



St. Vincent College
(Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University)
Pune -411037

Title of the Event	Seminar and Themed Reading Day: “Subhas Chandra Bose: The Fire of Patriotism and the Ethics of Fearless Action”		
Date of the Event	23rd January 2025	Place of the event	St. Vincent College, Pune
Objectives of the Event	The seminar and Themed Reading Day aimed to commemorate Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti (Desh Prem Diwas) by critically engaging with his vision of ethical patriotism, inclusive nationalism, and youth leadership. It sought to align Bose’s ideals—courage, discipline, and service to the nation—with St. Vincent College’s mission of forming socially responsible and morally grounded citizens.		
Name/s of the Resource Persons	Dr. Anil Adsule		

A short narration of the program

Report on the Seminar and Themed Reading Day: “Subhas Chandra Bose: The Fire of Patriotism and the Ethics of Fearless Action”

On 23rd January 2025, St. Vincent College, Pune, commemorated Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti—observed nationally as Desh Prem Diwas (National Patriotism Day)—with a compelling academic program titled “Subhas Chandra Bose: The Fire of Patriotism and the Ethics of Fearless Action.” The event, structured as a seminar followed by a Themed Reading Day, was held in the college’s library and seminar hall, spaces chosen to reflect Bose’s belief that “education should aim at building character, strengthening the mind, and kindling the spirit of service.” As an institution committed to forming ethically grounded, socially conscious, and courageous individuals, St. Vincent College finds deep resonance in Bose’s legacy—not only as a revolutionary leader but as a visionary who fused unwavering patriotism with a profound sense of moral responsibility, discipline, and inclusive nationalism. This program served both as a tribute to his indomitable spirit and as a reaffirmation of the college’s alignment with his ideals of selfless service, leadership with integrity, and love for the nation rooted in justice.

The day commenced with the solemn playing of Bose’s iconic call—“Give me blood, and I shall give you freedom!”—followed by a moment of silence in honor of his sacrifices. A floral tribute was offered before a portrait of Netaji, and selected excerpts from his speeches, letters, and the “Indian Struggle” were read aloud, emphasizing his convictions on unity, youth empowerment, and the moral imperative of resistance



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against oppression. These opening moments set a tone of reverence, urgency, and intellectual engagement, inviting participants to move beyond mythologizing Bose and instead critically examine the philosophical and ethical dimensions of his leadership.

The formal proceedings were inaugurated by Dr. Anil Adsule, Principal of St. Vincent College. In his address, Dr. Adsule positioned Subhas Chandra Bose not merely as a symbol of militant nationalism but as a complex, principled leader whose patriotism was inseparable from his commitment to social equity and national unity. He highlighted Bose's unwavering belief in a secular, pluralistic India—evident in his formation of the Azad Hind Fauj, which included soldiers from diverse religious, linguistic, and regional backgrounds. Dr. Adsule drew parallels between Bose's emphasis on discipline, self-sacrifice, and collective action and the college's Jesuit educational mission of forming "men and women for others" who lead with courage and conscience. "Netaji taught us that true patriotism is not just love for the land, but love for its people—especially the marginalized," he remarked. "His life challenges us to ask: what are we willing to give for the dignity of our nation and its citizens?"

This was followed by a scholarly lecture by Dr. Yogesh Mate, who provided historical depth and critical perspective on Bose's political philosophy and legacy. Dr. Mate contextualized Bose's divergence from the Gandhian model of non-violence not as a rejection of morality, but as a strategic and ethical response to the exigencies of colonial subjugation. He explored Bose's vision of a modern, industrialized, and socially just India, as articulated in his writings and radio broadcasts from Southeast Asia. Dr. Mate also addressed the enduring relevance of Bose's call to youth: "Youth should dare to dream, dare to act, and never accept injustice as inevitable." He emphasized how Bose's emphasis on unity—transcending caste, creed, and region—remains a vital antidote to contemporary divisions. The lecture further examined the global dimensions of Bose's struggle, including his engagements with international anti-colonial movements, underscoring his role as a transnational figure in the fight for decolonization.

The Themed Reading Day formed the experiential core of the program. Students and faculty participated in small-group readings of Bose's speeches, letters to Gandhi and Nehru, excerpts from "The Indian Struggle," and accounts of the Azad Hind movement. Facilitated discussions explored themes such as the ethics of



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resistance, the responsibilities of leadership, the meaning of secular nationalism, and the role of youth in democratic renewal. The college library hosted a curated exhibition featuring archival photographs, reproductions of INA uniforms and flags, timelines of Bose’s global journey, and student reflections on what “Desh Prem” means in the 21st century—ranging from civic participation and environmental stewardship to standing against hate and inequality.

Given the college’s emphasis on character formation and ethical leadership, many participants connected Bose’s ideals to their own roles as future professionals and citizens. Several students noted how his discipline, clarity of purpose, and ability to inspire collective action offer a model for leadership in any field—not just politics.

The event concluded with a collective recitation of Bose’s pledge: “I am a soldier of India. My only duty is to serve my motherland.” This was not presented as mere rhetoric, but as a call to embody patriotism through daily acts of integrity, service, and courage.

In its execution, the seminar avoided uncritical glorification, instead presenting Subhas Chandra Bose as a dynamic, flawed, yet profoundly principled leader whose life invites ongoing reflection. By weaving his legacy into academic discourse and moral formation, St. Vincent College reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing youth who understand that true love for the nation is expressed not in slogans, but in sustained, ethical action for the common good. Through this event, the college honored Netaji not just as a hero of the past, but as a living inspiration for a new generation of fearless, compassionate, and conscientious citizens.

Name of the Collaborating Agency	Library, St. Vincent College
Learning Outcomes of the Event for the Participants	Participants developed a nuanced understanding of Bose’s political philosophy beyond popular narratives, appreciating the ethical dimensions of his resistance and his commitment to unity and social justice. They were inspired to reinterpret patriotism as active, principled engagement in civic life and national well-being.
Learning Outcomes for the Organizing team	The organizing team enhanced their ability to design historically informed, values-based academic programs that foster critical reflection on nationalism and leadership. They also strengthened their skills in curating multidisciplinary content, facilitating



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	dialogue on complex historical legacies, and connecting national commemoration with institutional educational goals.
No. of Participants	50+ Students and Faculty
Faculty in Charge	Dr. Yogesh Mate
Documents Attached	1. Attendance Sheet 2. Geotag photographs 3. Resume of resource persons if any 4. Copy of remuneration paid if any 5. Notice of the event 6. Thank you letter to the resource persons