

POLITICKÉ VĚDY

POLITICKÉ VEDENÍ (HISTORIE, PROBLÉMU, VYHLÍDKY)

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INDIRA GANDHI AND HER HISTORICAL ROLE

In the elections in January 1977 opposition united in the party «Bharatiya Janata Party», with the slogan «Indira hatao» – «Down with the Indira!» Defeat of the Premiere was a resounding: even her own party excluded her from its ranks. But Indira again appeared stoic unbreakable: she created from her supporters a new batch of the Congress (I) – «I» in parentheses referred to «Indira» and simultaneously «India». Hospitably open gate of her house were pulled by pilgrims from all over the country – some complained, others with advice on how to build the country. She accepted and listened to everyone, simultaneously criticizing the government opposition, which really was helpless and completely corrupt. Besides heterogeneous enemies of Gandhi quickly quarreled with each other. Their attempt to put the prime minister in prison, accusing her of stealing chickens and eggs, has failed miserably and only added Gandhi popularity.

In the spring of 1980 were held early elections, in which her party returned to power. Indira was able to create her own image, in modern language- style. On the election day she arrived to the parliament building in a modest Indian production automobile, she was wearing a sari from homespun yarn – a symbol of loyalty to Gandhism, on her shoulders – Kashmiri shawl as a sign of belonging to an ancient family, pinned to the shawl was purple bud rose – a symbol of his father.

The final conflict, which cost the life of Indira Gandhi, erupted in the state of Punjab, the settlement of bearded militant Sikhs. Having long been making elite Indian army and civil service, they demanded the creation of their own state Khalistan. At the command of their leader Dzharnala Bhindranvale Singh, Sikh terrorists began to attack innocent Indian people living in the state, seeking ethnic «cleansing.» Then they occupied the huge Golden Temple in Amritsar, turning it into their main pedestal. This was the last straw: in June 1984 Gandhi ordered the army to occupy the temple. «Operation Blue Star» held unsuccessfully, assigning it to the day of the Sikh festival when the temple was full of peaceful pilgrims. In the massacre more than a thousand people were killed, and the temple was partly destroyed, which was hit by tank shots. Bhindranvale was killed, but the other terrorist leaders escaped and made no secret of their plans to take revenge on the Prime Minister.

On the morning of October 31, 1984, Indira was killed by her own bodyguards Sikhs. In 1984 Indira Gandhi became the victim of assassination. She was killed by