

INDIA'S FREEDOM STRUGGLE – PHASE 2 NOTES

HISTORY AND CIVICS

GRADE 8

1. Who founded the Home Rule League? What was its main objective?

Answer: Anne Besant started the Home Rule League.

Objectives:

- Attain self-government within the British Empire by constitutional means
- Country should have a government by Councils, who would be elected by the people
- Country would pass the country's budget and the minister would be made responsible to the legislature

2. What was Lucknow Pact? State two of its effects on the national movement.

Answer: Lucknow Pact, (December 1916), agreement made by the Indian National Congress headed by Maratha leader Bal Gangadhar Tilak and the All-India Muslim League led by Muhammad Ali Jinnah; it was adopted by the Congress at its Lucknow session on December 29 and by the league on Dec. 31, 1916.

Effects:

- The meeting at Lucknow marked the reunion of the moderate and radical wings of the Congress.
- The pact dealt both with the structure of the government of India and with the relation of the Hindu and Muslim communities.

3. What was the issues that led Mahatma Gandhi to Start Ahmedabad Satyagraha?

Answer: Ahmedabad Satyagraha broke out on the issues of wages of the mill workers. Gandhiji led the mill-workers of Ahmedabad in a strike against the mill-owners who had refused to pay high wages.

4. State the three causes that led to the Non-Cooperation Movement.

Answer:

There were four main causes of the Non-Cooperation Movement:

- Jallianwala Bagh Massacre and Resultant Punjab Disturbances
 - Dissatisfaction with Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms
 - Rowlatt Act
 - Khilafat Agitation
5. Why did Gandhiji Combined the Khilafat issue with the Non-Cooperation Movement?
Answer: Gandhiji saw the Khilafat movement as an opportunity to unite Hindu and Muslim as one to fight against the tyranny of British government.
6. Why did Gandhiji withdraw the Non-Cooperation movement?

Answer: Gandhiji was a believer of Ahimsa. He was greatly shocked at the incident happened in Chauri Chaura. A procession of about 3000 peasants marched to the police station at Chauri Chaura village in UP on Feb' 5th 1922 to protest against the police officers who had beaten some of volunteers picketing liquor shop. The police fired at peasants which raged the mob and set the stations on fire, killing 22 policemen.

7. What was the impact of Non-Cooperation movement on the freedom struggle?

Answer:

- The National movement became a mass movement
- Instilled new confidence among people to stand
- Transformed Congress into a moral fighting force
- Fostered Hindu-Muslim unity
- Shattered the myth that the British rule was for the betterment of the Indians

8. What was the Dandi March? Why did Gandhiji organized the Dandi March?

Answer: Salt March, also called Dandi March or Salt Satyagraha, major nonviolent protest action in India led by Mahatma Gandhi in March–April 1930. The Dandi March also marked the beginning of the civil disobedience movement (satyagraha) waged against British rule in India that extended into early 1931 and garnered Gandhi widespread support among the Indian populace and considerable worldwide attention.

Mahatma Gandhi undertook the Dandi March to protest against the salt tax on the public by the British regime in the country on the twelve day of March in the year 1930.

9. Why were the Indians against the Simon Commission?

Answer: The reforms introduced by the Montague Chelmsford Act of 1919 were unsatisfactory. Hence there was discontent among the Indian people. The Simon Commission was sent to India in 1927 by the British Government to suggest further reforms in the structure of the Indian Government. The Commission did not include any Indian member and the Government showed no intention of accepting the demand for Swaraj.

The British refused Indian representation on the Commission. Therefore, it sparked a wave of protests all over the country and the Congress as well as the Muslim League gave a call to boycott it under the leadership of Lala Lajpat Rai.

10. What slogan did Gandhiji give during the Quit India Movement? What was the impact of the movement?

Answer: *"To Do or Die"*.

Impacts:

- It demonstrated the depth of the nationalism, Struggle and Sacrifice had reached in the country
- It made clear to British that they can't rule India against the wishes of the people

- People from all sections and communities united, transforming into a mass revolt before getting Independence.
- It strengthened Congress Party because of its heroic role in the movement

11. Who formed the INA? What were its objectives?

Answer: The Indian National Army (INA) was originally founded by Capt. **Mohan Singh** in Singapore in September 1942 with Japan's Indian POWs.

Objectives:

- To organize an armed revolution and to fight against British army with modern arms
- Since it was not possible for the Indians to organize an armed revolution from their homeland, this responsibility must be shouldered by the Indians living abroad, particularly those residing in East Asia.
- Total mobilization of Indian manpower and money for a total war.

12. Name the two slogans given by Subash Chandra Bose.

Answer: *“Give me Blood and I shall give you freedom”*, *“Delhi Chalo”* and *“Jai Hind”*.

13. What was the Cabinet Mission? State any three of its proposals.

Answer: Cabinet Mission was a high-powered mission sent in February 1946 to India by the Atlee Government (British Prime Minister.) The mission had three British cabinet members – Pethic Lawrence, Stafford Cripps, & and A.V. Alexander. The Cabinet Mission’s aim was to discuss the transfer of power from British to Indian leadership.

Proposals:

- There will be a federal union of the British Provinces and the Princely States
- The Union Government would control Defense, Foreign Affairs and Communications.
- Provinces would enjoy full autonomy for all subjects other than the Union Subjects
- The British provinces would divide into Groups i.e. A, B and C based on religion.
- Interim government would be formed at the Centre with 14 members.

14. Who was Lord Mountbatten? State two proposals made by the Mountbatten Plan.

Answer: Lord Mountbatten served as last Viceroy of India from 12 February 1947 – 15 August 1947 and then first Governor General of Free India from 15 August 1947 – 21 June 1948.

Proposals:

- India was to be partitioned and two independent states were to be formed on Aug’ 15th 1947 – India and Pakistan.
- The partition of Bengal and Punjab. The princely states were given choices of joining either of the two new states.

15. What was the impact of the Indian Independence Act of 1947?

Answer:

- India was partitioned into two Dominions of India and Pakistan.
- Lord Mountbatten on the request of Nehru continued as the Governor-General of India and Muhammad Ali Jinnah became the Governor-General of Pakistan.

INDIA'S STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM – PHASE 1
HISTORY NOTES
GRADE 8

1. Give any two examples to indicate that the British followed the policy of economic exploitation in India.

Answer:

- The peasants were the main victims of British policies. A large part of their produce were taken away in the form of revenue and other taxes. These led to get themselves into the web of landlords and moneylenders, leading them to suffer.
- British destroyed the Indian handicrafts and industries by exporting raw materials to England, selling cheap machine-made goods and capturing Indian markets.

2. Give two reasons for the industrial stagnation during the British rule in India.

Answer: British destroyed the Indian handicrafts and industries by exporting raw materials to England, selling cheap machine-made goods and capturing Indian markets.

3. What role did the Press play in the National Movement?

Answer:

- It was published in a vernacular language, thus connecting people of different parts of country as one thoughts and feelings.
- By reading the messages of patriotism and modern liberal ideas of freedom, liberty, equity and independence
- Making awareness among people about the unjust rule of British
- Making Indians aware of happening events around the world and the adopting ideas to follow movements.

4. Who passed the Vernacular Press Act? Why was it passed?

Answer:

Passed by – Lord Lytton, the Viceroy of India.

It was passed to forbade vernacular papers to publish any material that might excite feelings of dissatisfaction against British.

5. Name any two prominent newspapers of the 19th century which played a significant role in arousing national sentiments among the Indians.

Answer:

List of Newspapers during Indian Freedom Struggle

Year	Name	Newspaper/ Journal	Founder
1780	Bengal Gazette	English newspaper	James Augustus Hicky

1819	Samvad Kaumudi	Bengali weekly newspaper	Ram Mohan Roy
1822	Mirat-ul-Akbar	Persian language journal	Raja Ram Mohan Roy
1854	Rast Goftar	Gujarati Newspaper	Dadabhai Naoroji
1858	Som Prakesh	Weekly newspaper	Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
1862	Indian Mirror	Newspaper	Devendra Nath Tagore
1868	Amrita Bazar Patrika	Newspaper	Sisir Kumar Ghosh and Motilal Ghosh
1871	Tahzib-ul-Akhlaq	Journal	Sir Syed Ahmed Khan
1878	Hindu	Newspaper	Vir Raghavacharya and G.S. Aiyar
1881	Kesari	Marathi Newspaper	B.G. Tilak
1888	Sudharak	Newspaper	G.K. Gokhale
1892	Hindoo Patriot	English weekly	Girish Chandra Ghosh
1896	Prabuddha Bharata	English monthly journal	Swami Vivekananda
1899	Udbodhana	Magazine	Swami Vivekananda
1903	Indian Opinion	Newspaper	M. K Gandhi
1905	Bande Mataram	English language newspaper	Aurobindo Ghosh
1910	Bombay Chronicle	English-language newspaper	Firoze Shah Mehta
1911	Comrade	Weekly English newspaper	Maulana Mohammad Ali

6. When and by whom was the Indian National Congress founded?

Answer: in 1885 by A.O. Hume, a retired British member of the Indian Civil Service.

7. Which period of the National movement is known as the period of the Early Nationalist?

Answer: From 1885 to 1905 is known as the period of the Early Nationalist.

8. Name any three Early Nationalist leaders.

Answer: Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Surendranath Banerjee and Dadabhai Naoroji.

9. What methods did the Early Nationalist use to achieve their objectives?

Answer: Methods:

- Wrote articles in newspapers to carry out a criticism of the government policies and make the Indians aware of it.
- Put their demands in three forms- petitions, prayers and protests

10. Who were Assertive Nationalists? Why they were called so?

11. Name three prominent Assertive Nationalist.

Answer: The Assertive nationalists period started from 1905 to 1916. The failure of the Early Nationalist to obtain any substantial concession from the British rulers led to widespread discontent. This situation led to the emergence of new group of leaders who believed and followed assertive demands and moves. They were called as the Assertive Nationalist / Extremists.

Leaders: Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh.

12. What was the aim of the assertive Nationalists as far as the National movement was concerned?

Answer: They aimed at nothing but to have complete Swaraj from Colonial rule.

13. State differences between the Early Nationalists and the Assertive Nationalists.

Answer:

Early Nationalist/Moderates	Assertive Nationalist/Extremists
The moderates had faith in gradual reforms.	believed that the swaraj is their birth right and revolutionaries aimed in bringing change by applying revolutionary methods.
The moderates believed in adopting constitutional methods to achieve their objective.	Extremists believed in non-cooperation and adopted method of boycott against foreign goods and propagation of swadeshi.
Moderates insisted on limiting the movement to urban based middle class intelligentsia	extremists believed in involving the masses for effective political action
Moderates lost popularity among the masses because of their loyalty and faith in British administration and no change in the existing condition	Extremists became popular and succeeded in mobilizing masses and generate mass movement.
Moderates were modest and submissive.	Extremists were aggressive and demanded change
They drew inspiration from the ideas of western philosophers	They drew inspiration from the India's past.

14. What is meant by the terms:

- a) Swadeshi: Swadeshi means manufacturing goods in your country(India) for your own needs.
- b) Boycott: Boycott means not using or buying or refusing to buy foreign goods. It also includes boycott of government services and posts, the western education, social boycott etc.

15. How did the idea of Swadeshi help Indians to be united against the British?

Answer:

- Brought the politics new classes of people without any distinction of caste and creed
- Mass participation of people of different caste, gender, classes, religion.
- Encouraged the establishment of indigenous industries
- Established number of indigenous industries and gave employment to a number of people
- Gave impetus to nationalist poetry, prose and journalism
- Gave encouraged a national orientation by drawing a scheme of National education.
- Brought nationalism from a realm of theory into the field of practical politics.