

Revolutionary Activities & Repression of Extremists

Activities during RT		Actions
FORMATION OF SECRET SOCIETIES		NEWSPAPER PROPAGANDA in FAVOR OF RT
# 1904 : ABHINAV BHARAT	a secret society	# 1905 onwards some NP supported RT
	by VEER SAVARKAR	
* ANUSHILAN SAMITI	of Satishchandra BASU.	# All BENGAL Conference (1906) of Revolutionary Groups
* Dacca ANUSHILAN SAMITI	of Pulin Behari Das.	↓ to
		FORMATION OF WEEKLY
* JUGANTAR		"YUGANTAR" / JUGANTAR (1906)
# EST CENTRES ABROAD	By	wrote after police assault on BARisal Conference
# VEER SAVARKAR		"30cr indians should raise 60cr hands to end oppression."
# LALA HARDAYAL		Force must be STOPPED by force"
# SHYAMJI KISHAN VARMA		
# MADAME CAMA		
# AJIT SINGH		

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- From 1905, revolutionaries did propaganda in newspapers in favor of revolutionary methods. Eg weekly Yugantar wrote after repression of Barisal conference April 1906 "30cr Indians should raise their 60 cr hands to end oppression".
- Some revolutionaries like Veer Savarkar & Madam Cama set up revolutionary societies abroad.
- With Swadeshi Movt leaderless- rise of revolutionaries who had two options –
 - Repeat 1857 i.e. start civil rebellion & cause disaffection in army
 - individual heroic action i.e. assassinate hated British officials to strike fear in hearts of British & remove fear of Br from among Indians & arouse nationalism with supreme sacrifice or propaganda in court if caught
- First was chosen as long term goal & second as immediate method.

Revolutionary Activities

- **1907-** attempt on life of LG of Bengal -*failed*
- **Barrah Dacoity 1908-** a swadeshi dacoity in Dhaka, East Bengal by Dacca Anushilan Samiti under Pulin Behari Das where residence of Zamindar of Barrah was looted.
- **1908 Muzzafarpur Conspiracy Case** where
 - a failed attempt at life of hated Magistrate Kingsford by throwing bomb by Prafulla Chaki and Khudiram Bose during which two english women were killed instead. Chaki took cyanide & later Khudiram was given death sentence.

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• **1908 Alipore Conspiracy Case or MurariPukur or ManickTolla Conspiracy Case**

- Result of rising revolutionary activities e.g. Muzzafarpur Conspiracy Case- as Br wanted crackdown on masterminds of revolutionary activity.
- This led to many arrests including of Aurobindo Ghosh from MurariPukur road in ManickTolla.
- Aurobindo was defended by CR Das.
- B.C. Pal did not testify and hence Aurobindo could not be convicted.
- On acquittal Aurobindo wrote anti British articles but then escaped to Pondicherry (with France) to evade arrest. There he began pursuing spiritualism and retired from the politics.
- B.C. Pal was forced to retire temporarily from active politics.
- **Tilak Trial 1908-** Tilak in his publication Kesari condemned the violence by Prafulla Chaki & Khudiram Bose in Muzzafarpur Conspiracy Case 1908, however, defended the two men on grounds that the British should understand that oppression would ultimately lead to violence. He was charged with sedition for this Article- "Arrival of Bomb" & deported/imprisoned for 6 years in Mandalay Burma. It was Jinnah who fought his case.

Revolutionary Activity in Britain

- **1905- Indian Home Rule Society [IHRS]** founded in London by Shyamji Krishna Verma with support of Bhikaji Kama, Dadabhai Naoroji (*not a revolutionary) & S R Rana.

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- Goal= secure Self Rule in India and do propaganda in Br
- Method= all practicable means
- IHRS was a modern organisation like the British public institutions of the time. E.g. had written constitution.
- Only Indians could become members.
- Found strong support among Indian students and other Indians in Br.
- IHRS maintained close contact with revolutionaries in India.
- IHRS setup **India House** in London, a student hostel that promoted nationalist views among students.
- IHRS and Shyamji Krishan Verma's journal **The Indian Sociologist** (*not socialist) laid foundation of militant indian nationalist movt in Br.
- After Shyamji shifted to Paris in 1907, the lead role was played by Abhinav Bharat Mandal/Society (a secret nationalist society) of VD Savarkar.
- **Abhinav Bharat 1904-**
 - Savarkar brothers - Vinayak & Ganesh- setup a secret society -"**Mitra Mela**" in 1899 in Nasik. This was renamed as Abhinav Bharat or Young India in 1904 in Pune.
 - Inspiration for renaming was **Mazzini's Young Italy** (active in 1830 revolts in Italy to overthrow colonialism of Austria in North Italy and to unify Italian Kingdoms. Unification of Italy succeeded in 1870 only. Methods of Mazzini were Guerilla Warfare).
 - Savarkar opened **branch of Abhinav Bharat in London** when he went to study law in 1906. Here he compiled **Mazzini Charitra 1906**, a translation of Mazzini's writings.

- **Abhinav Bharat responsible for:**

- **1909, London- Madan Lal Dhingra** killing Lt Col. William **Curzon-Wyllie** (*not Curzon the Viceroy 1899-1905) who worked with Secretary of State for India.
- **1909, Nasik Conspiracy Case-** District Magistrate Jackson killed by Anant Laxman Kanhere. Savarkar had sent pistols to India of which one was used by Kanhere.
- 1910- Savarkar was sentenced to **“transportation for life”** in Cellular Jail in Andaman Islands -in Nasik Conspiracy Case[1909].

Result-

- Repressed by British but they gave back pride of manhood to Indians & many felt that Morley Minto Reforms of 1909 were result of fear of spread of revolutionary activities.
- In 1911, Bengal partition was annulled & Delhi was made capital which led to end of domination of Bengal in INM. Therefore, Curzon was ultimately successful.

Delhi Conspiracy Case 1912:

- This happened post Swadeshi Movement but was in continuation of the Revolutionary Terrorism instigated by it.
- It was a failed assassination attempt against Viceroy Hardinge (1910-1916) in Delhi planned by Rash Behari Bose during a procession to celebrate shift of capital to Delhi from Calcutta- in Chandni Chowk. Hardinge was on elephant & Rash Bihari Bose threw Bomb from balcony.

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- Afterwards Rash Bihari Bose provided leadership to Ghadar movement (1913-15) & finally escaped to Japan in 1915. He provided leadership to INA until 1943 when Netaji Bose took over.

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IMPACT OF SWADESHI MOVEMENT/CURZONIAN ADMINISTRATION

- a) Rise of such **nationalism** that never came down.
- b) Laid **foundation of mass politics**, Working Class (WC) movement & of revolutionary activities.
- c) People became **aware about economic aspects** of British rule & boycott became major tool of future INM (** to convince poor masses so they buy costlier Swadeshi goods, extremists would have to educate common man in simple language on Drain of wealth*)
- d) **Nationalistic symbols** became prominent E.g. Bande Mataram became anthem of INM, Tagore's Amar Sonar Bangla (my golden bengal) later became national anthem of Bangladesh. (**recall +ves of Peasant revolts = political symbols e.g. grand marches, idea of fatherland of Santhals*)
- e) **New methods developed** for later use in INM - Passive Resistance in form of Non Cooperation & Civil Disobedience (*NC, CD) + Constructive Work (CW) which was later highly used by MG + use of theatre/plays i.e. Jatras + Prabhat Pheris (Processions after Morning Worships).
- f) therefore we moved away **from petitions to mass action** & shifted **from moderate leadership to extremist** leadership of INM (****not of INC as only in 1920 Nagpur Session MG took over INC from Moderates control*).
- g) However,
 - a. 1911- **Capital** was shifted from Calcutta to **Delhi** leading to decline in importance of Bengal in INM & Curzon ultimately succeeded.

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[*Announced in Delhi Durbar (Dec 1911) where coronation of King George V & Queen Mary as Emperor & Empress]

- b. 1912- **Province of "Bihar & Orissa"** separated from Bengal Presidency.
- c. 1912- **Assam** made a **full province** from "East Bengal & Assam" (EBA1905) [* Assam was created as Chief Commissioner province in 1874]
- d. **birth of ML1906** led to formal & organized beginning of communal politics.

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Muslim League & Muslim politics

- 1) Census 1881- Muslim population = roughly 20% + in majority in Punjab & roughly 50% in Bengal. (* 1st attempt at Census in 1872 but was not done for whole of Br India. 1st full census 1881 & thereon every 10 years e.g. 1881, 1891, 1901...)
- 2) **(*DnR) Contribution of Census-**
 - a) Led to consciousness of being a homogenous religious group in otherwise heterogenous Muslim community + consciousness that Hindus & Muslims are two separate communities with separate interests on basis of religion (*Shia-Sunni later, Worker-Peasant later, Muslim first)
 - b) British govt published reports on education, employment, poverty etc. religion wise therefore creating sense of relative deprivation among Muslims. Hence census became tool of Divide & Rule (*DnR)
 - i) (**communalism= organization of society on basis of religion & the ideology that every religious group has its own separate interests which may even be mutually exclusive i.e. two communities cant co-exist happily together & meeting of one's interests will hurt other's interests.)
 - c) In reality there was low growth of western education among Muslims because-
 - i) Education was costly therefore unaffordable for those Muslims who were poor e.g. in east Bengal

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- ii) Control of Ulamas over Muslim masses. They didn't want influence of western culture (*will read Shakespeare or Romeo Juliet- different way of life, family relations etc portrayed- will make Ulamas anxious).
 - iii) Desire to preserve Persian.
 - iv) Rich Muslim landlords had low utility of middle-class jobs & therefore of western education.
 - v) Therefore, Hindus benefitted more from new middle-class professions due to greater acceptance of western education.
- 3) (*DnR) Hunters book **Indian Musalmans 1871**- argued that neglect of Muslims contributed to Faraizi movt of 1830s- 70s in Bengal & therefore British should appease Muslims for greater political stability.
- 4) Muslims from Western Educated Middle Class (*WEMC) began demanding special status e.g.
- a) Mohammadan Association 1855 was pro British & opposed 1857 revolts – to secure benefits for Muslims.
 - b) **Sir Syed Ahmed Khan (1817-98)** argued that India is not a nation of one people but a summation of qaums & Hindu quam is separate from Muslim quam (*2 nation theory) + Muslim qaum should have special status being the quam that ruled India before British & to achieve this western education is must.
 - i) Though he believed in unity of qaums

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- ii) Set up **Mohammadan Anglo Oriental College 1875** (Aligarh Muslim University) with goal of developing unity in Muslim qaum + western education without giving up core beliefs of Islam
- iii) Set up **Mohammadan Educational Congress 1886** as a rival to INC as believed that INC is a Hindu organization.

5) **Post 1883 rise of Hindu Revivalism alienated Muslims:**

- a) Shudhhi movement & Cow Protection Movement by Arya Samaj 1875 became aggressive after Swami Dayanand Saraswati (*SDS) died in 1883.
 - i) Result= Cow killing riots of 1893.
 - ii) INC did not condemn the riots thus sharp decline in Muslim participation in INC (* as 1886 INC rule -will pick up only political issues)
 - b) **Hindi Urdu controversy (1880s-1900)** in "North West Provinces & Awadh"[1877]-led by moderate Madan Mohan Malviya. Demanded official language status to Hindi like Urdu. Success in 1900 but now Hindi got associated with Hindus & Urdu with Muslims (**fun fact- Pakistan dominated by Punjabis and Bengalis but Jinnah made Urdu the official language for Islamic image*)
- 6) (*DnR)-**1897- Reservation** in government jobs for Muslims
- 7) (*DnR) **1905 Bengal partition-** to create East Bengal & Assam (*EBA) as new Muslim majority province (*MMP) to appease elite Muslims & to counter rising Hindu Nationalism.
- 8) Hindu symbolism during Swadeshi 0511 contributed to alienation of Muslims from the movement leading to low participation.

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9) **Simla Deputation 1906**- Here elite Muslims led by Aga Khan met Minto in Shimla to secure elite Muslim interests. They demanded

Shimla to secure elite Muslim interests. They demanded

- a) No annulment of Bengal Partition
- b) That since Muslims are a separate qaum with separate interests & a minority therefore give reservation in proportion to % in population in ILC, PLCs & in government jobs
- c) Demanded Separate Electorates in future council reforms (**Separate Electorates= only Muslims to have 2 votes in a seat reserved for Muslim candidate + it promotes 2 nation theory)

All Indian Muslim League (ML1906)

- Setup by elite Muslims in Dacca
- **Goal**= ensure British don't go back on promises made to Simla Deputation (1906) + Promoting Muslim interests and for promoting Loyalty to British.
- Constitution was written by Mohsin-ul-mulk of Aligarh movement.
- **1907-09 Provincial MLs** setup ((*Provincial Congress Committees (PCCs) set up only in 1920 Nagpur Session by MG. Hence open play field for communal ML1906 on ground for more than a decade)
- **1908 - London branch** of ML1906 set up + it influenced ICA1909 that laid foundation of partition as brought separate electorates.