

The Rowlatt Act, officially called the Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act of 1919, was passed by the British Indian government in February 1919. The act allowed the government to detain people without trial and suppress freedom of expression, leading to widespread anger and opposition.

Modern Indian History Class 29

9th January, 2024 at 9:00 AM

In response to this repressive legislation, Mahatma Gandhi initiated the Rowlatt Satyagraha on April 6, 1919, as a nonviolent protest against the act.

THE CLASS STARTED (IN CONTINUATION) AT: (09:09 AM):

ROWLATT SATYAGRAHA: (09:12 AM):

- Started by Mahatma Gandhi and not by the INC.
- February 1919^{Rowlatt Act} by ILC (Imperial Legislative Council) not passed by CLA. (*bz GOI Act 1919 came in december)
- Equal to two bills by Justice Sk Rowlatt, led to the continuation of the emergency powers of the Defense of India Act, of 1915 (which is applicable for WWI).

Reason:

- British anxious about the rising Communism after the Russian Revolution of 1917.
- This was a breach of promise^{of} from the Montague Statement. (* bz on one side Montague said we will gradually bring Self Government and on another side they were continuing with emergency.)
- Action:
 - a) MG gave a call for nationwide non-violent strikes, therefore the first mass strike, first on All India Movement, was the start of mass politics.
 - b) MG was arrested and widespread violence in Punjab. (Some local leaders were also arrested in Punjab) Udham Singh killed this man in London in 1940 who was LG of Punjab in 1919 and General Dyer was Brigadier)
 - c) Under LG, O'Dwyer, and General Dyer applied Martial Law in Punjab.
 - d) 13th April 1919, by Jallianwala Bagh massacre by Dyer.
 - e) Due to violence Gandhi withdrew movement.
- Result:
 - a) High participation in the urban areas by youth, etc., and low participation in the rural areas (movement must be well organized for success in faraway rural areas)
 - b) MG realized that the control of INC^{should be there} for controlling the mass movement additionally Indians needed training in Satyagraha.

(1920-24) (1920-22)
KHILAFAT MOVEMENT & NON-CO-OPERATION: (10:04 AM):

- Reasons:
 - a) Anger due to war and inflation.
 - b) Spanish Flu. deaths
 - c) Rowlatt Act.
 - d) Jallianwala Bagh. massacre.
 - e) Dissatisfactory govt. of India. Act 1919.
 - f) Khilafat Issue due to the harsh Treaty of Sevres, which was a breach of promise to the Muslims.

- In 1919 Khilafat Committee of Md. Ali and Shaukat Ali demanded the revision of the Treaty of Sevres, so the dignity of the Khalifa was maintained and Arabs were not to be under non-Muslims.
- Requested Mahatma Gandhi to take the leadership and in 1920 Khilafat Committee launched the Khilafat Movement by giving a call for a boycott of titles, civil services, the army (Non-cooperation), and non-tax campaign (Civil Disobedience).
- Mahatma Gandhi saw the opportunity for Hindu-Muslim unity and therefore convinced the INC to launch the Non-Cooperation Movement e.g. convinced leaders in CR Das who otherwise wanted to ~~achieve it through councils~~ (1919 Adjournment Motion). use councils to oppose British.
- Tilak stopped supporting religious goals and Bipin Chandra Pal resigned due to indifferences with Mahatma Gandhi.
- Besant, Jinnah also resigned as opposed to extra-constitutional methods (NC, CDM).
September
- Special Calcutta Session, [↑]1920: INC launched the NCM.
- Goals: Swaraj and resolution of Punjab and Khilafat wrongs.
- INC decided to Non-cooperation for one year and if Swaraj was not achieved then the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM). (* MG style = rising tempo Ex: first NC and then CD and clear plan.)
- a) Decided that in the first phase of one year of the NC (boycott).
- Leave titles and rewards.
- Boycott councils, courts, and educational institutions.
- Boycott the British goods.
- @Swadeshi- National Education
- b) Use Panchayats, ~~Swadeshi~~, and Khadi.
- @Constructive Work (CW)-
- c) Picketing of liquor shops and anti-untouchability campaigns and Hindu-Muslim unity (Shift from the 1886 rule of not picking the social issues). (*See how Gandhi changed INC)
- Nagpur Session was organized.

"Session": used for regular annual meeting.

"Convention": when its imp. leaders met outside the formal structure of regular sessions.

"Special Session": for extraordinary meetings called to address critical or urgent matters that could not wait for the regular annual session.

(Hallmark: -> MG taken over INC.

-> INC got converted to organization of masses.

-> Use of Hindi as far as possible.

-> Masses could join INC at just 4 ana fee.

-> INC had its str. at grass root level i.e. offices at province, districts etc.)

NAGPUR SESSION: (10:50 AM): (December 1920)

NC movement was brought in Special Calcutta Session in 1920.

- a) INC was taken over by Mahatma Gandhi.
- b) INC ^{goal} is now equal to Swaraj by peaceful means instead of constitutional means (link failure of extremists in Surat 1907).
^{Split}
- Therefore, the INC method equal to non-violent extra-constitutional mass struggle which is like Satyagraha.
- c) Congress Working Committee (CWC) of 15 members was established so the movement continued even if the top leaders were arrested.
- d) Provincial Congress Committees (PCCs) established on the linguistic lines (* link the Tilak's demand @HRL i.e. linguistic reorganization of the provinces).
- e) 4 ana fees for the INC membership (1 ana = 1/16 rupees) to facilitate the masses to take membership of the INC.
- f) INC to use and promote Hindi as far as possible.
- Therefore, MG ^{built INC organization and made INC} made the INC ~~made~~ mass organization from an elite organization.
- g) The second phase of the CDM has a No Tax Campaign (Civil disobedience), and **resignation from Govt. services** (equal to NC but much stronger than any CD).
- Events: Tilak died in August 1920 so in his memory MG opened Tilak Swaraj fund.
- a) **Tilak Swaraj Fund** by Mahatma Gandhi (org. requires money), it was oversubscribed (1 crore rupees collected).
^{Herbert Henry Reading was Viceroy from 1921-26)}
- b) Gandhi-**Reading** talks because as one year to be over therefore the British feared CDM (MG style of struggle-truce-struggle).
- The talks failed ^{bz 2126} **Reading** wants MG to criticize the pro-violence speech of the Ali Brothers (with this move MG defeated the Divide and Rule).
- c) The visit of the Prince of Wales in 1921 led to nationwide strikes by Worker classes, but violence against Parsees, Christians, and landlords who supported the visit. (bz he was representative of King of Britain then it was obvious that people showed their anger)
- Therefore, MG decided on no All India CDM and the CDM only in Bardoli ^{via} ~~vis~~ no-tax campaign (feared the repeat of 1919 violence).

CHAURI-CHAURA (1922): (11:19 AM): (UP)

- a) 22 policemen were burned alive after the police shot 3 Satyagrahis.
- b) MG withdrew NCM (movement by the masses; NC by INC was to continue).
- c) MG suspended the CDM and NCM was withdrawn.
Suspended: means temporarily pause.
Withdraw: means permanently pause.
- After the Chaura-Chauri incident, 19 protesters were hanged to death.
satyagrahis killed 22 police officers so Br hanged 19 protestors +3 satyagrahis were already shot dead by police i.e. 22 ke badle 22.
- Bardoli Resolution:
non-violence is must via
- Training in constructive work must be before the next movement.
- Results (negative):
 - 1) Participation:
 - a) Low participation by ^{WEMC} worker class @boycott of institutions (as personal loss of money and initially MG= Rural leader).
 - b) Low capitalist participation (e.g. importer). (*bz MG was not a leader of rich class initially)
 - c) Expensive khadi.
 - d) Not enough National Educational institutes (like the ⁰⁵¹¹ Swadeshi Movement).
 - 2) Anti-untouchability priority ^{only} by MG, INC was dominated by the upper class (like the negative of moderates)
 - 3) Movement turned violent.
 - 4) Communal violence due to high religiosity and the role of Ulemas in mobilizing the Muslims (e.g. ⁰⁵¹¹ Mopla Revolt in Malabr in 1921 and communal violence across India- 1922-24). (Moplas were muslim peasants, a significant uprising by the Moplahs, against both the British colonial government and the Hindu landlords. The revolt is a complex event influenced by multiple factors, including economic, social, religious, and political grievances.
 - Therefore, Hindu-Muslim unity was temporary (Tilak was correct).
 - 5) Revolutionaries had joined the NCM but were highly disappointed by its withdrawal (recall post-1857 class: Fiture by Alluri Sitaramaraju).
 - 6) The Khilafat Movement ended when the Turks ended the ^{Khalifa rule} Caliphate with the Secular Republic in 1924 under Ataturk.
- Results (Positives):
 - 1) The Rowlatt Act was repealed. in March 1922.
(Muslim majority area)
 - 2) INC in the ⁰⁵¹¹ North West Frontier Provinces (NFWP) became a popular party. Chief commissioner province/UT from Punjab in 1901 full province in 1932.)
@Participation-
bz INC supported khilafat movement
a MMP, created as
 - 3) Strong participation in the worker's class e.g. J.M Sengupta led strikes in Assam and during the Prince of Wales visit in ^{November} 1921 (Worker class: initiation @ ⁰⁵¹¹ Swadeshi, Education @ ¹⁶¹⁸ HRLs). ,action @Rowlatt 1919, NCM 1920-22
 - 4) Even revolutionaries joined and strong peasants participated and the movement organized by the peasants in the NCM.
in 1920s merged into

- (INC leaders raised ryots issues and vice-versa.)
- Tribal participation by violating Forest Laws in Andhra Pradesh (Aaluri Sitaram Raju).

Strong LC participation and

- 5) Untouchability became **first time** an issue of mainstream politics.

(* Teacher disagrees with this point as Tilak @HRL 1618. bz Tilak also said that "if god tolerates untouchability then i refuse to recognize him as god".)

- Great show of H-M Unity (except in Malabar).
- 6) Economic boycott that the British imports halved.
- 7) Council boycott only 5% voted in the 1920 elections to CLA.
- 8) **CR Das** left legal practice which was an inspiration. (He was a great lawyer)
- 9) Anti-liquor campaign was also successful and also led to the participation of the women.

- 10) New regions participated like Gujrat, Sindh, NWFP, South India, UP, etc. Rajasthan

(*Here action i.e. NC, but in HRL1618 it was education)

- 11) Strong regional leadership of Bose, Patel emerged. (*Like HRL1618)

- Peasants Movements. ,Nehru

- In Akali Movement, the Akalis supported the NCM from 1921 leading to the rise of nationalism in Punjab.

* Peasant Movements (in 1920s)-

1. AKALI MOVEMENT: (12:19 PM): (1920-25)

pro British Udasi Sikh Mahants.

- For control of the Gurudwaras from Udasi Mahants.

Trigger =

- Mahants honoured the Dyer.

- British ^{gave} control of the **Golden Temple** but not the treasury of the GT. (GT)

- 1920, **SGPC** was set up for the GT's management.

Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee

- Akali Dal ^{in 1920} was established to get control of other Gurudwaras.

- 1921, Nankana Tragedy: Mahants' private army killed hundreds of the Akalis.

Now

- Akalis came in support of the NCM.

- Keys affair: Moderate Kharak Singh led the campaign for the keys of the GT treasury.

- British accepted as wanted to apply DnR @moderate and extremist Akalis.

TOPICS OF THE NEXT CLASS: Continuation of the same topic (Akalis).