



## **Growth of Nationalism and Struggle for**

### **Independence (1885-1919)**

The rise and growth of Indian nationalism has been traditionally explained in terms of Indian response to the stimulus generated by Britishers through creation of new institutions, opportunities, resources etc. In fact Indian nationalism grew partly as a result of colonial policies and partly as reaction to it.

### **Factors for the Rise of Nationalism**

- Unification of administration Modern Education System. Revolt of 1857 and other factor grew the nationalism in Indian people. Following were the main causes of national Consciousness

### **Administrative Unification of India**

- Modernisation was essential for the colonial scheme of administration and this modernisation in one sense gave birth to Indian nationalism.
- Common subjection, common institutions and common laws began to shape India in a common mould.
- The establishment of apical unity fostered the spirit of ore mindedness.

### **Economic Causes**

- The economic policies of the British Adversely affected the interests of almost all sections of Indian society viz the peasants middle classes, workers. Industrialists etc. The huge economic drain of India's resources, commercialisation of agriculture, the policy of and settlements accompanied with periodic famines was disastrous.

- Discriminatory British economy and fiscal policies gave rise to economic nationalism in India. People came to realise that colonial rule was the real cause of India's economic backwardness.
- Thus, the spirit of nationalism received a powerful stimulus in the process.

### **Spread of Western Education and Thought**

- English Language It was made the medium of instruction in schools and colleges in 1835 and it became the language of the educated people India.
- The introduction of Modern System of Educate afforded opportunities for assimilation of modern Western ideas and made the Indians realise the evil effects of foreign, rule, which In turn gave a new direction to Indian political thinking.
- The liberal and radical thought of European writers like Milton, Bentham, Rousseau and Voltaire etc. Inspired the Indians in general and intelligentsia in particular with the ideals of liberty, nationality and self-government.

### **Development of the Means of Communication**

- Development of railway Modern Postal System and the introduction of electric telegraph during the reign of Dalhousie unified the country and facilitated the growth of nationalism.
- Railways led to increase in passenger traffic which in turn increased interaction between the people and maintained a regular contact between them.

### **Emergence of Modern Press**

- The rapid growth of press helped the nationalist Indians in spreading the message of patriots and modern liberal idea? end to create a strong public opinion against the excesses and inequities of the colonial administration

- It helped to spread ideas of nationalists leaders, self government democracy, civil rights and industrialization.

### **Rediscovery of India's Past**

- Historical researches by European scholars, such as Max Muller, Monier Williams, Sassoon and Roth and by Indian scholars such as RG Bhandarkar, RL Mitra and Swami Vivekananda opened new vistas of India's rich socio-political, economic and cultural heritage. This gave new sense of self respect and confidence among the nationalists.
- Bankim Chandra wrote Anand Math to expose the true character of British Rule.
- Din Bandhu Mitra wrote Neel Darpan to expose the exploitation by indigo planters and Bharatendu Harishchandra put forward the idea for the use of swadeshi things.

### **Socio-Religious Movement**

- Various socio-religious reform movements like Brahma Samaj, Arya Samaj the Ramakrishna Mission were launched to reform the society.
- In the religious sphere, the reform movements criticised religious superstition, idolatry, polytheism and hereditary priesthood. These movements criticised the caste system untouchability and other social and legal inequalities.
- They played a vital role in arousing nationalist feeling, like Swami Dayanand for instance, was the first to use the word Swaraj. Many Arya Samajis were in the forefront of the National Movement and were primarily responsible for the rise of extremism in the INC.

### **Rise of Urban Middle Class Intelligentsia**

- The Western education, British administrative and economic innovations gave rise to a new urban middle class in towns.
- This class had close ties with the ruling class and were aware of the imperialistic policies of the British, came to the forefront.

## **Impact of Contemporary Global Movements**

- Some contemporary national movements in the European nations like German Unification, Italian unification, nationalist movements against the Turkish empire Liberation Movement of Greece and Italy in general and of Ireland In particular helped Indian nationalism.

## **Lord Lytton's Reactionary Policies**

- The highly expensive Second Afghan War, which was financed, out of Indian revenues, the abolition of import duties on British textile and the Arms Act of 1878, which was an attempt to disarm the Indian people created widespread discontent against the British empire.
- Another anti-Indian move of Lytton's regime was the lowering the age limit (from 21 to 19) for appearing in the Indian Civil service Examination that was held only in London Against this Indian Association started a massive agitation under the leadership of SN Bannerjee and Lai Mohan Ghose. The Grand Durbar organised by Lord Lytton in 1877 at Delhi to proclaim the assumption of imperial title by Queen Victoria when the country was in the severe grip of famine.

## **Vernacular Press Act**

- The Vernacular Press Act. (1878) that curbed the liberty of the Indian Press (later the act was repealed by Lord Ripon), was popularly known as Gagging Act, To bypass the restrictions imposed by Vernacular Press. Amrita Bazaar Patrika was immediately converted to an English pacer. The founding of the newspaper Hindu in Madras was also in reaction to Lytton's Press Act.

## **The Ilbert Bill Controversy (1883)**

Officially called the Criminal Procedure Amendment Code Bill was introduced by Sir Courtenay Ilbert (law member in the Governor-General Executive Council in the Governor-Generals Legislative Council in February, 1883. Its aim was to give Indian District Magistrates and sessions Judges the right to try European and British offenders, in criminal cases. The bill gave birth to strong protest movement by the members of the European community and they stood united against the Bill.

They sought to protect their rights and privileges by forming a European and Anglo-Indian Defence Association. Ripon had to modify the bill which now provided the European British subjects, accused of criminal offences, the right to claim trial by jury, to which no less than half the member had to be European or Americans. The Ilbert Bill Controversy proven an eye opener to the Indians and intensified the growing feeling of unity and nationalism among Indians.

### **Pre-Congress Political Associations**

- During the course of 19th century, various organizations started emerging at regional level to represent interests of various section of Indian society. These organizations prepared the foundation for the emergence of a Pan-India nationalist organization.

### **In Bengal**

#### **Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha**

##### **Associates of Raja Rammohan Roy, 1836)**

- It is said to be the first organised political association of India. It was mainly founded to safeguard the interests of the landlords. The organization worked in co-operation with the British India Society in London and appointed a committee to supply it with regular information about Indian grievances and demands. Dwarkanath Tagore was one of its very active members and was responsible in founding Bengal British India Society in 1843.

##### **Landholder's Society (landholders of Calcutta 1837)**

- Also known as Zamindari Association, was founded to safeguard the interest of landlords through constitutional agitation.

##### **British India Society (Mr. William Adams, 1839)**

- It was founded in England with the efforts of William Adam, a friend of Raja Rammohan Roy. In 1841, this society started printing a newspaper British Indian advocate.

##### **British Indian Association (George Thompson, 1851)**

- The British Indian Association was founded by merging landholder society and the Bengal British India society. During the years following

the Revolt of 1857, the British Indian Association was the most important political body in India and its organ, the Hindu Patriot was the most influential newspaper in the country.

**East India Association (Dadabhai Naoroji, 1866)**

- The aim of the East India Association was popularisation of Indian grievances so as to influence British public opinion.

**India League (Sisir Kumar Ghosh)**

- Sisir Kumar Ghosh was a journalist and founder editor of the Amrita Bazar Patrika.

**Indian Association**

**(Anand Mohan Bose, SN Bannerjee, 1876)**

- The Indian Association formed the centre of an all India movement by providing the leadership for agitation on issues such as the age limit for the Indian Civil Services examination and the Ilbert Bill Agitation.
- It is considered to be the most important Pre-Congress political organization. It was the only Pre-Congress organization, which seriously tried to become all India body and in this context it sponsored an All-Indian National Conference in 1883 and 1885 at Calcutta.

**In Deccan**

**Bombay Association (Jaganath Shukerseth, 1852)**

- It was the first Political organization of the Bombay Presidency established to vent public grievances to the British Government of India.

**Poona Sarvajanik Sabha**

**(MG Ranade and GV Joshi, 1870)**

- In 1875, the members of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha submitted a petition to the house of commons demanding India's direct representation in British Parliament.

Bombay Presidency Association (Pheroza Shah Mehta, KT Telang, Badruddin Tyabji, 1885)

- Pheroza Shah Mehta was its the President and remained so till 1915.

## **In South India**

### **Madras Native Association (GL Chetty 1852)**

- The Madras Native Association sent a petition to the British Parliament on the eve of the passing of the Charter Act of 1853, making demand similar to that of the British Indian Association.

### **Madras Mahajan Sabha**

**(M Vira-Raghavachari, G Subramania Iyer, Ananda Charlu, 1884)**

- P Rangaiah Naidu as the first President of the Sabha with R Balaji Rao as its secretary. In September, 1885, the Sabha in collaboration with the Bombay Presidency Association and the Indian Association, sent a delegation to England.

## **Popular Campaigns**

Pre-Congress political associations organised various campaigns in reaction to British policies

### **These were as follows:**

- For imposition of import duty on cotton (1875).
- For right to join volunteer corps.
- For an All India Fund for Political Agitation.
- For indiansation of Government Service (1878-79).
- Campaign in Britain to vote for Pro-India party.
- Against Lytton's Afghan campaign.
- Against Vernacular Press Act. (1878).
- Against Arms Act, (1878).
- Against lowering the maximum age for appearing in Indian Civil Service.
- Against plantation labour.
- Against Inland Emigration Act.
- In support of Ilbert Bill.

## **Evolution of Civil Services**

- The Civil Services in India during British Rule went through constant experimentation and innovation. It has evolved over a period of two centuries and has been crafted very meticulously by way of a series of legislation by the British authorities.
- The Pitt's India Act of 1784, established a Board of Commissioners to supervise the Civil and Military Government of the company also called the board of Control.
- The act placed the Civil and Military Government of the company in due sub-ordination of the Government in England.
- Lord Cornwallis introduced first major reforms in Civil Services. He was the one who introduced the category of covenanted and non-covenanted service in the company's bureaucracy.
- The covenanted was exclusive preserve of firstly the British then the European. This was the precursor of much famous Indian Civil Service. Cornwallis introduced very attractive pay scales for the covenanted civil servants who entered into a covenant with the company's government,
- In 1800, Lord Wellesley founded the College of Fort William at Calcutta for the purpose of training of new recruits to the covenanted services.
- As per Charter Act of 1853, the services were thrown open to all the citizens of British kingdom, including Indians. But, for all practical purposes the selection process remained highly biased against the entry of Indians.
- The main reasons for low representation of Indians in the services were the very low maximum age of eligibility for giving the entrance exam and the location of examination centre in England.
- In fact, after successive reductions the maximum age was reduced to 19 years during the tenure of Lord Lytton.

- Facilitation of entry of Indians in the elite Civil Services remained one of the strongest demand of the early political agitations, so that the first all India political association the India Association headed by Surendra Nath Bannerjee started the 'Civil Services Agitation' all over India.

### **Indian Civil Servants**

Satyendranath Tagore was the first Indian to Join the Civil Services (1863). Three more Indians entered in 1871, RC Dull (wrote Economic History of India). Bihari Lai Gupta and SN Bannerjee.

Subhas Chandra Bose joined Civil Services in 1921 and resigned in the same year He ranked fourth in the list of Civil Services Gurusaday Dutt was the first Indian who secured the first rank in the ICS examination in 1905.

### **Commissions/Acts Related to ICS**

#### **Sir Charles Aitchison Commission, 1886**

- Appointed by Lord Dufferin to consider the demand for simultaneous examination and the lowering of maximum age. It recommended that the term 'covenanted' and 'uncovenanted' be dropped.
- He suggested that service be divided into three classes.
  - (i) Imperial Indian Civil Services.
  - (ii) The Provincial and
  - (iii) The Sub-ordinate Service.
- The first was to be recruited in England and the later in India exclusively out of Indians.
- He recommended that the minimum and maximum age limits be fixed at 19 years and 23 years respectively.
- It rejected the idea of simultaneous holding of examination in both India and England and recommended the abolition of statutory Civil Services.

#### **Montague- Chelmsford Commission, 1919**

- Conceded to the demand of holding of examination simultaneously in India as well as England.

- The commission recommended that one-third of the superior posts in the Indian Civil Services were to be recruited in India and this proportion is to be increased by 1.5% annually.

### **LEE Commission, 1923**

- It recommended that the Secretary of State should continue to recruit the Indian Civil Service, the Irrigation Branch of the Service of Engineers and the Indian Forest Services.
- On the basis of Government of India Act, 1919, It recommended the establishment of a Public Service Commission. It stipulated that 20% of the officers should be recruited by promotion from provincial civil services and of the remaining 80% half should be Indian and half British.

### **Government of India Act, 1935**

- The provision was made for establishment of Federal Public Service Commission. Despite all these reforms the Indian Civil Services retained essentially a colonial apparatus which proved to be the proverbial Steel Frame of British Rule in India.
- But, with the ushering of the independent India's Constitution some ground breaking changes were made to the then existing set-up of Civil Services to make it useful in meeting the lofty goals of freedom struggle.

### **Birth of Indian National Congress (INC), 1885**

- Congress was the natural and inevitable product of various forces of the 19th century. The credit for the birth of the congress is often given to A.O. Hume, who with the blessings of the Viceroy Lord Dufferin successfully organised the prominent political leaders and founded Indian National Congress.

### **Background of INC**

- Indian Association decided to hold its first Indian Conference in Calcutta at the same time, so that it can reach to the masses, but the plan failed.

- In 1884, at the annual convention of the Theosophical Society at Adyar in Madras. AO Hume proposed formation of a committee, so as to make necessary preparative for a session in Pune to be held in 1885.
- Members of the committee included AO Hume, SN Bannerjee, Narendra Nath Sen, Subramanya Aiyar, P Ananda Charlu, Sardar Dayal Singh, Lala Sriram, KT Tatang and VN Mandaiik.
- Before the formation of Indian National Congress, two sessions of the Indian National Conference had been held in 1883 and 1885 under the guidance of SN Bannerjee and Anand Mohan Bose.
- AO Hume was a retired British member of Indian Civil Services. He played an important role in the foundation of the Indian National Congress in 1885. Earlier, he founded the Indian National Union in 1884, which is considered to be the forerunner of the Indian National Congress.
- He served as the General Secretary of INC from 1885 to 1906.
- AO Hume published a pamphlet, 'An old man's hope in the Madras Session in 1887'.

### **Formation of INC**

- Indian National Congress was finally formed on 28th December, 1885.
- The first Session of the Indian National Congress was held on 28th December, 1885 at Tejpal Sanskrit Pathshala, Bombay under the Presidentship of WC Bannerjee.
- In 1886, the delegates to Congress became 436. Moderate leaders dominated the Congress in its early phase. The moderate belief in the essential sense of justice and goodness of the British nation was strong.
- In 1889, a British Committee of Indian National Congress was founded under the Chairmanship of Wedderburn (biographer of AO Hume) in London and a journal India was also started.

### The Safety Valve Controversy

- There is a controversy over the actual motives of Hume in foundation of INC It was started with the WC Bannerjee s statement in 1898 that Hume was acting under the direct advice of Dufferin. It was believed that at Dufferin’s idea was to have a political organisation through which the government could ascertain the real wishes of the possible and save the administration from any passive politics outbursts in the country.
- This theory (popularly known at **Safety Valve Theory** got enough support from radical critics like Lala Lajpat Rai, RP Dutt etc. This theory however, has lost its basis with the opening of Duffer in’s private paper.
- Hume only took advantage of an already created atmosphere. Probably the exaggerated idea of Hume’s potential influence in official circles and his being above regional loyalties more him mere acceptable among Indians.
- The Prominent/Important Sessions of Congress

### The Prominent/Important Sessions of Congress

Date	Place	President	Related Facts
Dec. 1885	Borbay	WC Bannerjee	Held at Gokaidas Tejpal Sanskrit Pathshala, Bombay. Earlier the session was to be held at Poona, but the venue was Shifted due to the outbreak of Cholera at Poona. Attended by 72 delegates.
Dec. 1886	Calcutta	Dadabhai Naoroji	
Dec. 1887	Madras	Badruddin Tyabji	First session to be presided over by a Muslim President.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Related Facts</b>
Dec. 1888	Allahabad	George yule	First session to be presided over by an Englishmen.
Dec. 1889	Bombay	William Wedderburn	A committee On Indian National Congress was endorsed.
Dec. 1890	Calcutta	Pherozechah Mehta	Kadambini Ganguly the first Woman Graduate of Calcutta University addressed the session.
Dec. 1907	Surat	Rash Behari Ghosh	The session witnessed the split between the moderates and the extremists. The candidate of extremist at this session who lost the presidential election was Lala Lalpat Rai.
Dec. 1917	Calcutta	Annie Besant	First Woman President. she gave first flag to Congress, Green and Red.
Dec.1919	Amritsar	Motilal Nehru	Resignation of moderates like SN Bannerjee. -
Dec.1924	Belgamu	Mahatma Gandhi	The only session where Gandhiji was the President.
Dec.1925	Kanpur	Sarojini Naidu	first session to be presided by Indian woman.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Related Facts</b>
Dec. 1928	Calcutta	Motilalal Nehru	First All India Youth Congress came into existence return of Gandhi to active politics after 6 years.
Dec. 1919	Lahore	Jawaharlal Nehru	Paorita Swaraj Resolution; Congress Working Committee authorised to launch CDM. Nehru report got a decent burial.
Dec. 1930			On account of the Civil Disobedience Movement no Congress Session could be held in 1930, but Jawaharlal Nehru continued as the President.
March, 1931	Karachi	Vallabhbhai Patel	Resolution on Fundamental Rights and National Economic Policy Pt Jawaharlal Nehru drafted the resolution on FR.
1937	Faizpur	Jawaharlal Nehru	First session to be held in village. Demanded the formation of a Constituent Assembly. Adoption of an Agrarian Programme.
Feb. 1938	Haripura	Subhash Chandra Bose	National planning Committee was set-up under the Chairmanship of Pt Jawaharlal Nehru.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Related Facts</b>
March, 1939	Tripuri	Subhash Chandra Bose After defeating Dr. Pattabhi Sltaramayya	Resignation of Subhash Chandra Bose (Rajendra Prasaed took over) and formation of Forward Block.
Nove. 1946	Meerut	Acharya JB Kripalani Kripalani	He was the President of Corvgress when India achieved independence.
1947	Delhi	Raiendra Prasad	

### **Struggle for Independence**

- Indian Notional Movement was a struggle of Indian public at two fronts. At one front Indian pubic tried of become a nation and at other front fought against the British to become a nation state by restoring sovereignty to Indian people.

### **Moderate (1885-1905)**

- During this period (1885-1905) the Congress was dominated by such leaders who by their method of functioning were termed moderates ex liberal. They appealed through petitions, speeches and article loudly professing loyalty to the Raj. The methods of the moderates can best be described as Constitutional agitation.

### **Demands of Moderates**

- The political demand of Congress were moderate while its economic demands were radical and anti-imperialist. Expansion and reform of legislative councils, leading to popular control of administration.
- Removal of restriction on freedom of the press and the speech
- Serration of the judiciary from the executive.

- By the beginning of the 20th century, the moderate nationalists put forward the Claim of self-government within the British empire. Gokhale first made this demand from the Congress platform in 1905.
- Dadabhai Naoroji made the demand in 1906, in his presidential address at Calcutta Session of Congress.
- A strong demand made by the nationalists during this phase was about the economic drain of India.
- In the context, they demanded the end of India's Economic drain
- Abolition of discriminatory laws.
- Opportunities for Indians in administrative job and holding ICS examination simultaneously in England and India.
- Abolition of salt tax, reimposition of import duties on cotton goods, reduction in high military expenditure were their other economic demands.

### **Achievements of Moderates**

- Creation of a wide national awakening.
- Popularization of the ideas of democracy and nationalism.
- Exposed the exploitative of British imperialism.
- In this context, the '**Theory of Drain Wealth**' popularized by the moderates played the most important role.
- Their major concrete achievements were the appointment of a Public Service Commission in 1886. The enactment of the Indian Council Act of 1892, which provided some powers to elected local bodies.
- Their efforts resulted in a resolution of the House of Commons (1893) for simultaneous examination of the ICS in London and India and appointment of the Welby Commission on Indian Expenditure (1895).

### **The Extremists (1905-1918)**

- The moderate policies of the early Congress disillusioned many of its younger leaflets known as neo-nationalists or extremists. The extremists advocated, boycott of foreign goods, use of Swadeshi goods, national education, passive resistance and Swaraj. For some extremists, Swaraj referred to complete autonomy or independence and not just self-government as was declared by moderates.

- The Boycott of British made goods and use of Swadeshi or home made products was designed to encourage Indian industries. The idea of a National Scheme of Education was to encourage the boycott of government controlled universities and colleges.
- The extremists well understood and highlighted the negative role of British in India They talked of democracy, constitutionalism and progress and talked of broadening the social base of the National Movement. They also realised that these objectives could not be realised without pressure tactics and some sort of direct action. The policy of the extremists yielded good dividends. The Partition of Bengal was annulled in 1911, which gave a new self-confidence and self-assurance to Indian nationalists.

### Causes for the Rise of Extremists

- There was a growing consciousness among the Indians of the exploitative character of the British colonial rule in Indian. The wrings of early nationalist leaders had exposed the true nature of British Rule in India e.g. Ranade's essay on India Economy (1898), Dadabhi Naorji's Poverty and Un-British Rule in India (1901), RC Dutt, Economic History India (1901) etc. Some of the repressive policies of the British Government which led to the discontent among the people and resulted in growth of extremism were as follows:
  - The deportation of Chapekar brother without trial in 1897.
  - The enactment of law making it an offence to preach nationalism (1898).
  - University Act at 1904.
  - The enactment of the India Official Secret Act, to restrict freedom of the press (1904).
  - The controversy' partition of Bengal in 1905.

The immediate cause for the rise of extremism was the reactionary rule of Lord Curzon (1889- 1905) Curzon considered Congress as an unclean thing and seditious organization.

The **Calcutta Corporation Act** (1899), the Official Secrets Act and the Indian Universities Act created great resentment in India. The worst and most hated aspect of Curzon's administration was the Partition of Bengal, in 1905. Curzon partitioned Bengal, ostensibly for administrative

convenience, cut in reality for curbing the growing nationalism. It is said that partition aided rather than deterred the forces undermining the British position in India.

## Prominent Extremists

### Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1856-1920)

- Known as Lokmanya to the Indians and as the Father of Indian Unrest to the British, he was regarded as **‘one of the most dangerous pioneer of disaffection’**. He began his critical career as a moderate, but by the beginning of the 20th century became an extremist.
- He used religious orthodoxy as a method of mass contact through his organization of the Ganapati festival (1893) and Shivaji, festival from 1896 onward. He was the first to give the slogan of Swaraiya, Swadeshi, and Boycott.
- He was a distinguished member of the Deccan Education Society and he was instrumental in founding the New English School, which later became the Ferguson College. He also edited two newspaper (Martha English and the Kesari in Marathi).
- In 1916, Tilak organised his own Home Rule League at Poona and declared ‘Swaraj is my birthright and I will have it.
- He played a prominent role Anti-Partition Movement of 1905-08 and was responsible in making it an All India Movement. During Swadeshi Movement he declared, Swaraj is essential for the exercise of Swadharma, without Swaraj there could be no social reform, no industrial progress, no useful educator and no fulfillment of national life.

### Lala Lajpat Rai

- Popularly known, as the Punjab Kesari, he was the leader of the **‘College faction’** of the Arya Samaj. The Gurukul faction was led by Lala Munshi Ram Lajpat Rai became an extremist leader in the beginning of the 20th century and played an important role in Anti-Partition Movement.

- He was the editor of the Punjabee and authored a book **‘Unhappy India’**. He had declared that political rights could not be won by an organisation which could not distinguish between begging rights and claiming them. In Punjab, the cult of Swadeshi was propagated by Lala Lajpat Rai. While leading an anti-simon procession he was wounded and later died of injuries.

### **Bipin Chandra Pal (1858-1932)**

- Known as the Father of Revolutionary Thought in India. BC Pa began career as a journalist and started the Paridarsak (a weekly) and later became the Assistant Editor of Bengal Public Opinion and the Tribune. He started New India in 1901 to propagate his brand of nationalism revolving around the ideals of Swaraj, Swadeshi, Boycott and National education.
- He began his political career as a moderate, but later drifted towards the extremism in 1902, he wrote, the Congress here and its British Committee in London are both begging institutions.

### **Aurobindo Ghosh (1872-1950)**

- Aurobindo Ghosh published *Flame* in 1893-94 (While serving as a lecturer in Baroda) in which he criticised the moderate politics of the Congress. He described the Congress leader's pleas to government on issues like Legislative Councils and simultaneous Civil Services Examination in London and India as playing with bubbles. He advocated the Doctrine of Passive Resistance in a series of articles in 1907 in *Bande Mataram*.
- Aurobindo played an important role in Anti-Partition Movement and propounded the theory of organised and relentless boycott of British goods, British System of Education, Judiciary and Executive.
- After his release from the jail, in 1910, he went to Pondicherry and thereafter concentrated on philosophical, spiritual and literary activities. Some of his books were *Savitri* (The longest epic poem in English), *The Life Divine* etc.

- Aurobindo Ghosh raised patriotism to the pedestal of mother worship and said I know my country as my country as my mother. I adore her. I worship her.
- In his work, Bhavani Mandir wrote our mother country is not a piece of the Earth, neither a figure of speech nor a fiction mind. It is mighty Shakti composed of the Shaktis of all the millions of units that make up the nation.

### **Partition of Bengal, 1905**

- Among the Lord Curzon's administrative measures, the one that elicited the strongest opposition was the Partition of Bengal in 1905.
- Real attack on Bengal came as early as 1899 when Curzon reduced the number of elected members in the Calcutta corporation primarily to satisfy the European business interests in the city, who often complained of delay in the grant of licenses and similar other facilities

### **British Idea Behind Partition**

- The idea of partition was first given by William Ward in 1896 (Chief Commissioner of Assam).
- Later, to meet the growing nationalist challenge in Eastern India, Curzon and his advisors. Sir A Fraser, (the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal), and HH Risley Secretary, Home Department, Government of India) searched for an effective answers and eventually, found it in the division of the Bengal-speaking people
- The official statement made by Risley was, Bengal united is a power and Bengal divided will pull in several different ways. Similarly, Curzon also said, "The Indians only business was to be governed and it was sacrilege on its part to have any other aspiration" Another objective behind the partition was to spit up the Hindus and Muslims.

### **Road to Partition**

- The Curzon scheme to partition Bengal came to be publicly known from the time the Viceroy wrote his minute on Territorial Redistribution on 1st June, 1903.

- The province came into existence on 16th October 1905, by breaking up Bengal and its 41.5 million Bengali speaking people.
- After the Partition of Bengal the two new provinces that came into existence were East Bengal and West Bengal.
- The truncated new province of Bengal with its capital at Calcutta was to comprise 11 Districts of West Bengal the district of Darjeeling as also the whole of Bihar and Orissa (Majority the population being Hindu).

### **Swadeshi Movement, 1905**

- The initial objective of the movement was the annulment of Partition of Bengal. However, it was soon superseded by the greater objective of attainment of Swaraj.
- Aurobindo Ghosh came out with the theory of organised and relentless boycott of British goods, British system of education, judiciary and executive and the social boycott of the loyalists and civil disobedience of unjust laws. The boycott of British products was followed by the advocacy of Swadeshi and holding of Swadeshi melas. Charka came to signify the popular concern for the country's economic self-sufficiency.
- An important aspect of the Swadeshi Movement was the emphasis placed on self-reliance or Atmasakti (Advocated by Rabindranath Tagore). Several exclusive Indian industrial ventures such as the Calcutta Potteries, Bengal Chemical Swadeshi Store; (Opened by Acharya PC Ray), Lakshmi Cotton Mills, Mohlni Mills and National Tannery were started.
- The government made attempt to suppress the students by threatening to withdraw grants, scholarships and affiliates of the institutions to which they belonged, through the infamous circular issued on 22nd October, 1905 by Carlyle the Chief Secretary of the Government of Bengal (the circular is also known otherwise as the Carlyle Circular).
- The Congress supported the Boycott Movement only for Bengal at its Banaras Session in 1905. Extremists wanted to extend the movement to the other parts of the country, but the moderates refused to accept this.

- In 1906, Session of Congress at Calcutta Dadabhai Naoroji declared the aim of Congress to be Swaraj like that of UK and other colonies.
- The four compromise resolutions passed at this session were— Swadeshi, Boycott, National Education and Self Government. Here the demand for Swaraj was raised for the first time from the Congress platform.
- **Indian Society of Oriental Art** was set-up in 1907 Nanda Lal Bose became the first recipient of scholarship offered by the society.
- A large number of national volunteer bodies Samitis sprang up in Some of the distinguished society among them were as follows:
  - Dawn Society (Named after the journal—Dawn) by Sachindra Mukherjee
  - The Anti-Circular Society
  - The Swadesh Bhandhav
  - The Anshilan by Promotha Mitter
  - The Dacca Anushilan Samiti By Pulin Das
- Samitis preached the essential of Swadeshi and Boycott, look op social work during famines and epidemics, imparted physical and moral training, organised crafts and national schools and set-up arbitration committees and village societies.
- Many prominent Muslims joined the Swadeshi Movement inducing Abdul Rasul (the famous barrister), Liaquat Hussain (the popular agitator) Guznavi (the businessmen). Maulana Abul Kalam Azad joined of the revolutionary terrorist groups.
- With the split of Congress at Surat the Swadeshi Movement lost its major strength and force and was finally suppressed by the British through repressive measures like imprisonment and deportation of many of its leaders in 1908.
- However the Swadeshi Movement was the beginning of the organised movement in India. The significance of the movement can be assessed from the fact that Mahatma Gandhi wrote the real awakening in India took place after the Partition of Bengal.

## **Annulment of Partition of Bengal**

- In December 1911, King George V and the Queen Empress visited India (He was the only British King to visit India).
- On 12th December, 1911 a magnificent coronation Durbar was in Delhi, which was chosen as the seat of the imperial function.
- The official proclamation regarding the annulment of the Partition of Bengal and the transfer of British capital from Calcutta to Delhi was made at Delhi Durbar.
- After the annulment of partition the West and East Bengal were integrated and three separate states created
  - Bengal (Comprising and West Bengal
  - Assam (of same status it had in 1874
  - Bihar and Orissa (finally separated in 1935)

## **Hardinge Bomb Case**

23rd December, 1912 was fixed as the date for the Viceroy's state entry into the new raw capital, Delhi. On, that day when the Viceroy and Vicereine, the ruling princes and senior officials were being taken in long procession through Chandi Chowk in Delhi, a bomb was thrown at the elephant carrying the Viceroy. Hardinge was badly wounded Rash Behari Bose threw the bomb Bhai Bal Mukund was sentenced to death in the Hardinge Bomb case.

## **Surat Split, 1907**

- The differences between the moderates and the extremist widened during the Swadeshi movement. The issues being spread of Boycott movement outside Bengal, choice of the method for struggle conflict of ideologies and clash of personalities.
- The extremist wanted to extend the idea of Boycott and Swadeshi to the regions outside Bengal and also to include the government services, law courts. Legislative Council and all other forms of associations with the British in their programme. The moderates on other hand were not in favour of this.

- The growing differences between the moderates and the extremists came to the fore at the Surat Session of the Congress in 1907, when against the wishes of the extremists who preferred Lala Lajpat Rai; Rash Behan Ghosh was Chosen as the President
- Finally, the moderates with were in majority gained complete control over the Congress organization and the extremists were suspended from the INC.

### **All India Muslim League**

- **Simla Deputation** The Partition of Bengal created a communal divide On 1st October, 1906, a Muslim deputation led by the Agha Khan, met Lord Minto at Simla.
- The address presented by the deputation claimed a privileged position for Indian Muslims on the grounds of political importance, military service and the historical memories of their lost political glory. Minto gave a categorical assurance that the political right and Interests of the Muslims as a community would be safeguarded
- The Simla deputation was followed in Eastern Bengal by Muslim meetings in support of the Partition of Bengal Nawab Habibulla (or Salimullah) of Dacca, favoured by Lord Curzon, took the leadership of the Pre-Partition movement.
- A meeting was held at Dacca on 30th December 1906 where it was decided to form a political association, called the All India Muslim League with three objectives
  - (i) To promote among Muslims loyalty to the British Government.
  - (ii) To protect and advance the political right of the Muslims.
  - (iii) To prevent the rise among the Muslims of any feeling of hostility towards other communities without prejudice other object of the league.
- To propagate his Anti League views Maulana Mohammed All started an English Journal Comrade and an Urdu Paper 'Hamdard'. He also started Al-Hilal which served as a mouthpiece of his nationalist views.

## **Indian Council Act, 1909**

- Viceroy and the Secretary of state or India (Minto-Morley) decided to work out some scheme to reform the legislative councils. This culminated as Indian Council Act. 1909
- It introduced separate and discriminatory electorates
- For the provincial councils a provision of three categories was made was General, special and chambers of commerce.
- For the central council, one more category Muslims was added. This was for the first that, the seats in the legislative bodies were reserves on the basis of religion for Muslim. This is called as Communal Representation,

### **Demand for Separate Electorate**

The Ann tsar Session of the League, field in 1908, under the President ship of Sir Syed All Imam demanded a separate electorate for the Muslims which was conceded to them to the Morley-Minto reforms 1909.

Jinnah for many years opposed the league in 1910, at the Allahabad Session of the Congress, he moved a resolution condemning the system of communal electorates.

## **Home Rule Movement, 1916**

- The Home Rule Movement was the Indian response to the World War I and represented the emergence of a new trend of aggressive polities. Anne Besant and Bal Gangadhar Tilak proved to be the pioneers of this new trend. However, the idea of starting a Home Rule League in India orginated with Annie Besant
- The definite campaign for Home Rule, began with the publication of weekly, the **Commonweal**, on 2nd January, 1914 Tilak started the Indian Home Rule League in April, 1916 and 5 months later in September 1916 Mrs Annie Besant staged the Home Rule League.

- Tilak's League was to work in Maharashtra (Excluding Bombay City) Karnataka, the Central province and Berar and Annie Besant League was given charge of rest of India.
- The Home Rule Movement had borrowed the term Home Rule from a similar movement in Ireland. The main Objective of Home Rule League was to attain home-rule for India within the British empire, on the lines of the autonomous colonies of Australia. New Zealand etc.

### **Tilak's Home Rule League**

- Tilak's Home Rule League launched at the Bombay Province Conference held at Belgaum in April, 1916, was organised into 6 branches. Tilak launched propaganda in favour of Home Rule through Maharashtra and Kesari
- It published pamphlets in Kannada, Gujarati, Marathi and English.
- The demands included Swaraj, formation of linguistic states and education in vernaculars.
- It was during the Home Rule Movement that Bal Gangadhar Tilak was given the title of Lokmanya.

### **Annie Besant's Home Rule League**

- Annie Besant had come to India from England in 1893 to work for the Theosophical Society She had set up her headquarters at Adyar near Madras.
- Annie Besant's Home Rule League was formally inaugurated in September, 1916, in Madras, with George Arundale, as the organising secretary.
- Most of league work was carried on by Annie Besant and her lieutenants— Arundale, CP Ramaswamy Aiyer and BP Wadia.
- Annie Besant also brought out the papers India and Commonwealth. The Commonwealth adopted as its cardinal programme, religious liberty, national education social reform and political reform aiming at self-government for India within the British Commonwealth.

- The main aim of Weekly Commonweal was to popularise the idea of and achieving self-government for India within the British Commonwealth. Jawaharlal Nehru in Allahabad and B Chakravarti and J Bannerjee in Calcutta joined the league.
- The repression of the government only served to harden the attitude of the agitators and strengthen their resolve to resist the government.
- After Montague's Declaration (August. 1917) also known as August Declaration Mrs Besant finally dropped her league, but Tilak continued his movement.

### **Lucknow Pact (1916)**

The Lucknow Session (1916) is memorable following two important developments.

(i) The first was the readmission of the extremists

(ii) The second was the bond of alliance between the Congress and the Muslim League.

- The league at its Annual Session of 1915 In Bombay which was also attended by many Congress leaders (Gandhi, Malviya and Sarojini Naidu) appointed a committee to draw up a scheme of political reforms in consultation with other communities.
- During simultaneous annual sessions of the league and Congress held at Lucknow in December, 1916 both passed resolution separately for a joint scheme of constitutional reforms and reached an agreement to cooperate in the political field on the basis of a common programme. Tilak and Annie Besant dominated the Lucknow session.
- This agreement is generally known as the Lucknow Pact or the Congress League Scheme The pact had resulted largely due to Tilak's effort.
- The Lucknow Pact exhorted the British Government to confer self-government on India as early as possible, to expand Provincial Legislative council and the Governor-Generals Legislative council and to provide for greater representation of the elected members on the expanded council.

- It further demanded that the powers of making appointments to the and an Civil Services should vest in the Government of India and that the commissioned and non-commissioned ranks in the military and naval services should be thrown open to Indians. The pact also marked the formal acceptance of separate electorates for Muslims.
- The pact succeeded in getting the reforms through Montague Chelmsford Reforms of 1919.
- However, the Ail-India Hindu Mahasabha led the crusade against the Lucknow Pact, at its conference held in Lucknow, VP Madhav Rao. in his presidential address and attacked the principle d separate electorates
- The Congress league or the Lucknow pact survived till the suspension of the Non-Cooperation movement in February. 1922. after the Chauri-Chaura incident.
- The basic defect of the Lucknow pact was that It was based on the wrong notion that Hindus arid Muslims formed separate communities and therefore, the pact proved to be only a temporary truce.

### **Montague Declaration (1917)**

- The aftermath of the World War I. the rapid growth of the revolutionary activities and t-.e popularity of the Home Rule Movement pressurised the British to effect a change in its policies and adopt a conciliatory attitude towards the demands of the Indian nationalists On 20th August, 1917, Montague Secretary of State of India) made, a historic declaration in the house of commons defining the goal of British policies In India.
- Shortly thereafter, Montague visited India in November, 1917 to ascertain the views of all shades of political opinion in India. On the basis of these discussions a detailed report on Indian Constitutional reforms was prepared, which 'was published in July. 1918 This report in turn formed the basis of the Montague Chelmsford reforms or the Government of India Act, 1919.

## Second Split in INC (1918)

- Reactions within the Congress sharply varied the moderates welcomed it as the Magna Carta of India, while others criticised it as falling far short of the legitimate expectations of India.
- The division of opinion within the Congress on the Montague declaration ultimately resulted in the second split in the party, this time the moderates walking out. The INC in a special session (August, 1918) criticised the August declaration as disappointing and unsatisfactory and suggested important modification,
- The moderates led by Surendranath Bannerjee, supplied the declaration in a separate conference (November 1918).
- This brought about the second split in the Congress. The ultra-moderates started a new party called the National Liberal league in 1918, later on known as All-India liberal Federation.

## Revolutionary activities

### First Phase

- Vasudev Balwant Phadke known as Father of militant nationalism, gathered backward classes including Kola and Bhils and tried to create rebellion within British empire. But he was caught and deported to Aden. By 1902, four revolutionary groups were set-up in Calcutta and Midnapur:
  - (i) Midnapur Society by Sarla Ghosal
  - (ii) Anushilan Samiti
  - (iii) Atmonnoti Group
  - (iv) Yugantar group by Barindra Kumar Ghosh, Raia Subodh Malik and Hemchandra Qanungo.
- First political robbery was conducted in 1936, known as **Rangpur Dacoiti**.
- A bomb manufacturing unit was set-up at Maniktala (Calcutta).

- Kingsford attempt to murder case, 1908 Yugantar' group planned to kill Kingsford, the Magistrate of Muzatfarour, but failed. Aurobindo Ghosh was arrested and Khuditam Bose was arrested and executed in Hijni jail, Hazaribagh.
- There was an assassination attempt on the life of Governor- General, Lord Hardinge (December, 1912) by Master Amu Chandra, Awadh Bihari and Basant Kumar Biswas.
- In Madras, revolutionary activities were carried on by Bharat Mata Association under Vanchi Iyer and supported by VO Chidambaram Pillai.
- Indian revolutionary activities outside India were based on the principle of absolute political freedom. Prominent groups were as follows.
  - **India house** by Shyamji Krishna Verma set-up in London. He also started the newspaper The Indian Sociologist. VD Savarkar was its member, who later started the secret societies Abhinave Bharat and Mitra Mela.
  - **Other Members** Lala Hardayal VN Chatterjee, MPT Acharya PM Bapat. VSS Iyer and Madan Lal Dhingra (assassinated British Officer Curzon Wylie in 1909).
- Paris Indian Society it was founded by Madam Bhikaji Cama. She started two newspapers Vande Mataram and Madans Talwar.
- India Independence Committee was set-up by Virondranath Chattopadhyay in Berlin.
- **Ghadar Party Movement (1913)** Indian nationalists including students like Tarak Nath Das, who published Free Hindustan Newspaper in North America helped in rising awareness about nationalism.
  - Similarly, Hind Association of Paolo coast was set-up in 1913 by Sohan Singh Bhakna and also started a newspaper Hindustani Ghadar, edited by Lala Hardayal.

- Soar, activities of the association came to be known as Ghadar Party movement, which was first secular. democrat revolutionary movement.
- Its headquarter was known as Yugantar Ashram in San Francisco (USA), They published the newspaper Hindustani Ghadar.
- In Punjab, Bharat Mata Society under Kartar Singh carried the Ghadar movement. Similarly in Hong Kong a Sikh priest, Bhagwan Singh, carried the movement.
- The movement ended with the arrest of Lala Hardayal, beginning of World War and Komagata Maru incident (chartership of Gurudith Singh carrying Muslim and Sikh immigrants from Vancouver, but the British Government did not allow anyone to leave the ship at Calcutta and violent protests broke out)

### **Second Phase**

- Bhagat Singh founded the Naujawan Bnarat Sabha.
- Kakori Tram Dacoity Case 1925 — Ram Prasad Bismil and Ashafaqulla were accused
- Murder of Saunders (ASP of Lahore). 1929 — Bhagat Singh was accused.
- Assembly Bomb Case (Delhi), 1923 — Bhagat Singh, Batukeshwar Dutta and Rajguru
- Surya Sen was accused in Chittagong Armoury Dacoity, 1930.
- Udharn Singh murdered General Dyer in London in 1940