

### **Era of Gandhi and Mass Movement :-Non-Cooperation Movement**

The great leaders who were supporting the movement were given complete cooperation by people belonging to different sections of the country:

- The businessmen supported the movement as the nationalist movement on the use of Swadeshi had proven to be beneficial for them
  - Peasants and the middle class got an opportunity to show their unacceptance of British rule by being a part of the movement
  - Women too actively participated in the movement and actively protested
  - Plantation workers who were not allowed to leave the tea gardens left the plantation fields in support of the Gandhian movement
  - A lot of people also surrendered their titles and honours given by the British government
  - People had started boycotting civil services, courts, schools and colleges run by the British government
- The Non-Cooperation Movement (NCM) was the first nationwide movement launched by Gandhi in 1920 during British rule. It emerged as a powerful and fervent response to a culmination of grievances and disillusionment that had been building up among the Indian populace. Rowlett Act and the brutal Jallianwala Bagh Massacre were the immediate causes for launching the movement. Congress, at its special session of Calcutta in September 1920, approved the Non-Cooperation movement, which was later endorsed by the Nagpur session of Congress in December 1920. The movement saw tremendous participation of masses throughout the country. However, the movement was called off by Gandhi on February 11, 1922, following the Chauri Chaura incident in the Gorakhpur district of Uttar Pradesh.
- **Non-Cooperation Movement :-**During the years 1920-21, the Indian National Movement entered a new phase of mass politics and mobilization. Two mass movements, Khilafat and Non-Cooperation, were formed to oppose British rule. The Non-Cooperation Movement was launched by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920 to mobilise the Indian masses to peacefully resist British rule through non-cooperation with British institutions, laws, and policies. Both the Khilafat Movement and Mahatma Gandhi's Non-Cooperation Movement saw a convergence at the end of the summer of 1920. Gandhi, through his earlier localized movements such as Champaran, Kheda and Ahmadabad, had already gained popularity and was able to attract the masses throughout the country. Thus transitioning to a new era of nationwide movement and mass politics.

**Launch of Non-Cooperation Movement:-**As a follow-up to the Rowlett Act, the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, and the Khilafat Movement, Mahatma Gandhi announced his intention to begin Non-Cooperation with the Government. At a special session in Calcutta in **September 1920**, Congress approved a Non-Cooperation Movement until the Punjab and Khilafat wrongs were corrected and Swaraj was established. The programme of non-cooperation was **accepted and endorsed without opposition** in the Nagpur INC Session of December 1920.

**Spread of Non-Cooperation Movement :-**The call for non-cooperation and boycott provoked massive responses from various parts of India, which were marked by massive popular protests against the British Raj. However, in most places, the movement was shaped by local conditions. **Bengal:** **Birendranath Sasmal** organized the anti-union board agitation in the Contain and Tamluk sub-divisions of Midnapore. **Assam:** **J.M. Sengupta** organized strikes in tea plantations, steamer services, and Assam-Bengal Railways. **United Province:** Under **Baba Ram Chandra's** leadership, agrarian riots erupted in Rae Bareilly, Pratapgarh, Fyzabad, and Sultanpur. **Punjab:** The **Akali movement** for Gurudwara reform and control became closely associated with non-cooperation. It demonstrated remarkable communal unity among Sikhs, Muslims, and Hindus. **Rajasthan:** The peasants protested against cases and beggar. The **Bijolia Movement** in Mewar and the **Bhil Movement under Motilal Tejawat** were significant movements against the exploitation by the British and Jagirs. **Gujarat:** **Vallabh Patel** spread the movement and regarded non-cooperation as a feasible alternative to revolutionary terrorism to fight against a colonial government.

**Withdrawal of Non-Cooperation Movement :-**The non-cooperation movement was one of the most powerful movements in the Indian freedom struggle. However, despite all efforts, it was called off by Gandhiji due to various reasons. These reasons include:

- **Chauri-Chaura Incident:** In **Chauri-Chaura, Uttar Pradesh**, a group of protestors attacked and **set fire to a police station**, resulting in the death of several police officers. Gandhi felt that the incident **violated the principle of non-violence**, and as a result, he called off the movement in **February 1922**.
- **Lack of discipline and violence:** Mahatma Gandhi realized that the Indian masses were not fully prepared for a nationwide struggle of civil disobedience and non-cooperation. There were instances of indiscipline and violence by some participants. For instance, the **Mopillah revolt** in Kerala turned violent.
- **Abolishment of Caliphate:** **Khilafat, one of the non-cooperation movement's issues, lost its relevance. Turks themselves, under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal, first abolished the Ottoman sultanate in 1922 and then did away with the office of the Khalifa in 1924.**
- **Rise of militancy:** Towards the later stages of the movements, there was a gradual shift towards more radical and militant approaches. This led to a **loss of popular support** and alienation of certain sections of society.

**Rise of Revolutionary Movement in India with special Reference to HRA , HSRA and Trait of Bhagat :-**The Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA) was a revolutionary party set up by Ram Prasad Bismil and his associates to fight against British colonial rule in India and achieve independence for the country through an armed rebellion if necessary

**Origins of the Hindustan Socialist Republican Association** The party was initially named Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) by Bismil when he formed it in 1923. The main reason for the party's formation was Mahatma Gandhi's calling off the non-cooperation movement in 1922 because of the Chauri Chaura incident. While some of the leaders of the Indian National Congress broke away from it and formed the Swaraja Party, some of the younger nationalists and workers became disillusioned with the idea of non-violence and considered revolutionary movements as a way to achieve freedom. Bismil himself had opposed Gandhi in the 1922 session of the INC at Gaya.

**Bhagat Singh :-**Bhagat Singh was born into a Sikh family in 1907 in Lyallpur District, present-day Pakistan.

- Bhagat Singh's family members were involved in the freedom struggle and he was drawn towards the Indian independence movement from a very young age.
- As a child, he defied the British government by burning textbooks recommended by it.
- Initially, he supported Mahatma Gandhi and the Non-Cooperation Movement.
- However, when Gandhiji withdrew the movement in the wake of the Chauri Chaura incident, Bhagat Singh turned to revolutionary nationalism.
- He was particularly affected by the Jallianwala Bagh massacre (1919) and the violence against unarmed Akali protestors at Nankana Sahib (1921).
- Inspired by leftist writings he read widely, Bhagat Singh was an atheist and against capitalism.

**Rise of Revolutionary Movement outside India with special Reference:-**

The revolutionary movement in India emerged in the early 20th Century as a radical aspect of India's struggle for freedom. The revolutionary movement in India can be divided into two phases, namely, the **early revolutionary movements** (before **World War I**) and the **later revolutionary movements**(after **World War I**). With the aim to overthrow the alien British rule and to establish self-government, the early revolutionary activists were inspired by the unification of Italy and the militant nationalism of Extremists in Congress. They adopted the path of violence through individual heroic actions to strike fear among the British officers. Discontent with the withdrawal of the Non-Cooperation Movement and Gandhian method, there was a rise of a new type of revolutionary movement in the 1920s. Those later revolutionary activists were inspired by the socialist and Marxist ideology.

## Early Revolutionary Movements in India

Due to the **Bengal Partition** and the **Swadeshi Movement** in the early 20th century, Bengal emerged as the primary centre of political activities. Knowing the true nature of British rule, and inspired by many events inside and outside of India, the younger generation of nationalists became frustrated with the methods of Congress and formed their own secret societies like **Anushilan Samiti** and **Jugantar**. They recruited and trained many young men to adopt violent methods of individual actions.

### Factors Responsible for the Early Revolutionary Movements in India:-

- **Anger against British Repression:**
- They understood that the **true nature of British rule** was exploitation and that India would not advance economically unless British imperialism was replaced by self-rule.
- Poor handling of the **famines** that devastated India from 1896 to 1900 fueled this anger.
- The exploitative nature of colonial rule was further manifested by Lord **Curzon's policies**.
- The repression of Indians during the **Swadeshi movement** also angered the nationalists.
- **International Influences: Global events, such as the defeat of Italy by Ethiopia in 1896 and the defeat of Russia by Japan in 1905, shattered the propaganda of European invincibility.**
- **Dissatisfaction with Moderates:** The nationalists were more influenced by the Extremists of **Congress** and were dissatisfied with the **Moderates'** methods and achievements.
- **Impatience with Extremists:** Although inspired by the extremists, the nationalists were growing impatient with the inability of the extremists to get immediate concessions from the British and achieve full-scale mass mobilisation. .

## Later Revolutionary Movements

After the World War I, the younger generations of nationalists initially joined with the mass movement of Swaraj led by Gandhi. But his methods and sudden withdrawal of the NCM frustrated these nationalists , and led them to start a new phase of revolutionary activities, ideologically based on socialist ideas with a secular outlook. Two broad strands of revolutionary activities developed in this phase: One in Punjab, U.P., Bihar and Central Provinces and the other in Bengal. Both strands came under the influence of new social and ideological forces such as socialism and Marxism.

**Factors Responsible for the Rise of later Revolutionary Movements:-** There were several factors for the resurgence of such activities in the 1920s, some of which are given below: **Influence of international events:** The early 20th century witnessed several global revolutionary movements, such as the **Russian Revolution in 1917** and the **Irish struggle** for independence. The revolutionaries were significantly influenced by new ideas focusing on Marxism, socialism, and the proletariat. **The influence of radical literature:** The period saw the proliferation of radical literature, particularly through underground publications and pamphlets.

### **Socio-Ideological factors:**

- **Growth of socialist ideas and groups all over India:** The Bolshevik revolution in the 1920s significantly influenced India's political landscape, drawing young leaders and intellectuals. For example, Communist movement in the 1920s.
- **Rise of a militant trade union movement:** The trade union movement in the later years of the 1920s was metamorphosing into militant ideology, which was also a factor for revolutionary activities in these years.
- **Discontent with the withdrawal of the Non-Cooperation Movement:** The sudden withdrawal of the **Non-Cooperation Movement** by **Mahatma Gandhi** created confusion as well as discontent amongst the younger generation of nationalists, which were urged by Gandhi earlier to join their movement.
- **Non-agreement with the congress ideologies:** The objective of revolutionary activists was to achieve total independence instead of congress' ideas of swaraj which was not clearly defined.

- They embraced the violent revolutionary path, believing in "**ends justify means**" instead of Gandhi's "**means justify ends.**"
- **Revolutionary Movements in Punjab.**

There was a rise in the new class of trade union workers after the First World War. The revolutionaries saw the revolutionary potentialities of the new class and desired to harness it into the nationalist revolution. With this objective, the revolutionaries of the U.P. and Punjab set in motion an organisation called the Hindustan Republican Association in 1924.

### **Revolutionary Movements in Bengal :-**

In the early 1930s, Bengal became the centre of violent armed struggle, despite not having any proper organization. These unrests ultimately met with brutal British repression.

### **Decline of Revolutionary Movements:-**

In the 1930s, the revolutionary nationalist movement gradually faded. This was for several reasons.

- The mainstream of the national movement, led by **Gandhi**, was opposed to **violence**.
- The government's strong action also gradually decimated the revolutionary ranks.
  - The revolutionary movement in northern India came to an end with the death of **Chandrasekhar Azad**.
- **Surya Sen**'s martyrdom marked the virtual collapse of revolutionary nationalism in **Bengal**.
- Revolutionaries in jail or on the Andaman Islands began a serious rethinking of their politics. Many of them converted to **Marxism**, as Bhagat Singh and many of his comrades had done in the 1920s.
- **Convergence in Mainstream politics:** Many people joined the **Communist Party, Congress Socialist Party, Revolutionary Socialist Party**, and other left-wing parties and organizations. Others joined the **Congress'** Gandhian wing.

### **Historical Background of Ghadar Party:-**

The Ghadar Party was an international political movement. It was founded by expatriate Indians to overthrow British rule in India. The early movement was created by revolutionaries living on the West Coast of the United States and Canada. The movement later spread to Indian diasporic communities around the world. The Ghadar Party was founded in 1913 by Lala Har Dayal. He had been exiled from India by the British. The party's goal was to overthrow British rule in India through armed revolution. The Ghadar Party published a weekly newspaper called Ghadar. It spread its message of revolution to Indian immigrants around the world. The Ghadar Rebellion was unsuccessful. But it helped to raise awareness of the Indian independence movement. It inspired future generations of revolutionaries. The Ghadar Party continued to operate until India gained independence in 1947.

**Formation of Ghadar Party:-**The Ghadar Party was formed on July 15, 1913, in Astoria, Oregon, United States. The founding members were Lala Har Dayal, Sant Baba Wasakha Singh Dadehar, Baba Jawala Singh, Santokh Singh, and Sohan Singh Bhakna. The party was originally named the Pacific Coast Hindustan Association. It was renamed the Ghadar Party in 1914. The Ghadar Party was founded by expatriate Indians who were frustrated with British rule in India. The party's goal was to overthrow British rule and establish a free and independent India. The party published a weekly newspaper called Ghadar. It spread its message of revolution to Indian immigrants around the world.

**Founding Members of the Ghadar Party:-**The founding members of the Ghadar Party included the following: Lala Hardayal, Baba Sohan Singh Bhakna, Sant Baba Wasakha Singh Dadehar, Pandit Kanshi Ram Maroli, Baba Jawala Singh, and Santokh Singh .Lala Hardayal established the Hindi Association of the Pacific Coast. It was later known as the Hindustan Ghadar Party in May 1913. This was established to take control of the Indian immigrant community in Portland.Baba Sohan Singh Bhakna was the first president and founder of the organization. Lala Har Dayal served as the general secretary, and Pandit Kanshi Ram Maroli was the treasurer.

**Objectives of Ghadar Party** :-Here are the objectives of the Ghadar Party: To overthrow British rule in India through armed revolution. To establish a free and independent India. To create a secular state that would be open to all religions. To improve the lives of the poor and working class. To promote education and social reform. To unite all Indians, regardless of their religion or caste.

**Ghadar Revolutionaries:-**Ghadar revolutionaries actively supported the revolutionary Ghadar Party or Ghadar Movement. Since 1904, these revolutionaries have mainly been Punjabi Indian immigrants who have lived in the United States and Canada. The revolutionary group's members came from various social and economic circumstances. Members include ex-soldiers of the British Indian Army, intellectuals like Lala Hardayal, a Stanford University faculty member, and landless, indebted peasants from Jalandhar and Hoshiarpur.The primary goals of the Ghadar revolutionaries were to use armed force and spread nationalist ideologies to liberate India from British colonial oppression. The principles of independence and self-determination motivated these revolutionaries, and they were prepared to adopt extreme measures to realize their objectives.

### **Causes of Failure of Ghadar Party:-**

**Over-estimation of the level of readiness of the movement** – They estimated and got confident over the war battles without pausing to assess the state of their army. Their emotions deceived them into believing that the vast majority of Indians in India were similarly prepared. They underestimated the extent and amount of planning required at each level.

- **Under-estimation of the strength of British rule** – A large number of Ghadar members were detained even before arriving in India and imprisoned once they arrived. They underestimated the British in India in terms of both military and organization.
- **Poor Public Support in India** – The British labeled them dacoits, and the native Punjabi community did not accept them either. A group of Punjabi Sikhs labeled the Ghadar leaders as nonbelievers.
- **Weak Leadership** – The Ghadar Movement also lacked a robust, long-term leadership capable of uniting the movement's diverse parts. Lala Hardayal's thoughts were a fluctuating mixture of numerous ideologies that drew him in occasionally rather than a unified totality. Furthermore, his abrupt departure from the United States at a vital point confused his compatriots.
- **Weak organizational structure** – The on-ground organizational structure of the Ghadar was almost non-existent. They were more enthusiastic and less organized.