The Great Indian National Movement

- The most important events during Lord Dufferin’s Period (1884-1888) were the third Anglo Burmese War (1885-86) and the establishment of the first All India organisation, the Indian National Congress.
- The INC was founded in December 28, 1885 at the Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College, Bombay.
- 72 delegates participated in the first session of the INC in Bombay.
- It was founded by A.O. Hume a retired Civil Servant.
- W.C. Banerjee was the first president of INC.
- The Indian Association of S.N. Banerjee and Anand Mohan Bose, organised an All Indian National Conference in 1883 December. They had given a call for another conference in 1885.
- ‘Congress’ means assembly of the people.
- The name Congress was suggested to the organisation by Dadabhai Naoroji.
- Dadabhai Naoroji founded the East Indian Association in 1866.
- A.O. Hume was the General Secretary of INC till 1892.
- The Second Session of the INC met at Calcutta in December 1886, under the presidency of Dadabhai Naoroji.
- The period from 1885 to 1905 is known as the Moderate Phase of Indian National Congress. Prominent leaders of this phase were Dadabhai Naoroji, Badruddin Tyabji, Pheroz Shah Mehta, Surendranath Banerjee, Gopalakrishna Gokhale etc.
- ‘We do not ask favours, we only want justice’, these were the words of Dadabhai Naoroji.
- Dadabhai Naoroji is the author of the book “Poverty and UnBritish Rule in India” which contains the famous “drain theory”.
- Dadabhai Naoroji is known as “The Grand Old Man of India”. He was the first Indian to become a member of the House of Commons on the Liberal Party ticket. He became the president of INC thrice, in 1886, 1893 and 1906. He founded ‘Gyan Prakash Mandali’ and Bombay Association in 1852. He is also known as ‘Father of Indian Economics and Politics’.
- Badruddin Tyabji was the first Indian barrister at Bombay High Court. He was the first Muslim president of INC. He became the third president of INC in Madras session in 1887.
- Pherozeshah Mehta founded the Bombay Chronicle in 1913.
- S.N. Banarjee founded the Indian Association in 1876. He was the first President of Indian National Liberal Federation (1918).
- Gopalakrishna Gokhale founded the ‘Servants of India Society in 1905.
- Jawaharlal Nehru observed the Early Congress to be “an English knowing upper class affair”.
- George Yule was the first foreigner to become the President of INC. (1888, Allahabad).
- Gopala Krishna Gokhale was popularly known as the ‘Socrates of Maharasthra’. M.G. Ranade was the political guru of Gokhale.
- Gokhale is considered as the political guru of Gandhiji.
- Sarojini Naidu was the first Indian woman to become the president of Indian National Congress (1925 Kanpur session)
- Nellin Sengupta became the third woman President of INC, 1933 at the Calcutta Session.
- The word Swaraj was first used in the Calcutta session in 1906.
- First joint session of Congress and Muslim League was held at Lucknow 1916.
- Only session presided over by Gandhi - Belgaum (1924)
‘Complete independence’ was demanded for the first time (1929) in the Lahore session.

For the first time National Song was sung in the Calcutta session (1896) of INC ie Vande Mataram.

During the Nagpur session 1891, the word ‘National’ was added to congress.

In the Lucknow session of the Congress (1916) the two factions of congress (extremists and moderates) reunited.

During the special session of the congress in Calcutta (1920), Gandhi proposed to start Non-Co operation Movement.

During the Delhi session (1923) Indian National Congress decided to establish All India Khadi Board.

During the Guwahati session of INC (1926) wearing Khadi was made compulsory to its workers.

During the Madras session (1908) its constitution was formed.

In Madras session of the INC (1927), proposals for independence and to boycott Simon Commission were passed.

During the Karachi session (1931), Fundamental Rights and Economic Policy proposals were passed.

The 1938 session of Congress was held in a village Haripura.

In the Ramagarh session (1940), decision was taken on Individual Satyagraha.

During the Tripura session (1939), Subash Chandra Bose defeated Pattabhi Sitaramayya (Gandhi’s candidate in presidential election) but later resigned and Rajendra Prasad became the president.

During Calcutta session (1928), first All India Youth Congress was established.

Aurobindo Ghosh published New Lamps For Old. It was the first systematic critic of the Moderates.

The radical wing of the INC that emerged at the end of the 19th century is referred to as the Extremist Group.

The main leaders of the Extremist Group were Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, B.C. Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh.

Tilak asserted Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it.

Tilak started two newspapers the Maratha in English and the Kesari in Marathi. He started Sivaji festival to stimulate nationalism.

Lord Curzon partitioned Bengal on 20th July, 1905 as a part of the ‘Divide and Rule Policy’.

Rabindra Nath Tagore composed ‘Amer Sona Bengla’ as a part of anti partition movement, which later became the National Anthem of Bangladesh.

Boycott of British products was first suggested by Krishna Kumar Mitra in Sanjivani.

The Swadeshi Movement was started in 1905.

‘Charkha’ (spinning wheel) came to typify the popular concern for country’s economic self sufficiency.

Swadeshi Bandhav Samiti of Barisal founded by Ashwini Dutt was the largest Volunteer body to support Swadeshi Movement.

First real labour union - The Printers Union was formed on October 1905.

Vande Mataram Movement was started by Bipin Chandra Pal in Madras

Tilak began the Swades Vastra Pracharini Sabha to propagate Swadeshi Movement.

Savarkar founded ‘Mitra mela’.

Chakravarthi Viraraghavacharya was the first Indian leader to undergo imprisonment in 1882. He was an extremist leader. He was the first Indian to draft a Swaraj constitution for India which was presented at the Madras session in 1927.

First Congress leader to suffer severe terms of imprisonment for the sake of the country was Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

Tilak wrote ‘Gita Rahasya’.

Bipin Chandrapal started an English weekly New India.

Bipin Chandrapal was the founder editor of English daily ‘Bande Mataram’ in 1906.

Lala Lajpat Rai is popularly known as Sher-e-Punjab (Lion of Punjab). He founded and edited “The Punjabee” and the English weekly “The people”.

The Bengali daily Yugantar was started by Aurobindo Ghosh. He also started weeklies ‘Karma Yogin’ and ‘Dharma’.

Indian Council Act 1892 was passed. The Principle of indirect elections was first introduced by the British. It give council members right of financial discussion and interpolation. But popularly elected representatives entered the legislatures only in 1909.
1. **Swami Vivekananda** attended the **World Parliament of Religions at Chicago**. His soul-stirring speech was delivered on Sept. 19, 1893. He was branded as “Cyclonic Hindu.”

2. **Eligin II’s** government arrested Bala Gangadhar Tilak for the first time on July 27, 1897 to eighteen months rigorous imprisonment for publication of poem entitled “Shivaji’s Litterances” in ‘Kesari’ magazine of June 15, 1897.

3. **Lord Curzon** (Jan. 1899 to Nov. 1905) created the North West frontier Province (now in Pakistan).

4. **Gandhi** started **British Indian Association** in Transwal in South Africa in 1903.

5. **Gopala Krishna Gokhala** founded the **Servants of India Society**, the first secular organisation for the welfare of the deprived rural and tribal people.

6. In 1902 Curzon created the **Andrew Fraser Commission** to make reforms in selection, training and recruitment in Police Department.

7. Curzon’s relation with the Congress and Indians was strained owing to the changes **he introduced in the Calcutta Municipal Corporation (1899), the Universities Act (1904) and the Partition of Bengal (1905)**. The Calcutta Municipal Corporation recognized the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta, reduced the number of the educated Indians and gave more representation to the Calcutta European Mercantile Group.

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**The Formation of the Muslim League (1906)**

- All India Muslim League was founded under the Leadership of **Aga Khan** to divert the Muslims from the National Political Movement. On December 30th **Nawab Salimulla Khan** of Dhaka became its first President.

- **Muhammed Iqbal**, who presided over the Allahabad session of the League in 1930 gave the idea of Separate Muslim State in North West India. Hence Iqbal is known as the **father of the idea of Pakistan**. But the name ‘Pakistan’ was coined by **Rahmat Ali**.

- **Muhammed Ali Jinnah** gave his famous ‘Two Nation Theory’ in March 1940, at the Lahore session of the Muslim League.

- Sarojini Naidu called Jinnah, the **Prophet of Hindu-Muslim Unity**.

- Later Jinnah became the first Governor General of Pakistan. He is known as the **father of Pakistan**.

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**Surat Split (1907)**

- The clash between the **Moderates** and **Extremists** culminated in a split which occurred at Surat in 1907.

- Dr. **Rash Bihari Ghosh** was the INC President during the Surat Split.

- After the Surat Split the congress remained under the control of the Moderates.

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**Minto-Morley Reforms of 1909**

- The Minto Morley Reforms for the first time tried to introduce communal representation (for muslims) under which Muslims could only vote for Muslim candidates.

- The real purpose of the reforms of 1909 was to confuse the Moderate nationalists and to check the growth of unity among Indians.


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**Partition of Bengal**

- The decision on the **Partition of Bengal** was announced on **19 July 1905** by then Viceroy of India, Lord Curzon.

- The province of Bengal and Assam came into being on October 16 1905.

- Due to the high level of political unrest generated by the partition, the eastern and western parts of Bengal were reunited in 1911.
In 1912 the capital of India was officially shifted from Calcutta to old Delhi on April 1. Lord Hardings entered New Delhi mounted on a tusker in Dec. 24, 1912 and was wounded by a bomb.

The Ghadar Movement was initiated on Nov. 1, 1913 at San Francisco by Indian immigrants under the leadership of Tarak Nath Das to enlist support from the west to the Indian National movement.

On Nov. 13, 1913 Rabindranath Tagore got the Nobel Prize for literature (the first Asian to get the Nobel Prize) for his work Gitanjali (Gitanjali or song of Offerings was written on the death of his wife and three children).

On March 28, 1914 The Komagate Maru, sailed from Hong Kong to Vancouver with 351 Sikhs and 21 Punjabi Muslim youths under the leadership of Gurjeeth Singh, as a part of Ghadar Movement.

On Jan 1, 1915 Gandhiji was awarded Kaiser-i-Hind Gold Medal by the British Govt. for his services in South Africa for war efforts, He surrendered the award on August, 1920.

Gopalakrishna Gokhale died on Feb. 19, 1915.

The Defence of India Act was passed on March 18, 1915.

The revolutionary youth Ras Behari Bose bade adieu to India on May 12, 1915 on board the Japanese ship Sanukimaru for Japan under the assumed name P.N. Tagore.

Gandhiji’s first Satyagraha in India was the Champaran in August 18, 1917.

The Lucknow session of the Indian National Congress in 1916 marked the reunion of the Moderates and Extremists together at Lucknow in 1916.

The Lucknow pact was executed between the Congress and Muslim League in 1916.

The congress accepted the separate electorates and both organisations jointly demanded dominion status for the country.

The peasants in this region were forced to cultivate indigo at the prices decided by the British. This system was known as Tinkathia system.

Gandhiji’s first Satyagraha in India was the Champaran in August 18, 1917.

It is also known as the Government of India Act of 1919.

The Montague - Chelmsford Reforms published on July 8, 1918.

In 1918, Edwin Montague, the Secretary of State and Lord Chelmsford, the Viceroy produced their scheme of constitutional reforms which led to the enactment of the Government of India Act of 1919.

The Montague Chelmsford reforms introduced dyarchy (dual form of government) in the provinces.

Provincial subjects were divided into ‘Reserved subjects’ and ‘Transferred Subjects’.

Central legislature was made bicameral by this reform.
1917 August Declaration: the govt. promised the gradual establishment of a responsible govt. in India.

**Rowlatt Act**
- The *Rowlatt Act* was a law passed by the British in colonial India in March 1919.
- The Act enacted during the First World War in order to control public unrest and root out conspiracy.
- This act effectively authorized the government to imprison, without trial, any person suspected of terrorism.
- British judge Sir Sidney Rowlatt, was the chairman of Rowlatt Commission.
- On March 1, 1919 *Gandhiji announced his desire to start 'Satyagraha'* against the proposed Rowlatt Act meant to Curb Civil and Political Liberties. The date for the first country wide Hartal was fixed on March 30 and then shifted to April 6, 1919.

* Smt. Nanibala Debi, a widow of Bengal was arrested for giving shelter to revolutionaries who waylaid Mauser pistols of Rodda and Company in 1914 she was *India's first female political prisoner*.

- Chelmsford’s era witnessed the great influenza epidemic which affected 5 million Indians.
- *The Madras Labour Union* (1st in India) was organised by B.P. Wadia in 1918.
- *M.N. Roy* established the Communist Party in Mexico.
- *Communist Party of India was formed at Tashkent on Oct.17, 1920* with seven members including M.N. Roy, Birendra Chatopadhyaya and Abani Mukherji.

**Khilafat Movement (1919)**
- The main object of the Khilafat Movement was to force the British Government to change its attitude towards Turkey and restore the Turkish Sultan (Khalifa) to his former position.
- A Khilafat committee was formed under the leadership of *Ali brothers, Maulana Azad, Hakim Ajmal khan*, and *Hasrat Mohani*.
- The Khilafat Movement lost its relevance due to the reforms of Mustafa Kamal Pasha in Turkey. Pasha abolished Khilafat and made Turkey a secular state.
- On 1 June 1920 the Khilafat Committee at Allahabad unanimously accepted Gandhi’s suggestion of non co-operation and asked him to lead the Movement.
Non Co-operation Movement was started with the aim of the annulment of the Rowlatt Act, and correcting the ‘Punjab wrong’ changing the ‘Khilafat wrong’ as well as moving towards the cherished goal of ‘swaraj’.

It was the first mass based political movement under Gandhiji.

The movement was launched as per the resolution of Calcutta session and ratified in Nagpur session in December 1920.

The main emphasis of the movement was on boycott of schools, colleges, law courts and advocacy of the use of charka.

The whole movement was called off on 11th February 1922 at Gandhiji’s insistence following the news of burning alive of 22 English policemen by the angry peasants at Chauri Chaura (Chauri Chaura Incident) in Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh on 5th February 1922.

The Non Co-operation Movement converted the national movement into a mass movement. It strengthened Hindu - Muslim unity.

Simon Commission

- In November 1927, the British Government appointed the Indian Statutory Commission, popularly known as Simon Commission, to report on the working of the Act of 1919 and to suggest further changes in the direction of responsible government.
- The Congress passed a resolution to boycott the Simon Commission at its Madras session 1927.
- The Madras session 1927 was presided over by Dr. Ansari.
- The Simon Commission paid two visits to India (Feb.- March 1928 and Oct. 1928 - April 1929); published its report on May 27, 1930.
- The day Simon landed at Mumbai; 3 February 1928 all the major cities and towns observed a complete hartal.
- On the arrival of the Commission in Mumbai in 1928, it met with the slogan “Simon Go back”.
- There were seven members in the Simon Commission, but no Indian - Four conservative members, two Labourites and one liberal; an all White Commission.
- Lala Lajpat Rai was severely wounded in a police lathi charge and died while protesting against the Commission.
- To avenge the death of Lala Lajpat Rai, Bhagat Singh shot dead General Saunders.
- On Feb. 12, 1928 Gandhiji had decided to resume ‘Satyagraha’ in Bardoli which was abandoned after Chauri - Chaura Massacre, this Satyagraha was led by Vallabai Patel and Abbas Tyabji. Vallabhai Patel was honoured with the popular title “Sardar”.
- The Nehru Report, 1928 August, officially called “Report of the Committee by the All - Parties Conference to determine the Principles of the Constitution of India” was comprised of Seven Chapters, two schedules and three appendices. Chapter seven, comprising 24 pages in print entitled ‘Recommendations’ contains the broad outlines of the constitutional frame work.
- Background of the Nehru Report. In response to the resolution of the Madras Session of the Congress in Dec. 1927, all the parties Conference was Convened at Delhi on 12 Feb. 1928. Representatives of 29 organisation attended. On 19th May 1928 the Committee of All Parties conference adopted a resolution to make Motilal Nehru the chairman to consider and determine the Principles of the Constitution of India.
- Some major recommendation of the Nehru Report were (a) Dominion Status to India. (b) Freedom of conciousness, Professing and practice of one’s religion. (c) the lower houses in the centre and provincial legislature consists of members elected by joint mixed electorates with reservation of seats to the Muslims (d) adult universal suffrage and (e) Fundamental Rights.
- Muslim League led by Mohammed Ali Jinnah finally rejected Nehru Report and submitted the 14 points of Jinnah on 28 March 1929.
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Peasant Movements

Indigo Revolt - 1860
- The revolt was directed against the British Planters who behaved like Feudal Lords in their estates.
- They used ruthless and arbitrary methods to force peasants to grow indigo on a part of the fields in Eastern India.
- It began at Govindpur village in Nadia and was led by Digambar Bishwas and Bishnu Bishwas.
- Din Bandu Mitra’s novel Neel Darpan portrays this struggle.
- This is the first strike of the Indian peasants with successful results.

Indian Working Class
- AITUC was formed on 31st October 1920 with Lala Lajpat Rai as its first President and Dewan Chaman Lal as its General Secretary.
- Government appointed the Royal Commission on Labour in 1929.

Trade Union Movement in India
- First Textile Mill: Bombay (1853)
- First Jute Mill at Rishra in Bengal (1855)
- First Factory Act was passed in 1881.
- First Industrial Commission was appointed in 1875.
- The first real labour union was formed in October 1901 in Calcutta called the Printers Union.
- The Madras Labour Union was the first organisation with regular membership and was started by G Ramanujalu Naidu, G Challapathi and was presided over by B.P. Wadia in 1918.
- The All India Trade Union Congress was founded in 1920. The Indian National Congress President of the year was elected as its President.
- The Trade Union Act of 1926 organised trade unions as legal associations.
- In 1929, All India Trade Union Federation was formed under the leadership of NM Joshi.
- The Congress Socialist Party was founded in 1934.
- In 1944, national leaders led by Sardar Patel organised the Indian National Trade Union Congress.

Swaraj Party (1923)
- C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru resigned from Congress on 31 December 1922 and founded the Swaraj Party on 1st January 1923.
- Its early name was Congress Khilafat Swaraj Party.
- C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru were the first President and Secretary respectively of the Swaraj Party.
- C.R. Das gave the slogan ‘Enter the Council’
- Swaraj Party was formed at Allahabad.
- In 1924, when Gandhi came out of Jail he supported the programme of Swaraj Party.

Chauri-Chaura Incident
- On Feb 5, 1922 the unfortunate incident of Chauri-Chaura of U.P. happened. The mob attacked the police station and killed 22 Policemen.
- The British government was furious after this incident and imposed martial law in the city of Chauri Chaura and surrounding areas.
- On April 20, 1923 Allahabad high court awarded death sentence to 19, various jail terms including life imprisonment to 2 years jail to 113 accused, and acquitted 38 due to lack of evidence, whereas 3 accused died during the course of the trial.
- Gandhiji withdrew his non-cooperation movement and persuaded the Congress Working Committee to pass the Resolution of ending the Civil Disobedience Movement.
Civil Disobedience movement -1930

- In 1930, Gandhiji launched the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- In 1929, INC adopted ‘Poorna Swaraj’ (complete independence) as its goal at the Lahore session of the congress under the Presidentship of Nehru. It also decided for launching a Civil Disobedience Campaign.
- At midnight on 31 December 1929, Jawaharlal Nehru unfurled the newly adopted Tricolour Flag of freedom on the bank of river Ravi.
- 26 January 1930 was fixed as the first independent day.
- The Civil Disobedience Movement was started by Gandhiji with his famous Dandi March.
  - He started his Salt Satyagraha or the Dandi March on the morning of 12 March 1930 with a band of 78 volunteers. It was 385km (240 miles) Journey from Sabarmati Ashram at Ahmedabad to Dandi on the West Coast. On April 5, at 6 in the morning Gandhiji and his volunteers picked up Salt lying on the sea-shore. (Sarojini Naidu, at this hailed Gandhiji as ‘Law breaker’)
  - In Tamil Nadu C. Rajagopalachari led a Salt March from Tiruchirapalli to Vedaranyam on the Tanjore Coast. He was arrested on 30 April, 1930.
  - In Malabar, K. Kelappan, the hero of the Guruvayur Satyagraha, walked from Calicut to Payyannur to break the Salt law.
  - Gandhiji was arrested on May 5, 1930. After his arrest his place was taken by Abbas Tyabji and after the arrest of Abbas leadership passed on to Sarojini Naidu.
  - Lord Irwin, the then Viceroy called the decision of Gandhi as a ‘Kindergarten stage’ of revolution.
  - Irwin called Gandhi’s breaking of salt law as a ‘Storm in a tea cup’
  - ‘Salt suddenly became a mysterious word, a word of power’ These words were spoken by Nehru on the occasion of Salt Satyagraha.
  - One notable feature of the Civil Disobedience Movement of Gandhiji was the wide participation of women.
  - Darshana Salt Works Satyagraha on 21st May 1930, was led by Sarojini Naidu, Imam Saheb and Manilal Gandhi.

Gandhi–Irwin Pact refers to a political agreement signed by Mahatma Gandhi and the then Viceroy of India, Lord Irwin on 5th March 1931. Before this, the viceroy Lord Irwin announced in October 1929, a vague offer of ‘dominion status’ for India in an unspecified future and a Round Table Conference to discuss a future constitution. It was signed after meetings between Gandhi and the Viceroy that spanned over a three week time period. Many Indian citizens were originally unsatisfied with the conditions of this truce.
The British government organised the First Round Table Conference at London to discuss the Simon Commission Report.

The first Round Table Conference was from 12 Nov. 1930 to 19 January 1931.

British Prime Minister Ramsay Mac Donald presided over the First Round Table Conference.

The first Round Table Conference was attended by Tej Bahadur Sapru B.R. Ambedkar, Muhammed Shafi, M.A. Jinnah etc. Gandhiji did not participate in it.

As a result of the Gandhi Irwin pact (1931) Congress decided to stop the Civil Disobedience Movement.

Gandhi-Irwin Pact was signed on 5th March 1931.

The Second Round Table Conference started in London on 7 September 1931. It was attended by 107 Indians including Gandhiji.

The Second Round Table Conference was a failure. So the Civil Disobedience movement was restarted on 3rd January 1932.

The Communal Award was announced on August 16, 1932 by British Prime Minister Ramsay Mac Donald.

By the Communal Award minority communities were given separate communal electorates.

The Communal Award was opposed by Gandhiji and he decided to go on fast unto death.

The Third and the last Round Table Conference was held between Nov. 17 and December 24, 1932.

The Third Round Table Conference agreed upon certain broad principles for the future constitutional set up - which were published later as ‘White paper’ (March 1933)

The Poona Pact was signed on 25 September 1932 at Bombay. By this the separate electorate for depressed classes was abolished.

Harijan upliftment now became Gandhiji’s main concern. He started an All India Anti-Untouchability League in September 1932 and the weekly Harijan in January 1933. The January 8, 1933 was observed as ‘Temple Entry Day’.

Only Indian to participate in all the three Round Table conferences was B. R. Ambedkar.

**Revolutionaries**

- Bhagat Singh and B.K. Dutt threw bomb on the Central Legislative Assembly against the passing of the Public Safety Bill and the Trade Disputes Bill.
- Chittagong Armoury Raid was planned by Suryasen and his associates on 18 April 1930.
- Provisional Government of Free India was set up at Kabul in 1915 by Mahendrapratap and Barkatulla.
- Death of Jitin Das, a revolutionary in jail on the 64th day of a hunger strike was in 1929.
- Execution of Bhagat Singh Sukh Dev and RajGuru by the British was on March 23, 1931.
- Chandrasekhar Azad died in 1931 in an encounter with police at Allahabad.

31 members of Communist Party arrested in connection with the Meerut Conspiracy case (conspiracy to deprive the king Emperor of his sovereignty over British India.)
Basic weaknesses of the National Movement during 1885-1905

The early phase of the national movement did an important pioneering work in the fields of nationalism, but it had some basic weaknesses too.

Firstly, the national movement in its early phase had a narrow social base. It did not penetrate down to the masses. It was a movement of the few educated people. In fact the Congress leaders in the early phase wanted first of all to unite the heterogenous Indian society into a nation and then start a mass movement. This was a wrong approach towards the masses. The masses were assigned a passive role in the early phase of the national movement against the colonial rule.

Secondly, the Congress leaders in the early phase believed in passing resolutions after resolution and submitting petitions after petitions. As the Government turned a deaf ear to their petitions, these leaders became unpopular among the masses. Their talking of loyalty to the British rule was not liked by the people. They felt that these leaders were stooges of the Government so they had no sympathy for them and no faith in their programmes and policies. They wanted action oriented programmes and not mere speeches. As the moderate leaders were not prepared for the change they could not attract the masses towards them.

- 1930 April 1, Age of Consent was modified by raising the marriageable age of girls to 14 years and of boys to 18 years. This was popularly called the Sarda Act (originally the bill was introduced by Harbilas Sarda)
- The Redshirt Movement was launched in North West Frontier Province by Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, popularly known as Badusha khan and Frontier Gandhi, in support of Indian National Congress.
- The Karachi Congress Session 1931 accepted the Gandhi - Irwin Pact and authorised Gandhiji as Party’s Sole nominee in the 2nd Round Table Conference.
- Winston Churchill described Gandhiji as a “Half naked seditious fakir”.
- Gurusaday Dutta started the Bratachari Movement in 1931.
- The 3rd Round Table Conference agreed upon certain broad principles for the future constitutional setup; which were published later as White Paper (March 1933). The Joint select committee of the British Parliament gave a report on the basis of the White Paper and it became the basis of the Govt. of India Act, 1935.

The Poona Pact

The Poona Pact refers to an agreement between the Depressed Classes (now referred to as Dalits) of India led by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and the upper caste Hindus of India that took place on 24 September 1932 at Yerawada Jail in Pune (now in Maharashtra), India.

The Poona Pact the Depressed classes rejected the Communal Award and accepted the Principle of Reservation of Seats to them in the Centre, Provincial legislative bodies. Gandhiji withdraw his fast unto death.

- Gandhiji founded the All India Harijan Sevak Sangh for social reform and education of the Depressed Class (1932). He started the second Civil Disobedience Movement. In 1934 Gandhiji withdrew the Civil Disobedience movement.

The Communal Award

On 16. August 1932 Prime Minister Ramsay Macdonald announced the Communal Award. It provided separate electorates for Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Anglo-Indian and Europeans. The Depressed Classes were assured separate special constituencies also. The congress objected it. Gandhiji started a fasting into death in the Yervada Jail against the Communal Award.
Government of India Act (1935)

- On August 4, 1935 the **Govt. of India Act** got the Royal assent.
- The **Government of India Act 1935** was passed during the “Interwar Period” and was the last pre-independent constitution of India.
- The government of India Act 1935 proposed a government based on Federal System.
- It ensured complete autonomy.
- The main features were: an All India Federation, Provincial Autonomy, responsibilities with safeguards. A Bi-cameral Legislature with centre (the Council of States total 260 i.e. 156 from British India and 104 from the Indian States and the House of Assembly total 375 i.e. 250 from British India and 125 from Indian States.
- First general election as per the Act of 1935 was held in 1937, Congress got the majority.
- But all the Congress Ministers resigned in 1939 as a protest against Britain’s decision to drag India into the Second World War.

**The Indian States Protection Act** was passed.

- Jaya Prakash Narayan initiated to start the **Congress Socialist Party** on Oct. 21, 1934.

**Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934** was passed. (The Reserve Bank of India came into existence in 1935).

**Diarchy in the Centre** i.e., Reserved subjects controlled by Governor General and his council; Transferred subjects controlled by Governor General and Ministers; A Federal Court with minimum 3 judges; with original appellate and advisory jurisdiction; abolished the council of the secretary of state; An instrument of Accession to rope the Indian States in the Federation; some Provincial legislatures had bi-cameral structure but others uni-cameral. The Act of 1935 was comprised of 451 clauses with 15 schedules. It had no preamble and proposed to prescribe the franchise.

- Gandhiji took **Sevagram Asram at Wardha** as his residence on April 30, 1936 (It was closed on March 1955).

**Provincial Autonomy was established** on April 1, 1937.

**General Elections** were held in the winter of 1936-37. The Congress ministries were formed in 7 out of 11 Provinces i.e., 5 states - Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Central Provinces, Bihar and Madras - absolute majority and in 2 commanded majority (Bombay and NWFP).

**Burma was separated** from India in 1937 and made it a Cram Colony.

**The Federal Court of India was created** it became the Supreme Court of India on Jan. 26, 1950.

**The first National Planning Committee** was constituted due to the influence of Subash Chandra Bose, the then Congress President. But its activities were suspended due to the II World War.

- In 1939, the question of British war aims in relation to India’s stand on self-determination and her policy against imperialistic aggression, Fascism, Nazism and infiltration promoted a conflict of views and ended in the resignation of congress ministers.
- The Congress Working Committee had decided not to **co-operate with Britain in war activities**.

**Deliverance Day**. Mohammad Ali Jinnah observed Dec. 22, 1939 the day of Congress Ministeries resignation as Deliverance Day. i.e. a deliverance from tyranny, oppression and in justice during the 1937-39 congress rule.

- In 1939 **Subash Chandra Bose resigned the Presidentship** of the Congress Party and started work on the formation of the Forward Bloc (June 22, 1940).
In 1940, March 13, Udham Singh (Muhamad Singh Azad) an engineer, shot dead Michael O’Dyer, who was the governor of Punjab in the days of the Jallianwala Bhagh in 1919, in Caxton Hall London. Udham was hanged in London in June 13, 1940 (His ashes were brought to Delhi on July 19, 1974)

The Lahore Session of the Muslim League adopted the PAKSTAN (Pakistan) Resolution on March 23. P- Punjab, A-Afghanistan, K-Kashmir, S-Sind, TAN- Baluchistan. The League demanded the partition of India through a Resolution.

August offer (1940)

The famous proclamation made by Lord Linlithgow on 8 August 1940 is known as August Offer. This ensured to give dominion status and freedom to frame constitution based on representative nature.

Lin Lithgow issued from Simla a statement which made three main points i.e., Expansion of the Viceroy’s Executive Council by including Indian representatives, establishment of a War Advisory Coun-

Cripps Mission 1942

The mission under Stafford Cripps (the Lord Privy Seal and a member of the British War Cabinet) arrived in India on March 22, 1942 to find out a political formula for transfer of power to Indians.

The Japanese and German advances, the mounting pressure from Chiang Kai Shek, of (1887-1975) the Kuomintang leader and Nationalist China’s head of state and govt., and the American President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945) Wisten Churchill send Sir Stafford Cripps to India.

The main proposals of the mission was to grant Dominion status to India at the end of the Second World War and setting up of an interim government to administer the country in all matters except defence.

The Congress and the League rejected the offer Gandhiji called the Cripps offer “a Post Dated Cheque of a Drowning Bank”.

The failure of the Cripps Mission was the major reason for the beginning of Quit India Movement.

The All India Congress Committee met at Bombay on August 8, 1942 passed the famous Quit India resolution.

The Movement began on 9 August 1942.

On the occasion of the Quit India Movement Gandhiji gave his famous call of ‘Do or Die’.

The term Quit India was coined by an American Journalist while interviewing Gandhiji.

“Quit India”, “Bharat Chodo” ‘Do or Die’ these were the powerful slogans of Quit India Movement.

On 8th August the govt. charged that the congress was preparing for unlawful, dangerous and violent activities. On 9th August, the Police arrested Gandhiji, Kasturba, Sarojini Naidu etc; from the Birla House, Bombay and was taken to Agakhan Palace at Poona. In Bombay Congress Radio broadcasts were made by Usha Mehta and friends for few months. In Satara a parallel govt. was setup by Nana Patil. In Tamluk, a national Govt. was installed.
Muslim Leagues new slogan during the Movement was “Divide and Quit”.

C. Rajagopalachari evolved, in 1944, a formula called the **CR Formula** to end the struggle between the Congress and Muslim League.

Lord Wavell, the then Governor General offered the famous **Wavell plan** in 1945 at Shimla.

Mathagini Harza, pet name Gandhi Buri, a 72 year old widow of Tamluk in Midnapur district bravely faced the police bullets on Sept. 29, 1942 while leading a procession in Tamluk during the August movement and died. (In 1977 her statue was installed in Calcutta).

**Royal Indian Navy Mutiny (1946)**

On 18th February 1946, 1,100 naval Ratings of the Signal School of HMIS Talwar (ship) in Bombay went on strike against racial discrimination regarding pay and food.
BC Dutt was arrested for writing ‘Quit India’ on HMIS Talwar.

On May 6, 1944 Gandhiji was released from Aga Khan Palace, his last confinement. In all Gandhi spent 2089 days in Indian Prisons and 249 days in South African Prisons.

The Raja Gopalachari formula 1944 the veteran congress leader C. Rajagopalachari, after releasing the need of unity between the congress and the league attaining independence evolved a formula, a tacit acceptance of a separate Pakistan, to certain extent Gandhiji accepted it.

Gandhi -Jinnah Talks Sept.9, 1944. Based on the Formula the Gandhi- Jinnah talks were held at Jinnah’s residence at Malabar Hill, Bombay (9th Sept. to 27 Sept. 1944). It ended in failure because Jinnah wanted Pakistan first and independence later.

On the failure of Gandhi - Jinnah talks the Viceroy Lord Wavell started negotiation with Indian Political leaders. He released all political leaders who were in prison without trial since 1942.

The Simla Conference was a 1945 meeting between Viceroy Archibald Wavell and the major political leaders of India at Simla, India. Convened to agree on and approve the Wavell Plan for Indian self-government, it reached a potential agreement for the self-rule of India that provided separate representation to Muslims and reduced majority powers for both communities in their majority regions.

Cabinet Mission (1946)

- The Mission was headed by Lord Pethwick Lawrence (Secretary of State).
- Cabinet Mission proposed a federal government for the whole of India.
- Elections to the Constituent Assembly were held under the Cabinet Mission Plan, in 1946.
- Cabinet Mission arrived in India in 1946 March 23.
- It provided an interim government during the time of Lord Wavell
- It also provided for the establishment of a Constituent Assembly to frame a constitution
- On 2 September 1946 an Interim Government headed by Nehru came to power.
- It was a 12 member Ministry. Three members were Muslims.
- Liaquat Ali Khan was the Finance Minister in the Interim Government.
- The Muslim League proclaimed ‘Direct Action Day’ on 16 August 1946 with battle cry of Pakistan’ , ‘Larke Langa Pakistan’.
- The Muslim League proclaimed September 2, 1946 as a ‘Day of Mourning’.
- Communal riots broke out in Naokhali from November 7, 1946 to March 2, 1947 Gandhiji toured in these 49 villages.
- Constituent Assembly: The constituent Assembly started its session on December 9, 1946 in the Library of the Council Chamber without the participation of the League.
- Rajendra Prasad was elected as the President of the Constituent Assembly.
Governor Generals of India
1772-1785 ...................... Warren Hastings
1786-1793 ...................... Lord Cornwallis
1793-1798 ...................... Sir John Shore
1798-1805 ...................... Lord Wellesley
1807-1813 ...................... Lord Minto
1813-1823 ...................... Lord Hastings
1823-1828 ...................... Lord Amherst
1828-1835 ...................... Lord William Bentinck
1835-1842 ...................... Baron Ellenborough
1842-1844 ...................... William Wilberforce Bird
1844-1848 ...................... Lord Hardinge
1848-1856 ...................... Lord Dalhousie
1856-1858 ...................... Lord Canning

Viceroy of Indian Union
1858-1862 ...................... Lord Canning
1862-1863 ...................... 8th Earl Elgin I.
1863 ............................. Sir Robert Napier
1863-1864 ...................... Sir William T. Dension
1864-1869 ...................... Earl of Mayo
1872-1876 ...................... Sir John Strachey
1876-1880 ...................... Baron North Brook
1880-1884 ...................... Lord Lytton
1884-1888 ...................... Lord Dufferin
1888-1894 ...................... Lord Lansdowne
1894-1899 ...................... Lord Elgin II
1899-1905 ...................... Lord Curzon
1905-1910 ...................... Lord Minto II
1910-1916 ...................... Lord Hardinge II
1916-1921 ...................... Lord Chelmsford
1921-1926 ...................... Lord Reading
1926-1931 ...................... Lord Irwin
1931-1936 ...................... Lord Wellington
1936-1942 ...................... Lord Linlithgow
1942-1947 ...................... Lord Wavell
1947 (March 13 - August 14) .............................. Lord Louis Mountbatten

Governors - Generals of Indian Union
1947 (August 15) ...................... Lord Louis Mountbatten
1948 (June 20) ...................... Lord Louis Mountbatten
1950 Jan. 25 ...................... C. Rajagopalachari

- On June 18, 1946 First Satyagraha Campaign for Goa’s Liberation from the Portuguese was launched (on Dec. 18, 1961 the Govt. of India took military action in Goa which resulted in the liberation of Goa, Daman Diu and Nagar Haveli from Portugal on Dec. 19).

- Direct Action Day August 16, 1946 - on 27 July Jinnah addressing the All- India Muslim League Council, attacked the Cabinet Mission Plan in general and Lord Wavell in particular. He charged them with playing into the hands of the Indian National Congress. Jinnah argued that the Muslim League must bid good-bye to constitutional method and prepare for self- defence and self - preservation resort to Direct Action. The Working Committee of the League met on 30 July and fixed 16 August 1946 for observing “Direct Action Day” through out India. As a result “Great Calcutta Killing” took a toll of 5000 lives with 15,000 injured and more than one lakh were rendered homeless. The League Ministry in Bengal led by H.S. Suhrawardy had declared August 16, a Public Holiday to help the League.

- Interim Govt. headed by Nehru - On Sept. 2, in the tense situation, the viceroy invited Nehru to form the interim govt. the centre. Jinnah declined Nehru’s invitation.

- “Day of Mourning “ The Muslim League proclaimed Sept. 2, 1946 as a “Day of Mourning” (later an 26 October the League joined the Govt. without giving up the “Direct Action” and accepting the Cabinet Mission Plan)

- Communal riots broke out in Naokhali from Nov. 7, 1946 to March 2, 1947 Gandhiji toured and stayed in 49 villages.

- Constituent Assembly : The Constituent Assembly started its session on Dec. 9, 1946 in the Library of the Council chamber. 205 members attended were seated in separate blocks, province. The Muslim League representatives and those from the Indian States abstained. It appointed a Rules Committee of 15 to frame the rules of procedure of the Assembly, of the sections and its committees. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was elected Chairman.
Mountbatten Plan (1947)

- Mountbatten arrived in India on March 22, 1947.
- Mountbatten became the last Viceroy of India, the last British Governor General of India and first Governor General of free India.

- Mountbatten drew up two sets of plans. The British visualised maintenance of the integrity of the existing provinces that would initially become independent successor states and their later unity under an emasculated centre. The Second plan explained a partition of the provinces of Punjab, Bengal and Assam into two parts by which two separate independent Dominions of India and Pakistan would emerge with its own governor general.

- Nehru and Jinnah reacted sharply on the first plan and hence a new plan was made by the viceroy with the help of V.P. Menon, the Reforms Commissioner in the Govt.

- On June 2, after getting consent for his new plan from Nehru- Jinnah and Baldev Singh, the viceroy, informed it to the secretary of state for India.

- On June 3, 1947, the Prime Minister Clement Atlee announced the Plan in the House of Commons; June 3 plan i.e.; Partition of India into India and Pakistan.

- Clement Atlee announced the plan in the House of Commons on 2 June 1947, hence it came to be known as 3rd June Plan.

- Work of the demarcation of the boundaries was done by Radcliff. Hence the line is known as Radcliff line.

- Ratification of Mountbatten Plan - The British Parliament ratified the Mountbatten plan as the “Independence of India Act 1947” in July 18, 1947 (It was introduced in British Parliament on July 5)

- The dominion of Pakistan was inaugurated in Karachi on 14th August 1947. India became free on 15th August 1947.

- Pakistan’s Constituent Assembly meets on 11 August 1947 and elects Jinnah as President.

- 14 August 1947. On 14 August India was divided and Pakistan was created with full independence and Jinnah as the Governor General.

- 15 August 1947. India was declared independent of British rule with New Delhi as Capital. (a city which was the seat of 21 dynasties and grave of 17 empires)

- A United India: Out of the total of 562 Princely States in undivided India, 532 were within the new Independent India. 529 states acceded to Indian Union except Hyderabad, Junagarh and Kashmir.

- Mountbatten was sworn in as the Governor General of India and Pdt. Jawaharlal Nehru was sworn in as the first Prime Minister of free India by Lord Mountbatten.
Patel - On August 23, 1947 Vallabhai Patel, ‘the iron man of India’ and the ‘Bismark of India’ was appointed Deputy Prime Minister of India.

B.R. Ambedkar and the Constitution - On August 29, 1947 a Drafting Committee with B.R. Ambedkar as chairman was appointed to prepare a Draft Constitution of India. It submitted the Drafted matter to the Governor General on Feb.21, 1948.

It was finalised on Nov. 26, 1949 and it came into force on Jan.26, 1950 when India became a Republic. Thus the Constitution process took a tenure of 2 years 11 months and 18 days.

Kashmir Attack : On Oct. 24, Kashmir was invaded by Pakistan tribesmen with a view to annex it to Pakistan. Harisingh the Maharaja of Kashmir sought Indian help and signed the instrument of Accession on Oct. 27, 1947.

Gandhiji’s last fast into death. 78 year old Gandhiji started his 16th hunger strike of his life on January 13, 1948 to bring about Communal Peace.

A fast directed to the conscience of all Hindus and Muslims in India and Pakistan.

The Father of the Nation - ‘no more’ - On January 30, 1948 Vinayak Nathuram Godse fired three revolver shots on Gandhiji and he was assassinated.

Martyrs Day - since the assassination of Gandhiji, January 30 is observed as Martyrs Day.