

NCERT Solutions for Class 10

Social Science

Chapter 3 – Nationalism In India

1. Explain:

(a) Why growth of nationalism in the colonies is linked to an anti-colonial movement.

Ans: Colonisation affected people's freedom, and nationalist sentiments surged during the process of struggle against imperial domination. The sense of oppression and exploitation became a common bond for people from different walks of life, and this resulted in the growth of nationalist ideals. Thus, growth of nationalism in the colonies is linked to anticolonial movements.

(b) How the First World War helped in the growth of the National Movement in India.

During the First World War, the British army conducted forced recruitment from rural areas in India. To finance the defence expenditure, high custom duties and income taxes were imposed. Also, during 1918-19 and 1920-21, crops failed in many parts of India, thereby resulting in acute food shortages. All this caused extensive anger and opposition against the British colonial rule, and the national movement of India headed towards a stronger, more definitive direction.

(c) Why Indians were outraged by the Rowlatt Act.

The Rowlatt Act was passed hurriedly through the Imperial Legislative Council despite opposition from Indian members. It gave the government autocratic powers to repress political activities besides allowing it to detain political prisoners without a trial, for two years. The Indian were outraged by this act as it was clearly undemocratic and oppressive, and hurt national sentiments and dignity.

(d) Why Gandhiji decided to withdraw the Non-Cooperation Movement.

Gandhiji decided to withdraw the Non-Cooperation Movement due to various incidents of violence perpetrated by the masses, especially the Chauri Chaura incident in 1922 where the people clashed with the police, setting a police-station on fire. Gandhiji felt that the people were not yet ready for a mass struggle, and that satyagrahis needed to be properly trained for non-violent demonstrations.

2. What is meant by the idea Satyagraha?

Ans: Satyagraha's literal definition is "truth" and "insistence" or "holding firmly to," which means "holding strongly to truth." Satyagraha is a type of civil resistance that is peaceful in nature. Satyagraha was a new way of agitating the masses. The concept of Satyagraha emphasises the importance of truth and the necessity to seek it out. It implied that if the cause was just and the struggle was for justice, then fighting the oppressor did not require physical force. It meant that resisting the oppressor did not involve physical force if the cause was just and the struggle was for justice.

3. Write a newspaper report on:

(a) The Jallianwala Bagh massacre

Ans: On April 13, 1919, a large throng assembled in Jallianwala Bagh's walled grounds, some to protest the British government's harsh tactics, and others to attend the annual Baisakhi Fair. These citizens were not aware that Marshal Law had been imposed in the city. The Commander, General Dyer, barricaded the Bagh's exit points and opened fire on the civilians. Dyer's goal was to create a "moral effect" through terrorising satyagrahis. Hundreds of innocent civilians, including women and children, were killed or injured as a result of the British soldiers' indiscriminate firing, which sparked national indignation. The incident at Jallianwala Bagh was the most violent in Indian history.

(b) The Simon Commission

The British government established a commission to investigate the 1919 Government of India Act. The commission's goal was to investigate the operation of

the act and provide recommendations for additional reforms to the administrative system. As a result, the commission was named after its chairman, Sir John Simon. However, Indian nationalists opposed the Commission since it did not include a single Indian member. As a result, When the Simon Commission landed in India in 1928, the slogan "Go Back" welcomed them. All parties, including the Congress and the Muslim League, took part in the debate.

4. Compare the images of Bharat Mata in this chapter with the image of Germania in Chapter 1.

Ans: The picture of Germania was the German nation's symbol, whereas the image of Bharat Mata was the Indian nation's symbol.

- Both images motivated nationalists to fight tirelessly to unite their countries and achieve a liberal society.
- The picture of Bharat Mata differs from that of Germania in that the former represents the religious foundation on which it was created.
- Abanindranath Tagore's painting of Bharat Mata is endowed with learning, food, clothing, and certain ascetic qualities. Another artwork of Bharat Mata has her clutching Trishul and standing with a lion and an elephant, both of which are symbols of power and authority. This image appears to be more close to Germania's image, which shows her wielding a sword and shield.

Discuss

1. List all the different social groups which joined the Non-Cooperation Movement of 1921. Then choose any three and write about their hopes and struggles to show why they joined the movement.

Ans: The urban middle class, which included lawyers, teachers, and headmasters, as well as students, peasants, tribals, and labourers, all joined the Non-Cooperation Movement of 1921.

- i. The middle class joined the movement because they believed that boycotting foreign items would boost sales of local textiles and handlooms.
- ii. Peasants joined the movement in order to be free of harsh landlords and the colonial government's high taxes.
- iii. Plantation workers joined the agitation in the hopes of gaining the freedom to roam freely within and outside of the plantations, as well as land in their own villages.

2. Discuss the Salt March to make clear why it was an effective symbol of resistance against colonialism.

Ans: The Salt March was a powerful symbol of anti-colonial resistance because it was organised in opposition to a commodity—salt—that was used by both the rich and the poor. The salt tax, as well as the government's monopoly on its production, was a repressive administrative measure. The Salt March was also successful because Gandhiji met a huge number of commoners and taught them the true meaning of swaraj and nonviolence while on the march. By calmly disobeying a law and producing salt despite government orders, Gandhiji set an example for the entire nation of how to oppose oppressors without resorting to violence. The Civil Disobedience Movement arose as a result of this in 1930.

3. Why did political leaders differ sharply over the question of separate electorates?

Ans: Because of differences in opinion, political leaders clashed vehemently on the issue of different electorates. While some supporters of minorities and dalits believed that only political empowerment could help them overcome their social disadvantages, others, including Gandhiji, feared that separate electorates would stifle their absorption into society. Furthermore, it was anticipated that the system of

distinct electorates would gradually fracture the country, as each community or class would want separate representation.

