

NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 8TH



aglasem.com

Class : 8th

Subject : History

Chapter : 9

Chapter Name : The Making Of The National Movement: 1870s-1947

Q1 Why were people dissatisfied with British rule in the 1870s and 1880s?

Answer. People were dissatisfied with British rule in the 1870s and 1880s due to the following reasons:

- (i) The British passed the Arms Act in 1878 which disallowed Indians from possessing arms.
- (ii) In the same year they passed the Vernacular Press Act. This Act snatched the freedom of speech and expression. It allowed the government to confiscate the assets of newspapers including their printing presses if the newspapers published anything that was critical of the government.
- (iii) In 1883, the Ilbert Bill was introduced. The bill provided for the trial of British or European persons by Indians and sought equality between British and Indian judges in the country. But the white opposition forced the government to withdraw the bill.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q2 Who did the Indian National Congress wish to speak for?

Answer. The Indian National Congress wished to speak for the entire people belonging to different communities of India.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q3 What economic impact did the First World War have on India?

Answer. The First World War led to a huge rise in the defence expenditure of the Government of India. The government in turn increased taxes on individual incomes and business profits. Increased military expenditure and the demands for war supplies led to the sharp rise in prices which badly affected the common mass. They found it difficult to fulfil even their essential needs. But the business groups earned huge profits from the war. The war created a demand for industrial goods like jute bags, cloth, rails, and caused a decline of imports from other countries into India. As a result Indian industries expanded during the war.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q4 What did the Muslim League resolution of 1940 ask for?

Answer. The Muslim League resolution of 1940 asked for "Independent States' for Muslims in the north- western and eastern areas of the country. The resolution did not mention partition or the

name Pakistan.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q5 Who were the Moderates? How did they propose to struggle against British rule?

Answer. The Moderates were against taking extreme actions. They had deep faith in the good intention of the government. They were of the opinion that slowly and steadily they would make the British go to their own land. The Moderate leaders developed public awareness about the unjust nature of British rule. They published newspapers, wrote articles and showed how British rule was leading to the economic ruin of the country. They criticised British rule in their speeches and sent representatives to different parts of the country to mobilise public opinion. They believed that the British had respect for the ideals of freedom and justice and therefore they would definitely accept all the just demands of the people of India. Their main task was to acknowledge the British government with these demands.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q6 How was the politics of the Radicals within the Congress different from that of the Moderates?

Answer. The Radicals within the Congress cherished different opinions. They had deep faith in action and wanted to drive away the foreigners as soon as possible. They criticised the Moderates for their "politics of prayers" and gave emphasis on self-reliance and constructive work. They argued that people must fight for swaraj. Unless they fought against the British rule unitedly, they would not bring independence to their country.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q7 Discuss the various forms that the Non-Cooperation Movement took in different parts of India. How did the people understand Gandhiji?

Answer. The Non-Cooperation Movement spread far and wide. It took various forms in different parts of the country:

- (i) In Kheda, Gujarat, Patidar peasants were worried about the high land revenue demand of the British. Hence, they organized nonviolent campaigns against it.
- (ii) In coastal Andhra and interior Tamil Nadu, liquor shops were picketed.
- (iii) In the Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh, tribals and poor peasants started several forest satyagrahas, sometimes sending their cattle into forests without paying grazing tax. They were very much fed up with the restrictions imposed on them by the British regarding the use of forest resources. They wanted the abolition of the forest regulations.
- (iv) In Sind, now in Pakistan, Muslim traders and peasants were very enthusiastic about the Khilafat call. In Bengal too, the Khilafat-Non-Cooperation alliance gave enormous communal unity and strength to the national movement.
- (v) In Punjab, the Akali agitation of the Sikhs sought to drive out corrupt mahants, supported by the British, from the gurudwaras. This movement got closely identified with the Non-Cooperation Movement.

(vi) In Assam, tea garden labourers left the British-owned plantations and became the followers of Gandhiji. People viewed Gandhiji as a messiah, as someone who could help them overcome their misery and poverty.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q8 Why did Gandhi ji choose to break the salt law?

Answer. Gandhiji was very much worried about the salt law. According to this law, the state had a monopoly on the manufacture and sale of salt. Gandhiji thought that it was sinful to tax salt because it is an essential item of our food and is required equally by the rich and the poor. Hence he decided to break this law in anticipation that people from all walks of life would extend their support. Needless to say that Gandhiji's Salt March became very successful.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q9 Discuss those developments of the 1937-47 period that led to the creation of Pakistan

Answer. From the late-1930s, the Muslim League began viewing the Muslims as a separate nation from the Hindus. This nation might have developed because of the history of tension between some Hindu and Muslim groups in the 1920s and 1930s. The provincial elections of 1937 also might have convinced the League the Muslims were a minority and they would always have to play second fiddle, in any democratic structure. Meanwhile, the Congress rejected the League's desire to form a joint Congress-League government in the United Provinces in 1937. This annoyed the League. In 1940, the League finally moved a resolution demanding 'Independent States' for Muslims in the north-western and eastern areas of the country. The resolution did not mention partition or Pakistan. In 1945, the British opened negotiations between the Congress, the League and themselves for the independence of India. The talks could not succeed because the League saw itself as the sole spokesperson of India's Muslims. The Congress proved this claim baseless because several Muslims still supported it. In the provincial elections in 1946 the League got grand success in the seats reserved for Muslims. Hence it persisted its demand for Pakistan.

In March 1946, the Cabinet Mission came to Delhi to examine this demand and to suggest a suitable political framework for a free India. This Mission suggested that India should remain united and constitute itself as a loose confederation with some autonomy for Muslim-majority areas. Neither the Congress nor the Muslim League agreed to it. The failure of the Cabinet Mission made partition inevitable. Ultimately in 1947 partition took place with the birth of a new country, i.e. Pakistan.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q10 Find out how the national movement was organised in your city, district, area or state. Who participated in it and who led it? What did the movement in your area achieve?

Answer. DIY

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Do

Q11 Find out more about the life and work of any two participants or leaders of the national movement and write a short essay about them. You may choose a person not mentioned in this chapter.

Answer. (a) DL Rajendra Prasad Dr. Rajendra Prasad started his political career as a social worker. He came under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi since the Champaran Satyagrahs of 1918. He came in the light when he took sincere part in Champaran Satyagraha The Jallianwala Bagh atrocities deeply perturbed him. He was sent to jail many times. He struggled hard for the independence of the country. He was the most uncontroversial figure in the Indian politics. Under his presidentship the country made all round progress. (b) Jaiprakash Narayan Jaiprakash Narayan fully dedicated his life for the welfare of the country. In 1934, he plunged into the struggle for freedom. In the same he became the Secretary of the Socialist Party. Jawaharlal Nehru offered him the membership of the Congress Working Committee in 1946 but he rejected the offer. On Nehru's second request, he joined the Congress Committee with Ram Manohar Lohia but both of them left it soon. Shri jaiprakash Narayan became the General Secretary of the Socialist Party which got itself separated from the Congress. He took great interest in the political development of the country. He is known for his selfless service for the nation.

Page : 127 , Block Name : Let's Do

aglasem.com