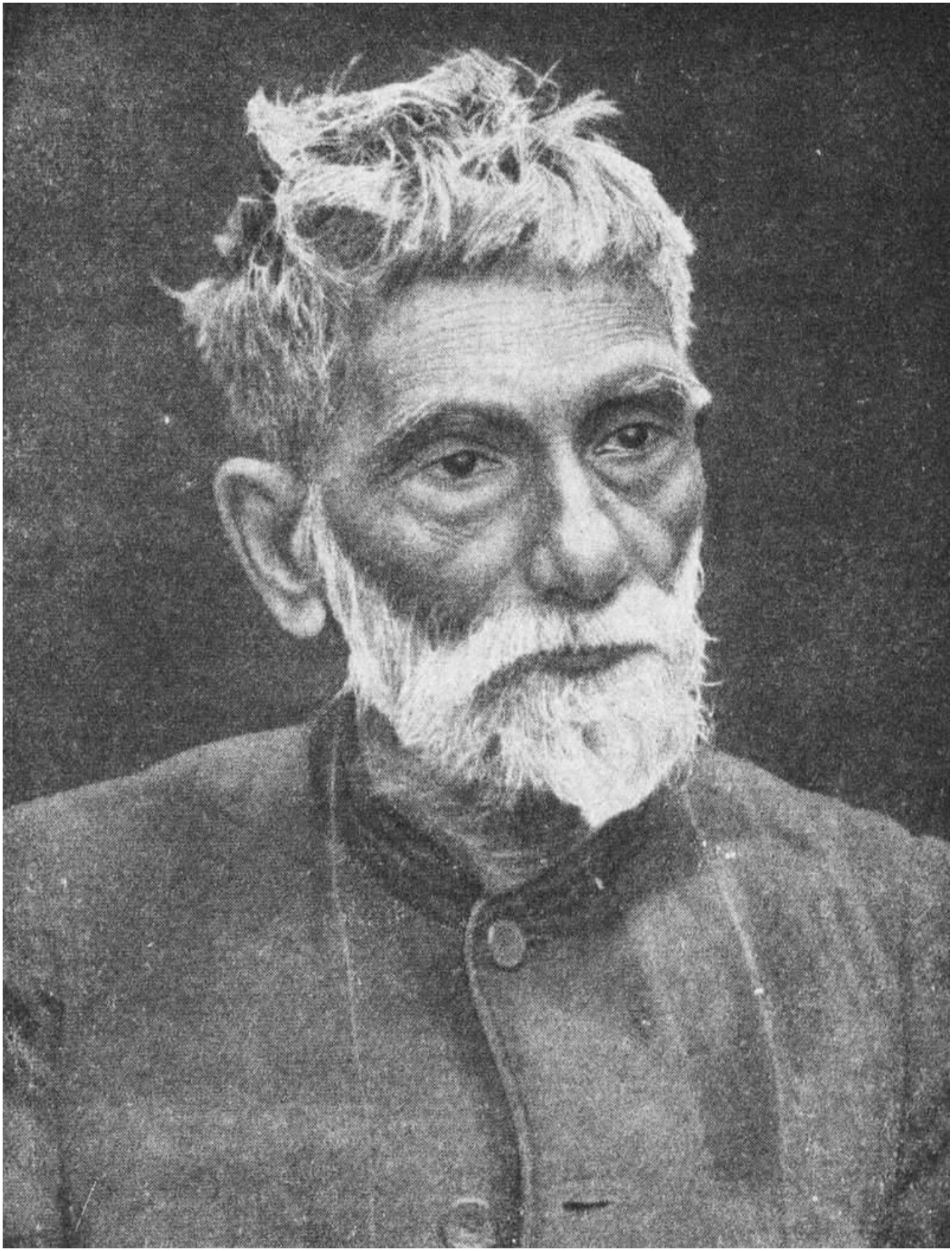
Twitter Thread by Vibhu Vashisth ■■



Vibhu Vashisth ■■
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Did you know about an Indian chemical scientist named Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray?

■'Revolutionary in the garb of a Scientist'■
– this is what British govt. records mention about chemical scientist Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray.



He was born on the 2nd of August 1861 at Jessore, Bengal. He supported freedom fighters, making arrangements for their stay and food in his factories in Bengal. A staunch patriot, he was against British rule and oppression.

He helped freedom fighters in the manufacturing of expl0sives for use against the British.

‘Science can wait, Swaraj cannot’ - Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray. He is called the father of chemical science in India.

He was the founder of India's first pharmaceutical company, Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals. He had written 107 research papers in all branches of Chemistry, authored ‘A History of Hindu Chemistry’,

‘A History of Hindu Chemistry from the Earliest Times to the Middle of the Sixteenth Century’, and more books. For his research in inorganic and organic nitrites, he was addressed as ‘Master of Nitrites’.

His research activities were centred more in organic molecules, especially thio-organic compounds. He donated money regularly for welfare activities.

While Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray was delivering a lecture on ‘Hindu Chemistry’ based on his book ‘

A History of Hindu Chemistry’ at Lahore University, he noticed a British professor sneering and unimpressed. To quote from ‘Science India: Collectors Edition’ July August 2021 issue by Dr Rajeev Singh, “After the apparatus had been described, he took in his

hand a lump of Makaradhwaja, (resublimed mercuric sulphide) which was used as a medicine. Sir P C Ray took the lump in his hand and said: ‘Look here, my friends! With such crude apparatus, the Indians, two thousand years ago used to prepare such a fine chemical

and used it to alleviate human sufferings and this at a time when the ancestors of our friend over there were eating raw berries and wearing raw hides’. The Englishman was left red-faced and rushed out of the hall. Later on, he became a great follower of P C Ray.”

- An excerpt from 'Saffron Swords'.