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Mass Phase of The Indian National Movement (Continued)

8

Mahatma Gandhi and the National Movement

Exercises

Multiple Choice Questions

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|---------|---------|---------|--|---------|
| 1. (d) | 2. (b) | 3. (b) | 4. (a) | 5. (d) |
| 6. (c) | 7. (d) | 8. (a) | 9. (a) | 10. (b) |
| 11. (b) | 12. (c) | 13. (b) | 14. (i) (c), (ii) (b),
(iii) (d) (iv) (c) | |

Short-Answer Questions

1. What do you mean by Swadeshi?

Ans. Swadeshi means things grown or manufactured in one's own country.

2. What do you mean by non-violence doctrine of Mahatma Gandhi?

Ans. According to Gandhiji, true love, dauntlessness, inner purity and feeling of selflessness form the basis of non-violence (Ahimsa). It is not a negative but positive and active force.

3. What was Satyagraha according to Mahatma Gandhi?

Ans. According to Gandhiji, a Satyagrahi must be strong morally and spiritually so that he may fight injustice with love and non-violence. He believed that passive resistance

is the weapon of the weak while Satyagraha is the weapon of the strong.

4. In which two ways did Mahatma Gandhi foster Hindu-Muslim unity?

Ans. (a) Gandhiji stressed the unity of the Hindus and the Muslims. He sided with the Muslims during the Khilafat movement and the Muslims also supported him whole-heartedly when he launched the Non-Cooperation Movement against the English.

(b) Whenever communal riots broke out in India, he staked his own life to visit the riot-torn areas and thus restored peace there.

5. Name two leaders of the Khilafat Movement.

Ans. Mohammad Ali and Shaukat Ali.

6. Why is the Khilafat Movement significant in the history of the National Movement?

Ans. The Khilafat Movement is significant in the history of the National Movement because it left a strong sentiment of the Hindu-Muslim unity. It played an important part in strengthening the nationalist feeling and led to political awakening.

7. Name two causes for starting the Non-Cooperation Movement.

Ans. (a) The people of India had to face various economic problems and difficulties after the First World War. Indian trade dwindled after the war and the Indian industries faced heavy losses.

(b) The dual policy of the British Government towards Turkey forced the Indian Muslims to launch the Khilafat Movement against the British. It led to such Hindu-Muslim unity as was never seen before. Mahatma Gandhi took advantage of this suitable opportunity and started the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1920.

8. When was the Non-Cooperation Movement started?

Ans. 1920

9. Why did the people oppose the Rowlatt Act?

Ans. Rowlatt Act was opposed because this act was blot on the self-respect of the Indians and their national honour. It was against all the principles of justice and liberty.

10. When did the Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy take place?

Ans. April 13, 1919.

11. Who was responsible for the Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy?

Ans. General Dyer

12. What was the main objective of the Non-Cooperation Movement?

Ans. (a) To attain self government within the British Empire if possible and outside if necessary.

(b) To cripple the government and to create such problems that would make it difficult to function without the cooperation of the Indians.

13. Name the two methods adopted in the Non-Cooperation Movement.

Ans. (a) The people boycotted the elections to the Assemblies and the Provincial Councils.

(b) The people began to use Swadeshi and boycotted foreign goods which were burnt at the crossroads.

14. Why did Mahatma Gandhi withdraw the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1922?

Ans. About 3,000 peasants organised a procession at Chauri Chaura, a village in the Gorakhpur district of UP. The police opened fire on this procession.

The angry crowd attacked and burnt the police station, killing 22 policemen. This incident which took place on February 5, 1922 shocked Gandhiji so much that he at once suspended the Movement.

15. What was the main impact of the Non-Cooperation Movement?

Ans. (a) The amalgamation of the Khilafat Movement and the Non-Cooperation Movement led to the Hindu Muslim unity as was not witnessed before.

(b) The boycott of the foreign goods led to the promotion of Indian industries and crafts. Khadi became the symbol of the National Movement.

16. How did the Non-Cooperation Movement inspire new confidence among the people?

Ans. The people showed such a remarkable degree of willingness and ability to endure all the hardships and punishments inflicted by the Government that they became courageous, fearless and strong enough to face any difficulty for the freedom of their country.

17. What part did the Non-Cooperation Movement play in making the Congress a mass organisation?

Ans. With the launching of the Non-Cooperation Movement the National Movement was changed to a mass movement and the Indian National Congress became a mass organisation. Its aims and objects now closely resembled those of agitational nationalism though its methods were non-violent and open rather than violent and secret.

18. How did the Non-Cooperation Movement make the National Movement a mass movement?

Ans. Non-Cooperation Movement laid stress on Hindu-Muslim unity. Students, teachers, lawyers, educated Indians etc. participated in this movement with full zeal and enthusiasm and hence it became a mass movement.

19. How did the Non-Cooperation Movement add to Hindu-Muslim Unity?

Ans. The amalgamation of the Khilafat Movement and the Non-Cooperation Movement led to the Hindu-Muslim unity as was not witnessed before. The urban Muslims were brought into the nationalist movement and they had been to an extent responsible for the feeling of enthusiasm and exhilaration in the country in those days.

20. How did the Non-Cooperation Movement promote social reforms?

Ans. As a result of the Non-Cooperation Movement, many national schools and colleges were founded in different

parts of the country. The boycott of the foreign goods led to the promotion of Indian goods. Indian industries and crafts. Moreover several steps were taken in the direction of prohibition and removal of untouchability.

21. How did the Non-Cooperation Movement promote the Swaraj cult?

Ans. Swaraj or self-rule was one of the aims of the Non-Cooperation Movement. When the British government was openly exposed as an engine of foreign imperialism the only alternative left was self-rule whether within or outside the British Empire. The Non-Cooperation Movement further popularised the Swaraj cult.

22. What led to the revival of revolutionary movement after the suspension of the Non-Cooperation Movement?

Ans. The failure of the Non-cooperation Movement had led to the revival of the revolutionary movement.

After an all India Conference, the Hindustan Republican Association was founded in October 1924 to organise an armed revolution. The Government struck at it by arresting a large number of revolutionaries and trying them in Kakori Conspiracy Case (1928). Four of these including Ram Prasad Bismil and Ashfaqulla were hanged. In 1928 HSRA was formed under the leadership of Chandra Shekhar Azad.

23. Give the names of three revolutionaries who were hanged in 1931.

Ans. Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev.

24. When and why was the Simon Commission appointed?

Ans. The British Government appointed a commission in 1927 to report about the extent to which the Act of 1919 had worked successfully and to go into the question of further constitutional reforms.

25. Give one reason why the Simon Commission was boycotted everywhere.

Ans. The Simon Commission was boycotted because all its members were English and there was no Indian member in it.

- 26.** Why is the Congress Session held at Lahore in 1929 significant in the history of India's Freedom Movement?
- Ans.** A resolution was passed demanding complete independence from British rule during the Congress Session held at Lahore in 1929. It was decided to celebrate 26 January, 1930 as Independence Day throughout the country.
- 27.** In which session of the Congress was the demand for Poorna Swaraj declared as the goal of the Congress?
- Ans.** Lahore Session of Congress, 1929.
- 28.** What is the significance of January 26, 1930 in the freedom movement. How was this day celebrated?
- Ans.** January 26, 1930 was celebrated as the Independence Day throughout the country with great enthusiasm.
- 29.** On which date did Mahatma Gandhi start his historic march to Dandi?
- Ans.** March 12, 1930
- 30.** Why was the Dandi March undertaken by Gandhiji?
- Ans.** Dandi March was undertaken by Gandhiji to break the Salt Law.
- 31.** Where was the Civil Disobedience Movement started?
- Ans.** Dandi (Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi March).
- 32.** Who was known as Frontier Gandhi?
- Ans.** Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan.
- 33.** What was his contribution to the Civil Disobedience Movement?
- Ans.** Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan organised the red shirt volunteers (the Khudai Khidmatgars) and launched an intense but non-violent anti-government movement in various ways during the Civil Disobedience Movement in the North-West Frontier Province.
- 34.** Give two reasons why the Civil Disobedience Movement was started.
- Ans.** (a) To violate the Salt Law.
(b) To defy the laws and orders of the British Government.

- 35.** Why did Mahatma Gandhi suspend the Civil Disobedience Movement in 1931?
- Ans.** Mahatma Gandhi suspended the Civil Disobedience movement in 1931 to participate in the Second Round Table Conference.
- 36.** When was the Second Round Table Conference held?
- Ans.** 1931
- 37.** Why did Mahatma Gandhi attend the Second Round Table Conference?
- Ans.** Mahatma Gandhi attended the Second Round Table Conference which had been called to consider a scheme for a new constitution for India.
- 38.** When was the Gandhi-Irwin Pact signed?
- Ans.** March, 1931
- 39.** Why was Gandhiji disgusted with the Second Round Table Conference?
- Ans.** Gandhiji was disgusted with the second Round Table Conference because Lord Willingdon, the new Viceroy declined to grant even an interview to him.
- 40.** What was the Communal Award?
- Ans.** Under Communal Award, the Government announced to give separate electorates to the Harijans.
- 41.** What is the importance of the Poona Pact?
- Ans.** The Hindus and the Harijans agreed to have joint electorates.
- 42.** Mention any two results of the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- Ans.** (a) During Civil Disobedience Movement, the people had come to know the true nature of the British Rule, people's faith in the Government had completely shattered.
- (b) The starting of the Civil Disobedience Movement led to the revival of the Revolutionary Movement in India.

- 43.** How did the Civil Disobedience Movement strengthen the roots of the Freedom Movement?
- Ans.** The Civil Disobedience Movement offered more opportunities to the Nationalists to sharpen their weapons and get ready for their final onslaught on the British imperialism. The loss suffered by the Indians during this struggle was however, compensated by the experience that they got, to be used in the future fight for freedom.
- 44.** Why did Gandhiji start Satyagraha against the Rowlatt Act?
- Ans.** The Rowlatt Act was a blot on the self-respect of the Indians and their national honour. That is why Mahatma Gandhi started Satyagraha against the Rowlatt Act.
- 45.** Why did Rabindranath Tagore renounce his knighthood?
- Ans.** Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood against the atrocities committed in the Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy.
- 46.** Give one measure which Mahatma Gandhi adopted for the upliftment of the Harijans.
- Ans.** Mahatma Gandhi launched movements to remove all restrictions imposed on Harijans.
- 47.** What, in your view, are the two great achievements of Gandhiji?
- Ans.** (a) Under the leadership of Gandhiji, national movement became a mass movement against the British rule.
(b) Mahatma Gandhi's efforts to bring Harijans at par with the rest Indians was appreciable.
- 48.** Where did Mahatma Gandhi use his first experiment in Satyagraha?
- Ans.** He used it first during Champaran Satyagraha in 1917.
- 49.** Why did Gandhiji launch Satyagraha at Ahmedabad in 1918? What was the outcome of his Satyagraha?
- Ans.** He launched it in support of mill workers of Ahmedabad against mill owners. As a result of Gandhiji's Satyagraha, mill owners agreed to give a 35 per cent increment in wages.

Structured Essay-Type Questions

1. Gandhiji introduced new ideals in politics and adopted novel methods to give a different direction to the National Movement. In this context, answer the following :

- (a) Any two social reforms advocated by Mahatma Gandhi.
- (b) His doctrine of *Swadeshi*.
- (c) His doctrine of Non-violence.

Ans. (a) Two social reforms advocated by Mahatma Gandhi:

- (i) Mahatma Gandhi was a great social reformer. He was against the caste system and considered untouchability as a curse to the Hindu society. He called the untouchables Harijans, or the untouchables' and asked the people to give them respect worthy of human beings. He launched movements to remove all restrictions imposed on them. Under his guidance, the Congress launched programmes for the upliftment of Harijans. He tried his best to improve their conditions.
 - (ii) Gandhiji advocated the rights of women and stood for giving them equal rights and status with men. He said that women have been suppressed under custom and law for which man was responsible. Rules of social conduct must be framed by mutual co-operation and consultation. He advocated education for them. Women must realize their full status and play their part as equals to men. He inspired them to take active part in the national movement and in the political affairs of the country.
- (b) Gandhiji used the concept of *Swadeshi* as a weapon to drive out the British from India. *Swadeshi* was the watchword of Gandhiji. He devised a strategy to use *Swadeshi* goods and boycott foreign goods. This harmed the English trade and brought them to their knees. He emphasised the use of Charkha and Khadi to improve the life of the poor in India. Gandhiji launched the *Swadeshi* movement because he was

of the opinion that political freedom is meaningless without economic freedom.

- (c) Gandhiji's entire philosophy was based on Satyagraha and non-violence. He always believed that non-violence was a weapon of the strong, powerful and mighty individuals. According to him, true love, bravery, inner purity and feeling of selflessness form the basis of non-violence. According to him, it was a practical, positive and active force. He believed that lack of power makes a person coward as he hits other out of fear. However, a non-violent person armed with moral strength can face any difficult situation.

2. With reference to the Rowlatt Act, describe briefly the following points :

- (a) What was the Rowlatt Act?
- (b) One cause of its passage.
- (c) Reaction of the people to it.

- Ans.** (a) The Montague-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919 failed to satisfy the Indians. There was a split in the Congress as the Assertive/Radical Nationalists began to dominate the Congress. The English fearing that the people may launch agitations passed the Rowlatt Act of 1919 to crush any popular movement. The Act gave powers to the Government to arrest, to detain suspected persons, to search without warrant, and to imprison anyone without a trial.
- (b) The Rowlatt Act of 1919 gave drastic powers to the Government to arrest any person under this Act. They had no right to Appeal, Vakil and Dalil. One of the causes for introducing this 'Black Act' by the Government was the lapse of the Defence of India Act, enacted during the First World War. Now the British Government feared that there would be upsurge of revolutionary nationalist attacks, activities similar to those during the War.
- (c) The reaction of the people against the passage of the Rowlatt Act was of shock and anger. People called

it 'Black Bill'. People felt that it was a blot on the self-respect of the Indians and their national honour, and against the principles of justice and liberty. It sent a wave of anger and unrest throughout the country. Gandhiji appeared on the stage and launched a Satyagraha movement against it. A new enthusiasm gripped the entire country. There were strikes everywhere. Meetings were held and processions were taken out. The people rose unitedly against this Act.

3. The Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy still remains a great blot on the fair name of the British Government in India. In this context, explain the following points :
- (a) Its impact on the British Government.
 - (b) Its impact on launching the Non-Cooperation Movement by the Indian National Congress under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi.

- Ans.** (a) The Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy took place on 13 April 1919. It shook the nation. The British government set up a commission (The Hunter Commission) to conduct an enquiry about it. The Commission submitted its report in 1920. It ordered Gen. Dyer to resign from military service. There was a mixed reaction to the massacre in Britain. The Government restrained the army and it developed less violent tactics for crowd control. Some historians consider the episode a decisive step towards the end of the British rule in India.
- (b) The Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy has a great significance in the Indian History; it had much impact on the politics of the freedom struggle. The Government repression failed in intimidating the people, the morale of the Indian people was raised sky high and they jumped into the struggle for freedom with great vigour and courage. The people lost faith in the British rule and some took the path of violent struggle to get rid of it. Mahatma Gandhi became the avowed enemy of the British Rule in India. With the cooperation of Ali Brothers (Mohammad Ali and Shaukat Ali)

who led the Khilafat Movement, he launched his first Non-Cooperation Movement against the British Government in 1920.

4. With reference to the Non-Cooperation Movement started by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920, explain the following :
- (a) Reaction of the Indians to the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms.
 - (b) Resentment against the Rowlatt Act of 1919.
 - (c) Widespread agitations against the Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy.

- Ans.** (a) Indians had cooperated with the British during the First World War with men and material in the hope that it will get a share in the government in return. However, their hopes were shattered when the Government brought out Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919. The reactions of the Indians were not positive. The changes brought by the Government in the administration of India were much below the expectation of the people. The Indian National Congress at its annual session held at Amritsar described the reforms as inadequate, unsatisfactory and disappointing. The Assertive/Radical Nationalists disapproved them. Therefore, there was widespread agitation against these reforms.
- (b) There was widespread resentment against the Rowlatt Act of 1919. This Act was a scar on the self-respect of the Indians. It was against the principles of justice and liberty. It sent a wave of anger and unrest throughout the country, Gandhiji appeared on the stage and launched a Satyagraha movement against the Act. There were strikes everywhere. Meetings were held and processions were taken out. The people rose unitedly against this Act. A hartal was observed all over India on 6th April 1919. Soon Gandhiji became an all-India leader. Efforts were made to observe hartals in a peaceful manner but incidents of police obstruction, rioting, violence and shooting took place

in Delhi, Calcutta, Ahmedabad, Punjab, etc. as wave of anger engulfed the whole country.

- (c) The Jallianwala massacre has a great significance in the history of India. It also had a huge impact on Indian politics. The inhuman atrocities committed on the people gave a severe blow to the honour, dignity and prestige of the British Government. It permanently stained the Government's relations with its Indian subjects. Even the great poet Rabindranath Tagore renounced his knighthood against the atrocities committed in the Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy. The morale of the Indian people was raised, and they jumped into struggle for freedom with great vigour and courage. The people lost faith in the British rule and some took the path of violent struggle to get rid of it. Even the Mahatma became the avowed enemy of the British rule in India.

5. Using the following points, briefly describe the Non-Cooperation Movement of 1920-22 :

- (a) Objective of this movement.
- (b) Suspension of the movement in 1922.
- (c) Any two far-reaching effects of this movement.

Ans. (a) The main objectives that the movement sought to achieve were:

- (i) To attain self-government within the British Empire if possible and outside it if necessary.
 - (ii) Annulment of the Rowlatt Act and remedying the Punjab wrongs.
 - (iii) Remedying the Khilafat wrongs.
 - (iv) To cripple the government and to create such problems that would make it difficult to function without the cooperation of the Indian people.
- (b) Mahatma Gandhi launched the first Non-Cooperation Movement in 1920 by returning all the titles and honours bestowed by the British Government. There were widespread protests and the movement

thoroughly roused the country. However, on 5 February 1922 about 3,000 farmers organised a procession at Chauri Chaura, a village in Gorakhpur district in UP. The angry crowd attacked and burnt a police station killing 22 policemen. Gandhiji was shocked at the violence and at once suspended the Movement. He did not tolerate that his followers indulged in violence. The movement was successful and had reached its zenith. Many nationalists did not like calling off the movement at its peak. The Government, however, accused Gandhiji for this tragedy and sentenced him to 6 years imprisonment on 10 March 1922.

- (c) The Non-Cooperation Movement marked a new phase in the freedom struggle of India.

The two far-reaching effects of this movement were:

- (i) **Inspiring the people with new confidence:** The people showed a remarkable degree of willingness and ability to endure hardships and punishments inflicted by the Government. They became courageous, fearless and strong enough to face any difficulty for the freedom of their country. They gained tremendous self-confidence, which no force could shake. This had a far-reaching effect on the people.
- (ii) **It promoted many social reforms:** After suspending the movement Mahatma Gandhi asked the Congress to go to the people and work for their social upliftment. Because of the Non-Cooperation Movement, many national schools and colleges were founded in different parts of the country. The boycott of the foreign goods led to the promotion of Indian industries and crafts. Khadi became the symbol of the national movement. Social movements against prohibition and untouchability were undertaken.

6. Under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, the Congress launched the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1920. Briefly describe the following :

- (a) The Programme of the Movement
- (b) The Chauri Chaura incident and its consequences

Ans. (a) Mahatma Gandhi, the Ali Brothers and other leaders toured the country. They roused the people's enthusiasm, and laid stress on Hindi-Muslim unity. They made efforts to popularise the programme of Non-Cooperation. Following Gandhiji, many educated Indians returned government degrees, titles, awards and honours. People boycotted all Government functions and thousands of Indians left government jobs. Many nationalist colleges like the Jamia Millia Islamia, the Kashi, Bihar and Gujarat Vidyapeeths were set up. The people boycotted the elections to the Assemblies and the Provincial Councils. They began to use swadeshi goods and boycotted foreign goods, which were gathered and burnt at the crossroads. Women came out of their houses and joined the struggle, offered their jewellery for the Tilak Fund and gladly went to jails. Takli and charkha appeared in every house by July 1921.

- (b) About 3,000 farmers organised a procession at Chauri Chaura, a village in the Gorakhpur district of UP. The police opened fire on this procession. The angry crowd attacked and burnt the police station, killing 22 policemen. This incident took place on 5 February 1922, and it shocked Mahatma Gandhi so much that he suspended the Movement. He could not tolerate that his followers should indulge in violence. Other nationalist leaders did not like the timing of the suspension but did not say anything publicly due to great personal influence of Gandhiji. The Government, however, accused Gandhiji for this tragedy and sentenced him to 6 years imprisonment on 10 March 1922.

7. Gandhiji was a guiding force during India's struggle for freedom. In the light of this statement, explain:

- (a) Gandhiji and the mass movements.
- (b) Gandhiji's views on Satyagraha and Swadeshi.

Ans. (a) Before 1920, the National Movement was confined to some educated men belonging to the middle class. It had not touched the common masses. It was under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi that this movement became mass movement. Indians of all class took part in the Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience Movements at an unprecedented large scale. Gandhiji's movements were supported by people irrespective of caste, religion, and region. It brought about an awakening among the people who became ready to suffer and sacrifice anything for their motherland. The struggle for national freedom grew very fast. Women also vied with men in taking part in the struggle for freedom. Thus, Mahatma Gandhi changed the nature of the freedom struggle from only a miniscule to a mass scale.

- (b) (i) Along with Ahimsa, Satyagraha was the other great weapon of Gandhiji. He would sit on a non-violent picket or observe fast, etc. to force the Government to accept his demands. Sometimes he observed fast unto death. These strategies on the one hand attracted the world attention and on the other hand, these made the Government panicky.
- (ii) Mahatma Gandhi used another weapon to drive the British out of India. It was the Swadeshi movement. He knew well that the English were a merchant nation who had come here for trade and profit. In case, the Indian trade was not profitable, they would never stay here. Therefore, Gandhiji advised his people to boycott the foreign goods. It was at this call that people not only boycotted foreign goods but also burnt bonfires at the crossroads. When the people bought goods produced in their country, the Indian industries got a boost. Indian workers got employment and Indian money stopped flowing out of the country. This strategy affected the British to some extent.

8. Using the following points, describe the main events leading to the Civil Disobedience Movement:

- (a) The Simon Commission, 1928.
- (b) Demand for Poorna Swaraj, 1929.

Ans. (a) Simon Commission was appointed by the British Government in 1927 to look into questions for more reforms in India. The Commission arrived in India in 1928. People opposed it on the ground that there was no Indian in it. The failure generated great political activity in India for securing freedom for India. It led to the Civil Disobedience Movement which began as a protest against the Commission. The Nehru Report and the Demand for Poorna Swaraj were also the off-shoots of the political excitement created by the protests against this Commission.

(b) In Lahore, a demonstration against the Simon Commission was led by Lajpat Rai. The police lathi charged the procession and as a result, Lajpat Rai was fatally injured. His death caused nationwide anger and in 1929 the Congress Session was held at Lahore under the Presidentship of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. The Congress declared that Poorna Swaraj, or Complete Independence, as its goal. Now the nationalists staked their lives and everything to achieve this goal. The public opinion was quite favourable and the nationalist forces were united in driving the British out. Consequently, 26 January 1930 was celebrated as the Independence Day throughout the country with great enthusiasm.

9. The British Government sent the Simon Commission to India in 1928. In this connection, explain the following points:

- (a) Purpose of its appointment.
- (b) Recommendations of the Commission.
- (c) Its impact on Indian political life.

Ans. (a) The Government of India Act 1919 had introduced certain reforms in India that were not acceptable to the Indians. The Congress had opposed the system

of diarchy and demanded revision of this form of government. One of the provisions of the Act had stated that a commission would be appointed after ten years to investigate the progress of the governance scheme and suggest new steps for reform. In 1920s, the Conservative government appointed seven MPs to constitute the promised commission to examine the state of Indian constitutional affairs.

- (b) The Simon Commission recommended the following:
 - (i) Abolition of Dyarchy and its replacement by complete provincial autonomy.
 - (ii) The Governor to retain overriding powers in departments like internal security.
 - (iii) Provincial Legislative Councils were to be enlarged to include more members.
 - (iv) The Federal government at the Centre to include not only British India but also to incorporate the Princely States.
 - (v) The communal electorate to continue.
 - (vi) High Courts to be under the administrative control of the Government of India.
- (c) The Simon Commission had its impact on the Indian political life.
 - (i) After an All Party Meet, a committee under Motilal Nehru to decide the constitutional framework for India was formed.
 - (ii) The committee submitted a report called the Nehru Report in 1928, even before the report submitted by the Simon Commission.
 - (iii) The majority of members of the subcommittee supported the idea of Dominion Status, which was not agreeable to the young leaders J.L. Nehru and S.C. Bose who formed Independence for India League.
 - (iv) The goal of Poorna Swaraj at Karachi session can be traced back to this opposition.

- (v) Thus, the appointment of Simon Commission played a pivotal role in India's Independence Struggle.

10. Gandhiji launched the Civil Disobedience Movement in 1930. In this context, answer the following questions :

- (a) Policy of repression followed by the Government.
(b) Programme of the movement.

Ans. (a) Mahatma Gandhi began the Civil Disobedience Movement on 12 March 1930 with the Dandi March and broke the Salt Law on 5 April 1930. He asked the people to defy laws and orders of the British Government. The agitation spread throughout the country. It gained momentum with the passage of time, and thus the Government got alarmed. It adopted the policy of repression to suppress this movement. People had to face brutal lathi-charges and indiscriminate firing. More than 90,000 people and many leaders were put behind the bars. Hundreds of people died in jails due to inhuman treatments and thousands lost their limbs because of torture. Forcible breaking of processions and meetings, and looting of property became the order of the day. The Congress organisation was declared unlawful and various restrictions were imposed on the press.

- (b) Mahatma Gandhi made salt and broke the Salt Law on 5 April 1930. He asked the people to defy laws and orders of the British Government. Soon Gandhiji was arrested. The entire country was shocked but the people were inspired to break British laws. The agitation spread throughout the country. A National Week was observed from April 6 to 13 in Bombay. The people who lived near the coasts broke the Salt Law. Where it was not possible to break the Salt Law, people violated other laws to oppose the Government. In the North West Frontier Province, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan organised the red shirt volunteers and launched an intense but non-violent anti-government

movement in various ways. All over the country, the law and order stood suspended.

11. Perhaps there is no other leader who made so great a contribution as Mahatma Gandhi to the national movement. In this context, briefly explain the following points :

- (a) Satyagraha against the Rowlatt Act.
- (b) Harijan upliftment.
- (c) Making the national movement a mass movement.
- (d) His great sacrifices.

Ans. (a) After the First World War, the British Government passed the Rowlatt Act in 1919, which aimed at suppressing the National Movement with an iron hand. Both Hindus and Muslims came out to oppose this act in response to the call given by Mahatma Gandhi. People did not relent even if they had to face Government repression. Gandhiji had to take reins of this movement in his hands. The Government resorted to firing and lathi-charge at several places but not all this could intimidate either Gandhiji or his followers.

(b) Indians did not treat their low caste brethren well, especially the Harijans. That is why most of them were deserting their own religion and embracing Christianity. Such people could no doubt, prove a big hurdle to the Freedom Movement. However, Gandhiji wanted to keep them involve in his movement. Therefore, he gave his attention to the cause of Harijan upliftment. He lived among the Harijans and was against untouchability. Along with others, they too fought for the freedom and made sacrifices.

(c) Before 1920, the National Movement was confined to a few educated men belonging to the middle class. It had not touched the common masses. It was only under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi that the freedom movement became mass movement of the Indian people. They whole-heartedly took part in his Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience Movements at an unprecedented large scale. All classes of Indians

supported the freedom struggle. It brought about an awakening among the people who became ready to suffer and sacrifice anything for their motherland. Women also vied with men to fight for India's freedom.

- (d) Mahatma Gandhi had to undergo great sacrifices to challenge the might of the British Empire. He had to bear lathi blows, pass through gunfire and even stake his life. He went to jail several times but it did not break his courage. He stood firm like a rock and added to the courage of his people by his own sacrifices and sufferings. Our country became free on 15 August 1947. On 31st January 1948, Mahatma Gandhi gave the ultimate sacrifice.

12. The advent of Mahatma Gandhi on the Indian political scene gave a new impetus to the freedom struggle. With reference to the Non-Cooperation Movement under Mahatma Gandhi, answer the following questions :

- (a) What were the causes which led to the launch of the Non-Cooperation Movement?
- (b) Describe the programme of the movement.
- (c) State the importance of the movement and the reasons for its withdrawal.

Ans. (a) Mahatma Gandhi was forced to start the Non-Cooperation movement for the following main reasons:

- (i) The people of India had to face various economic problems and difficulties after the First World War. Trade dwindled after the War and the Indian industries faced heavy losses. There was acute unemployment and poverty in the country. The people desired an Indian government to end their economic miseries.
- (ii) Indians were disappointed when they realised that after the War, the Allies had divided the colonies of the defeated Axis nations, instead of freeing them. Indians realised that imperialist British would never let them free so easily.

- (iii) The Allies—the USA, France, Britain, etc. had promised to grant the right of self-determination to the Asian and African countries after the war. But they did not keep their words.
 - (iv) The Indian soldiers who fought for the English in Europe, Asia and Africa during the War played an important role in awakening the consciousness among the people of India.
 - (v) The Montague-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919 proved to be unsatisfactory. Thus, there was widespread agitation against these reforms.
- (b) The programme and methods of the leaders of the Non-Cooperation Movement were simple. Gandhiji, Ali Brothers and other leaders toured the country. They roused the people's enthusiasm, laid stress on Hindu-Muslim unity. They made efforts to popularise the programme of Non-Cooperation. Mahatma Gandhiji, launched the movement by returning all the titles and honours bestowed by the British Government. Many educated Indians followed Gandhiji's example and returned these things to the Government. Many nationalists colleges like the Jamia Millia Islamia, the Kashi, Bihar and Gujarat Vidyapeeths were set up. They began to use swadeshi goods and boycotted foreign goods, which were gathered and burnt at the crossroads. Women came out of their houses and joined the struggle. Takli and charkha appeared in every house by July 1921.
- (c) The following were the importance of the Non-Cooperation Movement :
- (i) The Movement inspired the people with new confidence. They showed a remarkable degree of willingness and ability to endure all the hardships and punishments inflicted by the Government that they became courageous and fearless.
 - (ii) The Indian National Congress became a mass organization with the launching of the Non-

Cooperation Movement. Its aims and objects now closely resembled those of agitation nationalism though its methods were non-violent.

- (iii) The joining of the Khilafat Movement and the Non-Cooperation Movement gave boost to Hindu-Muslim unity. The urban Muslims were brought into the nationalist movement.
- (iv) The notion that the British rule was for the good of the Indians was shattered and during the mass movement, the leaders exposed their economic and political exploitation of the country.
- (v) It promoted many social reforms especially drives against untouchability, prohibition and encouraging women to join the mass movement. The reason for its withdrawal at its peak was that on 5 February 1922 about 3,000 farmers organised a procession at Chauri Chaura, a village in the Gorakhpur district of UP. The police opened fire on this procession. The angry crowd attacked and burnt the police station, killing 22 policemen. Mahatma Gandhi was shocked at the violence and so he suspended the Movement. He could not tolerate that his followers should indulge in violence.

13. With reference to the following points, describe the events that led to the launching of the Non-Cooperation Movement by the Congress :

- (a) The Rowlatt Act.
- (b) The Jallianwala Bagh Tragedy.
- (c) The Khilafat Movement.

Ans. (a) There was a great reaction among the Indians to the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms. These reforms failed to satisfy the Indians. The concessions granted to them were much below the expectations. The Indian National Congress at its annual session held at Amritsar described them as inadequate, unsatisfactory and disappointing. The English were afraid lest the

people should launch an agitation. With this fear in mind, the British Government passed the Rowlatt Act in March 1919 to crush any popular or revolutionary movement. This Act gave powers to the Government to arrest and to detain suspected persons; to search them without a warrant; and to imprison them without a trial.

- (b) There occurred a massacre at Jallianwala Bagh at Amritsar on 13 April 1919. A peaceful strike was organised at Amritsar on 30 March and 6 April 1919 to protest against the Rowlatt Act. The principal leaders of the Congress, Dr. Satyapal and Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlu, were arrested and deported to Dharamsala. This sparked off a strike in the city. The people marched in procession to the residence of the Deputy Commissioner to demand the release of these leaders. The police fired two rounds to disperse the mob. The result was the mob fury at Amritsar. The mob burnt Government buildings, looted godowns, killed a few officers and injured two British women. The army was called to restore order.
- (c) The Khilafat Movement was started under the leadership of Mohammad Ali and Shukat Ali in 1919. Gandhiji supported this agitation to get support of Muslim community. That is why, when Mahatma Gandhi started the Non-Cooperation in 1920, Khilafat Movement merged into it.

14. Mahatma Gandhi decided to launch the Civil Disobedience Movement by manufacturing salt at Dandi. In this context, write short notes on the following :

- (a) The Dandi March, 1930.
- (b) The countrywide breaking of the Salt Law and other laws.
- (c) Gandhi-Irwin Pact, 1931.

Ans. (a) Mahatma Gandhi began the Civil Disobedience Movement on 12 March 1930 with the famous Dandi March. On that day Gandhiji set out on the march from the Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi, a village on the

sea coast of Gujarat, with 87 inmates of the ashram to break the Salt Law. The historic march is known as the Dandi March.

Gandhiji and his followers would stop at every village and the next day more people could join the march. On 6 April, they reached Dandi and Gandhiji made salt from the seawater and violated the Salt Law. It was a symbol of disobedience to the Government orders. He asked the people to defy the laws and orders of the British Government.

- (b) Mahatma Gandhi was arrested as he had planned to march to a nearby salt factory. The whole country was shocked at the news of his arrest. Swiftly, a law-breaking movement swept across the country. A National Week was celebrated from 6 to 13 April. The people near the sea made salt and broke the Salt Law. Wherever it was not possible to break Salt Law, people violated other laws to oppose the Government. The agitation soon spread throughout the country and everywhere strikes were organised, possessions were taken out, foreign goods were boycotted and demonstrations rent the sky. In the North-West Frontier Province, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan (the Khudai Khidmatgars) and launched an intense but non-violent anti-government movement in various ways. All over the country, law and order stood suspended.

- (c) To stop the Civil Disobedience Movement the government called the First Round Table Conference (1930-31) which the Congress refused to attend. The British Government then called the Second Round Table Conference in September to December 1931. However, before its commencement, there was a pact known as the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. It was a political agreement signed by Mahatma Gandhi then and the Viceroy of India, Lord Irwin on 5 March 1931.

According to the pact the government agreed to

- (i) Withdraw all ordinances and end prosecutions.

- (ii) Release all political prisoners, except those guilty of violence.
- (iii) Permit peaceful picketing of liquor and foreign cloth shops.
- (iv) Restore the confiscated properties of the Satyagrahis.
- (v) Permit the collection and manufacture of salt by persons near the seacoast.

The Congress, consented to

- (i) Suspend the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- (ii) To participate in the Second Round Table Conference.
- (iii) Not to press for investigation into police atrocities.