

Revolt of 1857

- Started on **10th May, 1857**
- Merchants, Intelligentsia and Indian rulers actively helped the British
- Important leaders
 - Delhi
 - Bahadur Shah Zafar
 - Jhansi
 - Rani Lakshmi Bai
 - Gwalior
 - Tantya Tope
 - Kanpur
 - Nana Saheb
- Reasons for the revolt
 - Annexation of Awadh by Dalhousie
 - Discrimination against Indian sepoys in the army
 - Fear of conversion to christianity
 - Introduction of new Enfield rifle
- Causes of failures
 - Unsympathetic and hostile attitude of many native rulers
 - Non-participation of educated Indians
 - Lack of organization, discipline and a political perspective
 - Superior British military strength
- Consequences
 - Company rule abolished
 - British crown took over through the **Queen's Proclamation**
 - Indian army reorganized
 - **Indian Civil Services Act 1861** was passed, provided for an annual competitive examination to be held in London
 - **Indigo revolt** started at Govindpur village
- Societies created afterwards
 - Society for the promotion of national feeling among the educated natives of Bengal
 - Rajnarain Bose
 - 1866
 - Hindu Mela
 - Nabagopal Mitra
 - 1867
 - British India Association
 - Radhakant Deb
 - 1851
 - London Indian Society
 - WC Bannerjee, Pherozshah Mehta, Badruddin Tyabji and Manmohan Ghose
 - 1865
 - Indian Society
 - Anandmohan Bose

Important Movements and Acts

Government of India Act 1858

- Indian administration taken over by the **British Crown**
- Viceroy to be Crown's representative
- **Lord Canning - first viceroy**
- Abolition of board of control and court of directors
- Appointment of Secretary of state for India

Indian Councils Act 1892

- Enlarged Supreme and Provincial Councils
- Empowered the members to discuss the budget and ask questions on matters of public interests
- Did not allow Right of electing representatives
- Followed by
 - **Tariff Duties Act 1894**
 - **Custom Duties Act 1896**

Swadeshi Movement 1905

- temporary success and failed to bring about economic regeneration of the country
- objectives of national education hardly made any progress
- failed to achieve hindu-muslim unity

Morley Minto Reforms 1909

- Indian Councils Act 1909
- introduced element of direct elections to the legislative councils
- introduced communal electorate
- partition of bengal in Dec. 1911

Home Rule Movement

- Annie Besant and Tilak started Home Rule League separately
- Demanded self government for Indians
- Legislative councils to be elected by people
- Executive councils to be responsible for legislative
- Included women and students

Montague-Chelmsford Reforms 1919

- Government of India Act
- During premiership of Lloyd George
- Provided for distribution of power between Centre and the provinces
- Provided for bicameral legislature
 - Upper House for 5 years

- Lower House for 3 years
- Introduced system of dyarchy in provinces
 - Governor-in-Council holding charge of **Reserved** Subjects
 - Governor and ministers of **Transferred** subjects
- All bills passed by the provincial legislatures required assent of Governor and Governor-General
- Establishment of **Public Service Commission**
- Congress
 - Moderates accepted the reforms
 - Extremists rejected it

Rowlatt Act

- Armed the executive with unlimited power to suppress political violence
- enabled the gov. to suspend right of Habeas Corpus
- **Gandhi launched Satyagraha against it on April 6, 1919**

Simon Commission

- Formed to review working of 1919 Constitution
- Non-inclusion of any indian in the commission
- Report published on **June 7, 1930** recommended
 - federal constitution for India
 - enlargement of provincial legislative councils
 - responsible government in place of dyarchy, no mention of Dominion Status

Round Table Conferences

- First RTC
 - **Nov. 12, 1930 to Jan. 19, 1931**
 - Not attended by congress
- Second RTC
 - **Sept. 7, 1931 to Dec. 11, 1931**
 - conference got deadlocked on the question of minorities
 - Lord Willingdon succeed Lord Irwin as viceroy in the meantime
- Third RTC
 - **Nov. to Dec, 1932**
 - Gov. issued white paper on basis of 3 RTCs
 - The paper was passed as **Gol Act, 1935**

Government of India Act 1935

- Introduced the concept of **All-India Federation** comprising of the British Provinces and the princely states
- Division of power into 3 lists
 - Federal
 - Provincial
 - Concurrent
- Provided for Dyarchy at the Centre

- Federal Assembly - for 5 years
- Council of States - 1/3rd members retiring every 3 years
- Provincial autonomy
 - introduction of responsible government in the provinces and abolition of dyarchy in them
- Seperate electorates for muslims, sikhs, christians, anglo-indians and europeans
- Fell far short of dominion status
- **Seperated Burma from India**

August Offer

- **August 8, 1940**
- Explicitly offered Dominion Status for the first time
- Enlargement of Viceroy's council
- Recognised the right of the indians to frame the constitution (after WWII)
- Conceded congress' demand for a constituent assembly
- Result
 - congress rejected the august offer and started civil disobedience

Cripps Mission

- **March 1942**
- Sent by Churchill
- Intended to set up **Indian Union** soon after the war
- The union would have dominion status with the power to secede from the commonwealth
- A constituent assembly to be convened after the end of the war to frame a new constitution
- **Pakistan was conceded in principle**
- Contained provision which could divide India into hundreds of independent states
- Gandhi rejected the proposals as a **post-dated cheque**
- Failure of cripps mission led to Wardha Resolution of Congress

Indian National Congress

Earlier Nationalism

- Founded by **A.O. Hume in 1884**
- First meeting at **Bombay on 28/12/1885**
- Initial objectives and methods were moderation and constitutionalism
- Movement was limited to middle class intelligentsia

Lucknow Pact 1916

- B/W Congress and Muslim League
- Accepted the provision for seperate electorates for muslims
- demanded self-government at an early date
- also demanded dominion status for India
- Reunion of **Moderates** and **Extremists**

Non-cooperation Movement 1920

- Launched by Gandhi on Aug 1
- Boycott of forthcoming election under **Government of India Act, 1919**
- Triple boycott of legislature, courts and educational institutions
- Boycott of foreign goods and promotion of swadeshi instead
- Hindu muslim unity and eradication of untouchability
- Surrender of gov. titles and honours
- Focused on khilafat issue
- Suspended on **Feb 12, 1922** after **Chauri Chaura Incident**
- Success/failures
 - Congress became a mass movement
 - fear of british administration disappeared
 - jallianwala massacre wrongs and khilafat issue not redressed
 - hindu muslim unity broken

Nehru Report

- first attempt to draw constitution of india
- Recommended
 - dominion status, and not complete independence
 - rejection of separate electorates
 - linguistic provinces
 - 19 fundamental rights including universal adult suffrage
 - complete dissociation of state from religion
 - indian parliament at center to consist of
 - **500-members directly elected by House of Representatives for 5 years**
 - **200-members indirectly elected Senate for 7 years**
 - central government headed by governor-general
- contained ultimatum to the government that the proposals should be accepted and implemented by 31st Dec. 1929

Civil Disobedience Movement

- Gandhi led volunteers to march to Dandi to break salt law
- Success/Failure
 - freedom struggle further penetrated the masses
 - enhanced the prestige of congress and gandhi in particular
 - **Purna Swaraj** was not achieved
 - Govt Act of 1935 did not transfer real power to the Indians