

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qcbn2h0PqAw>

GROWTH OF INDIAN NATIONALISM



EMERGENCE OF GANDHI & BOSE

Gandhian movements

Azad Hind Fauj

Growth of Indian Nationalism

BACKDROP

The Battle of Plassey, fought between Siraj-ud-daulah, the Nawab of Bengal and the English East India Company in June 1757, marked the beginning of British rule in India. The East India Company, whose original purpose was commercial gain, transformed itself into a ruling territorial power by acquiring all the attributes of the state. It could wage war, make peace, raise taxes, and administer justice in the conquered territories like any other sovereign power. The British introduced various Acts between 1773 and 1858 to establish parliamentary control over the government in India. **After 1858 the administration of the East India Company was dissolved and the Crown was directly empowered to exercise control over the administration through the Government of India Act (1858).** After 1858, some modification was introduced to the institutions and administrative machinery founded by the British Raj, but the basic fabric of the state and its purpose remained unaltered.

Political Stage

The struggle that broke out in 1857 gave a severe jolt to the British authority. The rebellion was an outcome of discontent that was brewing among different sections of Indian people for various reasons. The new land revenue system antagonized many feudal chiefs as well as common peasants. Common people became the victims of arrogance and overbearing manner of the officials of the East India Company. Traditional customs and practices of the people were ignored. The new system of justice was looked upon as an imposition and a symbol of terror. Indian soldiers were unhappy because of discriminatory attitude of their European master, etc. Anger against the alien rule very often took the form of sporadic uprisings in different parts of India. Though these uprisings were isolated incidents they clearly expressed the anti-British sentiments of the local people. In this sequence of uprisings the major assault faced by the British in 1857 was when the **sepoys at Meerut Cantonment revolted against the British military officials. Greased cartridges, suspected by some to be smeared with the fat** of cows and pigs, might have acted as an immediate provocation; but the rumblings of discontent in the army were noticed even before the **Meerut uprising**. In fact in March 1857 a regiment of sepoy was disbanded at Barrackpore, near Calcutta, when Mangal Pandey, a young sepoy, fired a bullet at his British officer.

Political Stage

The sepoys who rebelled in Meerut marched to Delhi and captured it. Soon they declared the elderly **Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah II as the emperor of India**. The uprising spread to Lucknow, Kanpur, Rohilkhand, Central India and Bundelkhand. The initiative for the Revolt of 1857 came from the sepoys, but very soon took the character of a popular rebellion. At several places it was the civil population which raised the banner of revolt because of their grievances against the foreign rule, while at other places it was led by the ex-rulers. Many heroic battles were fought during the course of the struggle. **But it also saw many rulers supporting the British**. Ultimately, the British suppressed the uprising. In spite of its failure the events of 1857 ignited the spirit of freedom amongst the Indian. The heroic sacrifices made by **Rani Laxmi Bai, Tantia Tope, Nana Saheb, Kunwar Singh** and many others became the major source of inspiration for our freedom fighters.

PHASES OF INDIAN NATIONALISM

By bringing the Indian subcontinent under the umbrella of one centralized administration and introducing modern education and communication systems the British rule had made an indirect contribution in facilitating the growth of Indian nationalism. This was also the time when India witnessed the growth of new ideas and the development of

modern literature in various regional languages. The new universities at Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras and the various government colleges in different parts of the country helped to create a new middle class who started thinking in terms of India and Indian culture. Indian intelligentsia/intellectuals through nationalist newspapers and literature in the form of novels, essays, and poetry aroused a strong sense of patriotism across the country. The anti-British sentiment was strengthened by the British policy of discrimination on a racial basis, repression, and economic exploitation. Certain administrative measures taken by the Government further contributed in this direction. These included:

- a) **Arms Act of 1878** - The Indian Arms Act of 1878 was enacted during the Viceroy-ship of **Lord Lytton (1876-80)**. By this act, no Indians could manufacture, sell, possess, and carry firearms. However, the English people could do so.
- b) **Vernacular Press Act of 1878 & Viceroy Lord Lytton** - <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Vernacular-Press-Act>
- c) reduction of the maximum age limit from **21 to 19 years for the Imperial Civil Services Examination (1877)**
- d) **Illbert Bill Controversy (1884)** introduced by Sir C P Illbert, the Law Member of the Central Legislative Council – **Viceroy Lord Ripon (1880-84)** - https://en.banglapedia.org/index.php/Ilbert_Bill_Controversy

PHASES OF INDIAN NATIONALISM

Thus, by the second half of the 19th century a new channel developed to ventilate anti-British feelings, through consolidation of nationalism and the struggle for independence. The popular uprisings challenging the colonial rule were suppressed by the British. However, the **educated middle class Indians** soon realised the necessity of an organized movement at the national level. Leaders like Dadabhai Naoroji, Justice Ranade and **Sir Surendranath Banerjea and others** took up the task of developing political consciousness among Indians and exposing the exploitative character of British rule. As a result, political associations were formed in different parts of the country like the Poona Sarwajanik Sabha, Madras Native Association, Bombay Presidency Association, etc. The initiative at the national level came through the formation of the **Indian Association in 1876** by

Surendranath Banerjea (also known as **Rashtra Guru**/knighted by the British monarchy hence known as “Sir”)



<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Indian-Association>

All these efforts finally led to the formation of the **Indian National Congress (INC)**. **Woomesh Chunder Bonnerjee or W. C. Bonnerjee (co-founder and first president of INC)** presided over the first session of the Indian National Congress at Bombay in **1885**.

PHASES OF INDIAN NATIONALISM

The **objectives of the early nationalists** were:

- to promote a feeling of national unity
- to develop political awareness among Indians
- to mobilize public opinion in order to pressurize the Government to accept their demands

However, very soon opinions within the Indian National Congress got divided as regards the methods to be adopted.

There emerged two groups, '**moderates**' and '**extremists**'.

MODERATES vs EXTREMISTS

The early leadership of the Congress wanted reforms while remaining under colonial rule. They were critical of transforming India into a colony, excessive land revenue, the export of raw materials and the import of manufactured goods and foreign capital. They protested against the **drain of wealth** from India. They also demanded democratic civil rights, a free press, a non-racialist administration and greater participation of Indians in the administration and the legislative machinery. They believed in constitutional **methods like public meetings, petitions, and press coverage** to achieve their demands. **They came to be known as the 'moderates' within the Congress.** Some well-known moderate leaders were --- **Dadabhai Naoroji, Gopal Krishna Gokhale, Pherozeshah Mehta,** etc.

A group of Congress leaders, however, did not agree with the methods adopted by the moderates. Having no faith in the promises of the government this group was against pursuing the policy of appeals and gradual reforms. **This group advocated that Indians must take recourse to mass politics and mass agitation to achieve the goal of complete independence from Britain.** Due to their differences from the moderates, this group was **called 'extremists'.** Leaders of this group were **Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Aurobindo Ghose, Bipin Chandra Pal, and Lala Lajpat Rai.**

In the Surat session of the Congress 1907 the split between the two groups became official also known as the **SURAT SPLIT.**

Thus, by the beginning of the 20th century, whether extremists or moderates, public opinion was very much in favour of raising the banner of revolt against colonial rule.

Swadeshi Movement

Sensing the growing consolidation of anti-British opinion **Lord Curzon (1899-1905)**, the Viceroy, ordered the **partition of Bengal in 1905**. The Government claimed that the decision was taken for administrative convenience. However, the people of Bengal saw in it a hidden plan to divide the Bengali people along religious lines in order to check the nationalist movement. The partition of Bengal gave rise to widespread discontent and led to angry agitation in the form of the **Swadeshi and Boycott movement**. **The purpose of this movement was to put economic pressure on the rulers and to promote indigenous industries. The movement succeeded in getting a good response from the different sections of the society and soon it spread to other parts of the country.** The government launched a ruthless policy of repression to crush this agitation but it had **to annul the partition in 1911**.

On the other hand, in **1904 Curzon promised the Muslims of Dacca, in the proposed eastern Bengal, that partition in the following year would create a Muslim unity unknown since Mughal times**. With government encouragement, Muslim landlords in Bengal formed the **Muslim League in 1906** with support from Muslim businessmen involved in the sale of British imports and opposed the boycott that was organized in protest against partition. Arguably the most important political consequence of the Bengal partition was the founding of the Muslim League late in 1906.

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Muslim-League> / <https://byjus.com/free-ias-prep/this-day-in-history-dec30/>

Revolutionary Movement for Independence

The revolutionaries questioned the non-violent strategy of struggle adopted by the INC, as they believed **passive resistance** could not be effective against the British. **They believed in adopting violent methods and aspired to organize an armed mass revolution to drive away the British from the country.** In 1897, the **Chapekar brothers** had assassinated two unpopular British officials at Poona. In **1904**, **V.D. Savarkar** had established a secret revolutionary society known as the **Abhinav Bharat**. However, it was the failure of the Swadeshi movement that gave real impetus to revolutionary activities, a first of its kind. The brutal suppression of the Swadeshi movement by the British and the ineffectiveness of passive resistance advocated by the extremist leaders provoked the youth of Bengal to engage in individual heroic actions like assassinating unpopular officials. The assassination of unpopular British officials was done by the revolutionaries: (a) to strike fear in the officials (b) to remove the fear of the Indian people and (c) ignite a feeling of national consciousness. The second wave of revolutionary activities in the 1920s had a different character. The revolutionaries gradually moved away from individual heroic action and were attracted by the possibility of armed mass struggle. A number of them also came under the influence of Socialism. In **1924**, the **Hindustan Republican Association was formed with the aim of organizing armed revolution against the British.**

Revolutionary Movement for Independence

The revolutionaries of North India like **Bhagat Singh and Chandrasekhar Azad** came under the influence of **socialist ideas**. In September 1928, they renamed their organization as the **Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA)** to reflect their newly acquired ideology, which gave importance to socialist principles and revolution by the masses. **Bhagat Singh and B.K. Dutt made public propaganda of this changed ideology during their trial in a court for throwing a harmless bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly in 1929.** In Bengal, too, individual heroic action was replaced by group action. A group of revolutionaries, led by **Surya Sen**, carried out a large-scale armed attack on the **Chittagong armory of the government in April 1930.**

The revolutionaries could not sustain their activities because they failed to get the consistent and active support of the people and failed to develop a base among the Indian masses. Moreover, their use of violence as a political weapon gave a justification to the British to counter them by using more violence. The revolutionaries failed in achieving their long-term goal of armed mass revolution against the British. Nevertheless, the selfless sacrifice of revolutionaries like Bhagat Singh, Chandrasekhar Azad, Surya Sen, and hundreds of others gained them unparalleled popularity among the people. Many, however, did not agree with their method of using violence to achieve independence.

Revolutionary Movement for Independence

Bhagat Singh and his fellow revolutionaries were tried for the murder of Saunders in the **Lahore Conspiracy Case** and were **hanged on 23 March 1931**. Chandrasekhar Azad was killed in a shooting encounter with the police at Allahabad in February 1931. **Surya Sen** was arrested in February 1933 and hanged. Many other revolutionaries were arrested and sentenced to jail; some were sent to the **Cellular Jail in Andaman**.

Must watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wk7AVsV9WFs&ab_channel=SansadTV

EMERGENCE OF GANDHI

With the outbreak of the **First World War in 1914** the British asked for Indian cooperation in their fight for democracy and the right of nations to self-determination. Indians responded positively to the British call and also suffered casualties in the War. **But the reforms announced at the end of the war in 1919 fell short of the nationalist expectations. Disappointment and disillusionment with the government intensified the nationalist's campaign against the British.** Meanwhile, Annie Besant (<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Annie-Besant>)

and Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak started a popular constitutional agitation under the banner of the Indian **Home Rule League** (<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Home-Rule-League>). This was the time when **Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi emerged to provide new leadership to the freedom movement.** Gandhi had evolved a new form of struggle, non-cooperation and **Satyagraha** to pressurize the Government. His policy of non-cooperation and Satyagraha was already put into practice in South Africa while he was fighting for the right of immigrant Indians.

EMERGENCE OF GANDHI

1919 – a turning point in INDIAN HISTORY

The year 1919 was a watershed in Indian history, as THREE important developments took place:

- (1) **Montagu-Chelmsford reforms/Government of India Act 1919** were enacted- they didn't grant swaraj but anticipated a period of self-government by Indians known as **Dyarchy**
- (2) The repressive **Rowlatt Bill** was introduced and the Amritsar massacre occurred at **Jallianwala Bagh**
- (3) A new course of political action emerged - that of **non-violent non-cooperation**. A new leader, **M. K. Gandhi** returned from South Africa and became a **symbol of moral leadership** for India

EMERGENCE OF GANDHI

Arrival of Gandhi

- Post 1919 Gandhi emerged as the principal architect of Indian independence. At 18, he went to England to study law. Later in 1893 he went to South Africa where he practiced as an Indian lawyer and defended mostly the Indian business community. His experience there proved crucial to his leadership of India's freedom struggle.
- Between 1893 and 1914 he put together his new vision of society-this differed from other nationalist leaders, as it was a **critique of modern civilization**. He criticized the western obsession with material goods and the competition necessary to secure them. He said industrial development should be avoided as machinery represented sin and put forth a view of a simple life like in his imagined traditional Indian village.
- Thus, he fell back on the ancient past by evoking the mythic kingdom of Lord Ram/Ramrajya. To reform any society he said one must start from the bottom and it should be a moral not political transformation of society. He did not believe that the end-of freedom-justified the means that might be necessary to achieve it.
- Gandhi's life was not dominated by political activity. There were significant pauses during which Gandhi did constructive work, which was dear to him. Amongst intellectual influences European writers such as Tolstoy, Kipling, and George Bernard Shaw and others influenced Gandhi. He read Upanishads and The Gita. He read Marx's work as late as 1944. In jail (1923) he read over 150 books - for example the Mahabharata, a Gujarati account of six systems of Indian philosophy, the Wealth of Nations by Adam Smith and more.

EMERGENCE OF GANDHI

- In 1909 Gandhi wrote a book called *Hind Swaraj* expressing his views on Swaraj and critique of Modern Civilization.
- Gandhi used the term Swaraj in a dual sense as-as (1)'self-rule' and as (2) 'self-government'. The first meant self-control/rule over oneself and was the foundation for the second self-government. Gandhi prioritized self-rule over self-government and to both over political independence. Essential to both meanings of Swaraj, was a sense of self-respect that was Gandhi's answer to colonial rule.
- **The main point of his pamphlet was that the real enemy was the modern industrial civilization and not the British political domination.** He presented a moral critique of Western civilization.

EMERGENCE OF GANDHI

It would be misleading to suggest that Gandhi introduced an entirely new kind of politics. As mass movements organized by Tilak in Maharashtra in 1890, the Swadeshi in Bengal had already foreshadowed mass politics and some Gandhian methods. Also, the Home Rule League of Tilak and Annie Besant made the base for Gandhi's first *Satyagraha* movement.

SATYA AND AHIMSA

Two key terms for Gandhi were Satya and Ahimsa. Satya was relative truth while Ahimsa/non violence was absolute truth. Truth was the substance of morality. Satya was derived from 'sat' which means 'being'.

EMERGENCE OF GANDHI

For him Satya meant the truth in the realm of knowledge, righteousness in conduct and justice in social relations. His concept of truth stresses action rather than thought.

For Gandhi truth was even higher than god. He said every man was a seeker of truth and every man embodied a portion of this truth-this he called soul force. **He said one must have faith in absolute truth but every man can follow truth according to his likes i.e. relative truth. Thus Truth can be obtained through *tapasya* (self-suffering).**

EMERGENCE OF GANDHI

Ahimsa literally means **non-killing**. In the Hindu tradition if one kills an evildoer, it is not himsa/violence because it was done to preserve social order. Gandhi took up Leo Tolstoy's notion of non-violence, which advocated active love in social terms. In the Gandhian notion of non-violence there is an **element of compassion plus a positive desire to help others**.

Gandhi's concept of Satya with Ahimsa determined his doctrine of *Satyagraha* (**truthful force**). He developed this method in South Africa which involved peaceful violation of laws, protests, hartals combined with readiness of negotiation and compromise. This method pressurized the British to some extent and apart from drawing from the masses kept mass activity under strict control of the leader.

EMERGENCE OF GANDHI

Gandhi returned from South Africa in 1915. And undertook three ventures—**Champaran Satyagraha, Kheda Satyagraha and Ahmadabad Mill strike** established him as a man who could achieve concrete reforms in a manner different from the established Congress methods which worked top downwards.

AHMEDABAD Mill Strike (1918)

- Gandhi in Feb-March 1918 intervened in the Ahmadabad Mill strike a purely internal conflict between Gujarat millowners and their workers. The mill owner's attempts to end the plague bonus in 1917, which led to confrontation despite Gandhi's mediation attempts. This strike was notable because it was the first time Gandhi used the weapon of *hunger strike*. It won the workers a 35% wage increase.
- It also led to the Textile labor Association of 1920 being formed and grounded on Gandhian philosophies of peaceful arbitration of disputes, independence of capital and labor and owners being trustees for workers.

EMERGENCE OF GANDHI

ROWLATT SATYAGRAHA (1919/20)

In 1919 the Rowlatt Act was passed by the British, which extended wartime restriction on civil rights permanently by introducing **imprisonment without trial for a maximum of two years for those suspected of terrorist activity**. All Indians deeply resented the Rowlatt Act but it was left to Gandhi to suggest opposition to the Act. **As constitutional methods to oppose the Act failed, Gandhi finally decided to launch the Rowlatt Satyagraha, calling for a nationwide strike/hartal accompanied by fasting and prayer on 6th April and in addition civil disobedience of specific laws. A Satyagraha Sabha was set up to direct the Satyagrahis.**

However, a few sporadic incidents of violence and chaos followed the movement and Gandhi quickly called off the Satyagraha on 18th April 1919. Despite Gandhi's failure to achieve his immediate objectives, the Rowlatt Satyagraha was by no means futile. It greatly strengthened nationalism in India. The support he got from the Indian population undermined the claims by British civilians about political loyalties of the people of India.

NON-COOPERATION-KHILAFAT MOVEMENT (1920-22)

With the outbreak of the First World War in 1914 the British asked for Indian cooperation in their fight for democracy and the right of nations to self-determination. Indians responded positively to the British call and also suffered casualties in the War. But the reforms announced at the end of the war in 1919 fell short of the nationalist expectations. Disappointment and disillusionment with the government intensified the nationalist's campaign against the British. This was the time when Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi emerged to provide new leadership to the freedom movement. Gandhi had evolved a new form of struggle, non-cooperation and Satyagraha to pressurize the Government. His policy of non-cooperation and Satyagraha was already put into practice in South Africa while he was fighting for the right of immigrant Indians.

NON-COOPERATION KHILAFAT MOVEMENT (1920-22)

Gandhi started his political movement in India taking up the cause of peasants in **Champaran (Bihar), and Kheda (Gujarat)** and the working class in **Ahmedabad (Gujarat)**. There was growing discontent among people because of rising prices and extortions in the name of war. The passing of the Rowlatt Act in 1919, authorizing the government to imprison people without trial, provided Gandhi an ideal opportunity to give a call for mass action. Gandhi started Satyagraha and the entire country witnessed strikes, hartals, processions and demonstrations against the government. At **Jallianwalla Bagh in Amritsar on 13 April 1919 General Dyer of the British army ordered the troops to fire upon a peaceful gathering which was trapped in an enclosed garden.** The British brutality shook the nation.

NON-COOPERATION KHILAFAT MOVEMENT (1920-22)

This was the time when the British Government's treatment of the Sultan of Turkey (who was considered as a religious head by Muslims) caused deep resentment among Indian Muslims. This led to a popular agitation known as the Khilafat Movement. In 1920 the Indian National Congress under Gandhi launched a non-cooperation, non-violent movement to **redress the wrongs done in Punjab and in Turkey and to attain Swaraj.** A call was given to boycott government affiliated schools and colleges, law courts and legislatures, foreign cloth and to surrender official titles and honors. Decisions were taken to set up national schools and colleges. There was massive spontaneous support to this movement from various sections of the society- particularly peasants, students and workers. However, Gandhi, despite stiff opposition from many of his colleagues, withdrew the movement when a violent mob killed **22 policemen** at **Chauri Chaura** in U.P. Gandhi felt that people were not yet trained in the spirit of non-violence. In spite of this withdrawal the Non-cooperation movement created a nationalist stimulation.

NON-COOPERATION KHILAFAT MOVEMENT (1920-22)

The Non-Cooperation Movement had in fact succeeded on many counts. The movement has a **twofold character ---drawing in the masses and at the same time keeping mass activity under control**. It demonstrated that it commanded the support and sympathy of vast sections of the Indian people. After non-cooperation, the charge of representing a microscopic minority could never be hurled at the INC. Its reach among many sections of Indian peasants, workers, artisans, traders, and professionals had been demonstrated. **The spread of the movement was also nationwide**. The notion that the desire for national freedom was the preserve of the rich and educated was dispelled and shown to be an urge common to all members of a subject nation. This was for many people the first contact with the modern world of nationalist politics and the modern ideology of nationalism. Incredible participation of large number of Muslims due to the inclusion of Khilafat cause in the movement and the maintenance of communal unity was also striking.

NON-COOPERATION KHILAFAT MOVEMENT (1920-22)

Non-Cooperation movement therefore made attempts to establish more meaningful links with the masses in the national struggle and thereby changed the Indian political scene for good. The retreat that was ordered was only a temporary one and even though the battle was over, the war would continue.

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT (1930-1931)

- For some time after the withdrawal of the NCM, the Congress was not in a position to launch another round of mass movement. Post Chauri Chaura, the British arrested Gandhi in March 1922 with a 6-year sentence. After his release from jail in 1924, Gandhi channelized his energies on constructive programs such as removal of untouchability, building of the ashrams, use of charkha etc.
- There was also a crisis in the unity within the Congress. The Congress was divided into **no-changers and pro-changers**. **The former wanted to stick to the Gandhian ways (Ansari, Iyengar) while the latter wanted to revert to constitutional politics (Motilal Nehru, C.R. Das)**. Following their differences over withdrawal of the non-cooperation movement and the future plans for the freedom movement, leaders like C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru left the Congress and formed the **Swaraj Party**.

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT (1930-1931)

In 1929 the Congress in its annual session at Lahore adopted '**Purna Swaraj**' (complete independence) as its goal and launched a nationwide movement for economic reconstitution and political independence. **It was resolved that from 1930 onwards, each year 26 January** would be celebrated as Independence Day on which the tricolored flag would be hoisted. On 12 March, 1930 the Congress launched the Civil Disobedience Movement which started with **Gandhi's historic march to Dandi to break the Salt Law**. The movement spread to different parts of India, lakhs of people offered Satyagraha and participated in demonstrations and boycott of foreign goods and liquor. Gandhi was arrested and the Congress was declared illegal. Later on, Gandhi came to an understanding with Viceroy Irwin in 1931. He agreed to attend the Round Table conference in London for considering a new constitution for India.

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Gandhi-Irwin-Pact>

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE MOVEMENT (1930-1931)

Failing to get anything concrete from the Round Table Conference, the Civil Disobedience movement which was temporarily suspended, was resumed in the beginning of 1932. However, because of government repression and growing feeling of ineffectiveness of the movement, the Civil Disobedience movement was officially withdrawn in mid-1934.

QUIT INDIA (1942)

Government of India Act, 1935

Due to the pressure of the sustained struggle of the Indian people the British Government promulgated the **Government of India Act, 1935**. According to the new constitution, elections were held in various provinces in 1937 and the Indian National Congress formed ministries in seven provinces. In spite of limited powers given to them, the Congress ministries took some beneficial measures for the; people, like:

- lifting the ban on the press
- release political prisoners
- curbing of police powers
- encouraging welfare activities

QUIT INDIA (1942)

However, the **beginning of Second World War in 1939** and the Government's decision to drag India into the war without giving any consideration to Indian opinion led to the resignation of Congress Ministries in the provinces. Gandhi decided to start limited Satyagraha on individual basis by selected individuals in every locality. This was planned to give expression to Indian's strong political feelings.

Cripps Mission

Amid war the British Government was very much desirous of getting India's support. With this in mind in **March 1942** a delegation was sent to India under **Sir Stafford Cripps to negotiate with the Indian leaders about constitutional reforms**. However the proposals of the Cripps Mission were not acceptable to Indians. The Congress pointed out that it was impossible for them to consider any scheme or proposal that retained any type of British control in India. After the failure of the Cripps Mission, **India's struggle for independence took a new turn**.

QUIT INDIA (1942)

Proposals of Cripps's Mission

- After the war ends, the Cripps mission proposed to **provide dominion status to India**. That means that India would be in a transition phase between colonial rule and self-government.
- It proposed to frame the Constituent Assembly, which would be authorized to frame its own constitution and the members of which would be partly elected by the provincial assemblies through proportional representation and partly nominated by the princes. It also stated that the new constitution-making body would safeguard the racial and religious minorities.
- **It also provided the Indian provinces to either join the Indian territory or secede from it and form its separate constitution and a separate union. Basically, it aimed to break the sovereignty and integrity of our country and act as a blueprint of India's partition.**
- Under this, defense power was kept under the British hands and the governor-general powers would remain intact.

QUIT INDIA (1942)

Congress's Objection to Cripps Mission

- In the 1929 congress session, the congress had declared self-government as its goal, but the Cripps mission offered dominion status instead of the provision of complete independence. This offer of the British did not fulfill Congress's dreams of self-government.
- The Congress objected to the British plan of State representation by nominated members and not by the elected representatives.
- The clause of the right to secede from the Indian union if desired was acting as a blueprint of partition of India went against the principles of making a united India.
- The Mission lacked any **clear-cut timeline for the transfer of power** from British to Indian hands and the supremacy of the governor-general would be retained was not accepted by the congress.

QUIT INDIA (1942)

Muslim League's Objection to Cripps Mission

- Muslim league objected to the idea of a single union of India. The plan did not talk about the creation of a separate territory called Pakistan, as per the demand of the Muslim league.
- The Muslim League did not like the British way of constituting a constituent assembly for India to frame its own constitution.
- The Muslim League did not like the procedure stated by the British to join the Union or secede from it. This, in no way catered to the demands of the Muslim League.

The mission failed to meet the demands of self-government of the Leaders. This Mission also kept itself confined to the goal of Dominion status. For this reason, **Gandhi Stated the Cripps Mission as a 'Post Dated cheque on a Crashing bank'.**

QUIT INDIA (1942) – Do or Die

The failure of the Cripps Mission impelled the Congress to launch the 'Quit India' movement in **August 1942**. Gandhi asked the people to 'Do or Die'. 'We shall either free India', he said, 'or die in the attempt; we shall not live to see the perpetuation of our slavery'. Along with Gandhi important Congress leaders were immediately arrested. But this could not stop people from raising the banner of revolt against the British. In some regions people set up their own governments defying British authority. There were massive protests and demonstrations. An underground radio station was also set up. The Government suppressed the movement ruthlessly and more than 10,000 people died in police firings. Women participated in a big way in this movement. However, the Muslim League and Communist Party had kept away from the movement.

GANDHI – FILM (1982)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DLReeQIB-IQ>

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Azad Hind Fauj

➤ [Give me blood, I'll give you freedom](#)

➤ [Jai Hind](#)

➤ [Jana Gana - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Cn34HFZ8tc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Cn34HFZ8tc)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRgrmM_NBUo

➤ [Kadam kadam badhaye ja-](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QKMH3JTgY2w&t=10s>

➤ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V5ViAtZWvr0> – documentary on Bose

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Azad Hind Fauj

Background of Forward Bloc & Azad Hind Fauj/ Indian National Army

In **1938** Subhas Chandra Bose was elected as the President of Indian National Congress from Haripura in Gujarat. He was elected again in **1939** by 1580 votes against 1377 (Pattabhi Sitaramayya) before the Tripuri Session.

Gandhi and Bose were never aligned with each other and widely differed in their viewpoints:

For example: Bose was in favour of industrialization, Gandhi was in favour of Charkha. Bose was in favour of direct action even if it means to adopt non-violent means, Gandhi was in favour of ahimsa.

Bose felt the urgent need for an organized left-wing faction within the Congress party. After resigning from his presidentship in 1939, he laid the foundation of a new party within the Congress to bring the left wing under one leadership/banner --- **Forward Bloc.**

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Azad Hind Fauj

Objectives of Forward Bloc

- Establishment of a socialist state > reduce the gap between rich and poor
- Reorganization of agriculture and industry along socialist lines
- Abolition of zamindari system

INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY / AZAD HIND FAUJ

The idea of Indian National Army was conceived by **Captain Mohan Singh** in Malaya (Malaysia) an Indian officer in the British army. He decided not to join the retreating British army but to approach the Japanese for help and raise an Indian army.

Where would he get the soldiers from?

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Azad Hind Fauj

Where would he get the soldiers from?



INDIAN PRISONER'S OF WAR (POW) – The Indian POWs were handed over to Captain Mohan Singh who inducted them into the INA. The fall of Singapore IN 1942 was crucial as it brought about 45,000 Indian soldiers to the INA under Mohan Singh. [*Singapore was the foremost British military base and economic port in South–East Asia and had been of great importance to British interwar defense strategy. **The capture of Singapore resulted in the largest British surrender in its history.*]**

ROLE OF SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE SINCE 1943

INA needed a more robust and dynamic leader to give a new life to the force. In August 1943 Bose became the supreme commander of Azad Hind Fauj. He established its headquarter in Yangon/Rangoon (Burma/Myanmar) and began to reorganize the INA.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NOrZKI02LF8>

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Azad Hind Fauj

ROLE OF SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE SINCE 1943

A large number of civilians joined the INA and provided enormous financial support. For the first time in history a **women's regiment called the Rani Jhansi Regiment** was established under the leadership was **Captain Laxmi Swaminathan**. The other regiments were known as Nehru Brigade, Gandhi Brigade, Subhas Brigade etc.

OBJECTIVES OF THE INA

- To organize an armed revolution and fight the British > total war
- To mobilize the Indians abroad especially in South-East Asia
- To organize a **provisional government**/Azad Hind government for FREE INDIA. Subhas Bose became the PM of Azad Hind government and cabinet ministers with their banks, currencies etc. Bose unfurled the flag in Andaman islands

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Azad Hind Fauj

WHY THE INA could not achieve more military success?

INA was dependent on supplies from Japan and the tables turned around 1944 when Japan started losing the war and could not provide logistic supplies like ration, arms, and weapons to the INA. The defeat of the Axis powers in 1945 along with the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945 compelled Japan to surrender which dealt the last blow for Azad Hind Fauj.

Evaluation

What the INA failed to achieve on the military front, compensated on the political front. The trial of the three captured INA officers in Red Fort (1945-46)--- **Shahnawaz Khan, Prem Sahgal, and Gurbaksh Dhillon.** They were jointly charged with waging war against the nation (Section 121 of IPC) and were individually charged with murder and abetment to murder.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56mf-GE7h2Q&t=159s&ab_channel=HarshitDwivediEducation

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Azad Hind Fauj

EVALUATION

It gave a new impetus to the nationalist movement which had suffered a setback after the defeat of the INA. There was a show of unity among the Congress and Muslim League who carried the flags of both parties together. It roused strong nationalist sentiments among the armed forces like the Royal Indian Navy who revolted in 1946. Slowly the explosive situation made the British Raj realize that the only way to handle the situation was transfer of power and to quit India for ever.

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

1. Write a short note on the ideological differences between the Moderates and Extremists.
2. Describe the three most important movements led by Gandhi.
3. Briefly analyze the contributions of Subhas Chandra Bose and Azad Hind Fauj in the struggle for independence.
4. Write a short note on the Red Fort Trials of 1945-46 (please refer to this one and the ppt on the partition of India)

BBA-LLB - MODULE 4

SEMESTER II – END TERM

LEGAL & CONSTITUTIONAL

HISTORY

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Indian-Councils-Act-1861-India>

“The Indian Council’s Act of 1861 is an important landmark in the constitutional and political history of India”.



The representative system in India began with the Act of 1861.



The Indian Council Bill was introduced in the British Parliament by Sir Charles Wood (president of the Board of Control of the EIC & first Secretary of State for India) and finally received the Royal assent on 1 August 1861.

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

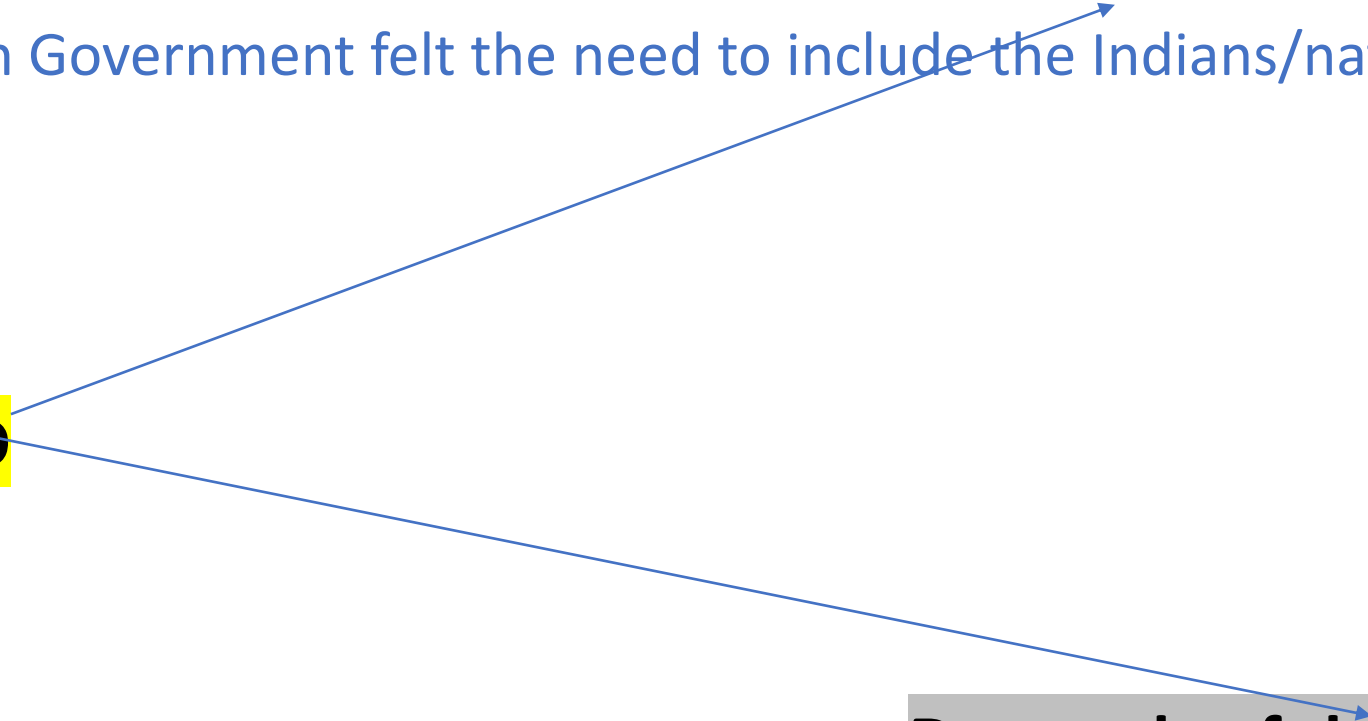
Revolt of 1857/Sepoy Mutiny

The British Government felt the need to include the Indians/natives in the administration

BACKGROUND

Demands of the Natives

Modifications to the constitutional arrangement



INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

STRUCTURE OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN INDIA

British Parliament



In Britain

**Governor General
Central Executive**



Central Government in India

**Provincial Governor
Provincial Legislature**



Provincial Government in India

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

PURPOSE OF THE ACT OF 1861

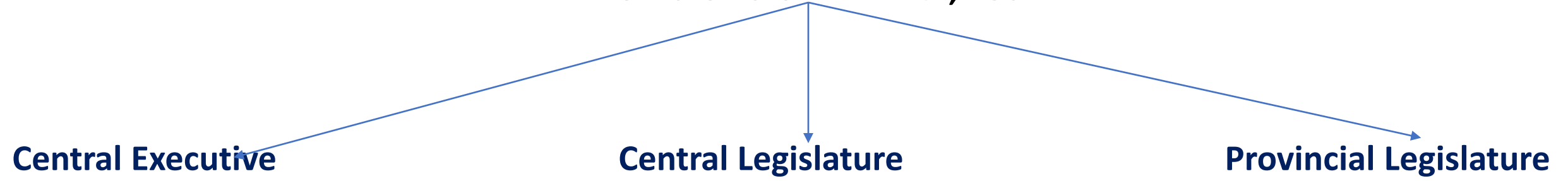


Expansion of the central and provincial legislature **by addition of non-official members** provided opportunities for the Government to understand the views of the natives and helped in removing their misunderstandings about the intentions of the British Government.

Structure of the British government in India Contd.

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

PROVISIONS OF THE ACT, 1861



1. Provisions relating to the Central Executive

- i) Expansion of Central Executive
- ii. Right of Governor General/Viceroy

Portfolio System: Under this system, a member of the Viceroy's council was made in-charge of one or more departments of the government and was authorized to issue final order on behalf of the council on matters of his department. **This arrangement laid the foundation of the Cabinet System in India.**

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

2. Provisions relating to the Central Legislature

Expansion of members	Expansion of Power	Rights of Governor-General
Central Legislative council consisting of not less than 6 not more than 12 additional members	The legislative council was to make laws for British India but executive and judicial matters remained outside its purview	Empowered the GG to issue ordinances without the concurrence of the Legislative council in case of Emergency
These additional members were nominated by the GG/Viceroy for 2 years		The validity of such ordinance was only 6 months → resonance with Article 123
But out of these additional members, not less than one-and-half were to be non-official		

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

NOTE

IN 1862 Lord Canning the last Governor-General and first Viceroy of India **nominated** 3 Indians to his legislative council

- i) The Raja of Banaras
- ii) The Maharaja of Patiala
- iii) Sir Dinkar Rao of Gwalior

3. Provisions relating to the Provincial Legislature

- i) Initiated the process of decentralization by restoring the legislative powers to Bombay and Madras presidencies
- ii) It also made provisions for the establishment of legislative councils in --- Bengal, North West Frontier, Punjab and Burma



A COMMENDABLE STEP TOWARDS DECENTRALIZATION OF LEGISLATIVE POWER

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

Other Provisions

Besides the Indian Councils Act of 1861, two other Acts of great importance were passed by the Parliament in the same year:

1. The Indian Civil Service Act of 1861
2. Indian High Courts Act of 1861 --- established High courts in 3 places --- Calcutta, Bombay and Madras

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

1. It made a beginning of representative institution by associating Indians with the law-making process
2. It initiated the process of decentralization by restoring the legislative powers
3. Marked the beginning of a portfolio/cabinet system in India

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

DEMERITS OF THE INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

Sir CHARLES WOOD remarked: "it was clear from this Act that the British Parliament was not in favour of giving a responsible government in India".

BECAUSE – Legislative Council could not debate or discuss over the conduct of the Executive neither did they have the authority to discuss the budget.

1. **No formal provisions** were made for the nomination of Indians
2. Non-official members were **nominated** rather than elected

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1861

SUMMARY

1. Expansion of legislative system
2. Portfolio / cabinet system
3. Nominated non-official members – Indians
4. Empowered the GG/Viceroy to issue ordinances
5. Initiated the process of decentralization
6. Establishment of 4 new legislative councils

PRACTICE QUESTION: EVALUATE THE INDIAN COUNCIL ACT, 1861

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1892

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Indian-Councils-Act-1892-India>

“The Indian Council’s Act of 1892 marks the beginning of elections instead of nominations.

Beginning of a Parliamentary System

Beginning of Indirect Election

Foundation of Indian National Congress/INC (1885) & its demands

1. All Nationalist leaders came to a common platform 2. Demands – i) reform of Legislative councils ii) discussion of budgets/finance iii) demand for election instead of nomination

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1892

DEMANDS OF INC

1. The number of additional members should be increased (which was settled for 6-12)
2. Additional members should not be nominated by the Viceroy rather they should be elected by the Congress.
3. INC wanted to have financial discussions in the Central Legislature/Assembly
4. Other points – military expenditure should be reduced + ICS exam should be held in India simultaneously with England

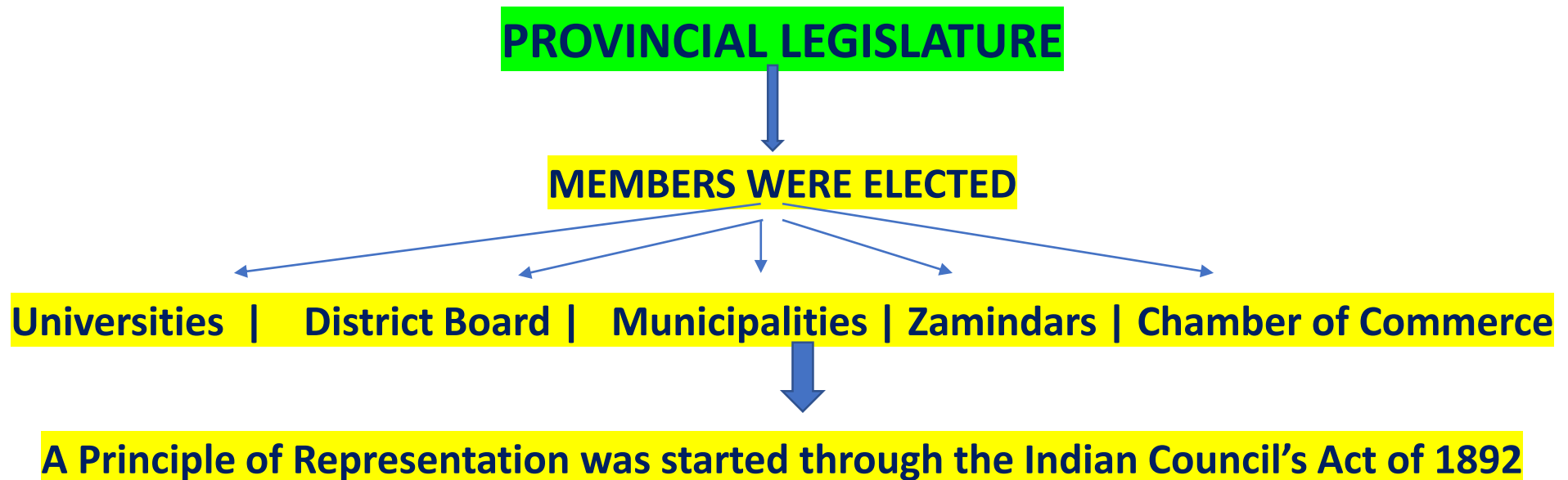
CHANGES MADE

1. Additional members were increased – now it was **10-16 out of which 6 official and 10 non-official members**
5 nominated by Viceroy + **4** nominated by provincial assemblies + **1** nominated by Chamber of Commerce in Calcutta
2. However, official members should constitute the majority = **6** members of the executive council + **5** of legislative = **11**
3. Discussions related to financial issues were allowed
4. Additional members were allowed question the executive council members on a prior notice of 6 days

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1892

CHANGES MADE

5. However voting on financial matters was not allowed neither supplementary questions were welcomed.



SUMMARY

1. Participation of Indians were increased in the Central and Provincial Legislature
2. First step towards a representative government/system
3. INC's demands were accommodated = growing significance of the INC.

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT /MORLEY-MINTO REFORMS OF 1909

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Indian-Councils-Act-of-1909>

Lord MINTO - Viceroy (1905-10) | Lord MORLEY – Secretary of State for India (1905-10)

Liberal Party came to power in Britain – expected to give more political freedom to native Indians

1906

Muslim League was formed – leaders of ML demanded:

- 1) a separate electorate for the Indian Muslims
- 2) TWO Indians in Viceroy's Executive Council – one Muslim and one from another community

However --- the first Indian law member who was included in the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL was S P SINHA

<https://www.open.ac.uk/researchprojects/makingbritain/content/s-p-sinha>



Disappointed the Muslim League as their demands were not met properly.

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1909

CHANGES MADE

1. Additional members were increased – 16-60 out of which 28 officials and 32 non-official members

5 nominated by Viceroy + 27 ELECTED (Chamber of Commerce in Cal & Bombay (2) + Provincial Assemblies (12) + Special electorate (13))

5 Muslims + 6 Zamindars + 2 businessmen

3. The Morley-Minto reforms therefore introduced and validated communal politics and representation in India thereby fulfilling the demands of the Muslim League for a separate electorate.

4. In this arrangement also the nominated members were greater in number than the elected members.

$$28+6 = 34 \mid 28+5 = 33 \mid 32-5 = 27$$

INDIAN COUNCIL'S ACT OF 1909

CHANGES MADE

5. In the central legislature discussions and voting related to finance were allowed.
6. Additional members were allowed to ask supplementary/counter-questions to the Executive council members.
7. Provincial legislatures were now in 7 places --- Bengal, Madras, Bombay, United Provinces, Punjab, Assam & Burma where non-official members could be in majority.

SUMMARY

1. This Act introduced communal representation in Indian politics.
2. The Indian Council's Act of 1909 increased participation at the legislative council
3. The elected Indians were also enabled to debate budgetary matters --- but they were not technically elected by the common people. They represented an elite section of Indians who had remote connection with the masses.

Government of India Act 1919

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Montagu-Chelmsford-Report>

BACKGROUND

1. **1914-18** – FIRST WORLD WAR – INDIANS SUPPORTED BRITISH WAR EFFORTS & EXPECTED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD AGREE TO ALL THEIR DEMANDS ONCE THE WAR GOT OVER
2. **1916** – a middle ground was reached between INC & Muslim League in a joined session and signed an agreement called the **Lucknow Pact** – they arrived at common goals and demands from the British government.
3. **1917** – the then Secretary of State for India – Edwin Montagu made a declaration in the British Parliament – known as the August Declaration or Montagu declaration - “goal of British policies in India will be progressive realization of responsible governments in India” – in the coming years INDIA will have a government elected by the natives (we have already seen how the legislative council was adding more Indians as additional members in the past 3 acts of Indian council)
4. **1918** – end of First World War
5. **1919** – Government of India Act/Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms – exhibited the first Preamble → progressive realization of responsible government in India is an **integral part of the British Empire**. However, the GoI will report to the British Parliament in the home country

Government of India Act 1919

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Montagu-Chelmsford-Report>

Government of India

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graph TD; A[Government of India] --> B[Montagu – secretary of state for India]; A --> C[Viceroy Chelmsford (1916-21)]; B --> D[Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms (1919)]; C --> D;
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Montagu – secretary of state for India

Viceroy Chelmsford (1916-21)

Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms (1919)

Demands made/claim for changes made in the Lucknow Pact

1. The salary for Secretary of State for Indian affairs should be paid by the British government and not from Indian funds since he was a British cabinet minister
2. British response – the Secretary of State had a dual role – 1. Political and Administrative roles 2. Agency work (like a modern-day embassy) – therefore salary was paid from Indian funds.

Government of India Act 1919

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Demands made/claim for changes made in the Lucknow Pact

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3. RESPONSE TO THE LUCKNOW PACT – 1919 – the agency work was now given to a new office created in London called **High Commissioner for India**

Secretary of State

High Commissioner for India



Political and Administrative roles

Agency work



Salary will be paid by the British govt

Salary paid from Indian funds

1. Therefore this was the first change made in the GoI Act of 1919

Government of India Act 1919

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Montagu-Chelmsford-Report>

Demands made/claim for changes made in the Lucknow Pact

2. The total number of members in the Viceroy's Executive Council was still 6 but now 3 Indians were allowed to join the EC.

3. In 1909 the additional members were 16-60. Now the INC and Muslim League demanded more inclusion of Indians as additional members therefore to increase the total number to 150 where 75 should be Indians with $\frac{1}{3}$ rd i.e. 25 members should be Muslims, i.e. separate electorate.

4.

Central Legislature (Bi-cameral chambers)

Legislative Assembly

Council of State

(Lower House 145 members)

(Upper House – 60 members)



Elected + Nominated (officials + non-officials)



Elected + Nominated (officials + non-officials)

Therefore 205 members > more than what Lucknow Pact asked for > term for members of legislative assembly was 3 years and in Council of State it was 5 years. Among the elected members few seats were reserved for Europeans and minority communities like Muslims and Sikhs. Muslims got their $\frac{1}{3}$ rd seats as they demanded.

Functions of both houses were similar except the power to vote was given to the lower house on finance bills etc. In case of a deadlock situation provisions were made for Joint Committees to reach a common ground.

Government of India Act 1919

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Montagu-Chelmsford-Report>

Demands made/claim for changes made in the Lucknow Pact

Provincial Legislature

1909 > Provincial legislatures were now in 7 places --- Bengal, Madras, Bombay, United Provinces, Punjab, Assam & Burma where non-official members could be in majority who were either elected or nominated.

- 1) 1919 > two more provincial legislatures were added > Bihar & Orissa + Central provinces
- 2) Out of the elected provincial members at least 3-4 would be appointed as ministers.
- 3) **Gol of 1919 introduced DYARCHY SYSTEM (double government) at the provincial level**
- 4) The first Indian Council's Act of 1861 allowed the provincial legislatures to make their own laws but until 1919 there was no clarity on the division of powers between Central and Provincial legislatures > conflicting situation.
- 5) Therefore subjects were now divided into two parts ---- central & provincial subjects.

Subjects that were of all India interest

Ex: defence, foreign policy, currency etc.

Transferred subjects

Governor + Indian ministers

Reserved subjects

Governor + Executive Council

Therefore **DYARCHY at the provincial level** – two bodies making laws in the provinces – transferred + reserved subject

Government of India Act 1919

SUMMARY/OUTCOME

1. For the first time DIRECT ELECTION was introduced in India – around 65 % in central and 70% in provincial legislatures were elected.
2. But the eligibility criteria allowed only 17, 000 people to cast their votes.
3. The Act also provided that a statutory commission would be setup after 10 years to assess the working of the government. However the famous SIMON commission was setup in 1927. <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Simon-Commission>
4. This Act also made provision for PUBLIC service commission.

Government of India Act 1935

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Simon-Commission>

BACKGROUND

1. Government of India Act 1919 → Simon Commission → to review the provisions of the Act and propose constitutional reforms
2. Indian Nationalist leaders strongly protested against the Simon Commission (SIMON GO BACK) because there was not a single Indian in that Commission that was formed to propose constitutional reforms for India
3. The British government acknowledged their discontent and asked the Indian Leaders to prove that they were capable of drafting a constitution which is acceptable to all sections of the Indian society and communities. Then they would include their report to that of Simon Commission's while making Constitutional reforms
4. Indian leaders accepted the challenge and formed a Committee chaired by Motilal Nehru therefore this Committee's report was known as Nehru Report (DECEMBER 1928) → Simon Commission also published its report in May 1930
5. Jinnah also submitted his 14 points as he felt that Nehru report did not pay much attention to the demands of the Muslim League
6. Three round table conferences took place in Britain between 1930-32 to discuss Nehru report, Simon Commission's report and Jinnah's 14 points.
7. **Based on these discussions the British govt. published a "White Paper" in 1933 and passed the Act of 1935**

Changes Made

1. The Indian Council comprised of 15 members was now known as "Advisors" comprising of 6 members.

2. **Central Legislature**

~~Legislative Assembly - 145 375~~

~~Council of State - 60 260~~

Federal Assembly

Princely States + British-Indian provinces

Princely States + British-Indian Provinces

3. GOI of 1935 had proposed to establish an ALL INDIA FEDERATION that will consist of provinces and princely states. However, the princely states were given the liberty to decide whether or not they would join the **All India Federation**. To join the federation the princely states had to sign an instrument of accession with the British Government. <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Geo5and1Edw8/26/2/part/II/chapter/I/enacted>

4. The GOI of 1935, also increased the communal representation by providing separate electorate not only to Muslims, Sikhs, and Europeans but also to women, landlords and labour.

Changes Made

5. Subjects

Central Federal Subjects Concurrent Subjects Provincial Subjects Residual Subjects

↓ ↓ ↓
Transferred + Reserved Subjects Both federal + provincial can make laws Viceroy had the power to make laws

↓ ↓
Viceroy + Ministers – Viceroy + Executive Council

↓
DYARCHY/ DOUBLE GOVERNMENT AT the Central Legislature

6. Provincial Legislature – Governor and his INDIAN Ministers was the only law making body. Centre or Federal legislature could not interfere with the subjects exclusively allocated to the 11 Provincial legislatures. [Bihar-Orissa became separate legislatures, so did Bombay & Sindh]

7. Burma was separated from India

8. GOI Act of 1935 also introduced bi-cameral arrangement in 6 out of 11 provinces – UP, Bengal, Madras, Assam, Bihar, Central Provinces.

9. ADDITIONAL POINTS

9. ADDITIONAL POINTS

- 1. GOI ACT of 1935 recommended the establishment of Federal Court -The Federal Court of India was a judicial body, established in India (Delhi) in 1937 under the provisions of the Government of India Act 1935, with original, appellate and advisory jurisdiction. → Designated officially as the "Federal Court" until August 15, 1947, and as the " Federal Court of India " thereafter, until replaced by the Supreme Court of India on January 26, 1950.**
- 2. Princely States were given the freedom to join or not join the All India Federation by signing the instrument of accession. Very few of them showed interest.**
- 3. GOI 1935 also initiated the establishment of RBI**
- 4. More voters were given the power to cast their vote – suffrage was extended to about 30 million people.**
- 5. GOI of 1935 was the longest constitutional document at that time with 321 sections, 14 parts, & 10 schedules.**

ROAD TO FREEDOM

The Quit India Movement (1942) by giving the call for immediate freedom from the British oppression caught the imagination of various sections of Indian population. Though the British succeeded in suppressing the movement it felt the necessity to have a dialogue with the Congress in order to arrive at a peaceful solution of the problem. This was also the time as we have already said that the Indian National Army (INA) under Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's leadership with the support of the Japanese army made organized effort to enter India through Burma. But due to Japan's defeat in the Second World War, the INA could not move beyond Kohima in the North-East India. Many INA soldiers were arrested by the British and three senior officers of the INA - Major General Shah Nawaz Khan, Colonel Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon and Colonel Prem Kumar Sehgal were convicted as traitors. Their court martial took place in Red Fort. But in the face of strong resistance from various sections of Indian society against the trial of INA soldiers by the British, the British government decided to set free the INA prisoners. **Anti-British** sentiment was so dominant that in **1946 the Naval ratings of the Royal Indian Navy** went on strike in Bombay. Growing outrage of the Indians against the British became very much evident in different parts of the country. Sensing the mood of the Indians the British government again chose the path of a negotiated settlement and **in 1946 a Cabinet Mission** was sent to INDIA.

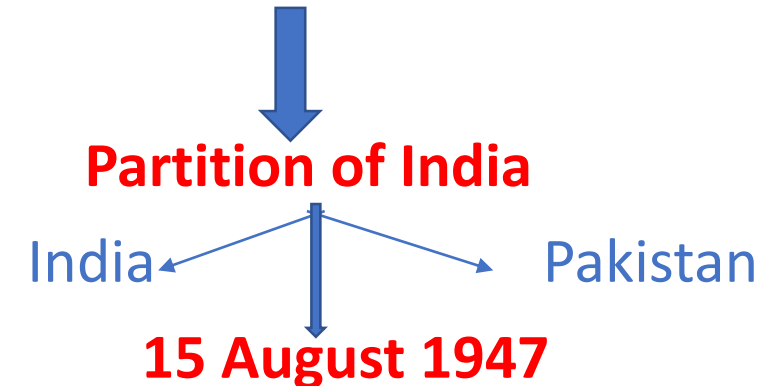
ROAD TO FREEDOM

At the conclusion of the Second World War, the Labour Party, under Prime Minister Attlee, came to power in Britain. The Labour Party was sympathetic towards Indian people in their struggle for independence. A **Cabinet Mission (A.V Alexander, Stafford Cripps, Pethick Lawrence)** was sent to India in 1946 which, after a careful study of the Indian political scenario, proposed the formation of an **interim Government** and convening of a **Constituent Assembly** comprising of members elected by the provincial legislatures and nominees of the Indian states. An Indian Government was formed which was headed by Jawaharlal Nehru. The Muslim League refused to participate in deliberations of the Constituent Assembly and pressed for the separate state of Pakistan. **Lord Mountbatten, the last Viceroy of India,** presented a plan for the division of India into India and Pakistan, and the Indian leaders had no choice but to accept the division, as the Muslim League was adamant.

Indian Independence Act/Mountbatten Plan 1947

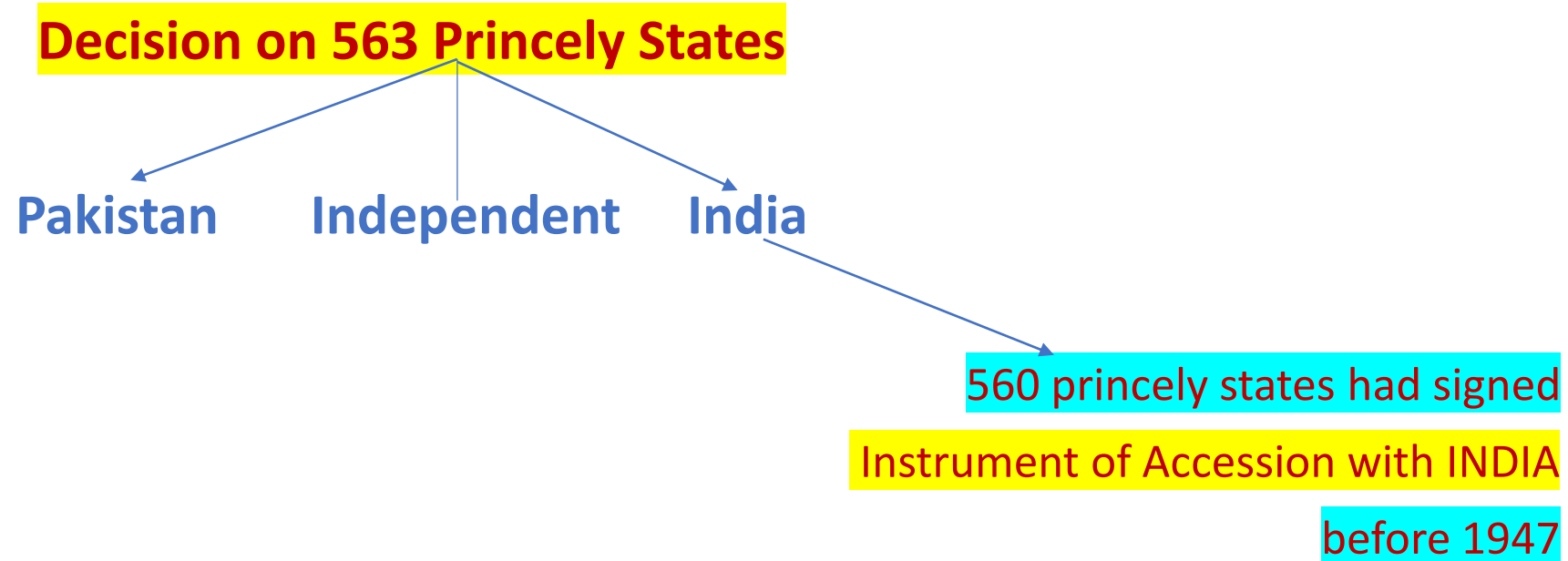
https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1947/30/pdfs/ukpga_19470030_en.pdf

1. 20 February 1947 – British PM Clement Attlee declared in the HOUSE OF COMMONS – British will quit India after transferring power to responsible hands not later than 3 June 1948.
2. 21 February 1947 – a new Viceroy was appointed for British-India – Lord Mountbatten.
3. 3 June 1947 – Lord Mountbatten proposed a plan called the **Mountbatten Plan**



4. **Partition of India** – Bengal and Punjab were divided into two halves – between the two nations – on the basis of religious lines. In Bengal there was a large population of Hindus and Muslims; in Punjab there was a large section of Sikhs and Muslims.
5. A commission was appointed to decide the boundaries of the states led by **Sir Cyril Radcliff**.

Indian Independence Act/Mountbatten Plan 1947



3 princely states that remained undecided were – Junagarh, Hyderabad & Jammu-Kashmir

ROAD TO FREEDOM/Mountbatten Plan 1947

Decision on 563 Princely States

3 princely states that remained undecided were – Junagarh, Hyderabad & Jammu & Kashmir

1. JUNAGARH (present day Gujarat) – Muslim ruler but majority Hindu population

Though the ruler signed an instrument of accession with Pakistan in September 1947 BUT the Hindu subjects rebelled and a plebiscite was held in Feb 1948 – where 99.9% SUBJECTS voted in favour of India and Junagarh became a part of India

2. HYDERABAD – LARGEST powerful wealthy princely state – ruler was Muslim BUT 80% of the population was Hindu – ruler Osman Ali wanted to remain independent – but Indian Government under the leadership of Sardar Vallabhai Patel annexed Hyderabad in September 1948 – **Operation POLO**

3. JAMMU & KASHMIR - [Article 370 –special status] Hindu ruler Hari Singh BUT majority subjects were Muslims – ruler wanted to remain independent but Pakistan wanted to annex J&K. Hari Singh approached India for help. By the time Indian soldiers pushed back the Pak soldiers they had already occupied a certain portion which is still called PoK.

Indian Independence Act/Mountbatten Plan 1947

CONCLUSION

- Lord Mountbatten remained the Viceroy/Governor-General of India till 21 June 1948
- First PM of India – Jawahar Lal Nehru & C. Rajagopalachari the first and last Governor-General of independent India till 1950.
- First PM of Pakistan – Liaquat Ali Khan and Jinnah the first Governor-General
- It was also declared the British crown will abolish the title of Emperor of India which was technically used till June 1948.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZS40U5yFpc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NBTPoNV4sY>