# NATIONALISM IN INDIA

**CHAPTER 2** 

NATION= group of people who feel bound into a single body by shared culture, values, religion, sects or language.

Nationalism is the belief that the interests and values of a particular nation are prior to, and often superior to, those of others.

Nationalism = In the simple language the devotion of a person to a nation.

1.the growth of modern nationalism is intimately connected to the anti-colonial movement.

Colonial repression = united people.

#### **IMPACT OF WW1**

1.the war created a new economic and political situation.

2.It led to a huge increase in defence expenditure which was financed by war loans and increasing taxes: customs duties were raised and tax introduced. resulting in acute shortages of food.

3. prices increased –doubling between 1913 and 1918 – leading to extreme hardship for the common people. Villages were called upon to supply soldiers.

4.forced recruitment in rural areas caused widespread anger.

5. in 1918-19 and 1920-21, crops failed in many parts of India,

6.influenza epidemic, 12 to 13 million people perished as a result of famines and the epidemic

# The Idea of Satyagraha

- **1.**The idea of satyagraha emphasised the power of truth and the need to search for truth.
- 2.It suggested that if the cause was true, if the struggle was against injustice, then physical force was not necessary to fight the oppressor.
- 3. Without seeking vengeance or being aggressive, a satyagrahi could win the battle through nonviolence.
- 4. This could be done by appealing to the conscience of the oppressor.

5. Mahatma Gandhi believed that this dharma of non-violence could unite all Indians.

During 1917-18 three significant struggles:

# Chamaparan – Bihar

- 1. Rajkumar Shukla invited Gandhi to look into the problems of farmers inthe context of **Indigo planters in Bihar**
- 2. Farmers agitating against the 'Tinkathia System' (forced to cultivate Indigo on 3/20th of their land holdings)

- 3. European planters demanded high rents and illegal dues to maximise their profits.
- 4. Gandhi offered passive resistance upon reaching Chamaparan
- 5. Government appointed a Commission to inquire into the whole issue
- 6.Commission ordered that peasants can't be forced and as a result in a decade all planters left.
- 6 tinkathia system was abolished and 25 percent of the compensationwas provided.(Not full)

# Ahmedabad – Gujarat

1. Workers were insisting on the stay of "Plague bonus" which the mill owners wanted to withdraw

- 2. They offered a 20% and workers wanted 50%. Gandhi demanded 35%.
- 3. They went on a strike upon Gandhi's advice.
- 4. Finally, the tribunal awarded then 35% bonus

# Kheda - Gujarat

- 1. Farmers were distressed due to failure of crops .
- 2. Vallabhbhai Patel (a Kheda native) joined Gandhi in the movement.
- 3. Finally, government ordered only those who can pay should pay the taxes

Conclusion – Chamaparan, Ahmedabad and Kheda served as demonstrations of Gandhi's style and method of politics to the country at large.

## Rowlatt Act – 1919

- 1. Indefinitely extended "emergency" measures enacted during WWI
- 2. Authorized government to imprison any person suspected of terrorist activities upto 2 years without trial
- 3. Indefinite detention without trial
- 4. Arrest without warrant

# Jallianwala Bagh Massacre:

1.The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre, also known as the Amritsar Massacre, took place on 13 April 1919.

2.troops of the British Indian Army under the command of Acting Brig-Gen Reginald Dyer fired rifles into a crowd of Punjabis who had gathered in Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar.

The civilians had assembled for a peaceful protest to condemn the arrest and deportation of two national leaders, Satya Pal and Saifuddin Kitchlew.

This incident shocked Rabindranath Tagore (First Asian Nobel Laureate) to such extent that he stated whilst refusing his knighthood that "such mass murderers aren't worthy of giving any title to anyone".

## **NON-COOPERATION MOVEMENT – 1920-22**

#### **Reasons:**

- 1. The Rowlatt Act.
- 2. Demand for Swaraj
- 3. Jallianwala Bagh Massacre clean chit by Hunter Commission
- 4. Montagu Chelmsford Reforms
- 5. ill-treatment of the Caliph of Turkey
- (spiritual head of Muslims) post WWI
- 6. Economic hardship after ww1
- 7. Home rule movement
- 8.

## **Features:**

- 1. Khilafat Leaders joined Gandhi (leading the movement)
- 2.Non Cooperation included:
- 3. Surrender of titles and honors
- 4. Boycott of government affiliated schools and colleges
- 5.Law courts, foreign cloth
- 6.Extended to resignation from government services
- 7. Mass civil disobedience including non-payment of taxes

- 8.In Bengal, a movement was started against Union board taxes
- 9.No tax campaign was started in Andhra Pradesh
- 10. The movement aroused popular resentment among the Moplah against their Hindu landlords
- 11.Akali movement was also started as a part of this movement.
- 12. labour in tea plantations of Assam also went on strike during this movement
- 13. Gandhiji had assured that Swaraj would be achieved in a year if this movement was continued to completion.

#### The Movement in the Towns

## **Picketing**

- -Reason for slowed down.
- 1.Khadi cloth was often more expensive than massproduced mill cloth and poor people could not afford to buy it.
- 2.boycott of British institutions posed a problem. For the movement to be successful, alternative Indian institutions had to be set up so that they could be used in place of the British ones. These were slow to come up

3.So students and teachers began trickling back to government schools and lawyers joined back work in government courts

4. These were slow to come up. So students and teachers began trickling back to government schools and lawyers joined back work in government courts.

In countryside.

- 1.In Awadh, peasants were led by Baba Ramchandra a sanyasi who had earlier been to Fiji as an indentured labourer.
- 2. The movement here was against talukdars and landlords who demanded from peasants exorbitantly high rents and a variety of other cesses. Peasants had to do begar and work at landlords' farms without any payment.

4.In many places nai – dhobi bandhs were organised by panchayats to deprive landlords of the services of even barbers and washermen. In June 1920.

5. Jawaharlal Nehru began going around the villages in Awadh, talking to the villagers, and trying to understand their grievances.

6.By October, the Oudh Kisan Sabha was set up headed by Jawaharlal Nehru, Baba Ramchandra and a few others.

7. The peasant movement, however, developed in forms that the Congress leadership was unhappy with. As the movement spread in 1921, the houses of talukdars and merchants were attacked, bazaars were looted, and grain hoards were taken over.

8.In many places local leaders told peasants that Gandhiji had declared that no taxes were to be paid and land was to be redistributed among the poor. The name of the Mahatma was being invoked to sanction all action and aspirations.

8. In the Gudem Hills of Andhra a militant guerrilla movement spread in the early 1920s —. Here, as in other forest regions, the colonial government had closed large forest areas, preventing people from entering the forests to graze their cattle, or to collect fuelwood and fruits. This enraged the hill people.

9. Livelihoods + traditional rights were being denied.

10. When the government began forcing them to contribute begar for road building, the hill people revolted. The person who came to lead them was an interesting figure.

11. Alluri Sitaram Raju claimed that he had a variety of special powers: he could make correct astrological predictions and heal people, and he could survive even bullet shots.

12. Captivated by Raju, the rebels proclaimed that he was an incarnation of God. Raju talked of the greatness of Mahatma Gandhi.

## **Withdrawal of Movement**

- 1. Chauri Chaurah incident, where an agitated mob burnt a policestation at Chauri Chaura with 22 policemen inside it.
- 2. Motilal Nehru, Jawaharlal Nehru, CR Das, Subhash Chandra Bose were all against the withdrawal.
- 3.Gandhi's critics fail to understand that mass movements have an inherent tendency to stagnate after reaching a certain height. This is the capacity of the masses to withstand suppression, endure sufferings and make sacrifices is not unlimited.

# **Impact of Non-Cooperation Movement**

- 1.Demonstrated that the INM had the backing of the masses and that the "poor dumb millions" of India had the capacity to take part in modern nationalist politics.
- 2.All sections of Indian Society participated peasants, workers, artisans, shopkeepers, traders, professionals, white collar employees etc.
- 3. The charge of representing a microscopic minority made by Viceroy Dufferin could never again be hurled at INC
- 4. Muslim participation gave the movement its true mass character, something later movements were never able to achieve again.

# **Analysis of the NCM Movement:**

- 1. The movement was not successful in achieving Swaraj.
- 2. It was a mass movement where lakhs of Indians participated in the open protest against the government through peaceful means, it reached nooks and corner of the country.

3. The Indian merchants and mill owners enjoyed good profits during this period as a result of the boycott of British goods. Khadi was promoted.

- 4. This movement also established Gandhiji as a leader of the masses.
- 5. It drew many Muslims towards the movement.
- 6. Although most Congress leader's remained firmly behind Gandhi, the determined broke away. The Ali brothers would soon become fierce critics.

- This movement also established Gandhiji as a leader of the masses.
- It drew many Muslims towards the movement
- Although most Congress leader's remained firmly behind Gandhi, the determined broke away. The Ali brothers would soon become fierce critics.

Inland Emigration Act of 1859

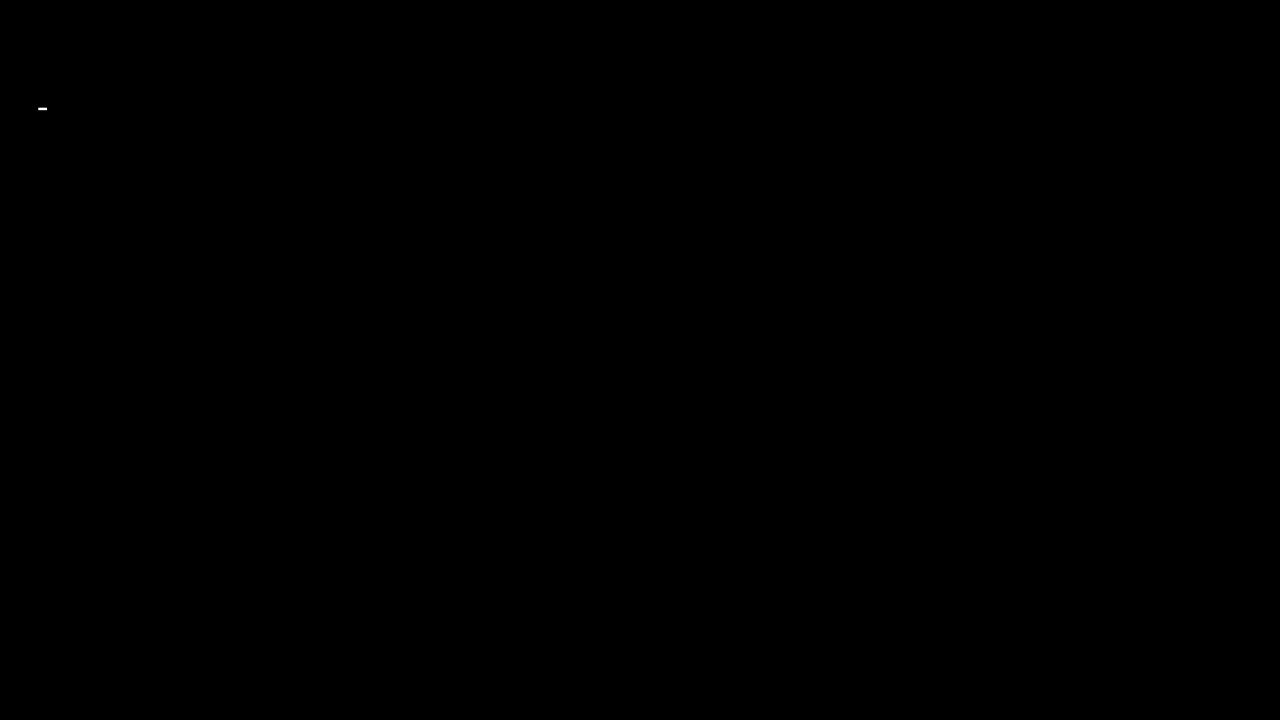
#### **Towards Civil Disobedience**

- 1. Indians need training before mass struggle.
- Govt of india act 1919 some leaders wanted participation in election. C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru formed the Swaraj Party within the Congress to argue for a return to council politics.

4.But younger leaders like Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhas Chandra Bose pressed for more radical mass agitation and for full independence.

# **Swarajist and No-Changers:**

- -After the call off non-cooperation movement there was a debate over what to do during the transition period.
- -One section led by C.R.Das, Motilal Nehru and Ajmal Khan wanted to end the boycott of legislative councils. They demanded for entry into councils. These groups are to be called as **Swarajists**.
- -Other section led by the Rajagopalachari, Vallabhai Patel, Rajendra Prasad and M.A. Ansari came to be known as '**No-changers'**.



-effect of the worldwide economic depression.

Agricultural priceschegan to fall from 1926 and collapsed after 1930.

As the demand for agricultural goods fell and exports declined, peasants found it difficult to sell their harvests and pay their revenue.

- By 1930, the countryside was in turmoil.

Simon commission.

1.did not have a single Indian member. They werecall British.

2.'Go back Simon'. All parties, including the Congress and the Muslim League, participated in the demonstrations.

## **Recommendations of Simon Commission:**

• It proposed the **abolition of dyarchy** and the establishment of representative government in the provinces.

• It rejected parliamentary responsibility at the centre. The governorgeneral was to have complete power to appoint the members of the cabinet.

• It recommended that **separate communal electorates** be retained.

- It accepted the idea of federalism but not in the near future.
- It suggested that a Consultative Council of Greater India should be established which should include representatives of both the British provinces as well as princely states.

• It also suggested that the Indian army should be Indianised though British forces must be retained.

## **Nehru Report:**

An answer to Lord Birkenhead's challenge, prepared by a committee headed by Motilal Nehru, the committee included Tej Bahadur Sapru, Subhash Bose, M.S. Aney, Mangal Singh, Ali Imam, Shuab Qureshi and G.R. Pradhan as its members.

# **Recommendations:**(out of syllabus)

- Dominion status on lines of self-governing dominions.
- Rejection of separate electorates. Joint electorates with reservation of seats for Muslims at the Centre and in provinces where they were in minority.
- Linguistic provinces.
- Nineteen fundamental rights including equal rights for women, right to form unions, and universal adult suffrage.
- Responsible government at the Centre and in provinces.

• Full protection to cultural and religious interests of Muslims.

Complete dissociation of State from religion.

The Nehru Report, along with that of the Simon Commission was available to participants in the three Indian Round Table Conferences (1930–1932) Nehru and Subashbose rejected the congress goal and set up Independence for India league.

# **Irwin's Declaration - October 31, 1929:**

- It restated the goal of dominion status for India, as was mentioned in August declaration of Montague, 1917.
- No timeframe was given for dominion status.
- Promised RTC after Simon Commission Report.

# **Lahore Congress and Purna Swaraj:**

- ② Jawaharlal Nehru was nominated the president for the Lahore session of the Congress (December 1929) mainly due to Gandhi's backing.
- The following major decisions were taken at the Lahore session,
- 1. The Round Table Conference was to be boycotted.
- 2. Complete independence was declared as the aim of the Congress.

- 3. Congress Working Committee was authorised to launch a programme of civil disobedience including non-payment of taxes and all members of legislatures were asked to resign their seats.
- 4. January 26, 1930 was fixed as the first Independence (Swarajya) Day, to be celebrated everywhere
- ② December 31, 1929 At midnight on the banks of River Ravi, the newly adopted tricolour flag of freedom was hoisted by Jawaharlal Nehru amidst slogans of Inquilab Zindabad.(most impt)