Hindustan Times New Delhi, 20 May 2023

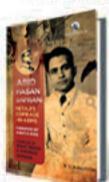
{ HT PICKS } NEW READS

THE STORY OF AN UNSUNG NATIONAL HERO

A member of Subhas Chandra Bose's Azad Hind Fauj, Abid Hasan Safrani is famous as the man who coined the slogan "Jai Hind". Safrani grew up in Hyderabad in the 1920s, in a vibrant intellectual environment that led him to plunge into politics under Bose's leadership.

He was the only one to accompany Bose on his historic submarine voyage from Kiel in Germany to Japanese territory in Sumatra, Malaysia, during World War 2. A polyglot, Safrani also served independent India as a diplomat of distinction in China, West Asia, Africa and Europe. Compiled by his niece Ismat Mehdi and his nephew Shehbaz Safrani, Abid Hasan's account of his time with Bose—drawn from his notebooks—fills crucial gaps in the narration of India's freedom struggle.

Anecdotal memories of Safrani recounted by



family and friends reveal a brave man. This is the story of an unsung national hero and of the evolution of independent India.

Abid Hasan Safrani: Netaji's Comrade-in-Arms Ismat Mehdi and Shehbaz Safrani 216pp, ₹895, Orient BlackSwan