



Question 8. Why did Gandhiji choose to break the salt law?

Answer: Gandhiji was very much worried about the salt law. According to this law, the state had a monopoly on the manufacture and sale of salt. Gandhiji thought that it was sinful to tax salt because it is an essential item of our food and is required equally by the rich and the poor. Hence he decided to break this law in anticipation that people from all walks of life would extend their support. Needless to say that Gandhiji's Salt March became very successful.

Question 9. Discuss those developments of the 1937-47 period that led to the creation of Pakistan.

Answer: From the late-1930s, the Muslim League began viewing the Muslims as a separate nation from the Hindus. This nation might have developed because of the history of tension between some Hindu and Muslim groups in the 1920s and 1930s. The provincial elections of 1937 also might have convinced the League the Muslims were a minority and they would always have to play second fiddle, in any democratic structure. Meanwhile, the Congress rejected the League's desire to form a joint Congress-League government in the United Provinces in 1937. This annoyed the League.

In 1940, the League finally moved a resolution demanding 'Independent States' for Muslims in the north-western and eastern areas of the country. The resolution did not mention partition or Pakistan.

In 1945, the British opened negotiations between the Congress, the League and themselves for the independence of India. The talks could not succeed because the League saw itself as the sole spokesperson of India's Muslims. The Congress proved this claim baseless because several Muslims still supported it.

In the provincial elections in 1946 the League got grand success in the seats reserved for Muslims. Hence it persisted its demand for Pakistan.

In March 1946, the Cabinet Mission came to Delhi to examine this demand and to suggest a suitable political framework for a free India. This Mission suggested that India should remain united and constitute itself as a loose confederation with some autonomy for Muslim-majority areas. Neither the Congress nor the Muslim League agreed to it. The failure of the Cabinet Mission made partition inevitable. Ultimately in 1947 partition took place with the birth of a new country, i.e. Pakistan.

Question 10. Find out how the national movement was organised in your city, district, area or state. Who participated in it and who led it? What did the movement in your area achieve?

Answer: Visit your school library and attempt this answer.

Question 11. Find out more about the life and work of any two participants or leaders of the national movement and write a short essay about them. You may choose a person not mentioned in this chapter.

Answer: (a) Dr. Rajendra Prasad

Dr. Rajendra Prasad started his political career as a social worker. He came under the influence of Mahatma Gandhi since the Champaran Satyagrahs of 1918. He came in the light when he took sincere part in Champaran Satyagraha. The Jallianwala Bagh

atrocities deeply perturbed him. He was sent to jail many times. He struggled hard for the independence of the country. He was the most uncontroversial figure in the Indian politics. Under his presidentship the country made all round progress.

(b) Jaiprakash Narayan

Jaiprakash Narayan fully dedicated his life for the welfare of the country. In 1934, he plunged into the struggle for freedom. In the same year he became the Secretary of the Socialist Party. Jawaharlal Nehru offered him the membership of the Congress Working Committee in 1946 but he rejected the offer. On Nehru's second request, he joined the Congress Committee with Ram Manohar Lohia but both of them left it soon. Shri Jaiprakash Narayan became the General Secretary of the Socialist Party which got itself separated from the Congress. He took great interest in the political development of the country. He is known for his selfless service for the nation.

MORE QUESTIONS SOLVED

Question 1. Choose the correct option.

(i) The book Poverty and Un-British Rule in India is authored by

(a) Mahatma Gandhi

(b) Dadabhai Naoroji

(c) Jawaharlal Nehru

(d) Sarojini Naidu

(ii) The Marathi newspaper was edited by

(a) Balgangadhar Tilak

(b) Bepin Chandra Pal

(c) Lala Lajpat Rai

(d) Dadabhai Naoroji

(iii) The slogan 'Freedom is my birthright and I shall have it' was raised by

(a) Bepin Chandra Pal

(b) Sarojini Naidu

(c) Lala Lajpat Rai

(d) Balgangadhar Tilak

(iv) The Indian who renounced his knighthood after the Jallianwala Bagh massacre

(a) Subhas Chandra Bose

(b) Rabindranath Tagore

(c) Abanindranath Tagore

(d) Bhagat Singh

(v) The first Indian woman to become President of the Indian National Congress was

(a) Sarojini Naidu

(b) Kamla Nehru

(c) Begum Rokeya Shakhawat Hossain

(d) Kasturba Gandhi

(vi) Free India's first Indian Governor-General was

(a) Lala Lajpat Rai

(b) Motilal Nehru

(c) C. Rajagopalachari

(d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Answer: (i) (b), (ii) (a), (iii) (d), (iv) (b), (v) (a), (vi) (c).

Question 2. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words to complete each sentence.

(i) The Indian National Congress was established when delegates from all over the country met at in December 1885.

(ii) The Moderate leaders did not believe in actions.

(iii) The All India Muslim League was formed by a group of Muslim and

(iv) The Rowlatt Act curbed rights such as the freedom of expression and strengthened powers.

(v) Mahatma Gandhi abruptly called off the Movement

when it took violent turn.

(vi) The Congress resolved to fight for Purna Swaraj in 1929 under the presidentship of

(vii) The Quit India Movement started in August

Answer:

(i) 72, Bombay

(ii) extreme

(iii) landlords, nawabs

(iv) fundamental, police

(v) Non-Cooperation

(vi) Jawaharlal Nehru

(vii) 1942.

Question 3. State whether each of the following statements is True or False.

(i) Subhas Chandra Bose was a moderate nationalist.

(ii) The Simon Commission had two Indian representatives.

(iii) The Jallianwala Bagh massacre occurred in Amritsar on Baisakhi day.

(iv) The Swadeshi Movement started after the partition of Bengal.

(v) Maulana Azad became the major spokes-person for the demand for Pakistan.

(vi) Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, also known as Badshah Khan, founded the Khudai Khidmatgars.

Answer:

(i) False

(ii) False

(iii) True

(iv) True

(v) False

(vi) True

Question 4. Match the items given in Column A correctly with those given in Column B.

Column A	Column B
(i) <i>The Simon Commission</i>	(a) 1906
(ii) <i>The Rowlatt Act</i>	(b) 1927
(iii) <i>The Khilafat Agitation</i>	(c) 1919
(iv) <i>The Civil Disobedience Movement</i>	(d) 1920
(v) <i>The All India Muslim League</i>	(e) 1930

Answer: (i) (b), (ii) (c), (iii) (d), (iv) (e), (v) (a).

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