

QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT AND SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

Important National Events Between 1922 - 1939

On the 4th February, 1922, the peasants of Chauri Chaura, set fire to a police station, killing 22 policemen. Gandhiji, saddened by this incident, called off the Non-Cooperation Movement as this was against his ideals of non-violence and satyagraha.

With the end of the Non-Cooperation Movement, the Congress called upon its supporters to take up constructive work in villages. A group of radical leaders like Chitta Ranjan Das and Motilal Nehru wanted to fight the elections and make their presence known to the government.

Gandhi's managed to gather huge support of the masses in the mid-1920s. Two prominent organizations, the Communist Party of India (CPI) and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) were formed during this period.

Bhagat Singh and his comrades formed the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) in 1928 to fight against the colonial rule. In 1929, the Congress, under Jawaharlal Nehru, vowed to fight for complete independence or Purna Swaraj, and observed 26th January, 1930, as Independence Day.

On the 12th March, 1930, Gandhiji led a non-violent march from the Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi to protest against the salt tax imposed by the colonial government.

On reaching Dandi, Gandhiji collected sea water and boiled it to produce salt, thereby breaking the salt law.

The government declared provincial autonomy in many provinces and declared elections in these provinces in 1937. The Congress formed governments in 7 out of the 11 provinces.

Two years after the Congress formed the government, the Second World War broke out in 1939. The Congress was ready to support the colonial government in the war in return for complete independence at the end of the war. The British government didn't give in, leading many Congress leaders to resign from the ministries in protest.

Indian Independence and Partition

In August 1942, Mahatma Gandhi launched the Quit India Movement, advocating non-violence. While Congress leaders were in jail, Muslim League leaders mobilized the Muslims. The demand for an ‘independent Muslim state’ became vociferous; owing to the Hindu-Muslim communal tensions of the 1920s. The Muslims passed a resolution for the same in 1940s.

The Muslims were annoyed with the Congress for rejecting their demand to form a joint Congress-League government in the United Provinces after the 1937 elections. The Muslims gathered a huge support during the Quit India Movement, a time when most of the Congress leaders were in Jail.

Elections were held again in the provinces in 1946. The Congress was though successful in all the general constituencies, the Muslim League performed exceptionally well on the seats reserved for Muslims.

Talks between the Muslim League and the Congress failed twice, even with the mediation of the British. The Muslim League persisted in their demand for a new independent state, Pakistan, which the Congress rejected.

To protest, the Muslim League declared the 16th August, 1946, as Direct Action Day in Calcutta, which resulted in riots.

Though India became independent on August 15, 1947, it was partitioned into

two countries, namely India and Pakistan. During the partition, thousands of homes were looted and burnt, many people were killed.

Revolutionary Movements in India

The anti British feelings among Indians grew stronger after the partition of Bengal. The youth of India participated in the movement actively and their main aim was to terrerise the British officers and throw the government out of the country. So, revolutionary organisatons sprang up all over the country.

Various revolutionary movements

Swatantryaveer Savarkar

Abhinav Bharat was launched by Swatantryaveer Savarkar. In 1900, Mitra mela was first started by him at Nasik later he named it as Abhinav Bharat 1904. He sent revolutionary pamphlets and pistols to the members of his group from England but British got the information and it was suppressed and he was sent to imprisonment for 50 years.

Barindra kumar Ghosh

In Bengal one the important revolutionary groups was Anusheelan Samiti. Barindra kumar ghosh the brother of Arbindo ghosh headed this organisation.

The group had a bomb making centre at Maniktala in Calcutta Khudiram Bose Prafulla Chaki made secret plan to kill

Judge kingsford but they missed and killed some innocent women.

Prafulla chaki killed himself and khudiram bose was caught and hanged. The police later caught all the members of this saminti including Arabindo ghosh. When they found no proof of his involvement in the bomb making they released him . The others were sentenced to long term imprisonment and the Samithi came to an end.

Rash Behari Bose

Rash Behari Bose and Sachindranath Sanyal created a large net work of revolutionary organisations in Punjab, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh. Rash Behari Bose threw a bomb on viceroy lord Hardinge in Delhi which was missed its target.

Vanchi Iyyer

Some revolutions were also took place the southern parts of India. In Madras Vanchi Iyyer killed a British officer called Ash and then killed him self.

Revolutionaries in other countries

Pandith Shyamji

Indian people at England like Pandith Shyamji established Indian house, which became an important cente for aid to India. This provided Scholarship programs to Indian youth to study abroad. One of the recipient of its scholar ships was Swatantryaveer Savarkar. Indians living in America set up an organisation called Gadar, which means revolt. They spoke about the rule of British.

Madam cama and Madanlal Dhingra are also some of the revolutionary related to the Indian house.

- Madam cama spoke about hte Indian independence and hoisted the national flag at the world socialist conference which took place in Germany.
- Madanlal Dhingra in England killed a British officer called Curzon Wylie. Dhingra was hanged for this.

Indian National Army

Forward Bloc

During the second wrorld war Subhash Chandra Bose was the president of Indian National Congress for the second time.Bose believed that free India was possible only with fight which was against

to the Indian National Congress so, he resigned and started his own party called Forward Bloc.

He gave speeches against the British and got arrested. Because of some health problems the British placed him under house arrest. He escaped from there and reached Germany in 1941. He used Berlin radio station as a medium to ask the Indians to join the arm struggle against the British.

Formation of Indian National Army
Nethaji found Germany was not much of a help he was invited by Rash Behari Bose, who was living in Japan since 1915. Rash Behari Bose was already organised a league called Indian Independent League in South East Asia.

In 1942, Japan conquered the territories of South East Asia which were under British control. Thousands of soldiers and officers of India in the British army became war prisoners of Japan.

Indian National Army

Rash Behari Bose took the help of Captain Mohan Singh to form a battalion with the Indian war Prisoners. This force was named as Indian National Army or Azad Hind Sena and led by Nethaji. Later in 1943, Nethaji established the Azad Hind government in Singapore. The army had a women wing called the Rani of Jhansi regiment its commander was captain Lakshmi Swaminathan.

Victories of Indian National Army

Japan captured Andaman Nicobar islands and handed over it to Azad Hind government. Nethaji renamed these islands as Shahid and Swarajya. In 1944, Indian National Army captured Burma and eastern boarders of Assam but army ended its campaign as upplies were stopped from Japan

Decline of Indian National Army

The British received support from the American army, which dropped atomic bomb on the Japnese cities Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This forced Japan to surrender. Mean time Nethaji died on an air crash on 18th Aug, 1945. Due to this unexpected incident the Indian National army was forced to end its struggle for

independence. The Indian National Army's officers were sentenced to life time imprisonment. Protests and demonstrations were started all over the country against this and the officers were released.