

UNIT - 6 : STRUGGLE AND FREEDOM

1. Which were the early struggles in India in which Gandhiji was involved?

| Struggle | Area | Year |
|---|-----------|--------|
| • The Struggle of indigo farmers in Champaran | • Bihar | • 1917 |
| • Ahmedabad cotton mill strike | • Gujarat | • 1918 |
| • Peasant struggle in Kheda | • Gujarat | • 1918 |

2.Struggle in Champaran

*In 1917

*In Champaran-Bihar

*Gandhiji started **disobedience of the British rules and Satyagraha.**

*His involvement **compelled the authorities** to pass laws in favour of the indigo farmers.

*After his struggle in Champaran, Gandhiji worked for the progress of Champaran region by

*establishing **primary schools,**

*initiating **medical aids and**

*involving in **cleaning activities.**

3.Cotton mill strike

*In 1918

*In Ahmedabad-Gujarat

*Workers started **strike in 1918** when they were denied 'Plague Bonus'.

*Gandhiji got involved in this strike.

*Started **Satyagraha and disobedience** of the rules.

*At last the authorities agreed to hike the wages of the employees and the strike came to an end.

4.Peasant struggle in Kheda

*In 1918

*In kheda-Gujarat

*Due to drought and crop failure, farmers in Kheda were living in utter misery.

*The rulers decided to collect tax from these poor villagers.

*Gandhiji got involved in this strike.

*He advised people not to pay tax.

*Consequently, the authorities were forced to reduce tax rates.

His early struggles based on Satyagraha and Ahimsa made Gandhiji a popular leader.

5. Results of the early struggles that Gandhiji took up in India.

- *popularised his ideologies and method of protest.
- *His methods of protest attracted the laymen to the movement.
- *The city centric national movement spread to rural areas.
- *Gandhiji became a national leader acceptable to all strata of the society.

6. What is Rowlaat Act?

- *In 1919.
- *In the pretext of preventing extremist activities, the British Parliament passed the Rowlatt Act limiting the civil rights.
- *As per this Act any person could be arrested and imprisoned without trial.

7. How did the Jallianwala Bagh massacre influence Indian national movement?

- * In 1919, British Parliament passed Rowlaat Act limiting the civil rights of the people .
- *According to this act ,any person could be arrested and imprisoned without trial.
- *Gandhiji entered Indian national movement with his protest against the Rowlatt Act.
- * People gathered at Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar on 13 April, 1919 to protest against the arrest of Saifuddin Kitchlew and Satyapal who led the anti-Rowlatt Act agitations in Punjab.
- * The Army Chief General Dyer ordered the police to shoot the people who were attending the meeting.
- *The innocent armless people were trapped as the ground was surrounded by buildings and the only entrance was blocked by the armed British soldiers.
- *As per the British records, the shooting of ten minutes killed 379 protesters. In fact, the death toll was actually double this.
- *The massacre at Jallianwala Bagh intensified the protests at the national level.
- *Gandhiji said: "If the Battle of Plassey laid the foundation for the British rule, Jallianwala Bagh shook the foundation."

8. Which was the first national level struggle by the Indian National Congress under the leadership of Gandhiji?

The Non-Cooperation movement

9. Explain the features of Non-Cooperation movement?

- Students shall boycott English Schools.
- Lawyers shall boycott courts.
- The public shall boycott foreign products.
- Boycott elections.
- Returning the British awards and prizes.
- Denial of Taxes.

10. List some examples of how the Indian society responded to Gandhiji's appeal for non-cooperation.

- * **Farmers in Awadh refused to pay taxes.**
 - * **The tribal groups in northern Andhra entered the forests and collected the forest produce violating the forest laws.**
- * **Farmers in Uttar Pradesh refused to carry the luggage of the colonial officials.**
 - * **Workers struck work.**
- * **Lawyers boycotted courts.**
 - * **Students quitted colleges and schools run by the British.**
- * **The public, including women, burnt foreign clothes on the streets.**

11. Give examples for constructive programmes during non-cooperation movement.

- * **People began to make indigenous products,**
- * **spin khadi cloth using charka,**
- * **establish national schools and popularise Hindi.**
- * **examples for national schools--Kashi Vidya Pith ,Gujarat Vidya pith, Jamia Millia, etc.**
- * **Students who boycotted English education were attracted to national educational institutions.**

12. Khilafat Movement

- * **Maulana Mohamad Ali and Maulana Shoukath Ali**
- * **By declaring the Khilafat Movement as a part of Indian national movement, Gandhiji ensured active participation of Muslims in the freedom struggle.**
- * **As a result**
 - 1) **Anti-British feeling spread all over the nation.**
 - 2) **Hindu-Muslim unity was intensified.**

13. Chauri Choura incident

In response to the police firing at a mob, at Chauri Choura in Uttar Pradesh the villagers set ablaze the police station and 22 policemen died. This incident disappointed Gandhiji. So, he called for stopping the non-cooperation movement.

14. Poorna Swaraj and Civil Disobedience

- * **The Lahore session**
- * **1929**
- * **chairmanship of Jawaharlal Nehru**
- * **The Lahore session declared that the ultimate aim of Indian freedom struggle was to attain complete freedom (Poorna Swaraj) for the country.**
- * **It also resolved to start the civil disobedience movement under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi.**

15. What is meant by civil disobedience according to Gandhiji ?

- * **To disobey all anti-popular and anti-democratic civil laws made by the British government.**

16.What were the demands put forward by Gandhiji as a part of civil disobedience movement ?

- *lift salt tax
- * declare 50% tax relaxation for farmers
- *increase the tax on imported foreign clothes
- * release political prisoners
- * cut short military budget and high salary of top officials
- * dissolve the secret surveillance wing formed to watch Indians
- * start coastal shipping service
- * implement prohibition of liquor

17.Why Gandhiji selected salt as a powerful weapon against the British?

- ***Two fifth** portion of the income collected by the British through salt taxes.
- *This tax was a heavy **burden** for the poor people.
- *The British government **banned** small scale indigenous salt production.
- *There was **three fold hike** on salt price.
- *The demand for lifting salt tax was **a slogan suitable to inspire** all segments of the society.

18.The Salt Sathyagraha played a major role in making national movement a mass movement - Substantiate.

- *Inspired by the call of Gandhiji, people in various parts of the country started to produce salt on their own, violating the British rules.
- * **Payyannur** in Kerala,
- ***Vedaranyam** in Tamil Nadu,
- ***Bombay** in Maharashtra,
- ***Noakhali** in Bengal and
- ***North West Frontier Province** were some of the centres of this protest.
- *As part of the protest, volunteers **made** salt and **distributed** it to the public, **hoisted** national flag and **chanted anti-British slogans**.
- *The British police severely tortured a team of volunteers led by Sarojini Naidu who had set out to Dharasana salt field in Gujarat.
- *Gandhiji was arrested and the movement was suppressed .

19.Quit India movement

- *slogan –**Do or die**
- *We shall either free India or die in the attempt.
- *In 1942
- ***Bombay conference**
- *The last popular protest organized by the Indian National Congress under the leadership of **Gandhiji**.
- *It was a mass movement based on the ideology of non-violence (Ahimsa) meant to force the British to leave the country offering complete freedom to Indians.

20.What are the factors that caused Quit India Movement.?

- ***Reluctance of the British to implement constitutional reforms in India**

***Public disgust with price hike and famine**

*** The assumption that the British would be defeated in the Second World War**

21.List out Gandhiji's proposals as a part of Quit India Movement.

***Princely states shall recognise the sovereignty of their people**

*** Farmers shall not pay land tax**

***Government officials shall disclose their loyalty to Indian National Congress without resigning their positions**

*** Without quitting their positions in the army, soldiers shall disobey orders to shoot and kill Indians**

*** If possible, students shall boycott education till attaining freedom**

22.Alternative paths

a)Swaraj Party

***formed in 1923**

***C.R.Das and Motilal Nehru**

***They opposed Gandhian idea of boycott movement.**

***They argued for making legislative assemblies as platforms for raising voices .**

***So they contested in elections instead of boycotting them .**

b)Hindustan Socialist Republican Association

***in 1928**

***Revolutionaries from Punjab, Rajasthan,Uttar Pradesh and Bihar gathered in Delhi and formed Hindustan Socialist Republican Association .**

***Bhagat Singh, Chandra Sekhar Azad, Raj Guru and Sukh Dev were the leaders of this movement.**

***They floated a military wing called ' Republican Army' for armed revolution. Their plan was to overthrow the colonial government through military action and establish a federal republic of Indian states.**

***In Lahore Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru and Sukh Dev shot and killed Saunders, the police officer who was responsible for the death of Lala Lajpat Rai.**

***Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt threw bombs at the Central**

***Legislative Assembly to protest against the attempt to pass laws curtailing civil rights.**

***They were arrested and sent to jail.**

***On March 23, 1931, Bhagat Singh, Raj Guru and Sukh Dev were hanged to death by the British government.**

c)



d) Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhash Chandra Bose, Jai Prakash Narayan and Aruna Asaf Ali led the Congress Socialist fraction within the Indian National Congress.

e) At a meeting held under the chairmanship of Jai Prakash Narayan in Bombay in 1934, the Congress Socialist Party was formed. This new organisation played a decisive role in the Quit India Movement. When Gandhiji and other top leaders of the Congress were arrested, Socialist Party leaders like Jai Prakash Narayan and Aruna Asaf Ali led the movement from their hideouts.

26) Subhash Chandra Bose

- *formed a political party called Forward Bloc.
- *He took the charge of the Indian National Army (INA) formed by Rash Bihari Bose to attain freedom for India .
- *He formed a provisional government for free India in Singapore, with the aim of forcing the British to quit India.
- *The Indian National Army had a women wing called the Jhansi Regiment.
- *Captain Lekshmi, a Keralite, was in-charge of this regiment.
- *With the support of the Japanese army the Indian National Army marched to the east west border of India and hoisted Indian flag in Imphal.

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