

# NATIONALISM IN INDIA

# ***INTRODUCTION***

- Nationalism is loyalty and devotion to a nation.
- In this chapter we will pick up the story from the 1920s and the study the non cooperation movement and civil disobedience movements
- We will learn that how different social groups participated in the movement .

# ***THE FIRST WORLD WAR..***

- “WORLD WAR I” broke out in 1914.
- India was under British rule.
- Increase in defense expenditure led to increase in taxes in India.
- Income taxes was introduced.
- Custom duties were increased.
- Crops failed in many parts of India.
- This led to shortage of food.

# ***THE FIRST WORLD WAR..***

- Through the war years increased doubling between 1913 and 1918 leading to the extreme hardship for the common people.
- People hoped that hard ship would end after the war was over.
- But that did not happen.

# IDEA OF SATYAGRAHA..

- Satyagraha is an idea ,by which a fight for true cause or against injustice is fought without any violence.
- Mahatma Gandhi came back to India in 1915.
- He introduced this concept his stay in south Africa.
- He organized several satyagrahs in India.
- E.G Champaran satyagrah in 1916.
- Ahmedabad mill strike in 1918.

# ***ROWLATT ACT..***

- The act authorized the British officers to imprison any Indian political leader for 2 years without any trial.
- M.K Gandhi came out with Rowlatt satyagraha in 1919.
- Shops were closed down.
- Rallies were organized.
- People went on strikes.

# ***ROWLATT ACT..***

- To crush the movement, British government imposed martial law.
- General dyer took command.
- On the day of 13 April 1919, baisakhi fair was organized in jallianwala bagh in Amritsar.
- General dyer ordered to close all exit gates.
- He opened fire on the crowd.
- Hundreds of Indian died.
- Indians started to attack the government buildings.
- This violence forced to stop the movement.

# NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT

- Gandhiji wrote a book “Hind Swaraj”.
- In which he wrote that if Indians started to non cooperate with Britishers than India will be independent in 1 year.
- To bring Hindus and Muslims together,gandhiji met Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali.
- Further, the movement was renamed as non cooperation khilafat movement.



# NON-COOPERATION KHILAFAT MOVEMENT

- Launched by M.K Gandhiji, Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali.
- Launched in January 1921
- Many social groups participated.
- All interpreted the meaning of Swaraj in their own way.



# THE MOVEMENT IN TOWNS

- Thousands of students left government schools.
- Headmasters and teachers resigned.
- Lawyers gave up their legal practices.
- Foreign goods were boycotted.
- Foreign clothes were burnt in huge bonfires.

# SLOW DOWN OF THE MOVEMENT IN TOWNS



- 'Khadi' was expensive.

- Lack of Indian institutions.

# REBELLION IN COUNTRYSIDE

- Peasants had to do begar and work at landlord's farms without any payment.
- Baba Ramchandra and Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru set up *OUDH KISAN SABHAS*.
- They demanded to abolition of “begar” system.

Many people misinterpreted the ideas of Gandhi.



# SWARAJ IN PLANATATIONS

- The government had passed the *Inland Emigration Act I of 1859* under which plantation workers were not permitted to leave the fields.
- Workers interpreted the Gandhi raj.
- They violated the act.
- Hence they were beaten by the police.

# FEBRUARY 1922...

- In February 1922, Gandhi withdrew this movement.
- He decided to train Indians before any other mass struggle.

# **CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT**

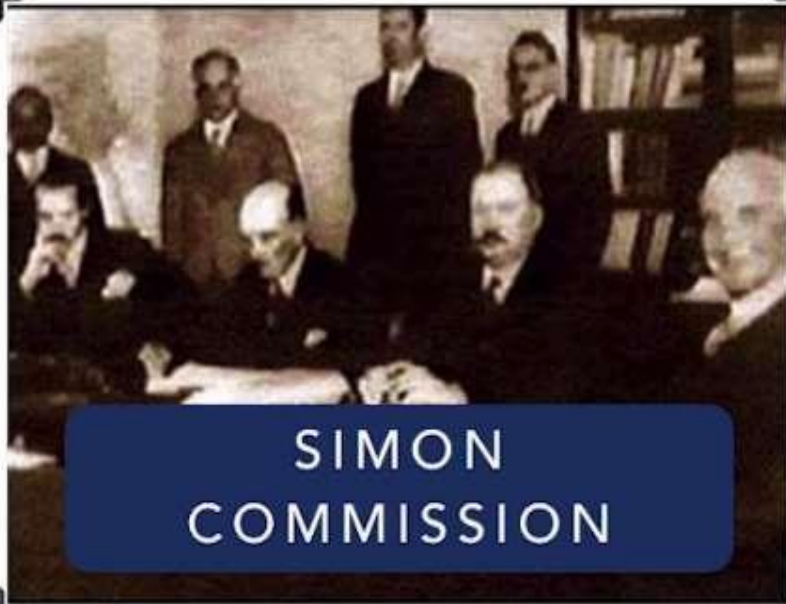
# THE SWARAJ PARTY

- Many political leader suggested the idea of fighting the Britishers from within the legislative council.
- CR Das and Motilal Nehru formed *Swaraj Party* in 1922.
- Leaders like Jawarlal Nehru and Subhash Chandra Bose pressed for a more radical agitation.



# REASONS FOR CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT

- Simon Commission of 1927.



SIMON  
COMMISSION

- Great Economic Depression of 1929.



PEOPLE PROTESTING  
DURING GREAT ECONOMIC  
DEPRESSION

# SIMON COMMISSION

- The Indian members of the central legislative assembly exposed some draw backs in the government of the India act of 1919.
- As a result of it, the Simon commission was appointed in 1927, to suggest any further reforms.
- This commission consisted of 7 members and its chairman was sir John Simon.
- Indian boycotted it, as they were no Indian members in it.

# SIMON COMMISSION

- Moreover, there was no indication of swaraj, which was the first priority of Indians.
- Which this commission arrived in 1928, it was met with demonstration with banners.

# GREAT DEPRESSION

- The depression had deep impact on the agricultural and industrial goods.
- Poverty increased by 1930 due to high taxes.

# CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT

- **Civil disobedience** is the active, professed refusal to obey certain laws, demands, and commands of a government, or of an occupying international power. Civil disobedience is a symbolic or ritualistic violation of the law, rather than a rejection of the system as a whole

# SALT MARCH

- Mahatma Gandhi believed that salt could be a powerful symbol to unite the whole nation. Most of the people; including the British scoffed at the idea.
- Abolition of the salt tax was among many demands which were raised by Gandhiji through a letter to Viceroy Irwin.
- The Salt March or Dandi March was started by Gandhiji on 12th March 1930.

# SALT MARCH

- He was accompanied by 78 volunteers. They walked for 24 days to cover a distance of 240 miles from Sabaramati to Dandi.
- Many more joined them in the way. On 6th April 1930, Gandhiji ceremonially violated the law by taking a fistful of salt.
- The Salt March marked the beginning of the Civil Disobedience Movement

# SALT MARCH

- Thousands of people broke the salt law in different parts of country.
- People demonstrated in front of government salt factories.
- Foreign cloth was boycotted. Peasants refused to pay revenue. Village officials resigned. Tribal people violated forest laws.



# RESPONSE OF BRITISHERS

- The colonial government began to arrest the Congress leaders.
- This led to violent clashes in many places. Mahatma Gandhi was arrested about a month later.
- People began to attack the symbols of British rule; such as police posts, municipal buildings, law courts and railway stations.
- Even women and children were beaten up. About 100,000 people were arrested.

# Round Table Conference

- When things began to take a violent turn, Mahatma Gandhi called off the movement. He signed a pact with Irwin on 5th March 1931. This was called the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. As per the Pact, Gandhiji agreed to participate in the Round Table Conference in London. In lieu of that, the government agreed to release the political prisoners.
- Gandhiji went to London in December 1931. The negotiations broke down and Gandhiji had to return with disappointment.

# Round Table Conference

- When Gandhiji came back to India, he found that most of the leaders were put in jail.
- Congress had been declared illegal. Many measures were taken to prevent meetings, demonstrations and boycotts.
- Mahatma Gandhi relaunched the Civil Disobedience Movement. By 1934, the movement had lost its momentum.

# People's Perception Of The Movement

- **Farmers:** For the farmers, the fight for swaraj was a struggle against high revenues. When the movement was called off in 1931; without the revenue rates being revised; the farmers were highly disappointed. Many of them refused to participate when the movement was re-launched in 1932.

# People's Perception Of The Movement

- **Businessmen:** . The Indian Industrial and Commercial Congress was formed in 1920 and the Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FICCI) was formed in 1927. These were the results of attempts to bring the common business interests on a common platform. For the businessmen, swaraj meant an end to oppressive colonial policies. They wanted an environment which could allow the business to flourish. They were apprehensive of militant activities and of growing influence of socialism among the younger members of the Congress.

# People's Perception Of The Movement

- **Industrial Workers:** The industrial workers showed lukewarm response to the Civil Disobedience Movement. Since industrialists were closer to the Congress, workers kept a distance from the movement. But some workers selectively participated in the Movement. Congress did not want to alienate the industrialists and hence preferred to keep the workers' demands at bay.

# WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION

- Women also participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement in large numbers. However, most of the women were from high-caste families in the urban areas and from rich peasant households in the rural areas. But for a long time, the Congress was reluctant to give any position of authority to women within the organization. The Congress was just keen on the symbolic presence of women

# THE LIMITS OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENTS

- **Participation of Dalits...**
- Many dalit leaders wanted a different political solution to the problems of the dalit community.
- They demanded reserved seats in educational institutions and separate electorate for dalits. Dalit participation in the Civil Disobedience Movement was limited.
- Dr. B R Ambedkar organized the dalits into the Depressed Classes Association in 1930. He clashed with Mahatma Gandhi; during the second Round Table Conference; on the issue of separate electorate for dalits.



# THE LIMITS OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENTS



- **Participation of muslims..**
- After the decline of the Non-Cooperation-Khilafat Movement, a large section of Muslims became alienated from the Congress. From the mid-1920s, the Congress was more visibly associated with the Hindu religious nationalist groups. Muhammad Ali Jinnah was an important leader of the Muslim League. He was willing to give up the demand for separate electorate. But he wanted reserved seats for Muslims in the Central Assembly.



**THE SENSE  
OF  
COLLECTIVE  
BELONGING**

# THE SENSE OF COLLECTIVE BELONGING

- Nationalism spreads when people begin to believe that they are all part of the same nation, when they discover some unity that binds them together. The united struggles for independence helped in building the sense of collective belonging. Additionally, a variety of cultural processes also captured the spirit of nationalism.

# NATION DEPICTED IN IMAGES

- The identity of the nation is most often symbolised in a figure or image; with which people can identify the nation.
- The image of Bharat Mata was the pictorial representation of the mother land.
- Vande Mataram' the national song was written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay in 1870s. This was sung during the Swadeshi movement in Bengal. Different artists projected their own version of Bharat Mata.



वन्दे  
मातरम्



वन्दे मातरम् । वन्दे मातरम् ॥  
सुजलां सुफलां मलयज-शीतलाम् ।  
शस्य-श्यामलां मातरम् ॥ वन्दे मातरम् ॥  
शुभ्र-ज्योत्सनां-पुलकित यामिनीम् ।  
फुल्लकुसुमित-द्रुमदल शोभिनीम् ॥  
सुहासिनीं सुमधुर भाषणीम् ।  
सुखदां वरदां मातरम् ॥ वन्दे मातरम् ॥

# FOLKLORES

- Many nationalist leaders took help of folk tales to spread the idea of nationalism. It was believed that the folk tales revealed the true picture of traditional culture.

# NATIONAL FLAG

- The national flag which we see today has evolved through various stages. A tricolor (red, green and yellow) was used during the Swadeshi movement. There were eight lotuses on it which depicted the eight provinces of British India. There was a crescent moon on the flag which represented Hindus and Muslims. Gandhiji had designed the Swaraj flag by 1921. It was also a tricolor (red, green and white) and there was a spinning wheel in the centre.

# REINTERPRETATION OF HISTORY

- Many Indians felt that the British had given a different interpretation of the Indian history.
- They felt that it was important to interpret the history from an Indian perspective.
- They wanted to glorify the rich past of India so that the Indians could feel proud of their history.