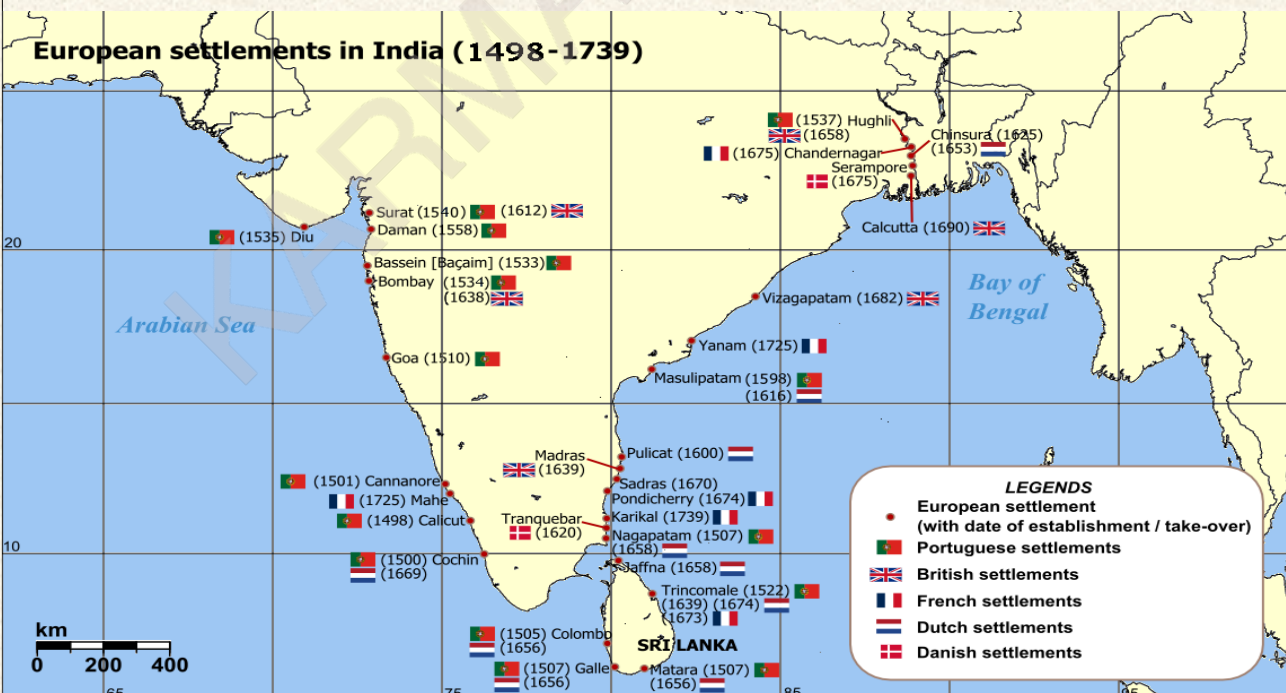


MODERN HISTORY (GS 1) NOTES FOR MAINS BY ADITYA (IRON MAN)

This notes has been curated by Aditya sir Popularly known as IRON MAN . He has vast experience of Appearing in 3 CSE Interviews 2019,2020 and 2023 with 400+ scores in GS Thrice . He has also been faculty in premium institutes and Founder of karmayogi IAS.

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ADVENT OF EUROPEANS



The Advent of the English

- **Formation and Charter:**

- In 1599, the 'Merchant Adventurers' formed to pursue Eastern trade.
- Queen Elizabeth I granted a charter in 1600, giving the East India Company exclusive trading rights.

- **Foothold in India:**

- After initial challenges at Jahangir's court in 1609, the English established a factory in Surat by 1613 following a victory over the Portuguese.
- Bombay was gifted to King Charles II in 1662, becoming an East India Company hub by 1687.
- The English also built a fortified factory in Madras in 1639, solidifying their presence in South India.

- **Bengal Expansion:**

- In 1651, the English secured trading rights in Bengal.
- After initial hostilities, the English established Fort William in 1700, marking the beginning of their control over Bengal.

The Advent of the French

- **French Trading Company:**

- The Compagnie des Indes Orientales was established in 1664 by Louis XIV, receiving a 50-year trade monopoly.
- Pondicherry, founded in 1674, became the center of French power in India.

The Advent of the Danes

- **Danish Presence:**

- The Danish East India Company founded Tranquebar in 1620 and Serampore near Calcutta.
- Their influence was minimal, and they sold their holdings to the British in 1845.

Reasons for English Success Against Other Europeans

- **Company Structure:**

- The English East India Company was uniquely structured with a powerful board of directors and influential shareholders.

- **Naval Superiority:**

- The Royal Navy's dominance and strategic victories ensured British control over key trade routes.

- **Industrial and Military Edge:**

- The Industrial Revolution provided advanced technology and disciplined military forces.

- **Stable Governance:**

- Britain's stable political environment contrasted with the turbulence in other European nations.

- **Pragmatic Religious Approach:**

- The British exhibited less zeal in religious conversion, fostering greater acceptance among local populations.

- **Financial Strategy:**

- Effective use of the debt market and institutions like the Bank of England funded British military campaigns.

1857 Revolt: Causes, Course, and Consequences



Why Indian Soldiers Rushed to Delhi

1. **Symbol of Unity:** The Mughal Emperor represented political unity, and soldiers sought to make Bahadur Shah the leader to legitimize the revolt.

2. **Leadership:** Soldiers lacked leadership and sought the guidance of experienced leaders in Delhi.
3. **Strategic Arsenal:** Delhi housed significant military resources, crucial for sustaining the revolt.
4. **Secular Legacy:** Delhi's secular history made it a comfortable choice for Muslim soldiers.
5. **Geographical Advantage:** Centrally located in Northern India, Delhi was easily accessible with better infrastructure to lead the revolt.

Causes of the 1857 Revolt

1. **Political Causes:**
 - Aggressive policies like 'Subsidiary Alliance' and 'Doctrine of Lapse' eroded trust.
2. **Administrative Causes:**
 - Exclusion of Indians from administrative roles and rampant corruption.
3. **Economic Causes:**
 - Heavy taxation, destruction of traditional industries, and discriminatory tariffs.
4. **Socio-Religious Causes:**
 - Social reforms like Sati abolition and Widow remarriage acts, and missionary activities.
5. **Military Causes:**
 - Discontent over the General Service Enlistment Act, low pay, and the Enfield rifle controversy.
6. **Immediate Cause:**
 - The introduction of Enfield rifles, which required biting greased cartridges, offended religious sensibilities.

Consequences of the 1857 Revolt

1. **Government of India Act 1858:**
 - British government took direct control of India, ending the East India Company's rule.
2. **End of Expansion:**
 - Annexations ceased, and the British promised to respect the rights of native princes.
3. **Religious and Social Respect:**
 - Assured non-interference in religious and social practices.

4. **Recognition of British Paramountcy:**

- Indian states had to acknowledge British supremacy.

5. **Military Reorganization:**

- Indian soldiers' proportion was reduced, and European soldiers' numbers were increased.

6. **Landlord Protection:**

- Policies favored landlords and zamindars, ensuring their rights.

7. **Muslim Repression:**

- Muslims faced large-scale land confiscation, and the policy of Divide and Rule began.

8. **Racial Hatred:**

- Increased racial distrust and suspicion between Indians and the British.

Role of Women in the 1857 Revolt

1. **Active Participation:** The 1857 revolt, often termed the First War of Independence, saw significant contributions from women, challenging the notion that it was solely a soldiers' struggle.
2. **Key Figures:**
 - **Rani Lakshmi Bai:** A leading figure who fought fiercely against the British.
 - **Moti Bai:** Played a crucial role in protecting Rani Lakshmi Bai.
 - **Begum Hazrat Mahal:** Led a rebellion in Awadh, exemplifying resistance against British rule.
3. **Communication Network:** Women, along with men, managed essential communication, ensuring the delivery of crucial messages to bolster resistance efforts.
4. **Inspiration to Fight:** Women like Sursi, a Bheel tribal woman, inspired others, including her son, to take up arms against the British, influencing local rulers as well.
5. **Local Resistance:** Women such as Ashgari Begum, Asha Devi, and Bhagavati Devi resisted British exploitation in their areas, often choosing death over submission.

Changes After 1857

1. **Administration:**

- **Government of India Act 1858:** Transferred power from the East India Company to the British Crown.

- **Indian Councils Act 1861:** Restored legislative powers to provinces like Madras and Bombay.
- **Financial Reforms:** Lord Mayo bifurcated central and provincial finances in 1870.
- **Lord Ripon's Resolution 1882:** Introduced further administrative reforms.

2. Public Services:

- **Satyendranath Tagore:** Became the first Indian to join the Indian Civil Services in 1861.
- **Exam Age Restrictions:** The age for civil service exams was reduced, limiting Indian participation, and no effective transfer of power was ensured.

3. Princely States:

- **Policy Change:** The policy of annexation was abandoned.
- **Territorial Integrity:** Guaranteed to princely states.
- **Subordination:** Princely states were subordinated to British authority, with the Queen assuming the title Kaisar-i-Hind in 1876.
- **Interference:** The British retained the right to interfere in the internal matters of princely states.

4. Policies:

- **Divide and Rule:** Adopted to prevent united mass actions.
- **Hostility to Educated Indians:** Increased, with educated Indians facing more discrimination.
- **Zamindars and Landlords:** Used as counterweights against nationalist forces.
- **Social Reforms:** Reversed the previous policy of supporting social reforms.
- **Neglect of Social Services:** Social services were largely ignored.
- **Labor Legislation:** Introduced, but inadequately and half-heartedly.
- **Press Restrictions:** Imposed to curb nationalist sentiments and movements.
- **Racial Arrogance:** Intensified, with growing racial discrimination against Indians.

MODERATES

Year	Event
1883	Two sessions of the Indian National Conference held with key contributions from Banerjee and Bose.
1885	A.O. Hume organizes the first session of the Indian National Congress in Bombay.
1885	Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee presides over the first session attended by 72 delegates.
1885	Kadambini Ganguly, the first woman graduate of Calcutta University, addresses the Congress session.

Major Demands During the Moderate Phase

1. Political Demands:

- **Provincial Councils:** Establishment and reform of provincial councils.
- **Simultaneous ICS Examination:** Holding the Indian Civil Services exam simultaneously in India and England.
- **Indian Council:** Abolition or reconstitution of the Indian Council.
- **Judiciary-Executive Separation:** Advocated for the separation of the judiciary from the executive branch.
- **Repeal of Arms Act:** Demanded the repeal of the discriminatory Arms Act.
- **Military Inclusion:** Appointment of Indians to commissioned ranks in the army.
- **Military Expenditure:** Called for the reduction of high military expenses.
- **Permanent Settlement:** Extension of the Permanent Settlement to other parts of India.
- **Freedom of Expression:** Demand for freedom of speech and expression.
- **No Taxation Without Representation:** Advocated for Indian control over the public purse.

2. Demand for Swaraj:

- **Swaraj:** In 1905, Congress demanded self-rule (Swaraj) for Indians within the British Empire, inspired by models like Australia or Canada. First articulated by G.K. Gokhale and later by Dadabhai Naoroji.

3. Economic Demands:

- **Critique of British Imperialism:** Highlighted British exploitation and its adverse effects on India's economy.
- **Military Expenditure:** Called for a reduction in military spending, linking it to poverty and famines.
- **Peasant Distress:** Blamed increased land revenue and grain exports for peasant impoverishment.
- **Drain Theory:** Presented the Drain Theory to illustrate economic exploitation by the British.
- **Tariff and Trade Criticism:** Opposed official policies that hindered the growth of indigenous industries.

- **Self-Sufficiency:** Resisted efforts to make India a mere supplier of raw materials and a market for British goods.

4. **Constitutional Reforms:**

- **Legislative Councils:** Demanded the expansion and reform of Legislative Councils between 1885 and 1892.
- **Indian Councils Act 1892:** Pressured the British government to pass the Indian Councils Act, although the Act was deemed unsatisfactory.

5. **Campaign for Administrative Reforms:**

- **Indianization of Administration:** Called for more Indian representation in administration as a stand against racism.
- **Civil Rights Protection:** Emphasized the importance of press freedom and opposed efforts to curtail it.
- **Primary Education:** Focused on promoting primary education among the masses.
- **Agricultural Development:** Advocated for the establishment of agricultural banks to support peasants.

Evaluation of the Moderate Phase

• **Achievements:**

- Provided political training, popularized democratic and nationalist ideas, and exposed the economic exploitation by the British.
- Created a unified political and economic agenda, promoting the idea that India should be governed in the best interests of its people.
- Welcomed people from all classes and communities, making it an inclusive movement.
- Delivered a formidable critique of the financial underpinnings of British rule.

• **Challenges:**

- Limited success in securing government reforms, with the movement lacking widespread mass support.
- The rise of extremist leadership within Congress posed challenges to the Moderates.
- The British government's hostility towards Congress intensified, particularly during Lord Curzon's tenure.

• **Legacy:**

• Despite their cautious approach, the Moderates laid the groundwork for future political struggles, contributing to the eventual shift towards more assertive demands for self-rule.

The Rise of Extremism in the Indian National Congress



1. Background:

- In the early 20th century, the Indian National Congress (INC) saw the emergence of radical nationalism, marking the beginning of the Extremist phase.
- Frustrated with the moderate approaches that focused on petitions and negotiations, a younger and more assertive group of nationalists began advocating for *Swaraj* (self-government) through more extreme means.
- The Partition of Bengal in 1905 acted as a catalyst for this rise in extremism, although the factors leading to it had been growing since the Revolt of 1857.

2. Key Factors Leading to the Rise of Extremism:

- **Political Radicalism:** Unlike the Moderates, who adhered to Western ideals and rationalism, the Extremists believed in *Swadharma* and *Swaraj*, ideas rooted in Indian tradition and culture.
 - Socio-religious leaders like Ramakrishna Paramahansa, Swami Vivekananda, and Swami Dayananda played key roles in bridging the gap between the masses and the educated elite, fostering a spirit of political radicalism.
- **Discontent with Moderates:** The policy of prayers and petitions led to frustration and anger among nationalists who saw these methods as ineffective and weak.
- **Impact of Famines:** The suffering caused by famines (1896-98 and 1899-1901) and the bubonic plague of 1896, coupled with the British Government's inadequate response, led to widespread disillusionment, even among moderate leaders.
- **Imperialist Policies of Lord Curzon:** Policies like the Indian Official Secrets Act, Calcutta Corporation Act, and Indian Universities Act, along with the Partition of Bengal, intensified nationalist anger.

- **International Influence:** The success of other nations against imperial powers, such as Abyssinia's defeat of Italy and Japan's victory over Russia, inspired Indians to rise against British rule.
- **Partition of Bengal:** The 1905 Partition of Bengal further fueled extremism, leading to the emergence of revolutionary activities in India.

3. The Extremist Phase (1905-1920):

- **Leaders and Groups:**
 - The Extremist phase was led by figures like Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lala Lajpat Rai, and Aurobindo Ghosh.
 - The movement had three prominent groups:
 - The Maharashtra group, led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak.
 - The Bengal group, represented by Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh.
 - The Punjab group, led by Lala Lajpat Rai.
- **Swadeshi and Boycott:** The Extremists emphasized *Swadeshi* (use of Indian goods), the boycott of foreign goods, national education, and militant nationalism, paving the way for future revolutionary movements.
- **Split at Surat Session (1907):** Methodological differences between the Extremists and Moderates led to a formal split in the INC during the Surat Session of 1907.

4. Prominent Extremist Leaders:

- **Bal Gangadhar Tilak:** Known as "Lokamanya," he declared, "Swaraj is my birthright, and I will have it." He was against any interference by the British in the domestic life of Indians and introduced cultural festivals like Ganapati and Shivaji to inspire nationalist sentiments.
- **Lala Lajpat Rai:** Dubbed the "Lion of Punjab," he was a key figure in the Swadeshi Movement and famously opposed the Simon Commission with the slogan "Go back, Simon."
- **Bipin Chandra Pal:** Transitioned from being a moderate to an extremist in 1902, spreading nationalist ideas through powerful speeches and writings.
- **Aurobindo Ghosh:** Advocated that "Political freedom is the life-breath of a nation" and contributed to nationalist thought through writings like "New Lamps for Old."
- **Other Leaders:** Rajnarayan Bose, Ashwin Kumar Dutt, and V.O. Chidambaram Pillai were also prominent figures in the Extremist movement.

Emergence of Nationalism and the Swadeshi Movement



1. Emergence of Nationalism:

- **19th Century Awakening:** The concept of a national identity and consciousness emerged only in the 19th century in India. Social, economic, and political factors inspired people to define and strive for a collective national identity.
- **Causes of Growing Nationalism:**
 - **Recognizing British Intentions:** Indians began to see through the British government's reluctance to concede to important demands, especially as the economic hardships of the 1890s highlighted the exploitative nature of colonial rule.
 - **Growth of Confidence:** There was a growing belief that mass participation was essential in the struggle against the colonial government for independence.
 - **Increasing Awareness:** The spread of education increased awareness among the masses about British policies. Rising unemployment, underemployment, and poverty further fueled discontent.
 - **International Influences:** Indian nationalists drew inspiration from global nationalist movements in Ireland, Japan, Egypt, Turkey, Persia, and China, which shattered the myth of European invincibility.
 - **Conservative Policies of Lord Curzon:** Lord Curzon's administrative measures, such as the Indian Universities Act, the Calcutta Corporation Act, and particularly the Partition of Bengal, led to widespread protests.

2. The Swadeshi Movement:

- **Background:**
 - The movement had its roots in the anti-partition movement, which opposed Lord Curzon's decision to divide Bengal.
 - The Anti-Partition Campaign, led by Moderates, sought to exert pressure on the government to prevent the unjust partition through petitions, public meetings, and newspaper campaigns.

- The partition led to protest meetings in Bengal, where the first pledge to boycott foreign goods was taken.

- **Swadeshi Movement Proclamation:**

- In August 1905, at a massive meeting in Calcutta Town Hall, the formal proclamation of the Swadeshi Movement was made, urging the boycott of goods like Manchester cloth and Liverpool salt.
- After the partition came into effect, widespread opposition was expressed in Bengal, with people singing “Vande Mataram” and Rabindranath Tagore composing “Amar Sonar Bangla.”
- People tied *rakhis* as a symbol of unity, and although the movement was concentrated in Bengal, it spread to other parts of India:
 - In Poona and Bombay under Bal Gangadhar Tilak
 - In Punjab under Lala Lajpat Rai and Ajit Singh
 - In Delhi under Syed Haider Raza
 - In Madras under Chidambaram Pillai.

- **Congress Reaction:**

- The Indian National Congress (INC) in 1905 resolved to condemn the partition of Bengal and support the anti-partition and Swadeshi Movements.
- While the radical nationalists wanted to extend the movement beyond Bengal and beyond just the boycott of foreign goods, the Moderates in Congress were reluctant to go that far.
- In the 1906 Congress Session held at Calcutta, under Dadabhai Naoroji's presidency, the INC declared *Swaraj* (self-government) as its goal.

3. Rise of the Radical Nationalists:

- **Dominance in Bengal:** The Extremists, or *Garam Dal*, gained significant influence over the Swadeshi Movement in Bengal from 1905 to 1908, an era known as the “Era of Passionate Nationalists.”
- **Key Leaders:** Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, and Bipin Chandra Pal (Lal-Bal-Pal) were prominent leaders of this radical group.
- **Reasons for Rise:**
 - The failure of the Moderate-led Swadeshi movement.
 - The divisive tactics of the governments of East and West Bengal.
 - The violent measures taken by the British to suppress the movement.

- **Radical Tactics:** The Extremists called for the boycott of government schools, colleges, services, courts, legislative councils, municipalities, and government titles. Tilak famously declared, "Freedom is my birthright, and I shall have it."

4. Participation of People:

- **Students:** School and college students were the most active participants, with significant involvement seen in Bengal, Poona (Maharashtra), Guntur (Andhra Pradesh), Madras, and Salem (Tamil Nadu). The police adopted repressive measures against them, including fines, expulsions, beatings, arrests, and disqualification from government jobs and scholarships.
- **Women:** Traditionally home-centered women also took an active part in the movement.
- **Muslim Stand:** While some Muslims participated, most upper- and middle-class Muslims stayed away, supporting the partition in the belief that it would create a Muslim-majority East Bengal.

5. Impact of the Swadeshi Movement:

- **Decline in Imports:** The movement led to a significant decline in foreign imports between 1905 and 1908.
- **Growth of Extremism:** The movement fostered extreme nationalism among the youth, who increasingly turned to violence to quickly end British dominance.
- **Morley-Minto Reforms:** The movement forced the British to offer some concessions through the Morley-Minto Reforms in 1909, with Gopal Krishna Gokhale playing a crucial role in their formulation.
- **Swadeshi Institutions:** Inspired by Rabindranath Tagore's Shantiniketan, national schools and colleges, such as Bengal National College, were established across India. The National Council of Education was set up in August 1906 to organize a national education system, and a Bengal Institute of Technology was established for technical education.
- **Growth in Swadeshi Industries:** The movement led to the establishment of Swadeshi textile mills, soap and match factories, tanneries, banks, insurance companies, and shops, reviving Indian cottage industries and promoting the use of indigenous goods.
- **Boycott of Buyers and Sellers:** Foreign goods, including clothing, sugar, salt, and other luxury items, were boycotted and burned, leading to the social boycott of both buyers and sellers of foreign goods.

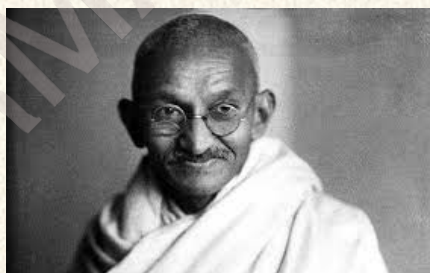
6. Gradual Suppression of the Swadeshi Movement:

- **Government Repression:** By 1908, the Swadeshi Movement had largely dissipated in its open phase due to violent government repression.
- **Lack of Leadership and Organization:** The movement failed to create an effective organization and was rendered leaderless as most leaders were arrested or deported.
- **Internal Conflicts:** Internal conflicts and ideological differences among leaders weakened the movement.
- **Limited Reach:** The movement failed to reach the peasantry and was largely confined to the upper and middle classes.

7. Annulment of the Partition of Bengal:

- The partition of Bengal was annulled in 1911 by Lord Hardinge, primarily to curb revolutionary terrorism.
- Bihar and Orissa were separated from Bengal, and Assam was made a separate province.
- The annulment was not well-received by Muslims, leading the British to shift the administrative capital from Calcutta to Delhi, which was associated with Muslim glory.

Gandhi's Role in India's Freedom Struggle



1. Gandhi's Return to India (1915):

- **Arrival in India:** Gandhi returned to India in January 1915 after successfully leading non-violent resistance against racial discrimination in South Africa.
- **Familiarization with India:** On the advice of Gopal Krishna Gokhale, he spent a year traveling across British India to understand the land and its people.
- **First Major Public Appearance:** In February 1916, Gandhi made his first significant public appearance at the inauguration of the Banaras Hindu University (BHU), where he expressed his desire to make Indian nationalism more representative of the Indian masses.

2. Champaran Satyagraha (1917):

- **First Civil Disobedience:** The Champaran Satyagraha marked Gandhi's first attempt at mobilizing the Indian masses and was the first instance of Civil Disobedience in India.
- **Tinkathia System:** Peasants were forced to grow indigo on 3/20 of their total land under the exploitative Tinkathia system.
- **Gandhi's Intervention:** Invited by Rajkumar Shukla, Gandhi intervened but was asked to leave by authorities. He disobeyed the order, staying on and eventually convincing the government to abolish the Tinkathia system.
- **Participants:** Key participants included Rajendra Prasad, Narhari Parekh, and J.B. Kripalani.

3. Ahmedabad Mill Strike (1918) and Kheda Satyagraha (1918):

- **Ahmedabad Mill Strike:**
 - **Background:** Following the Champaran Satyagraha, Gandhi mobilized textile workers in Ahmedabad to strike against mill owners over the discontinuation of a plague bonus.
 - **Gandhi's Role:** At Anusuya Sarabhai's request, Gandhi intervened and undertook a fast unto death, leading to a 35% wage hike for workers. This was the first time Gandhi used fasting as a political weapon in India.
- **Kheda Satyagraha:**
 - **Background:** Due to crop failure and rising prices, Kheda district peasants demanded revenue relief from the government.
 - **Gandhi's Intervention:** Gandhi advised them to withhold payment and "fight unto death" against tyranny, eventually leading the government to order restraint in revenue collection.
 - **Participants:** Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Narahari Parikh, and Indulal Yagnik played key roles in this first instance of Non-Cooperation by Gandhi.

4. Satyagraha Against the Rowlatt Act (1919):

- **Rowlatt Act:** In 1919, the British passed the Rowlatt Act, allowing the imprisonment of political activists without trial.
- **Gandhi's Satyagraha:** Gandhi called this the "Black Act" and launched a Satyagraha involving fasting, praying, and civil disobedience.
- **Satyagraha Sabha:** Gandhi organized the Satyagraha Sabha to carry out the movement, which brought him to the forefront of the Indian national movement.

5. Non-Cooperation Movement (1921-22):

- **Background:** In response to the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, Gandhi launched the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1920, demanding self-government and addressing grievances related to the Khilafat and Punjab.
- **Calcutta Session:** In September 1920, the Congress held a special session in Calcutta and resolved to accept Gandhi's proposal of non-cooperation with the British government.
- **Methods:** The movement included the boycott of schools, colleges, courts, government offices, legislatures, and foreign goods, as well as the return of government-conferred titles and awards.
- **Withdrawal:** Following the violent incident at Chauri Chaura in February 1922, where 23 police officers were killed, Gandhi withdrew the movement and focused on constructive social reforms.

6. Civil Disobedience Movement (1930-34):

- **Salt Satyagraha:** Also known as the Salt Satyagraha, the Civil Disobedience Movement was Gandhi's second major mass movement. He launched the movement by announcing the "Dandi March" against the unjust salt tax on April 6, 1930, and violated the salt regulations.
- **Purna Swaraj:** The INC, in its Lahore session of 1929, demanded "Purna Swaraj" (complete independence) and declared January 26 as "Independence Day."
- **Widespread Defiance:** Gandhi's defiance of the salt laws spread throughout the country, though it was temporarily halted after the Gandhi-Irwin Pact.

7. Quit India Movement (1942):

- **Launch:** The Quit India Movement, launched on August 8, 1942, was the 'third great wave' of India's struggle for freedom, led by Gandhi.
- **Context:** It was a rejection of British rule, spurred by the failure of the Cripps mission and the hardships caused by World War II.

• **Do or Die:** On August 8, the All India Congress Committee passed the "Do or Die" resolution, demanding an end to British rule and the formation of a provisional government.

Major Tribal Uprisings in Colonial India

MAJOR TRIBAL REVOLTS IN INDIA

TRIBE (REVOLT)	REGION	YEAR	LEADER/S
Pahariya	Rajmahal Hills	1778	Raja Jagannath
Chuar (Jungle Mahal Rebellion)	Jungle Mahal (b/w Chota Nagpur & Bengal plains)	1798	Durjan/Durjol Singh, Madhab Singh, Raja Mohan Singh, Lachman Singh
Oraon and Munda (Tamar Revolt)	Tamar (Chhotanagpur)	1798; 1914-15	Bholanath Sahay/Singh (1798) Jatra Bhagat, Balram Bhagat (1914-15)
Ho and Munda	Singhbhum and Ranchi (Chhotanagpur region)	1820-37; 1890s	Raja of Parahat (Ho) Birsa Munda (1890s)
Ahom	Assam	1828-30	Gomdhar Konwar
Khasi	Hilly region b/w Jaintia and Garo hills	1830s	Nunklow ruler – Tirath Singh
Kol	Chhotanagpur (Ranchi, Singhbhum, Hazaribagh, Palamau)	1831	Buddho Bhagat
Santhals	Rajmahal Hills	1833; 1855-56	Sidhu Murmu and Kanhu Murmu
Khond	Orissa, Andhra Pradesh	1837-56	Chakra Bisnoi
Koya	Eastern Godavari track (Andhra) Rampa (Andhra)	1879-80; 1886 1916; 22-24	Tomma Sora, Raja Anantayyar Alluri Sitarama Raju (Rampa revolt)
Bhil	Western Ghats, Khandesh (MH), south Rajasthan	1817-19; 25; 31; 46 & 1913	Govind Guru (1913 Mangarh Massacre)
Gond	Adilabad (Telangana)	1940	Komrum Bheem

Reasons for Tribal Uprisings:

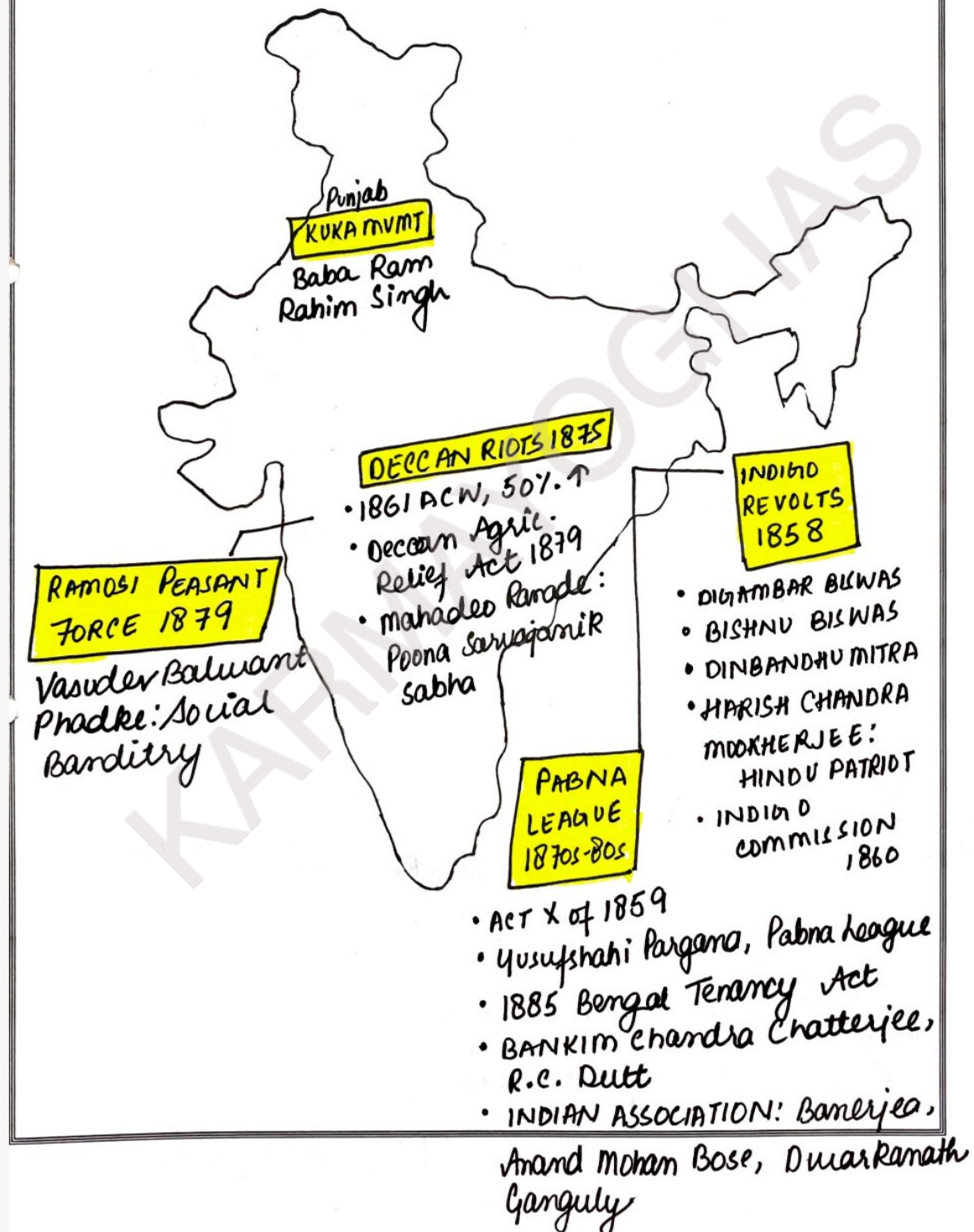
1. **Economic Exploitation:** Tribals faced economic hardship due to oppressive revenue policies, forced cultivation practices, and exploitation by moneylenders and landlords.
2. **Land Alienation:** British land policies and encroachment by outsiders led to the loss of ancestral lands, which was a significant grievance for the tribal communities.
3. **Cultural Suppression:** The imposition of foreign customs, missionary activities, and interference with traditional practices threatened the tribal way of life.
4. **Administrative Policies:** Discontent with British administrative measures, including unfair taxation and legal changes, fueled resistance.
5. **Resistance to Colonial Rule:** The general dissatisfaction with British rule and its impact on tribal autonomy and traditional governance systems prompted uprisings.

Effects of Tribal Uprisings:

1. **Administrative Changes:** Some uprisings led to administrative changes aimed at addressing grievances, such as the creation of separate administrative units or reforms in land laws.
2. **Increased Repression:** Many uprisings were met with severe repression, including military action and punitive measures against participants, which often led to further unrest.
3. **Awareness and Mobilization:** The uprisings raised awareness about tribal issues and contributed to the broader nationalist struggle, influencing future resistance movements.
4. **Legislative Reforms:** Movements like the Indigo Rebellion led to investigations and reforms in colonial policies, though these were often partial and limited.
5. **Cultural Revival:** The uprisings sometimes led to a revival of tribal identity and cultural pride, influencing subsequent movements for autonomy and rights.

Major Peasant Movements in Colonial India

Peasant Movement and Uprising after 1857



Reasons for Peasant Movements:

1. **Exploitation by Landlords:** High rents, unfair taxation, and oppressive practices by landlords led to economic distress among peasants.
2. **Revenue Policies:** Heavy and often unjust revenue demands by the British administration caused widespread financial strain on the peasantry.
3. **Land Tenure Issues:** Problems related to land tenure, including insecurity of tenure and arbitrary eviction, fueled unrest.
4. **Economic Hardships:** Factors like crop failures, high prices, and economic exploitation exacerbated the plight of peasants, leading to demands for relief.
5. **Colonial Policies:** British policies and reforms often favored landlords and revenue collectors, further aggravating peasant grievances.

Effects of Peasant Movements:

1. **Legislative Reforms:** Some movements led to legislative changes and reforms, such as the Champaran Agrarian Act and the Deccan Agriculturists Relief Act, aimed at addressing peasant grievances.
2. **Policy Adjustments:** Government concessions, including reductions in revenue demands and the implementation of relief measures, were made in response to protests.
3. **Increased Awareness:** The movements heightened awareness of peasant issues and influenced future agrarian policies and political agendas.
4. **Rise of Leaders:** Leaders like Gandhi, Patel, and others emerged from these movements, contributing to the broader freedom struggle and shaping nationalist politics.
5. **Social Impact:** The movements fostered solidarity among peasants and led to increased political mobilization, contributing to the growth of the nationalist movement.

These peasant movements were pivotal in challenging colonial exploitation and shaping the socio-political landscape of India, contributing significantly to the country's struggle for independence.

Impact of British Imperial Power on the Transfer of Power in the 1940s

1. Divide and Rule Policy

- **Description:** The British policy of dividing communities to maintain control exacerbated communal tensions between Hindus and Muslims.
- **Impact:** Increased animosity and mistrust between different religious and political groups, complicating efforts to negotiate a unified and peaceful transfer of power.

2. Cripps Mission (1942)

- **Description:** A British proposal led by Stafford Cripps aimed at securing Indian cooperation during World War II by offering post-war independence and a potential federal structure.
- **Impact:** Both the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League rejected the proposal, deepening the rift between British authorities and Indian political leaders and hindering progress towards a resolution.

3. Wavell Plan and the Simla Conference (1945)

- **Description:** The Wavell Plan aimed to reorganize the Indian executive to include more Indian representatives and address communal representation issues.
- **Impact:** The plan failed during the Simla Conference due to disagreements over the interpretation of parity and representation between Hindus and Muslims, causing further delays in the transfer of power.

4. Cabinet Mission Plan (1946)

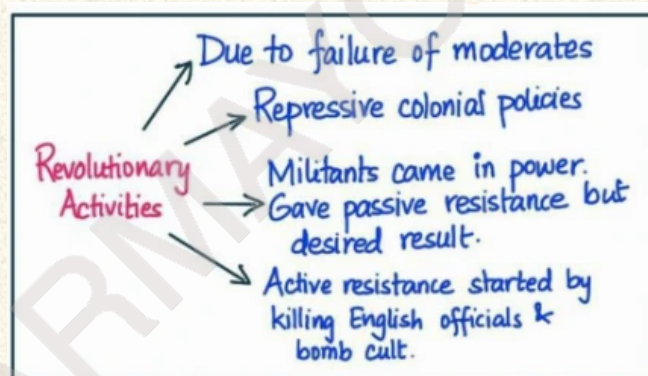
- **Description:** Proposed a federal structure with a weak central government and significant autonomy for provinces. It was intended to resolve political deadlock and offer a basis for independence.

- **Impact:** The plan was unable to secure consensus due to disagreements over its implementation, leading to increased communal violence and further complicating the transition to independence.

5. Mountbatten Plan and the Partition (1947)

- **Description:** Proposed by Lord Mountbatten, the plan led to the partition of India into two separate dominions—India and Pakistan.
- **Impact:** The hurried and poorly executed partition resulted in widespread violence, massive displacement, and loss of life. The legacy of the partition has had enduring political and social repercussions for the Indian subcontinent.

Revolutionary Nationalism in the Indian Freedom Movement



Revolutionary nationalism was a crucial strand in the Indian national movement, particularly influential in Maharashtra, Bengal, and Punjab. These regions hosted networks of revolutionary societies that operated independently yet often collaborated for Indian independence.

Key Influences:

- **Religious Revival:** The late 19th-century religious revival.

- **Foreign Influences:** American War of Independence, Irish struggle, Italian unification, Japanese victory over Russia, and the Russian revolution.

Key Figures:

- **Bengal Revolutionaries:** Inspired by Bankim Chandra Chatterji, Swami Vivekanand, and Aurobindo Ghosh.

Role and Impact:

1. **Youth Mobilization:** Revolutionary groups sparked awareness and activism among the youth, which was later harnessed by mass movements led by Gandhi.
2. **Nationalism Growth:** Despite its decline, the revolutionary movement significantly contributed to Indian nationalism, restoring pride and challenging British rule.
3. **Political Force:** It became a major political force in Bengal post-Swadeshi Movement, working alongside and sometimes in parallel with mainstream nationalism.
4. **New Struggles:** Introduced revolutionary violence into Bengal's political culture, legitimizing political violence as a tactic for independence.
5. **Support to INC:** Provided clandestine support to the Congress, bolstering its stance against British repression and contributing auxiliary support.
6. **National Unity:** Figures like Bhagat Singh became symbols of national unity and inspiration through their sacrifices.
7. **Women Empowerment:** Involved rural women in active roles, including violent resistance, marking a significant shift from supportive to direct combat roles.

Challenges:

1. **Numerical Limitations:** Limited participation from the Indian bourgeoisie and inadequate moral support.
2. **Geographical Constraints:** Distant bases of operation and British dominance over the seas hindered effective coordination and support.
3. **Internal Disputes:** Infighting among revolutionary groups regarding strategies and goals.

Conclusion:

Revolutionary nationalism, despite its challenges and limitations, played a pivotal role in shaping the Indian freedom struggle, introducing new forms of resistance, and inspiring both unity and action among Indians.

Role of Women in the Indian Freedom Struggle



Women played a significant and transformative role in India's struggle for independence, contributing through various forms of activism, leadership, and participation in key movements.

Key Contributions:

1. Early Involvement:

- **Social Reforms:** Women like Raja Ram Mohan Roy's wife, and social reformers such as Begum Roquia Sakhawat Hossain, were pioneers in social reform and women's education.
- **First War of Independence (1857):** Figures like Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi and Begum Hazrat Mahal of Oudh led revolts against British rule.

2. Participation in Major Movements:

- **Swadeshi Movement (1905-1908):** Women participated in boycotts and protests, such as those led by Sarojini Naidu and her involvement in organizing and mobilizing women.

- **Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22):** Women joined picketing of shops, boycott of British goods, and promoted the spinning of khadi.
- **Civil Disobedience Movement (1930-34):** Women played active roles in salt marches, protests, and demonstrations. Leaders like Kasturba Gandhi and Aruna Asaf Ali were prominent figures.

3. Key Figures and Movements:

- **Bhikaji Cama:** An early revolutionary who worked for independence and advocated for women's rights.
- **Sarojini Naidu:** Known as the 'Nightingale of India,' she was a key figure in the independence movement and a prominent orator.
- **Subhas Chandra Bose:** Worked with women leaders in the Indian National Army, where women were also actively involved.
- **Usha Mehta:** Played a role in broadcasting the Quit India Movement's messages.

4. Challenges and Resistance:

- **Cultural Barriers:** Women faced significant societal resistance and limitations due to traditional norms and gender roles.
- **Repression:** Female activists were often arrested, faced violence, and had their activities suppressed.

5. Empowerment and Legacy:

- **Political Participation:** Women's involvement in the freedom struggle led to greater political awareness and participation, paving the way for future political roles.
- **Post-Independence Impact:** Women continued to influence Indian politics and society, contributing to various fields and advocating for gender equality.

Conclusion:

Women's active participation in the Indian freedom struggle was crucial in shaping the movement's trajectory. Their contributions, from social reform to direct activism in major movements, significantly advanced the cause of independence and left a lasting impact on India's political and social landscape.

Socio-Religious Reform Movements in India

3.

Movement	Background	Impact
1. Brahmo Samaj (led by Raja Ram Mohan Roy)	Raja Ram Mohan Roy, often called the "Father of the Indian Renaissance," founded the Brahmo Samaj in 1828. He sought to synthesize the best elements of different religions and advocated for monotheism, rationality, and the rejection of idol worship.	The Brahmo Samaj played a pivotal role in promoting social reforms. Raja Ram Mohan Roy's efforts led to the banning of the practice of sati in 1829 . He also supported widow remarriage and the spread of modern education.
2. Social Reform Movements in Western India (led by Jyotirao Phule)	Jyotirao Phule in Maharashtra was a prominent figure in promoting social reforms. They challenged the caste system, advocating for caste equality , widow remarriage, and education for the lower castes and women.	These movements challenged the oppressive social hierarchies prevalent at the time. Jyotirao Phule founded the Satyashodhak Samaj , which aimed at annihilating caste-based distinctions and promoting social equality.
3. Arya Samaj (led by Swami Dayanand Saraswati)	Swami Dayanand Saraswati founded Arya Samaj in 1875, advocating for the revival of Vedic knowledge and the rejection of idol worship and caste-based discrimination .	: Arya Samaj promoted Vedic values and played a significant role in educational reform , particularly in North India. It also contributed to the popularization of the Hindi language.
4. Women's Rights Movements (led by Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, and others)	Leaders like Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar and others championed women's rights. They advocated for women's education, widow remarriage , and the abolition of the inhuman practice of sati .	Their efforts led to substantial legal changes, including the passage of the Widow Remarriage Act of 1856 , which legalized widow remarriage, and the Female Infanticide Prevention Act of 1870.
5. Young Bengal Movement (led by Henry Louis Vivian Derozio and others)	The Young Bengal Movement was a group of young intellectuals in Bengal who were critical of social and religious orthodoxies and promoted radical ideas, including the questioning of traditional Hindu practices.	The movement was instrumental in spreading new ideas, fostering intellectual discussions, and creating a platform for radical thought in Bengal.
6. Aligarh Movement (led by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan)	Sir Syed Ahmed Khan initiated the Aligarh Movement, emphasizing modern education and scientific knowledge among Muslims . He founded Aligarh Muslim University in 1875.	The Aligarh Movement played a crucial role in modernizing Muslim society by promoting modern education and scientific thinking . It aimed to reconcile Islamic values with modernity.

Causes:

1. **Social Inequality:** The reformers aimed to address caste discrimination, gender inequality, and other social injustices prevalent in Indian society.
2. **Religious Superstitions:** The movements sought to eliminate superstitious practices, ritualistic excesses, and religious orthodoxy.
3. **Colonial Influence:** Exposure to Western ideas and values, including concepts of human rights and rationalism, influenced Indian reformers to question traditional practices.
4. **Educational Reforms:** There was a push for modern education and the promotion of scientific and rational thinking.
5. **Revival of Hinduism:** Some movements aimed at reviving and reforming Hinduism by returning to its core values and principles.

Evaluation:

1. **Social Reforms:** Successfully addressed various social issues such as caste discrimination and the status of women. Promoted social equality and justice.
2. **Educational Impact:** Improved access to education and encouraged the spread of modern scientific knowledge.
3. **Religious Reformation:** Revived interest in Hinduism and other religions, encouraging a more rational and ethical approach.
4. **Empowerment of Women:** Advocated for women's rights, including education, widow remarriage, and abolition of Sati.
5. **Cultural Renaissance:** Contributed to the cultural and intellectual revival of India, influencing literature, arts, and societal values.

Criticism:

1. **Limited Reach:** Reforms were often limited to urban and educated sections of society, leaving rural areas and the lower classes largely unaffected.
2. **Western Influence:** Some critics argued that the movements were too influenced by Western ideas and failed to address indigenous cultural contexts.
3. **Religious Conflict:** The emphasis on reforming specific religious practices sometimes led to conflicts within and between different religious communities.
4. **Resistance from Traditionalists:** Reformers faced strong opposition from conservative elements within society, which sometimes hindered their efforts.

5. **Fragmentation:** The proliferation of various reform movements led to fragmentation, with different groups focusing on divergent issues, which sometimes diluted the overall impact.

Morley-Minto Reforms of 1909

Legislative Expansion:

- **Increased Size:** Expanded both central and provincial legislative councils.
- **Non-Official Majority:** Provincial councils could have a non-official majority, but the central council maintained an official majority.

Electoral System:

- **Indirect Elections:** Members elected indirectly through an electoral college system.
- **Communal Representation:** Introduced separate electorates for Muslims, institutionalizing communalism.

Dyarchy in Provinces:

- **Reserved Subjects:** Administered by the governor through executive councilors; included law, order, and finance.
- **Transferred Subjects:** Administered by ministers from the legislature; included education, health, and local government.
- **Governor's Powers:** The governor could assume control over transferred subjects and veto bills; the Secretary of State had interference powers.

Provincial Legislatures:

- **Expanded Membership:** 70% of members elected.
- **Communal Electorates:** System of communal and class electorates solidified.
- **Women's Suffrage:** Women granted the right to vote.
- **Legislative Powers:** Could initiate legislation and reject budgets, but the governor had veto powers.

Central Government:

- **Viceroy's Council:** 8 members, including 3 Indians; the Viceroy controlled reserved subjects.
- **Bicameral Legislature:** Lower house with 144 members, upper house with 60 members.
- **Limited Powers:** Could ask questions and pass adjournment motions; 75% of the budget non-votable.

Government of India Act 1935

All-India Federation:

- **Federal Structure:** Proposed federation of provinces and princely states.

Three Lists:

- **Power Distribution:** Powers divided into federal, provincial, and concurrent lists.

Provincial Autonomy:

- **Abolition of Dyarchy:** Introduced responsible government in provinces.

Bicameralism:

- **Legislatures:** Bicameral legislatures introduced in six provinces.

Representation in 1935 Act:

- **Extended Electorates:** Included depressed classes, women, and labor.
- **Council of India Abolished:** Secretary of State given advisors.
- **New Institutions:** Federal Public Service Commission, Provincial Commissions, Federal Court, Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Local Self-Government:

- **Rural Areas:** Elected local councils established in 1921.
- **Urban Areas:** Municipal corporations made more democratic and “Indianized” in the 1920s.

Unimplemented Provisions:

- **All-India Federation:** Federation did not materialize as princely states did not join.
- **Dyarchy at Centre:** Provision for dyarchy at the central level was not implemented.

Legacy and Impact:

- **Increased Participation:** Both reforms paved the way for greater Indian involvement in governance.
- **Criticisms:** Limited scope, entrenchment of communal divisions, and incomplete implementation.

SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL (1875-1950)

- A lawyer and a political activist, he played a leading role during the Indian Independence Movement. After independence, he was crucial in the integration of over 500 princely states into the Indian Union.
- He was deeply influenced by Gandhi's ideology and principles, having worked very closely with leader.
- Despite being the choice of the people, on the request of Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Patel stepped down from the candidacy of Congress President, which ultimately turned out to be the election to choose the first Prime Minister of independent India.
- He was the first Home Minister of Independent India and his uncompromising efforts towards consolidation of the country earned him the title 'Iron Man of India'.
- In 1917, Sardar Vallabhbhai was elected as the Secretary of the Gujarat Sabha, the Gujarat wing of the Indian National Congress. In 1918, he led a massive "No Tax Campaign" that urged the farmers not to pay taxes after the British insisted on tax after the floods in Kaira.
- The peaceful movement forced the British authorities to return the land taken away from the farmers. His effort to bring together the farmers of his area brought him the title of 'Sardar'.
- In 1928, the farmers of Bardoli again faced a problem of "tax-hike". After several rounds of negotiations by Patel, the lands were returned to farmers after a deal was struck between the government and farmers' representatives.
- In 1930, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was among the leaders imprisoned for participating in the famous Salt Satyagraha movement initiated by Mahatma Gandhi. His inspiring speeches during the "Salt Movement" transformed the outlook of numerous people, who later played a major role in making the movement successful.
- He was elected as the President of Indian National Congress in its historical Karachi session where the party deliberated its future path.
- In the 1942 Quit India Movement, Patel continued his unwavering support to Gandhi when several contemporary leaders criticized the latter's decision.
- After India achieved independence, Patel became the first Home Minister and also the Deputy Prime Minister. Patel played a very crucial role in post-independence India by successfully integrating around 562 princely states under the Indian Dominion.
- Patel was a leading member of the Constituent Assembly of India and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was appointed on his recommendation.
- He was the key force in establishing the Indian Administrative Service and the Indian Police Service.

- While leaders including Jawaharlal Nehru, Chakravarthi Rajagopalachari and Maulana Azad criticized Mahatma Gandhi's idea that the civil disobedience movement would compel the British to leave the nation, Patel extended his support to Gandhi.
- He was posthumously conferred the Bharat Ratna, India's highest Civilian honour, in 1991. His birthday, October 31, was declared Rashtriya Ekta Divas in 2014.
- After India attained Independence, Patel fashioned the country's political integration with the swiftness of a military commander and the deftness of a visionary leader.
- Present-day India owes immeasurable debt to the vision, tact, diplomacy and pragmatic approach of the Sardar in preventing the Balkanisation of the country.
- He was instrumental in the merger of more than 560 princely states with the Union of India after the country's partition. What makes this achievement very remarkable is that it was achieved without any bloodshed.
- Acknowledging the monumental contribution of Patel in nation building, Nehru said, "History will call him the builder and consolidator of new India."
- Patel was also instrumental in the creation of the All India Administrative Services which he described as the country's "Steel Frame". In his address to the probationers of these services, he asked them to be guided by the spirit of service in day-to-day administration.
- His exhortation to the probationers to maintain utmost impartiality and incorruptibility of administration is as relevant today as it was then. "A civil servant cannot afford to, and must not, take part in politics. Nor must he involve himself in communal wrangles. To depart from the path of rectitude in either of these respects is to debase public service and to lower its dignity," he had cautioned them on April 21, 1947.

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SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE (1897-1945)

- Publications: The Indian Struggle (1920–1942)
- Subhash Chandra Bose was one of the most celebrated freedom fighters of India. He was a charismatic influencer of the youth and earned the epithet 'Netaji' by establishing and leading the Indian National Army (INA) during India's struggle for independence.
- Initially, Subhash Chandra Bose worked under the leadership of Chittaranjan Das, an active member of the Congress in Calcutta. It was Chittaranjan Das, who along with Motilal Nehru, left Congress and founded the Swaraj Party in 1922. Bose regarded Chittaranjan Das as his political guru.
- He himself started the newspaper 'Swaraj', edited Das' newspaper 'Forward' and worked as the CEO of Calcutta Municipal Corporation under Das' stint as Mayor.

- Subhash Chandra Bose played an important role in enlightening the students, youths and labourers of Calcutta. In his fervent wait to see India as an independent, federal and republic nation, he emerged as a charismatic and firebrand youth icon.
- The differences between moderate Gandhi and aggressive Subhash Chandra Bose swelled to irreconcilable proportions and Bose decided to resign from the party in 1939. He went on to form the Forward Bloc the same year.
- Although he voiced his dislike for the British often in his correspondences, he also expressed his admiration for their structured way of life. He met with the leaders of the British Labor Party and political thinkers including Clement Attlee, Harold Laski, J.B.S. Haldane, Arthur Greenwood, G.D.H. Cole, and Sir Stafford Cripps and discussed the possibilities that an independent India might hold.
- Bose's correspondences prove his faith in democracy in Independent India. Bose's primary ideology was always the freedom of his motherland even if meant taking help from fascists like Mussolini or Hitler.
- Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose has left deep impact on the psyche of his countrymen. His slogan, 'Jai Hind' is still used in reverence to the country. The International airport in Kolkata has been named Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport to commemorate the charismatic leader.
- Tagore gave him the title "Desh Nayak".
- 1920s: Upon Gandhi's advice, Bose worked under mentorship of Chittaranjan Das, Participated in NCM and Khilafat and got arrested.
- When Gandhi stopped Non-Cooperation movement (NCM) after Chauri-Chaura incident, Bose called it a "National Calamity".
- While outlining his vision for a free India, Subhash Chandra Bose proclaimed that socialist authoritarianism would be required to eradicate poverty and social inequalities from a diverse country like India.
- Bose was also an exponent of socialism and opined that industrialization and Soviet-style five-year plans held the key to a vibrant Indian nation.
- The Second World War broke out in 1939 and Bose launched a campaign of mass civil disobedience to protest against the Viceroy's decision to declare war on India's behalf.

SYED AHMED KHAN

- After the rebellion, he penned the booklet The causes of Indian mutiny – a daring critique, at the time, of British policies that he blamed for causing the revolt.
- His main interest was intellectual development of the people through modern education.
- He was the first Indian Muslim to contribute to the intellectual and institutional foundation of Muslim modernization in Southern Asia.

- In 1847, he brought out an important book "Monuments of the Great" on the antiquities of Delhi.
- Additionally, he wrote "Loyal Muhammadans of India" in which he shielded the Muslims against the charges of unfaithfulness.
- He pleaded that there was no harm in accepting western sciences and in learning English language. He issued a magazine named "Tahzib-ul-Ikhlaq" which projected adoptable European manners.
- Throughout his life, Syed Ahmad Khan remonstrated against the practices of purdah, polygamy, easy divorce and many other fallacies in his community.
- In AD 1864, he established the Translation Society at Aligarh. It was later renamed the Scientific Society.
- His viewpoint guided the creation of the All India Muslim League in 1906, as a political party separate from the Congress.
- It is erroneously believed by some historians that the Hindu-Muslim divide in India was the by-product of the two-nation theory which supposedly had its origin in Sir Syed's ideology.
- In 1884, in Gurdaspur, he remarked: "O Hindus and Muslims! Do you belong to a country other than India? Do not you live on this soil and are not buried under it or cremated on its ghats? If you live and die on this land, then, bear in mind, that... all the Hindus, Muslims and Christians who live in this country are one nation."
- Sir Syed believed in a multiculturalism under which all cultural communities must be entitled to equal status under state.

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LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI

- Lal Bahadur Shastri believed that the country could only progress economically if planners had a clear concept of rural development in the context of growing unemployment.
- He believed that the rural economy should be given top priority to stem the flow of youth into cities looking for jobs. That vocational education was key to this was his strong belief.
- He says "In the long run, the economic condition of the country will improve only if we plan the economy in a rational and scientific manner."
- He had visualised that along with the Industrial Revolution, it was the Green Revolution combined with the White Revolution which could raise the economic standard of people.
- He also believed that the efficiency and integrity of the administration was important to get policies and programmes implemented in the right spirit.
- The administrative system was to be made an effective instrument of economic change, and it was Shastriji who constituted the Administrative Reform Commission.

“O Nanak, remain a small one as small as grass, Other plants will wither away,
But the grass will remain ever green.”

- Lal bahadur shastri.

- A beautiful flower attracts everyone for some time and the moment it loses its fragrance, people discard it without any feelings. But green grass remains green throughout the year.

- “The completion of education marks a turning point in the life of every individual. Naturally every individual is anxious to get suitable employment. Opportunity for employment is being created increasingly as our development plans are implemented.”

- His slogan “Jai Jawan Jai Kisan”, is even more relevant today; economic development and employment generation should be the guiding force in our planning for the future.

Dr.B.R.AMBEDKAR (1891-1956)

- Associations: Samata Sainik Dal, Independent Labour Party, Scheduled Castes Federation.

- Publications: Essays on Untouchables and Untouchability, The Annihilation of Caste, Waiting for a Visa.

- Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, popularly known as Babasaheb Ambedkar, was a jurist, social reformer and politician. He is also known as the Father of Indian Constitution.

- A well-known politician and an eminent jurist, his efforts to eradicate social evils like untouchability and caste restrictions were remarkable. Throughout his life, he fought for the rights of the dalits and other socially backward classes.

- Ambedkar was appointed as India's first Law Minister in the Cabinet of Jawaharlal Nehru. He was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honor, in 1990.

- Throughout his childhood, Ambedkar faced the stigmas of caste discrimination. Hailing from the Hindu Mahar caste, his family was viewed as “untouchable” by the upper classes.

- In his testimony before the Southborough Committee in preparation of the Government of India Act in 1919, Ambedkar opined that there should be separate electoral system for the Untouchables and other marginalised communities. He contemplated the idea of reservations for Dalits and other religious outcasts.

- He launched a newspaper called “Mooknayaka” (leader of the silent) in 1920 .

- By 1927, Ambedkar launched full-fledged movements for Dalit rights. He demanded public drinking water sources open to all and right for all castes to enter

temples. He openly condemned Hindu Scriptures advocating discrimination and arranged symbolic demonstrations to enter the Kalaram Temple in Nashik.

- In 1936, Ambedkar founded the Independent Labor Party. In the 1937 elections to the Central Legislative Assembly, his party won 15 seats. Ambedkar oversaw the transformation of his political party into the All India Scheduled Castes Federation, although it performed poorly in the elections held in 1946 for the Constituent Assembly of India.

- Ambedkar objected to the decision of the Congress and Mahatma Gandhi to call the untouchable community as Harijans. He would say that even the members of untouchable community are same as the other members of the society.

- In 1950, Ambedkar travelled to Sri Lanka to attend a convention of Buddhist scholars and monks. After his return he decided to write a book on Buddhism and soon, converted to Buddhism.

- On October 14, 1956 Ambedkar organized a public ceremony to convert around five lakh of his supporters to Buddhism. Ambedkar traveled to Kathmandu to attend the Fourth World Buddhist Conference. He completed his final manuscript, "The Buddha or Karl Marx" on December 2, 1956.

- Bahishkrit Hitakarini Sabha was the first organization formed by Dr. Ambedkar in 1924.

- Ambedkar considered the Right to Constitutional Remedy as the Soul of the Constitution and Union of India as "indestructible union of destructible states".

- Prabhuddha Bharat was also a journal published by him.

JAWAHAR LAL NEHRU (1889-1964)

- Upon hearing Dyer's words, Nehru vowed to fight the British. The incident changed the course of his life.

- Nehru joined the Indian National Congress, one of India's two major political parties. Nehru was deeply influenced by the party's leader, Mahatma Gandhi.

- Always leaning to the left politically, Nehru studied Marxism while imprisoned.

- In 1928, after years of struggle on behalf of Indian emancipation, Jawaharlal Nehru was named president of the Indian National Congress.

- The next year, Nehru led the historic session at Lahore that proclaimed complete independence as India's political goal.

- Nehru's four pillars of domestic policies were democracy, socialism, unity, and secularism, and he largely succeeded in maintaining a strong foundation of all four during his tenure as president.

- While serving his country, he enjoyed iconic status and was widely admired internationally for his idealism and statesmanship.

- Publications: The Discovery of India, Glimpses of World History, Toward Freedom, Letters from a Father to His Daughter.

- It was under Nehru's supervision that India launched its first Five-Year Plan in 1951. Nehru was one of the architects to steer the nascent nation towards the brilliance envisioned by countless revolutionaries of the Indian Freedom struggle.
- His loyalty to Congress remained unwavering in the face of the rift created in the party due to Gandhi's decision to adjourn the Non-cooperation movement post Chauri Chaura incident. He refused to move to the Swaraj Party established by his father and Chittaranjan Das in 1922.
- In the 1942 Quit India Movement, Nehru vehemently rallied for 'Purna Swaraj' or complete political independence for India.
- Joins and become secretary of Besant's All India Home rule league.
- Founded the Independence for India League in 1928.
- Became Chairman of the National Planning Committee in 1938.
- Chou En-lai visited India. A joint statement listing the five principles (Panchsheel) for the regulation of relations between nations was issued in 1954.

DR. RAJENDRA PRASADH (1884-1963)

- His publications include Atmakatha (1946); Satyagraha at Champaran (1922); India Divided (1946); Mahatma Gandhi and Bihar, Some Reminiscences (1949); Bapu ke Kadmon Mein (1954).
- He was one of the prominent leaders of the Indian Nationalist Movement alongside Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel and Lal Bahadur Shastri.
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the first President of independent India.
- He took up the helms of designing the Constitution of the nascent nation by heading up the Constituent Assembly post-independence. To say it succinctly, Dr. Prasad was one of the chief architects in shaping the Republic of India.
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad was instrumental in the formation of the 'Bihari Students' Conference in 1908. It was the first organization of its kind in the whole of India.
- He attended as a volunteer in the 1906 Calcutta session of the Indian National Congress and formally joined the party in 1911. He was subsequently elected to the AICC.
- In 1917, Mahatma Gandhi visited Champaran to support the cause of the peasants' revolting against the forceful cultivation of Indigo by the British authorities. Gandhi invited Dr. Prasad to the area to undertake a fact finding mission regarding the claims of both the peasants and the British.
- Gandhi undertook the 'Champaran Satyagraha' and Dr. Prasad offered his whole-hearted support to the cause.
- In 1920, when Gandhi announced the commencement of the Non-cooperation movement, Dr. Prasad gave up his lucrative law practice and dedicated himself to the cause of freedom. He led the programs of non-cooperation in Bihar.

- As a gesture of support to Gandhi's call to boycott attending British sponsored educational institutions, Dr. Prasad asked his son Mrityunjaya Prasad to leave the University and join Bihar Vidyapeeth.
- He started the National College in Patna in 1921. He upheld the ideas of Swadeshi, asking people to boycott foreign goods, peruse the spinning wheel and wear only khadi garments.
- Nationalist India expressed its admiration by electing Rajendra Prasad as the President of the Bombay session of the Indian National Congress in October 1934. He was elected President for a second time in 1939 when Subhash Chandra Bose resigned from the post. His third stint as the President of All India Congress Party was in 1947 when J. B. Kripalani resigned from the post.
- He became very much involved in the Quit India movement launched by Gandhi in 1942. He led protests and demonstrations in Bihar (Patna in particular).
- He was re-elected for 2 consecutive terms in 1952 and 1957, and remains only President of India to achieve this feat after being elected in 1950.
- He was awarded the "Bharat Ratna", the nation's highest civilian award, in 1962.

BIPIN CHANDRA PAL(1858-1932)

- With the other two members - Lala Lajpat Rai and Bal Gangadhar Tilak - from the Lal Bal Pal team, Bipin Chandra Pal doled out a number of extremist measures like boycotting goods made by British, burning Western clothes and lockouts in the British owned businesses and industrial concerns to get their message across to the foreign rulers of India.
- Bipin Chandra Pal was a teacher, journalist, orator, writer and librarian. But above all, he was the one of the three famous leaders called "Lal Bal Pal" who comprised the extremist wing of the Indian National Congress.
- Bipin Chandra Pal recognized the positive outcome of the British kingdom, but at the same time upheld India's federal idea.
- In 1886, he joined the Indian National Congress. At the Madras session of congress held in 1887, Bipin Chandra Pal made a strong plea for repeal of the Arms Act which was discriminatory in nature.
- His program consisted of Swadeshi, Boycott and national education. He preached and encouraged the use of Swadeshi and the Boycott of foreign goods to eradicate poverty and unemployment.
- He wanted to remove social evils from the form and arouse the feelings of nationalism through national criticism.
- Sri Aurobindo referred to him as one of mightiest prophets of nationalism.

LALA LAJPAT RAI (1865-1928)

- Lala Lajpat Rai was a prominent nationalist leader who played an important role in India's struggle for freedom. He was a prominent member of the famous 'Lal Bal Pal' firebrand trio during the independence movement.

- His fierce brand of patriotism and potent vocalism against the British rule earned him the title of 'Punjab Kesari' or the Lion of the Punjab.
- He also initiated the foundation of Punjab National Bank.
- In 1897, he founded the Hindu Orphan Relief Movement to keep the Christian missions from securing custody of these children.
- He was badly injured in police lathi-charge on the activists, who were protesting the arrival of Simon Commission, and died a few days later due to the injuries.
- Lala Lajpat Rai was a voracious reader and everything he read left a great imprint on his mind. He was deeply impressed by the ideals of patriotism and nationalism outlined by Italian revolutionary leader Giuseppe Mazzini. Inspired by Mazzini, Lalaji became indoctrinated into the revolutionary way of attaining freedom.
- He, together with other prominent leaders like Bipin Chandra Pal, Aurobindo Ghosh from Bengal, and Bal Gangadhar Tilak from Maharashtra, began to see the negative aspects of moderate politics advocated by many leaders of the Indian National Congress.
- They voiced their strong opposition to the Congress' demand for gradual progress to dominion status and began voicing the need for complete independence or 'Purna Swaraj'.
- Lala was one of the few leaders who realized the difficulties of a united anti-colonial struggle and a possible source of religious conflict between the Hindus and Muslims of the country.
- In 1920, after his return from America, Lajpat Rai was invited to preside over the special session of the Congress in Calcutta, (now Kolkata). He led fiery demonstrations against the British in Punjab in protest for their brutal actions at Jallianwallah Bagh.
- When Gandhi launched the non-cooperation movement in 1920, he plunged into action leading the movement in Punjab.
- When Gandhi decided to suspend the movement post Chauri Chaura incident, Lajpat Rai criticized the decision and went on to form the Congress Independence Party.
- He was a follower of Dayanand Saraswati and helped establish the nationalistic Dayanand Anglo-Vedic School.
- Along with Surendra Nath Banerjee, Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh, he galvanized Bengal and the nation in a vigorous campaign of Swadeshi.
- In October 1917, he founded the Indian Home Rule League of America in New York.
- In 1920, after his return from America, Lajpat Rai was invited to preside over the special session of the Congress in Calcutta, (now Kolkata).

BAL GANGADHAR TILAK(1856-1920)

- Bal Gangadhar Tilak was a social reformer and freedom fighter and was one of the prime architects of modern India and strongest advocates of Swaraj (Self Rule).
- He was a great reformer and throughout his life he emphasized on the concepts of women education and women empowerment.
- To inspire a sense of unity, he introduced the festivals like 'Ganesh Chaturthi' and Shivaji Jayanti'.
- Bal Gangadhar Tilak launched two newspapers called 'Mahratta' (English) and 'Kesari' (Marathi). Both the newspaper stressed on making the Indians aware of the glorious past and empowered them to be self reliant. The newspaper actively propagated the cause of national freedom.
- Bal Gangadhar Tilak joined the Indian National Congress Party in 1890. Realizing that the constitutional agitation in itself was futile against the British, Tilak opposed the moderate views of the party.
- His movement was based on the principles of Swadeshi (Indigenous), Boycott and Education.
- Tilak was well supported by fellow nationalists Bipin Chandra Pal in Bengal and Lala Lajpat Rai in Punjab. The trio was referred to as the Lal-Bal-Pal.
- During 1908-1914, Bal Gangadhar Tilak spent six years rigorous imprisonment in Mandalay Jail, Burma. He was deported because of his alleged support to the Indian revolutionaries, who had killed British people.
- He founded (1914) and served as president of the Indian Home Rule League.
- In 1916 he concluded the Lucknow Pact with jinnah, which provided for Hindu-Muslim unity in the nationalist struggle.
- When curzon, viceroy of India, partitioned Bengal in 1905, Tilak strongly supported the Bengali demand for the annulment of the partition and advocated a boycott of British goods, which soon became a movement that swept the nation.
- The following year he set forth a program of passive resistance, known as the "Tenets of the New Party", that he hoped would destroy the hypnotic influence of British rule and prepare the people for sacrifice in order to gain independence.
- Tilak officially opposed the age of consent bill which raised the age of marriage from ten to twelve for girls, however he was willing to sign a circular that increased age of marriage for girls to sixteen and twenty for boys.

GOPALA KRISHNA GOKHALE(1866-1915)

- Gokhale was greatly influenced by M. G. Ranade, whom he regarded as his master in political and public life.
- In 1890, he was elected Honorary Secretary of the Sarvajanik Sabha, Poona, of which Ranade was the most influential member.

- In 1905, Gokhale founded the 'Servants of India Society' with the object of training men to devote themselves to the service of India as national missionaries and to promote by all constitutional means the national interests of the Indian people.
 - He was a front rank reformer; he deprecated the caste-system and untouchability, pleaded for the emancipation of women and championed the cause of female education.
 - In Gokhale's opinion, the introduction of Western education in India with its liberalising influence was a great blessing to the people.
 - He was a firm believer in the theory that mass education was a prerequisite to national political consciousness. He advocated that primary education should be free in all schools throughout India at once.
 - In his opinion, the economic results of British rule in India were absolutely disastrous, resulting in frightful poverty. According to him, the greatest need of the hour in India was industrial education.
 - In agriculture, he pleaded that old methods should be changed as much as possible. There was a crying need to introduce agricultural science and improved agricultural implements.
 - Gokhale paid frequent visits to England. His first visit in 1897 was in connection with the Welby Commission. His evidence was noted for his analysis of the leading facts in the history of Indian Finance.
 - In politics he belonged to the moderate group opposed to the extremist school led by Tilak. He, however, placed equal emphasis on social reform as on political progress.
 - President INC: Benares, 1905 session.
- The higher education made Gokhale understand the importance of liberty, democracy and parliamentary system of the government.
- Gokhale also worked with Ranade in a quarterly Journal, called "Sarvajanik". The Journal wrote about the public questions of the day in frank and fearless manner.
 - Gokhale was instrumental in the formation of the Minto-Morley Reforms of 1909, which was tabled.
 - In his autobiography, Gandhi calls Gokhale his "mentor and guide".
 - For four years he edited the 'Sudharak', a quarterly journal of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha.

DADABHAI NAROJI(1825-1917)

- Founder of East India Association, father of Indian politics, father of Indian economics, creator of Drain theory, first Indian elected to British parliament, coined the name Indian National Congress, used the word 'Swaraj'

firstly, first Indian calculated the national Income, wrote the book "Poverty and Un-British Rule in India", started news paper called Voice of India.

- In 1866 Dadabhai founded the East India Association in London. Its object was to inform the British of the true state of affairs in India.

- It was due to the efforts of Dadabhai and Bradlaugh that the British House of Commons passed a resolution recommending that the ICS examination be held simultaneously both in England and in India. The Resolution, however, could not become an Act.

- Dadabhai was one of the founders of the Indian National Congress. Thrice he presided over the sessions of the Congress in 1886, 1893 and 1906.

- Dadabhai's historic address, read out by Mr. Gokhale due to Dadabhai's ill health, laid stress on attainment of "SWARAJ".

- Dadabhai edited 'Rast Goftar' (Speaker of Truth). He also started a magazine 'Dharma Marg Darshak'. He was a great thinker and writer.

- Dadabhai believed that justice and union of heart and feelings constituted the real basis of political power, and not brute force.

- As a professor, legislator, tankar and statesman his life was a glorious saga of devotion to duty. He was, indeed, "a Path-finder of Indian nationalism".

- He set up the Gyan Prasarak Mandali (Society for Promotion of Knowledge) for the education of adult menfolk.

- Dadabhai Naoroji is regarded as one of the most important Indians during the independence movement. In his writings, he considered that the foreign intervention into India was clearly not favourable for the country.

SURENDRANATH BANERJEE (1848-1925)

- He founded the Indian National Association, through which he led two sessions of the Indian National Conference in 1883 and 1885, along with Anandamohan Bose.

- Surendranath also founded Indian National Liberation Federation.

- He successfully competed for the ICS examination in 1869 and was appointed Assistant Magistrate of Sylhet. Some charges were framed against him. As a result, in 1873 he was dismissed from the Service.

- In 1882, he started a school which later grew into a college (Lord Ripon College).

- Surendranath took to public life in 1876, the year in which he founded the Indian Association. The object of the Association was to agitate for the introduction of political reforms in India.

- He fearlessly criticised such measures as the Arms Act and the Vernacular Press Act.

- Convened Indian National Conference in 1883 (A Pillar of Congress in its Early Days): Surendranath took the lead in convening the Indian National Conference in 1883. It was the first organisation of an all-India character. Indian National

Conference welcomed the birth of the Congress and soon came the merger of the two bodies.

- Twice he presided over the sessions of the Congress in 1895 and 1902.
- Surendranath edited 'The Bengalee' which had been founded by W.C. Bonnerjea. This paper very much criticised the Ilbert Bill and the Vernacular Press Act.
- He was a firm believer in India's right to Self-Government. His best known book is 'A Nation in Making'.
- He urged Indians to boycott foreign goods. He supported the Swadeshi Movement.
- Surendranath Banerjee is also known as RastraGuru.
- He was knighted by the Government and also served as minister for local self-government from 1921 to 1924.
- He was an open critic of Mahatma Gandhi, who was then only in rising stage of his political career.

KESHAB CHANDRA SEN

- Keshab Chandra Sen was an Indian bengali Hindu philosopher and social reformer who attempted to incorporate christian theology within the framework of Hindu thought.
- He advocated female education, supported widow remarriage and denounced polygamy.
- At his request the Government of India passed the Civil Marriage Act of 1872.
- He joined the Brahmo Samaj in 1857 by privately signing the Brahmo covenant and took to studying mental and moral philosophy.
- In 1860 he began publishing tracts which was the trumpet call of the new Brahmoism and the first chapter was called, "Young Bengal, this is for you".
- During this time in 1860, the Sangat Sabha was established, The Sangat Sabhas were small discussion forums that used to meet weekly and discuss about various social and religious issues. - which was a society of fellow believers to promote mutual spiritual intercourse amongst its members.
- He started the 'Indian Mirror' as a fortnightly in 1861 a weekly journal in which social and moral subjects were discussed and made it into a daily in 1871.
- Keshab Chandra Sen is considered responsible for bringing about a sea change in the dimension of the movement led by Brahmo Samaj in Bengal.
- He was also responsible for spreading the doctrines of Brahmo Samaj into many cities of South India.
- He was instrumental behind the foundation of the Indian Reform Association, which operated with an objective of improving the life of the peasants.

- He also argued against the proposal of Durga Mohan that women should be allowed to sit with their relatives during services at the Brahmo temple.
- Keshab Chandra Sen started publishing a newspaper named the New Dispensation in March 1881, to disseminate his ideas and philosophy in a better way.
- He also established British India Association.
- He tried to make the Brahmo Samaj an all-India movement, for which he extensively toured various parts of the country. As a result of his mission *Ved Samaj* was established in Madras and *Prarthana Samaj* in Maharashtra.
- He strove for radical social changes and emerged as a staunch supporter of emancipation of women, female education, inter-caste marriages and launched an organized campaign against child marriage.

RAJA RAMMOHUN ROY

- Ram Mohan Roy (22 May 1772 – 27 September 1833) was the founder of the *Brahmo Sabha* movement in 1828, which engendered the Brahmo samaj, an influential socio-religious reform movement.
- Ram Mohan Roy's impact on modern Indian history was a revival of the pure and ethical principles of the Vedanta school of philosophy as found in the Upanishads.
- He preached the unity of God, made early translations of Vedic scriptures into English, co-founded the Calcutta Unitarian Society and founded the Brahmo samaj.
- He was a scholar and knew Sanskrit, Persian, Hindi, Bengali, English and Arabic.
- Worked for the East India Company as a clerk.
- He was opposed to Sati, polygamy, child marriage, idolatry, the caste system, and propagated widow remarriage.
- He was against the perceived polytheism of Hinduism. He advocated monotheism as given in the scriptures.
- He started the Sambad Kaumudi (first Indian newspaper edited, published and managed by Indians.), a Bengali weekly newspaper which regularly denounced Sati as barbaric and against the tenets of Hinduism.
- He had also founded the Atmiya Sabha.
- He also spoke against the unjust policies of the British government especially the restrictions on press freedom.
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy and his Brahmo Samaj played a vital role in awakening Indian society to the pressing issues plaguing society at that time and also was the forerunner of all social, religious and political movements that happened in the country since.
- He is known as “Father of Modern India”; “Father of Indian Renaissance” and “bridge between past and future”.

- In 1815, he established the Atmiya Sabha, a precursor in the socio-religious reforms in Bengal.
- In 1817, he founded Mahapathshala (Hindu College) at Kolkata along with Radhakanta Deb and others. It was renamed as Presidency College in 1855 and was upgraded as full university recently in 2010.
- In 1822, he published a Persian news magazine titled *Mirat-ul-Akbar*.
- As a result of his sustained efforts, the Governor General Lord William Bentinck passed Regulation XVII on December 4, 1829 which declared Sati illegal and punishable as a criminal offence.

ISHWAR CHANDRA VIDHYASAGAR (26 September 1820 – 29 July 1891):

- Was an Indian Bengali polymath and a key figure of the Bengal renaissance.
- He was a philosopher, academic educator, writer, translator, printer, publisher, entrepreneur, reformer and philanthropist.
- He also forced British to pass widow remarriage act 1856.
- Vidyasagar championed the uplift of the status of women in India, particularly in his native Bengal. Unlike some other reformers who sought to set up alternative societies or systems, he sought to transform orthodox Hindu society from within.
- With support from people like Akshay Kumar Dutta, Vidyasagar introduced the practice of widow remarriages to mainstream Hindu society.
- His book, 'Borno Porichoy' (Introduction to the letter), is still used as the introductory text to learn Bengali alphabets.
- The title 'Vidyasagar' (ocean of knowledge) was given to him due to his vast knowledge in several subjects.
- Vidyasagar is credited with the role of thoroughly remodelling medieval scholastic system prevailing in Sanskrit College and bring about modern insights into the education system.
- He was an ardent advocate of women education. He rightly viewed education as the primary way for women to achieve emancipation from all the societal oppression they had to face at that time. He even initiated Nari Siksha Bhandar, a fund to lend support for the cause.
- He strongly protested against polygamy. He tried to prove that polygamy was against the ancient scriptures of the Hindus. His social awareness campaigns persuaded the people to lead a moral life.