

# KNOWLEDGE OF ORIGIN OF SCOUTING



## INDEX

Lord BP: Origins.....	3
Dini Zulu.....	4
The Left Hand Shake & 'Impeesa' .....	4
Boer War .....	5
BROWNSEA ISLAND – FIRST CAMP.....	5
<b>On the Campsite</b> .....	5
Scouting for Boys .....	6
Expansion of Movement .....	6
Early Scout Programme.....	7
Scouting in India .....	7
Death.....	7



# KNOWLEDGE OF MOVEMENT



*Figure 1: Lord Robert Stephenson Smith Baden Powell*

## Lord BP: Origins

Lord Robert Stephenson Smith Baden Powell, known in short as B.P., found worldwide Scouting movement. He was born on February 22, 1857, at Stanhope Street, London, England. He lost his father when he was a child.

From childhood, he loved the open air; out-door activities like roaming in the forest, boating, expedition, hunting, etc. Baden Powell attended Charterhouse School during which time he took part in several activities including acting, singing and cadet corps and art.

Baden Powell was encouraged to sit Army Exams, he surprised everyone by gaining 2nd place out of 700 candidates, as a result, was commissioned as a sub-lieutenant in the 13th Hussars. He sailed to join his regiment in Lucknow, India, where he took courses in surveying and reconnaissance.

## Dini Zulu

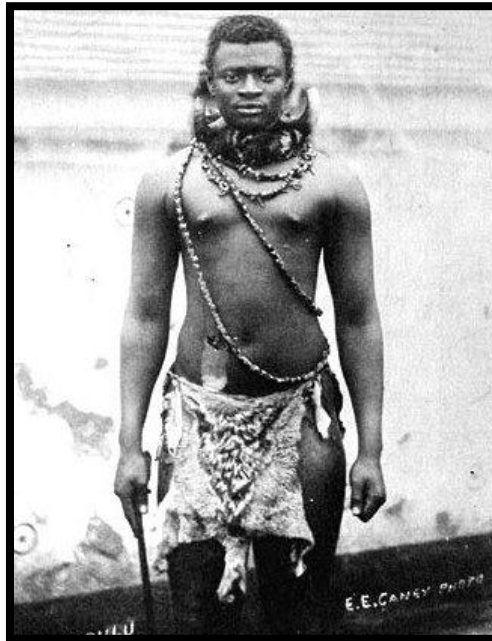


Figure 2: Dini Zulu with his Wooden Beads

In 1888, while B.P. was in South Africa as an A.P.C. to General H. A. Smith, he attacked Dini Zulu who had raised a rebellion against the British. BP was sent to the mountain's stronghold with a few Scouts where Dini Zulu had taken refuge. After BP attacked the Zulus, Dini Zulu and his army retreated, leaving behind many things. One of the things was Dini Zulu's long necklace of wooden beads. Scouters who qualify for the Wood badge receive replicas of the original beads even now.

## The Left Hand Shake & 'Impeesa'



Figure 3: The Left Hand Shake

In 1885, BP won a war against King Prempeh of the Ashanti tribe in West Africa. When Prempeh was captured, he came forward and held out his left hand. He said that in his country, "The bravest of the brave shake hand with the left." Hence Scouts all over the world shake hands with the left hand.

There is a story that when Baden Powell entered Kumasi, the capital city of the Ashanti he was met by one of the Great Chiefs of the Ashanti, he saluted them and then offered his right hand out as a sign of friendship, but the Chief transferred his shield which he held in his left hand to his right which contained his spear and offered his left hand as a sign of friendship. When asked why Baden Powell was told that by offering his left hand which traditionally was used to hold a shield for protection, he was showing his trust to his enemy or friend for without the shield for protection he was open to attack.

In 1896 When he suppressed a rebellion in Matabele land, the native called him 'Impeesa', which meant 'the wolf that never sleeps'.

## Boer War

In 1900 colonel B.P. participated in the Boer War when he was in Mafeking. The Boer's were heavily armed but B.P. held out the siege for 217 days and in this, he was helped by a group of boys called the Mafeking cadet corps. It was here that he got the idea of boy scouting. After the victory of Mafeking, B.P. was promoted to the rank of Major General.

After returning from Mafeking he wrote the book '**Aids to Scouting**'.

## BROWNSEA ISLAND – FIRST CAMP

In 1907 B.P. took some boys for an experimental camp to the Brownsea Island on the Dorset coast to the south of England to try out his ideas. The camp was a big success and thus the whole about his ideas in a book titled scouting for boys, which was published in the fortnightly edition

### On the Campsite

The boys were divided up into 4 Patrols called Curlews, Ravens, Wolves and Bulls. For patrol identification, the boys were given long, wool streamers in different colours to pin on their left shoulder - green for Bulls, blue for Wolves, yellow for Curlews, and red for Ravens. The senior boy in each patrol was assigned as Patrol Leader and was given a flag with the animal of their Patrol on it. Each patrol leader was given full responsibility for the behaviour of his Patrol at all times, in camp and the field. The Patrol was the unit to work or play, and each patrol was camped in a separate spot.



Figure 5: Sketch of the Campsite

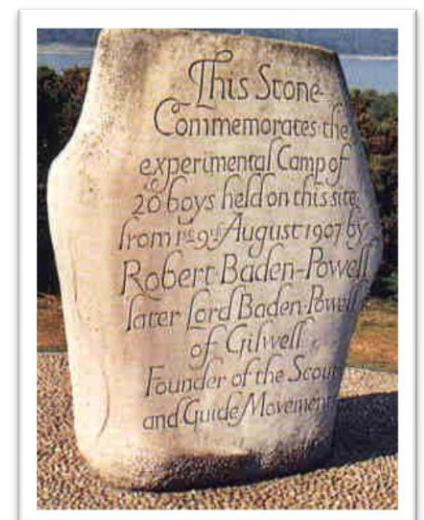


Figure 4: Stone Commemorating the First Camp at Brownsea Island

Each boy was given a brass fleur-de-lis badge which was fastened on to his coat; when he had passed a few tests (knots, tracking, the Flag) he was given another brass badge to fasten below the first, a scroll with the words "Be Prepared" on it. Khaki scarves were also issued.

Each Patrol was assigned an army Tent to sleep in and a fifth tent was used by BP, his nine-year-old nephew Donald Baden-Powell, who served as his orderly; and his assistant Scoutmasters, an old Army friend named Kenneth McLaren and Percy W. Everett. Also, on the campsite was an army cook tent and an open-sided marquee tent for shelter in a storm.

## Scouting for Boys

In January 1908, Baden - Powell published the first edition of "Scouting for Boys". It was an immediate success and has since sold over 100 million copies, making it one of the bestselling books of all time. Baden-Powell had only intended to provide a method of training boys, something that existing youth organisations such as the Boys' Brigade and YMCA could adopt. To his surprise, youngsters started to organise themselves into what was to become one of the largest voluntary youth movements in the world.

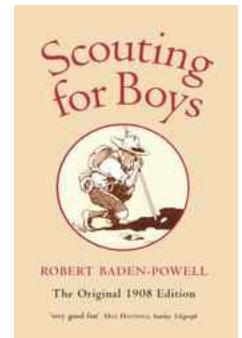


Figure 6: Scouting for Boys by BP

## Expansion of Movement



Figure 7: First World Scout Jamboree, 1920

The success of "Scouting for Boys" produced a Movement that quickly – automatically it seemed – adopted the name of The Boy Scouts. By 1909 "Scouting for Boys" had been translated into five languages, and a Scout rally in London attracted more than 11,000 Scouts.

Patrons sprang up all over the United Kingdom. King Edward VII helped B.P. to set up an organization and in 1909; the first gathering of scouts took place at Crystal Palace. The first troops of India were set up in Bangalore, Pune and Jabalpur by 1909.

As a result of Baden - Powell taking a holiday in South America, Chile was one of the first countries outside Britain to begin Scouting. In 1910 he visited Canada and the United States where it had already started.

The first World Scout Jamboree took place in 1920 at Olympian London with 8,000 participants and proved that young people from different nations could come together to share common interests and ideals. It was here that B.P. was made the Chief Scout of the World.

## Early Scout Programme

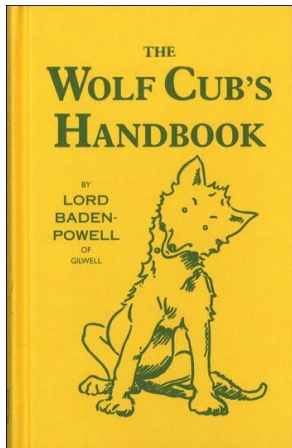


Figure 9: The Wolf Cubs Handbook by BP

Scouting began as a programme for boys 11 to 18 years of age. Yet almost immediately others also wanted to participate. The Girl Guides programme was started in 1910 by Baden-Powell who designated his sister Agnes to manage it. In 1915 Robert Baden-Powell became Chairman of the Girl Guides Association, and his wife Olave, whom he married in 1912, became the new Chief Guide.

In 1916 B.P. wrote "The Wolf Cubs Handbook". A Wolf Cub section was formed in 1916 for younger boys. It used Rudyard Kipling's "Jungle Book", to provide an imaginative symbolic framework for activities. For older boys, a Rover Scout branch was formed in 1918.

In 1919, B.P. published "Aids to Scout Mastership". The training and camping centre for scoutmasters was situated at Gillard Park in London.

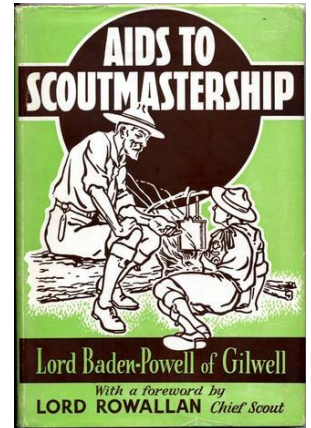


Figure 8: Aids to Scoutmastership by BP

## Scouting in India

In 1916, Dr Annie Besant established the Indian Boy Scout Association in Chennai. After BP's visit in 1921, the Indian Boy Scout Association merged with B.P. scouting movement. In 1937, the first All India scout jamboree was held at Delhi and B.P. was present. Between 1950 and 1951, the Bharat Scouts and Guides were established. On 7th November 1950, the Boy Scout Association in India and the Hindustan Scout Association merged under the name of The Bharat Scouts and Guides. The Girl Guide Association formally joined The Bharat Scouts and Guides on 15th August 1951. The Bharat Scouts and Guides is a registered society under Societies Registration Act 1860. It is a totally voluntary, non-political and secular organization.

## Death

On January 8, 1941, B.P. died at Nyeri in Kenya {East Africa}. Lady Olave Baden Powell died on June 25, 1977, near Guildford, England.