

History Notes

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§1 Nationalism in India

Question 1. How did World War 1 helped in the growth of nationalism in India?

Answer.

1. War led to increase in taxes, custom duties and other commodities. It also led to introduction of *income taxes*.
2. Villages were called upon for supplying soldiers for war and this *forced recruitment* angered the people.
3. Between the years 1918-1919 and 1920-21, there was major crop failure which led to acute shortage of food.
4. To add to the sufferings, *influenza* epidemic also occurred at the time of these famies.
5. According to the census of 1920-21, approximately 13 million people died as a result of famines and epidemic.

People expected that their sufferings would end after the war, but that didn't happen.

Question 2. What do you mean by satyagraha and why did Gandhi ji appeal to follow it?

Answer.

1. The idea of satyagraha emphasized on on the power of truth and the need to search for truth.
2. Satyagraha sought victory in battle without vengeance or being aggressive.

3. The idea was to persuade the oppressors to see the truth.

Gandhi ji appealed to follow this because:

1. He got recent success in South Africa.
2. He thought that non-violence could unite all Indians.

Question 3. Explain the three earliest satyagrahas launched by Mahatama Gandhi in India.

Answer. There were three moments launched by Mahatma Gandhi

1. He first launched a movement in Champaran(Bihar) in the year 1917 against the oppressive plantation system imposed by British.
2. Gandhi ji later went to Kheda(a district in Gujrat) to support peasants in the same year 1917. The peasants were drastically affected by crop failure and a plague pandemic. Due to this, they were unable to pay the revenue and demanded the collection to be relaxed.
3. In 1918, he went to Ahemdabad to organise a *Satyagraha Movement* with the cotton mill workers of that area.