

Lecture-28



Non Cooperation Movement

The non-cooperation movement was launched on 5th September 1920 by the Indian National Congress (INC) under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. In September 1920, in Congress session in Calcutta, the party introduced the Non-Cooperation programme. It signified a new chapter in the history of the Indian freedom struggle.

Non-Cooperation Movement and Mahatma Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi was the main force behind the non-cooperation movement. In March 1920, he issued a manifesto declaring a doctrine of the non-violent non-cooperation movement. Gandhi, through this manifesto, wanted people to:

1. Adopt swadeshi principles
2. Adopt swadeshi habits including hand spinning & weaving
3. Work for the eradication of untouchability from society

Gandhi travelled across the nation in 1921 explaining the tenets of the movement.

Features of the Non-Cooperation Movement

- The movement was essentially a peaceful and non-violent protest against the British government in India.
- Indians were asked to relinquish their titles and resign from nominated seats in the local bodies as a mark of protest.
- People were asked to resign from their government jobs.
- People were asked to withdraw their children from government-controlled or aided schools and colleges.
- People were asked to boycott foreign goods and use only Indian-made goods.
- People were asked to boycott the elections to the legislative councils.
- People were asked not to serve in the British army.

- It was also planned that if the above steps did not bring results, people would refuse to pay their taxes.
- The INC also demanded Swarajya or self-government.
- Only completely non-violent means would be employed to get the demands fulfilled.
- The non-cooperation movement was a decisive step in the independence movement because, for the first time, the INC was ready to forego constitutional means to achieve self-rule.
- Gandhiji had assured that Swaraj would be achieved in a year if this movement was continued to completion.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION:

1. Who started Non-Cooperation Movement during British India?

- A. Mahatama Gandhi
- B. Dadabhai Naoroji
- C. Gopal Krishna Gokhale
- D. Bal Gangadhar Tilak

Ans: A

2. What was the tool of Non-Cooperation Movement during British India?

- A. Violent Protest
- B. Non-Violent Means
- C. Violent Means
- D. None of the above

Ans: B

3. Who was the viceroy of British India during Non-Cooperation Movement?

- A. Lord Reading
- B. Lord Chelmsford
- C. Both A & B

D. Only A

Ans: B

4. Which of the following incident was the driver of subsequent withdrawal of Non-Cooperation Movement?

A. Creation of Bengal Presidency

B. Partition of Bengal

C. Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

D. Chauri-Chaura incident

Ans: D

5. Consider the following statement (s) related to the Non-Cooperation Movement

I. Muslim participation gave the movement a mass character.

II. India for the first time saw a leader who had ability to fight face to face. According to Marjorie Sykes, Gandhiji had 'the gift of fight'.

A. Only I

B. Only II

C. Both I & II

D. Neither I nor II

Ans: C