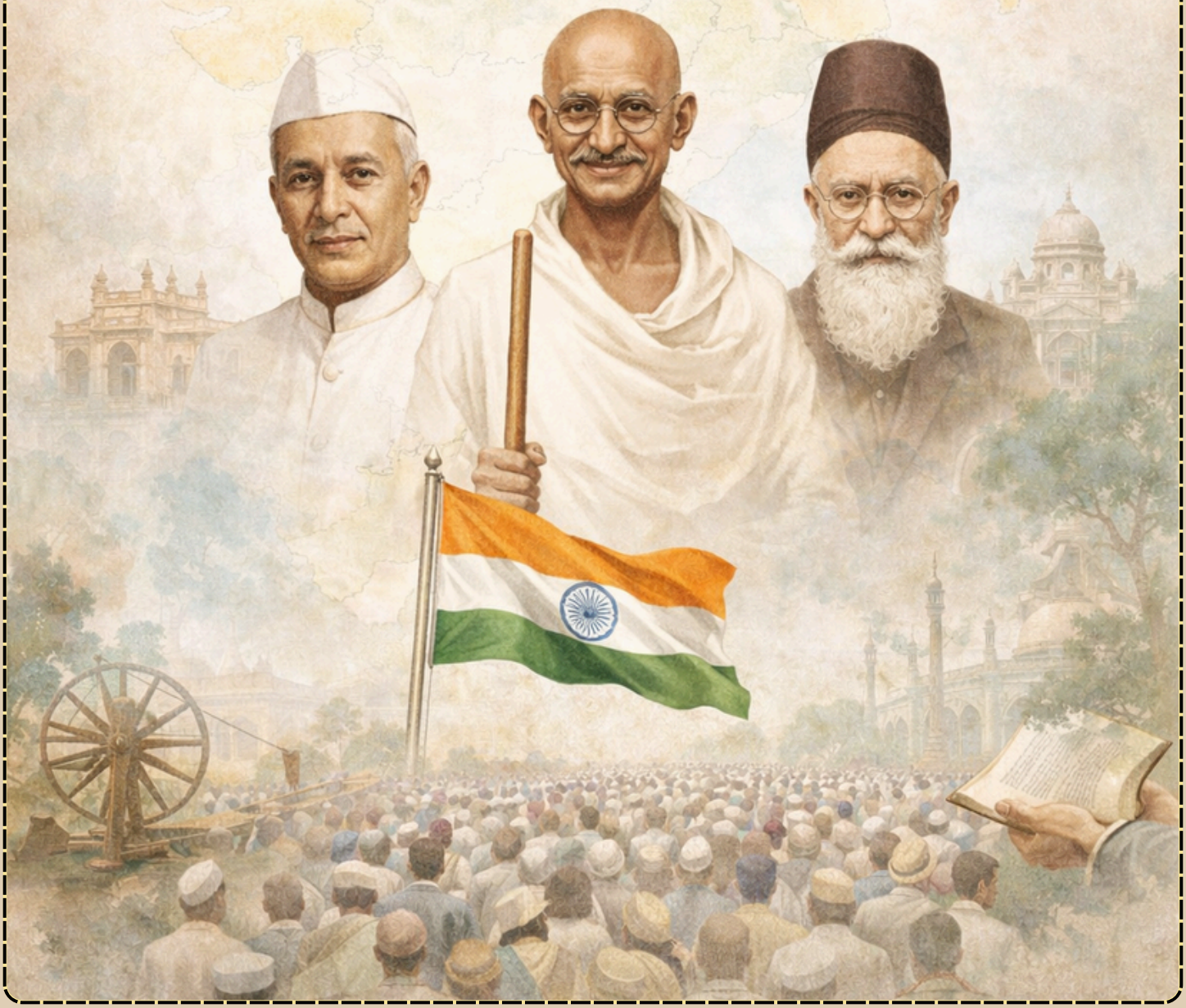
PARMAR SSC

Indian National Congress



Political Associations Before Congress

Before the formation of the Indian National Congress (INC) in 1885, several regional organizations were formed to raise Indian demands.

Bangabhasa Prakashika Sabha (1836):

- **Location:** Bengal.
- **Founder:** Associates of **Raja Ram Mohan Roy.**
- **Significance:** Formed in 1836, it was one of the earliest political associations.

British Indian Association (1851):

- **Location:** Kolkata.
- **Founders:** **Radhakanta Deb** and **Debendranath Tagore.**
- **Significance:** It merged landholders' interests with political questions.

East India Association (1866):

- **Location:** London.
- **Founder:** **Dadabhai Naoroji.**
- **Significance:** Established to discuss Indian welfare and influence the British public.

Poona Sarvajanik Sabha (1870):

- **Location:** Maharashtra.
- **Founder:** **M.G. Ranade.**

Indian League (1875):

- **Location:** Calcutta.
- **Founder:** **Shishir Kumar Ghosh.**
- **Note:** He also started the famous Bengali newspaper "**Amrita Bazar Patrika**".

Indian National Association (1876):

- **Founders:** **Surendranath Banerjee** and **Anand Mohan Bose.**
- **Note:** It later merged into the Congress.

Madras Mahajan Sabha (1884):

- **Founders:** **M. Viraraghavachari, G. Subramanian Iyer,** and **P. Anand Charlu.**

Bombay Presidency Association (1885):

- **Founders:** Pherozeshah Mehta, K.T. Telang, and Badruddin Tyabji.

Dadabhai Naoroji

Known as the "**Grand Old Man of India**," he was a central figure in early Indian nationalism.

Achievements:

- First Indian to become a member of the British Parliament.
- Presided over 3 Congress Sessions: 1886, 1893, and 1906.
- First to use the term "**Swaraj**".
- Prepared the first estimate of India's National Income in 1876 (known as the "**Father of National Income of India**").

Literary Works & Media:

- **Book:** "**Poverty and Un-British Rule in India**" (explained the "**Drain of Wealth Theory**").
- **Newspapers:** "**Rast Goftar**" (Weekly for Parsi Community) and "**Voice of India**".

Social Reform:

- Started the "**Rahnumai Mazdayasnan Sabha**" movement in 1851 with **Naoroji Furdonji and S.S. Bengali.**

Formation of Indian National Congress (1885)

- **Founder:** **Allan Octavian Hume (A.O. Hume)**, also known as the "***Father of Indian Ornithology***".
- **Viceroy:** Lord Dufferin was the Viceroy at the time. He later criticized Congress as a "**Factory of Sedition**".
- Immediate Cause for the formation of Indian National Congress was **Ilbert Bill (1883).**
  - **Issue**: The bill allowed senior Indian magistrates to judge cases involving British subjects.
  - **Reaction**: It faced huge backlash from the British and had to be withdrawn, exposing the true face of British rule to Indians.



The First Session (1885)

- **Date:** 1885.
- **Venue:** Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College, Bombay.

Note: The first meeting was originally planned for Poona, but the venue was shifted to Bombay due to a Plague/Cholera outbreak.

- **President:** W.C. Banerjee.
- **Attendance:** 72 delegates attended. Only 2 Muslim members were present, and no women participated.

Theories Behind Formation

Different leaders had different views on why Congress was formed:

Safety Valve Theory:



Proponent: Lala Lajpat Rai (in his monthly magazine Young India).
Concept: Congress was created as a peaceful outlet to release growing Indian discontent and prevent revolt.

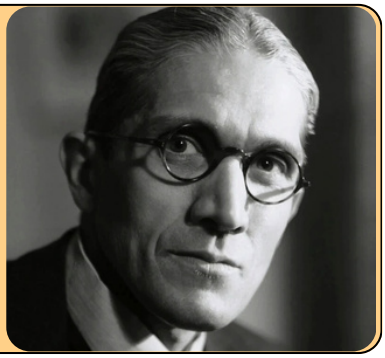


Lightning Conductor Theory:

Proponent: Gopal Krishna Gokhale.
Concept: Nationalists used A.O. Hume (a British official) as a cover to protect the organization from government suppression.

Conspiracy Theory:

Proponent: R.P. Dutt.



Important Congress Sessions

1

1885 : Headed by **W. C. Banerjee** in Bombay, where **72 Delegates** attended it.

2

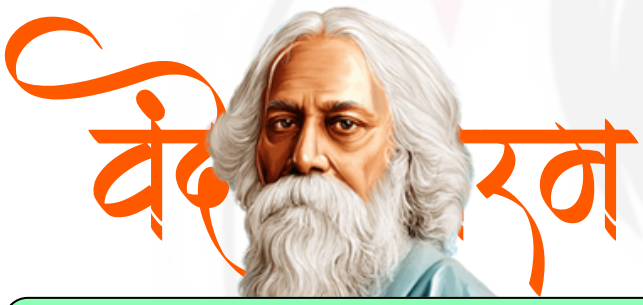
1886 : Headed by **Dadabhai Naoroji** in Calcutta, where 434 Delegates attended it.

3

1887 : Headed by **Badruddin Tyabji** in Madras. He was the first Muslim President of Congress.

4

1888 : Headed by **George Yule** in Allahabad. He was the first British President of Congress



1896

Held in Calcutta. Headed by **Rahimtullah M. Sayani**. The National Song "**Vande Mataram**", written by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in Anandmath, was sung for the first time by Rabindranath Tagore.



1901

Held in Calcutta. **Mahatma Gandhi** participated in this INC Session for the first time.



1905

Headed by **Gopal Krishna Gokhale** in Benaras. **Swadeshi Movement** was formally adopted here.



1906

Headed by **Dadabhai Naoroji** in Calcutta. Four resolutions: Swaraj, Swadeshi, Boycott, and National Education were adopted.



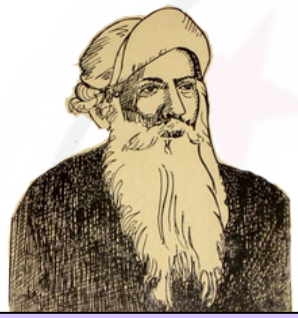
1907

Headed by **Rash Behari Ghosh** in Surat. In this Session the Congress split into Extremists and Moderates.



1911

Held in Calcutta. Our **National Anthem**, "**Jana Gana Mana**" written by Rabindranath Tagore was first sung in this Session.



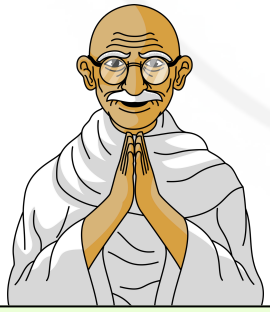
1916

Headed by **Ambika Charan Mazumdar** in Lucknow leading to merger of Congress. A Joint Pact also known as **Lucknow Pact** was signed between the **Muslim League** and **Indian National Congress**.



1917

Headed by **Annie Besant** in Calcutta (first Woman President of Congress).



1924

Headed by **Mahatma Gandhi** (only Session presided by him) in Belgaum (Karnataka).



1925

Headed by **Sarojini Naidu** (first Indian woman President of Congress and first women Governor of India state (Uttar Pradesh) in Kanpur.



1929

Headed by **Jawaharlal Nehru** in Lahore. The INC passed the resolution for complete independence or **Purna Swaraj** (January 26, 1930 was officially declared to be celebrated as first Independence Day).



1931

Headed by **Sardar Patel** in Karachi.

1937

Headed by **J.L Nehru** in Faizpur (first Session to be held in a village)

Mahatma Gandhi VS Subhash Chandra Bose (1938–1939)

- In 1938 Session, held at Haripura (Gujarat) and **S C Bose** was elected as President of INC.
- In **1939** Session, held at Tripuri and **S C Bose** was re-elected by defeating Gandhi's candidate **Pattabhi Sitaramayya**, but later **S C Bose** resigned.





Depressed Class Associations

- All India Depressed Classes Association (1926): Formed in **Nagpur**, led by **M.C. Rajah**.
- All India Depressed Classes Congress (1930): Led by **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**.

Quick Facts to Remember

- **Rajendra Prasad** was elected as President in 1939,
- **Madan Mohan Malviya** presided INC Session most number of times.
- **JB Kriplani**: President during the time of Independence.
- **Youngest President of INC**: **Abul Kalam Azad**



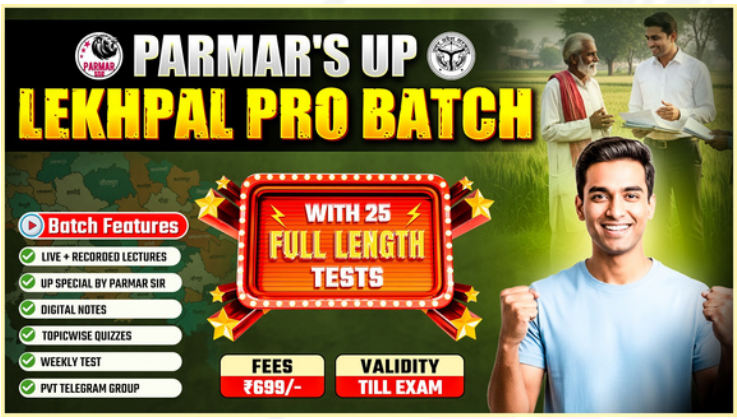


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