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Indian History

It is our great pleasure to present the subject of Indian History before the competitive exam aspirates. A sincere effort has been made to cover latest syllabus both intensively and simply.

The whole matter of the subject of Indian History has been divided into three parts like Ancient India, Medieval India and Modern India. In recent years, specially in All TNPSC Exams most of the questions made from the modern India.

Ancient India

- ❖ Pre-historic period
- ❖ Indus Valley Civilization
- ❖ Important Indus sites and Archaeological discoveries
- ❖ Early cities – Mahajanapadas
- ❖ Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism
- ❖ Mauryas and post Maurya period
- ❖ Gupta and post Gupta period

Medieval India

- ❖ Tripartite struggle
- ❖ Chola Kingdom
- ❖ Delhi Sultanate

- ❖ Mughal Empire
- ❖ Ruler and Architecture
- ❖ Town, Traders and Craftsmen
- ❖ Bhakti movement, Sufism, Sikhism
- ❖ Regional culture
- ❖ 18th century political situation

Modern India

- ❖ First war of independence
- ❖ Formation of INC
- ❖ Moderates and extremists
- ❖ Muslim League
- ❖ Gandhian Era
- ❖ Non – Cooperation Movement
- ❖ Quit India Movement
- ❖ Cripps Mission
- ❖ Cabinet Plan
- ❖ Mount Batten Plan
- ❖ Partition of India
- ❖ Indian Constitution
- ❖ Peasants movement in Modern India
- ❖ Tribal Movement
- ❖ Trade Unions
- ❖ Militant Movements

18TH to MID 19TH CENTURY INDIA AND EUROPEANS IN INDIA

Portuguese were the first to come to India. In 1502 – 100 years before arrival of East India Company – they established their factory at Cochin. **Francisco Almeida** was first governor of Portuguese. Later they also captured Goa, Daman and Diu. They also gave Bombay Island to England as dowry to King Charles II.

Portuguese and Spanish were the first Europeans to make inroads into India. They were replaced by French, Dutch and English colonial forces later on. *(In Africa too similar events happened. Africa was initially exploited for gold and ivory, but later slave trade took its place in 16th century. Initially Portuguese and Spanish and later French, Dutch and British dominated Africa. Profits from slave trade, slave run plantations and trade from India provided significant portion of the much needed capital for the rise of Industrial revolution in Europe)*

British **Hawkins** visited and stayed in Mughal court, but didn't get imperial

farmaan. First factory at Surat was established by efforts of Captain **Middleton** who got imperial farmaan. Consequently, first factory in South was established in Machalipattanam/Masulipatanam in 1611. Later in 1615, **Thomas Roe** succeeded further in getting a farmaan to establish factories in entire Mughal Empire. As a result East India Company established many factories at Surat, Masulipatanam, Agra, Ahemdbabad and so on. They established factories in South with relative ease as they faced less resistance due to weak Indian rulers. **Farmaan of 1717** gave enormous leeway to company and it paved way for its expansion which ultimately led to establishment of British rule in India. **French and British Rivalry** – For establishment of their might, French and British fought various wars, Carnatic wars are chief among them. First of these wars, French supremacy was established. In 1742, war broke out between France and England and it echoed in India too. French General **Dupleix** gained considerably in these

fighters in India and he made French position stronger in South. However, French could not hold their position for too long. War between France and Britain broke out again in 1756 and this time British had the upper hand. In India, they pushed French out of Bengal. Later, in third Carnatic War in 1760, French generals **Lally and Bussy** were defeated by English General **Eyre Coot** in **Battle of Wandiwash**. The war came to an end with '**Treaty of Paris**' and French even surrendered Pondicherry in 1763 and this led to end of French ambitions to expand in India.

British had by this time realized that their superior army and ammunitions and lack of nationalism among Indians will give them an upper hand in India. 'Battle of San Thomas' – during the Carnatic Wars (1746-61) – definitely proved for the first time the superiority of European arms and discipline over the traditional Indian methods of warfare.

After the death of Aurangzeb, the Bengal nawabs asserted their power and autonomy. One after other Bengal

Nawabs refused to grant the Company concessions, demanded large tributes for the Company's right to trade, denied it any right to mint coins, and stopped it from extending its fortifications. Accusing the Company of deceit, they claimed that the Company was depriving the Bengal government of huge amounts of revenue and undermining the authority of the nawab. It was refusing to pay taxes, writing disrespectful letters, and trying to humiliate the nawab and his officials.

An English factory was set up on the banks of the river Hugli in 1651. This was the base from which the Company's traders, known at that time as '**factors**', operated. By 1696 it began building a fort around the settlement. Company at the same time was also looking greedily to expand its presence and Bengal was first choice for its richness. However Nawab **Sirajudaullah** was wary of company's activities and he even tried to push them away. (**Blackhole tragedy**)

happened during such an attempt when Sirajudaullah put many British in a dundgeon on a sultry day and as a result most of the detainees died). He was fed up with high handedness of the British and gross misuse of impereal farmaan of 1717. Immediate reason was fortification by French and British of their areas without permission of nawab and he saw it as an attack on his sovereignty. He asked them to undo this. French complied, but British remained adamant. He made an attack on British and got initial success. For British, first major success came with **Battle of Palassey, 1757**, in which company under **Robert Clive** conspired with **Mir Zafar** – one of the generals of Nawab Sirajudaullah – and others (Mir Bakshi, Manik Chand, Jagat Seth etc) to defeat him. British got undisputed rights to trade in Orissa, Bengal and Bihar. British victory of Bengal in Battle of Plassey was important from following grounds –

- I. It raised their prestige immensely and presented them as a strong contender in India.

- II. British also gained an upper hand on their colonial rival France and it paved way or decline of French influence in India.

- III. Bengal was one of the richest provinces at that time and it helped British to amass huge wealth from its exploitation and maintain a large army.

- IV. Further, while British plundered the state, they had no accountability.

After the Battle of Plassey in 1757 CE, they had become the real masters of Bengal. They used political control over Bengal to increase their trade and export of foreign goods. They eliminated the Indian as well as foreign rivals in trade so that there could be no competition.

Mir Zafar was put as a puppet of British, but he soon repented his decision to join hands with British as his exchequer emptied fulfilling British demands, he was soon replaced by **Mir Quasim** and British started exploiting Bengal. However Mir Quasim was an able and efficient ruler determined to free himself from British and soon

raised his head. He along with **Nawab of Audh** Nizam ud Daula and fugitive Mughal emperor Shah Alam-II started a campaign against company which ended in **Battle of Buxor** in which the combined forces were defeated by British in 1764 and '**Treaty of Allahabad**' was signed which gave the company Diwani rights in Bengal. *Battle of Buxor formalized colonial rule in India.* Nawab of Awadh was made dependent on Company. Bengal was also put under Company rule directly from nawab's rule. *This paved way for northward expansion of British* and by 1803, Delhi was under British rule.

After Battle of Buxor, *British got Diwani rights* by an imperial firman from Mughals and Bengal came under dual rule of British and Nawab as the British wanted to avoid taking over responsibility of the administration of Bengal. British controlled *revenue, police and judicial power.* *Nawab had responsibility, but no power.* After the company got the Diwani rights in Bengal, it started extracting revenue,

but without any responsibility. British exploited Bengal at the expense of Nawab and both became indifferent to the plight of people. Great famine of 1770 and death of lakhs people exposed the exploitative nature of this **dual government.** Dual governance led to immense hardship of the common man and Bengal was plundered completely by the British. System of dual governance was ended by Warren Hastings.

If we analyse the process of annexation of Indian states by the East India Company from 1757 to 1857, certain key aspects emerge. The Company rarely launched a direct military attack on an unknown territory. Instead it used a variety of political, economic and diplomatic methods to extend its influence before annexing an Indian kingdom. After the Battle of Buxar (1764), the Company appointed **Residents** in Indian states. They were political or commercial agents and their job was to serve and further the interests of the Company.

Through the Residents, the Company officials began interfering in the internal affairs of Indian states.

In 1803, the British gained control of Delhi after defeating the Marathas. Since the capital of British India was Calcutta, the Mughal emperor was allowed to continue living in the palace complex in the Red Fort.

EARLY GOVERNOR GENERALS

Warren Hastings (1772-85) – Period of 1775 to 82 was challenging for British as they have to face multiple oppositions from Marathas in Central and North India, from Haider Ali, Nizam Southern India. Marathas proved a formidable enemy, Haider Ali too inflicted many defeats. Outside India they were facing a losing war against America. Warren Hastings became the first Governor General at this time was at the helm of affairs. He led **First Anglo Maratha war** in 1773 in which neither side won and a peace treaty was signed. *While British made their position stronger in Bengal, Marathas*

frittered away the time in infightings. In South, Warren Hastings fought two **Anglo Mysore wars** with Haider Ali. Warren Hastings introduced several administrative reforms, notably in the sphere of justice. From 1772 a new system of justice was established. Each district was to have two courts – a criminal court (faujdari adalat) and a civil court (diwani adalat). Maulvis and Hindu pandits interpreted Indian laws for the European district collectors who presided over civil courts. The criminal courts were still under a qazi and a mufti but under the supervision of the collectors. A major problem was that the Brahman pandits gave different interpretations of local laws based on different schools of the dharmashastra. Under the Regulating Act of 1773, a new Supreme Court was established, while a court of appeal – the Sadar Nizamat Adalat – was also set up at Calcutta.

Cornwallis (1786-1796) – Cornwallis arrived at scene at a time when Marathas were becoming weak.

Haider Ali died in 1782 after Second Anglo Mysore war due to cancer. He led **Third Anglo Mysore War** in which Mysore faced defeat in 1792. The war broke out in late 1789 when Tipu Sultan, the ruler of the Kingdom of Mysore, attacked Travancore, an ally of the British East India Company. After a little over two years of fighting, forces of the company led by Lord Cornwallis, along with allied forces from the Maratha Empire and Hyderabad, laid siege in February 1792 to Mysore's capital, Seringapatam. Rather than attempting to storm the works at great cost to all sides, Cornwallis entered into negotiations with Tipu to end the conflict. Cornwallis had hoped to use the treaty as a wide-ranging peace settlement that would, in addition to reducing or removing the threat of Mysore, prevent conflict between Hyderabad and the Marathas. **The Treaty of Seringapatam** (also called Srirangapatnam), signed 18 March 1792, ended the Third Anglo-Mysore War. Its signatories included Lord Cornwallis on behalf of the British East

India Company, representatives of the Nizam of Hyderabad and the Mahratta Empire, and Tipu Sultan, the ruler of Mysore. Under the terms of the treaty, Mysore ceded about one half of its territories to the other signatories. The Peshwa acquired territory up to the Tungabhadra River, the Nizam was awarded land from the Krishna to the Penner River, and the forts of Cuddapah and Gandikota on the south bank of the Penner. The East India Company received a large portion of Mysore's Malabar Coast territories between the Kingdom of Travancore and the Kali River, and the Baramahal and Dindigul districts.

Wellesley and Subsidiary Alliance (1798-1805) – Expansion under Wellesley was perhaps one of the largest British expansions. He took over India at a time when France was engaged in a bitter war with Britain all over the world. He used many tactics for expansion from outright war to usurping the throne of erstwhile subsidiaries. Subsidiary Alliance was

one such tool and it had following features –

☐ Indian rulers were made to sign alliance under which British stationed their forces permanently in their allies and the Indian ruler has to pay for them and also accept British paramouncy.

☐ Indian ruler himself has to disband his own forces and

☐ Was also debarred from making any transactions from other foreign power without British approval.

☐ A Resident of British was appointed in the court of ruler as British representative.

☐ Ruler was promised protection from external attacks.

☐ British also promised non-interference in internal affairs, but this promise was broken more often than was kept.

☐ Thus, Indian rulers have to pledge their independence through this treaty.

The treaty had a great adverse effect on Indian rulers. Due to disbanding of armies lakhs became unemployed.

Ruler care little for the welfare of the people, as they relied on British to subdue any internal rebellion or discontent. British on the other hand gained immensely from the subsidiary treaty. They now maintained a huge army and that too on expense of Indian rulers. They at time overthrew the allies under alliance on charges of being inefficient. **Nizam of Hyderabad** became first to sign this treaty in 1798. Awadh was also forced into it in 1801. Mysore fell after Tipu refused to accept Subsidiary Alliance of Wellesley and later death of Tipu Sultan in 1799 in seize of Seringpattanam or the **Fourth Mysore war** and it was returned to the erstwhile ruler and some part was taken by British. Marathas were now the only major force outside British control. Wellesley now focused his attention towards them.

Maratha area was now ruled by five independent chiefs (Bhonsle, Holkar, Scindia etc) and Peshwa and they were all engaged in infightings. Holkar defeated combined forces of Peshwa and Scindia in 1802 and cowardly

Peshwa rushed for British help and signed Subsidiary treaty of Bhasin/Bassein. The Peshwa accepted the Subsidiary Alliance with the British via **Treaty of Bhasin**. *The Treaty* was a pact signed on 31 December 1802 between the British East India Company and Baji Rao II (who is termed as 'cypher' by the historians), the Maratha peshwa of Pune (Poona) in India after **the Battle of Poona**. *The treaty was a decisive step in the dissolution of the Maratha Empire, which led to the East India Company's usurpation of the peshwa's territories in western India in 1818.* On 13 May 1803, Baji Rao II was restored to Peshwarship under the protection of the East India Company and the leading Maratha state had thus become a client of the British. The treaty led to expansion of the sway and influence of the East India Company over the Indian subcontinent. *However, the treaty was not acceptable to all Marathas chieftains,* and resulted in the Second Anglo-Maratha War during Hastings time. Several wars took place between

Maratha Chiefs and British, however expansionist policies of Wellesley were checked as it was proving costly on British Exchequer and they made peace with Holkar.

Lord Hastings (1813-22) – Lord Hastings can be *credited for effectively subduing the last dominant challenge of Marathas in India.* **Second Anglo Maratha war** was fought with combined forces of Peshwa and Maratha chiefs in which latter were defeated. As a result, Peshwa was pensioned to Kanpur away from his territory and other chiefs were forced to sign subsidiary alliance and they accepted British paramount power. Now, like other rulers, Maratha chiefs too existed on mercy of the British. In 1813, the British government became **paramount** in India. Now the Company claimed that its authority was paramount or supreme, hence its power was greater than that of Indian states. In order to protect its interests it was justified in annexing or threatening to annex any Indian

kingdom. By 1818, entire Indian subcontinent except Sindh and Punjab came under direct or indirect rule of British.

Consolidation of power – 1818-1857 –

Post 1818, Punjab and Sindh too were conquered and Awadh and Central provinces were annexed. Sindh was occupied in wake of growing Anglo-Russian rivalry in Europe and Asia and to make it a buffer state against Russian invasion and to have a passage to Afghanistan and Persia.

Dalhousie and Policy of Lapse (1848-

1857) – Unlike Wellesley, Dalhousie wanted to extend direct rule of British over India. Satara (which was created as a state for Marathas after Second Anglo Maratha War), Jhansi, Nagpur were annexed through Doctrine of Lapse. Dalhousie also wanted to bring Awadh under British rule, but British had friendly terms with Awadh since it helped them in Battle of Buxar. They had many heirs and hence couldn't be covered under Doctrine of Lapse.

Finally, Dalhousie hit upon idea of accusing Nawab of mis-governance and annexing his territory. Awadh was thus annexed in 1856. Awadh was one of the last territories to be annexed by the British. It was brought under subsidiary alliance in 1801, and finally annexed in 1849. It was formally annexed in 1856. The conquest happened in stages. The removal of the Nawab led to the dissolution of the court and its culture. Thus a whole range of people – musicians, dancers, poets, artisans, cooks, retainers, and administrative officials and so on – lost their livelihood. In 1849, under Dalhousie's command, the British captured the princely state of Punjab. Jhansi was also annexed under Doctrine of Lapse. However, it was the unfair annexation of Oudh which made Dalhousie very unpopular in the region. He also commanded the **Second Burmese War** in 1852, resulting in the capture of parts of Myanmar. This and other callous actions of the governor-general created bitter feelings among the Indian soldiers in the British Army,

which finally led to the First War of Independence of 1857. His contribution in the development of communication – railways, roads, postal and telegraph services – contributed to the modernization and unity of India. Social legislations like Widow Remarriage Act, 1856 was also passed during his time. He is, thus, said to have laid the foundation of modern India. One unintended consequences of the policies of the Dalhousie was the administrative unification of India. It laid the foundation of a modern 'nation' which was hitherto scattered into pieces under local chieftans.

MUGHAL'S FALL

There were many reasons for the fall of Mughals, like –

- I. Aurengzeb's expansionist policies created many fissures and his weak successors led to decline of Mughal Empire.
- II. Battles with Marathas drained Mughals of their wealth.
- III. Rajputs also became more assertive in the meanwhile, unlike Akbar's conciliatory stance (marriages etc),

later Mughals tried to contain Rajputs and this led to lash back.

IV. Nerve center of Mughals Delhi also saw multiple uprisings from Jats, Satnamis, Sikhs etc.

V. Revenue policies started to take toll on peasantry and

VI. Number of Mansabdars had increased to 3 times than that of Akbar.

Not many of them were as honest

VII. Military machinery was also outdated and naval power was never given any attention

VIII. Poor thrust on science made Mughal empire backward in outlook

IX. Religious intolerance of Aurangzeb and later Mughals caused anger among other communities.

X. Corruption was rife, wars for succession, decline in arts, trade and commerce, decline in loyalty of nobles, foreign invasions (Nadir Shah, Abdali etc) were other factors which proved fatal for Mughal Empire.

Fall of Mughals fuelled ambitions of other regional satraps. Marathas were

the one who gained most in Mughal Empire's decline.

Shah Alam-II ascended Mughal throne in 1759 and inherited a weak empire and has to himself spend a life of fugitive. He joined hands with Mir Quasim and Shuja-ud-Daula of Awadh to redeem his empire and take on British. The combined armies were defeated in fateful Battle of Buxor in 1764. Mughal Emperor was earlier pensioned by British, but later retreated to Delhi and took shelter under Marathas.

In 1803, Delhi was taken over by British in the aftermaths of Battle of Buxor and other wars. Mughal emperor was reduced to the pensioner of the British.

RISE and FALL of MARATHAS

Marathas have been engaged in hostility with Mughals ever since the times of Shivaji who for the first time give real challenge to Mughal dominance. Shivaji adopted guerilla warfare techniques.

Shivaji's grandson was imprisoned by Aurangzeb and was released after his

death. However, he couldn't regain his hereditary prestige and influence and internal rivalry saw emergence of second phase of Marathan dominance under Peshwas. Balaji Vishwanath was first Peshwa. Marathas under Peshwas expanded and made inroads into erstwhile Mughal Empire and by 1740 under Baji Rao, they had control over Malwa, Gujarat and part of Bundelkhand. Peshwas soon shifted Maratha capital to Poona. By 1750, Marathas even controlled Mughals indirectly through key appointments in Mughal court.

As Mughal might waned it also suffered external attacks. One of such fierce attackers was Nadir Shah. His general Ahmed Shah Abdali succeeded in gaining control over northern India from 1748 to 1767. After taking Delhi, Marathas now shifted their attention towards Punjab which was now ruled by an agent of Abdali and they defeated him. To avenge this defeat, Ahmed Shah Abdali himself marched into India and defeated Marathas led in the

decisive **Third Battle of Panipat in 1761**. *Battle of Panipat was a death blow to Marathas as well as Mughals.* Thus, way for arrival of British was cleared which was made even more imminent by Battle of Buxer in 1764. They were divided into many states under different chiefs (sardars) belonging to dynasties such as Sindhia, Holkar, Gaikwad and Bhonsle. These chiefs were held together in a confederacy under a Peshwa (Principal Minister) who became its effective military and administrative head based in Pune. Marathas under Peshwa Madhav Rao regained their lost pride significantly and in 1771, they even brought Mughal emperor to Delhi (weaning him away from British pension) and kept him under their own pension. However, after his death, Maratha Empire again declined as *there were many warring factions* (Holkar, Scindia, Bhonsle etc) and one of them even invited British when he faced defeat at the hand of others leading to **First Anglo-Maratha War** in 1773. By the **Third Anglo Maratha War**

of 1816-19 Marathas were completely subdued by British.

Like Mughals, Marathas too showed a united face so long as there was a common enemy and in its absence, they suffered internal feuds. Their revenue policy also was detrimental to peasantry. They also failed to boost commerce. All these factors lead to their decline.

MYSORE

Haider Ali was born in a humble family and rose through ranks in army and finally overthrew the Hindu king of Mysore. He took over a weak Mysore and build a strong kingdom out of it. He adopted best administrative practices of Mughals and was a tolerant ruler.

Mysore controlled the profitable trade of the Malabar coast where the Company purchased pepper and cardamom. In 1785 Tipu Sultan stopped the export of sandalwood, pepper and cardamom through the ports of his kingdom, and disallowed local merchants from trading with the

Company. The British were furious. They saw Haidar and Tipu as ambitious, arrogant and dangerous – rulers who had to be controlled and crushed.

Haider Ali remained at war with Marathas and neighboring Nizam of Hyderabad. Later he fought two Anglo-Mysore wars with British and died after second war due to cancer in 1782.

His son Tipu Sultan was also a tolerant ruler. He even established a Saraswati temple near his palace and also built churches. He made alliance with French military and adopted their military styles. He reduced the hereditary rights of the Poligars – or Zamindars – and eliminate the intermediaries between the state and cultivators and this improved condition of peasantry.

He carried on the war left by his father, but lost Third Anglo Mysore War and has to give away half of his kingdom to British. He was a brave soldier with huge self respect and died fighting with British and forces of Nizam to save his territory *in 4th Anglo-Mysore War* in

1799 at the door of fort of Seringpattnam his capital.

PUNJAB

In the late 1830s the *East India Company* became worried about *Russia*. It imagined that Russia might expand across Asia and enter India from the north-west. Driven by this fear, the British now wanted to secure their control over the north-west. They fought a *prolonged war with Afghanistan* between 1838 and 1842 and established indirect Company rule there. Sind was taken over in 1843. Next in line was Punjab. But the presence of Maharaja Ranjit Singh held back the Company. After his death in 1839, two prolonged wars were fought with the Sikh kingdom. Ultimately, in 1849, Punjab was annexed.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

DRING 17th and 18th CENTURY

Previous conquerors had overthrown Indian political powers, but they had made no changes in basic economic structure.

Revenue demand of state was ever rising and this led to large scale impoverishment of masses.

India's most important item of export was cotton. It was in huge demand overseas and till industrial revolution it was one of the key factors that had kept a positive balance of trade and import of gold to cover that. Another factor that contributed toward surplus trade was self-sufficient nature of Indian economy by virtue of homegrown handicrafts etc and hence lower need for imports. India thus emerged as a sink of precious metal. India was a *land of manufacturers.* Cotton, Silk, dying, jeweler factories were put up at various places. *Dacca muslin cloth* was famous, other famous centers of textile industry were *Murshidabad, Patna, Surat, Ahmadabad* etc.

Indian economy peaked in 17th century and in 18th century saw a declining trend owing to domestic political situation and growing influence of Europeans.

Industrial Revolution completely changed the scenario in India. India which was once major supplier of finished goods became a supplier of raw material. India exported cheap raw material like cotton and imported expensive factory made goods.

British rule was different from erstwhile rulers in a fundamental way. Unlike earlier rulers, *British never made India their home.* While earlier rulers also exploited India, *but their revenues were used in India directly or indirectly through investment or extravagance.* During British rule, Indian wealth was drained to Britain and it led to weakening of the domestic economy as a whole. India didn't get anything in return of the excess of imports.

Artisans and handicraft ruined due to cheap factory made imports from Europe. Ruin of handicraft was also reflected in the famous cities that were once center of these special crafts.

Arrival of railways further hastened the drain. Natural wealth of India from every corner was now taken to shipping terminals. Railways also ruined rural artisans.

Factors that ruined Indian artisans and handicrafts also ruined local industries. Industries in Britain were promoted at the expense of local industries. Local industries were deliberately kept backward and modern industries were not established. Thus, India was effectively de-industrialized. People now increasingly turned to agriculture and increasing pressure on agriculture combined with exploitative policies led to increase in poverty in India.

Indian fledgling Industries were never provided protection from unequal competition from Britain and other countries as industries in those countries were provided when they were in infancy.

Last, but not the least, poverty and famines were characteristic features of the British rule. Indians may be poor, but poverty was never so

extreme to be on verge of starvation. According to some estimates famine alone led to death of some 3 crore people from 1850-1900. 30 lakh people died in famine of Bengal in 1943.

Many of the painters of the Mughal painting school migrated to provincial courts and new styles developed infusing new vitality.

Persian declined and Urdu language flourished.

Influence of Bhakti movement brought together various communities including Hindus and Muslims together. Fighting between Hindus and Muslim nobles were economic in nature and communalism in India was non-existent before 1857.

COMPANY RULE

East India Company got the trading rights to India via a Charter in 1600.

In 1675, it was also conferred with ***Diwani functions*** i.e. it was now allowed to collect revenue and perform functions regarding to Civil Justice.

Regulating Act of 1773 by British Crown was the *first in a direction to regulate the affairs of Company*. Governor of Bengal was made *Governor General of Bengal* (Warren Hastings was first such GG). As a result, Governors of Bombay and Madras became subordinate to Governor General of Bengal and Company appointed governing body – *Court of Directors* – has to directly report to the crown. It thus laid the *foundation of 'Centralized Administration'* in India.

Pitts India Act of 1784 aimed at *separating the commercial and political functions* of the company. *Board of Control* was established by Crown which looked after political functions while Commercial functions were still left with Court of Directors and Court of Director came under supervision of Board of Control which also had two cabinet ministers. Thus, for the first time *India came to be called as part of British territory and British Government was given full control over Company's affairs*. This Act laid down the *general*

framework which governed company rule till 1857.

British merchants and traders resented monopoly of East India Company and finally succeeded in abolishing its monopoly in 1813.

Charter Act 1833 was passed during period of Lord William Bentinck. Governor General of Bengal was made Governor General of India. (Bentinck was first such GG). Governors (they were still called Governors) of *Madras and Bombay were deprived of their legislative powers* and Governor General of India became the sole authority to have legislative powers all over India. Thus, it *completed the centralization process* that was initiated by the regulating Act of 1773 (after 60 years). British East India Company ceased to be a trading Company via 1833 Charter. It is also considered to be an attempt to codify all Indian Laws.

Charter Act of 1853 was last Charter Act. For the first time it *separated the legislative and executive functions of GG's Council* and a

separate Council called Indian legislative Council was established. It also introduced Open Competition for Civil Services.

COMPANY RULE – AGRICULTURE

The East India Company was transformed from a trading company – via exclusive trading rights that it got via Charter in 1601 – to a territorial colonial power. The arrival of new steam technology in the early nineteenth century also aided this process.

British bought *tea and silk from China* and lost currency and gold. To avoid that they encouraged *growing of opium in India* which was sold to Chinese. While English developed a taste for tea, Chinese became addicted for opium. Another item was *indigo which was used in British textile industry*.

By the thirteenth century Indian indigo was being used by cloth manufacturers in Italy, France and Britain to dye cloth. By the end of the eighteenth century, the demand for

Indian indigo grew further. Britain began to industrialise, and its cotton production expanded dramatically, creating an enormous new demand for cloth dyes. While the demand for indigo increased, its existing supplies from the West Indies (In 1792 France abolished slavery in the French colonies. These events led to the collapse of the indigo plantations on the Caribbean islands.) and America (American Revolution) collapsed for a variety of reasons. Between 1783 and 1789 the production of indigo in the world fell by half. Cloth dyers in Britain now desperately looked for new sources of indigo supply. Since, Indian Indigo was costly to buy through intermediaries, Europeans directly established plantations in India. But they didn't engage in direct cultivation, but instead used ryots to grow it on their lands. This was most prevalent in Bengal.

III Effects of Indigo Cultivation –

I. Vicious Loan Cycle – When the crop was delivered to the planter after the harvest, a new loan was given to the

ryot, and the cycle started all over again. The price they got for the indigo they produced was very low and the cycle of loans never ended.

II. Disadvantage for Other Crops – The best soils in which peasants preferred to cultivate rice was used for indigo. Indigo, moreover, had deep roots and it exhausted the soil rapidly. After an indigo harvest the land could not be sown with rice. Thus indigenous demand for other crops suffered.

‘Neel Darpan’ – It is the name of a book and famous play by writer **Deen Bandhu Mitra**. It highlighted the plight of Indigo farmers.

Peasants revolted many a times and British ultimately setup an **‘Indigo Commission’** which held planters – mostly Europeans – guilty. As a result of it and resentment among the farmers *Indigo Planters they shifted to Bihar*, however as synthetic dyes became popular Indigo plantation business became unprofitable and planters further suppressed farmers in Bihar. Their plight was highlighted

during the visit of Gandhi to Champaran in 1917.

Large numbers of Indian weavers and spinners were left without work, and important traditional textile weaving centers such as *Murshidabad, Machilipatnam and Surat* declined as demand fell. Cotton weavers in India faced two problems at the same time – *their export market collapsed, and the local market shrank*, being glutted with Manchester imports.

In Deccan also, cotton farmers were having tough time due to fluctuations in international market in wake of civil war in America and rising debts. Farmers were in debt and the insensitiveness of the money lenders infuriated the peasants. The moneylenders were violating the customary norms of the countryside. One general norm was that the interest charged could not be more than the principal. This was meant to limit the moneylender’s exactions and defined what could be counted as “fair interest”. Under colonial rule this norm broke down. Deeds and Bonds

appeared as new symbols of oppression. They had no idea of the clauses that moneylenders inserted in the bonds. But they had no choice because to survive they needed loans, and moneylenders were unwilling to give loans without legal bonds. This ultimately manifested in form of peasant revolts of Deccan.

CULTURAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCENERIO IN 19TH CENTURY

In the late eighteenth century, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras rose in importance as Presidency cities. They became the centers of British power in the different regions of India. Some of the cities which were earlier center of trade and power declined due to shift in trading activities. i.e. 'De-Urbanization' happened. Cities such as Machlipatnam, Surat and Seringapatam were deurbanised during the nineteenth century. By the early twentieth century, *only 11 per cent of Indians were living in cities.*

The establishment of the **Delhi College in 1792** led to a great intellectual flowering in the sciences as well as the humanities, largely in the Urdu language. Many refer to the period from 1830 to 1857 as a period of the Delhi renaissance (mid of 19th century).

Rise of Delhi – However Calcutta was capital of the British; they decided to give considerable importance to Delhi. During the Revolt, the British had *realized that the Mughal emperor was still important to the people* and they saw him as their leader. It was therefore important to celebrate British power with pomp and show in the city the Mughal emperors had earlier ruled, and the place which had turned into a rebel stronghold in 1857. New initiatives like Census were taken. In the *first census of 1871*, and other subsequent censuses, though they were useful in collecting the data, they were also seen as people from lower caste and occupations to claim new identities by claiming themselves differently.

Railway was introduced in 1853, which started to transform the urban landscape. Every railway station became a collection depot for raw materials and a distribution point for imported goods.

Coronation of King George V and Delhi Darbar – In 1911, when King George V was crowned in England, a Durbar was held in Delhi to celebrate the occasion. The decision to shift the capital of India from Calcutta to Delhi was announced at this Durbar.

Foundation of New Delhi – New Delhi was constructed as a 10-square-mile city on Raisina Hill, south of the existing city. Two architects, *Edward Lutyens* and *Herbert Baker*, were called on to design New Delhi and its buildings. The features of these government buildings were borrowed from different periods of India's imperial history, but the overall look was Classical Greece (fifth century BCE). For instance, the central dome of the Viceroy's Palace – now Rashtrapati Bhawan was copied from the Buddhist stupa at Sanchi, and the red sandstone

and carved screens or jalis were borrowed from Mughal architecture. But the new buildings had to assert British importance, that is why *the architect made sure that the Viceroy's Palace was higher than Shah Jahan's Jama Masjid.*

TRIBAL UPRISINGS

The common thread that ran across all the tribal uprisings was that – rise of money lenders, revenue farmers and traders as middlemen in tribal areas. Tribals deemed outsiders as undesirable and were called *Dikus*. Tribal movements were largely driven by the idea of intrusions by *Dikus* – British in this case. An active forest policy and a slew of Forest Acts deprived tribals of their traditional forest rights. Reactionary and ill conceived legislations like '**Criminal Tribes Act, 1971**' made the condition of tribes worse. By this Act many communities of craftsmen, traders and pastoralists were classified as Criminal Tribes. They were stated to be criminal by nature and birth. Once this Act came into force, these communities

were expected to live only in notified village settlements. They were not allowed to move out without a permit. The village police kept a continuous watch on them.

Birsa of Munda tribe in Chota Nagpur plateau was one such protagonist. There were other tribes too which considered forest areas as their right of livelihood and resented any idea of working for others mainly Dikus. For Example – Baigas of central India – were reluctant to do work for others. The Baigas saw themselves as people of the forest, who could only live on the produce of the forest. It was below the dignity of a Baiga to become a labourer.

There were tribals with different occupations, some were hunter gatherers like -'Khond' of Orissa. Some were Jhoom Cultivators (shifting cultivators), some others herded animals - like Gaddis of Kulu were shepherds, and the Bakarwals of Kashmir reared goats.

Why British want to put restrains over tribes? – The British were

uncomfortable with groups who moved about and did not have a fixed home. They wanted tribal groups to settle down and become peasant cultivators as this could have subjected them under better control of British. *Settled peasants were easier to control and administer* than people who were always on the move. The British also *wanted a regular revenue source* for the state from the revenue in form of tax on agriculture. So, they *introduced land settlements* – that is, they measured the land, defined the rights of each individual to that land, and fixed the revenue demand for the state. Some peasants were declared landowners, others tenants. However, this move was not very successful and jhoom cultivators continued to adopt shifting cultivations.

Tribal reaction against land settlement move of British – Many tribal groups reacted against the colonial forest laws. They *disobeyed the new rules*, continued with practices that were declared illegal, and at times *rose in open rebellion*. Such was the

revolt of '**Songram Sangma**' in 1906 in Assam, and the 'forest satyagraha of the 1930s' in the Central Provinces.

New occupations and exploitation of Tribals – The plight of the tribals who had to go far away from their homes in search of work was even worse. From the late nineteenth century, *tea plantations started coming up* and mining became an important industry. Tribals were recruited in large numbers to work the tea plantations of Assam and the *coal mines of Jharkhand*. They were recruited through contractors who paid them *miserably low wages, and prevented them from returning home*. There were deaths of hundreds of them in the mines.

Through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, tribal groups in different parts of the country rebelled against the changes in laws, the restrictions on their practices, the new taxes they had to pay, and the exploitation by traders and moneylenders. The 'Kols' rebelled in

1831-32, 'Santhals' rose in revolt in 1855, the 'Bastar Rebellion' in central India broke out in 1910 and the 'Warli Revolt' in Maharashtra in 1940.

Birsa Movement – The movement that Birsa led was one such movement. It carries the essence of the tribal resentment. While growing up, Birsa heard stories of a golden age when the Mundas had been free of the oppression of dikus. An idea of a free tribe was implanted here. His movement was *aimed at reforming tribal society*. In 1895 Birsa urged his followers to *recover their glorious past*. What worried British officials most was the political aim of the Birsa movement, for it wanted to *drive out missionaries, money lenders, Hindu landlords, and the government and set up a Munda Raj* with Birsa at its head. The movement identified all these forces as the cause of the misery the Mundas were suffering.

☐ The land policies of the British were destroying their traditional land system

☐ Hindu landlords and money lenders were taking over their land

☐ Missionaries were criticising their traditional culture.

As the movement spread the British officials decided to act. They arrested Birsa in 1895, convicted him on charges of rioting and jailed him for two years. Birsa's followers began targeting the symbols of diku and European power. They *attacked police stations and churches*, and raided the property of moneylenders and zamindars. They raised the white flag as a symbol of Birsa Raj. In 1900 Birsa died of cholera and the movement faded out.

Causes of Failure of Tribal Movements

☐ Failure to Identify the real Enemy

☐ Primitive Methods

☐ Unorganised

☐ Superstition

Other tribal Movements during those times were –

I. **Khond Uprising** – These tribal lived mainly in Orissa and they were led by Chakra Bisoi.

II. **Chaur Uprising**, 1832 – Uprising by the Tribals in Bihar and Bengal region.

III. **Kol and Ho Uprising**, Chota Nagpur, 1832 – They belonged to Chota Nagpur belt, the kols inhabited large portion of the Chota Nagpur region. They rebelled to resist British entry into their dominion. Soon they joined the Munda rebellion. In Kol uprising the chief leader was – Buddho Bhagat

IV. **Koli Revot** – In Sahyadri Hills

V. **Satara Revolt**, 1840 – Nar Singh and Dhar Rao

VI. **Santhal Rebellion**, 1856 – They belonged to Bengal Region, commonly known as SANTHAL HOOL was a native rebellion in present day Jharkhand, in eastern India against both the British colonial authority and corrupt upper caste zamindari system by the Santal people. Led by Sidhha and Kanku

VII. **Nayak Dae Revolt**, Gujarat, 1858 – Leaders were Roop Singh and Joria Bhagat

VIII. **Rampa Rebellion**, Andhra, 1879 – It was against money lenders. These tribes paid a regular tribute to a zamindar or mansabdar who was a subject of British India. The then zamindar of the region, an illegitimate son of his predecessor, was an oppressive tyrant. To make matters worse, the Madras government introduced a law making toddy tapping illegal and introducing a toddy tax. This led to a full-scale rebellion in early 1879.

IX. **Bhil Uprising**, Rajasthan, 1913 – Led by Gobind Guru in Gujarat belt

X. **Khonds Revolt**, Orissa, 1914 – leader was Chakra Bisayi

XI. **Oraon Revolt**, Chota Nagpur, 1914 – Led by Jatra Bhagat

XII. **Kuki Revolt**, Manipur, 1917-19. The first Resistance movement by the Kuki People was the Kuki Rebellion of 1917- It was against the British hegemony. Kuki country was subjugated by the British and divided between British India and British Burma administrations following the 'Kuki

Uprising of 1917-19'. Up until the fateful defeat in 1919, the Kukis were an independent people ruled by their chieftains. Jado Nang was major leader.

XIII. **Chinchu Revolt**, Andhra, 1921 – led by Hanumanthu

XIV. **Koyas Revolt** or **Gudem Hill Revolt** or **Rampa Rebellion**, Andhra, 1922 –

This was during the Non Cooperation Movement and was led by Alluri Sitaram Raju. The Gudem rebels attacked police stations, attempted to kill British officials and carried on guerrilla warfare for achieving swaraj. Raju was captured and executed in 1924, and over time became a folk hero.

Though tribal movements were more often than not crushed by the British, they were significant in at least two ways.

☐ First – it forced the colonial government to introduce laws so that the land of the tribals could not be easily taken over by dikus.

☐ Second – it showed once again that the tribal people had the capacity to

protest against injustice and express their anger against colonial rule.

EARLY UPRISINGS – PRE 1857

SANYASI REBELLION (1770 onwards)

The Sannyasi Rebellion or Sannyasi is a term used to describe activities of sannyasis and fakirs, or Hindu and Muslim ascetics respectively, in Bengal, India in the late 18th century. It took place around Murshidabad and Baikunthapur forests of Jalpaiguri.

Sanyasis oppressed by the British policies retaliated by organizing raids on the companies factories and state treasuries under leadership of '**Kena Sarkar**' and '**Dirji Narayan**' in West Bengal and Bihar.

Perhaps, the best reminder of the Rebellion is in literature, in the Bengali novel Anandamath, written by India's first modern novelist Bankim Chandra Chatterjee

VELLORE MUTINY (1806)

The Vellore Mutiny on 10 July 1806 was the first instance of a large-scale and violent mutiny by Indian

sepoys against the East India Company, predating the Indian Rebellion of 1857 by half a century.

The revolt, which took place in the South Indian city of Vellore, was brief, lasting only one full day, but brutal as *mutineers broke into the Vellore Fort and killed or wounded*

200 British troops, before they were subdued by reinforcements from nearby Arcot. Summary *executions*

of about 100 mutineers took place during the suppression of the outbreak, followed by the formal court-martial of smaller numbers.

The immediate causes of the mutiny revolved mainly around *resentment felt towards changes in the sepoy*

dress code introduced in November 1805. *Hindus were prohibited from wearing religious marks on their*

foreheads and Muslims were required to shave their beards and trim their moustaches. The new

headdress included a leather cockade and was intended to replace the existing turban. These

measures offended the sensibilities of both Hindu and Muslim sepoys.

Modern India (or) Indian National Movement

Sepoy mutiny (or) First War of Independence.

- Sepoy mutiny which means “The Indian Rebellion of 1857” was a major but ultimately failure uprising in India in 1857 against British East India Company.
- This rebellion began on 10th may 1857 at Meerut.

Causes

- ❖ It is occurred as the result of an accumulation of factors over time, rather than any single event.
- ❖ One of the most important reason for this rebellion is “Doctrine of Lapse” poling of Lord Dalhousie.
- ❖ Outbreak of the rebellion was the general services establishment act of 25 july 1856
- ❖ The immediate and final spark was provided by ammunition of the new enfield p-53 rifle

- ❖ To load the rifle, sepoys had to bite the cartridge open to release the powder
- ❖ The grease used on these cartridge was rumoured to include tallow derived from beef, Which would be offensive to Hindus and the pork which would be offensive to Muslims

Leaders

- Mangal Panday of 34th Battalian
- Begam Hazrad Mahal of Lucknow
- Gunwar Singh of Bihar
- Lakshmi Bai of Janshi
- Bahadur Shah Zafar II
- Nana Saheb
- Tantiya Tope

Main Features of Queen’s Proclamation

India was to be directly governed by the British Crown through a secretary of state for India. Lord Stanley was the first secretary of state for India

The Governor General was provided with an Executive council whose members were to act as head of

different departments and his official advisors

- ❖ Decided to allow entry of Indians into the British Indian civil services to a limited extent.
- ❖ Provided for council of India of the secretary of the state. This council contain of 15 members, 7 of which to be elected by the court of directors and the rest of 8 members were to be appointed by the British Crown.

The policy of doctrine of lapse was abolished and more liberty was given to Indian princely states subject to British suzerainty.

Consequences

The most impact of revote of 1857 is that the Administration of India was transferred from East India Company to British Government.

In November 1, 1858 the Queen's proclamation announced that the polity of territorial extension was to be abandoned.

The native rulers were assured of the safety of their territory, right and honour if the co-operated with British.

The army was re-organised to strengthen British control over the country and avert any further rebellion future.

The number of British soldiers was increased.

The 1857 Revolt created a big gap between the different religious communities especially the Hindus and Muslims as each blamed the theirs for its failure.

Further a polity of divide and rule was actively pursued to keep the Hindus and Muslims divided.

European Countries Trading in India

The geographical discoveries of last Quarter of 15th century deeply affected the commercial relations of different countries of world.

Portuguese

The arrival of Portuguese in India followed by the advent of other

European Countries and soon India's coastal and maritime trade was monopolized by European Countries.

Vasco da Gama landed at Calicut on 17th May 1498.

Vasco da Gama warmly received by Calicut ruler Zamorin.

Vasco da Gama's second time India's visit is in 1502.

A new policy was adopted in 1505 by Portuguese which a post of Governor was appointed.

Francisco de Almeida was the first Portuguese Governor

Goa, Diu, Daman, Salsette, Bassein, Chaul Portuguese settlement in India.

Decline

The monopoly of Indian ocean by Portuguese remain unbroken till 1595.

The Mughal Emperor Shahjahan captured Hugli in 1632.

The King of Portugal gave Bombay as dowry to Charles II of England when he married his sister Catherine.

The Marathas captured salsett and Bassein in 1793.

Then, the Portuguese were left only with Goa, Diu and Daman which they retained by Government of India in 1961.

The Dutch

The Dutch East India company (or) The Vereenigde ost- indische companies (voc) formed in 1602.

Masulippattinam, Chingleputt, Pondicherry, Pottapoli (Nizamapatinam) Devanampattinam, Chandragiri and Pulicat are the Dutch settlements in India.

The final collapse came with defeat of Dutch by English in the Battle of Bedara in 1759.

The expulsion of Dutch from their possessions in India by British came in 1795.

The English

Queen Elizabeth granted charter in 31st December 1599 to "The Governor and company of Merchants of London Trading in to East Indies".

Later it is called East India company

EIC's first factory is at Surat.

The French

'Des Indus Orientals' which means French East India company created in 1664.

- ❖ Colbert Minister of French King Louis XIV created the company.
- ❖ First factory Surat in 1668.
- ❖ Beginning of Anglo-French conflict which the French were defeated.

The Danes

- ❖ The Danes formed an East India company in India in 1616.
- ❖ The first settlement is Tranqueber (Tarangambadi) in 1620.
- ❖ The other main settlement is at Serempore in 1676 (Headquarter of Danes).
- ❖ In 1845, They were forced to sell all their Indian settlements to British.

Early Political Organisation in India before Indian National Congress

These Organisations were in the 3 corners of India – Bengal, Bombay and Madras.

Bengal

Bangabhasa Prakasika Sabha

- ❖ In 1836
- ❖ By Ram Mohan Roy

Zamindari Association (Bengal Land Holder's Society)

- ❖ By Prasanna Kumar Tagore, Dwarkanath Tagore and Radhakant Deb.
- ❖ In 1836.
- ❖ Safeguarding the interest of landlords.

British India Society

- ❖ By William Adam friend of Rammohan Roy.
- ❖ In 1843.
- ❖ Improve the situation of Indians.

British India Association

- ❖ Bengal landholder's society and British India society merged together to form British India Association.
- ❖ In 1851.
- ❖ Submit petitions for the grievances at common people.

- ❖ Post 1857 sepoy mutiny, this organisation supported British in giving more punishments to rebels.

Indian League

Stated by Sisir Kumar Ghose

In 1857

- ❖ To develop the feeling of nationalism among the common people.

Indian Association of Calcutta (Indian National Association)

- ❖ By Ananda Mohan Bose and S.N.Banerjee.
- ❖ In 1876.
- ❖ Later it merged with INC.

East India Association

- ❖ Started by Dadabhai Nauroji.
- ❖ In 1867.
- ❖ It is also called predecessor of INC.
- ❖ Opened Branches in Bombay, Madras and Calcutta in 1869.

Bombay – Bombay Association (Bombay Native Association)

- ❖ By Jagannath Sankarseth and Sir Jamshedji Jejobhal.
- ❖ In 1852.

- ❖ First political party in Bombay Province

Poona Sarvanajanik Sabha

- ❖ Started by M.G.Ranade in pune
- ❖ In 1870
- ❖ Various leader like Tilakar were member of this organisation

Bombay Presidency Association

- ❖ Started by Feroshah Metha, Badahrudin Tayabji and K.T.Teleong which they are called "Trio of Bombay"
- ❖ In 1885
- ❖ It was formed against to introduce of the Ilbert bill

Madras Native Association

- ❖ In 1849
- ❖ First political organisation in Madras presidency
- ❖ Started by Lakshminarasu Chetty

Madras Mahajan Sabha

- ❖ Formed by B.Subramaniya Aiyar, P.Ananda Charlu and M.Viraragava Cheriya
- ❖ In 1884 at Madras

Indian National Congress:

- ❖ The Indian National Congress (INC) was founded in Dec, 1885.
- ❖ Founded by Retired civil services officer Allan Octavian Hume.
- ❖ W.C Banerjee was the first congress president
- ❖ 72 delegates attended in first meeting.
- ❖ Prominent leader of congress are Dadabhai Nowroji. Bala Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lala Lajpat Raj, Gopala Krishna Gokale, PeroshahMetha, Viraregavachariyar, Surendranath Banerjee and M.K.Gandhi.
- ❖ Congress was transferred into mass movement by S.N.Benerjee.
- ❖ Bedrudding Tyabji was the first Muslim president of INC.
- ❖ George Yule was the first Englishman to become president of INC.
- ❖ INC has split in to two group. i.e. Moderate and Extremist in 1907 at Surat.
- ❖ Annie Besant is first women president of INC

- ❖ M.K.Gandhi become congress president only one time in 1924 at Belgaum Session of INC.
- ❖ Sarojini Naidu was the first Indian women president of INC
- ❖ J.B.Kripalani was present of INC when India attain Independence.

Partition of Bengal and Swadeshi

Movement:

- ❖ Two partition of Bengal was announced on 19th July 1905.
- ❖ By viceroy of India Lord Curzon
- ❖ The partition took place on 16th October 1905
- ❖ Separated the largely Muslim eastern areas from largely Hindu western areas.
- ❖ Hindus were outraged at what they saw as a “divide and rule” policy
- ❖ The partition animated the Muslims to form their own national organisation on communal line.
- ❖ The authorities not able to end the protest assented to reversing the partition and did so in 1911.

Muslim League

- ❖ All India Muslim League popularly known as “Muslim League” established in 1906
- ❖ Founder of this party is Nawab Shalimullah Khan
- ❖ First President – Agha Khan
- ❖ Mohammed Ali Jinnah the founder of Pakistan was joined in Muslim League in 1913
- ❖ On 29th Dec, 1930 Sir Mohammed Iqbal demand separate Muslim state for first time.
- ❖ The Muslim League won 425 seats out of 476 in constitution Assembly.

Surat Split

- ❖ INC was established in 1885
- ❖ There are two groups in congress i.e. Moderates and Extremists.
- ❖ The Period from 1885 to 1905 called as moderate period.
- ❖ In Surat session (1907) Extremists wanted Lala Lajpat Rai (or) Bal Gangadher Tilak as a president and moderate supported Dr.Rashbihari Ghose to become the president.

- ❖ Finally Dr.Rashbihari Ghose become the president and the congress was split into two groups.
- ❖ The British Government launched a massive attack on the extremists and extremists News papers were suppressed.
- ❖ Tilak, their main leader sent to Mandalay Jail for six years.

Minto – Morely Reforms (1909)

- ❖ The Indian council Act commonly known as Minto-Morely Reforms.
- ❖ The Reforms established Indian **dominate** in provincial but not central legislative body.
- ❖ A momentous Introduction in the reforms were are separate electorate where seats were reserved for Muslims.

Home Rule Movement

- ❖ The Indian Home Rule movement was a movement in British India on the line of Irish Home Rule Movement.
- ❖ Indian Home Rule movement began in India in background of world war I.

- ❖ The council Act of 1909 (Minto-Marely Reform) failed to satisfy the demand of the nationalist leaders.
- ❖ Between 1916 and 1918 when war is beginning prominent leaders like B.G.Thilak, G.S.Kaparde S.Subramaniya Iyer and Annie Besant decided to organise a national alliance of league across India
- ❖ Specially to demand Home Rule (or) self government within the British Empire.
- ❖ Thilak founded first Home Rule league in 1916 April.
- ❖ Then after this Annie Besant founded second league in September 1916.
- ❖ In 1921 All India Home Rule league changed its name as "Swarajya Sabha"
- ❖ In provinces the "Dyarchy" or Dual Government system" was introduced.
- ❖ The report went before cabinet on 24th May and 7th June in 1918
- ❖ The number of Indian in viceroy's Executive councils would be 3 out of 8 members
- ❖ There would hence forth be direct election and on extension of communal franchise.
- ❖ The Montague-Chelmsford report started that there should be a review after 10 years.

Khilafat Movements.

- ❖ The khilafat movement also known as the "Indian Muslim movement" (1919-1924)
- ❖ Launched by Muslims of British India led by Mohammed Ali, Shaukat Ali and Abul Kalam Azad.
- ❖ To Restore the caliph of the ottoman caliphate.
- ❖ It was protesting against the humiliating sanctions placed on caliph and ottoman Empire after the first world war.

Montague – Chelmsford Reforms

- ❖ Popularly known as Government of India Act 1919
- ❖ Lord Chelmsford is viceroy of India
- ❖ Edwin Samuel Montague is secretary of state of India.

- ❖ In 1920 an alliance was made between khilafat leaders and INC the largest political party and nationalist movement.
- ❖ Gandhi and khilafat leaders promised to work and fight together for the cause of khilafat and swaraj.
- ❖ The movement collapsed by late 1922 when Turkey gained a more favorable diplomatic position and moved towards secularism.

Swaraj Party

- ❖ The Swaraj party was established as the Congress – Khilafat swaraj party.
- ❖ It was a political party formed in India in 1923 after Gaya session of the INC.
- ❖ The two most important leaders are C.R.Dass and Motilal Nehru.
- ❖ Many candidates of swaraj party got elected to the central legislative and provincial legislative council in 1923
- ❖ As a result of Bengal Pact the Swaraj party won most seats during election of Bengal legislative council in 1923.

- ❖ This party disintegrated after the death of C.R.Dass.

Simon Commission

- ❖ The Indian Statutory commission commonly referred to as Simon Commission was a group of 7 British members of parliament under the chairmanship of Sir John Simon.
- ❖ The commission arrived in India in 1928.
- ❖ Important committee member was Clement Atlee. Who become prince minister of English in 1946.
- ❖ The Indian public claimed for revision of this form of government and the Government of India Act 1919. Itself stated that a commission would be appointed after 10 years to investigate the progress of the governance.
- ❖ Some people in India were outraged and insulted that the Simon commission which was to determine the future of India, did not include a single Indian member.
- ❖ The Commission left England in Jan.1928.

- ❖ Almost immediately wish its arrival in Bombay on 3rd Feb.1928. Its members confronted by throngs of protesters.
- ❖ One pretext against the Simon commission became infamous.
- ❖ On 30 October 1928 the commission arrival in Lahore where it was met by protesters waving black flags.
- ❖ This protest was led by Lala Lajpat Rai was critically injured and died a forth night later.
- ❖ The Commission's report was published in May 1930

NEHRU REPORT (1928)

- ❖ The 'Nehru Report' (1928) was a **memorandum outlining a proposed new Dominion constitution** (it was an outline and not a constitution itself) for India. It was prepared by a committee of the **All Parties Conference** chaired by Motilal Nehru with his son Jawaharlal acting as secretary.

Recommendations –

- I. It called for Dominion Status
- II. Unlike the eventual Government of India Act 1935 it contained a Bill of Rights.
- III. It did not provide for separate electorates for any community or weightage for minorities.
- IV. It advocated federal structure.
- V. Separation of state from religion
- VI. A parliamentary form of Government

In December 1929, under the presidency of Jawaharlal Nehru, the **Lahore Congress** formalized the demand of '**Purna Swaraj**' or full independence for India.

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT

- ❖ Mahatma Gandhi found in salt a powerful symbol that could unite the nation. On 31 January 1930 – Soon after demand for Purna Swaraj, he sent a letter to Viceroy Irwin stating eleven demands (11 points).

These included among others –

- I. Total prohibition
- II. Release of political prisoners
- III. Reduce expenditure on civil services and military
- IV. Levy of duty on foreign cloth
- V. Issue of firearm licences
- VI. Reduce land revenue by 50%
- VII. Reduce Rupee Sterling exchange ratio to make Indian exports profitable
- VIII. Reserve Coastal shipping for Indians
- IX. Abolition of Salt Tax.

- ❖ The march was over 240 miles, from Gandhiji's ashram in **Sabarmati** to the Gujarati coastal town of **Dandi**.
- ❖ Masses participated in the movement. Salt laws were broken everywhere. Even women participated in huge numbers. **Kamla** (wife of Nehru), **Swarup Rani** (Mother of Nehru) were at the forefront. In Tamil Nadu, **C Rajagopalchari** led the march, In Malabar **K Kelappan** took the lead.

Other Impacts –

- I. There was a wide scale boycott of liquor shops and in protest toddy trees were cut down
- II. Women participated at large scale for the first time
- III. **Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan** launched a Khudai Khidmatgar Movement at the North West Frontier Provinces

GANDHI – IRWIN PACT

- ❖ In this backdrop, Gandhi entered into a pact with Irwin on **5 March 1931**. The Pact and direct Gandhi-Irwin talks put Congress on equal terms with government
- I. Discontinuation of the civil disobedience movement by the Indian National Congress
- II. Participation by the Indian National Congress in the Round Table Conference
- III. Withdrawal of all ordinances issued by the British Government imposing curbs on the activities of the Indian National Congress.

IV. Release of prisoners arrested for participating in the civil disobedience movement.

V. Removal of the tax on salt, which allowed the Indians to produce, trade, and sell salt legally and for their own private use .

COMMUNAL AWARD (1932) and POONA PACT (1933)

❖ **Background** – In the wake of inconclusive Round Table Talks, British government had declared that, if a consensus was not reached on separate representation of minorities, a unilateral communal award will be made. Government kept its promise in form of Communal Award of 1932.

❖ The Communal Award was by the British Prime Minister Ramsay McDonald on 4 August 1932 to grant separate electorates to minority communities in India, including Muslims, Sikhs, and Dalit (then known as the Depressed Classes or Untouchables) in India.

❖ Communal Award was supported by many among the minority communities, most notably the Dalit leader, Dr. B R Ambedkar. Gandhi reached an agreement with Dr. Ambedkar to have a single Hindu electorate, with Dalits having seats reserved within it (in fact, seats for Dalits were increased after the Pact).

This is called the **Poona Pact**. Electorates for other religions like Muslim and Sikh remained separate.

GOVERNMENT of INDIA ACT (1935)

❖ **Background** – Third Round Table Conference happened in 1932, and no Congress leader participated. However its discussion and discussions of earlier Round Tables and Simon Commission recommendations led to the enactment of 1935 Act.

❖ The Act provided for an all India federal structure as a union of Princely States and Provinces.

Inclusion of Princly States was an idea to act as a balance against the rising nationalism in the provinces.

Features of the Act –

I. It introduced **Federalism** in India with Princly States and Provinces being its parts and introduced Federal List, Provincial List and Concurrent List. However, this never became a reality for Princly States didn't approve this.

II. **Provincial Autonomy** replaced Provincial Diarchy (after unpopular nature of Dyarchy in Provinces, Simon Commission suggested its abolition) i.e. Responsible Government was introduced in Provinces. Governor has to now act on the advice of the ministers responsible to Provincial Legislature.

III. **Bicameralism** was introduced in 6 out of 11 Provinces.

IV. There was also to be a bicameral federal legislature in which the (princely) states were given disproportionate weight age.

Moreover, the representatives of the states were not to be elected by the people, but appointed directly by the rulers.

V. NWFP was given status of province and Burma was separated from India (Burma became part of India only during British)

VI. **Diarchy at federal/central level** was introduced and abolished at provincial level

FORWARD BLOCK (1939)

❖ **Difference between Gandhi and Subhash** – However, Gandhi had a sympathetic corner for British in this hour of difficulty and he also didn't like the idea of Subhash to join the other European forces in a bid to bring freedom to India. Other issue was Subhash's plan for industrialised development, which Gandhi opposed in favour of grass root level changes. These differences came in open in the next session of Congress of 1939 in Tirupuri when Gandhi

fielded **Patabhai Sitaramaiya** as candidate and he was defeated and Bose re-elected. He formed Forwards Block in 1939, first as a part of Congress then parted ways with it.

SECOND WORLD WAR and INDIA

- ❖ In 1939 World war broke out and British declared participation of India in War without permission from or consultation with Indians. League (on conditional support that constitutional decisions will be taken with its consent) and Princely States supported the War.
- ❖ Gandhi expressed sympathy, while Subhash urged for taking benefit of this situation to launch a full blown movement. Nehru was in middle and argued for refraining from the war and at the same time not taking advantage.

TWO NATIONS THEORY and LAHORE RESOLUTION (1940)

- ❖ Amidst all the confusion over war and Congress' dilemma of joining the war, Muslim League passed a resolution in its 1940 session declaring that 'Muslims are not a minority, but a separate nation'. This gave rise to '**Two nation Theory**'. It called for the creation of 'independent states' for Muslims in British India. The constituent units of these states were to be autonomous and sovereign

AUGUST OFFER (1940)

- ❖ The August offer 1940 was made on August 8, 1940 by Viceroy Lord Linlithgow, the **eve of the Battle of Britain** in which it was beleaguered to seek support of India by providing some concessions on front of self-rule that were earlier demanded by Indians.
- ❖ The offer in principle accepted the demand for Constituent Assembly.
- ❖ The Viceroy at the time, Lord Linlithgow, made a fresh offer that promised –

- I. Dominion Status
- II. The expansion of the governor-general's Executive Council to include more Indians
- III. The Establishment of an Advisory War council
- IV. Giving full weight to minority opinion
- V. Recognition of Indians' right to frame their own constitution (after the war would end), framed 'mainly' by Indians.

CRIPPS MISSION (1942)

- ❖ It was another attempt in late March 1942 by the British government to secure Indian cooperation and support for their efforts in World War II. The offer was made in a situation in which, Britain was pushed against the wall in wake of rising fascism aggression –
- ❖ As Japan approached towards Asia, British felt a need to garner support of British Indian Army.
- ❖ There was also pressure from Allied forces to seek Indian cooperation.

- ❖ Pandit Nehru and Mulana Azad were official negotiators with the Cripps Mission. Cripps spent a **major chunk of his time in bringing congress and league on the same table**. But, there was little trust between the British and Congress by this stage, and both sides felt that the other was concealing its true plans.

- ❖ Major Features of Cripps Mission were (Almost same as August Offer)

- I. Dominion Status with later right to withdraw from Commonwealth
- II. Reconstitution of Viceroy's Executive Council
- III. Constitutional Making Body for India – Consisting of elected members of provinces and representatives from princely states
- IV. War Executive Council – A war executive council was proposed having Indian representation, however Defense of India will be retained by the government
- V. Provinces may have separate Constitution

- ❖ Gandhi said that Cripps's offer of Dominion status after the war was a 'Post dated cheque drawn on a crashing bank'.
- ❖ Major objections of Congress were dominion status. It also **objected to the basis of nomination** of the princely states through nomination and not by people themselves. **Right of provinces** to secede also went against plan of united India. Muslim League criticized idea of a single union. Depressed felt that **partition will leave them at the mercy of Hindu and Muslim majority elite.**

QUIT INDIA (1942)

- ❖ In the **8th August Bombay session**, Congress passed the Quit India resolution at **Gowalia Tank** and its draft was prepared by Jawahar Lal Nehru and seconded by Patel. Gandhi called for a 'Do or Die' and gave slogans of 'Quit India' and 'Bharat Cholo'. Very next day of Gowalia Tank meet, major leaders were arrested under 'Operation

Thunderbolt' launched by the British.

- ❖ Common people showed unprecedented heroism, but they also faced unprecedented repression. On the name of war, government had armed itself with draconian provisions and laws.
- ❖ This led to anger and confusion and people came on roads, hartals ensued and clashes happened. Underground activities started and even parallel governments were formed like the one in Satara. A new **underground leadership** emerged led by **Achyut Patwardhan, R M Lohia, Sucheta Kriplani, Chhotubhai Puranik, R P Goenka and J P Narayan.**

INA and AZAD HIND FAUJ

- ❖ INA was first formed by **Mohan Singh** and was later reorganized by **Rash Behari Bose**. Mohan Singh, Niranjana Shah Gill and Mohammed Akram were the Indian expats who for the first time originally formed

INA with the help of Japan. Subhash formed a provisional government in Singapore and formed INA headquarters in **Rangoon** and **Singapore** and he famously gave the call of 'Delhi Chalo'. Netaji hoisted Indian flag in Andaman in December 1943 and renamed the islands as – 'Shahid' and 'Swaraj' in memory of martyrs

CABINET MISSION (1946)

- ❖ After failure of Gandhi-Jinnha talks (1944) and Wavell plan (1945) Cabinet Mission was sent to India to –
 - I. Discuss the formation of interim government and outline of future government
 - II. Setting up of a constituent assembly.
- ❖ Cabinet mission stood for united India. It was a **last opportunity to avoid partition**. Its members were – Cripps, Pathwick Lawrence, Alexander

MOUNTBATTEN PLAN (1947) or 3rd JUNE PLAN

- ❖ Mountbatten's formula was to **divide India and at the same time retain maximum possible unity**.
- ❖ The actual division between the two new dominions of India and Pakistan was accomplished according to what has come to be known as the **3rd June Plan** or **Mountbatten Plan**. It was announced at a press conference by Mountbatten on 4 June 1947, and the date of independence was also announced – 15 August 1947. The main points of the plan were –
 - I. **Partition** – Muslim-dominated areas may be separated to form a Dominion. In that case such domination would be constituted by a partition of Bengal and the Punjab Hindus and Muslims in Punjab and Bengal legislative assemblies would meet and vote for partition. If a simple majority of either group wanted partition, then these provinces would be divided.

II. **Referendum for NWFP and Sylhet** – The fate of North West Frontier Province and Sylhet district of Bengal was to be decided by a referendum.

III. India would be free by 15th August 1947.

IV. **Princely States – Independence of princely states was ruled out.**

They would either join India or Pakistan. Independence for Bengal also ruled out.

V. A **boundary commission** to be set up in case of partition.

Northeast Frontier Agency. The territories of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep Islands are also turned over to the Indian Dominion.

III. An independent dominion of Pakistan shall be created out of the provinces of West Punjab, North West Frontier Province, Sindh and East Bengal.

IV. The all Princely states that were officially related to British Empire were made free from all the treaties and relationships and they could decide which dominion to join.

V. Both the Indian and Pakistan Dominions would be members of the British Commonwealth and was allowed to leave whenever they pleased.

INDIA INDEPENDENCE ACT (1947)

❖ Indian Independence Act was passed in July 1947, which specified the following –

I. The British rule of India should be over on the midnight of August 15, 1947.

II. An independent dominion of India shall be created out of the United Provinces, Central Provinces, Bombay Presidency, Madras Presidency, the Karnatic, East Punjab, West Bengal, Assam and the