Biographical Notes

Abdullah, Sheikh Mahomed (b. 1905). Organized the National Conference in Kashmir State in 1938; president of the All-India States Peoples Conference 1946; Prime Minister of Kashmir from 1948 to 1953, when he was dismissed and arrested; thereafter served long terms in prison; assumed office again as Chief Minister of Kashmir in 1975.


Ali, Mahomed (1909-1963). Member of Muslim League in Bengal 1937-47; ambassador of Pakistan in various countries 1948-53; Prime Minister of Pakistan 1953-55.


Anshinleck, Sir C. (b. 1884). Field-Marshal; joined Indian army 1903; Commander-in-Chief India 1941 and 1943-7; Commander-in-Chief Middle East 1941-2; Supreme Commander in India and Pakistan 1947.

Bajpai, Sir G. S. (1891-1954). Entered Indian Civil Service 1914; member of Viceroy’s council 1940-41; agent-general for India in Washington 1941-7; Secretary-General in Ministry of External Affairs 1947-52; Governor of Bombay from 1952 till his death.


Bevin, Ernest (1881-1951). General Secretary of Transport and General Workers Union in Britain 1921-40; Minister of Labour 1940-45; Foreign Secretary 1945-51.

Bhabha, Homi (1909-66). Fellow of the Royal Society; Chairman of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission; Chairman of the international conference for peaceful uses of atomic energy 1955.


Chen En-lai (1898-1976). Founded Chinese communist youth group in Paris 1922; chief negotiator for communists 1946; Prime Minister of People's China from 1949 till his death.

Churchill, Sir Winston (1874-1965). Served in army in India 1895; Chancellor of the Exchequer 1924-9; Prime Minister 1940-45 and 1951-5.

Cripps, Sir S. (1889-1952). Visited India after the outbreak of war 1939; member of War Cabinet and deputed by it to India 1942; President of the Board of Trade 1945-7; member of Cabinet Mission to India 1946; Chancellor of the Exchequer 1947-50.

Daulatram, J. (b. 1892). Congressman of Sind; member of Working Committee 1928-41; Governor of Bihar 1947; Minister for Food and Agriculture 1948-50; Governor of Assam 1950-56.


Dastmukh, C. D. (b. 1896). Joined Indian Civil Service 1918; Governor of Reserve Bank 1943-9; Minister of Finance 1950-56.

Dixon, Sir O. (1886-1972). Judge of High Court of Australia 1929-52 and


Dutt, S. (b. 1905). Joined Indian Civil Service 1928; Ambassador in West Germany 1952-4; Foreign Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs 1954-61.


Elwin, V. (1902-64). Missionary who worked for many years among the tribes in central and north-eastern India; adviser to the Governor of Assam on tribal affairs from 1954.

Fraser, Peter (1884-1950). Joined Labour Party in New Zealand 1912; Minister for Health 1935-9 and Prime Minister 1939-49.

Gandhi, Mahatma (M.K.) (1869-1948). A barrister of Gujarat who trained Indians in South Africa to resist injustice by non-violent passive resistance; on return to India in 1915 adopted same methods to resist British rule; assassinated by a Hindu fanatic.

Ghulam Mabomed (1893-1956). In official service from 1923 to 1947; Finance Minister of Pakistan 1947-51; Governor-General of Pakistan 1951-55.

Gopalan, A. K. (1904-1977). Member of Congress from 1927 to 1939, when he joined the Communist Party; member of Lok Sabha 1952-77; member of politbureau of C.P.I. (Marxist) from 1964 till his death.


Henderson, L. (b. 1892). Member of United States foreign service; Ambassador to India 1948-51; member of United States delegation to London conference on Suez 1956.

Home, 14th earl (b. 1903). Disclaimed peerage 1963, created life peer 1974; Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations 1955-60; Foreign Secretary 1960-63; Prime Minister 1963-4; Foreign Secretary 1970-74.

Ismay, 1st baron (1887-1965). Commissioned in British Army 1905; Military Secretary to Viceroy 1931-3; Chief of Staff to Winston Churchill 1940-45; Chief of Staff to Lord Mountbatten in India March-November 1947; Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations 1951-2; Secretary-General of NATO 1952-7.


Jayaprakash Narayan (b. 1902). One of the founders of the Congress Socialist Party 1934; member of Working Committee of Congress 1936; after 1947 was for some time a leading member of the Socialist Party; in detention 1975.

Jinnah, M. A. (1876-1948). A barrister of Bombay and President of the Muslim League 1916, 1920 and from 1934 till his death; a nationalist who later campaigned for the creation of Pakistan, of which he was Governor-General 1947-8.


Kadar, J. (b. 1912). Member of Communist Party of Hungary from 1931; in prison 1951-4; formed government after suppression of national uprising in 1956.

Kamaraj, K. (1903-75). Congressman from Madras; President Tamil Nadu Congress Committee 1940-54; Chief Minister of Madras 1954-63; President of Indian National Congress 1963-7.

Karan Singh, (b. 1931). Son of Maharaja Hari Singh of Kashmir; acted as ruler of Kashmir 1949-52 and served as elected head of state 1952-65;
Governor of Kashmir 1965-7; Union Minister for Civil Aviation 1967-73 and for Health 1973-77.


*Khan*, Liaqat Ali (1895-1951). General Secretary of the Muslim League from 1936; member of Interim Government 1946-7; Prime Minister of Pakistan from 1947 till his assassination in 1951.

*Khan Sabib* (1882-1958). Elder brother of Ghaffar Khan and personal friend of Nehru; Chief Minister of Congress ministries in North-West Frontier Province 1937-9 and 1945-7; in prison in Pakistan 1947-53; Chief Minister of West Pakistan 1955-7; assassinated in 1958.


*Khrushchev*, N. S. (1894-1971). Elected to Central Committee of Communist Party of Soviet Union 1934; member of the Presidium 1949; First Secretary of Central Committee 1953-64 and Chairman of Council of Ministers of Soviet Union 1958-64.


*Koirala*, B. P. (b. 1914). Educated in India; Prime Minister of Nepal 1959-60; thereafter served long terms in prison and spent many years in exile.

*Kripalani*, J. B. (b. 1888). General Secretary of the Congress 1934-46 and President in 1946; later resigned from the Congress.


*Lloyd*, Selwyn, created baron Selwyn-Lloyd (1904-78). Conservative M.P. 1945-70; Foreign Secretary 1955-60, Chancellor of the Exchequer

MacDonald, M. (b. 1901). Son of Ramsay MacDonald; Secretary of State for Dominions 1935-8 and for Colonies 1938-40; British Commissioner-General in South East Asia 1948-55; High Commissioner in India 1955-60.


Menon, K. P. S. (b. 1898). Joined Indian Civil Service 1921; later seconded to Indian Political Service; Ambassador to China 1947; Foreign Secretary in Ministry of External Affairs 1948-52; Ambassador to the Soviet Union 1952-61.


Mikoyan, A. I. (1895-1978). Member of Central Committee of Communist Party of Soviet Union from 1923 and of Politbureau from 1935; Minister for Trade 1953-5; first deputy chairman of council of ministers 1955-64; President of the Presidium of Supreme Soviet 1964-5.

Mirza, I. (1899-1969). Joined Indian army 1921 and selected for political service 1926; Defence Secretary in Pakistan 1947; Minister for Home Affairs 1954; Governor-General 1955 and President of Pakistan 1956-8.

Mountbatten of Burma, 1st earl (b. 1900). Chief of Combined Operations 1942-3; Supreme Allied Commander South East Asia 1943-6; Viceroy of India March-August 1947; Governor-General of India August 1947 – June 1948.


Munshi, K. M. (1891-1971). Minister in Bombay 1937-9; Union Minister of Food and Agriculture 1950-52; Governor of Uttar Pradesh 1952-7; later joined the conservative Swatantra Party.


Ny, U (b. 1907). Joined nationalist party in Burma 1938; Prime Minister 1947-58 and 1960-62; a devout Buddhist.

Nye, Sir A. (1895-1967). Vice-Chief of Imperial General Staff 1941-6; Governor of Madras 1946-8; British High Commissioner in India 1948-52.

Panikkar, K. M. (1895-1963). Historian; served in the Princely States; after 1947 Ambassador to China, Egypt and France; member of the States reorganization commission.


Patel, V. (1875-1950). Organizer of no-rent campaign in Bardoli 1928; President of the Congress in 1931; member of the Interim Government 1946-7; Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Home, States, Information and Broadcasting 1947-50.


Petrick-Lawrence, 1st baron (1871-1961). Secretary of State for India 1945-7; member of Cabinet Mission to India 1946.
Pillai, N. R. (b. 1898). Joined Indian Civil Service 1921; Secretary-General in Ministry of External Affairs 1952-60.


Prasad, Rajendra (1884-1963). President of the Congress 1934, 1939 and 1947-8; President of the Constituent Assembly 1946-50; President of India 1950-62.


Raghavan, N. (1900-77). Educated in Madras; set up legal practice in Malaya 1928; joined Subhas Bose during the war; Ambassador to China 1952-5, Argentina 1956-9 and France 1959-60.

Rajagopalachari, C. (1878-1972). Leading Congressman of Madras; Chief Minister of Madras 1937-9; Governor of West Bengal 1947-8; Governor-General of India 1948-50; Union Minister without Portfolio and then for Home Affairs 1950-51; Chief Minister of Madras 1952-4; founder of the conservative Swatantra Party.


Roy, B. C. (1882-1962). Physician and Congressman of Calcutta; Chief Minister of West Bengal from 1948 till his death.

St Laurent, L. (1882-1973). Lawyer of Quebec; Minister of External Affairs of Canada 1946-8; Prime Minister 1948-57.


Sri Prakasar (1890-1971). Contemporary of Nehru at Cambridge; secretary
of U.P. Provincial Congress Committee 1928-34; after 1947 served as 
High Commissioner in Pakistan, Union Minister and Governor of 
Assam, of Madras and of Maharashtra.

Stevenson, A. (1900-65). Governor of Illinois 1949-53; Democratic can-
didate for presidency of United States 1952 and 1956; visited India 

Sukarno, A. (1901-70). Leader of Indonesian nationalist movement; 
President of Indonesia 1949-67.

Tandon, Purushottam Das (1882-1962). Congressman of Allahabad; 
Speaker, U.P. Assembly 1937-9 and 1946-50; elected President of the 
Congress 1950 but resigned in 1951 because of differences with Nehru.

Tara Singh (1885-1967). Prominent Sikh leader; agitated for division of 
East Punjab to provide a separate province for Sikhs.

Thimayya, General K. S. (1906-65). Soldier with distinguished service in 
Second World War and in Kashmir operations 1947-8; chairman of 
nearal nations repatriation commission in Korea 1953; Chief of Army 
Staff in India 1957-61.

Tito, Marshal (b. 1892). Leader of guerilla forces in Yugoslavia during 
Second World War; Prime Minister of Yugoslavia since 1945 and 
President since 1953.

Truman, H. S. (1884-1972). Elected Vice-President of United States 1945 
and President 1945-53.

Vijayalakshmi Pandit (b. 1900). Sister of Nehru; married R. S. Pandit in 
1921 (he died 1944); minister in U.P. 1937-9 and 1946; Ambassador in 
Moscow 1947-9, and to United States 1949-51; president of United 
Nations General Assembly 1953-4; High Commissioner in London 
1954-61; Governor of Maharashtra 1962-4.

Foreign Minister 1949-53; Soviet permanent delegate at United Nations 
1953-4.

Zafrulla Khan, M. (b. 1893). Member of Viceroy's Council 1935-41; Judge 
of the Federal Court 1941-7; Foreign Minister of Pakistan 1947-54; 
permanent representative of Pakistan at United Nations 1961-4; Judge 
of the International Court 1954-61 and 1964-70; President of the Court 
1970-73.