

# GROWTH OF NATIONALISM

## Answer the following Questions

- 1) Write any three repressive colonial policies introduced by Lord Lytton.
- 2) What are the factors responsible for growth in nationalism?
- 3) What is the Ilbert bill controversy?
- 4) Write the contributions of Raja Ram Mohan Roy.
- 5) Write any three contributions of Jyotiba Phule.
- 6) What role did the press play in the national moment?
- 7) Write any three objectives of the Indian Association founded by Surendranath Banerjee.
- 8) Where, when and under whose presidentship were the first two sessions of the Congress held?
- 9) With reference to nationalism and the birth of Indian National Congress, explain each of the following:
  - a) Vernacular Press Act, 1878.
  - b) State any three objectives of the Indian National Congress.
  - c) Role of Dadabhai Naoroji.

## **ANSWERS:**

1) Lord Lytton's repressive policies have acted as a catalyst in the growth of nationalist movement in India. His repressive policies are as follows:

- He organized a Grand Delhi Darbar to proclaim Queen Victoria as the Empress of India. Lakhs of rupees were spent on the event, but nothing was done for the Indians who were in famine.
- He introduced the Vernacular press act in the year 1878, which forbade the vernacular papers to publish any material that might excite the feelings of dissatisfaction against the British government.
- He introduced the Indian arms act, which made it a criminal offense for Indians to carry arms without license.
- He reduced the maximum age limit for the Indian service examination from 21 to 19 years.
- Import duties on British textiles were removed.

2) The factors that are responsible for the growth of nationalism are:

- Peasants were affected, as the government took away a large part of their produce in the form of land revenue and other taxes.

- The English East India Company used its political power to destroy Indian handicrafts and industry.
- According to new laws, a money lender could charge high rate of interest.
- British did not encourage Indians to establish industries, instead, assisted the British industries to do so.

3) The Ilbert bill was prepared by a law member of the Viceroy's Council named Sir C.P. Ilbert. This bill provided for the trial of British or European persons by Indians. By this act, the British tried to introduce equality between British and Indian judges in India.

4) The contributions of Raja Ram Mohan Roy are as follows:

- Raja Ram Mohan Roy founded the Bramho Samaj.
- He believed in monotheism, opposed Sati, caste system and polygamy.
- He advocated widow remarriage and women education, preached religious equality.
- He started The Atmiya Sabha, which opposed idol worship, rituals, ceremonies and sacrifices.
- With the help of Governor General Lord William Bentick, he declared Sati an illegal and punishable crime in 1829.

5) The contributions of Jyotiba Phule are as follows:

- He founded the Satya Sodhak Samaj in 1873. For securing social justice for the weaker sections of the society.
- He established a school of untouchables and started a private orphanage for widows.
- He pioneered the widow remarriage movement in Maharashtra and worked for education of women.
- He wanted to liberate the depressed classes and make them aware of their rights by educating them.
- In his famous book, “Ghulamgiri”, he described the hardships and distress felt by the lower castes.

6) Some prominent newspapers like the Amrit Bazaar Patrika, the Bengali, the Times of India, The Pioneer, played a significant role in developing a strong national sentiment among the Indians. It did so in the following manner:

- It was through the press that the message of patriotism and modern liberal ideas of liberty, freedom, equality, home rule spread among the people.
- The press carried on daily criticism of the unjust policies of the British government in India and expose the true nature of the British rule in India.
- It made possible the exchange of views among different social groups from different parts of

the country, and to organize political movements.

- It made Indians aware of what was happening in the world for their social development and to shape their own policies and programs.

[Refer to tips.]

7) The objectives of Indian Association included:

- Creation of a strong body of public opinion
- Making people united on the basis of common political interests.
- Promotion of friendly relations between Hindus and Muslims.
- Mass participation in public movements.

8) The first session of the Indian National Congress was held in 1885 in Bombay (now Mumbai) under the presidency of W.C. Bonnerjee.

The second session took place in 1886 in Calcutta (now Kolkata) and was presided over by Dadabhai Naoroji.

9)

- a) The Vernacular press act in the year 1878, which was introduced by Lord Lytton, forbade the vernacular papers to publish any material that might excite the feelings of dissatisfaction against the British government.
- b) The objectives of Indian national Congress are as follows:

- To promote friendly relations between nationalist political workers from different parts of the country.
- To develop and consolidate the feelings of nationalism, irrespective of caste, religion or province.
- To organize and formulate popular demands and present them before the government.
- To train and organize public opinion in the country.

c) Contributions of Dadabhai Naoroji are as follows:

- He founded the Bombay Association
- He edited the newspaper, 'Rast Goftar' , and started a magazine 'Dharma Marg Darshak'.
- He found the London India Society
- He was the first Indian to become the member of the British House of Commons.
- He favored appointing educated Indians to higher posts.
- In 1893, He passed resolution for simultaneous ICS examination in England and in India.
- In 1866, He founded the East India Association in London.