (2) Not to go out of Ratnagiri without permission from the British officials. (The 5 years were later increased for 13 years, i.e. till 1937).</p> <p>While in Ratnagiri, Savarkar fought against seven restrictions which lead to caste differences (not to touch, not to eat sitting together, not to sing mantras, not to practice a profession other than the caste tradition, not to re-convert, not to cross the sea and not to marry out of cast). Ratnagiri, which was famous for orthodox society, had to advance and change due to his efforts. He formed a “Patit Pavan” temple which was open for all casts. While working on social reforms openly, Savarkar also promoted armed revolution secretly in best possible ways.</p>	<p>In 1922, Gandhiji revoked Bardoli movement due to riots against the British at Chauripura. Dr Munje proposed non-faith motion against Gandhi, which was dismissed. Gandhiji was arrested in March and his law degree was taken away. He was sentenced for 6 years. However, in 1924, when he was operated on his intestine, he was released without any conditions. Though Gandhiji was out in 1924 i.e. within 2 years of his imprisonment, since the original sentence was 6 years, thought there was no government restriction, he decided not to participate in politics till 1928. He started nationwide tour. He collected funds for the eradication of untouchability. He formed all india sutakatai (weaving) group and decided that all members must spin a particular amount of thread. In 1928, Nehru report was proposed by Gandhi was approved by Congress though Netaji Bose and Jawaharlal Nehru opposed it. However, since the Nehru report was not approved by the British in 1 year, in 1929, Gandhiji had to start Satyagraha movement. He started with boycott on foreign clothes. In 1930, in his speech at Gujarat University, Gandhiji mentioned that only Satyagraha has the power to stop the underground armed movements in this country.</p>
<p>When Bhagat Singh was hanged, Savarkar wrote a poem admiring his effort. Gogate killed Hotson. In 1934, Chavan fired at British. In this case, Savarkar</p>	<p>After Bhagat Singh and Gogate instance, Gandhiji said “some youth tell me that if i cannot help them, atleast i should keep quiet. My answer to</p>

<p>was held in custody for some time. In 1933, there were bomb blasts at Ahmedabad and Hyderabad (Sindh). Savarkar wrote many articles congratulating the revolutionaries for such acts.</p>	<p>them is if they want to kill British officers, why are not they killing me first. I will oppose them till the time i am alive. If you want me alive, stop killing British officers.” Since Gandhiji opposed the movements to release Bhagat Singh, in Karachi Congress, youth shouted slogans against him.</p>
<p>Since Savarkar could not participate in politics, he wrote under different name. He articulated how extreme non-violence is wrong. He also wrote a drama towards this. His autobiography on his Andaman jail time was also confiscated by the British. In 1934, he was not permitted to visit Mumbai to attend Hindu Mahasabha conference. The condition to stay within Ratnagiri was extended from 5 years to 10 years, therefore, some people organised signature campaign to free him. Gandhiji rejected to sign on the same.</p>	<p>In 1930, Gandhiji went to jail during non-cooperation movement and after the famous Dandji-yatra. In 1933, when Gandhiji started a fast. Government released him. Gandhiji issued a circular where he said that the entrance of underground movement in this movement is undesired and dangerous. He said that he promised the government that he will not misuse his freedom (from jail) and if after my fast, if the same situation continues in the country, i will request the government to put me in jail again. Netaji Bose and Vitthal Bhai Patel expressed their disappointment over such circular. Since the condition did not improve, Gandhiji got himself arrested as promised. He declared fast till death, and therefore released within 20 days. However, Gandhiji put himself the 1 year restriction on politics even when British had not put any such restriction. Co-operating the government in this manner was contrary to the movement under which he was arrested – the non-cooperation movement!!</p>
<p>Savarkar believed in power of machines. He claimed that unemployment is not due to machines but due to the system of implementing the machines. If system is improved, machines can be useful to the mankind. Savarkar believed that God cannot look after whether man is following religion or not, man has to himself understand rules of nature and follow them.</p>	<p>Gandhiji believed that machines are a curse which lead to unemployment. We should use spinning mill, only then unemployment will be addressed. Due to machines country will be ruined. When Bihar faced an earthquake, Gandhiji said it is due to the untouchability being followed in Hinduism.</p>
<p>Savarkar says, If England goes away leaving the rule of Muslims or Edward goes away leaving Aurangjeb (cruel mughal king) to rule, that is not at all independence. Where Hindus will be protected and have equal rights, without any special rights to any other community, only that can be called as independence.</p>	<p>Gandhi says, even if British handover the country to muslims, we will not oppose it. Even if Nijam (the cruel muslim leader who was anti-Hindu) becomes king, i will consider it as 100% independence.</p>
<p>In 1938, Hindutva organisations started unarmed battle against muslim king of Hyderabad and when Nijam agreed for certain demands, it was</p>	<p>In January 1939, in the Congress internal elections, Netaji won the election against Pattabhi who was supported by Gandhi. Netaji had majority,</p>

<p>discontinued. While Savarkar opted for unarmed battle in this case, he openly mentioned that the battle is unarmed because we do not have arms and not because we believe in non-violent fight.</p> <p>In 1938, Savarkar was unanimously appointed president of Hindu Mahasabha. During the year, Savarkar met Netaji Bose. In June 1940, when Bose met Savarkar again, Savarkar told him to stop focusing on Hindu-muslim unity. He also told him that while you are trying to create anger in people, if such anger is only going to help destroy some statues, of what use is it? (Netaji had recently participated and got arrested in a march against one statue of a british officer). Savarkar suggested him to meet Rasbihari Bose who was trying to form an army to fight the British from out of India. Later netaji actually left India and formed an army.</p>	<p>however, all major leaders decided not to participate in his committee. In March Tripura Congress under the president Netaji Bose, Gandhiji was not on a fast, and therefore could not go to the meeting. Netaji was ill and due to such non-cooperation by other Congress leaders including Gandhiji, he could not form the governing committee and resigned. Later, a motion written by Gandhiji was approved by Congress, which banned Netaji to contest in any election in Congress for next 3 years.</p>
<p>In 1940, when Udham Singh killed Odyayar who had done Jalianwala massacre, Savarkar congratulated him.</p>	<p>When Udham Singh killed Odyayar, Gandhiji said that he considered this act of recklessness and he argues that every Englishman should feel safe like at home when with us. Such kind of acts harm our non-violent movements.</p>
<p>In 1938, when Savarkar was elected president of Marathi Sahitya Sammelan (literacy circle), he proclaimed that today what we need is armed power, not literature power, we need action, not resolutions. Therefore, all young men, throw away the pen and occupy arms. Join armed forces and learn to handle arms. The literature can be protected only with arms!!</p>	<p>In June 1940, at Vardha meeting, Gandhiji's suggestion that India will not need armed forces for its protection was not accepted by the Congress committee. To communicate importance of this philosophy to general public, he was released from all other responsibilities.</p>
<p>In Nagpur speech, the belief that "noble" nations like England will not attack unarmed people, is totally baseless belief. There is no nation which will show such morality in war. If Hitler or Mussolini is out to win a new Empire because he wants more room on the globe for his people and power to expand, Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt want to secure and maintain their mastery over the Empires they already possess. Both are equally immoral. We should try to use this opportunity (of their difficult situation) to our best benefit. Savarkar pressed for more rights to Indians in exchange of co-operation during war efforts.</p> <p>In 1941, he sent a cable to American President Roosevelt, urging him to declare whether the Atlantic Charter announced by him and Churchill covered the case of India or not and whether</p>	<p>In September, the committee again requested Gandhiji to take over the authority, however, Gandhiji expressed that "I do not want England to lose the war. England is fighting armed war and I am a non-violent person, even then I have sympathy for England. I respect their bravery, however, such bravery is of no use. I cannot cooperate in such war." Gandhiji selected Vinoba Bhave as his first Satyagrahi. Majority of Congress leaders and ministers got themselves arrested.</p>

<p>Americans guaranteed freedom of India within a year of war. The cable was well publicised in American media and was broadcast throughout the world especially in Germany, Britain, America and fully exploited by Hitler to expose the Applies profession of love and democracy. British had to demonstrate some action towards this, one such action was Cripps proposal.</p>	
<p>Cripps proposal was dismissed by Savarkar because it allowed the provinces (states) to break up from India.</p>	<p>Congress objected to the scheme because defence was not going to be in total control of the new government, but it had no objection to the right to provinces to separate from India if they desire.</p>
<p>Savarkar was promoting joining of forces to learn the arms and then change the target as and when necessary!! Netaji could start his army only with the use of these Indian soldiers in the British army. Netaji had, in his speech on radio said, "While Congress leadership is criticising people joining the army, it is heartening to note that Savarkar is openly advising Indians to join the army. We are getting the supply of trained personnel from the same set of people!!"</p>	<p>Gandhiji, on taking full charge of the movement, said Congress is asking for British to go because some of us Indians feel really pity that India could not be used in the war effort as well as it could have been used, and we believe that if India was free, it would have been much useful in the world war. We know for sure that if India is not declared free, the unpopularity of British will lead to welcoming Japanese when they enter the country. This, we feel, will be a great disaster.</p>
<p>Savarkar openly opposed creation of Pakistan and even as the Muslim League and some Congress leaders like Rajaji were supporting it, Hindu Mahasabha created awareness against creation of such separate state.</p>	<p>On 2nd August, 1942, in his article in "Harijan", Gandhiji said, "Congress President Maulana Azad has said that Congress does not ask for the state controls for itself, but for all. Even if British handover the independence to Muslim League or anyone else, Congress will not intervene"</p>
<p>In 1942, Savarkar had predicted that the Quit India movement will convert to Split India movement at a later date. To avoid splitting India, Savarkar asked Indians to vote for Hindu Mahasabha in the elections. However, Congress also promised that they will not accept partition and got elected to power, and later accepted the partition!! Savarkar continued his efforts to avoid partition, but he could not stop the partition which was hastily accepted by Congress leaders to get the power.</p>	<p>Gandhiji had initially said that partition of India will happen only after partition of my body (that was before the elections). Later, when Congress accepted partition, he said, "People say that I should oppose partition as I had said earlier. However, that time whatever I said was as per public opinion. Now the public opinion is in favour of partition, so why should i oppose it? If ALL muslims in India were in agreement with me, i could have shown some way to avoid partition"!</p>
<p>Savarkar always promoted strong army capability in free India.</p>	<p>On 4th Decemeber 1947, Gandhiji had said that if Indian government stresses on increasing its army, it would get destroyed.</p>

<p>Savarkar was arrested in the Gandhiji murder case, however, was released without any charges. After 17 years, Savarkar, who believed in armed defence, died after 21 day fast.</p>	<p>Gandhiji started fast and to save his life, Nehru and Congress agreed to give Rs. 55 crores to Pakistan even when it was at war with India! Gandhiji, who started so many “until death” fasts and believed in non-violence, was shot by Nathuram Godse.</p>
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Note: Based on “Savarkar ani Gandhiji” written by Shri Balarav Savarkar