

INDIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT

FIRST PLACE PHASE OF INDIAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT

(1885 - 1905)

Formation of Indian National Congress

- In 1884, a retired English Officer A.O. Hume formed an association called Indian National Union.
- It was a forerunner of Indian National Congress which was founded in 1885.
- The Union decided to call a convention of the representatives of the Indian people at Poona in 1885, but as cholera spread in Poona that year, it was decided to hold the convention at Bombay.
- The first session of the Indian National Congress was held on December 28, 1885, at Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College in Bombay under the Presidentship of Bombay Chandra Banerjee. It was attended by 72 delegates from all over India.
- The National Conference of Surendra Nath Banerjee merged with the Indian National Congress in 1886.
- The Congress was founded during the viceroyalty of Lord Dufferin. Gladstone was the British Prime Minister that time.

Second Phase of Indian National Movement (1905-1919)

The petitions of the Congress brought no change in the policies and administration of the British in India. The young Indians gradually lost faith in the constitutional process and proceeded ahead towards the path of conflict. It resulted in the rise of extremism within the Congress and that of terrorism outside it. The primary causes of this militant nationalism were as follows:

- I. No change in the attitudes and administration of the British.
- II. Economic impoverishment of the people.
- III. Social and religious awakening.
- IV. The reactionary policies of Curzon.
- V. The partition of Bengal.
- VI. Impact of events in foreign countries.

Partition of Bengal, (1905)

- Lord Curzon decided to partition Bengal in 1905. The reason given was administrative inconvenience. But the real motive of Curzon was to stop the rising tide of Indian nationalism whose nerve centre was Bengal.

- In December 1903, the partition proposals become publicly known. The decision to partition Bengal was announced on 19 July, 1905. The partition of Bengal officially came into effect on 16 October, 1905.
- Bengal was partitioned into two parts one part was Eastern Bengal and Assam comprising the Muslim - majority districts of Bengal, with its capital at Dacca. Sir Bamfylde Fuller was the Lieutenant Governor of East Bengal. The other part comprised West Bengal, the district of Darjeeling as also the whole of Bihar and Orissa. Calcutta was its capital and Andrew Frazer was its Governor.
- 16 October, 1905 was declared to be a day of national mourning throughout Bengal. It was observed as a day of fasting. There were cries of Bande Mataram. The ceremony of Raksha Bandhan was observed on 16 October, 1905. Rabindra Nath Tagore composed the national song Amar Sonar Bangla, which later became the national anthem of Bangladesh.

Swadeshi Movement and Boycott (1905-08)

- The Swadeshi Movement had its origin in the anti - partition movement which was started to oppose the British decision to partition Bengal.
- The formal proclamation of the Swadeshi Movement was made on 7 August, 1905. On the same day, the famous Boycott Resolution was passed.
- The message of swadeshi and the boycott of foreign goods soon spread to the rest of the country .

The Surat Split of Congress (1907)

- In the 1907 session held in Surat on the banks of river Tapti, the moderates put up Ras Behari Ghose, as the candidate for Presidentship of the Congress while the extremists desired to choose Lala Lajpat Rai as the President. The moderates were however successful in electing Ras Behari Ghose as the President.
- The issues on which the split came were the resolutions on self government, boycott, national education and swaraj.
- The Surat session ended in a pandemonium and the moderates gained a complete control over the Congress organization.
- Feared with the growing popularity of Tilak, the Government sent him to Mandalay jail for six years.
- B. C. Pal temporarily retired from politics, Lala Lajpat Rai left for Britain in 1908 and Aurobindo Ghose escaped to Pondicherry.

Foundation of All - India Muslim League

- The partition of Bengal had created a communal divide. A Muslim delegation led by Aga Khan (spiritual head of Khoja Muslim Community) met Lord Minto at Shimla on October 1, 1906. The delegation demanded a privileged position for Indian Muslims on the ground of political importance, military service and historical memories.
- All India Muslim League was set up on 30 December 1906 at a meeting held at Dacca, under the leadership of Nawab Salimullah of Dacca. Nawab Waqar-ul-Mulk was the first President of Muslim League.
- The Amritsar session of the League, held in 1908, under Syed Imam, demanded a separate electorate for the Muslims, which was conceded to them by Morley - Minto reforms in 1909.

Morley - Minto Reforms, 1909

- The Indian Councils Act of 1909 popularly known as Morley - Minto Reforms, formally introduced the principle of separate electorates for the Muslims. Under the separate Muslims Could vote electorates, exclusively for muslim candidates in the constituencies specially reserved for them.
- An Indian was to be appointed as a member of the Governor Generals Executive Council.

The Delhi Durbar and the Annulment of Partition of Bengal (December, 1911)

- Delhi Durbar was organized on 12 December, 1911 during the visit of King George V and the Queen Empress William Mary, by the Governor - General Lord Hardinge.
- On the recommendations of the Arundale Committee, the partition of Bengal was annulled on 12 December, 1911 and it was decided to shift the capital of India from Calcutta to Delhi. Delhi became the capital of India on 1 April, 1912.
- In the wake of this annulment, Bihar and Orissa were separated from Bengal, a new province of Bengal, constituting of all Bengali speaking districts except Sylhet was created. Assam was created as a separate province, the status it had in 1874. Assam, however, now included Sylhet district as well.

The First World War (1914 -1919)

- Britain included India in the war on its behalf. The Congress fully cooperated with the Indian Government in its war efforts with the expectation that India would be granted self - government after the war.

The Lucknow Pact (1916)

- The Lucknow session of the INC in 1916, presided over by Ambika Charan Mazumdar, was important on account of two developments:
 - I. Readmission of extremists who were expelled from the INC.
 - II. The alliance between the Congress and Muslim League i.e. Lucknow Pact.
- Muslim League's annual session in 1916 held in Lucknow, was presided over by Muhammad Ali Jinnah.
- Both Tilak and Annie Besant had played a leading role in bringing about this agreement between the Congress and the League.
- The Lucknow Pact marked the formal acceptance of separate electorates for Muslims by the Congress, which was positive gain for the Muslims, because Congress had so far opposed it.

The Home Rule Movement

- The Home Rule movement was launched by Annie Besant and B. G. Tilak.
- Tilak set up the Home Rule League at the Bombay Provincial Conference in Pune on 28 April 1916. Tilak's League was to work in Maharashtra (excluding Bombay city), Karnataka, Central Provinces and Berar. Tilak launched a propaganda in favour of Home Rule through two papers-Mahratta (in English) and Kesari (in Marathi).
- Annie Besant announced the formation of her Home Rule League in September 1916, with George Arundale, her Theosophical follower, as the organizing secretary.
- electorates were further expanded to include sikhs in Punjab and non - Brahmins in Madras in addition to Muslims.

The First Phase of Revolutionary Nationalism

Maharashtra

1. The Sedition Committee Report, 1918, observed the first indications of revolutionary movement in India in Maharashtra among the Chitpavan Brahmins of Poona district.
2. B. G. Tilak's (a Chitpavan Brahmin) inauguration of Ganapati festival in 1893 and Shivaji festival in 1895 injected pro swaraj and anti - British feelings in Maharashtra.
3. The first political murder of Europeans was committed at Poona on 22 June 1897 by Chapekar brothers - Damodar and Balkrishna. They attacked Mr. Rand, President of the Plague committee at Poona, but Lt. Amherst was shot accidentally. The Chapekar brothers were caught, convicted and hanged. Chapekar brothers were associated with

revolutionary society Hindu Dharma Sangh. The Arya Bandhav Samaj was another society formed under the inspiration of Tilak.

4. Vinayak Damodar Savarkar set up an association called Mitra Mela, which in 1904 merged into the secret society called Abhinav Bharat Society after Mazzini's Young Italy.
5. Anant Lakshman Kanhere, a leading member of the society murdered Jackson, the District Magistrate of Nasik. This led to the arrest and trial of revolutionaries of this society in Nasik Conspiracy Case. Tilak compared this murder to that of Afzal Khan by Shivaji. Tilak was awarded 18 months of prison for seditious writings against the British Government.

Bengal

1. The first revolutionary group that started in Bengal was Anushilan Samiti in 1902. It was founded in Midnapur by Jnanendranath Basu and in Calcutta by Promotha Mitter, Jatindranath Banerji and Barindra Kumar Ghosh. An inner circle within Calcutta Anushilan under Barindrakumar Ghosh and Bhupendranath Dutta started the Yugantar weekly in April 1906.
2. At the same time two papers Sandhya by Bramhabandhav Upadhyay and Bande mataram by Aurobindo Ghosh were published.
3. Another Anushilan Samiti called Dacca Anushilan Samiti was founded by Pulin Behari Das, with Barrack dacoity (2 June 1908) as its first major venture.
4. Atmonmati Samiti, founded by Bipin Behari Ganguly was another revolutionary society of Bengal.
5. A number of secret revolutionary societies such as Suhrid Samiti and Sadhana Samiti of Mymensingh, the Swadesh Bandhav Samiti of Barisal and Brati Samiti of Faridpur were founded, all of them being declared illegal.
6. Prafulla Chaki and Khudiram Bose assassinated a vindictive judge Kingsford, at Muzaffarpur (Bihar). Prafulla Chaki committed suicide and Khudiram Bose was arrested and hanged.
7. 34 revolutionaries of Yugantar group, including Barindra and Aurobindo Ghosh were arrested and tried in the Alipore conspiracy case. Barindra was transported for life and Aurobindo was acquitted.
8. Ras Behari Bose, who was a link between the revolutionaries of Bengal and Punjab, was the brainchild behind the attempted assassination of Viceroy Hardinge, when he was making state entry into Delhi.

Punjab

1. Ajit Singh (uncle of Bhagat Singh) organized Anjuman - i - Mohibban - i - Watan in Lahore along with its journal Bharat Mata.

Madras

Nilkantha Brahmachari and Vanchi Aiyar founded a secret Bharatha Matha Association. Aiyar killed Ashe, the District magistrate of Tirunelveli in 1911 and later on committed suicide.

Revolutionary Movements outside India

1. Shyamji Krishna Verma founded the India Home Rule Society in London in 1905, with the object of securing Home Rule for India. For this purpose, he founded a paper, Indian Sociologist and founded the India House in London.
2. V.D.Savarkar's colleague, Madan Lal Dhingra shot dead Curzon Wyllie on July 1, 1909 in London, Dhingra was arrested and hanged.
3. Madam Bhikaji Cama attended the International Socialist Congress at Stuttgart (Germany) in August 1907, as a representative of India. At the conclusion of the conference she unfurled the National Flag of India - a tricolour in green, yellow and red.

4. Ghadar Party Movement

- Taraknath Das, one of the leading Indians in USA, formed Indian Independence League in California in 1907, and published a paper Free Hindustan.
 - In November 1913, Sohan Singh Bhakana founded the Hind Association of America. It published a weekly paper Ghadar or Hindustan Ghadar in commemoration of the revolt of 1857, in English, Urdu, Marathi and Gurumukhi, which gave the association its name the Ghadar Party.
 - Ghadar party was founded in 1913 in San Francisco (USA) by Lala Hardayal. The organisation began to function from Yugantar Ashram in San Francisco, the place being named after the journal published in Calcutta.
5. Raja Mahendra Pratap and Barkatullah with the support of Germany and Russia set up the Provisional Government of India in Kabul.
 6. **Komagata Maru Episode (September 29, 1914)** A shipload of would be Sikh and Punjab from India Muslim immigrants were turned back from Vancouver by the Canadian immigration authorities. On their return, they clashed with police at Budge - Budge near Calcutta and 22 people were killed.
 7. There were scattered mutinies, the prominent being at Singapore on February 15, 1915 by the Punjabi Muslim 5th Light Infantry and 36th Sikh battalion, under jamadar Chisti Khan, Jamadar Abdul Ghani and Subedar Daud Khan. Thirty seven person were executed after its suppression and forty one were transported for life.

Mahatma Gandhi

- Gandhi returned to India from South Africa on January 9, 1915. In his book Hind Swaraj (1909) he interpreted Swaraj in a broad sense. According to him the real enemy was not British colonial domination but the modern industrial civilization itself.
- Gandhi developed his philosophy and the technique of Satyagraha as an instrument for redressing the grievances of the immigrant Indian minority in South Africa

Gandhi in South Africa

- Gandhi went to Durban, South Africa in 1892, on a one - year contract to sort out legal problems of Dada Abdullah, a Gujarati merchant.
- On his journey from Durban to Pretoria, he was thrown out of a first - class compartment by a white man.
- Gandhi established Natal Indian Congress in 1894
- He started a paper called Indian Opinion in 1903.
- In 1904, he established Phoenix Settlement in Natal.
- In 1910, Gandhi established Tolstoy Farm in Johannesburg with support of his German architect friend Kallenbach.

Rowlatt Act (1919)

- Two Bills, based on the Rowlatt Committee's recommendations were placed before the Imperial Legislative Council. One was dropped, the other - the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act was passed in March 1919. It provided for speedy trial of offences by a Special Court consisting of three High Court Judges. There was no appeal from this court. Further, a person could be arrested without warrant.

Jallianwala Bagh Incident (1919)

- In order of curb anti Rowlatt Act Satyagraha in Punjab, the army was called in and Amritsar was handed over to General Dyer, who issued an order prohibiting all public meetings and assemblies.
- On April 10, 1919, Dyer ordered the arrest to two local leaders, Dr. Satyapal and Dr. Kitchlew who were associated with the reception Committee for the annual session of Congress to be held in December 1919.
- The protest against their arrest, a peaceful public meeting was held at Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar on Baisakhi day on April 13, 1919, where Dyer arrived with armoured cars and troops and fired on the crowd without warning, killing nearly 379 people according to Government estimates while unofficial estimates put it at 1000.

The Khilafat Movement

- During The First World War, Turkey was an ally of Germany against Britain. The Sultan of Turkey was the Caliph (or Khalifa) of the Islamic world.
- Turkey was defeated in the First World War and it was dismembered by the Treaty of Sevres signed in May, 1920.
- This hurt the sentiments of Indian Muslims who regarded Khalifa as the religious head of the muslim world.
- Maulana Muhammad Ali and Maulana Shaukat Ali started the Khilafat movement.
- A Khilafat Committee was formed under the leadership of Maulana Azad, Hakim Ajmal Khan and Hasarat Mohani.
- Their main demands were that Turkish Caliph - Sultan must retain control over the muslim holy places and that Jazirat - ul - Arab (Arabia, Syria, Iraq and Palestine) must remain under muslim suzerainty.
- Khilafat Day was observed on October, 17, 1919 on an all - India scale.
- All India Khilafat Conference was held in Delhi on November 23, 1919, which was presided over by Gandhiji. The Allahabad meeting of Central Khilafat Committee (20 June, 1920), accepted the suggestion of non - cooperation and asked Gandhiji to lead the movement.

Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22)

- The non cooperation movement which was the first mass movement under the leadership of Gandhi, was launched to address three main demands:
 - I. the Khilafat issue
 - II. the failure of the British Government to heal up the wounds of Jallianwala Bagh tragedy, and
 - III. the attainment of Swaraj.
- A special session of Congress was convened at Calcutta in September 1920, to approve the non -cooperation scheme.

The Nagpur Session of the INC (December 1920) It was an historic session in the respect that the INC changed its Constitution and defined its object as the attainment of Swaraj by peaceful and legitimate means. Certain organizational changes were also made. The resolution of non – Co - operation was again repeated and adopted at this session. It was CR Das who moved the resolution for non – co - operation movement.

Programme of the Movement On March 20, 1920, a manifesto was published, which outlined the programme of non-cooperation as under:

1. Surrender of titles and honorary offices.
2. Resignation from nominated seats in local bodies.

3. Gradual withdrawal of children from schools and colleges.
4. Boycott of British courts by lawyers and litigants.
5. Boycott of foreign goods.

Chauri Chaura Incident

- On February 5, 1922, a Congress procession at Chauri Chaura, a village in the Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh was fired upon by the police. The angry crowd attacked and burned the police station, causing the death of 22 policeman.
- On hearing the incident, Gandhiji decided to withdraw the movement. The Congress Working Committee met at Bardoli on February 12, 1922, which ratified Gandhiji's decision to withdraw the movement and the Non Cooperation movement came to an end.
- Gandhiji was arrested on March 10, 1922 and was sentenced for 6 years for spreading disaffection against the government.

Swaraj Party (1923)

- After the withdrawal of Non Cooperation Movement in February 1922, followed by the arrest of Gandhiji in March there was the spread of disintegration, disorganization and demoralization in the nationalist ranks.
- On 1 January 1923, C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru formed the Congress - Khilafat Swaraj Party better known as Swaraj Party. Das was the President and Motilal was the secretary of the new party. Swaraj Party was to function as a group within the Congress.
- The Swarajists finally walked out of the legislature in 1930 as a result of Lahore Congress resolution and the beginning of civil disobedience.

The Second Phase of Revolutionary Nationalism (1924-34)

Hindustan Republican Association (or Army)

- HRA was founded at Kanpur in October 1924, by Sachindranath Sanyal, Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee, and Ram Prasad Bismil. Its objective was to organise armed revolution to overthrow colonial rule and establish in place a Federal Republic of the United States of India whose basic principle would be adult franchise.
- On 9 August 1925, ten men of HRA, held up the 8 - Down train at Kakori (on Lucknow - Saharanpur railway line) and looted its official railway cash. The Government arrested a large number of young men and tried them in Kakori conspiracy case. Ashfaqulla Khan, Ramprasad Bismil, Roshan Singh and Rajendra Lahiri were hanged. Chandrashekhar Azad remained at large.

Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (or Army)

- HSRA was formed at Ferozeshah Kotla ground in Delhi on September 9 - 10, 1928 under the collective leadership of Chandrashekhar Azad, Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Bhagwaticharan Vohra. They adopted socialism as their official goal.
- The first revolutionary act of the HSRA was the murder of Saunders, the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Lahore, who had lathi charged and mortally wounded Lala Lajpat Rai, during the anti - Simon Commission protest march on October 30, 1928. Saunders was killed at the Lahore railway station on December 17, 1928 by Bhagat Singh, Azad and Rajguru.
- On April 8, 1929, Bhagat Singh and Battukeshwar Dutt threw two crude bombs in the Central Legislative Assembly against the passage of the Public Safety Bill and the Trade Disputes Bill. The aim was not to kill but as per the leaflet they threw along with the bomb its aim was to make the deaf hear. Bhagat Singh and Battukeshwar Dutt were tried in Assembly Bomb case.
- When in prison, the under - trials launched a hunger - strike to secure for themselves the status of political prisoners, instead of ordinary criminals. One of these hunger strikers Jatin Das died on 64th day of his fast on September 13, 1929.
- On February 27, 1931, Chandrashekhar Azad was surrounded by the police at Alfred Park, Allahabad, and met a heroic death in the police encounter. Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were hanged on March 23, 1931 in Lahore Conspiracy Case.

Indian Republican Army

- IRA was founded in Bengal by Surya Sen popularly known as Masterda.
- The members of Indian Republican Army led by Surya Sen attacked the police armoury at Chittagong on April 18, 1930. They ransacked the armoury and took away the arms.
- For three years after the Chittagong armoury raid, the group of revolutionaries under Surya Sen carried out their activities.
- Surya Sen was finally arrested on February 16, 1933, tried and hanged on January 12, 1934.

Fact File

- In December 1931, two young girls Santi Ghosh and Suniti Choudhary shot dead the District Magistrate of Comilla.
- In February 1932, Bina Das shot at the Governor of Bengal while receiving her degree at the convocation of the University of Calcutta.

- On September 22, 1932, a young women revolutionary, Pritilata Waddadar raided the Railway Institute at Phartali in Chittagong.
- The Philosophy of the Bomb was written by Bhagwati Charan Vohra and Bandi Jiwan by Sachindranath Sanyal.
- A number of new revolutionary societies were formed in Bengal, such as Bengal volunteers or B.V. Party by Hema Chandra Ghose and Lila Nag and Sri Sangha by Anil Roy.
- The different non - Brahmin organizations into a of South India merged single body and an all India Non - Brahmin Conference was held at Belgaum on December 28, 1924, with A. Ramaswami Mudaliar as the Chairman.

Simon Commission

- On November 8, 1927, the of State Secretary for India Lord Birkenhead, in London, and the Viceroy Lord in New Irwin Delhi, announced the up of an setting Indian Statutory Commission under John Simon.
- The Commission, in addition to the Chairman, consisted of six members. Party-wise, there were four Conservations, two Labourites and one Liberal. It was an all white Commission with no Indian representation.
- The Commission was to whether reconmmend India was ready for further constitutional progress and on which lines.
- The Congress, at its Madras session held in December 1927, resolved to boycott the Commission at every stage, everywhere and in every form.
- When Simon Commission landed in Bombay on February3, 1928 a complete hartal was observed in all cities and towns. Processions were taken out with the slogan Go Back Simon.
- The report of the Simon Commission was published on May 27, 1930.

Nehru Report (1928)

- Some important features of Nehru report were:
 - I. it defined Dominion status as the form of government desired by India.
 - II. it rejected the principle of separate communal electorates.
 - III. it recommended universal adult suffrage, equal rights of women, freedom to form unions and dissociation of the state from religion in any form.

The Nehru Report was approved by the majority vote at the annual session of Congress held of Calcutta in December 1928.

Jinnah's Fourteen Points

Jinnah did not accept the Nehru Report on the ground that it rejected separate electorates for the muslims. He drew up a list of demands for the muslims in the form of Fourteen Points. These included demands such as separate electorates for Muslims, creation of muslim- majority provinces, reservation of posts for muslims in all services of the State, etc.

Lahore Session of the Congress (1929)

- As there was no positive response from the Government, the Nehru Report was declared to have lapsed at the Lahore session of the Congress in December 1929. Jawaharlal Nehru was elected President of the Congress at the Lahore Session.
- The Lahore session passed a resolution declaring Poorna Swaraj (complete independence) to be the Congress objective.
- On December 31, 1929 the newly adopted tri - colour flag of freedom was hoisted on the banks of river Ravi in Lahore.
- January 26, 1930 was fixed as the first Independence Day (Poorna Swaraj Day).
- In order to perpetuate the memory of 26th January, our new Constitution Was enforced on this day in 1950.

The Civil Disobedience Movement

- The Lahore Congress of 1929 had authorized the Working Committee to launch a programme of civil disobedience including non- payment of taxes. In mid - February 1930, the Congress Working Committee, met at Sabarmati Ashram and invested Gandhiji with full powers to launch the civil disobedience movement at a time and place of his choice.

Dandi March

- The civil Disobedience Movement was started by Gandhi on March 12, 1930 with his famous Dandi march. Together with 78 chosen followers Gandhi walked nearly 240 miles (nearly 375 km) from Sabarmati Ashram (Ahmedabad) to Dandi (Navsari District, Gujarat), a village on Gujarat sea – coast. He reached Dandi on April 5, 1930
- On April 6, 1930, Gandhi by picking up a handful of salt, broke the salt law as a symbol of the Indian people's refusal to live under British made laws and therefore under British rule.

Gandhi – Irwin Pact (March 5, 1931)

Gandhi – Irwin Pact is also known as Delhi Pact. Through the mediation of Tej Bahadur Sapru, M. R. Jayakar and V.S. Shastri a pact was concluded between Gandhi and Irwin on March 5, 1931. The Government on its part agreed to:

- (a) Release all political prisoners except those who were involved in violent activities,
- (b) Return of confiscated property of the concerned individuals,
- (c) Allowed preparation of salt within a limited territory near the sea – coast,
- (d) Allow peaceful demonstrations before the shops selling foreign goods and liquors.

The Congress on its part, agreed to:

- (a) Suspend the civil disobedience movement,
- (b) Participate in the second Round Table Conference.

Karachi Session of Congress (1931)

- The Congress met at Karachi on March 29, 1931 to endorse Gandhi Irwin Pact.
- The Karachi session became memorable for its resolution on Fundamental Rights and National Economic Programme.
- When Gandhiji was on route to Karachi, he was greeted with black flag demonstrations. Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru had been executed six days earlier. Even though Gandhiji had made every effort to save their lives, there was an anger among the people, as to why he had not refused to sign the Pact on this question.
- It was in this session that Gandhiji said 'Gandhiji can die but Gandhism cannot'.
- In the meantime on April 18, 1931, Lord Irwin was succeeded by Lord Willingdon. The new Viceroy had no intention to abide by the terms of the Delhi Pact.

Second Round Table Conference (7 September to 1 December 1931)

- Mahatma Gandhi attended the conference as the sole representative of the Congress.
- Gandhiji demanded complete control over defence and foreign affairs.
- There was a complete deadlock on the question of representation of minorities. Jinnah, Agha Khan and Ambedkar were not willing to come to a settlement with Gandhiji.
- Gandhiji was not satisfied with the statement of Ramsay MacDonald made on December 1, 1931 and declared that they had come to the parting of ways and their ways would thereafter take different directions.

Resumption of Civil Dis-obedience Movement (1932 – 34)

- Mahatma Gandhi came back to India on December 28, 1931. The Congress Working Committee met the next day and decided to resume civil disobedience. The Viceroy Lord Willingdon refused to meet Gandhiji. On January 4, 1932 the Government launched its preemptive strike against the national movement by arresting Gandhiji. On the same day i.e. January 4, 1932, the Government issued 4 ordinances i.e. the Emergency Power Ordinance, Unlawful Instigation Ordinance Unlawful Association Ordinance and Prevention of Molestation and Boycott Ordinance, which covered almost every activity of Indian life.
- The Congress and its allied organizations were declared illegal and their offices and funds were seized. Almost all Gandhi ashrams were occupied by the police.

- The movement was effectually crushed within a few months. However, the movement continued till early April 1934, when Gandhiji decided to withdraw the movement.

Demand for Pakistan

- The idea of a separate independent Muslim state has been nourishing among the Muslim intelligentsia for quite some time. The ideological and political background had been prepared by the Aligarh movement, the foundation of the Muslim League and Morley Minto reforms (it introduced separate electorates for the Muslims).
- However, it was Muhammad Iqbal who first articulated the demand for a separate Muslim state in the Indian sub - continent. He presided over the Allahabad session of the Muslim League in 1930.
- During the Round Table Conference, Rahmat Ali (a muslim student in England) conveyed the Muslim delegates, the scheme of a separate muslim nation consisting of Punjab, North West Frontier or Afghan province, Kashmir, Sind and Baluchistan. The proposed separate Muslim state was to be named PAKSTAN. The name was derived by taking the first letter of the first four provinces and the end of the last name province. Rahmat Ali founded the Pakistan National Movement in 1933 to propagate the idea. He wrote a book Now or Never.
- In March, 1940 the Muslim League in its Lahore session declared that the Muslims in India must have a separate independent state. It was presided by M. A. Jinnah.
- The Muslim League adopted a resolution on March 24, 1940. In this session, famous Pakistan Resolution, was passed which totally rejected the scheme of Federation given by the Government of India Act, 1935.

Cripps Mission (1942)

- As the conditions got worsened during the World War II - Germany had invaded Soviet Union and Japan attacked US Naval base at Pearl Harbour (December 7, 1941) - President Roosevelt of the USA and President Kai - Shek of China put pressure on Churchill to seek active cooperation of Indians in the war. To secure this cooperation, the British Government sent to India on March 11, 1942 a mission headed by a cabinet minister, Stafford Cripps (a left wing Labourite). The Draft Declaration promised India a dominion status and a constitution making body after the War, whose members would be elected by provisional assemblies and nominated by the rulers in case of princely states. The Pakistan demand was accommodated by the provision that any province which was not prepared to accept

the new constitution would have the right to sign a separate agreement with Britain regarding its future status. As for now, the British would continue to exercise sole control over the defence of the country.

- Negotiations between Cripps and the Congress leaders broke down. The Congress working committee, which met on April 11, 1942 rejected the Cripps proposals.
- Mahatma Gandhi described it as an invitation to Muslim League to create Pakistan. He called the proposals "a post - dated cheque on a falling bank".

Quit India Movement (1942)

- Due to the failure of the Cripps Mission and the threat of Japanese aggression, there was a radical change in Gandhiji's approach towards the British government. There was people's discontent due to rising prices and war - time shortages. All these factors made the need for a struggle both inevitable and necessary.
- In order to give shape to Gandhiji's views, the Congress Working Committee met on July 14, 1942, at Wardha and adopted the famous Quit India Resolution.
- The All India Congress Committee met at Bombay on August 8, 1942. It passed the Quit India Resolution and proposed the starting of a nonviolent mass struggle under Gandhiji's leadership to achieve this aim.
- A significant clause of the resolution was that if the Congress leadership gets removed by arrest, then every Indian must be his own guide. The same day Gandhi gave his famous slogan Do or Die, meaning we shall either free India or die in the attempt. The historic Gowalia Tank in Bombay where the AICC met in August to ratify the Quit India Resolution is now Known as August Kranti Maidan.

Indian National Army (Azad Hind Fauz)

- Ras Behari Bose, an Indian revolutionary who took a political refuge in Japan, organized the Indian Independence League with the support of Indians living in South east Asia. In March, 1942, he convened a conference in Tokyo at which it was decided to form the Indian National Army (INA). The INA was initially organized by Captain Mohan Singh an Indian officer of the British army in Malaya who had surrendered to the Japanese
- Ras Behari Bose Convened a conference at Tokyo from 28 to 30 March, 1942. It passed a resolution to form Azad Hind Fauz or Free India Legion (Indian National Army). On September 1, 1942, the first division of INA was formed with 16300 men.

- The second phase of the INA began when Subash Chandra Bose was brought to Singapore on July 2, 1943 by the means of German and Japanese submarines. He went to Tokyo and Prime Minister Tojo declared that Japan had no territorial designs on India.
- Subash Chandra Bose returned to Singapore and set up the Provisional Government for Free India on October 21, 1943. He set up two INA headquarters, in Rangoon and in Singapore and gave his famous call Delhi Chalo.
- On July 6, 1944, Subash Bose in a broadcast on Azad Hind Radio addressed to Gandhiji as Father of our Nation.
- One INA battalion commanded by Shah Nawaz accompanied the Japanese army to Indo - Burma front, and participated in the Imphal campaign. However, British troops recaptured Rangoon in May 1945 and INA troops were forced to surrender and made prisoners.
- The INA prisoners were tried in the famous Red Fort trial in Delhi. Shah Nawaz Khan, Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon and P.K.. Sehgal etc. were put on trial. The defence of INA prisoners was taken up by the Congress. Bhulabhai Desai, Tej Bahadur Sapru, K. N. Katju, Nehru and, Asaf Ali appeared in court at the historic Red Fort trials.
- The Congress organized an INA Relief and Enquiry committee. INA day was observed on 12 November and INA week from 5 to 11 November, 1945.

Rajagopalachari Formula (1944)

- The Muslim League observed the Pakistan Day on March 23, 1943 and declared that Pakistan was the final goal of the Muslims in India. It was therefore felt necessary that some sort of compromise was necessary between Congress and the Muslim League.

Wavell Plan and Simla Conference

- On June 14, 1945, Lord Wavell announced a plan known as Wavell Plan simultaneously in London and New Delhi.
- It related to the formation of a provisional interim government at the Centre. It was proposed that the Viceroy's Executive Council would have equal representation of Muslims and Hindus. The new Executive Council at the Centre would have Indian members except the Viceroy and the commander in - chief. All portfolios except defence would be held by the Indian members.
- On June 25, 1945 Lord Wavell convened a conference of 22 political leaders at Simla to discuss the new proposals. But the conference broke down on the issue of

reconstitution of the Viceroy's Executive Council and Congress refused to accept the claims of the Muslim League to be the sole representative of the Muslim opinion.

- Abul Kalam Azad represented the Congress at the Simla conference.

General Elections (1945 -46)

- In the elections to the Central and Provincial Legislatures held in 1945-46, Congress made its presence felt at both the Central and Provincial legislatures.
- In the Central Assembly, the Congress secured 91.3 percent votes in general constituencies, the Muslim League won every Muslim seat.
- In the Provincial legislature, the Congress won absolute majority in Bombay, Madras, Bihar, Orissa, Central Provinces and United Provinces. In NWFP the Congress won 30 seats while the League got only 17 seats. In Punjab a coalition Government of the Congress, Akalis and the Unionist was formed. The Muslim League could secure majority only in Bengal and Sind.

Direct Action Day

- The Muslim League withdrew its assent to the Cabinet Mission on July 29, 1946 and pledged to resort to direct action to achieve Pakistan.
- On August 16, 1946 fixed as Direct Action Day by the Muslim League, a communal frenzy took place in Calcutta by the battle cry Lekar rahenge Pakistan, Larke lenge Pakistan. Hindu communal groups retaliated in equal measure. 5000 lives were lost.
- The British authorities were worried that they had lost control over the Frankenstein monster, they had helped to create, but felt it was too late to tame it.

Interim Government

- The Interim Government with Jawaharlal Nehru as its Vice President, took office on September 2, 1946.
- Later, Viceroy persuaded Muslim League to join the Government and five Muslim League nominees were added to it on October 26, 1946.
- The Muslim League members of the Interim Government led by Liaqat Ali Khan (Finance Minister) formed a King's Party and embarrassed the Congress members in different ways.

Constituent Assembly

The Constituent Assembly which met on December 9, 1946, was boycotted by the elected members of the Muslim League.

Mountbatten Plan (June 3, 1947)

- Lord Mountbatten was sworn in as the Governor - General on March 24, 1947.
- The Mountbatten Plan, as the 3rd June 1947 plan came to be known, sought to effect on early transfer of power on the basis of Dominion status to two successor states India and Pakistan.
- Mountbatten advanced the date for transfer of power to August 15, 1947.
- The Plan was accepted by both Congress and the Muslim League.
- This became the basis of the India Independence Act which was ratified by the British Parliament and Crown on July 18 and implemented on August 15, 1947.
- Pakistan gained independence on August 14, 1947 and India on August 15, 1947.
- Jinnah became the first Governor General of Pakistan and Liaqat Ali was the first Prime Minister.
- Lord Mountbatten was the first Governor General of independent India and Jawaharlal Nehru was the first Prime Minister of India. Lockhart was the Commander - in - chief of the Indian army from August 15 to December 31, 1947.