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Second Phase of the Indian National Movement (Continued)

5

Partition of Bengal, Swadeshi and Boycott Movements

Exercises

Multiple Choice Questions

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|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (a) | 3. (c) | 4. (b) | 5. (b) |
| 6. (a) | 7. (d) | 8. (a) | 9. (b) | 10. (d) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (d) | 13. (a) | 14. (d) | 15. (b) |
| 16. (b) | 17. (d) | 18. (a) | | |

Short-Answer Questions

1. Why was Bengal partitioned in 1905 according to the British rulers?

Ans. According to the British rulers the province of Bengal was too big to be efficiently administered by a single provincial government. It was quite difficult for one Lt. Governor to administer it efficiently. Therefore, a scheme was prepared to divide the province of Bengal into two separate provinces.

2. Why was Bengal partitioned in 1905 according to the nationalist leaders?

Ans. According to the nationalist rulers Bengal was partitioned to cut the roots of nationalism since the Hindus and Muslims of Bengal were culturally and emotionally much united and they were taking active part in the National Movement.

3. Who was the chief architect of the Partition of Bengal?

Ans. Lord Curzon

4. When did the Partition of Bengal actually come into effect?

Ans. 16th October 1905.

5. How was 16 October, 1905 observed throughout Bengal?

Ans. The Partition of Bengal was enforced on 16th October 1905. It was called a day of national mourning. There was a general hartal. People fasted and went barefoot to take a bath in the Ganga. They were shouting *Bande Mataram* and singing patriotic songs. The Hindus and Muslims tied Rakhi on one another's wrists as a symbol of brotherhood.

6. When was the Partition of Bengal revoked?

Ans. The Partition of Bengal was revoked in 1911.

7. Give one effect of the Partition of Bengal on the National Movement.

Ans. Swadeshi and Boycott Movement was started.

8. State any two repressive policies of Lord Curzon that led to Assertive/Radical Nationalism in India.

Ans. (a) To bring Indian Universities under tighter control, he passed the Indian Universities Act of 1904.

(b) He partitioned Bengal under the pretext of administrative efficiency, to weaken the national movement.

9. What was the action taken by the Viceroy that sparked off the Swadeshi Movement?

Ans. The Swadeshi and Boycott Movements began in 1905 as a part of the agitation against the Partition of Bengal announced by the Viceroy Lord Curzon.

10. Give two reasons for starting the Swadeshi and the Boycott Movements.

Ans. (a) The Swadeshi and the Boycott Movements began as a part of the agitation against the Partition of Bengal.

(b) The Indian leaders felt that they could not produce any effect on the British Government by holding meetings and passing resolutions only Swadeshi and Boycott

movement could force the Government to annual partition, and it did.

11. What do you mean by the terms 'Swadeshi' and 'Boycott'?

Ans. 'Swadeshi' means things grown or manufactured in one's own country and 'Boycott' means giving up the use of foreign goods.

12. Name two political leaders who were arrested by the British Government for taking an active part in the Swadeshi and Boycott Movement.

Ans. Lala Lajpat Rai and Ajit Singh.

13. What two repressive measures were taken by the Government to suppress the Swadeshi and the Boycott Movement?

Ans. (a) The people and the local leaders were beaten mercilessly by the soldiers. Many of them were killed and suffered injuries.

(b) The students were fined, expelled, even beaten and flogged.

14. How did the Swadeshi and the Boycott Movements prove a boon for the indigenous industry?

Ans. The use of India-made goods replaced the foreign goods in Indian homes. It gave new life to Indian industries and more particularly to indigenous industry. The increased demands of Swadeshi goods led to the increase in production of indigenous goods, especially the handloom and handicrafts, match boxes, soaps and textiles.

15. How did the movement get a boost from the students?

Ans. The Swadeshi and the Boycott Movement created much enthusiasm among students. They boycotted the Government schools and colleges. They organised meetings and demonstrations, picketed the shops and burnt foreign goods. They waged a war against aggression and 'divide and rule' policy of the government. Before their courage and zeal the British grew pale.

16. How did women take part in this movement?

Ans. Such was the impact of the Swadeshi and Boycott

Movements that even women who were traditionally tied to their homes, jumped into action and marched shoulder to shoulder with men in processions, demonstrations, meetings, *Prabhat pheris*, picketing and bonfires.

17. Name two authors who wrote national literature after getting inspiration from the Swadeshi and the Boycott Movements.

Ans. Rabindra Nath Tagore and the Ravi Kant Sen.

18. How did this movement affect the Nationalist Movement?

Ans. The movement spread nationwide and people from all parts of India belonging to every caste and community and class participated in it. As a result of the movement, all Indians marched ahead with firm determination to see their motherland free from the British Rule.

19. How did the Swadeshi and the Boycott Movement hurt the British trade interests?

Ans. The English had come to India primarily as traders and with a view to strengthening their trade. But the Swadeshi and Boycott Movement badly hurt their trade interest. Not only did the demand of their goods decline rapidly but now they could not be sold easily in the open market because they began to be burnt publicly. There could be no great insult to a trading community like the British.

Structured Essay-Type Questions

1. There is much controversy regarding Lord Curzon's Partition of Bengal. In this context, answer the following :

- (a) Motives behind the partition of Bengal.
- (b) Resentment of the people against this measure.
- (c) Consequences of the partition of Bengal.

Ans. (a) The first and the main reason/motive, according to the British rulers, was given as administrative necessity. It was said that the province of Bengal was too big to be efficiently administered by a single provincial government.

The other and the real motive, according to the

nationalist leaders, was to curb the nationalist enthusiasm and demonstrate British strength.

The Hindus and Muslims of Bengal were culturally and emotionally much united and they were taking an active part in the National Movement. Such a thing was not to the liking of an imperialist Viceroy like Lord Curzon. He wanted to cut at the very roots of nationalism and the best way was to divide the people into Hindus and Muslims and then to rule safely. Thus they wanted to follow the policy of divide and rule and drive a wedge between Hindus and Muslims.

- (b) The people started the Swadeshi and the Boycott Movements in 1905 to counteract the partition of Bengal. 'Swadeshi' means things grown or manufactured in one's own country and 'Boycott' means giving up the use of foreign goods. In fact both these words are two sides of one and the same coin. In fact they are complementary and supplementary to each other. Without 'Swadeshi' there cannot be the 'Boycott' of foreign goods and without the 'Boycott' of foreign goods there cannot be 'Swadeshi'.
 - (c) Bengal was divided into two provinces – Eastern Bengal joined with Assam and Western Bengal joined with Bihar and Orissa. Eastern Bengal had a population of 31 million, dominated by Bengali Muslims. West Bengal had a population of 54 million, dominated by non-Bengali population. In both the provinces Bengali Hindus became a minority. The Bengalis considered it a big blow to their culture and literature.
2. The Swadeshi and Boycott Movement was an important landmark in the history of the National Movement in India. In this context, answer the following questions :
- (a) Reasons for starting the Swadeshi and the Boycott Movement.
 - (b) Leaders of the movement.
 - (c) Various measures adopted to popularise the Swadeshi goods.

Ans. (a) The people started the Swadeshi and the Boycott Movements in 1905 to counteract the partition of Bengal.

(b) Surendra Nath Banerjee, Aurobindo Ghosh, BC Pal, Lala Lajpat Rai, B.G. Tilak.

(c) The increased demand of Swadeshi goods led to the increase in production of indigenous goods, especially the handloom and handicrafts, match boxes, soaps and textiles. Swadeshi stores were set up where these goods were sold. Acharya PC Roy started the Bengal Chemical Swadeshi Store. Even the great poet Rabindra Nath Tagore helped in opening a Swadeshi Store.

3. Briefly describe the effect of the Swadeshi and Boycott Movements, with reference to :

(a) Encouragement to indigenous industries

(b) Encouraging the use of Swadeshi goods

(c) Enthusiasm among students and women

(d) Rise of National literature

Ans. (a) The use of India-made goods replaced the foreign goods in Indian homes. It gave new life to Indian industries and more particularly to indigenous industry. The increased demands of Swadeshi goods led to the increase in production of indigenous goods especially the handloom and handicrafts, match boxes, soaps and textiles.

(b) The use of India-made goods replaced the foreign goods in Indian homes. It gave new life to Indian industries and more particularly to the cottage industry. Gradually the foreign goods began to disappear from the market.

(c) The Swadeshi and the Boycott Movement created much enthusiasm among students. They contributed a lot to the movement. They boycotted the Government schools and colleges. They organised meetings and demonstrations, picketed the shops and burnt foreign

goods. They waged a war against aggression and tyranny. Before their courage and zeal the British grew pale.

Such was the impact of the Swadeshi and Boycott Movements that even women, who were traditionally tied to their homes, jumped into action and marched shoulder to shoulder with men in processions, demonstrations, meetings, *prabhat pheris*, picketing and bonfires.

- (d) The Swadeshi and Boycott Movement encouraged nationalism and patriotism. As a result, great Indian writers like R.N. Tagore, Ravi Kant Sen and Mukund Dass wrote new nationalist poetry and prose filled with idealism. Their writings filled the Indian people with a new zeal and inspired them to shed fear, to defy authority and to make matchless sacrifices for the sake of the freedom of their country.

4. With reference to the Surat Split of 1907, explain the following :

- (a) Issues on which the two wings of the Congress had difference
- (b) Exploitation of the situation by the British
- (c) Effect of the split on National Movement

Ans. (a) The annual session of the Congress was held at Surat in 1907. The Early Nationalists did not approve the resolutions passed in 1906 and were also not in favour of adopting assertive means. They wanted to undo what had happened at the Calcutta Session. The Assertive Nationalists were not prepared to allow them to do so. So a confrontation between them became inevitable. The list of subjects to be discussed did not include resolutions on Swaraj, Swadeshi, boycott and national education. When SN Banerjea got up to propose the name of Dr. Ras Behari Ghose for the presidentship, he was shouted down by the Assertive Nationalists. Tilak was refused permission to address the session. At this juncture, confusion prevailed in the pandal. There

were clashes between the two groups with sticks and shoes.

(b) British took the advantage of the Surat Split and exploited the situation to their advantage in the following ways:

- They adopted a policy of concession and repression wherein they gave favourable concessions to the Early Nationalists as well as the Muslim community in general.
- At the same time, they also repressed the Assertive Nationalists in order to curb the newly emerging brand of aggressive, radical nationalism.

(c) Early nationalists held their convention separately the next day and expelled the Assertive Nationalists from it. The Assertive Nationalists decided to carry on their struggle against the Government. They held their sway over the National Movement upto 1915.

5. The agitation against the Partition of Bengal gave birth to the Swadeshi and Boycott Movements which marked one of the turning points in the history of Indian Nationalism. With reference to the above, answer the following questions :

- (a) Explain the aims and programmes of the Swadeshi and the Boycott Movement.
- (b) What were the effects of this movement on Indian industries?

Ans. (a) The chief aims of this movement were to revive the popularity of the indigenous goods, to boycott foreign goods, to promote Indian industries and to provide employment to craftsmen.

The call for Boycott and Swadeshi was given at thousands of public meetings all over Bengal as well as in most of the major cities and towns in India. People were approached not to buy or use foreign goods. This movement found supporters in all classes of the society from princes and merchants to humble workers and even the *Sanyasis*. Associations of different classes of people sprang up. They organised

volunteers to advance the cause of Swadeshi and Boycott and to devise ways and means for setting up national educational institutions. Doctors, lawyers, teachers and workers refused to work for them. Mass meetings were held and oaths were taken to give up the purchase of foreign goods. Shops dealing with foreign goods were picketed. Foreign cloth, cigarettes and other articles were consigned to bonfires in the streets. Students and women took an active part in organising processions, picketing and bonfires. Large sums were collected to help these movements. Many textile mills, soap and match factories, national banks and insurance companies were set up to help the people.

- (b) The use of India-made goods replaced the foreign goods in Indian homes. It gave new life to Indian industries and more particularly to indigenous industry. The increased demands of Swadeshi goods led to the increase in production of indigenous goods especially the handloom and handicrafts, matchboxes, soaps and textiles.

Second Phase of the Indian National Movement (Continued)

6

Formation of the Muslim League

Exercises

Multiple Choice Questions

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|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b) | 2. (a) | 3. (b) | 4. (b) | 5. (d) |
| 6. (b) | 7. (c) | 8. (b) | 9. (a) | 10. (b) |
| 11. (a) | 12. (c) | 13. (d) | 14. (d) | 15. (a) |

Short-Answer Questions

1. When was the Muslim League founded?

Ans. 1906

2. Name the two Muslim leaders associated with the foundation of the Muslim League.

Ans. Waqar-ul-Mulk and Nawab Mohsin-ul-Mulk.

3. Why did the British treat the Muslims with suspicion after the Great Rising of 1857?

Ans. The Muslims fought against the British in large numbers during the Great Uprising of 1857. That is why the British treated the Muslims with suspicion after the Great Rising of 1857.

4. Why did they change their policy towards the Muslims later on?

Ans. About the British policy towards the Muslims, Lord Ellenborough said, "The Muslim race is fundamentally hostile to us and therefore, our true policy is to conciliate the Hindus." So the English began to crush the Muslims because they did not remain loyal to the British after they had snatched away their kingdoms.

5. In what way did the economic backwardness of the Muslims lead to the rise of communalism in India?

Ans. The English tried to crush the Muslims in social and economic spheres. They were not recruited to civil and military services. Government jobs were mostly given to the Hindus. The Muslims remained poor and unemployed. The crippling of arts and crafts in villages also led to poverty among the Muslims. Thus, economic backwardness of Muslims in relation to Hindus led to rise of communalism in India.

6. Why did the British follow the policy of 'Divide and Rule'?

Ans. The rising tide of the National Movement forced the British to change their attitude and policy towards the Muslims. The British followed the policy of 'Divide and Rule'. They began to encourage communalism to sow the seeds of disunity between the two communities.

7. In which two ways did the British encourage communalism in India?

Ans. The British announced Partition of Bengal in 1905 and introduced Morley-Minto Reforms in 1909 which gave separate electorate to Muslims.

8. How did the misinterpretation of the Indian history by the British historians cause communalism in India?

Ans. The British divided the Indian history into Hindu and Muslim periods. In the Hindu period, they dubbed the Muslims as foreign invaders who settled here as conquerors. In the Muslims period, they identified the Muslims as rulers and the Hindus as a subjugated people. By exposing and playing aloud the atrocities committed by individual rulers, the English historians tried to create hatred among the Hindus against the Muslims and the Muslims against the Hindus.

9. How did the radical nationalists add to the communal tension in India?

Ans. Bal Gangadhar Tilak organised Shivaji and Ganapati festivals. Aurobindo Ghosh considered India as mother and nationalism as religion. They laid great emphasis on the ancient Indian heritage and ignored the medieval Indian culture dominated by the Muslims. The radical nationalists ignored the Muslim role in Indian history. As a result, a large number of educated Muslims remained aloof or turned hostile to the National Movement.

10. Who established the Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College at Aligarh?

Ans. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

11. Who was Mr. Beck?

Ans. Mr. Beck was the Principal of Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College (Aligarh).

12. Name two associations formed by Syed Ahmad Khan to safeguard the rights of the Muslims.

Ans. (a) Mohammedan Civil Service Association
(b) Indian Patriotic Association

13. What two promises were made by Lord Minto to the

deputation which met him in 1906 under the leadership of Agha Khan?

Ans. Lord Minto made promises to give separate electorates to the Muslims and to safeguard their political rights and interests.

14. With what aim did the British imperialists encourage the foundation of the Muslim League?

Ans. To drive a wedge between the Hindus and the Muslims and to check the rising tide of nationalism in India British imperialists encouraged the foundation of the Muslim League.

15. Give two objectives of the Muslim League.

Ans. (a) Promotion of the feelings of loyalty to the British Government.

(b) Protection and advancement of the political rights and interests of the Muslims of India by checking the growing influence of the Congress.

16. When was the Lucknow Pact signed between the Congress and the Muslim League?

Ans. 1916

17. How did the Hindu-Urdu controversy become one of the factors in the formation of the Muslim League?

Ans. In United provinces, Urdu was the court language which was opposed by the Hindus. Finally in April 1900, the government ordered that petitions written in Hindi in the Devangari script would also be accepted. This was opposed by Muslim. Both the communities held demonstrations and started agitations.

Structured Essay-Type Questions

1. Briefly describe the main factors responsible for the foundation of the Muslim League, with reference to :

(a) British Policy of 'Divide and Rule'.

(b) Rise of Assertive/Radical Nationalism.

(c) Efforts of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.

Ans. (a) **British Policy of Divide and Rule :** After the Rising of 1857, the British treated the Muslims severely. This resulted in the backwardness of the Muslims in

political, economic and social spheres. But the rising tide of the National Movement forced the British to change their attitude and policy towards the Muslims who were now too weak to revolt against the British. They followed the policy of divide and rule. One of the British politicians (**Mountstuart Elphinstone**) clearly said, "Divide et empera (Divide and Rule) was the old Roman motto and it should be ours."

The British now became the champions of the Muslim minority. They began to encourage communalism to sow the seeds of disunity between the two communities. The English resorted to different methods to divide the Indian people. They presented the Muslim rulers as plunderers and tyrannical bigots to create hatred for them among the Hindus. Similarly, they painted several Hindu rulers as cruel to their Muslim subjects. In 1905, they tried to justify the partition of Bengal by telling the Muslims that Bengal was being partitioned to create a new Muslim majority province where the Hindus would not be able to subvert their interests. The foundation of the Muslim League in 1906 was an attempt to drive a wedge between the two communities.

- (b) **Rise of Assertive/Radical Nationalism** : There is no doubt that the assertive/radical nationalists gave great impetus to the National Movement but some of their actions led to the growth of communalism. Tilak organised Shivaji and Ganapati festivals. Aurobindo Ghosh considered India as mother and nationalism as religion. They laid great emphasis on the ancient Indian heritage and ignored the medieval Indian culture. They identified the Indian nation with the Hindus and the Indian culture with the Hindu religion. They ignored the Muslim role in Indian history. There was a certain tinge of religion in the political work and ideas of the radical nationalists. As a result, a large number of educated Muslims remained aloof or turned hostile to the National Movement.

(c) **Efforts of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan :** The Muslims remained aloof from Western education, ideas and institutions. It led to their political, social and economic backwardness. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was the first to advise the Muslims to receive western education. In the beginning, he was a man of liberal views and a brave nationalist. He founded the Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College at Aligarh in 1875 to spread education among the Muslims. Its Principal, Mr Beck, brought about a great change in Sir Syed Ahmad Khan. He tried to instigate the communal sentiments among the Muslims. He advised the Muslims to remain away from the Hindus, the Congress and the National Movement. He also advised them to support the British Rule in India and receive Western education. He began to support communalism and Aligarh became the centre of Muslim communalism. He also made Sir Syed Ahmad Khan think on communal lines.

2. Various events led to the foundation of the Muslim League. In this context, describe the following :
- (a) Change in the British Attitude.
 - (b) Formation of various Muslim associations.
 - (c) Aga Khan's Memorandum to Lord Minto in October, 1906.
 - (d) Meeting of Mohammedan Educational Conference in December, 1906.

Ans. (a) Lord Curzon divided Bengal into two provinces on administrative grounds. But the real purpose of the partition of Bengal was to reward the Muslims for their loyalty, to drive a wedge between the Hindus and the Muslims and to check the rising tide of nationalism in India. The policy of 'divide and rule' followed by the British culminated in foundation of Muslim League in 1906 and Morley-Minto Reforms in 1909, giving separate electorates to Muslims.

(b) Sir Syed Ahmad Khan set up various reactionary institutions to oppose the Congress. He founded

the Mohammedan Civil Service Association and demanded the appointment of Muslims to higher posts through nomination and not through examination. With the help of Mr Beck, he set up the Indian Patriotic Association to safeguard the rights of the Muslims, to preach loyalty to the British in India, to make efforts to strengthen the British Rule in India and to check the rise of National Movement among the Muslims. In 1887, he convened a Muslim Conference with the aim of keeping the Muslims away from the Congress. In 1893, he organised the Mohammedan Defence Association to prevent the Muslims from joining the Congress. So we see that Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was successful to a great extent in keeping the Muslims away from the Hindus, the Congress and National Movement and in this way inciting communalism in India.

- (c) Lord Minto received the deputation of the Muslim leaders under the leadership of Agha Khan on October 1, 1906. Their chief demands were : (i) The Muslims should have their own separate electorates where the Muslim voters could elect their own members; (ii) A Mohammedan should be given a seat in the Bench of each of the High Courts and Chief Courts; (iii) The proportion for Mohammedan representatives entitled for nomination to Provincial Councils should be determined and declared; (iv) There should be a Mohammedan University which would be a centre of Mohammedan religious and intellectual life.

Lord Minto committed himself to give separate electorates to the Muslims and to safeguard their political rights and interests.

- (d) A meeting of the Mohammedan Educational Conference was held in December, 1906 to form a separate body of the Muslims. Many Muslim leaders were invited to meet at Dacca. They met under the chairmanship of Waqar-ul-Mulk who justified the organisation of the Muslims in a separate body. A long discussion

over this subject led to the foundation of the Muslim League in 1906.

3. The foundation of the Muslim League in 1906 had great repercussion on the later history of India. In this context, answer the following :

- (a) Main objectives of the Muslim League.
- (b) Main impact of the Muslim League on the National Movement.

Ans. (a) The main objectives of the Muslim League were declared as follows :

- (i) Promotion of the feelings of loyalty to the British Government.
- (ii) Protection and advancement of the political rights and interests of the Muslims of India by checking the growing influence of the Congress, and
- (iii) Prevention of the rise of hostility towards other communities.

(b) **Impact of the Muslim League on the National Movement :** The leaders of the League advised the Muslims to shun the National Movement. They asserted that it was only by supporting the British policies that the Muslims could get concessions from them. They also asserted that the Muslim interests were different from those of the Hindus. In this way, the policies of the Muslim League weakened the nationalist sentiments and opposed national movements.

The provision for separate electorate in the Morley-Minto Reforms of 1909 was intentionally incorporated to please the Muslim League. The Congress was opposed to this policy of dividing the Indian people. A pact which is known as the Lucknow Pact, was signed between the Congress and the League in 1916. Now the Congress also showed its willingness to accept the concept of communal electorate which subsequently added to the communal bitterness.

In the 1934 session of the League at Lahore, Mr Jinnah

put forward his two-nation theory. The demand for Pakistan was made the key-point of League politics in 1940. In this way, despite severe opposition from Gandhiji, who declared that Pakistan would come into being only on his dead body, the country drifted rapidly towards partition. Communal riots broke out in the country and in 1947, Pakistan became a reality.

4. What part was played by the following in the creation of the Muslim League?

- (a) Sir Syed Ahmad Khan
- (b) Principal Beck
- (c) Lord Minto

Ans. (a) Sir Syed Ahmad Khan set up various reactionary institutions to oppose the Congress. These institutions instigated the Muslims, preached them loyalty to the British in India. The MAO college founded by him became the centre of divisive politics.

(b) Principal Beck tried to instigate the communal sentiments among the Muslims. He advised the Muslims to remain away from the Hindus, the Congress and the National Movement.

(c) Lord Minto committed himself to give separate electorates to the Muslims and to safeguard their political rights and interests.

5. Growth of communalism in India was encouraged by the British authorities as well as certain trends in Indian society. In the light of this observation, explain :

- (a) The 'Divide and Rule' policy of the British.
- (b) The writings and speeches of the assertive nationalists.

Ans. (a) **British Policy of Divide and Rule :** After the Rising of 1857, the British treated the Muslims severely. This resulted in the backwardness of the Muslims in political, economic and social spheres. But the rising tide of the National Movement forced the British to change their attitude and policy towards the Muslims who were now too weak to revolt against

the British. They followed the policy of divide and rule. One of the British politicians (**Mountstuart Elphinstone**) clearly said, "Divide et empera (Divide and Rule) was the old Roman motto and it should be ours."

The British now became the champions of the Muslim minority. They began to encourage communalism to sow the seeds of disunity between the two communities. The English resorted to different methods to divide the Indian people. They presented the Muslim rulers as plunderers and tyrannical bigots to create hatred for them among the Hindus. Similarly, they painted several Hindu rulers as cruel to their Muslim subjects. In 1905, they tried to justify the partition of Bengal by telling the Muslims that Bengal was being partitioned to create a new Muslim majority province where the Hindus would not be able to subvert their interests. The foundation of the Muslim League in 1906 and the introduction of separate electorates in 1909 were attempts to drive a wedge between the two communities.

- (b) There is no doubt that the radical nationalists gave great impetus to the National Movement but some of their actions led to the growth of communalism. Tilak organised Shivaji and Ganapati festivals. Aurobindo Ghosh considered India as mother and nationalism as religion. They laid great emphasis on the ancient Indian heritage and ignored the medieval Indian culture. They identified the Indian nation with the Hindus and the Indian culture with the Hindu religion. They ignored the Muslim role in Indian history. There was a certain tinge of religion in the political work and ideas of the radical nationalists. As a result, a large number of educated Muslims remained aloof or turned hostile to the National Movement.

6. Several factors led to the foundation of the Muslim League in 1906. In this context, describe.

- (a) The Partition of Bengal.

(b) The role of the British Government.

Ans. (a) In 1905, the British tried to justify the partition of Bengal by telling the Muslims that Bengal was being partitioned to create a new Muslim majority province where the Hindus would not be able to subvert their interests. This led to bitterness between the two groups.

(b) After the Rising of 1857, the British treated the Muslims severely. This resulted in the backwardness of the Muslims in political, economic and social spheres. But the rising tide of the National Movement forced the British to change their attitude and policy towards the Muslims who were now too weak to revolt against the British. They followed the policy of divide and rule. One of the British politicians (**Mountstuart Elphinstone**) clearly said, "Divide et empera (Divide and Rule) was the old Roman motto and it should be ours."

The British now became the champions of the Muslim minority. They began to encourage communalism to sow the seeds of disunity between the two communities. The English resorted to different methods to divide the Indian people. They presented the Muslim rulers as plunderers and tyrannical bigots to create hatred for them among the Hindus. Similarly, they painted several Hindu rulers as cruel to their Muslim subjects. In 1905, they tried to justify the partition of Bengal by telling the Muslims that Bengal was being partitioned to create a new Muslim majority province where the Hindus would not be able to subvert their interests. The foundation of the Muslim League in 1906 and the introduction of separate electorates in 1909 were attempts to drive a wedge between the two communities.

Mass Phase of the Indian National Movement (1916–1947)

7

The National Movement (During The First World War)

Exercises

Multiple Choice Questions

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|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (b) | 3. (c) | 4. (d) | 5. (b) |
| 6. (d) | 7. (a) | 8. (d) | 9. (c) | 10. (a) |
| 11. (d) | 12. (d) | 13. (d) | 14. (a) | 15. (b) |
| 16. (b) | 17. (d) | | | |

Short-Answer Questions

1. When were the Home Rule Leagues started in India?

Ans. In 1916

2. Name two leaders linked with the Home Rule Leagues.

Ans. Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Annie Besant.

3. Name the famous pact which united the Assertive/Radical Nationalists and the Early Nationalists in 1916.

Ans. Lucknow Pact

4. Why was the Lucknow Pact signed between the Muslim League and the Congress in 1916?

Ans. England was fighting against Turkey in the First World War. This caused resentment among the Muslims as they felt that the British were anti-Muslim. This change in attitude led the Muslims to support the Congress and hence, Lucknow Pact was signed between the Congress and the Muslim League.

5. Why was the 1916 Lucknow Session of the Indian National Congress important?

Ans. The Lucknow Session of Indian National Congress is considered important because it achieved Hindu-Muslim unity. It brought together the Radicals, the Moderates and the Muslim League.

6. Give one evil effect of the Lucknow Pact of 1916.

Ans. By the acceptance of separate electorates for Muslims, the Congress paved the way for future communal tension.

7. With what reason did the British Government introduce the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919?

Ans. In 1917, it was declared that “the British policy was the full development of self-governing institutions as an integral part of the British Empire.” The Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms were announced in 1919 to fulfil this aim.

8. What do you mean by dyarchy?

Ans. Under dyarchy, the subjects to be dealt with by the Provincial Government were divided into two parts— (i) reserved subjects, and (ii) transferred subjects. The Reserved Subjects were administered by the Governor with the help of the Executive Council and the Transferred Subjects with the help of Council of Ministers.

9. Give one merit of the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms.

Ans. Under Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms, the system of indirect election was replaced by the system of direct election.

10. Give one drawback of the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms.

Ans. The Montague-Chelmsford Reforms introduced the system of separate electorates for the Sikhs and the Anglo-Indians.

Structured Essay-Type Questions

1. With reference to the First World War, briefly describe the following :

(a) The attitude of the nationalists towards it.

(b) Its effects on the two groups of the Congress.

(c) Methods adopted by the Government to appease the Indian people.

Ans. (a) There was a race among the imperialist powers to acquire more and more colonies which led to the conflict among the various imperialist powers. India was then a colony of England. As such, India too was thrown into the fire of war in order to safeguard the British interests. The nationalist leaders resented

this step of the British Government and held demonstrations against it. They were opposed to the British decision of using the Indian soldiers as fodder for war cannons without even caring to assess the public opinion. On the other hand, Early Nationalists followed a conciliatory policy hoping that the British Government would grant India Swaraj as soon as the war would end in its favour. They had, however, forgotten that the British were fighting the First World War to protect their colonies and not to relinquish them.

- (b) Nationalist feelings in India grew stronger because of the outbreak of the First World War. In 1916, two Home Rule League movements were started in India. One of them was led by Lokmanya Tilak while the other was led by Annie Besant. The feelings of nationalism and the demand for Swaraj grew stronger. Annie Besant was imprisoned and the Government let loose repression. The nationalists were tortured and sentenced for various terms. In 1916, both the groups of the Congress were reunited and even the Congress and the Muslim League shared a common platform at Lucknow, pledging themselves to work together to achieve a common goal. The revolutionaries were also active for a short period. The Ghadar Party in America had an echo of its activities in India as well.

- (c) In 1919, the British Government announced constitutional concessions under the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms so as to please the nationalist leaders. But no substantial reforms were introduced after the war. It was the time when Gandhiji stepped into the political arena.

The First World War also caused unprecedented price rise. Hence, to appease the Indian people the English had to promote some industries so as to check the rising unemployment and poverty.

2. The Lucknow Pact is regarded as a landmark in the History of India. In this context, explain the following points :

- (a) The parties signing the pact
- (b) Any two provisions of this pact
- (c) The importance of the pact
- (d) Criticism of the pact

Ans. (a) The Lucknow Pact was signed between the Congress and the Muslim League in 1916 at Lucknow.

- (b) (i) The Council of the Secretary of State for India shall be abolished and he shall have same position in regard to the Government of India as he does in relation to the Government of self-governing colonies (like Canada).
- (ii) One-half of the members of the Governor General's Executive Council shall be Indians elected by the elected members of the Imperial Legislative Council.
- (c) The Lucknow Pact was a marvellous step in achieving Hindu-Muslim unity because the success of the National Movement depended on Hindu-Muslim unity. The Assertive Nationalists alone would be less effective than a united national organisation. The unity between the Assertive Nationalists, the Early Nationalists and the Muslim League could now impress upon the Government the urgency of their demands.
- (d) (i) The wishes of the masses were not considered, the Pact was confined only to the educated and to the rich Hindus and Muslims.
- (ii) The Congress lost its secular character by accepting separate electorates for Muslims and hence, paved the way for communal tension in the future.
- (iii) 'Communal Veto' in legislation was provided by this pact. Because no Legislature could proceed with any bill, if 3/4th of the members of particular community opposed it.

3. With reference to the Lucknow Pact of 1916, answer the following questions :

- (a) What were the terms of the Lucknow Pact?

(b) Why was this Pact important?

Ans. (a) (i) The Council of the Secretary of State for India shall be abolished and he shall have same position in regard to the Government of India as he does in relation to the Government of self-governing colonies (like Canada).

(ii) One-half of the members of the Governor General's Executive Council shall be Indians elected by the elected members of the Imperial Legislative Council.

(iii) The Imperial Legislative Council shall have 150 members. Four-fifth members of the Imperial Legislative Council shall be elected, but one-third of these shall be Muslims elected on the principle of separate electorates.

(iv) Except in military and foreign affairs the Imperial Legislative Council shall have full control on the Government of India.

(v) The Government of India shall not ordinarily interfere in the local affairs of the Provinces.

(b) The Lucknow Pact was a marvellous step in achieving Hindu-Muslim unity because the success of the National Movement depended on Hindu-Muslim unity. The Assertive Nationalists alone would be less effective than a united national organisation. The unity between the Assertive Nationalists, the Early Nationalists and the Muslim League could now impress upon the Government the urgency of their demands.

4. The Home Rule Movement is regarded as an important milestone in the achievement of independence. In this regard, answer the following :

(a) Any two leaders who took an active part in it.

(b) Two steps taken by the Government to curb it.

(c) Its importance in the history of the National Movement.

- Ans.** (a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Annie Besant.
- (b) (i) The Government made use of the Defence of India Rule to curb the activities of the agitators. Various restrictions were imposed on the leaders of this movement. Tilak was prosecuted for his fiery and exciting speeches.
- (ii) Various restrictions were imposed on the Press by using the Indian Press Act of 1910 and the students were forbidden from taking part in this movement.
- (c) **Importance of the Home Rule Movement:** The Home Rule Movement has its own importance in the history of the National Movement of India.
- (i) It transformed the National Movement into a people's movement as more and more people began to take part in it. Both Annie Besant and Tilak urged the workers to redouble their efforts to carry the Home Rule propaganda to the villages.
- (ii) It worked as lighthouse when the political atmosphere in the country was quite gloomy. When most of the Indians did not know about the fate of their country the Home Rule Leagues pledged to work zealously for the sole aim of achieving Home Rule.
- (iii) The Home Rule Movement made both Annie Besant and Tilak not only popular but also great heroes among the masses. The more the British Government tried to shower its wrath on them, the more popular they became day by day. While Tilak earned the epithet of 'Lokmanya' (respected by the people), Annie Besant was made the President of the Congress Session held at Calcutta in 1917.
- (iv) The Home Rule Movement found its echoes in many foreign countries also. Indian Home Rule Leagues were established in New York as well as in London and their branches were opened in many other towns of America and England. Indian leaders like Lala Lajpat Rai, K D Shastri and NS

Hardikar went to these countries and won many sympathisers for granting Home Rule to India.

Many eminent American Senators and Congressmen wrote and spoke for self-government in India. The Labour Party of England, at its Conference at Nottingham in 1918, unanimously passed a resolution in favour of Home Rule to India.

(v) The Government of India Act of 1919 was the direct result of the Home Rule Movements.

5. Using the following points, explain the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms :

- (a) Any two causes of their passage.
- (b) The system of dyarchy introduced in the provinces.
- (c) Reaction of the people to these reforms.

Ans. (a) The Reforms of 1909 were not satisfactory and adequate. They failed to appease the Indians and they clamoured for more rights. In the beginning, the Muslims were satisfied with the policy of the British but gradually they also got disillusioned. The Indians had helped the British with men and money during the war, so the British passed this Act to fulfil their promises given to the Indians during the war. The activities of the leaders of the Home Rule Movement and the revolutionaries alarmed the Government. The British wanted to introduce reforms in the administration of India to pacify and appease the nationalists.

(b) The system of dyarchy was introduced in the provinces. Under this system, the subjects to be dealt with by the Provincial Government were divided into two parts— (i) reserved subjects, and (ii) transferred subjects. The reserved subjects, such as finance, law and order, irrigation, etc., were administered by the Governor with the help of the Executive Council nominated by him. The transferred subjects such as education, public health, agriculture, etc., were administered by the Governor with the help of Council of Ministers