

Class 12 - History

**THEME ELEVEN - MAHATMA GANDHI AND THE NATIONALIST
MOVEMENT Civil Disobedience and Beyond**

CBSE NOTES

**THEME ELEVEN - MAHATMA GANDHI AND
THE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT Civil
Disobedience and Beyond - Mastery
Worksheet**

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Mastery Questions

1. Discuss the techniques of non-violent resistance that Mahatma Gandhi employed during the Civil Disobedience Movement. How did these techniques impact the Indian populace and the British authorities?

Hint: Consider the psychological effects of non-violence on both Indians and British policymakers.

Solution: Gandhi's non-violent resistance included satyagraha, boycotting British goods, and organizing mass protests. These methods mobilized diverse social classes in India, creating a sense of unity and national identity. The British were initially taken aback but eventually responded with repression, leading to increased tensions.

2. Analyze the significance of the Salt March in 1930 in the broader context of the national movement. What were its immediate and long-term effects on Indian society and British rule?

Hint: Reflect on how the Salt March became a rallying point for unity in the independence movement.

Solution: The Salt March symbolized peaceful resistance and catalyzed widespread participation across India. It brought international attention to the Indian independence struggle. Long-term, it galvanized various social groups towards the collective aim of independence and encouraged future civil disobedience campaigns.

3. Compare and contrast the goals of the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22) and the Quit India Movement (1942). How did the socio-political context differ between these two movements?

Hint: Examine the impact of global events on Indian political strategies during these movements.

Solution: The Non-Cooperation Movement aimed at relinquishing British titles and boycotting institutions while fostering unity among Hindus and Muslims. The Quit India Movement, triggered by

World War II, demanded immediate independence, reflecting a shift towards more radical demands as the political climate deteriorated.

4. Evaluate how Mahatma Gandhi's ideologies addressed social issues such as caste discrimination and women's rights. Provide examples from the nationalist movement to support your answer.

Hint: Look at specific societal impacts from his campaigns as well as contemporary reactions.

Solution: Gandhi emphasized social equality, advocating for the upliftment of untouchables and encouraging women's participation. His campaigns, such as the Harijan movement, aimed to abolish untouchability and promote gender equality by involving women in protests and leadership roles.

5. Explore the reasons behind the failure of the Round Table Conferences from a historical perspective. What were the main points of contention and how did they reflect the political landscape of the time?

Hint: Consider the influence of political factions on the negotiations.

Solution: The Round Table Conferences failed due to the lack of consensus among Indian leaders, particularly between Congress and the Muslim League, as well as the British refusal to grant full self-rule. Major issues included British reluctance to concede genuine political power and disagreements over representation for minorities.

6. Analyze the role of prominent women leaders during the nationalist movements led by Gandhi. How did their contributions shape the fight for independence?

Hint: Discuss public perception of women in activism and their enduring legacy.

Solution: Women like Sarojini Naidu, Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay, and others played key roles, mobilizing grassroots support and integrating feminist issues into the nationalist struggle. Their involvement challenged traditional gender roles and showcased women's capabilities in leadership.

7. Assess the ideological differences between Mahatma Gandhi and B.R. Ambedkar regarding the rights of the oppressed classes. How did these differences influence their respective approaches to social reform?

Hint: Consider how these tensions reflected broader societal challenges.

Solution: Gandhi advocated for the integration of untouchables into the broader social fabric through love and reform, while Ambedkar championed political empowerment through separate electorates and affirmation of rights. Their conflicting views shaped ongoing debates about caste and community identity.

8. Investigate the factors that led to the intensification of communal tensions during the late 1940s in India, particularly in the context of Gandhi's vision for a unified India.

Hint: Analyze the socio-political climate leading to communal violence.

Solution: Factors included political polarizations following the demand for Pakistan by the Muslim League, the failure of negotiations between communities, and the violent aftermath of Partition. Gandhi's vision of Hindu-Muslim unity faced significant challenges amid rising nationalistic sentiments.

9. What impact did Gandhi's idea of Swadeshi have on Indian economic policies during the nationalist movements? Illustrate with specific examples.

Hint: Evaluate economic repercussions of Swadeshi on both British trade and local enterprises.

Solution: Gandhi's Swadeshi movement encouraged self-reliance through the boycott of British goods and promotion of local products. This created a sense of economic nationalism, stimulated local industries like khadi, and laid the groundwork for post-independence economic policies.

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