

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

4th week March, 2025

HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT

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Political organizations prior to 1885 and Freedom Struggle under Moderate Phase

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Madras Native Association”:

1. It is an association of landed and business classes of the Madras Presidency.
2. It was founded by Gajula Lakshminarasu.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: One of the first attempts to organize and vent the grievances against the British came through the formation of the Madras Native Association (MNA) on 26 February 1852.

- An association of landed and business classes of the Madras Presidency, they expressed their grievances against the Company’s administration in the revenue, education and judicial spheres.
- Gajula Lakshminarasu, who inspired the foundation of MNA, was a prominent businessman in Madras city.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following was/were associated with “Madras Mahajana Sabha (MMS)”?

1. Viraraghavachari
2. Ananda Charlu
3. Balaji Rao

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: After the Madras Native Association became defunct there was no such public organization in the Madras Presidency.

- As many educated Indians viewed this situation with dismay, the necessity for a political organisation was felt and in May 1884 the Madras Mahajana Sabha was organised.
- In the inaugural meeting held on 16 May 1884 the prominent participants were G. Subramaniam, Viraraghavachari, Ananda Charlu, Rangiah, Balaji Rao and Salem Ramaswamy.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) Who among the following associated with “Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha”?

- a) Raja Rammohan Roy
- b) Max Mueller
- c) Monier Williams
- d) R.G. Bhandarkar

ANS: A

Explanation: The Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha was formed in 1836 by associates of Raja Rammohan Roy.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following issue/s raised by "British Indian Association"?

1. Establishment of a separate legislature of a popular character.
2. Separation of executive from judicial functions.
3. Reduction in salaries of higher officers.

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: In 1851, both the Landholders' Society and the Bengal British India Society merged into the British Indian Association.

It sent a petition to the British Parliament demanding inclusion of some of its suggestions in the renewed Charter of the Company, such as

- (i) establishment of a separate legislature of a popular character.
- (ii) separation of executives from judicial functions
- (iii) reduction in salaries of higher officers; and
- (iv) Abolition of salt duty, abkari and stamp duties.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding "East India Association":

1. It was organized by Raja Rammohan Roy.
2. Its aim is to discuss the Indian question and influence public men in England to promote Indian welfare.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: The East India Association was organized by Dadabhai Naoroji in 1866 in London to discuss the Indian question and influence public men in England to promote Indian welfare. Later, branches of the association were started in prominent Indian cities.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) Who among the following started the "Indian League"?

- a) Raja Rammohan Roy
- b) Dadabhai Naoroji
- c) R.G. Bhandarkar
- d) Sisir Kumar Ghosh

ANS: D

Explanation: The Indian League was started in 1875 by Sisir Kumar Ghosh with the object of "stimulating the sense of nationalism amongst the people" and of encouraging political education.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) Who among the following started the "Poona Sarvajanik Sabha"?

- a) Surendranath Banerjee
- b) Ananda Mohan Bose
- c) Sisir Kumar Ghosh
- d) Mahadeo Govind Ranade

ANS: D

Explanation: The Poona Sarvajanik Sabha was founded in 1867 by Mahadeo Govind Ranade and others, with the object of serving as a bridge between the government and the people.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.8) Which of the following was/were associated with "Bombay Presidency Association"?

- 1. Badruddin Tyabji
- 2. Pherozshah Mehta
- 3. K.T. Telang

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: The Bombay Presidency Association was started by Badruddin Tyabji, Pherozshah Mehta and K.T. Telang in 1885.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding "Landholders' Society":

- 1. It marked the beginning of an organized political activity and use of methods of constitutional agitation for the redressal of grievances.
- 2. Later it merged into the British Indian Association.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: The Zamindari Association, more popularly known as the 'Landholders' Society', was founded to safeguard the interests of the landlords.

- Although limited in its objectives, the Landholders' Society marked the beginning of an organised political activity and use of methods of constitutional agitation for the redressal of grievances.
- In 1851, both the Landholders' Society and the Bengal British India Society merged into the British Indian Association.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.10) Which of the following was/were associated with “The Rahnumai Madayasan Sabha (Religious Reform Association)”?

1. Naoroji Furdonji
2. Dadabhai Naoroji
3. K. R. Cama

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: The Rahnumai Madayasan Sabha (Religious Reform Association) was founded in 1851 by a group of English educated Parsis for the “regeneration of the social conditions of the Parsis and the restoration of the Zoroastrian religion to its pristine purity”.

The movement had Naoroji Furdonji, Dadabhai Naoroji, K. R. Cama and S.S. Bengalee as its leaders.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Revision

Q.1) Who among the following was the founder of the “Arya Samaj”?

- a) Dayananda Saraswati
- b) Atmaram Pandurang
- c) R. G. Bhandarkar
- d) Gopala Krishna Gokhale

ANS: A

Explanation: The founder of the Arya Samaj was Dayananda Saraswati (1824–83). Dayananda, a Gujarati, left home in his youth to become an ascetic.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) Consider the following statements:

1. Dayananda Saraswati published Satyarth Prakash.
2. M G Ranade made a call to “Back to the Vedas”.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: In 1875 Dayananda Saraswati founded the Arya Samaj and published his major work the Satyarth Prakash. In his view, contemporary Hinduism had become degenerate.

- Therefore, he rejected puranas, polytheism, and idolatry, the role of Brahmin priests, pilgrimages, many rituals and the prohibition on widow marriage.
- As a good Sanskrit scholar, he made a call to “Back to the Vedas”.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Arya Samaj is a reformist movement.
2. Swami Dayananda's sphere of influence was largely in the Bengal region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: D

Explanation: Swami Dayananda's sphere of influence was largely in the Punjab region where the trading community of Khatri experienced great mobility in colonial times.

Arya Samaj is a revivalist movement.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding "Ramakrishna Paramahansa":

1. He had a deep faith in the inherent truth of Hindu religion.
2. He expounded his views in short stories and admirable parables.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: A

Explanation: As we saw above, the early reform movements in Bengal were radical, questioning and criticizing tradition very strongly.

- In response to this emerged the Ramakrishna Mission as an important religious movement.
- Ramakrishna Paramahansa (1836–1886), a poor priest in a temple at Dakshineswar near Kolkata, had no formal education but led an intense spiritual life.
- He had a deep faith in the inherent truth of all religions and tested its belief by performing religious service in accordance with the practices of different religions.
- He expounded his views in short stories and admirable parables which were compiled by an admirer as Ramakrishna Kathamrita (The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) Who among the following considered "all the religious views are but different ways to lead to the same goal"?

- a) M K Gandhi
- b) Swami Vivekananda
- c) Debendranath Tagore
- d) Ramakrishna Paramahansa

ANS: D

Explanation: Ramakrishna Paramahansa (1836–1886), a poor priest in a temple at Dakshineswar near Kolkata, had no formal education but led an intense spiritual life.

- He had a deep faith in the inherent truth of all religions and tested its belief by performing religious service in accordance with the practices of different religions.
- According to him 'all the religious views are but different ways to lead to the same goal.'

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) Who among the following called as “Narendranath Dutta”?

- a) Ramakrishna Paramahansa
- b) R G Bhandarkar
- c) Swami Vivekananda
- d) Gopala Krishna Gokhale

ANS: C

Explanation: The most famous among Ramakrishna Paramahansa disciples was a young graduate of the Calcutta University named Narendranath Dutta, afterwards famously called Swami Vivekananda (1863–1902).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) Who among the following attended in 1893 the famous, ‘Parliament of Religions’ at Chicago, and made a deep impact on those congregated there?

- a) Lala Lajpat Rai
- b) Swami Vivekananda
- c) Dr B R Ambedkar
- d) M K Gandhi

ANS: B

Explanation: Swami Vivekananda attended in 1893 the famous, ‘Parliament of Religions’ at Chicago, and made a deep impact on those congregated there.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Theosophical Society, founded in the United Kingdom in 1875.
2. Theosophical Society came to India in 1879 and established their headquarters at Adyar in 1886.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: Even as Indian intellectuals felt challenged by western Enlightenment and rationalistic movements, there was a strain of thinking in the West which looked to the East for spiritual salvation.

- From this idea emerged the Theosophical Society, founded by Madam H.P. Blavatsky and Colonel H.S. Olcott in the United States of America in 1875.
- They came to India in 1879 and established their headquarters at Adyar in 1886.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) Who among the following founded the “Satya Shodak Samaj (Society for Seeking Truth)”?

- a) Dr B R Ambedkar
- b) Swami Vivekananda
- c) Dayananda Saraswati
- d) Jyotiba Phule

ANS: D

Explanation: Phule held radical views on social, religious, political and economic issues. He considered the caste system as an antithesis of the principle of human equality.

- He sought to raise the morale of the non-Brahmins and united them to revolt against the century's old inequality and social degradation.
- Towards this end Phule founded the Satya Shodak Samaj (Society for Seeking Truth) in 1875.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.10) Who among the following wrote the "Gulamgiri"?

- a) Ramakrishna Paramahansa
- b) B R Ambedkar
- c) Pandita Ramabai
- d) Jyotiba Phule

ANS: D

Explanation: Jyotiba Phule sought to raise the morale of the non-Brahmins and united them to revolt against the century's old inequality and social degradation.

- Towards this end Phule founded the Satya Shodak Samaj (Society for Seeking Truth) in 1875.
- His most important book is Gulamgiri (Slavery).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Freedom Struggle under Extremist Phase (1905-1917) and India and Neighborhood policy

Q.1) Which of the following was/were reason/s for rise in militant nationalism?

- 1. The Indian councils act satisfied the nationalists.
- 2. Indian Universities Act ensured greater government control over universities.
- 3. The Official Secrets Act curbed freedom of press.

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: The nationalists were wide awake to the fact that instead of giving more rights to the Indians, the government was taking away even the existing ones.

- 1892 — The Indian Councils Act was criticized by nationalists as it failed to satisfy them.
- 1897 — The Natu brothers were deported without trial and Tilak and others, imprisoned on charges of sedition.
- 1898 — Repressive laws under IPC Section 124 A were further amplified with new provisions under IPC Section 156 A
- 1904 — Official Secrets Act curbed freedom of press.
- 1904 — Indian Universities Act ensured greater government control over universities, which it described as factories producing political revolutionaries.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Q.2) Which of the following was/were repeatedly urged the nationalists to rely on the character and capacities of the Indian people?

1. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
2. Aurobindo Ghosh
3. Bipin Chandra Pal

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: There was a growing faith in self-effort. Tilak, Aurobindo and Bipin Chandra Pal repeatedly urged the nationalists to rely on the character and capacities of the Indian people.

A feeling started gaining currency that the masses had to be involved in the battle against colonial government as they could make the immense sacrifices needed to win freedom.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Q.3) Who among the following gave the political message that "India for the Indians"?

- a) M K Gandhi
- b) Sardar Vallabhai Patel
- c) Swami Dayananda Saraswati
- d) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

ANS: C

Explanation: Intellectuals like Swami Vivekananda, Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and Swami Dayananda Saraswati inspired many young nationalists with their forceful and articulate arguments, painting India's past in brighter colors than the British ideologues had.

- These thinkers exploded the myth of western superiority by referring to the richness of Indian civilization in the past.
- Dayananda's political message was 'India for the Indians'.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Q.4) Which of the following nationalists came under "Militant School of Thought"?

1. Raj Narain Bose
2. C Rajagopalachari
3. Lala Lajpat Rai

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: By the dawn of the twentieth century, a band of nationalist thinkers had emerged who advocated a more militant approach to political work.

These included Raj Narain Bose, Ashwini Kumar Datta, Aurobindo Ghosh and Bipin Chandra Pal in Bengal; Vishnu Shastri Chiplunkar and Bal Gangadhar Tilak in Maharashtra; and Lala Lajpat Rai in Punjab.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Q.5) Which of the following were basic tenets of "Militant School of Thought"?

1. Hatred for foreign rule.
2. Dominion status to be the goal of national movement
3. Indirect political action required

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: A

Explanation: The basic tenets of this Militant School of Thought were:

- Hatred for foreign rule; since no hope could be derived from it, Indians should work out their own salvation.
- swaraj to be the goal of national movement.
- Direct political action is required.
- belief in the capacity of the masses to challenge the authority.
- Personal sacrifices required and a true nationalist to be always ready for it.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. The British government's decision to partition Bengal had been made public in December 1901.
2. Bengal retained Calcutta as its capital, while Dacca became the capital of Eastern Bengal.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: A

Explanation: The British government's decision to partition Bengal had been made public in December 1903.

- The idea was to have two provinces: Bengal comprising Western Bengal as well as the provinces of Bihar and Orissa, and Eastern Bengal and Assam.
- Bengal retained Calcutta as its capital, while Dacca became the capital of Eastern Bengal.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Q.7) Who among the following was the president of Indian National Congress in 1905?

- a) Lala Lajpat Rai
- b) Gopala Krishna Gokhale
- c) Aurobindo Ghosh
- d) Syed Haider Raza

ANS: B

Explanation: The Indian National Congress, meeting in 1905 under the president ship of Gokhale, resolved to (i) condemn the partition of Bengal and the reactionary policies of Curzon, and (ii) support the anti-partition and Swadeshi Movement of Bengal.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Q.8) Who among the following said, “make the administration under present conditions impossible by an organized refusal to do anything which will help either the British commerce in the exploitation of the country or British officialdom in the administration of it”?

- a) Dadabhai Naoroji
- b) Gopala Krishna Gokhale
- c) Lala Lajpat Rai
- d) Aurobindo Ghosh

ANS: D

Explanation: The Extremists gave a call for passive resistance in addition to swadeshi and boycott which would include a boycott of government schools and colleges, government service, courts, legislative councils, municipalities, government titles, etc.

The purpose, as Aurobindo put it, was to “make the administration under present conditions impossible by an organized refusal to do anything which will help either the British commerce in the exploitation of the country or British officialdom in the administration of it”.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Q.9) Who among the following established the “Swadesh Bandhab Samiti”?

- a) V.O. Chidambaram Pillai
- b) Ashutosh Rana Singh
- c) Sivanath Ayyar
- d) Ashwini Kumar Dutta

ANS: D

Explanation: Samitis such as the Swadesh Bandhab Samiti of Ashwini Kumar Dutta (in Barisal) emerged as a very popular and powerful means of mass mobilization.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Q.10) Who among the following part of “Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company”?

- a) Ramakrishna shastri
- b) Ashwini Kumar Dutta
- c) V.O. Chidambaram Pillai
- d) Ajit Singh

ANS: C

Explanation: V.O. Chidambaram Pillai’s venture into a national shipbuilding enterprise—Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company—at Tuticorin, however, gave a challenge to the British Indian Steam Navigation Company.

Source: Spectrum Modern History

Socio - Religious movement in the latter half of 19th Century and early 20th century

Q.1) Who among the following established the “Arya Mahila Samaj”?

- a) Sarojini Naidu
- b) Pandita Sarabhai
- c) Pandita Ramabai
- d) Savitri Phule

ANS: C

Explanation: Pandita Ramabai was foremost among the Indian leaders who worked for the emancipation of women.

- She came from a learned family and was a great scholar of Sanskrit and addressed many learned groups in different parts of the country.
- She was given the title of “Pandita” and “Saraswati” for her deep knowledge of Sanskrit.
- After the death of her husband two years later she returned to Poona and started the Arya Mahila Samaj with the help of leaders like Ranade and Bhandarkar.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following was/were associated with “Pandita Ramabai”?

1. Sharada Sadan
2. Mukti Sadan
3. Widows’ remarriage association

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: Ramabai started the Sharada Sadan (shelter for homeless) for the destitute widows with the help of Ranade and Bhandarkar.

- But soon she was accused of converting Hindu women to Christianity and hence had to shift her activities to Khedgoan near Poona.
- She established a Mukti Sadan (freedom house) there. Soon there were 2000 children and women in the house. Vocational training was given to make them self-reliant.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) The famous “Sri Narayana Guru” related to which of the following state?

- a) Assam
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Kerala
- d) Maharashtra

ANS: C

Explanation: Ezhavas movement emerged in Kerala and was born out of conflict between the depressed classes and the upper castes.

It was started by Sri Narayana Guru (1854- 1928) spearheading a social movement of the Ezhavas of Kerala, a community of toddy tappers.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following issue/s was/were taken up by “Sri Narayana Guru Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Yogam”?

1. Right of admission to public schools
2. Recruitment to government services
3. Access to roads and entry to temples

Select the correct answer from the given codes:

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: A great scholar in Malayalam, Tamil and Sanskrit, Sri Narayana Guru established the Sri Narayana Guru Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Yogam in 1902.

The SNDP Yogam took up several issues such as (i) right of admission to public schools. (ii) Recruitment to government services. (iii) Access to roads and entry to temples; and (iv) political representation.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) The famous “Vaikom Satyagraha” related to which of the following?

- a) Temple entry
- b) Bonded labor
- c) Tax exemption
- d) Vernacular education

ANS: A

Explanation: Even though the Guru himself was not directly involved in the movement, the Vaikom Satyagraha, organized to protest the ban on the entry of Ezhavas on the temple streets of Vaikom made a deep impact on subsequent temple entry movements.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Aligarh Movement”:

- 1. It was started by Syed Ahmad Khan in 1875.
- 2. Syed Ahmad Khan wanted to reconcile Western scientific education with the teachings of the Quran.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: Aligarh Movement was started by Syed Ahmad Khan in 1875. He wanted to reconcile Western scientific education with the teachings of the Quran.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) Who among the following started the magazine “Tahdhib ul-Akhluq”?

- a) Syed Ahmad Khan
- b) Mohammad Qasim Nanotavi
- c) Rashid Ahmed Gangohi
- d) Mirza Ghulam Ahmed

ANS: A

Explanation: Syed’s progressive social ideas were propagated through his magazine Tahdhib ul-Akhluq (Improvement of Manners and Morals).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.8) Who among the following founded the “Muhammdan Anglo–Oriental College”?

- a) Syed Ahmad Khan
- b) Mohammad Qasim Nanotavi
- c) Rashid Ahmed Gangohi
- d) Mirza Ghulam Ahmed

ANS: A

Explanation: To promote English education among the Muslims, Syed Ahmad Khan founded in 1875 a modern school at Aligarh, which soon developed into the Muhammdan Anglo–Oriental College (1877).

This college was to become the Muslim University after his death. It became the nursery of Muslim political and intellectual leaders.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) Who among the following founded the “Ahmadiya movement”?

- a) Syed Ahmad Khan
- b) Mohammad Qasim Nanotavi
- c) Rashid Ahmed Gangohi
- d) Mirza Ghulam Ahmed

ANS: D

Explanation: The Ahmadiya movement founded by Mirza Ghulam Ahmed (1835–1908) in 1889 established a different trend.

While emphasizing the return to the original principles enunciated in the Quran, Ghulam Ahmed became controversial when he claimed to be a Messiah, which was considered heretical by mainstream Islam.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding “Deoband Movement”:

- 1. It is a reformist movement.
- 2. It was established in Deoband in Saranpur district by Mohammad Qasim Nanotavi and Rashid Ahmed Gangohi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: The Deoband movement was organised by the orthodox section among the Muslim ulemas as a revivalist movement with the twin objective of propagating the pure teachings of the Quran and Hadis among Muslims.

The movement was established in Deoband in Saranpur district (by Mohammad Qasim Nanotavi (1833-1877) and Rashid Ahmed Gangohi (1828–1905) to train religious leaders for the Muslim community.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

The Gandhian Era - I

Q.1) With respect to modern India, “Dada Abdullah” related to which of the following?

- a) Subhash Chandra Bose
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) M k Gandhi
- d) Sardar Vallabhai patel

ANS: C

Explanation: Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869 in Porbandar in the princely state of Kathiawar in Gujarat. His father was a diwan (minister) of the state.

Having studied law in England, Gandhi, in 1898, went to South Africa in connection with a case involving his client, Dada Abdullah.

Source: Spectrum

Q.2) Which of the following category/categories of Indians stayed in South Africa?

1. The indentured Indian labor.
2. The merchants.
3. The ex-indentured laborers.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: The Indians in South Africa consisted of three categories—one, the indentured Indian labour, mainly from south India, who had migrated to South Africa after 1890 to work on sugar plantations; two, the merchants—mostly Meman Muslims who had followed the labourers; and three, the ex-indentured labourers who had settled down with their children in South Africa after the expiry of their contracts.

Source: Spectrum

Q.3) Who among the following started the news paper “Indian Opinion”?

- a) Subhash Chandra Bose
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) M k Gandhi
- d) Sardar Vallabhai patel

ANS: C

Explanation: During this phase, Gandhi relied on sending petitions and memorials to the authorities in South Africa and in Britain hoping that once the authorities were informed of the plight of Indians, they would take sincere steps to redress their grievances as the Indians were, after all, British subjects.

To unite different sections of Indians, he set up the Natal Indian Congress and started a paper Indian Opinion.

Source: Spectrum

Q.4) Who among the following was toured the whole country mobilizing public opinion in support of the Indians in South Africa against “Transvaal Immigration Act”?

- a) Subhash Chandra Bose
- b) Gopala Krishna Gokhale
- c) M k Gandhi
- d) Sardar Vallabhai patel

ANS: B

Explanation: The Indians protested the Transvaal Immigration Act, by illegally migrating from Natal into Transvaal.

- The government held these Indians in jails. Miners and plantation workers went on a lightning strike.
- In India, Gokhale toured the whole country mobilizing public opinion in support of the Indians in South Africa.
- Even the viceroy, Lord Hardinge, condemned the repression and called for an impartial enquiry.

Source: Spectrum

Q.5) Which of the following is/are basic tenet/s of "Satyagraha"?

1. A satyagrahi was not to submit to what he considered as wrong.
2. A satyagrahi works on the principles cooperation and non-boycott.
3. A satyagrahi should be ready to accept suffering in his struggle against the wrong-doer.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: Gandhi evolved the technique of Satyagraha during his stay in South Africa. It was based on truth and non-violence. He combined some elements from Indian tradition with the Christian requirement of turning the other cheek and the philosophy of Tolstoy, who said that evil could best be countered by non-violent resistance.

Its basic tenets were as follows:

- A satyagrahi was not to submit to what he considered as wrong, but was to always remain truthful, non-violent and fearless.
- A satyagrahi works on the principles of withdrawal of cooperation and boycott.
- Methods of satyagraha include non-payment of taxes, and declining honours and positions of authority.
- A satyagrahi should be ready to accept suffering in his struggle against the wrong-doer. This suffering was to be a part of his love for truth.

Source: Spectrum

Q.6) Consider the following statements:

1. Gandhi was returned to India from South Africa in January 1915.
2. Gandhi decided to tour the country the next one year and see for himself the condition of the masses.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: Gandhi returned to India in January 1915. His efforts in South Africa were well known not only among the educated but also among the masses.

- He decided to tour the country the next one year and see for himself the condition of the masses.
- He also decided not to take any position on any political matter for at least one year.

Source: Spectrum

Q.7) Who among the following requested Gandhi to look into the problems of the farmers in context of indigo planters of Champaran in Bihar?

- a) Rajendra Prasad
- b) Rajkumar Shukla
- c) Mahadeo Desai
- d) Narhari Parekh

ANS: B

Explanation: Gandhi was requested by Rajkumar Shukla, a local man, to look into the problems of the farmers in context of indigo planters of Champaran in Bihar.

Source: Spectrum

Q.8) With respect to British India, the “tinkathia system” related to which of the following?

- a) Indigo plantation
- b) Rubber plantation
- c) Cotton
- d) Tobacco

ANS: A

Explanation: The European planters had been forcing the peasants to grow indigo on 3/20 part of the total land (called tinkathia system).

- When towards the end of the nineteenth century German synthetic dyes replaced indigo, the European planters demanded high rents and illegal dues from the peasants in order to maximize their profits before the peasants could shift to other crops.
- Besides, the peasants were forced to sell the produce at prices fixed by the Europeans.

Source: Spectrum

Q.9) Which of the following was/were associated with “Champaran Satyagraha”?

- 1. Brajkishore Prasad
- 2. Anugrah Narayan Sinha
- 3. Ramnavmi Prasad

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: Gandhi was requested by Rajkumar Shukla, a local man, to look into the problems of the farmers in context of indigo planters of Champaran in Bihar.

- Within a decade, the planters left the area. Gandhi had won the first battle of civil disobedience in India.
- Other popular leaders associated with Champaran Satyagraha were Brajkishore Prasad, Anugrah Narayan Sinha, Ramnavmi Prasad and Shambhusharan Varma.

Source: Spectrum

Q.10) Consider the following statements:

- 1. World Wetlands Day is celebrated each year on 2 February to raise awareness about wetlands.
- 2. “Wetlands and Human Wellbeing” is the theme for World Wetlands Day 2024.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: World Wetlands Day is celebrated each year on 2 February to raise awareness about wetlands.

- This day also marks the anniversary of the Convention on Wetlands, which was adopted as an international treaty in 1971.
- “Wetlands and Human Wellbeing” is the theme for World Wetlands Day 2024.

Source: FORUMIAS

The Gandhian Era – II

Q.1) In which of the following place, Gandhi had first hunger strike in British India?

- a) Allahabad
- b) Hyderabad
- c) Ahmadabad
- d) Agra

ANS: C

Explanation: Ahmadabad Mill Strike (1918) — First Hunger Strike: In March 1918, Gandhi intervened in a dispute between cotton mill owners of Ahmadabad and the workers over the issue of discontinuation of the plague bonus.

Source: Spectrum

Q.2) Who among the following went to Gandhi for help in fighting for justice, in Ahmadabad Mill Strike?

- a) Ambalal Sarabhai
- b) Anusuya Sarabhai
- c) Sardar Vallabhai patel
- d) Jawaharlal Nehru

ANS: B

Explanation: The relations between the workers and the mill owners worsened with the striking workers being arbitrarily dismissed and the mill owners deciding to bring in weavers from Bombay.

- The workers of the mill turned to Anusuya Sarabhai for help in fighting for justice.
- Anusuya Sarabhai was a social worker who was also the sister of Ambalal Sarabhai, one of the mill owners and the president of the Ahmedabad Mill Owners Association (founded in 1891 to develop the textile industry in Ahmedabad), for help in fighting for justice.
- Anusuya Behn went to Gandhi, who was respected by the mill owners and workers, and asked him to intervene and help resolve the impasse between the workers and the employers.

Source: Spectrum

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “Kheda Satyagraha”:

1. It was a first non cooperation movement in British India.
2. Gandhi asked the Kheda farmers not to pay the taxes.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: Kheda Satyagraha (1918)—First Non Cooperation: Because of drought in 1918, the crops failed in Kheda district of Gujarat.

- According to the Revenue Code, if the yield was less than one-fourth the normal produce, the farmers were entitled to remission.
- The Gujarat Sabha, consisting of the peasants, submitted petitions to the highest governing authorities of the province requesting that the revenue assessment for the year 1919 is suspended.
- The government, however, remained adamant and said that the property of the farmers would be seized if the taxes were not paid.
- Gandhi asked the farmers not to pay the taxes. Gandhi, however, was mainly the spiritual head of the struggle.

Source: Spectrum

Q.4) Which of the following was/were part of "Kheda Satyagraha"?

1. Narahari Parikh
2. Mohanlal Pandya
3. Ravi Shankar Vyas

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: It was Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and a group of other devoted Gandhians, namely, Narahari Parikh, Mohanlal Pandya and Ravi Shankar Vyas, who went around the villages, organised the villagers and told them what to do and gave the necessary political leadership.

Patel along with his colleagues organised the tax revolt which the different ethnic and caste communities of Kheda supported.

Source: Spectrum

Q.5) Which of the following gains had found by Gandhi from Champaran, Ahmedabad and Kheda events?

1. He demonstrated to the people the efficacy of his technique of satyagraha.
2. He found his feet among the masses and came to have a surer understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the masses.
3. He acquired respect and commitment of many, especially the youth.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: Gains from Champaran, Ahmedabad and Kheda:

- Gandhi demonstrated to the people the efficacy of his technique of satyagraha.
- He found his feet among the masses and came to have a surer understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the masses.
- He acquired respect and commitment of many, especially the youth.

Source: Spectrum

Q.6) In which of the following year, the Defense of India Regulations Act (Rowlatt Act) was passed?

- a) 1916
- b) 1917
- c) 1918
- d) 1919

ANS: D

Explanation: Just six months before the Montford Reforms were to be put into effect; two bills were introduced in the Imperial Legislative Council.

- One of them was dropped, but the other—an extension to the Defence of India Regulations Act 1915—was passed in March 1919.

- It was what was officially called the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act, but popularly known as the Rowlatt Act.

Source: Spectrum

Q.7) Who among the following was/were resigned from Imperial Legislative Council against Rowlatt Act?

1. Mohammed Ali Jinnah
2. Madan Mohan Malaviya
3. Jawaharlal Nehru

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: All the elected Indian members of the Imperial Legislative Council voted against the Rowlatt bill but they were in a minority and easily overruled by the official nominees.

All the elected Indian members—who included Mohammed Ali Jinnah, Madan Mohan Malaviya and Mazhar Ul Haq – resigned in protest.

Source: Spectrum

Q.8) With reference to British India, Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr Satyapal related to which of the following event?

- a) Champaran Satyagraha
- b) Ahmadabad mill strike
- c) Kheda Satyagraha
- d) Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

ANS: D

Explanation: Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (April 13, 1919): Amritsar was the worst affected by violence. In the beginning there was no violence by the protestors.

- Indians shut down their shops and normal trade and the empty streets showed the Indians' displeasure at the British betrayal.
- On April 9, two nationalist leaders, Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr Satyapal, were arrested by the British officials without any provocation except that they had addressed protest meetings, and taken to some unknown destination.

Source: Spectrum

Q.9) Who among the following is not a member of Jallianwala Bagh "Disorders Inquiry Committee"?

- a) Ajit Singh
- b) Sir Chimanlal Harilal Setalvad
- c) Pandit Jagat Narayan
- d) Sardar Sahibzada Sultan Ahmad Khan

ANS: A

Explanation: On October 14, 1919, the Government of India announced the formation of the Disorders Inquiry Committee, which came to be more widely and variously known as the Hunter Committee/Commission after the name of chairman, Lord William Hunter, former Solicitor-General for Scotland and Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland.

- The purpose of the commission was to "investigate the recent disturbances in Bombay, Delhi and Punjab, about their causes, and the measures taken to cope with them".

- There were three Indians among the members, namely, Sir Chimanlal Harilal Setalvad, Vice-Chancellor of Bombay University and advocate of the Bombay High Court; Pandit Jagat Narayan, lawyer and Member of the Legislative Council of the United Provinces; and Sardar Sahibzada Sultan Ahmad Khan, lawyer from Gwalior State.

Source: Spectrum

Q.10) Which of the following was the first Tiger reserve in India?

- a) Palamau
- b) Panna
- c) Bandipur
- d) Periyar

ANS: A

Explanation: There are a total of 54 tiger reserves in India, safeguarding a total area of 75,796.83 square kilometers.

- This constitutes over 2.3% of the country's total land, a significant increase from the original nine reserves covering 18,278 square kilometers in 1973.
- First tiger reserve was set up in 1973 as Palamau Tiger Reserve in Jharkhand.
- Most recently declared tiger reserve is Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh.
- These reserves are important for protecting the tigers that live in India.

Source: FORUMIAS

Growth of revolutionary organizations in India and abroad

Q.1) Who among the following was/were wants to end to the boycott of legislative councils and enter into politics?

- 1. C R Das
- 2. Motilal Nehru
- 3. Ajmal Khan

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: After Gandhi's arrest (March 1922), there was disintegration, disorganisation and demoralisation among nationalist ranks.

- A debate started among Congressmen on what to do during the transition period, i.e., the passive phase of the movement.
- One section led by C.R. Das, Motilal Nehru and Ajmal Khan wanted an end to the boycott of legislative councils so that the nationalists could enter them to expose the basic weaknesses of these assemblies and use these councils as an arena of political struggle to arouse popular enthusiasm.

Source: Spectrum

Q.2) Who among the following was/were part of “No-changers” school of thought?

1. C. Rajagopalachari
2. Vallabhbhai Patel
3. M.A. Ansari

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: Those advocating entry into legislative councils came to be known as the ‘Swarajists’, while the other school of thought led by C. Rajagopalachari, Vallabhbhai Patel, Rajendra Prasad and M.A. Ansari came to be known as the ‘No-changers’.

Source: Spectrum

Q.3) Who among the following was not part of responsivists among Swarajists?

- a) Lala Lajpat Rai
- b) Madan Mohan Malaviya
- c) N.C. Kelkar
- d) C. Rajagopalachari

ANS: D

Explanation: The Responsivists among Swarajists—Lala Lajpat Rai, Madan Mohan Malaviya and N.C. Kelkar—advocated cooperation with the government and holding of office wherever possible.

- Besides they also wanted to protect the so-called Hindu interests.
- The communal elements accused leaders like Motilal Nehru, who did not favour joining the council, of being anti-Hindu even as Muslim communalists called the Swarajists anti-Muslim.

Source: Spectrum

Q.4) Which of the following was/were communists?

1. S.A. Dange
2. Muzaffar Ahmed
3. Shaukat Usmani

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: In 1924, many communists—S.A. Dange, Muzaffar Ahmed, Shaukat Usmani, Nalini Gupta—were jailed in the Kanpur Bolshevik Conspiracy Case.

Source: Spectrum

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Communist Party of India (CPI)”:

1. It was formed in 1920 in Tashkent by M.N. Roy.
2. The Indian Communist Conference of 1925 at Kanpur formalized the foundation of the CPI.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: The Communist Party of India (CPI) was formed in 1920 in Tashkent (now, the capital of Uzbekistan) by M.N. Roy, Abani Mukherji and others after the second Congress of Comintern. M.N. Roy was also the first to be elected to the leadership of Comintern.

In 1925, the Indian Communist Conference at Kanpur formalised the foundation of the CPI.

Source: Spectrum

Q.6) With reference British India, the famous “Rampa region” related to which of the following?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Kerala
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Andhra region

ANS: D

Explanation: In the United Provinces peasant agitations were for revision of tenancy laws, lower rents, protection against eviction and relief from indebtedness.

Similar peasant agitations took place in the Rampa region of Andhra, in Rajasthan, in ryotwari areas of Bombay and Madras.

Source: Spectrum

Q.7) Consider the following statements:

1. The All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) was founded in 1920.
2. The first May Day was celebrated in India in Madras in 1923.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: The trade union movement was led by All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) founded in 1920. Lala Lajpat Rai was its first president and Dewan Chaman Lal its general secretary. Tilak was also one of the moving spirits.

In 1923, the first May Day was celebrated in India in Madras.

Source: Spectrum

Q.8) Which of the following was/were major leaders of revolutionary policies?

1. Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee
2. Shiv Verma
3. Jaidev Kapur

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: Nearly all major leaders of revolutionary policies had been enthusiastic participants in the Non-Cooperation Movement and included Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee, Surya Sen, Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, Chandrasekhar Azad, Shiv Verma, Bhagwaticharan Vohra, Jaidev Kapur and Jatin Das.

Source: Spectrum

Q.9) Which of the following was/were founded the Hindustan Republican Association/Army?

1. Ramprasad Bismil
2. Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee
3. Bhagat Singh

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: The HRA was founded in October 1924 in Kanpur by Ramprasad Bismil, Jogesh Chandra Chatterjee and Sachin Sanyal, with an aim to organise an armed revolution to overthrow the colonial government and establish in its place the Federal Republic of United States of India whose basic principle would be adult franchise.

Source: Spectrum

Q.10) Which of the following was/were part of Kakori Robbery case?

1. Ashfaqullah
2. Roshan Singh
3. Rajendra Lahiri

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: The most important action of the HRA was the Kakori robbery. The men held up the 8-Down train at Kakori, an obscure village near Lucknow, and looted its official railway cash.

Government crackdown after the Kakori robbery led to arrests of many, of whom 17 were jailed, four transported for life and four—Bismil, Ashfaqullah, Roshan Singh and Rajendra Lahiri—were hanged. Kakori proved to be a setback.

Source: Spectrum

Peasants and Tribal Movements and women movements in colonial India and after independence

Q.1) Which of the following problems were faced by peasants in zamindari areas?

1. High rents
2. Unpaid labor
3. Illegal evictions

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: The peasants suffered from high rents, illegal levies, arbitrary evictions and unpaid labour in zamindari areas.

Source: Spectrum

Q.2) With respect to British India, the “Digambar Biswas and Bishnu Biswas” related to?

- a) Indigo revolt
- b) Pabna movement
- c) Deccan movement
- d) Mappila movement

ANS: A

Explanation: In Bengal, the indigo planters, nearly all Europeans, exploited the local peasants by forcing them to grow indigo on their lands instead of the more paying crops like rice.

- The planters forced the peasants to take advance sums and enter into fraudulent contracts which were then used against the peasants.
- The anger of the peasants exploded in 1859 when, led by Digambar Biswas and Bishnu Biswas of Nadia district, they decided not to grow indigo under duress and resisted the physical pressure of the planters and their lathiyals (retainers) backed by police and the courts.

Source: Spectrum

Q.3) With respect to British India, the “pabna revolt” related to which of the following?

- a) Bengal
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Kashmir

ANS: A

Explanation: Pabna Agrarian Leagues: During the 1870s and 1880s, large parts of Eastern Bengal witnessed agrarian unrest caused by oppressive practices of the zamindars.

- The zamindars resorted to enhanced rents beyond legal limits and prevented the tenants from acquiring occupancy rights under Act X of 1859.
- To achieve their ends, the zamindars resorted to forcible evictions, seizure of cattle and crops and prolonged, costly litigation in courts where the poor peasant found himself at a disadvantage.

Source: Spectrum

Q.4) Consider the following statements:

1. The Deccan region of western India suffered heavy taxation under the Ryotwari system.
2. American civil war has no impact on Deccan region.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: A

Explanation: The ryots of Deccan region of western India suffered heavy taxation under the Ryotwari system.

- Here again the peasants found themselves trapped in a vicious network with the moneylender as the exploiter and the main beneficiary.
- These moneylenders were mostly outsiders—Marwaris or Gujaratis.
- The conditions had worsened due to a crash in cotton prices after the end of the American Civil War in 1864, the Government's decision to raise the land revenue by 50% in 1867, and a succession of bad harvests.

Source: Spectrum

Q.5) With reference to peasant movements in British India, the term "bedakhali" related to?

- a) Evictions
- b) Barren land
- c) Irrigation system
- d) Feudal lands

ANS: A

Explanation: After the 1857 revolt, the Awadh taluqdars had got back their lands. This strengthened the hold of the taluqdars or big landlords over the agrarian society of the province.

The majority of the cultivators were subjected to high rents, summary evictions (bedakhali), illegal levies, renewal fees or nazrana.

Source: Spectrum

Q.6) Which of the following were associated with "United Provinces Kisan Sabha"?

1. Gauri Shankar Mishra
2. Indra Narayan Dwivedi
3. Madan Mohan Malaviya

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: Mainly due to the efforts of the Home Rule activists, kisan sabhas were organised in UP.

The United Provinces Kisan Sabha was set up in February 1918 by Gauri Shankar Mishra and Indra Narayan Dwivedi. Madan Mohan Malaviya supported their efforts.

Source: Spectrum

Q.7) Who among the following started the newspaper “Bharat Shramjeevi”?

- a) Sorabjee Shapoorji
- b) Sasipada Banerjea
- c) Narain Meghajee Lokhanday
- d) G. Subramanya Aiyar

ANS: B

Explanation: 1870 Sasipada Banerjea started a workingmen’s club and newspaper Bharat Shramjeevi.

Source: Spectrum

Q.8) Who among the following said “imperialism and militarism are the twin children of capitalism”?

- a) Subramaniya Siva
- b) Chidambaram Pillai
- c) Lala Lajpat Rai
- d) Dewan Chaman Lal

ANS: C

Explanation: The All India Trade Union Congress was founded on October 31, 1920.

- The Indian National Congress president for the year, Lala Lajpat Rai, was elected as the first president of AITUC and Dewan Chaman Lal as the first general secretary.
- Lajpat Rai was the first to link capitalism with imperialism— “imperialism and militarism are the twin children of capitalism”.

Source: Spectrum

Q.9) The British expansion on their territory led to an uprising by the martial Pahariyas of?

- a) Theni hills
- b) Annamallai hills
- c) Raj Mahal Hills
- d) Indravati hills

ANS: C

Explanation: The British expansion on their territory led to an uprising by the martial Pahariyas of the Raj Mahal Hills in 1778. The British were forced to usher in peace by declaring their territory as damni-kol area.

Source: Spectrum

Q.10) With reference to tribal uprisings, the “Buddho Bhagat” related to?

- a) Kol uprisings
- b) Pahariya rebellion
- c) Rampa revolt
- d) Theni revolt

ANS: A

Explanation: The Kols, alongwith other tribes, are inhabitants of Chhotanagpur. This covered Ranchi, Singhbhum, Hazaribagh, Palamau and the western parts of Manbhum.

- The trouble in 1831 started with large-scale transfers of land from Kol headmen to outsiders like Hindu, Sikh and Muslim farmers and money-lenders who were oppressive and demanded heavy taxes.
- Besides, the British judicial and revenue policies badly affected the traditional social conditions of the Kols.

- The Kols resented this and in 1831, under the leadership of Buddho Bhagat, the Kol rebels killed or burnt about a thousand outsiders. Only after large-scale military operations could order be restored.

Source: Spectrum

Revision

Q.1) Which of the following was/were objectives/demands of the Indian National Congress (INC)?

1. It demanded Indian representation in the government.
2. The Congress advocated the imposition of heavy tax on the imported goods for the benefit of swadeshi goods.
3. Indianisation of services through simultaneous Indian Civil Services Examinations in England and India was a major demand of the Congress.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: The major objectives and demands of INC were:

- Constitutional: Opportunity for participation in the government was one of the major demands of the Indian National Congress. It demanded Indian representation in the government.
- Economic: High land revenue was one of the major factors that contributed to the oppression of the peasants. It demanded reduction in the land revenue and protection of peasants against exploitation of the zamindars. The Congress also advocated the imposition of heavy tax on the imported goods for the benefit of swadeshi goods.
- Administrative: Higher officials who had responsibility of administration in India were selected through civil services examinations conducted in Britain. This meant that educated Indians who could not afford to go to London had no opportunity to get high administrative jobs. Therefore, Indianisation of services through simultaneous Indian Civil Services Examinations in England and India was a major demand of the Congress.
- Judicial: Because of the partial treatment against the Indian political activists by English judges it demanded the complete separation of the Executive and the Judiciary.

Source: NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following represented the congress (INC) in its early stage of formation?

1. Lawyers
2. Doctors
3. Teachers

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: The early nationalists in the INC came from the elite sections of the society. Lawyers, college and university teachers, doctors, journalists and such others represented the Congress.

Source: NCERT

Q.3) Who among the following was not part of radical school of thought?

- a) Bipin Chandra Pal
- b) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- c) Lala Lajpat Rai
- d) C Rajagopalachari

ANS: D

Explanation: From the late 1890s there were growing differences within the INC. Leaders like Bipin Chandra Pal, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Lala Lajpat Rai were advocating radical approaches instead of merely writing petitions, prayers and memorandums.

Source: NCERT

Q.4) Who among the following raised the clarion call "Swaraj is my birth right and I shall have it"?

- a) Bipin Chandra Pal
- b) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- c) Lala Lajpat Rai
- d) Sardar Vallabhai Patel

ANS: B

Explanation: Tilak raised the clarion call "Swaraj is my birth right and I shall have it".

Tilak and his militant followers were now requesting Swaraj instead of economic or administrative reforms that the moderates were requesting through their petitions and prayers.

Source: NCERT

Q.5) Who among the following founded and edited the journals "Voice of India and RastGoftar"?

- a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- b) Lala Lajpat Rai
- c) Gopala Krishna Goakhale
- d) Dadabhai Naoroji

ANS: D

Explanation: Most stalwarts of the early freedom movement were involved in journalism.

Dadabhai Naoroji founded and edited two journals called Voice of India and RastGoftar.

Source: NCERT

Q.6) Who among the following called as "Grand Old Man of Indian Nationalism"?

- a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- b) M K Gandhi
- c) Gopala Krishna Goakhale
- d) Dadabhai Naoroji

ANS: D

Explanation: Dadabhai Naoroji, known as the 'Grand Old Man of Indian Nationalism', was a prominent early nationalist.

Source: NCERT

Q.7) Which of the following was/were comes under the “Home Charges” of British India?

1. Profits to Company shareholders living in Britain
2. Guaranteed interest to investors in railways
3. Interest for the money borrowed from England to meet war expenses

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: Naoroji argued that India had exported an average of 13 million pounds worth of goods to Britain each year from 1835 to 1872 with no corresponding return.

- The goods were in lieu of payments for profits to Company shareholders living in Britain, guaranteed interest to investors in railways, pensions to retired officials and generals, interest for the money borrowed from England to meet war expenses for the British conquest of territories in India as well as outside India.
- All these, going in the name of Home Charges, Naoroji asserted, made up a loss of 30 million pounds a year.

Source: NCERT

Q.8) Which of the following organization founded earliest in British India?

- a) Madras Native Association
- b) East India Association
- c) Madras Mahajana Sabha
- d) Indian National Congress

ANS: A

Explanation: Elected to the British Parliament in 1892, Dadabhai Naoroji founded the India Society (1865) and the East India Association (1866) in London.

Modern intelligentsia formed political organization like Madras Native Association (1852), Madras Mahajana Sabha (1884) and Indian National Congress (1885) to voice their opinions and grievances.

Source: NCERT

Q.9) Which of the following was/were correctly matched?

Place - Journal

1. Karnataka – Swadesamitran
2. Maharashtra – Kesari
3. Yugantar – Bengal

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: B

Explanation: The prominent development during the Swadeshi period was the growth of the vernacular press (newspapers published in Indian languages) in various parts of India.

- The nationalistic tone of the vernacular press became more pronounced during this time.
- The role played by Swadesamitran in Tamil Nadu, Kesari in Maharashtra, and Yugantar in Bengal is a few examples.

Source: NCERT

Q.10) Who among the following founded the “Dawn Society”?

- a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- b) Satish Chandra
- c) Rabindranath Tagore
- d) Surendranath Banarjee

ANS: B

Explanation: The idea of education in vernacular language made its appearance much before the swadeshi movement with the foundation of Dawn Society by Satish Chandra in 1902.

Source: NCERT

Indian Constitution: Historical Underpinnings, Evolution & Making of the Constitution, Features, Significant Provisions

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Regulating Act of 1773”:

- 1. It was the first step to control and regulate the affairs of the East India Company in India.
- 2. It laid the foundations of central administration in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: Regulating Act of 1773 was of great constitutional importance as

(a) it was the first step taken by the British Government to control and regulate the affairs of the East India Company in India;

(b) it recognized, for the first time, the political and administrative functions of the Company; and

(c) it laid the foundations of central administration in India.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.2) Which of the following act was known as “act of settlement”?

- a) Regulating Act of 1773
- b) Amending Act of 1781
- c) Pitt’s India Act of 1784
- d) Act of 1786

ANS: B

Explanation: In a bid to rectify the defects of the Regulating Act of 1773, the British Parliament passed the Amending Act of 1781, also known as the Act of Settlement.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.3) Which of the following statements is/are correct about "Charter Act of 1813"?

1. The Indian trade was thrown open to all British merchants.
2. It asserted the sovereignty of the British Crown over the Company's territories in India.
3. It allowed the Christian missionaries to come to India for the purpose of enlightening the people.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

ANS: C

Explanation: The features of Charter Act of 1813 were as follows:

- It abolished the trade monopoly of the company in India i.e., the Indian trade was thrown open to all British merchants. However, it continued the monopoly of the company over trade in tea and trade with China.
- It asserted the sovereignty of the British Crown over the Company's territories in India.
- It allowed the Christian missionaries to come to India for the purpose of enlightening the people.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding "Charter Act of 1853":

1. It introduced an open competition system of selection and recruitment of civil servants.
2. It introduced, for the first time, local representation in the Indian Legislative Council.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: Charter Act of 1853: This was the last of the series of Charter Acts passed by the British Parliament between 1793 and 1853. It was a significant constitutional landmark.

- It separated, for the first time, the legislative and executive functions of the Governor-General's council. It provided for addition of six new members called legislative councilors to the council.
- It introduced an open competition system of selection and recruitment of civil servants.
- It introduced, for the first time, local representation in the Indian (Central) Legislative Council.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding "Government of India Act of 1935":

1. It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units.
2. It continued dyarchy in the provinces.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: A

Explanation: Government of India Act of 1935: The Act marked a second milestone towards a completely responsible government in India. It was a lengthy and detailed document having 321 Sections and 10 Schedules.

- It provided for the establishment of an All-India Federation consisting of provinces and princely states as units. The Act divided the powers between the Centre and units in terms of three lists—Federal List (for Centre, with 59 items), Provincial List (for provinces, with 54 items) and the Concurrent List (for both, with 36 items).
- It abolished dyarchy in the provinces and introduced 'provincial autonomy' in its place. The provinces were allowed to act as autonomous units of administration in their defined spheres.
- It provided for the adoption of dyarchy at the Centre. Consequently, the federal subjects were divided into reserved subjects and transferred subjects.

Source: Spectrum

Q.6) Who among the following for the first time put forward the idea of a Constituent Assembly for India?

- a) Sardar Vallabhai Patel
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) M.N. Roy
- d) M K Gandhi

ANS: C

Explanation: It was in 1934 that the idea of a Constituent Assembly for India was put forward for the first time by M.N. Roy, a pioneer of communist movement in India.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding composition of "Constituent Assembly":

1. It was completely elected body.
2. Seats allocated to each British province were to be divided among the three principal communities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: The Constituent Assembly was constituted in November 1946 under the scheme formulated by the Cabinet Mission Plan.

- Seats allocated to each British province were to be divided among the three principal communities—Muslims, Sikhs and General (all except Muslims and Sikhs), in proportion to their population.
- The Constituent Assembly was to be a partly elected and partly nominated body.
- Moreover, the members were to be indirectly elected by the members of the provincial assemblies, who themselves were elected on a limited franchise.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding "Constituent Assembly":

1. The Constituent Assembly held its first meeting on December 9, 1946.
2. The Muslim League joined the meeting.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: The Constituent Assembly held its first meeting on December 9, 1946. The Muslim League boycotted the meeting and insisted on a separate state of Pakistan.

The meeting was, thus, attended by only 211 members. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha, the oldest member, was elected as the temporary President of the Assembly, following the French practice.

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.9) Who among the following headed the “Provincial Constitution Committee”?

- a) Jawaharlal Nehru
- b) J.B. Kripalani
- c) Sardar Patel
- d) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

ANS: C

Explanation: Major Committees:

- 1. Union Powers Committee - Jawaharlal Nehru
- 2. Union Constitution Committee -Jawaharlal Nehru
- 3. Provincial Constitution Committee -Sardar Patel
- 4. Drafting Committee - Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Source: Laxmikanth

Q.10) Which of the following amendment act known as “Mini-Constitution”?

- a) Seventh Constitutional Amendment Act
- b) Twenty – third Constitutional Amendment Act
- c) Forty – second Constitutional Amendment Act
- d) Forty – fourth Constitutional Amendment Act

ANS: C

Explanation: It should be noted at the outset that a number of original features of the Constitution (as adopted in 1949) have undergone a substantial change, on account of several amendments, particularly 7th, 42nd, 44th, 73rd, 74th, 97th and 101st Amendments.

In fact, the 42nd Amendment Act (1976) is known as ‘Mini-Constitution’ due to the important and large number of changes made by it in various parts of the Constitution.

Source: Laxmikanth