

Nationalism in India

After reading this chapter the students will be able to-

- ✓ Understand the characteristics of Indian nationalism through a case study of Civil Disobedience movement;
 - ✓ Analyze the nature of diverse social movements of the time.
 - ✓ Get familiarized with the writings and ideals of different political groups and individuals, notably by Mahatma Gandhi.
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- ❖ In the last chapter i.e Rise of nationalism in Europe we discussed about the rise of nationalism in Europe during 19th century and we also learnt that the main reason behind the rise of nationalism in Europe was on account of politics, History and culture. The revolutionaries defined nation as a fixed geographical area with people sharing a common past and culture.
 - ❖ But case of India was different as, not every region shared the common culture and past. Hence in such a scenario the thing which was common was oppression by British and struggle against colonialism.

Q. What was the impact of first world war on India?



World war 1 has totally destroyed us. Due to increase in defence expenditure we are forced to pay more custom duties and income tax, on top of it youth from villages are being forcefully recruited. In the year 1918-19 and 1920-21 we faced crop failures. This was accompanied by influenza. Price of essential items almost doubled between 1913 to 1918 because of heavy supply to the war zones . We don't want such a government who is insensitive to the suffering of its people.

From the above statements it is clear that the life of villagers was miserable and there was anger in people against the British government.

The idea of satyagraha

Q. What do you understand by the term satyagraha? Explain some of the Satyagrahas launched by Gandhiji.

Notes by Arushi

In January 1915, Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa and organised the Satyagraha movement. Satyagraha was a non violence method of mass struggle. The method suggested that if the cause was true, there is no need for physical force to fight the oppressor.

- ✓ In 1916 Gandhi ji travelled to Champaran, there he launched the first satyagraha against the oppressive plantation system(indigo cultivation). This was also the first civil disobedience movement.
- ✓ In 1917 he organized another saytagraha in Kheda district of Gujarat. As per law, the farmers were entitled to remission if the produce was less than a quarter of the normal output. But the government refused any remission from paying land revenue. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, under Gandhi's guidance, led the farmers in protest against the collection of taxes in the wake of the famine. This was the first non cooperation movement.
- ✓ In 1918 Gandhi used Satyagraha and hunger strike for the first time during an industrial dispute between the owners and workers of a cotton mill in Ahmedabad. This was the first hunger strike by Gandhiji.

Q. what was Rowlatt act? Why did Gandhiji decided to launch nation wide satyagraha against Rowlatt act 1919?

Rowlatt act 1919 was a law passed by the Imperial legislative council, The Act gave the government enormous powers to repress political activities and allowed detention of political prisoners without trial for two years.



I launched satyagraha against Rowlatt act because-

- ✓ Rowlatt act was passed despite the opposition from Indian members of Imperial legislative council.
- ✓ The basic idea behind this law was to suppress the political activities of Indians.
- ✓ Detention without trail is against the basic human rights.
- ✓ I believe civil disobedience is the best way to fight such a repressive law.

Q. what was the reaction of people against the Rawlatt act?

Gandhi ji launched CDM on 6th April 1919.

Rallies and strikes

Public property were damaged.

Meeting at Jallianwale bagh.

After Jallianwale bagh incident, the struggle turned violent and was called off by Gandhi ji.

Q. What was the impact of Jallianwala Bagh incident on the struggle against British?

- ✓ The struggle turned more intense after this incident
- ✓ Police and government building were seen as a sign of oppression.
- ✓ Leaders realized the need for united struggle against Britishers.
- ✓ Now British government lost all sympathy from Indians.

Q. why did Mahatma Gandhi feel the need to launch a broad based movement in 1920?

To unite Hindu and muslims for united struggle.

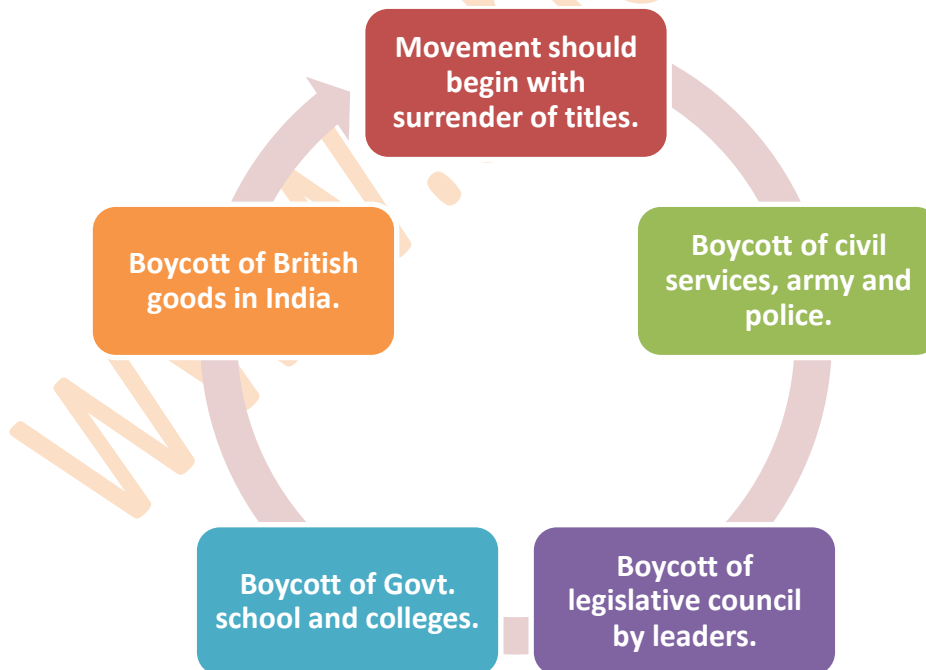
conditions after world war 1 provided the ideal environment.

After Jallianwala Bagh massacre, people were ready for bigger action against govt.

Gandhi ji believed that Indians must stop cooperating with Britishers.

Q. Gandhi ji proposed that the non cooperation should unfold in stages. Explain. OR

Mention the main proposals with reference to the non cooperation movement as suggested by Gandhi ji.

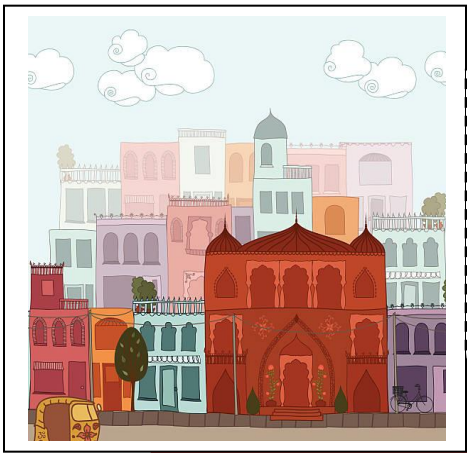


Proposal for non cooperation was adopted in the Nagpur session of congress in 1920.

NCM in villages and town



- ❖ Peasants and tribals were main participants.
- ❖ Movement was not against British it was against Talukdars and landlords.
- ❖ They wanted reduction in revenue, abolition of



- ❖ Middle class students and teachers boycotted the government schools.
- ❖ Lawyers gave up their legal practices.
- ❖ Council elections were boycotted.
- ❖ Boycott of foreign goods and cloths.
- ❖ Indian textile was promoted.

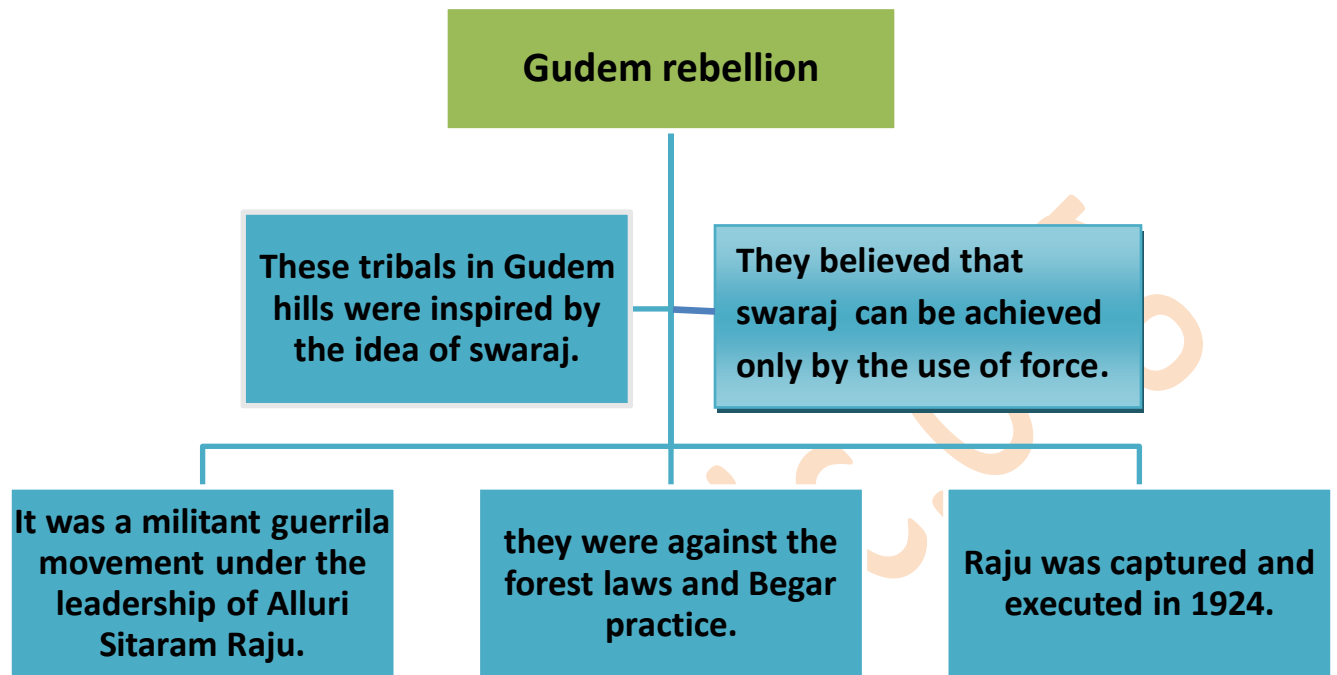
the cities

1. Foreign goods were boycotted.
2. Foreign cloths were burnt.

3. Fall in import of foreign cloths.
4. Boost for Indian industry.

1. Expensive khadi cloths.
2. No alternative to British institutions.

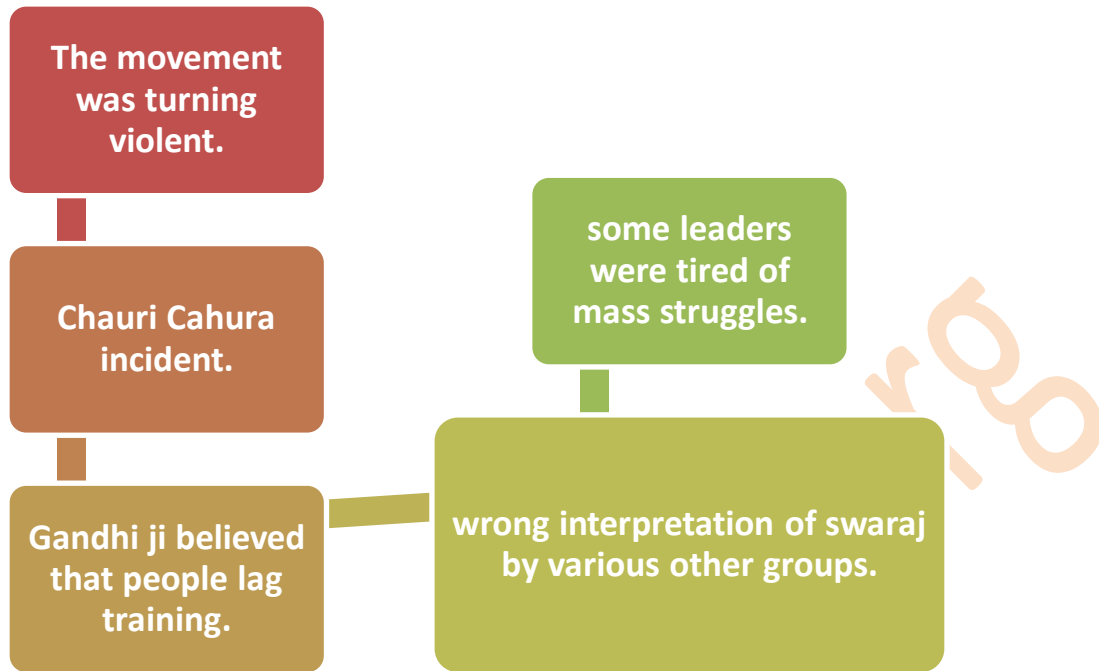
3. Different groups had different aspirations.
4. The movement laged discipline and a common aspiration.



Q. 'Plantation workers too had their own understanding of Gandhi's notion of swaraj'. Explain.

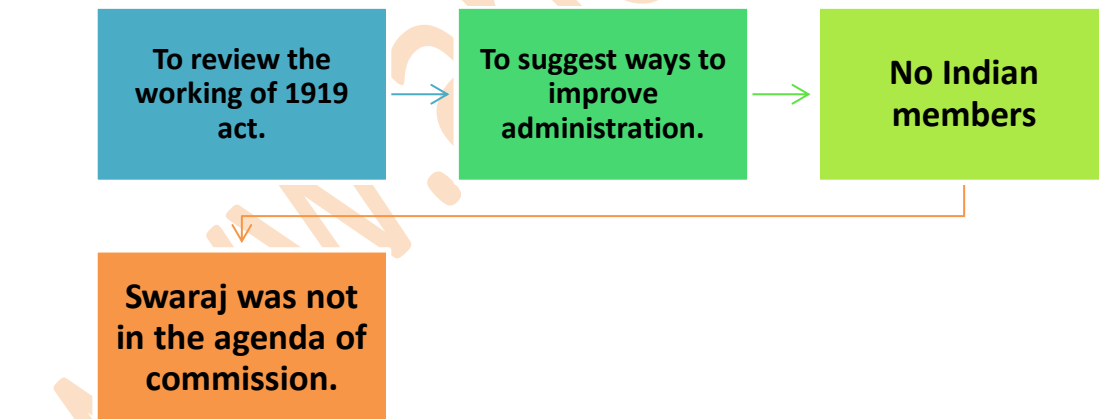
- ✓ For plantation workers freedom meant the right to move freely.
- ✓ Under Inland emigration act of 1859, plantation workers were not permitted to leave tea estate without permission.
- ✓ When they heard of NCM, thousand of them defied the authorities.
- ✓ They believed that Gandhi raj was coming and everyone will be given land in their own villages.

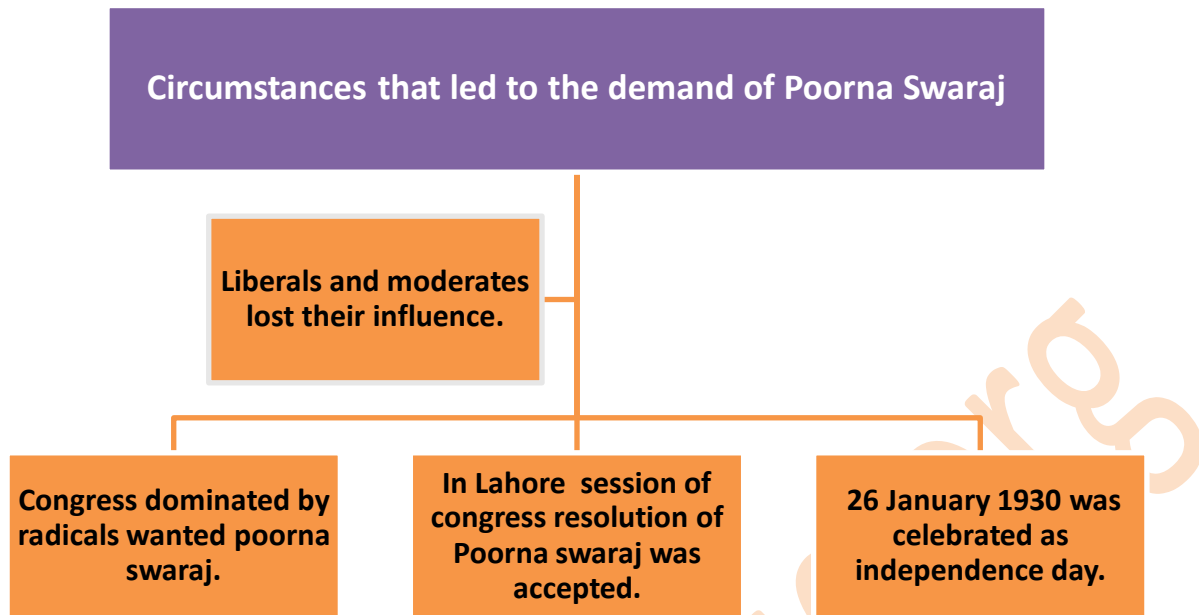
Q. Explain the circumstances under which non cooperation movement was withdrawn.



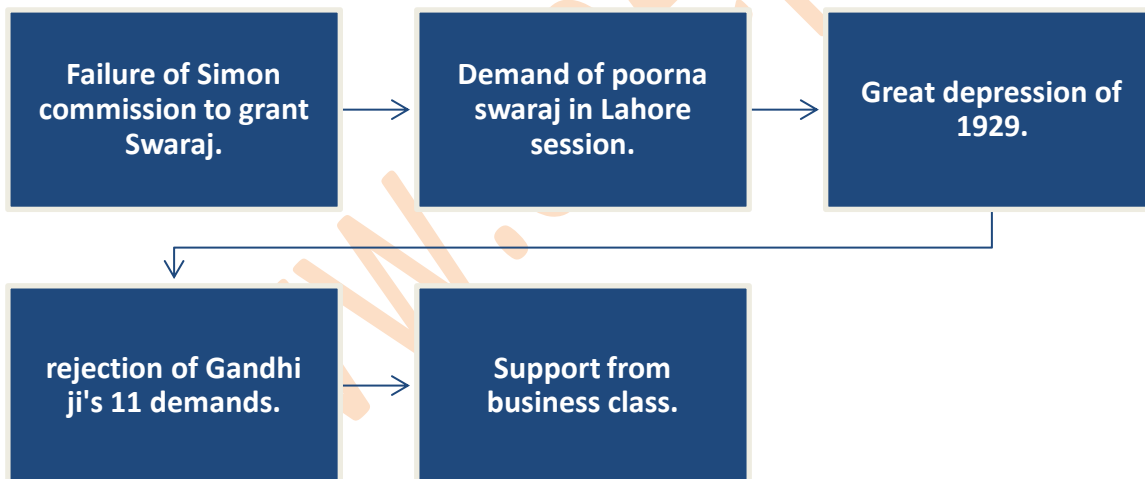
C.R Das and Motilal Nehru formed the Swaraj party and were in favour of contesting elections

Q. why was simon commission constituted? Why was the commission rejected by Indians?





Q. under what circumstances the civil disobedience was launched?



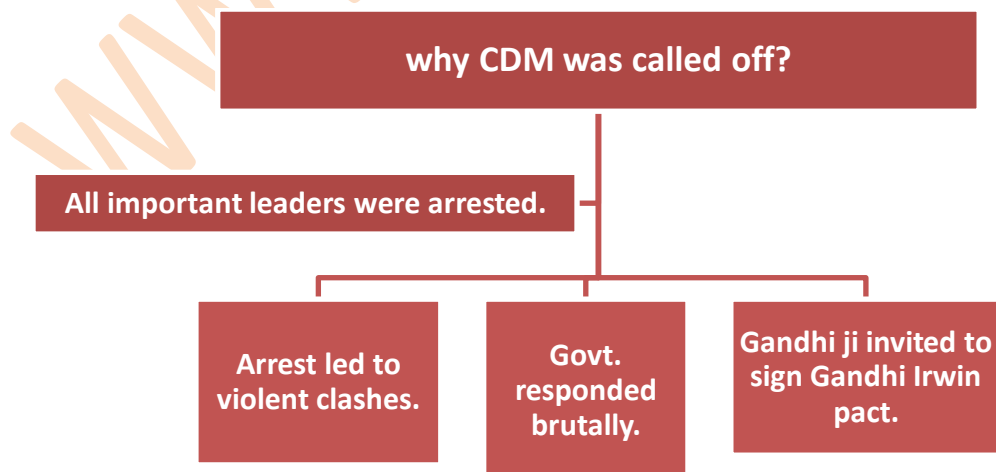
Why salt was chosen for the launch of CDM?

- ✓ Gandhi ji started his famous Dandi march from Sabarmati Ashram on 12th march 1930 and walked 240 miles. He reached Dandi on 6th April 1930 and violated the salt law.
- ✓ Salt was consumed by all irrespective of class.
- ✓ It was one of the most essential item of food.
- ✓ Collecting salt tax from poor shows the oppressive nature of British.
- ✓ Monopoly over production of salt shows that British were concerned only with profit.
- ✓ Wider people could relate to the movement.

Participation of various classes in CDM



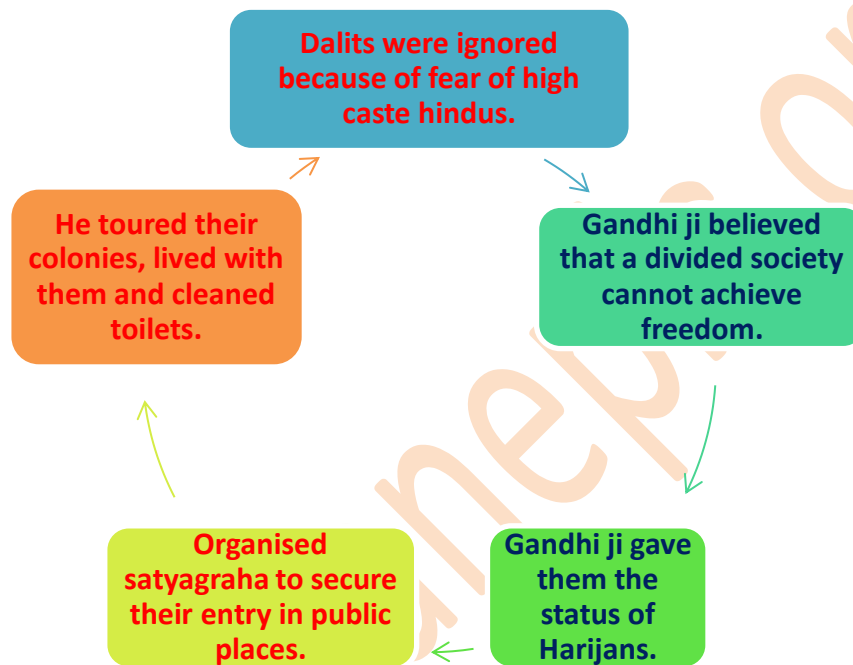
Note- Because of great depression the prices of the agriculture produce fell sharply, but revenue rates remained same. Export was impacted and foreign goods from England was imported in India.



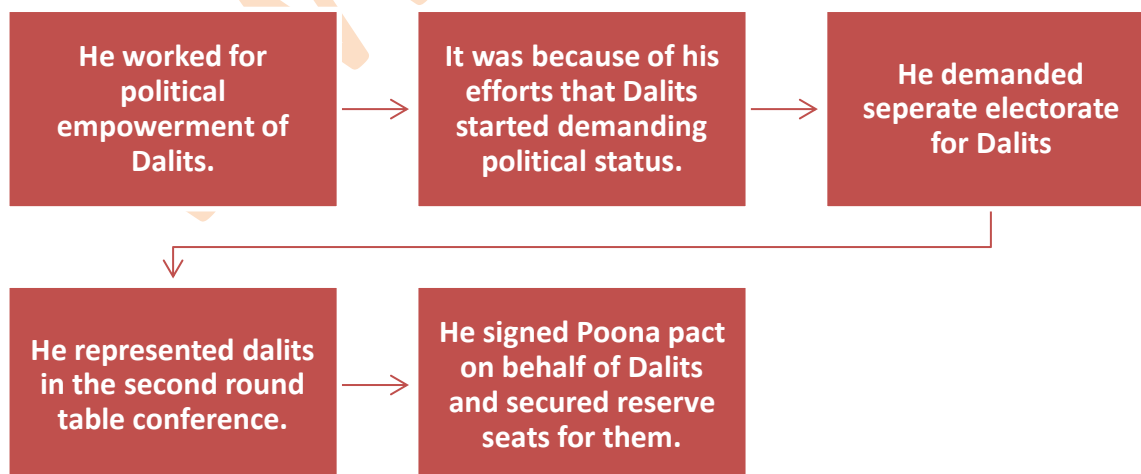
Why Mahatma Gandhi re launched CDM?

- ✓ Failure of Round Table conference.
- ✓ Arrest of Ghaffar Khan and Jawaharlal Nehru Even after Irwin pact.
- ✓ Repressive measures taken by government to prevent demonstrations.
- ✓ Congress party declared illegal.

Q. Why for long time congress ignored the Dalits? What role was played by Gandhi ji in Uplifting them?



Q. what role was played by Dr B.R. Ambedkar in uplifting the Dalits?



Q. Why was Poona pact signed?

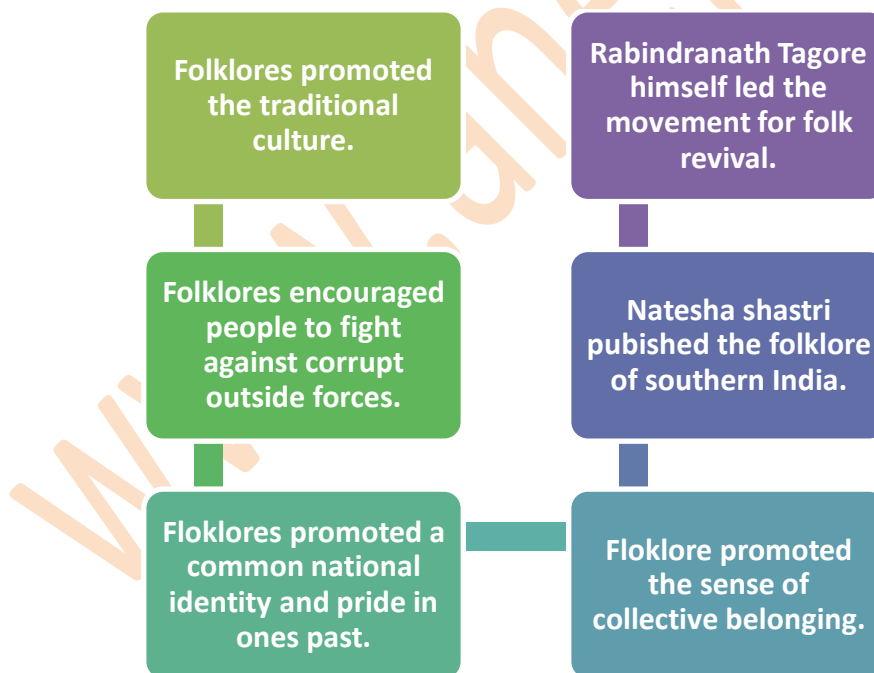
- Dr B.R. Ambedkar represented Dalits in second round table conference.
- There he demanded separate electorate for Dalits.
- Separate electorate for dalits was not acceptable to Gandhi ji.
- Gandhi Ji offered reverse seats in central and provincial council for Dalits.
- Dr B.R Ambedkar accepted Gandhi ji's proposal and signed Poona Pact in 1932.

Q. What was the status of muslim participation in the CDM?

- ❖ Large section of muslims did not participate in CDM.
- ❖ Majority of muslims felt alienated after the sudden Halt of NCM.
- ❖ After mid 1920 congress was associated more with Hindu religion nationalists.
- ❖ Hindu muslim riots in many cities.
- ❖ Hindu Mahasabha was against the separate electorate to muslims.

Note-If a question is asked what were the limitations of CDM? Then you can add points from Non participation of Dalits, Poor peasants, industrial workers and muslims.

Q. Idea of nationalism was also developed through the revival of Indian folklore. Explain.



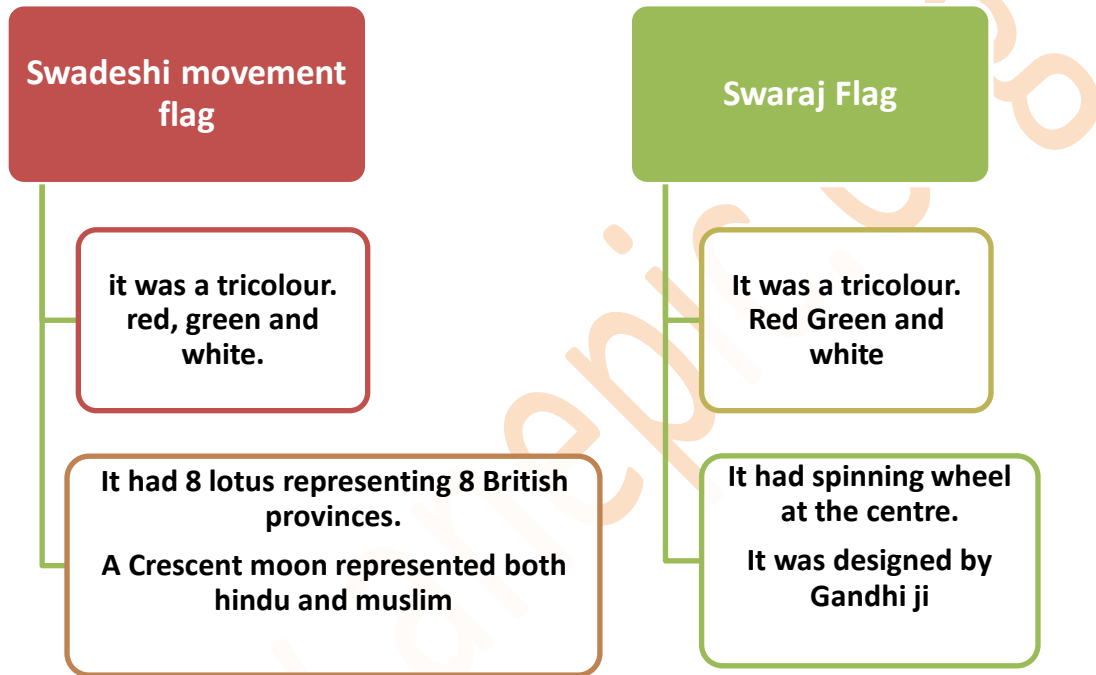
Q. Nationalism spreads when people believe that they are all part of same nation. Justify the statement. OR

How did people belonging to different communities developed a sense of nationalism during freedom struggle.

Notes by Arushi

- Nationalism is the aspiration of people for a common future
- First step towards nationalism is the united struggle for common goal and it was swaraj.
- Revival of folklore promoted the feeling of collective belonging.
- Reinterpretation of History gave sense of pride in the nation.
- United was also promoted through the image of Bharat mata.

Note- the image of Bharat mata was first created by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay.



Q. Difference between NCM and CDM.

