Bhima Nayak

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Key Facts

Bhima Nayak

The Government recently paid tribute to **Bhima Nayak**, the **Bhil Tribal leader** of Madhya Pradesh.

Bhima Nayak Memorial at village Dhaba Bawdi of Badwani district

[Ref- Amrit Mahotsav]

About Bhima Nayak:

- He was a **prominent leader of the Bhils of Nimar**, residing in Dhaba Bawdi, Badwani district of **Madhya Pradesh.**
- He participated in the **Uprising of 1857** against the British Raj, rallying men from **Bhil, Bhilala, Mandoi, and Naik tribes** to form an anti-British force.
- During the 1857 revolution, he **collaborated with Tatya Tope**, assisting him in **crossing the Narmada river** when Tope came to Nimar.
- Bhima Nayak earned the moniker "**Robinhood of Nimar**" for his exploits, including deploying troops on the **Bhil-populated Bombay and Agra Highway.**
- He successfully disrupted the British troop movements by playing a role in the 1857 **Ambagani War** and remained hidden from **British authorities ill 1859.**
- In June 1860, Bhima Nayak and his associates **looted a British encampment in Kheir** village, Sultanpur Taluka of **Khandesh.**
- Despite evading British troops successfully for some time, Bhima Nayak was eventually **defeated by Captain Keatings' forces** in 1861.
- He managed to escape capture initially but was later betrayed by an informant, leading to his **arrest in 1861 from his jungle hideout.**
- Bhima Nayak was found guilty, sentenced to **transportation for life**, and sent to the **Cellular Jail in the Andaman Islands**.
- He **died in Port Blair,** Andaman Islands, on **December 29, 1876.**
- In honor of his contributions, a **government scheme** named "**Shaheed Bhima Nayak Pariyojna**" in Madhya Pradesh was dedicated to him.
- A "**Bhima Nayak Memorial**" was erected in his native village in 2017.