

HISTORY

CHAPTER -2

NATIONALISM IN INDIA

INTRODUCTION- The sense of being oppressed under colonialism provided a shared bond to fight against colonial rulers. The growth of nationalism in India developed from anti-colonial feelings. Mahatma Gandhi made this movement- Mass movt.

Unit 1 -The first world war, Khilafat & non-cooperation

☆ First World War : 1914-18

☆ Impact of first world war -

1. Huge increase in defence expenditure
2. Custom duties were raised
3. Income tax was introduced
4. Price rise approx. doubled b/w 1913 & 1918
5. Forced recruitment- youngsters from villages were forced to supply soldiers for the war.

1.1 The idea of Satyagraha- Mahatma Gandhi returned to India (from South Africa) in January 1915.

Satyagraha- Novel method of mass agitation

- It's appeal for truth
- Goal is TRUTH & mean to achieve is NON-VIOLENCE
- Without being aggressive, a satygrahi could win through non-violence
- this could be done by appealing to the conscious of oppressor
- Truth would bound to ultimately triumph
- Power of truth through non-violence can be used by the strongest

Mahatma Gandhi successfully organized Satyagraha movements in various places during that time

WHEN WHERE

WHY

1917 Champaran (Bihar) struggle of peasants against plantation system

1917 Kheda district of Gujarat struggle of revenue relaxation because of crop failure

1918 Ahmedabad organized cotton mill workers' struggle

1.2 THE ROWLATT ACT [1919]

- Act was passed through the Imperial Legislative Council
- It gave the government powers to repress political activities & allowed detention of political prisoners without trial for 2 years

☆ Gandhiji wanted non-violent Civil disobedience against it which would start with hartal on 6 April

☆ Popular upsurge in various cities & local leaders were picked up from Amritsar & Gandhiji was barred from entering Delhi.



10 April 1919 , the police in Amritsar fired upon a peaceful procession that provoked people to attack on government buildings



MARTIAL LAW was imposed & General Dyer took command



13th April 1919 - Jallianwala bagh incident

- Objective was to ' produce a moral effect ' , to create a feeling of terror & awe in the minds of satyagrahis



After spreading news of Jallianwala bagh incident; strikes , clashes with police & attacks on government buildings started



Govt. responded with brutal repression



Gandhiji called off movement



Khilafat Issue- Ottoman emperor of Turkey was the spiritual head (Khalifa)of the Islamic world who was insulted through a harsh peace Treaty by the Britishers.

- A Khilafat Committee was formed in BOMBAY in March 1919 to defend the khalifa's temporal powers

- Muhammad Ali & Shaukat Ali discussed this with Gandhiji

- CALCUTTA SESSION OF CONGRESS in Sept 1920 - discussion for Non-cooperation Khilafat movt was taken

1.3 NON-COOPERATION

- Gandhiji in HIND SWARAJ (1909) book declared that British rule in India would collapse within a year if Indians refused to cooperate & SWARAJ would come.

NON-COOPERATION AS A MOVEMENT-

Stages : A. Surrender of titles that the government awarded ;

2. Boycott of civil services, army, police, courts , Legislative Councils , schools & foreign goods

☆ NON- COOPERATION PROGRAM was adopted at Congress session at Nagpur in December 1920

UNIT-II DIFFERING STRANDS WITHIN THE MOVEMENT

● Non-Cooperation-Khilafat Movement began in JANUARY 1921

2.1 The Movement in the Towns

- middle class participated

- students , teachers & lawyers left their institutions

- boycott & swadeshi

- imports halved

● Justice Party of non-brahmans in Madras was formed to get entry in Councils as council elections were boycotted everywhere except Madras

☆ REASONS of gradual slow down of NON-COOPERATION movt.

1. Khadi was expensive

2. No alternative Indian institutions available

3. No Indian Courts were there

- Students, teachers & lawyers joined back work

2.2 REBELLION IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

AWADH - peasants were led by Baba Ramchandra who was the Sanyasi, earlier been in Fiji as an endangered labourer

- Peasants were against Talukdars & landlords

- Demands were - reduction of revenue, abolition of begar (work without payment) & social boycott of oppressive landlords

-By October, 1920 , Oudh Kisan Sabha was set up headed by Jawaharlal Nehru & Baba Ramchandra.

Within a month, over 300 branches had been set up in the villages around the region.

Congress leadership was unhappy the way movt. Spread in 1921:

- the houses of talukdars & merchants were attacked, bazaar were looted & grain hoards were taken over

GUDEM HILLS OF ANDHRA PRADESH & ALLURI SITARAM RAJU:

- It was tribal revolt
- Govt. has closed large forest areas , preventing people from entering the forest to graze their cattle or to collect fuel wood & fruits
- Sitaram raju led the guerrilla warfare in Gudem Hills of Andhra Pradesh
- Finally he was caught & executed in 1924

2.3 SWARAJ IN PLANTATIONS :

- For plantation workers in Assam, Freedom meant the right to move freely in & out of the confined area
- According to INLAND EMIGRATION ACT OF 1859 , workers weren't allowed to leave the plantation area without permission & permission wasn't being given
- As NCM spread, many left plantation & headed at home through Railways believing that Gandhi Raj will come & their problems will be resolved
- They were caught & beaten very badly but they were chanting SWATANTRA BHARART

IMMEDIATE CAUSE OF CALLING OFF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT- At Churi chaura in Gorakhpur, a peaceful demonstration in a bazaar turned into a violent clash with the police & 23 police officers were burnt alive.

- By hearing this , Mahatma Gandhi called a halt to the Non-cooperation movt.

UNIT-III

Reasons of calling off NCM -

1. Immediate cause as discussed above
2. Gandhiji felt that satyagrahis needed to be trained
3. Congress leaders were tired off the mass struggle
4. Few leaders wanted to take part in Council elections

FORMATION OF SWARAJ PARTY - by Jawaharlal Nehru & CR Das

- It's formed for those Congress leaders who wanted to participate in elections

☆ JLN & Subhash Chandra Bose pressed for more radical mass agitation & for full independence

- Two factors shaped Indian politics towards the late 1920s-
1. Effect of worldwide economic depression led to fall of agricultural prices from 1926
 2. Difficulty of peasants to sell harvest led to countryside in turmoil

SIMON COMMISSION- Tory govt. in Britain constituted a Statutory Commission under Sir John Simon

- arrived in 1928

Objective: to look into the functioning of the constitutional system in India & suggest changes

Problem: All White Commission [**no Indian member**]

Points –

It was greeted with the slogan ' Go Back Simon '

- All parties started demonstrations
- To win support, Lord Irwin announced a vague offer of 'dominion status' for India (Oct. 1929)
- Radicals became more assertive

PURNA SWARAJ/ COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE: In Dec. 1929, under the presidency of JLN , the Lahore Congress formalized the demand of PURNA SWARAJ & declared 26 January 1930 would be celebrated as INDEPENDENCE DAY

3.1 THE SALT MARCH & THE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT [CDM]

- Gandhiji chose salt as a medium for protest against the British rule
- government was asked to accept the demands by 11th March failing which a CDM would be started
- 31st January 1930 Gandhi sent a letter to Viceroy Irwin stating 11 demands covering every section of society like abolishing salt law
- Movement started (on 12th March) with 78 volunteers from Gandhiji's ashram in Sabarmati to Gujrat coastal town of Dandi (240 miles ; 10 miles a day)
- Reached Dandi on 6th April & manufactured salt from sea water
- This marked the BEGINNING OF CDM

Effect of CDM (1930-1934)-

- A. People started violating colonial laws
- B. Boycott of foreign products;
- C. Farmers refused to pay revenue and Chaukidari Taxes etc.
- D. Gaffar Khan was arrested in April 1930

E. Industrial workers in Sholapur attacked Police Force, Municipal buildings, law courts and railway stations
- Government used repressive policies

GANDHI IRWIN PACT- On 5 March 1931 b/w Gandhiji & Viceroy Irwin
Provisions- a. Gandhiji consented to participate in Round table conference II
b. Gandhiji called off CDM
c. The government agreed to release the political Prisoners

ROUND TABLE CONFERENCES :

RTC I [1930]- Congress boycotted as CDM was going on;

RTC II [1931] - Mahatma Gandhi , on behalf of Congress took part due to Gandhi-Irwin pact but returned disappointed 😞

RTC III [1932] - Congress again not took part

☆ Dr. B.R Ambedkar took part in all he three RTC to secure the future of lower caste people

3.2 HOW PARTICIPANTS SAW THE MOVEMENT?

- the rich peasants like patidars of Gujarat and jats of Uttar Pradesh were enthusiastic supporters of CDM since they were unable to pay government's revenue as the faced trade depression and fall in prices but they were disappointed when CDM ended in 1931 without revised revenue rates so they refused to participate again in 1932 when Mahatma Gandhi relaunched the movt. after attending RTC II

- Poor peasants found difficulty in Paying their rent due to depression and decrease in cash income

- Congress didn't support NO RENT campaign

BUSINESS CLASS :

- They wanted protection against import of foreign goods for their business expansion as Boycott movement supported their business

- Purshottamdas Thakur & G.D Birla to promote their business interest formed INDIAN INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL CONGRESS in 1920 & FEDERATION OF THE INDIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRIES (FICCI) in 1927

3.3 CAUSES OF FAILURE OF CDM:

1. CONFLICTING NATURE OF DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF SOCIETY denied few sections to be the part of CDM;

2. Muslims were fearful of Hindu Domination so they avoided taking part;

3. Dalits didn't participate as Congress sided with Upper Class;
4. Spread of militant activities ;
5. Industrial workers didn't participate

POONA PACT: Sept. 1932

b/w Gandhiji & Ambedkar

Provision- It gave the depressed classes reserved seats in Provincial & Central-legislative Councils, which were to be voted by the General electorates

UNIT - IV -THE SENSE OF COLLECTIVE BELONGING

There were variety of cultural processes which captured people's attention for letting them feel collective identity-

1. IMAGES- visual association with Bharat Mata image
2. Songs - Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote VANDE MATARAM in 1870 as a hymn to the motherland
3. Folklore- National leaders started recording our folk tales & other cultural events to let the future generations feel proud on Indian culture & tradition
4. Flag- Flag was also designed as National Icon.
5. Reinterpretation of History- To create a feeling of Nationalism & to pass on feeling of pride among Indians, leaders began looking at glorious past of India in different fields of life

All the above factors contributed in creating Sense of collective identity & belonging