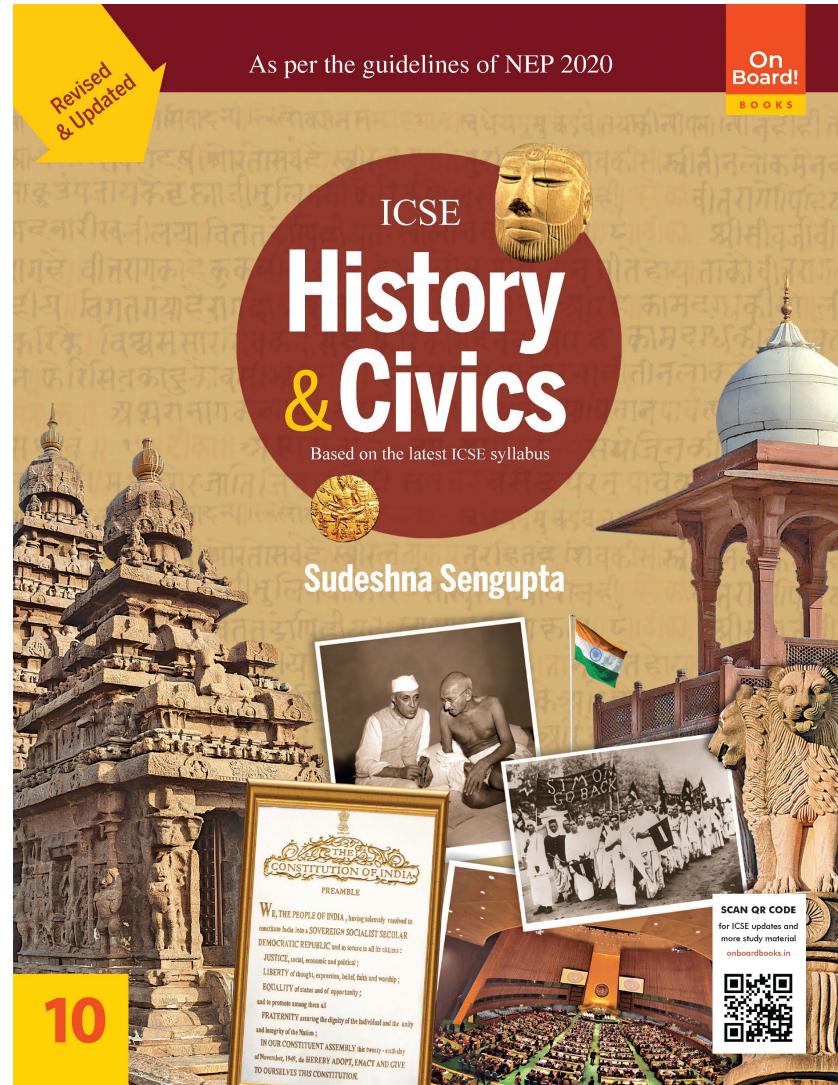


On Board!

B O O K S

ICSE History and Civics 10



Section B: History

Chapter 6 The National Movement (1919–1934)

- **GANDHI'S EARLY LIFE**
- Gandhi in India
- The Gandhian path
- **EVENTS LEADING TO THE NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT**
- The Rowlatt Act
- The Jallianwala Bagh massacre
- The Khilafat Movement
- **THE NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT**
- Constructive work
- Boycott programme
- Importance of Non-cooperation Movement
- **THE SWARAJ PARTY**
- Policy and programme
- Achievements of the Swaraj Party
- **MOVEMENTS AMONG PEASANTS AND WORKERS**
- Peasants
- Workers
- **FORMATION OF THE SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST PARTIES**
- The Communist Party of India
- The Congress Socialist Party
- **THE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT**
- Indian Republican Army
- Hindustan Republican Association
- Hindustan Socialist Republican Association
- **EVENTS LEADING TO THE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT**
- The Simon Commission (1927–1928)
- The Nehru Report
- The Viceroy's Declaration (1929)
- The Lahore Session of the Congress (1929)
- **THE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT (1930)**
- Renewal of the Civil Disobedience Movement (1932)
- End of the movement
- Importance of the Civil Disobedience Movement

Chapter 6 The National Movement (1919–1934)

WHO WERE THE RADICALS?

According to some historians, the most important event of the Indian independence movement in 1919 was the emergence of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, as a national leader. In light of the dominant role played by him in the events that led to the independence of India, we need to have an insight as to what made Gandhi the man he was, the ‘father of the nation’ and the Mahatma.

GANDHI’S EARLY LIFE

Born on 2 October 1869, Gandhi, after completing his studies in India, proceeded to England to study law. Gandhi proceeded to Natal in Durban, South Africa, to represent Indians who were barred from returning to their homes and businesses in Transvaal. Large-scale passive resistance was launched as the Indians protested against the Asiatic Law Amendment Ordinance. It was here that Gandhi chose the term satyagraha to describe his struggle. Gandhi’s heroic struggle against the racist regime in South Africa saw him being thrown out of a train compartment, arrested and imprisoned on more than one occasion, refused entry into hotels and eating places, simply for being an Indian.

The Satyagraha Campaign in South Africa ended with the passing of the Indian Relief Act of 1914 and the restoration of dignity to the Indian settlers. When he arrived in India in 1915, he did not immediately join active politics but went about knowing and learning about the real India that lived in small towns and villages. He set up an ashram at Sabarmati (near Ahmadabad).

Gandhi in India

Gandhi's first political action was against the Indentured Labour System, which involved the recruitment of Indian labourers for the British colonies. The government's refusal to abolish the system led Gandhi to announce that he would launch a Satyagraha, unless the system was abolished. The government immediately complied. Between 1917–18, Gandhi launched three successful satyagrahas bringing the national movement into full swing.

His fight against the oppression of the indigo-planters in Champaran, Bihar, led to the Champaran Agrarian Bill of 1917. It was during this struggle that people began to refer to Gandhi as Bapu and Mahatma. This was Satyagraha's first triumph as a political tool in India. Further, a settlement was reached when he came to the aid of the mill workers of Ahmadabad to settle their pay grievances.

Immediately after this, Gandhi launched another Satyagraha movement in Kheda. Here under the land revenue rules, the cultivators were entitled to suspension of the land tax if the yield fell below 25 per cent, which the government denied. So the cultivators resorted to Satyagraha by being firm on refusing to pay the revenue. Ultimately, the government was forced to concede.

The Gandhian path

The basic ideals that Gandhi incorporated in his struggle for national freedom can be studied under the following heads.

- Satyagraha
- Non-violence
- Swadeshi
- Moral values in politics
- Social ideals

Satyagraha *Satya* meaning 'truth' and *agraha* meaning 'adherence'. Thus, satyagraha means 'holding on to truth'. The aim of satyagraha is not to destroy the opponent but to win him over by patience and sympathy. Satyagraha is different from passive resistance. The latter has been conceived as a weapon of the weak, whereas the former has been conceived as a weapon of the strongest, and excludes the use of violence in any shape or form. There are different techniques by which satyagraha achieves its aim. Fasting, non-cooperation, and civil disobedience were the varied means of satyagraha.

Non-violence It forms the basis of satyagraha. Non-violence is 'conscious suffering'. It is superior to violence for it is a weapon of the strong. A coward would not have the courage to be fair to the unjust. He would either use the violence of the brute or run away from the situation. Non-violence is a dynamic condition and the supreme virtue of humankind.

Swadeshi Gandhi was a firm believer in producing goods indigenously and becoming self-reliant. According to him, a country had to be economically self-sufficient to be politically independent. He believed that it was the best way to tackle poverty and unemployment in the country. The charkha became a symbol of India and promoted the production of khadi.

Moral values in politics With his strong belief in satyagraha and non-violence, Gandhi advocated value-based politics, i.e. no matter what the end is, the means have to be justified. There is no room for selfishness, deceit, violence and anger. Gandhi believed that anything could be achieved by tolerance, patience, fasting and penance.

Social ideals Gandhi referred to the untouchables as harijans or 'children of God'. He treated them with utmost kindness and fought the evil of untouchability. Gandhi also championed the cause of women.

EVENTS LEADING TO THE NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT

The year 1919 was a watershed year in the nation's history. Events that took place had far-reaching consequences.

The Rowlatt Act

The Sedition Committee as the Rowlatt Committee was officially called, was headed by Justice Rowlatt. The Committee recommended special legislation, which led to the suspension of laws safeguarding the rights and liberties of the people. The Act practically denied the protection of law to the Indians. It put a severe restriction on freedom of speech, movement and expression. The Rowlatt Act became infamous as the **Black Act**. Gandhi called for satyagraha to end this act. The response to his call was spontaneous.

The Jallianwala Bagh massacre

Protest was declared and a large crowd of people marched through the main streets of the city of Amritsar. The crowd was marching peacefully till it was fired upon at the railway level crossing called the Hall Gate Bridge. This unnecessary act of violence enraged a section of the people. Five Europeans were murdered and several buildings, including the telephone exchange, two banks and the Town Hall were destroyed. Things were gradually settling down when General Dyer took control over the city and imposed martial law. On 13 April 1919, a public meeting was organized at Jallianwala Bagh to protest against the arrest of the local leaders. General Dyer stationed his troops at the entrance of the Bagh, and without any warning ordered the troops to open fire upon the assembled crowd. As the Jallianwala Bagh was surrounded on all sides by high walls, people found it difficult to escape. The firing stopped only when the ammunition was exhausted. The official estimate of deaths varied from 500 to 1000.

The Khilafat Movement

By the early 1920s, the Indian Muslims started a vigorous agitation to pressurize Britain to change her policy towards Turkey. This was the Khilafat Movement. The release of the Ali brothers, Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali helped the Khilafat agitation. Gandhi also wholeheartedly supported the movement because he found in it an opportunity to unite the Hindus and the Muslims. When the All-India Khilafat Conference met at Delhi on 24 December 1919, Gandhi was elected as its President. He advised the Muslims to adopt the tools of boycott and non-cooperation against the government.

A general all-India protest was organized on 1 August 1920 under the guidance of Gandhi. It demanded preservation of Turkey's territorial integrity and vindication of the Caliph's prestige and power. The programme included protests and demonstrations, picketing of shops, suspension of work by lawyers, surrender of honorary titles and posts, withdrawal of children from government schools and colleges. Muslims were also asked not to join the army and the police, and not to pay taxes. By the end of 1920, the Khilafat Movement had merged with the Non-cooperation Movement to form one national movement against a common enemy. From then onwards, the Non-cooperation-Khilafat movement was called as the 'twin movement'.

The Khilafat Movement came to an end in 1922 when Mustafa Kemal Ataturk led a revolution in Turkey and deposed the Sultan. He abolished the Caliphate and decided to rule Turkey on secular lines.

THE NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT

The atrocities at Jallianwala Bagh and the failure of the British government to grant greater political concessions by way of constitutional means had angered and disappointed the Congress. A special session of the Congress was held under the leadership of Lala Lajpat Rai to decide upon the momentous issue of non-cooperation.

The objectives of the Non-cooperation Movement were:

- To annulle The Rowlatt Act.
- To redress the wrong-doing in Punjab.
- To restore the position of the Caliph.
- To achieve swaraj.

Programme of the movement The Non-cooperation Movement had a two-fold programme. On one hand, it dealt with a purely constructive and positive programme, while on the other, the largely negative boycott programme was followed.

Constructive work

- Promotion of Hindu-Muslim unity
- Promotion of Swadeshi
- Revival of hand-spinning and weaving
- Removal of untouchability
- Prohibition of alcoholic drinks
- Collection for the Tilak Memorial Swarajya Fund
- Promotion of national education

Boycott programme

- Boycott of legislatures, courts and educational institutions
- Boycott of foreign goods
- Boycott of elections to the legislative councils
- Renouncing honours and titles
- Boycott of 'Prince of Wales' visit

Spread and success of the movement There was an enthusiastic response to the Non-cooperation Movement. People from every walk of life heartily supported the cause and practised boycott dutifully. The government reacted by declaring the Congress and the Khilafat organizations unlawful. Processions and public meetings were banned. Leaders like Lala Lajpat Rai, Motilal Nehru, Chittaranjan Das and Jawaharlal Nehru were put behind bars. For nearly two years, the Non-cooperation Movement was continued with great fervour, until the Chauri Chaura incident took place.

Chauri Chaura incident On 4 February 1922, a large group of protestors was fired upon by the policemen stationed at Chauri Chaura, a small village in the Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh. This infuriated the demonstrators who then set fire to the police station. The incident shocked Gandhi, who had maintained that all movements should be peaceful and non-violent. He immediately called off the Non-cooperation Movement. Gandhi was sentenced to six years' imprisonment after which differences about the future course of action came to the forefront.

Overview of the Non-cooperation Movement The suspension of the Non-cooperation Movement left many issues unsolved. The Khilafat question had not been settled. Nor had the Punjab atrocities been redressed.

Many could not afford to buy khadi. They went back to buying the mill-made cheap clothes. Boycott of British institutions like offices, schools and colleges also did not continue for long as alternative institutions were slow to come up and soon the people in towns and cities trickled back to these British institutions.

Importance of Non-cooperation Movement

- The Non-cooperation Movement was the first mass movement as it encompassed many sections of Indian society.
- The unity between the Hindus and the Muslims could be seen in the merger of the Khilafat issue with the programme of non-cooperation.
- The dignity with which people courted arrest and endured hardship pointed to the general awakening of the masses to their political rights and privileges.
- This movement made people realize that the Indian National Congress was the only organization to lead India to freedom.

The movement's social impact was best reflected in:

- Boycott of foreign goods that gave impetus to the indigenous industries
- Removal of untouchability
- Khadi and charkha which became symbols of the national movement

THE SWARAJ PARTY

It was decided by a section of Congress that the Congress should contest elections, join the government and then disrupt the working of the legislatures from within. They were called 'no-changers'.

Policy and programme

The Swaraj Party from the very beginning maintained that it was an integral part of the Congress and would follow the essential principles of 'non-violent non-cooperation'. Its programme included the right of framing the constitution. If this demand was not met, the party would follow a policy of consistent obstruction from within the legislature. It stressed upon the continuance of spinning and weaving, removal of untouchability and promotion of Hindu-Muslim unity.

Achievements of the Swaraj Party

The Swarajists were active at a time when the Congress found itself ineffective.

- In the first place, it awakened the political consciousness and revived political resistance when the Non-cooperation Movement had ended.
- The criticism of British policies brought into focus issues that needed to be addressed.
- Many of the leaders got an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the rules and procedures of legislative assemblies and councils.
- They were also successful in exposing the weakness of the reforms of 1919 and the general willingness of the government to work for the achievement of an autonomous governing body

MOVEMENTS AMONG PEASANTS AND WORKERS

Peasants

One of the major objectives of the national movement was to solve the problems of the peasants. Gandhi was very closely associated with the cause of the peasants. Leaders devoted themselves to the task of improving the conditions of the peasants by lowering their revenue, abolishing 'begar' and socially boycotting the oppressive landlords.

Workers

The introduction of modern industries had given birth to a new class of industrial workers. Both peasants and the workers were influenced by socialist ideas such as higher wages, lower rents, fixed working hours and improved working conditions.

FORMATION OF THE SOCIALIST AND COMMUNIST PARTIES

The success of the Russian Revolution of 1917 led to the spread of socialist ideas. In India, people like MN Roy, SA Dange, M Singaravelu, Shaukat Usmani and Muzaffar Ahmad were supporters of socialism.

The Communist Party of India

The Communist Party of India (CPI) was formed in December 1925 with a view to organize the peasants and workers of the country. It asked all its members to become members of the Congress and make an effort to transform the Congress into a more radical mass-based organization. The growing influence of the communists on the workers alerted the government. It responded by passing repressive acts like the Public Safety Bill and the Trade Disputes Act. Almost all important communist leaders were arrested and convicted in the famous Meerut Conspiracy Case. This weakened the Communist Movement as the government declared the CPI illegal. In 1935, the CPI was reorganized under PC Joshi.

The Congress Socialist Party

This party grew out of a movement against idealism and dogmatism existing in the political atmosphere of the country at that point of time. This party worked within the Congress. It aimed at transforming and strengthening the Congress as a pro-labour party. It adopted the following objectives:

- Nationalization of key industries
- State-control over foreign trade
- Abolition of zamindari
- Provision for the right to work

THE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT

The sudden withdrawal of the Non-cooperation Movement led people to look for alternatives. Many felt that resorting to violent methods alone could free India. This period therefore witnessed a revival of revolutionary activities.

Indian Republican Army

The Chittagong Armoury Raid was perhaps the most daring of the revolutionary enterprises. Surya Sen organized the Indian Republican Army which aimed at capturing the police armoury, killing members of the European Club, destroying the telephone exchange and telephone Office. On 18 April 1930, he and his associates attacked the police armoury at Chittagong and fled with a large quantity of arms. Surya Sen was arrested and hanged in 1933. But the armoury raid began a long trail of revolutionary incidents.

Hindustan Republican Association

This Association sought to overthrow the British through an armed revolution. In 1925, a group of revolutionaries stopped a train at Kakori (in Uttar Pradesh) and looted the government money. The money was to be used for revolutionary activities. This incident came to be known as the Kakori Conspiracy Case.

Hindustan Socialist Republican Association

In 1928, the Hindustan Republican Association was renamed as Hindustan Socialist Republican Association. The Association under the leadership of Chandra Shekhar Azad and Bhagat Singh, decided to make people aware of its objectives as well as the need for a mass revolution. On 8 April 1929, Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt threw two bombs in the Central Legislative Assembly. Their aim was not to kill anyone but only to protest against the Public Safety Bill and the Trade Disputes Bill that sought to curb civil liberty of people, especially the workers. Neither Dutt nor Bhagat Singh tried to escape. Rather, they willingly surrendered.

EVENTS LEADING TO THE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT

The Simon Commission (1927–1928)

Political activity revived in November 1927 when the government appointed a commission to look into the working of the Government of India Act of 1919 and suggest further reforms. It was called the Simon Commission, after its chairman Sir John Simon. The Commission disappointed the people on two counts:

- It was an 'all-white' commission. No Indian was included in it.
- It refused to accept the demand for Swaraj. Both the Congress and the League decided to boycott the Commission.

When the Commission arrived in India on 3 February 1928, it was greeted with black flags and slogans of 'Simon Go Back'. On 30 October 1928 when the Simon Commission arrived at the Lahore Railway Station, a huge demonstration was led by Lala Lajpat Rai. Saunders, the Assistant Superintendent of Police of Lahore, brutally assaulted Lala Lajpat Rai, who died shortly afterwards. This incident sent shock waves across the country.

Recommendations of the Simon Commission

- Dyarchy to be abolished.
- The Constitution of India must be federal in form representing both British India and the princely states.
- There should be a full autonomy in the provinces and control over law and order.
- The presence of British troops and British officers in Indian regiments would continue.
- The Provincial Legislative Councils should be enlarged.
- The lower house of the Central Legislature should be called the Federal Assembly.
- The Governor General should select and appoint the members of his Cabinet.
- The High Courts should be under the administrative control of the Government of India.
- Communal representation was to continue.

The Nehru Report

A committee was appointed under the chairmanship of Pandit Motilal Nehru to determine the principles of the Constitution for India, which submitted its report on 10 August 1928 known as the Nehru Report. Some of the recommendations made by the committee were:

- Dominion Status to be the goal for India.
- There would be a sovereign parliament consisting of a Senate and a House of Representatives.
- There would be a federal set-up linking the princely states with British India on the basis of linguistic provinces with provincial autonomy.
- Separate electorates would be also listed with provisions for protection of minorities.
- There would be joint electorates with reservation of seats for minorities according to population. This reservation would be fixed for a period of ten years.
- Emphasis was placed on universal adult suffrage, equal rights for women, freedom to form unions, freedom from arbitrary arrests, searches and seizures.
- The governors of the provinces were required to act on the advice of the Provincial Executive Council.
- The form of government would be in the pattern of parliamentary democracy with Prime Minister heading the executive.

Reaction Gandhi hailed the Report as a great solution to India's political and communal problems. He requested the British Parliament to adopt the constitution at the earliest.

The Nehru Report was met with opposition, specially from Jinnah, a member of the Muslim League, on the issue of communal representation. His objections to the Nehru Report were put under the Fourteen Points programme, representing the minimum needs of India. It included:

- A federal form of constitution with residuary powers vested in the provinces.
- All legislatures and other elected bodies to be constituted on the principle of representation of minorities in every province.
- One-third Muslim representation in the Central Legislature and representation of communal groups by separate electorates to continue.

Jinnah's Fourteen Points aimed at safeguarding the interests of the Muslim community in India.

The Viceroy's Declaration (1929)

After General Elections in Britain, The new Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald invited Viceroy, Lord Irwin, to London for consultation. On his return to India, Lord Irwin issued a statement, 'the natural issue of India's constitutional progress is the attainment of Dominion Status.' Also, a Round Table Conference would be arranged. The declaration was welcomed by all political parties in India but when Gandhi and the other leaders sought a definite assurance from the Viceroy regarding Dominion Status, no assurance was given. The need of the hour was the demand for complete independence.

The Lahore Session of the Congress (1929)

In 1928, the Congress passed a resolution demanding Dominion Status. It met in Lahore on 29 December 1929 under the Presidentship of Jawaharlal Nehru. The resolution declared 'Purna Swaraj' or Complete Independence as the goal of the Congress. It was also decided that 26 January would be observed as the Purna Swaraj Day or Independence Day every year. Gandhi then issued a statement in his paper, Young India enumerating his eleven demands. The demands included abolition of the salt tax, reduction of land revenue and reducing military expenditure. The Viceroy refused to accept this proposal. The Congress launched the Civil Disobedience Movement.

THE CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT (1930)

The Dandi March Gandhi decided to launch the Civil Disobedience Movement by breaking the salt law and manufacturing salt at Dandi, a village on the sea coast in Gujarat. Gandhi violated the salt law. It signified a challenge to the authority of the government. The salt law was broken in other parts of the country. Salt became the symbol of people's opposition.

Programme of the movement The movement along with the salt satyagraha also involved:

- Breaking forest laws.
- Non-payment of taxes and land revenue.
- Boycott of foreign cloth.
- Boycott of liquor and other foreign goods.

Course of the movement The movement spread rapidly all across the country. People boycotted schools, colleges and offices. Foreign goods were burnt in bonfires. A campaign for non-payment of taxes and land revenue was started in Gujarat, United Provinces and in the Midnapur district of Bengal. The movement also brought about a change among the women of this country. Gandhi appealed to the women to take up spinning and picketing. Thousands of women responded to his call. Women from orthodox and aristocratic families, who had never come out of their seclusion, courted arrest and imprisonment. The emancipation of Indian women, which was necessary for a successful movement, began.

Government repression Once the government realized the seriousness of the situation caused by the Civil Disobedience Movement, it retaliated in a ruthless manner. The government measures Included:

- Repressive laws
- Arrests
- Reign of terror

The First Round Table Conference

The First Round Table Conference was inaugurated on 12 November 1930. The Congress had not attended it because of the Civil Disobedience movement. The Congress boycotted the proceedings. The question of Dominion Status and the representation of the minorities remained unanswered. Since no decision on constitutional changes could be arrived at without the Congress, the decision to hold the Second Round Table Conference was taken.

The Gandhi-Irwin Pact The members of the Round Table Conference made an appeal to the Congress to reconsider its decision to attend the Conference. A pact was signed between the Gandhi and Viceroy Irwin, called the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. The terms agreed upon were:

- Release of all political prisoners not convicted for violence.
- Withdrawal of pending cases against them.
- Restoration of all confiscated land and property.
- To allow people residing near the coast to manufacture salt for personal use.
- To allow peaceful picketing of liquor and drug stores.

With regard to the constitutional question, it was decided that Gandhi would suspend the Civil Disobedience Movement while the plan for the constitutional government of India was discussed at the next Round Table Conference.

Renewal of the Civil Disobedience Movement (1932)

The Second Round Table Conference The second session of the Conference began in London on 7 September 1931. Mahatma Gandhi attended this session.

The outstanding feature of the Conference was the discussion on the communal problem. Representatives of the Muslims, Sikhs, Anglo-Indians, Indian Christians and Depressed Classes could not find a solution to the issue of reservation of seats. The communal issue thus hampered the progress of constitution-making. A dejected Gandhi returned empty-handed to India. Civil Disobedience was renewed with non-payment of taxes, picketing of shops, manufacture and collection of salt and boycott of all British goods.

The Communal Award As the communal issue could not be solved in the Second Round Table Conference, the British Prime Minister was authorized to decide it. Ramsay MacDonald announced his 'Communal Award' on 16 August 1932. According to this, Muslims, Sikhs and European voters would elect candidates by voting in separate communal electorates. The Depressed Classes would also be assigned a number of seats. This was a cause of great concern as it led to further division of the Hindu community.

Poona Pact Madan Mohan Malaviya summoned a conference and invited Dr BR Ambedkar, the most prominent member of the Depressed Classes to join in the deliberations. A settlement was reached.

- There would be a common electorate for all the Hindus.
- There would be reservation of seats for the Depressed Classes.
- 148 seats instead of the existing 71 would be reserved for them in the provincial legislatures.
- 18 per cent of the seats in the Central Legislature would be reserved for them as well.

This was the Poona Pact (1932) which was ratified and accepted by the British government. Gandhi was satisfied with this agreement as reservation of seats did not divide the Hindu community further.

End of the movement

The Congress boycotted the Third Round Table Conference held in London in 1932. The recommendations made by the Conference led to the Government of India Act of 1935. According to the constructive programme, the Congress was to work for the upliftment of the villagers by:

- Improving cleanliness and health.
- Encouraging village industries such as khadi.
- Ending the use of alcohol and drugs.
- Spreading education.
- Hindu-Muslim unity.
- Helping women, e.g. ending child marriage, purdah.
- Removing untouchability.

The Civil Disobedience Movement slowly lost its momentum and came to an end when the government announced new reforms.

Importance of the Civil Disobedience Movement

- The movement succeeded in arousing a patriotic fervour in the country.
- The movement widened the base of the freedom struggle.
- The government realized that basic constitutional reforms had to be granted.
- Last but not the least, according to Bipan Chandra, 'For Indian women, the movement was the most liberating experience to date and can truly be said to have marked their entry into the public space.'

To Remember

Mahatma Gandhi's early life – Born on 2 October 1869 at Porbandar, Gujarat, Gandhi went to England to study law, he began the Satyagraha in South Africa, returned to India on Gokhale's invitation, first political action in India was the threat of Satyagraha for the abolition of the indentured labour, followed by movements in Champaran, Ahmadabad and Kheda.

The Gandhian path – Satyagraha: Truth force or holding on to truth, aim was to transform the opponent by self-suffering, different tools were fasting, non-cooperation and civil disobedience, Non-violence: Also called 'ahimsa', a conscious suffering, Swadeshi: Producing goods indigenously, Gandhi realized that economic independence before political independence was important, Moral values in politics: No room for selfishness, deceit, violence, untruth and anger, he called the Depressed Classes as Harijans, 'children of God'.

Events leading to the Non-cooperation Movement – The Rowlatt Act: Referred to as the 'Black Act', Gandhi appealed for hartal, 6 April 1919 declared as the Satyagraha Day, The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre: On 13 April 1919, a public meeting was called at Jallianwala Bagh: no warning given and crowd fired upon, Rabindranath Tagore returned his knighthood as a mark of protest, The Khilafat Movement: The importance of Caliph ignored, Indian Muslims began agitation led by Ali brothers, Khilafat Movement together with the Non-cooperation Movement led by Gandhi, movement ended when secular government formed in Turkey.

The Non-cooperation Movement – Its objectives were: The Rowlatt Act to be annulled, the Punjab wrongs to be redressed, the position of the Caliph to be restored, the establishment of swaraj, The Programme: Promotion of swadeshi, revival of weaving and hand-spinning, removal of untouchability, promotion of Hindu-Muslim unity, boycott of courts, legislatures, educational institutions, foreign goods, elections to the Legislative Councils, honours and titles and the visit of Prince of Wales boycotted, Spread and success of the Movement: Very enthusiastic response, boycott very successful, Jamia Milia Islamia and Kashi Vidyapeeth established, government declared the Congress and the Khilafat as unlawful, The Chauri Chaura Incident: An act of violence wherein twenty-two policemen burnt to death, Gandhi suspended the movement amidst protests from Congress leaders, Overview of the Non-cooperation Movement: Led to a general awakening among the masses, loss of faith in the British, Congress accepted as the only organization to lead India to freedom, unity between the Hindus and the Muslims, social and economic emancipation achieved.

The Swaraj Party – Formed by CR Das and Motilal Nehru in 1922, it followed a policy of non-violent, non-cooperation, it won a large number of seats, the Party was weakened by the death of CR Das in 1925, Achievements of the Swaraj Party: Awakened political consciousness, improvement of labour conditions, reduced railway fare, leaders familiarized with legislative procedures, exposed the hollowness of the Government of India Act of 1919.

Peasants' and Workers' Movements – Gandhi was closely associated with peasants, All India Kisan Sabha formed, Baba Ramchandra, N G Ranga were some important peasant leaders, Madras Textile Labour Union was the first major workers' union, AITUC was formed in Bombay in 1920, Formation of Socialist and Communist Parties: The Communist Party of India (CPI) was formed in 1925 to organize peasants and workers of the country, S A Dange, Shaukat Usmani were some important Communist leaders, growing influence of the communists led the government to pass repressive acts, CPI declared illegal, Congress Socialist Party: Jayaprakash Narayan, Acharya Narendra Dev and Minoo Masani formed the Congress Socialist Party, it worked within the Congress, nationalization of key industries, state-control over foreign trade and so on were some of the objectives of this Party.

Revolutionary movement – This period witnessed a revival of revolutionary activities, the Chittagong Armoury Raid by Surya Sen in Bengal was the most daring enterprise, Hindustan Republican Association formed in 1924 by Ramprasad Bismil, Jogesh Chatterji and Sachin Sanyal to overthrow the British government by an armed revolution, under Kakori Conspiracy Case Ramprasad Bismil, Ashfaqullah Khan and others were hanged, in 1928 Hindustan Republican Association renamed as Hindustan Socialist Republican Association under the leadership of Chandra Shekhar Azad, on 8 April 1929 Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt threw bombs in Central Legislative Assembly, later Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev were tried and hanged on 23 March 1931, Chandra Shekhar Azad also died fighting the police, this gave a serious blow to the revolutionary movement in India.

Events leading to the Civil Disobedience Movement – The Simon Commission: All-British nature of the Commission protested against, slogans of 'Go back, Simon' greeted the Commission, demonstration in Lahore turned violent, Lala Lajpat Rai received fatal injuries, The Nehru Report: Prepared by Motilal Nehru, it recommended Dominion Status for India, The Viceroy's Declaration, Ramsay MacDonald assured Dominion Status for India, could not give assurance as it was rejected by the Conservatives and Liberals, the Congress demand changed to Complete Independence, The Lahore session of the Congress: resolution adopted for 'Purna Swaraj'.

The Civil Disobedience Movement – The Dandi March: On 6 April 1930 the movement was launched by defying the salt laws, The Programme: Along with the salt laws, forest laws broken, non-payment of taxes and land revenue, boycott of foreign cloth, liquor and other goods, Course of the movement: Spread rapidly all over the country, government laws defied, role of Frontier Gandhi and Khudai Khidmadgars, women actively involved, Government Repression: Ruthless retaliation, laws to curtail individual liberty, Congress declared as unlawful, many arrested, a reign of terror followed, The Round Table Conference: the First Conference was not attended by the Congress, question of Dominion Status left unanswered, The Gandhi-Irwin Pact: Signed on 5 March 1931 wherein release of political prisoners, withdrawing of all cases, restoring confiscated land and property, manufacture of salt by people near sea shores and peaceful picketing of liquor shops were stressed upon.

Renewal of the Civil Disobedience Movement – Second Round Table Conference was attended by Gandhi, he returned empty-handed, communal problem continued, issue of reservation of seats continued, the Civil Disobedience Movement was renewed.

The Communal Award – Stressed on separate electorates for the Depressed Classes, this further divided the Hindu society, Gandhi went on fast in jail.

The Poona Pact – Was signed whereby reservation of seats for the Depressed Classes was made.

End of the Movement – The Third Round Table Conference was boycotted by the Congress, promulgation of the Government of India Act of 1935.

Importance of the Movement – Aroused patriotic fervour, widened the base of the freedom struggle, the principle of federation and provincial autonomy introduced.

Thank You