

**ST. ANDREWS SCOTS SCHOOL**  
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CLASS: VIII

SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE

TOPIC: History

CH-8

**The National Movement & Independence (1870 – 1947 )**

**A. Multiple Choice Type Questions**

1. When did the British pass the arms act ? **1878**
2. The All India Muslim league formed at **Dacca** .
3. When was the khilafat movement launched?**1920**
4. Who announced the partition of Bengal? **Lord Curzon**

**B. Fill in the blanks**

1. The **radicals** did not like the idea of requesting the British.
2. After the partition of Bengal, the **Swadeshi** and **Boycott** movements emerged as effective methods of struggle.
3. Bal Gangadhar tilak started the **Home** rule movement in India.
4. Motilal Nehru and Chitranjan Das founded the **Swaraj** party.
5. **Mahatma Gandhi** launched the Satyagraha movement .

**C. Write “T” for true or “F” for false statements**

1. Patidar peasants of kheda, Gujarat proceed with non-violent campaigns against the increase in land revenue demand of British .**T**
2. Poor peasants and tribals in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh practice forest satyagraha. **T**
3. Gandhiji launched the non cooperation movement against the salt tax imposed by British. **F**
4. World War II had made the British Empire strong enough to administer its empire in India. **F**
5. Surendra Nath Tagore established the national conference in 1876. **F**

**D. Short Answer Questions**

**1. Who were the Moderates ?**

The members of Congress during the first phase of national movement were described as moderates.

**2. Briefly explain the partition of Bengal.**

Bengal was the biggest province and included Bihar and parts of Orissa. In 1905,Lord Curzon, The viceroy of India announced the partition of Bengal. He cited administrative reason for the moment by lessening the influence of

Bengali politicians and splitting the Bengali people .West Bengal was a Hindu majority province and east Bengal was a Muslim dominant province.

### **3. Define swadeshi and boycott movements.**

After partition of Bengal the Swadeshi and Boycott movements emerged as an effective method of struggle against the British, students boycotted school and colleges that were run by British the leaders gave a call to people to boycott foreign goods and were burned down , use of swadeshi goods was encouraged.

### **4. What are the adverse effects of the First World War faced by India?**

The First World War broke out in 1914 .India also had to face some adverse effects as it was a colony of the British . Some of these are :

- Taxes were increased in India because participation in war meant huge expenses and an increased defence budget for the British.
- Prices increased between 1914 to 1918 because of the demands of war supplies, the common people suffered the most.
- Villagers were forced to join the British Army.
- Some businesses had increased in profits because of the war as the war led to high demand for goods such as cloth, jute bags, rails etc.

### **5. What was the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre?**

- On April 13<sup>th</sup> ,1919 , a peaceful public gathering was held at Jallianwala Bagh , Amritsar, to protest against the arrest of doctor Dr Satyapal and Dr Saidffudin Kitchlew .
- The Jallianwala Bagh was walled and had only one exit. General Dyer blocked the exit and ordered his troops to open fire at the crowd with the intention of killing people and developing a fear feeling among the masses. Thousands of people perished and many were injured.

## **E. Long Answer Questions.**

### **1. Which factors are responsible for raising the feeling of nationalism?**

- The British considered themselves to be the superior, they didn't allow Indians to travel in the same railway coaches ,even debarred from entering some public places.
- The Britishers became aware of the possibility of occurrence of Indian rebellion after the revolt of 1857, thus to ensure there was no possibility of such incidents occurring again they passed The Arm Act in 1878 and Vernacular Press Act.
- Educated people among Indians had realised that there was a need for organization or association to represent the Indians and present their demands to the government.
- High & important positions were reserved for the British officials , Indians were restricted from getting high posts in government jobs and were not promoted beyond a certain post , there were huge differences in salaries.
- Many Indians who were artisans, craftsmen and weavers were ruined by competition from foreign machines- made cheaper goods.

### **2. How did the Indian National Congress form?**

The formation of the Indian National Congress (INC) in 1885 was a turning point in India's struggle for independence as :

- The INC was founded by a retired British officer named A.O. Hume. He wanted to create a place for educated Indians to discuss their problems with the British government and to vent their frustrations peacefully, preventing another violent uprising like the Revolt of 1857.
- INC was established when 72 delegates from all over the country met Bombay in December, 1885. Some of the prominent leaders were Dadabhai Naoroji, Firoz Shah Mehta, WC Bonnerji etc.
- Core Objectives at Formation was :
  - a. To promote friendly relations between nationalist political workers from different parts of the country.
  - b. To develop and consolidate a feeling of national unity irrespective of caste, religion, or province.
  - c. To formulate popular demands and present them before the British government.

### **3. Write a note about the radicals and their ideologies.**

- The Radicals (also known as the Extremists) were a group of leaders within the Indian National Congress who emerged in the late 1890s. They were dissatisfied with the slow, "polite" methods of the early leaders (the Moderates).
- The movement was led by a famous trio from three different parts of India by Lala Lajpat Rai from Punjab, Bal Gangadhar Tilak from Maharashtra, Bipin Chandra Pal from Bengal.
- The Radicals demanded Swaraj as their birthright. They believed that the freedom struggle should not just be for the educated elite but should involve the masses.
- They emphasized the importance of self-reliance and constructive work rather than depending on the "generosity" of the British. They drew inspiration from India's own history, culture, and religion to instill pride and courage in the people.
- They advocated for the boycott of British goods, government schools, and titles to hit the British economically & administratively, promoted the use of Indian-made (Swadeshi) goods to encourage local industries & set up Indian-run schools and colleges to provide an education that focused on Indian culture and national spirit.

### **4. Explain the non cooperation movement.**

- The Non-Cooperation Movement (1920–1922) was a significant phase of the Indian independence struggle, led by Mahatma Gandhi. It was the first time the nationalist movement became a "mass movement," involving people from all walks of life.
- Its main objective is to protest against the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre and the Rowlatt Act, to support the Khilafat Movement and to achieve Swaraj (Self-rule).
- Gandhiji asked Indians to stop cooperating with the British "evil-doer" through Surrendering of titles, and awards bestowed by the British government.
- Students and teachers left government-controlled educational institutions, Lawyers like Motilal Nehru and C.R. Das gave up their legal practices.
- People refused to buy British cloth and goods, Foreign clothes were gathered and burnt in large public bonfires, People were encouraged to use Indian-made goods and spin their own cloth using the Charkha (spinning wheel) to produce Khadi.

- o The movement was strictly meant to be peaceful , by joining the Khilafat cause with Non-Cooperation, Gandhiji successfully united the two largest communities against British rule. For the first time, peasants, workers, and women participated in the freedom struggle on a large scale.
- o In February 1922, a peaceful procession at Chauri Chaura (Uttar Pradesh) turned violent. A mob set fire to a police station, killing 22 policemen. Gandhiji, being a firm believer in non-violence, felt the country was not yet ready for a peaceful struggle and immediately called off the movement.

## 5. What was the civil disobedience movement?

- The Civil Disobedience Movement (1930–1934) was a massive turning point in India's struggle for independence. While the earlier Non-Cooperation Movement focused on not working with the British, this movement went a step further by encouraging people to actively break British laws.
- Gandhiji chose salt as a symbol of protest because it was an essential item used by everyone—rich and poor alike. The British had a monopoly on making salt and charged a high tax on it. On March 12, 1930, Gandhiji and 78 followers marched 240 miles from Sabarmati Ashram to the coastal village of Dandi in Gujarat.
- On April 6, 1930, Gandhiji reached Dandi and ceremonially broke the law by picking up a handful of natural salt from the shore, signaling the start of the movement.
- People across the country began making salt themselves and refusing to pay the salt tax, Foreign cloth was burnt, and liquor shops were picketed .In many rural areas, peasants refused to pay land revenue and chowkidari taxes & many Indian government officials resigned from their posts in protest.
- For the first time, women participated in large numbers. Leaders like Sarojini Naidu led protests and even faced jail time , the movement spread to the most remote corners of India, involving peasants, tribals, and workers. Despite brutal police crackdowns and lathi charges, Gandhiji insisted on staying peaceful.