

Nationalism in India

Q1. Why did Gandhiji decide to launch a nationwide Satyagraha against the proposed Rowlatt Act 1919 Explain any three reasons.

Ans Gandhiji decided to launch a nationwide Satyagraha against the proposed Rowlatt Act, 1919 due to the following three reasons:

- a. The Rowlatt Act was passed hurriedly by the Imperial Legislative Council despite the opposition by the Indian members.
- b. The Rowlatt Act gave enormous power to the government for repressing the political activities.
- C. According to this Act, the government can detain the political prisoners without trial for a period of two years.

Q2. Why did Gandhiji decide to withdraw the NonCooperation Movement in February 1922? Explain any three reasons.

Ans: Gandhiji decided to withdraw the Non-Cooperation Movement in February 1922 due to the following three reasons:

- a. The Non-Cooperation Movement was turning violent in many places.
- b. To train the Satyagrahis for mass struggle, (c) Some of the Congress leaders were not willing to continue the non-cooperation because they were tired of the mass struggle, wanted to participate in the council elections and they wanted to criticize the British policies within the council.

Q3. Why did Gandhiji relaunch the Civil Disobedience Movement after the Second Round Table Conference? Explain any three reasons.

Ans: Gandhiji relaunched the Civil Disobedience Movement after the Second Round Table Conference due to the following reasons:

- a. When Mahatma Gandhi went for the Round Table Conference in December 1931, he returned disappointed as the negotiations were broken down.
- b. He discovered this new cycle of repression by the British.
- c. The important Congress leaders were in jail and meetings, demonstrations and boycotts were prevented.

Q4. Who had designed the 'Swaraj flag' by 1921? Explain the main features of the 'Swaraj flag'.

Ans : A tricolor Swaraj flag was designed by Gandhiji in the year 1921. The main features of this Swaraj flag was:

- a. It was designed using the colours red, green and white.
- b. A spinning wheel was in the centre of the flag which represented the Gandhi an ideal of self-help.

Q4. duty to serve the nation. Simon Commission was greeted with slogan 'Go Back Simon' on arrival in India. Support this reaction of Indians with arguments.

Ans] Against the situation of countryside turmoil, the Tory government in Britain set up a commission named Simon Commission after the name of Sir John Simon to look into the constitutional system in India and suggest the changes needed. There were no Indian members in this commission. In the year 1928, Simon Commission arrived in India and was greeted with the slogan 'Simon go back'.

Q5. Why did Mahatma Gandhi decide to call off the Civil Disobedience Movement? Explain.

Ans : The circumstances under which Gandhiji decided to call off the Civil Disobedience movement in 1931 were:

- a. The Non-Cooperation Movement was turning violent in many places.
- b. To train the Satyagrahis for mass struggle,
- c. Some of the Congress leaders were not willing to continue the non-cooperation because they were tired of the mass struggle, wanted to participate in the council elections and they wanted to criticize the British policies within the council.

Q5. Describe the main features of the 'Salt March'.

Ans The main features of the 'Salt March' are:

- a. On 31st March 1930, Mahatma Gandhi sent a letter to Viceroy Irwin stating eleven demands out of which some were of general interest and some were specific demands of different classes.
- b. The demands were wide ranging in order to bring together everyone under a united campaign.
- c. The most important demand was to abolish the salt tax as it was the most important item in food that is consumed by both rich and poor.
- d. Mahatma Gandhi started the March for over 240 miles with his 78 trusted volunteers from Sabarmati to Dandi. They walked for 10 miles a day for 24 days.
- e. He violated the salt law by manufacturing salt by boiling the sea water on 6th April 1930. Now Gandhiji wanted Indians to refuse All sort of cooperation with the British and also break the colonial rules.

Q6.

. Explain the role of anti-colonial movement in the rise of 'modern nationalism' in India. (2 Mark) (2025)

2. Why did Gandhiji say 'Satyagraha is pure soul-force'? Explain by giving two arguments. (2 Mark) (2025)

3. "Tribal peasants interpreted the message of Mahatma Gandhi and the idea of 'Swaraj' in yet another way." Explain the statement in the context of Non Cooperation Movement. (3 Mark) (2025)

Ans : 1. (i) People began discovering their unity in the process of their struggle with colonialism.
(ii) The sense of being oppressed under colonialism provided a shared bond that tied many different groups together.

(iii) Each class and group felt the effects of colonialism differently, their experiences were varied and their notions of freedom were not always the same.

2. (i) Satyagraha is pure soul force because truth is the very substance of the soul. That is why this force is called Satyagraha.

(ii) The soul is informed with knowledge. In it burns the flame of love. Non-violence is the supreme dharma.

(iii) According to Mahatma Gandhi, Satyagraha is not a physical force.

(iv) A satyagrahi does not inflict pain on the adversary; he does not seek his destruction. In the use of satyagraha, there is no ill-will whatever.

3. (i) The Non-Cooperation Movement was initially started in cities, spread to the villages and tribal areas rapidly. All of them responded to the call of swaraj, but the term meant different to different people.

(ii) Tribal peasants interpreted the message of Mahatma Gandhi and the idea of swaraj in yet another way.

(iii) In the Gudem Hills of Andhra Pradesh, for instance, a militant guerrilla movement spread in the early 1920s – not a form of struggle that the Congress could approve.

(iv) In other forest regions, the colonial government had closed large forest areas, preventing people from entering the forests to graze their cattle, or to collect fuelwood and fruits. This enraged the hill people.

(v) Not only were their livelihoods affected but they felt that their traditional rights were being denied.

(vi) When the government began forcing them to contribute begar for road building, the hill people revolted.

Q7. 2. (A) Describe any three causes that led to the Non-Cooperation Movement. (2024)

OR

(B) Describe any three causes of 'Civil Disobedience Movement.'

Answer. (A) Describe any three causes that led to the Non-Cooperation movement.

- i. Rowlatt Act

- ii. Government of India Act 1919.
- iii. Jallianwala Bagh incident.
- iv. Khilafat Movement.
- iv. Demand of Swaraj
- v. Congress Session of 1920s
- vi. Any other relevant point.

OR

(B) Describe any three causes of 'Civil Disobedience Movement.'

- i. The constituent of the Simon Commission with no Indian members.
- ii. The death of Lala Lajpat Rai while protesting against the Commission enraged the entire nation.
- iii. Oppression by the British government in response to anti Simon protest.
- iv. Imposition of Salt law.
- v. Vague offers of Lord Irwin for dominion status
- vi. Lahore Session of Congress (1929).
- vii. Demand of "Poorna Swaraj."
- viii. Neglecting seven demands of Gandhi.
- ix. Any other relevant point.

Q8. Explain the implications of the 'First World War' on the economic and political situation of India. (2023, AI 2019)

Ans : . Implications of the First World War on the Economic and Political Situation of India
Economic Impact:

- Huge increase in **defence expenditure**, financed by **war loans and higher taxes**.
- **Prices of essential goods increased**, leading to severe hardship for common people.
- **Forced recruitment** in rural areas caused resentment.
- Shortage of food grains resulted in **famine conditions** in many regions.

Political Impact:

- Indians expected **self-government** in return for war support, but promises were not fulfilled.
- Rise of **nationalist consciousness** and mass agitation.
- Introduction of **repressive laws** like the Rowlatt Act after the war.

Q9. Describe any two Satyagraha movements launched by Gandhiji just after his return to India from South Africa. (2021 C)

Ans : Two Satyagraha Movements Launched by Gandhiji After Returning from South Africa

(i) Champaran Satyagraha (1917):

- Against the **indigo plantation system** forced on peasants by British planters.
- Gandhiji demanded **compensation** for peasants.
- Resulted in abolition of the **tinkathia system**.

(ii) Kheda Satyagraha (1918):

- Farmers demanded **remission of land revenue** due to crop failure.
- Gandhiji supported peasants who refused to pay taxes.
- Government agreed to **suspend revenue collection**.

Q10. s return to India from South Africa. (2021 C) 17. Why did Gandhiji decide to launch a nationwide Satyagraha against the proposed Rowlatt Act of 1919? How was it organised? Explain. (Delhi 2017, 2016)

Ans: Gandhiji's Nationwide Satyagraha Against the Rowlatt Act (1919)

Why Gandhiji Opposed the Rowlatt Act:

- Allowed **detention without trial**.
- Violated **civil liberties**.
- Passed despite **unanimous Indian opposition**.

How It Was Organised:

- Nationwide **hartal (strike)** on 6 April 1919.
- Mass protests, rallies, and fasting.
- People from different communities participated.

Q11. Describe the developments which led to the launching of Non-Cooperation Movement. (2014)

Ans : **Developments Leading to the Launch of the Non-Cooperation Movement**

- **Repressive Rowlatt Act (1919).**
- **Jallianwala Bagh massacre** (1919) shocked the nation.
- Failure of **Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms** to satisfy Indian aspirations.
- **Khilafat issue** united Hindus and Muslims.
- Gandhiji felt **non-cooperation** was the only effective method.

Q12.. How could Non-Cooperation become a movement? Explain with examples. (Delhi 2014)

Ans: **Non-Cooperation Became a Mass Movement (with Examples)**

- **Students** left government schools and colleges.
- **Lawyers** boycotted courts (e.g., C.R. Das, Motilal Nehru).
- **Foreign goods were boycotted**; khadi was promoted.
- **Peasants** refused to pay taxes in some areas.
- Movement spread to **towns and villages**, involving all sections.

Q13. . Describe any three suppressive measures taken by the British administration to clamp down on nationalists. (2014)

Ans: **Three Suppressive Measures Taken by the British to Clamp Down on Nationalists**

- **Imposition of martial law** and use of force.
- **Arrest of leaders** without trial.
- **Censorship of the press** and banning of nationalist newspapers.

Q14. Difference between of Non-Cooperation Movement And Civil Disobedience Movement

Answer:

The Civil Disobedience Movement differed from the Non-Cooperation Movement in the following ways.

| Civil Disobedience Movement | Non-Cooperation Movement |
|--|---|
| <p>(a) This movement dealt with the breaking of the laws formed by the British government.</p> <p>(b) The main aim being violation of laws, it was carried out by breaking salt law and forest laws besides holding demonstrations.</p> <p>(c) This movement was launched basically to attain Purna Swaraj and because the eleven demands of Congress were denied.</p> | <p>(a) This movement was for not following the rules of government. It did not deal with violation of laws.</p> <p>(b) It was carried out through peaceful demonstrations and picketing foreign shops.</p> <p>(c) This movement was launched in order to unify Hindus and Muslims and to attain Swaraj.</p> |

Q15. Why did Mahatma Gandhi relaunch the Civil Disobedience Movement with great apprehension? Explain.

Answer: Gandhiji relaunched the Civil Disobedience Movement with great apprehension because of the following reasons.

- The negotiations at the second Round Table conference in London ended in a failure.
- Back in India, the government had again begun the cycle of repression.
- Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Jawaharlal Nehru were in jail.
- Congress was declared an illegal organization.
- A series of measures had been imposed to prevent meetings, demonstrations and boycotts.
- For over a year, the movement continued, but by 1934, it lost its momentum.

Q16. How did the 'First World War' create new economic and political situations in India?

Explain with examples.

Answer: The First World War created a new economic and political situation and posed the following problems in India.

- It led to a huge increase in defence expenditure which was financed by increasing taxes on Indians.
- Custom duties were raised and income tax was introduced.
- Continuous price rise caused extreme hardship to the common people.
- Villagers were called upon to supply soldiers by forced recruitment in rural areas which caused widespread anger.
- All this was aggravated by failure of crop and famine. Between 1918 and 1921 crops failed, which further aggravated the anger.
- Shortage of essential commodities was the natural outcome of war as industries were geared to produce goods to fulfil war needs.