



Chapter 16

The Nationalist Movement

NOTES:

Growth of Indian Nationalism

- Towards the end of the 19th century the idea of nationalism i.e., the idea of one nation and one state slowly emerged among the Indians.
- The English language contributed to the growth of nationalism in Indians, it infused in them the spirit of liberty, equality, justice and democracy etc.
- The growth of Indian press also played an important role in the awakening of the Indians.
- The Indians form associations for the reform of the administration and to spread education among the people.
- British India Association was established on October 29, 1851 to redress the grievances of the Indians.
- In 1852, Dadabhai Naoroji founded the Bombay Association and in 1866, he founded the East India Association in London
- A. O. Hume, a retired Indian Civil Servant took the initiative in founding the Indian National Union.
- On 25th December 1885 the Indian National Union's annual session was held at Mumbai. In this session the INU was renamed as the Indian National Congress (INC).
- The INC can be broadly divided into Moderate, Extremist and Gandhian era.

Moderate Phase

- The Indian National Movement from 1885-1905 is known as the era of Moderate nationalism.
- Their main demands were the gradual expansion of the Legislative Council and introduction of reforms in the government and the administration.
- They held regular meetings, made resolutions and sent petitions to the British government to undertake reforms on the lines demanded by them.

Extremist Phase

- The Indian National Movement from 1905-1917 is known as the era of extremist nationalism.
- The Extremist preferred more vigorous political actions and methods.
- Bipin Chandra Pal in Bengal, Bal Gangadhar Tilak in Maharashtra and Lala Lajpat Rai in Punjab were the leaders of the extremist group.

Gandhian Phase

- The Indian National Movement from 1917 till the attainment of India's independence in 1947 is known as Gandhian Phase.
- The era started with the Advent of Mahatma Gandhi.

Swadeshi Movement

- In 1905, Lord Curzon partitioned Bengal.
- The partition led to a vigorous agitation in Bengal where anti-partition agitators asked people to boycott government services, courts, schools, colleges and foreign goods.
- The agitators propagated the use of swadeshi (Indian) goods. Soon the movement came to be known as Swadeshi Movement and spread to other parts of India like Punjab and Maharashtra.

Split of Congress at Surat, 1907

- The Congress split between the moderates and the extremist in 1907 at the Surat session of the Congress.

Birth of Muslim League

- Muslim League was formed in Dacca on December 30, 1906, following a demand of separate electorate for the Muslims.

Revolutionary Movements

- Another important feature of the Indian National Movement in the early 20th century was the emergence of various revolutionary groups in different parts of India.
- To suppress the Swadeshi Movement, the Government adopted the Seditious Meeting Act of 1907 and Indian Press Act of 1910, according to which several newspapers were banned and a number of Indian nationalist were either jailed or deported.
- Bal Gangadhar Tilak was deported to Yangon in Myanmar.
- In Punjab, Lala Lajpat Rai and Ajit Singh were imprisoned.
- Because of the government suppressive measures, some extremist nationalist went underground and started an armed revolutionary movement.

Prominent revolutionaries

- Vinayak Damodar Sarvkar and Aurobindo Ghosh were prominent revolutionaries of the period.
- In 1912, Rash Behari Bose and Sachindranath Sanyal made an unsuccessful attempt on the life of Lord Hardinge, the then Viceroy of India.
- Ghaddar party was one of the prominent Indian revolutionaries base in USA.

Lucknow 1916

- In 1916, two significant events occurred in Lucknow—
 - 1) Bal Gangadhar Tilak after his released from Mandalay prison reunited the Congress,
 - 2) The Congress and the Muslim League signed an agreement known as the Lucknow Pact.

Advent of Gandhi

- After the end of the First World War, Gandhi became the undisputed leader of the nationalist movement.
- On March 18, 1919, the Government of India passed Rowlatt Act, which authorised the government to arrest any person without trial.
- Gandhi called for a nationwide hartal on April 6, 1919 to protest the imposition of the Rowlatt Act.

Jallian Walla Bagh Massacre

- During a public meeting at Jallian Walla Bagh in Amritsar on April 13, 1919, General Dyer after closing the only exit ordered his troops to open fire upon the unarmed crowds where more than four hundred persons were killed and over one thousand and two hundred were injured. This incident came to be known as Jallian Walla Bagh Massacre.

Khilafat Movement

- Two Ali brothers Maulana Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali started the Khilafat Movement for the restoration of the power of the Ottoman Turks.

Non-cooperation Movement

- Gandhi launched a Non-cooperation movement in January 1921, after the British rule in India failed to fulfill the demand of the Congress.
- Both Hindus and Muslims participated in the movement and government and semi-government offices, schools and colleges were boycotted.
- Gandhi was arrested and sent to prison after a tragic incident in Chauri Chaura in February 1922.
- In 1924, Gandhi was released on ground of ill health.

Indian National Movement Post Non-cooperation Movement

Go Back Simon

- In 1927, the British government appointed a six member committee under the Chairmanship of Sir John Simon to look into the working of the Act of 1919. This committee was called Simon Commission.
- The appointment of the Simon Commission was opposed by the Indians as there was no Indian member in the Commission.
- When the Commission landed in Mumbai in February 1928, they were greeted with black flags and slogan of “Simon go back”.
- In Lahore, Lala Lajpat Rai was severely wounded when the police lathi charge the demonstrators and he succumb to the injury.

Inquilab Zindabad

- In December 1928 Bhagat Singh, Chandra Sekhar Azad and Rajguru shot dead John P. Saunders, a British police officer as a revenge for assault on Lala Lajpat Rai.
- In 1929, Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt were arrested for throwing a bomb in the hall of the Central Legislative Assembly.
- Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were hanged in jail.

Salt Law Violation

- Salt Law – According to this law the government had made salt making its sole monopoly. No one was allowed to make it.
- The Civil Disobedience Movement began with the famous Dandi March of Mahatma Gandhi.
- Gandhi on March 12, 1930, left his Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad for Dandi, a village on the sea coast of Gujarat. Once he reached Dandi, he broke the Salt Law.
- Gandhiji along with Jawaharlal Nehru and other important leaders were arrested.
- Gandhi was released from his imprisonment in January 1931, to enable him to participate in the Second Round Table Conference in London.
- In 1931, after his released from prison, he signed an agreement with Lord Irwin which was known as the Gandhi-Irwin Pact to suspend the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- Mahatma Gandhi resumed the Civil Disobedience Movement after coming back from London as his proposal were rejected by the delegates of the Conference. Consequently all the Congress leaders were arrested and imprisoned at Yeravada Central Jail.

Indian National Movement Post Civil Disobedience Movement

1937 Election

- In the election held in July 1937, Congress Ministries were formed in seven out of eleven provinces.
- On July 12, 1942, the Congress Working Committee adopted the Quit India resolution, demanding the immediate withdrawal of the British from India.
- Mahatma Gandhi calling Indians to “Do or Die” asked to start the Quit India Movement from August 9, 1942 onwards.

Delhi Chalo

- In October 1943, Subhash Chandra Bose formally announced the formation of the Provisional Government of India.
- The INA along with the Japanese army hoisted the tri-colour flag at Moirang in Manipur on April 18, 1944, and advances as far as Nambol, about 15 km south of Imphal.

Freedom and Partition of India

- On February 10, 1947 Clement Atlee, the British Prime Minister, declared that the British would leave India by June 1948.
- On March 10, 1947, Lord Mountbatten was appointed the Viceroy of India.
- The British Parliament passed the Indian Independence Act, 1947, after a compromise formula was sent by Lord Mountbatten to the British government.
- India became independent on 15th August 1947 and Jawaharlal Nehru became its first Prime Minister.

The Indian Independence Act, 1947

- The Act created the dominions of India and Pakistan.
- The Indian princely states which also become independent were given their option of joining either India or Pakistan.



মণিগোবিন্দ চন্দ্র বসু (সচিব)
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)
Government of Manipur