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THEME -13

MAHATMA GHANDI AND THE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT

Civil disobedience and beyond

Key points in nutshell:-

- Mahatma Gandhi is the most influential and revered of all the leaders who participated in the freedom struggle of India.
- In January 1915, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi returned to India after spending two decades in South Africa.
- It was in South Africa he first focused the distinctive techniques of non-violent protest known as Satyagraha and Promoted harmony between religions.
- On Gokhale's advice he spent one year travelling around British India to know the land and its peoples.
- His first major public appearance was at the opening of the Banaras Hindu University in February 1916.
- Here in his speech Gandhiji Charged the Indian elite with a lack of concern for the labouring poor.
- He successfully organised Satyagraha at Champaran (Bihar in 1917); Ahmedabad and Kheda in 1918.
- In 1919 Gandhiji called for a country wide campaign against the "Rowlatt Act". It was the Rowlatt Satyagraha that made Gandhiji truly a national leader.
- In 1920 After Jalianwala Bagh Massacre he called for a campaign of non-cooperation with British Rule and joined hands with the Khilafat movement.
- The British Raj was shaken to its foundations for the first time since the Revolt of 1857.
- Non-cooperation movement was suspended in 1922 after Chauri-Chaura incident.
- Causes of Gandhiji's popularity among Indians-He dressed like them lived like them and speak their language.
- Mahatma Gandhi was released from prison in February 1924 devoted himself in constructive work like promotion of home-spun khadi cloth, abolition of untouchability, Hindu-Muslim unity etc.
- In 1928 Gandhiji began to think of re-entering politics. After the failure of Simon Commission in its annual session at Lahore Congress demanded Purna Swaraj and decided to observe 26th January 1930 as independence Day.
- 12th March 1930-Dandi Satyagraha, Salt March.
- On 6th April 1930 broke the salt law.
- Across large parts of India peasants breached forest laws, factory workers went on the strike, lawyers boycotted courts and students refused to attend government run educational institutions.

1930- First Round Table conference-Gandhiji did not attend.

1931- Gandhi-Irwin pact, 2nd Round Table Conference-Gandhi attended but it failed.

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- 1935- Government of India Act
- 1937- Provincial Election, Congress formed ministries in 8 out of 11 provinces.
- 1939- World War II broke out, Individual Satyagraha.
- 1940- Two Nation Theory put forward by Jinnah.
- 1942- Failure of Cripps Mission.
 - 9th August 1942- Quit India Movements by Gandhiji. Gandhiji along with all prominent leaders sent to jail.
- 1946- Cabinet Mission- Failed to get the Congress and the league to agree on the federal system.
- 16th August 1946- Direct Action Day and Communal riots in Bengal, Bihar, U.P and Punjab.
- 1947- Mountbatten was appointed as viceroy.
- 15th August 1947- Formal transfer of power, announcement of partition and India got her Independence.

The last heroic days of Gandhiji :-

- On 15th August 1947 Gandhiji was not at Delhi to witness the festivities. He was at Calcutta and undertook a 2 hour fast.
- Due to initiative of Gandhiji and Nehru Congress passed a resolution on the right of the minorities.
 - After working to bring peace to Bengal Gandhiji shifted to Delhi from where he hoped to move on the riot-torn districts of Punjab. On 30th January 1948 Gandhiji was shot dead by Nathuram Godse.

Source to know more about Gandhiji:-

- 1. Pubilc voice and private scripts.
- 2. Series of Personal letter published by Gandhiji in his journal Harijan.
- 3. A bunch of old letters edited by Nehru.
- 4. Fortnightly Reports of the Home Department.
- 5. From newspapers.

V. S. A. (2Marks)

- Q.1 Why the Mahatma Gandhi has been regarded as the 'Father' of Indian Nation.
- Ans.Because in the history of nationalism a single Man is often identified with the making of a Nation. Example Garibaldi-(Italy) Washington with America; Ho Chi Minh with Vietnam.
- Q2. Who are known as LAL, BAL, and PAL?

Ans.Lal - Lala Lajpat Rai (Punjab)

- BAL BAL Gangadhar Tilak (Maharashtra)
- Pal Bipin Chandra Pal (Bengal)
- Q3. Who were the 'Moderates?'
- Ans. Who preferred a more gradual and persuasive approach like, Gandhiji, Gopal Krishan Gokhale.

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- Q4. What was the Rowlatt Act?
- Ans. This act Passed in 1919 for two years permitted the detention of any person without trial in the court.
- Q5. Why was the Non- co-operation Movement launched?
- Ans.1.To protest against the Jallianwalla Bagh and the Khilafat wrongs.
 - 2. To demand swaraj.
- Q6. Why was the Khilaphat Movement started?
- Ans.1.To protest against the injustice done to Turkey.
 - 2. To retain the Turkish Sultan or Khilafat.
- O7. What was Gandhi Irwin Pact of 1931?
- Ans.1.Gandhiji Postponed Civil Disobedience Movement.
 - 2. Irwin agreed to release all prisoners.
 - 3. Gandhiji went to second round table conference.

S. A. (4 Marks)

- Q8. Why did Gandhiji Start Non Cooperation Movement? Why was it withdrawn?
- Ans.1.To oppose 'Rowlett Act'.
 - 2. To undo the injustice done at Jalianwala Bagh.
 - 3. To support the khilafat Movement.
 - 4. To get Swaraj
 - 5. Violence at Chauri-Chaura and movement withdrawn.
- Q9. Give the significance of the Salt March.
- Ans.1. This event brought Mahatma Gandhi to world attention.
 - 2. First nationalist movement in which women Participated.
 - 3. Create pressure upon British Government

L. A. (8 Marks)

- Q10. What was the aim and methods of Non Co-operation Movements?
- Ans.1.Protest against Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.
 - 2. Demand of Swaraj.
 - 3.To Support Khilafat Movement.
 - 4. Hindu Muslim Unity.
 - 5. To oppose Rowlett Act.
- Methods 1. Surrender of the titles
 - 2. Movement should be non-violent.
 - 3. No co-operation with British Government.
 - 4. Bycott of court and offices, college, foreign cloths etc.
 - 5. Strikes and demonstration.

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Q11. In what way did Mahatma Gandhi transform the nature of the National Movement?

Ans.1.Gandhiji had concern for the poor.

- 2. BHU/Champaran/Ahamedabad/Kheda issue.
- 3. He launched Non co-operation, civil disobedience, salt march and Quit India Movement and thousands of Indians of all classes joined these movement.
- 4. Inspirational leadership of Gandhiji.
- 5. Gandhiji's ideology
- 6. By the Satyagraha Masses involved.
- 7. Constructive Programs of Gandhiji.
- 8. By his political Methods.
- 9. Gandhiji's Charisma.

1915 Gandhiji Returned India from south Africa

Feb. 1916 Gandhi's Speech at Banaras

1917 Champaran Campaigns

1918 Ahmedabad, Kheda Campaigns

March 1919 Rowlett Act Passed

April 1919 Jalianwala Bagh Massacre.

1920-21 The Khilafat and Non-co-operation movement

Feb.1922Chauri-Chaura and withdrawn of Non-co-operation movement.

Dec. 1929 Lahore Session of Congress

March-1930 Salt March

Jan-1931 Gandhi - Irwin Pact

1935 Government of India Act.

1942 Quit India Movement

1946 Cabinet Mission

15 Aug. 1947 India' got Freedom

30 Jan. 1948 Gandhi was shot dead by a young man.