

KHADI: THE FABRIC OF INDIA'S FREEDOM, EVOLUTION, AND CULTURAL LEGACY

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Abstract:

Khadi: The Fabric of India's Freedom, Evolution, and Cultural Legacy holds immense significance as it embodies the spirit of India's struggle for independence and self-reliance. Initially promoted by Mahatma Gandhi as a tool for economic empowerment and a symbol of resistance against British colonial rule, Khadi transcended its role as merely a fabric to become a powerful emblem of national pride. Its promotion encouraged millions to abandon foreign goods and embrace local craftsmanship, fostering a sense of unity and identity among diverse communities. The fabric's handspun and handwoven nature not only supports traditional artisans but also symbolizes the dignity of labor and the resilience of rural economies. In contemporary times, Khadi has evolved into a sought-after sustainable and eco-friendly material, aligning with modern values of ethical consumption and environmental consciousness. As it gains popularity in the global fashion industry, Khadi represents a fusion of tradition and modernity, showcasing India's rich cultural heritage while adapting to contemporary aesthetics. The ongoing initiatives by the government and various organizations to promote Khadi ensure that it continues to play a vital role in empowering artisans, preserving traditional crafts, and contributing to rural development. Ultimately, Khadi remains a potent reminder of India's journey towards independence and a testament to the enduring legacy of its cultural identity.

Keywords: Khadi, Fabric, India, Freedom, Evolution, Cultural Legacy

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Introduction:

The term "khadi" refers to any fabric that is woven on a handloom from cotton, silk, or wool and then spun into yarn using a spinning wheel or from a mixture of any two or all of these types of yarn. It is a fabric that can be worn in a variety of climates, especially during the summer and winter, and it is generally acknowledged in the fashion industry. The government of Assam, through the Assam Khadi & Village Industries Board (AKVIB), is working to increase the use of khadi in the state.

Cotton, silk, or wool are all varieties of khadi. The texture of Khadi fabrics is easily distinguishable from that of handloom and other types of fabrics. There are some little weaving faults or unevenness, which contribute to the Khadi beauty that it possesses. Raw

Silk Khadi, Tussar Silk, Matka Khadi, Poly Khadi, and a great number of other types of Khadi are all combinations of Khadi with other types of fibers. The distinctive quality of khadi is that it offers the wearer the ability to remain warm in the winter and cool in the summer. It will look and feel better the more you wash it, so wash it frequently. More than just a fabric, khadi is a way of life in its own right. It represents the concept of independence as well as returning to the fundamentals.

Over the course of several decades, khadi has transitioned from being a cloth used by liberation fighters to becoming a fashion garment. The term "khadi" has many other meanings in modern times, and it is not limited to cotton alone. It is not only the specific technology that is utilized in the manufacturing

of Khadi that varies from place to region, but also the techniques that are employed for its decorating (such as dyeing, stitching, printing, of course). Today, there is such a growing need for Khadi that, despite the fact that millions of workers all throughout the country are involved in spinning it, they are unable to meet the demand that is being placed on them by the market. However, the beauty of Khadi lies in the fact that the fabric is handmade, and as a result, it has imperfections that are natural to it. In addition, the Khadi connoisseur is always looking for ways to increase their level of exclusivity. Khadi is not only a lucrative business opportunity, but it is also a scientific endeavor and a romantic endeavor.

Definition of Khadi:

According to Gandhi, “Khadi is not merely a piece of cloth; it is a symbol of India's freedom struggle and a manifestation of self-reliance and sustainable development.”

According to Jain, “Khadi refers to any cloth that is handspun and handwoven, made from cotton, silk, or wool, typically crafted on a traditional spinning wheel or 'charkha'.”

According to Bajpai, “Khadi is an eco-friendly and sustainable fabric that reduces carbon footprints by employing traditional spinning and weaving techniques.”

According to Chatterjee, “Khadi was used by Mahatma Gandhi as a tool for the economic empowerment of rural India, advocating local production and consumption of handwoven cloth.”

According to Sharma, “Khadi reflects the fine craftsmanship of Indian weavers, embodying a blend of tradition, culture, and sustainable practices.”

Origin of Khadi as a Cloth:

Khadi, a fabric that is handspun and handwoven, holds a unique place in India's cultural and political history. More than just cloth, it symbolizes self-reliance, simplicity, and national pride. While Khadi has ancient

roots in India's textile tradition, it gained prominence during the 20th century under Mahatma Gandhi's leadership as a powerful tool for the Indian independence movement. Gandhi used Khadi as an economic and political weapon to challenge British colonial rule and promote the principles of self-sufficiency and dignity of labor.

Historical Background

Ancient Indian Textile Tradition: India's rich textile tradition dates back thousands of years. From the Indus Valley civilization to the Mughal period, India was renowned for its fine textiles, especially cotton. Handspun and handwoven cloth, including muslin and other cotton varieties, were widely produced across the country. Ancient records and travelers' accounts describe Indian textiles as being among the finest in the world, celebrated for their lightness and intricate designs. Cotton spinning was a domestic craft practiced by women, and handloom weaving was a significant industry in rural communities.

This decentralized system of textile production not only met local needs but also fueled a thriving export economy. Indian fabrics, particularly muslin from Bengal, silk from Gujarat, and cotton from Tamil Nadu, were in great demand in markets around the world. Khadi, though not referred to by that name at the time, was among the many types of cloth produced by traditional handloom methods, supporting millions of artisans and weavers in India.

Decline of Indian Handloom Industry Under British Rule:

The textile landscape of India began to change drastically with the arrival of the British East India Company and, later, the formal colonization of India by the British Empire. British policies were designed to benefit their industrial economy at the expense of India's traditional industries. Raw cotton from India was exported to Britain, where it was manufactured into finished textiles in mechanized mills. These

machine-made goods were then sold back to India at lower prices than the handwoven cloth produced by local artisans.

This influx of cheap British textiles led to the collapse of India's domestic handloom industry. Artisans, who had once thrived, found themselves out of work, and entire rural communities became impoverished. The decline of the handloom industry was not just an economic setback but also a cultural one, as traditional methods of spinning and weaving were marginalized. As Mukherjee (2010) notes, "The British systematically dismantled India's textile heritage, rendering weavers and artisans jobless and contributing to the erosion of rural economies."

Mahatma Gandhi and the Revival of Khadi

Gandhi's Ideology and the Symbolism of Khadi:

Mahatma Gandhi saw the decimation of India's textile industry as symbolic of the larger economic and political exploitation of India by the British. To counter this, he turned to Khadi — a fabric that embodied India's traditional values of simplicity and self-reliance. In 1918, Gandhi launched the Khadi movement, urging Indians to abandon foreign-made goods and return to the use of handspun and handwoven cloth. He viewed Khadi as a way to revive India's rural economy, empower the poor, and promote unity in the struggle for independence (Jain, 2003).

In his writings, Gandhi emphasized that Khadi was more than just cloth; it was an emblem of dignity and self-sufficiency. He believed that if every Indian spun their own yarn and wove their own cloth, the country could break free from the economic stranglehold of British goods and regain its autonomy. "Khadi represents not only the simplicity of Indian life, but also the purity of means for achieving freedom" (Gandhi, 1927).

The Role of the Charkha (Spinning Wheel):

Central to Gandhi's Khadi movement was the *charkha*, or spinning wheel, which he promoted as a symbol of

India's fight for independence. The *charkha* became a political tool that was easy to operate, even for the poorest villagers. Gandhi envisioned the *charkha* as a means for every Indian to contribute to the nation's freedom by spinning their own yarn, thereby reducing dependency on British-made textiles (Chatterjee, 2016).

The spinning wheel also symbolized the dignity of labor and the importance of self-reliance. Gandhi believed that manual work, particularly spinning, could restore economic independence to millions of unemployed rural artisans. He argued that the revival of handloom weaving and spinning would not only meet India's domestic needs but also restore the pride of the people. As a result, Khadi became not only a fabric but a moral statement — a testament to India's resolve to reclaim its economic freedom through non-violent means.

Institutionalizing Khadi: The All India Spinners' Association:

In 1925, Gandhi founded the All India Spinners' Association (AISA) to organize the production and promotion of Khadi. AISA aimed to train people in the art of spinning and weaving, supply them with raw materials, and ensure a market for Khadi products. The association played a crucial role in popularizing Khadi among the masses and integrating it into the larger framework of India's independence movement.

Khadi became a unifying symbol during the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920–1922) and the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930–1934). People across India embraced Khadi as part of their everyday lives, using it to express their rejection of British goods and their commitment to the freedom struggle. It was no longer just a rural fabric; it became a political statement of national pride and resistance to colonial rule (Chatterjee, 2016).

Khadi in Post-Independence India: After India achieved independence in 1947, Khadi retained its

symbolic value, though its role evolved in a rapidly modernizing economy. The Indian government established the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in 1957 to promote Khadi production and support rural artisans. Today, Khadi continues to be woven, both as a reminder of the sacrifices made during the freedom struggle and as a representation of sustainable and ethical fashion.

Although Khadi's political relevance diminished after independence, its cultural and economic importance endures. It has found a new niche in the global marketplace as an eco-friendly and artisanal fabric, celebrated for its sustainable production methods and support for rural livelihoods.

Development of Khadi Production:

The development of Khadi production has evolved significantly since its revival during the Indian independence movement. From being a symbol of resistance to British colonialism to becoming a marker of sustainable and ethical fashion, Khadi's journey reflects the social, economic, and technological changes India has undergone. The essence of Khadi, however, remains grounded in its connection to self-sufficiency, rural employment, and national pride.

Khadi during the Freedom Movement: The revival of Khadi during India's struggle for independence is closely linked to the efforts of Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhi promoted Khadi as part of the Swadeshi Movement to boycott British goods and encourage Indians to produce their own cloth. He believed that the promotion of Khadi would not only weaken the British textile industry but also provide employment to millions of rural Indians, fostering economic self-reliance. Hand-spun and handwoven Khadi became a symbol of India's fight for economic and political independence. As Gandhi famously said, "Khadi is the sun of the village solar system," reflecting its central role in his vision for rural India.

Post-Independence Era and Institutionalization of Khadi: After India gained independence in 1947, Khadi continued to play a crucial role in the country's rural development policies. The Indian government institutionalized the promotion of Khadi through the establishment of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in 1956. The mandate of KVIC was to promote the production of Khadi and village industries, provide financial support, and ensure the welfare of rural artisans (KVIC, 2020). This institutional framework allowed Khadi to evolve from a mere symbol of resistance to a tool for rural empowerment and self-reliance.

Under KVIC's guidance, Khadi production was expanded to various regions, creating employment opportunities in rural areas where industrial development was limited. Government policies provided subsidies, financial assistance, and training to artisans, allowing them to improve their skills and increase productivity. Additionally, KVIC played a key role in organizing the production and sale of Khadi through a network of Khadi Gramodyog Bhavans, which offered a retail platform for Khadi products across India.

Technological Advancements in Khadi Production:

While Khadi remained true to its roots as a hand-spun and handwoven fabric, production techniques have evolved to meet changing demands and challenges. During the early years of its revival, Khadi was produced entirely by hand, using traditional spinning wheels or charkhas. However, this labor-intensive process posed challenges in terms of production speed and cost-effectiveness, especially as the textile industry became more mechanized globally.

To address these challenges, KVIC and other organizations introduced technological innovations aimed at improving productivity without compromising the hand-made nature of Khadi. Semi-automatic charkhas were introduced, allowing artisans

to produce yarn at a faster rate while maintaining the authenticity of hand-spinning. This helped balance the need for increased production with the preservation of traditional methods. Furthermore, eco-friendly practices, such as the use of natural dyes and organic cotton, were promoted to align Khadi production with modern sustainability standards.

Challenges in Competing with Industrial Textiles:

Despite its cultural and symbolic significance, Khadi has faced challenges in competing with mass-produced textiles. Mechanized textile production, which offers lower costs and faster output, has often overshadowed the labor-intensive process of making Khadi. The global textile industry, driven by industrialization, has created stiff competition for Khadi producers. However, the unique appeal of Khadi as an eco-friendly, hand-crafted fabric has allowed it to carve out a niche in both domestic and global markets.

In recent years, there has been a growing demand for sustainable and ethical fashion, which has benefited Khadi. Artisans and producers have worked to reposition Khadi as a premium, environmentally friendly product that aligns with modern consumers' values. This trend has allowed Khadi to gain a foothold in the fashion industry, particularly among consumers who are conscious of sustainability and ethical production practices.

Government Initiatives and KVIC's Role in Modern

Khadi Promotion: The Indian government has continued to promote Khadi through various initiatives, with KVIC playing a central role. The introduction of marketing and financial schemes aimed at promoting Khadi has been instrumental in ensuring its survival in the modern economy. KVIC's efforts to modernize the Khadi sector while preserving its traditional essence have included:

- **Financial Support:** Providing loans and grants to Khadi-producing institutions and artisans.

- **Skill Development:** Organizing training programs for artisans to enhance their skills and improve the quality of Khadi products.
- **Marketing Initiatives:** Expanding the retail network for Khadi through online platforms, exhibitions, and partnerships with designers.

KVIC has also collaborated with fashion designers and international brands to reposition Khadi as a fashionable and sustainable fabric. These collaborations have helped Khadi break into urban and international markets, attracting younger consumers who are conscious of ethical fashion. Additionally, KVIC's focus on e-commerce has made Khadi products more accessible to a global audience, further boosting sales and expanding its reach.

The Resurgence of Khadi as a Symbol of

Sustainable Fashion: In recent years, Khadi has seen a resurgence in popularity as the world embraces sustainability. The fabric's hand-made nature, use of natural fibers, and low environmental impact have made it a sought-after material in the global fashion industry. Designers have used Khadi in contemporary collections, giving it a modern aesthetic while retaining its traditional values. This has not only increased demand for Khadi but has also provided artisans with new opportunities to showcase their craft to a broader audience.

The Indian government has also positioned Khadi as a symbol of sustainable development. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's endorsement of Khadi as a "fabric for the nation" has revitalized interest in it, particularly among young Indians. The government's initiatives to promote Khadi as part of India's identity and its potential to contribute to sustainable rural development have further strengthened its position in the market.

Promoters of Khadi:

The promotion of Khadi, especially in the 20th century, was a concerted effort led by key figures in India's political, social, and cultural landscape. Khadi, initially

a traditional handwoven cloth, was revived as a symbol of self-reliance and Indian nationalism, thanks to the efforts of several visionaries. Below are the key promoters who played significant roles in the development and promotion of Khadi:

1. **Mahatma Gandhi**

Mahatma Gandhi is undoubtedly the most significant promoter of Khadi. His vision for Khadi was rooted in his broader philosophy of *Swadeshi*, or self-reliance. Gandhi believed that by spinning their own yarn and weaving their own cloth, Indians could break free from the economic stranglehold of British textile imports. He promoted Khadi not only as a means to revive the rural economy but also as a powerful tool of non-violent resistance against British colonial rule. Gandhi wrote extensively about Khadi and often referred to it as a symbol of India's self-respect and dignity.

In his words: "*Khadi is the sun of the village solar system. The planets are the various industries which can support Khadi in turn.*"

— **Mahatma Gandhi**

Through the establishment of the *All India Spinners' Association* (AISA) in 1925, Gandhi institutionalized the promotion of Khadi. He encouraged people across the country to boycott British-made goods and adopt Khadi as a symbol of national pride.

2. **Vinoba Bhave**

Vinoba Bhave, a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi and a prominent social reformer, played a crucial role in promoting Khadi as part of his broader vision of rural development and social justice. Bhave emphasized the importance of Khadi in empowering rural communities and uplifting the poor. As a promoter of the *Sarvodaya* movement, which focused on the welfare of all, Bhave saw Khadi as a means of achieving economic equality and reducing rural poverty. He promoted the use of

Khadi in the *Bhoodan Movement* (Land Gift Movement), where he encouraged wealthy landowners to donate land to the landless, accompanied by the practice of spinning Khadi as a way to sustain the rural economy.

3. **Kasturba Gandhi**

Kasturba Gandhi, the wife of Mahatma Gandhi, was also a strong advocate of Khadi. She led by example, spinning Khadi daily and encouraging other women to do the same. Kasturba promoted Khadi as a means of women's empowerment, as it allowed rural women to contribute economically while staying within their traditional roles in the household. Through her involvement in women's organizations and her participation in Gandhi's non-cooperation and civil disobedience movements, Kasturba became an important figure in promoting Khadi as both a political and social tool.

4. **Jawaharlal Nehru**

Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, was a firm supporter of Mahatma Gandhi's Khadi movement. Although Nehru was more inclined towards modernization and industrialization in the post-independence era, he acknowledged the importance of Khadi in the freedom struggle and its role in nation-building. Nehru often wore Khadi garments himself and encouraged others to do the same, especially during national events and official ceremonies. He saw Khadi as a unifying symbol of India's cultural heritage and a reminder of the sacrifices made during the independence movement.

5. **Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay**

Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, an Indian social reformer and freedom fighter, was instrumental in the promotion of traditional Indian crafts, including Khadi. She was one of the earliest leaders to recognize the economic potential of handicrafts and handloom products in independent India.

Kamaladevi worked extensively to organize artisans and promote Indian crafts through various platforms. She also played a crucial role in the establishment of the *All India Handicrafts Board* in 1952, which helped revive and promote Khadi at a time when the focus was shifting towards industrialization.

Kamaladevi viewed Khadi as not just a political symbol but also as a way to preserve India's rich cultural heritage and provide sustainable livelihoods for artisans. She is remembered for her work in reviving Khadi and other traditional crafts, contributing to the creation of an economic model that blended tradition with modern needs.

6. *Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)*

The *Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)*, established in 1957, is a statutory body under the Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises. It was set up to promote Khadi and support rural artisans by providing them with training, raw materials, and access to markets. KVIC continues to play a vital role in the development and promotion of Khadi, ensuring that the fabric remains relevant in modern India.

KVIC has been involved in promoting Khadi as a sustainable and eco-friendly fabric, tapping into global markets by branding it as an artisanal and environmentally conscious product. Through various initiatives, KVIC has kept the Khadi tradition alive, adapting it to modern demands without losing its cultural essence.

7. *Charaka Cooperative Society*

The Charaka Cooperative Society, founded in 1994 in Karnataka, is another key promoter of Khadi. The society focuses on producing Khadi garments and employing rural artisans, especially women, to promote sustainable livelihoods. Charaka's approach integrates traditional Khadi weaving

techniques with modern design sensibilities to make the fabric appealing to contemporary consumers. The society has gained recognition for its efforts to preserve the cultural significance of Khadi while ensuring its economic viability in the modern marketplace.

Opinion of Legends About Khadi:

Khadi, the handwoven fabric that became synonymous with India's freedom struggle, has been more than just a piece of cloth. It has been a symbol of resistance, self-reliance, and national pride. Several prominent figures and legends in India's history, including political leaders, philosophers, and reformers, expressed their admiration for Khadi and endorsed its significance in India's socio-political and economic landscape. Their opinions and reflections on Khadi contributed to its widespread adoption as a symbol of India's independence movement and as an important cultural fabric. Here's a look at what some of the legendary figures have said about Khadi.

1. *Mahatma Gandhi: Mahatma Gandhi is the most well-known advocate of Khadi, and his promotion of the fabric was deeply intertwined with his larger philosophy of Swadeshi (self-reliance). Gandhi's endorsement of Khadi was not merely an economic choice but a moral and spiritual decision aimed at fostering independence and self-sufficiency among Indians. In his writings, Gandhi described Khadi as more than just a fabric. He believed it was a means to achieve Swaraj (self-rule) by boycotting British goods and fostering local production. He once famously said:*

"Khadi is the symbol of the unity of Indian humanity, of its economic freedom and equality."

According to Gandhi, Khadi represented not just the rejection of foreign textiles but also the regeneration of rural India's economic backbone, allowing the poorest to earn a livelihood by spinning and

weaving. He often highlighted how Khadi had the power to unite the rich and poor and bridge the rural-urban divide.

2. **Rabindranath Tagore:** Rabindranath Tagore, the Nobel laureate poet and philosopher, had a nuanced view of Khadi. While he admired Gandhi's efforts to make Khadi a national symbol and a tool for economic revival, Tagore cautioned against its symbolic rigidity. He emphasized the need to balance symbolism with practical reforms and economic efficiency. Though Tagore had reservations about some aspects of the Khadi movement, he understood the fabric's importance in fostering national identity and self-reliance. He recognized that Gandhi's Khadi movement was a critical part of India's journey towards self-respect and independence. In one of his letters to Gandhi, Tagore praised Khadi's cultural value but emphasized the need to ensure that Khadi production could uplift artisans without romanticizing poverty.
3. **Jawaharlal Nehru:** *Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister, was a strong supporter of Khadi, particularly during the freedom struggle. Like Gandhi, Nehru wore Khadi garments as a symbol of solidarity with the masses and a rejection of British goods. Though Nehru's vision for post-independence India leaned more toward industrialization, he acknowledged the cultural and political importance of Khadi during the struggle for independence. Nehru believed that Khadi symbolized the "naked and unadorned" strength of India. It was a way to express national unity and assert India's identity against British oppression. He once remarked:*
"Khadi became a visible sign of our freedom movement. It was the most powerful weapon of national awakening."

In his speeches and writings, Nehru often highlighted how Khadi connected the people of India, transcending class and caste distinctions. He respected Khadi for its role in mobilizing millions and infusing the freedom movement with a sense of purpose.

4. **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel:** *Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, known as the "Iron Man of India" for his role in uniting India post-independence, was a staunch supporter of Gandhi's Khadi movement. Patel saw Khadi as a crucial tool for economic empowerment, particularly for rural India, and an essential aspect of self-reliance. Patel wore Khadi throughout his political career and urged others to adopt it. He firmly believed that wearing Khadi was not just a matter of personal choice but a political act of defiance against British rule. In one of his speeches, he stated:*
"Khadi will not only help us regain our lost freedom but will also sustain the millions of poor people by providing them employment."
 For Patel, Khadi symbolized the dignity of labor and the potential for India to stand on its own without depending on foreign imports.
5. **Sarojini Naidu:** *Sarojini Naidu, the "Nightingale of India" and a leading figure in India's freedom movement, was an ardent admirer of Mahatma Gandhi's ideals and a strong supporter of Khadi. Naidu saw Khadi as a reflection of India's soul, representing both simplicity and strength. She often spoke about Khadi as a symbol of the country's struggle for independence, asserting that wearing Khadi was a way for Indians to express their love for the nation. Naidu once remarked:*
"Khadi has become the livery of our freedom. It is the dress of honor, the badge of self-respect."
 Her poetry and speeches celebrated Khadi as a means to reclaim Indian identity and dignity in the

face of colonial rule. She believed that Khadi had the power to bring about social and economic equality, particularly by empowering rural women.

6. Subhash Chandra Bose:

Subhash Chandra Bose, a revolutionary leader and a prominent figure in India's independence movement, had a somewhat complex relationship with Khadi. While Bose admired Mahatma Gandhi's ideals and respected his vision for self-reliance through Khadi, Bose's approach to independence was more radical. He believed in a more aggressive strategy to achieve freedom from British rule. Nonetheless, Bose acknowledged the importance of Khadi in uniting people against British exploitation. He understood that Khadi was not just about economic self-sufficiency but also about creating a sense of national pride. Bose frequently wore Khadi and encouraged others to do so, viewing it as a representation of India's defiance of foreign rule.

Conclusion:

The evolution of Khadi from a traditional handwoven fabric to a symbol of India's fight for independence is a testament to its cultural, economic, and political significance. Mahatma Gandhi's visionary leadership transformed Khadi into a powerful emblem of self-reliance and national pride, rallying millions to support the Swadeshi movement. Khadi's association with simplicity, dignity of labor, and the economic empowerment of rural communities made it central to India's independence struggle. While it started as a humble fabric, Khadi came to represent the broader ideals of unity, independence, and the rejection of foreign domination.

In the post-independence era, Khadi's role has shifted, but it continues to hold a special place in Indian society. Promoters like Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay ensured that

Khadi remained relevant, both as a reminder of the sacrifices made for freedom and as a symbol of sustainable development. Today, Khadi is not only embraced for its cultural legacy but also for its contribution to sustainable and eco-friendly fashion, reflecting India's enduring commitment to traditional craftsmanship and modern progress.

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