



# VIDYA BHAWAN BALIKA VIDYAPITH

SHAKTI UTTAN ASHRAM, LAKHISARAI

C.C.A FOR CLASS VI C & D

(STUDY MATERIAL BASED ON N.C.E.R.T)

RAAUSHAN DEEP

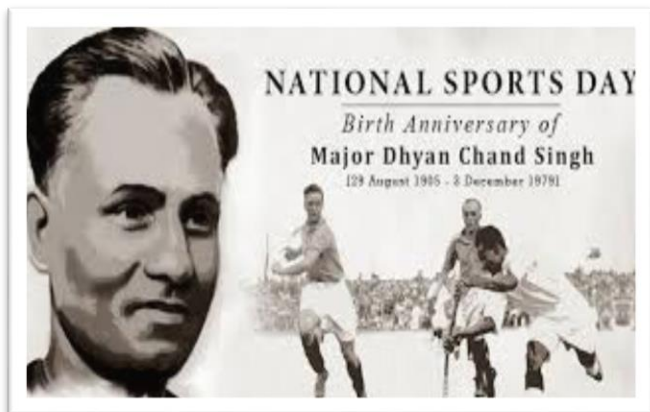
DATE- 28.08.2020(FRIDAY)

## MAJOR DHYAN CHAND (HOCKEY MAGICIAN)

Dhyan Singh was born on 29 August 1905 in Allahabad. His father was in the British Indian Army, and he played hockey in the army. The family moved often because of army transfers. The family finally settled in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh, India.<sup>[1]</sup>

Chand joined the Indian Army at the age of 16. The Hindi word *Chand* literally means "the moon". Dhyan was given the nickname Chand because he would wait until the moon was out so that he could practice hockey.

Major Dhyan Chand was an Indian hockey player widely regarded as the greatest hockey player in the history of the sport. He was known for his extraordinary goal-scoring feats, in addition to earning three Olympic gold medals, in 1928, 1932 and 1936, during an era where India dominated field hockey.



### Achievements of Dhyan Chand

The Indian hockey team won three Olympic gold medals—in the year 1928 in Amsterdam, in 1932 at Los Angeles, and in 1936 in Berlin—under the captainship of Major Dhyan Chand.

In 1956, he retired from the Indian Army with the rank of Major and in the same year, he was honoured with the Padma Bhushan award.

After his retirement, Major Dhyan Chand took the position of Chief Hockey Coach at the National Institute of Sports, Patiala.

### **Last moments and Death**

He spent the last part of his life in his hometown, Jhansi. It is saddening to know that in his last days, this legendary player was completely forgotten and ignored by the nation for which he played. He was not even able to get proper medical treatment towards the end. This worthy son of India silently left for his heavenly abode on 3 December, 1979.

### **Interesting Facts about Dhyan Chand**

1. Major Dhyan Chand's real name was Dhyan Singh. His first coach, Pankaj Gupta, conferred the title 'Chand' upon him in a bid to compare his praiseworthy skillfulness in playing hockey with the shining moon.
2. Major Dhyan Chand is also known as the 'wizard of hockey'.
3. In his early days, Dhyan Chand had no interest in playing hockey; he loved wrestling instead.
4. He did not wear shoes in the final match of the Berlin Olympics to increase his speed. India won the match 8-1.
5. In his career, Major Dhyan Chand scored over 1000 goals.
6. He is the only hockey player so far to have been awarded the Padma Bhushan.
7. His birthday is celebrated as the Indian Sports Day.