



Rukhmabai Raut - Why is She Today's Google Doodle?

Google India has paid a tribute to Rukhmabai by creating a Google Doodle on 22nd November 2017. Today will mark her **153rd Birth Anniversary**. Every now and then, Google releases an image, gif or an interactive animation to mark certain big or small events in History. These are popularly known as '**Google Doodles**'. These doodles are designed by illustrators & artists. According to Google, the Google logo is spontaneously changed to celebrate holidays, anniversaries, and the lives of famous artists, pioneers, and scientists. Today's doodle is about **Rukhmabai Raut** who became one of the first practising women doctors in colonial India. Google doodles surface in the News and signify the marking of important events related to famous personalities. You can definitely be asked Question based on these important personalities in your IBPS PO exam (Essay writing!), IBPS Clerk, SSC CHSL, [SSC CGL](#), etc. They can also be asked in your Bank exam interviews! So here's all you need to know about Rukhmabai Raut to score in your exam!

Interesting Facts about Rukhmabai Raut - Today's Google Doodle

⇒ Early Life of Rukhmabai

- Rukhmabai Raut lost her father when she was 8 years old and was married off at the age of 11 to **Dadaji Bhikaji**.
- Her mother later married Sakharam Arjun, an eminent physician and the founding member of Bombay Natural History Society.



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- 7 years later, Dadaji - her husband, moved to court seeking to order his wife to live with him.
- **Rukhmabai refused to move in** with her husband stating that a woman cannot be compelled to stay in a wedlock when she is not interested.

⇒ Age of Consent Act in 1891

- The **Dadaji vs. Rukhmabai** case that went on for 3 years triggered a debate in both England and India.
- The verdict went in favour of Dadaji. The court ordered Rukhmabai to live with her husband or face six months Imprisonment.
- She bravely said that she chose to face **6 months imprisonment** instead of staying with her husband.
- The verdict was subsequently overruled by **Queen Victoria**. Which forced the Indian government to enact the **Age of Consent Act in 1891**.

⇒ Career as a Medical Professional

- Rukhmabai legally separated from her husband in 1888 and moved to England to study medicine.
- She wrote numerous letters in the newspapers under the pseudonym '**A Hindu Lady**', winning the support of many and when she expressed her wish to study medicine, a fund was created to support her travel and study in England at the **London School of Medicine** in 1889.
- She **returned to India in 1894** and practised in Surat, Rajkot, and Bombay for the next 35 years.
- She gradually became a **Symbol of Women Empowerment** and took her last breath on September 25, 1955.



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This Google Doodle on Rukhmabai was illustrated by Shreya Gupta!

This was the brief but informative history of Rukhmabai Raut. Know more about similar such GK articles by clicking on the links given below!

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