PARMAR SSC

Partition of Bengal



Bengal partition 1905

Lord Curzon (1899–1905) and His Policies



Lord Curzon served as the Viceroy of India from 1899 to 1905. His reactionary policies set the stage for the Swadeshi Movement.

Lord Curzon (1899–1905) and His Policies

1. **Calcutta Corporation Act (1899):** Reduced the number of elected Indian members in the corporation.
2. **Official Secrets Act (1904):** Enacted to curb the freedom of the Press.
3. **Indian Universities Act (1904):** Increased government control over universities.
4. **Partition of Bengal (1905):** His most controversial decision.

Note on Delhi Durbars:

1st Delhi Durbar (1877): Lord Lytton.
2nd Delhi Durbar (1903): Lord Curzon.
3rd Delhi Durbar (1911): Lord Hardinge II (Annulled the partition).

The Partition of Bengal (1905)

Background & Statistics:

- Population: Bengal constituted 1/4th of the total British India population (approx. 78.5 million).
- Proposal: First proposed in 1903

The Division:

- Bengal was divided into two distinct provinces:

1. West Bengal:

- **Territory:** Bengal, Odisha, and Bihar.
- **Demography:** Hindu Majority.

2. Eastern Bengal and Assam:

- **Territory:** Eastern Bengal and Assam.
- **Demography:** Muslim Majority.
- **Capital:** Dacca (Dhaka).



Reasons for Partition:

- **British Justification:** "Administrative Convenience" (claiming the region was too large to govern effectively).
- **Actual Reason:** To "Weaken Bengal" (the nerve center of Indian nationalism) by creating a divide between Hindus and Muslims ("Divide and Rule").

Timeline of Partition:

- **Announcement:** July 1905.
- **Came into Force:** 16th October 1905.
- **Reaction:** Observed as a "Day of Mourning".

Swadeshi and Anti-Partition Movement

Sessions of Congress (1905-1907)

1905 Congress Session (Benaras):

- **Presided by:** G.K. Gokhale.
- **Outcome:** Approved the Anti-Partition Movement / Swadeshi Movement.
- **Swadeshi Movement Proclamation:** Formal proclamation to boycott foreign goods was made on 7th August 1905 at Calcutta Townhall.

1906 Congress Session (Calcutta):

- **Presided by:** Dadabhai Naoroji.
- **Four Important Resolutions were passed:**

1. Swaraj (Self-rule) adopted as a Goal.
2. Boycott of Foreign Goods.
3. Swadeshi.
4. National Education (Formation of National Education Council).

Some Facts

- Formation of **Swadesh Bandabh Samiti** by **Ashwini Kumar Dutta at Barisal** (now in Bangladesh).
- National Educational Centres to be formed.
- **Indigenous Enterprise:** Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company by V.O. Chidambaram Pillai in Tamil Nadu.

1907 Congress Session (Surat):

- **Presided by:** Rash Behari Ghosh.
- **Surat Split:** The Congress split into Moderates and Extremists.

Reason for Split:

- The role of the INC in the manner of opposing the Partition of Bengal was the main cause of the Split.
- The Extremists wanted the agitation to be a mass struggle all over the country.
- But the Moderates still had faith in the British administration and wanted to confine the boycott to Bengal and foreign goods only.
- **British Strategy:** Adopted the "Carrot and Stick" policy (Appeasement to Moderates, Suppressing Extremists).

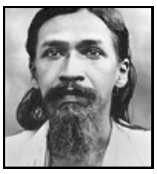


CARROT:
Appeasement to Moderates.



STICK:
Suppressing Extremists.

Moderates and Extremists

Moderates		Extremists	
	S N Banerjee	Lala Lajpat Rai	
	K K Mitra	Bal Gangadhar Tilak	
	G K Gokhle	Bipin Chandra Pal	
	Pherozshah Mehta	Aurobindo Ghosh	

Note :- Bande Mataram Journal was written by : Bipin Chandra Pal

Methods of Extremists

- They had hatred for foreign rule and believed in "**Swaraj**" as the goal.
- They believed in direct political action and the capacity of the masses.
- They emphasized personal sacrifice and held that a true nationalist should always be prepared to suffer for the cause of the nation.



B.G. Tilak's Slogan: "Freedom is my birth right and I shall have it".



Bal Gangadhar Tilak

- He organized **Ganpati** and **Shivaji festivals** to attract and mobilize the youth in Maharashtra.
- **Title:** Called "**Father of Indian Unrest**" by **Valentine Chirol** in his book "**Indian Unrest**".
- He is famously known as "**Lokmanya Tilak**"
- He was sent to Mandalay Jail (Burma) from 1908 to 1914.
- During his imprisonment in Mandalay Jail, he wrote the famous work **Gita Rahasya**.

Newspapers Published:
- Mahratta (in English).
- Kesari (in Marathi).





Newspapers during Anti-Partition Movement

- **Hitabadi:** by Dwijendranath Tagore.
- **Sanjibani:** by Krishna Kumar Mitra.
- **The Bengalee:** by Surendranath Banerjee.









Abanindranath Tagore

- He painted the **image of Bharat Mata** in 1905. It became a symbol of nationalism during the Indian Independence Movement.
- He was the principal artist of the **Indian School of Oriental Art (1907)**.



Actions to Show Unity

- People **Tied Rakhi** to each other to show unity.
- Rabindranath Tagore wrote the song: **Amar Sonar Bangla** (Now the National Anthem of Bangladesh).
- **Subramaniya Bharti wrote: Sudesha Geethangal** (collection of poems).
- People sang **Vande Mataram** (National Song), though the government banned it.
- Vande Mataram was first sung in 1896 in Calcutta.

Leaders of the Movement (Regional)

- **Poona and Bombay**: Bal Gangadhar Tilak.
- **Delhi**: Syed Haidar Raza.
- **Madras**: Chidambaram Pillai.
- **Punjab**: Lala Lajpat Rai.






Muslim Response & Formation of Muslim League

- Muslims generally **did not** support the Anti-Partition Movement.
- **All India Muslim League**: Formed on 30th December 1906 in Dhaka (Now Bangladesh) by **Nawab Khwaja Salimullah and Aga Khan**.

Indian Council Act, 1909 (Morley-Minto Reforms)

- **Lord Morley** was the Secretary of State for India, and **Lord Minto** was the **Viceroy of India** at that time.
- **Separate Electorate**: Introduced for Muslims. Lord Minto is known as the **"Father of Communal Electorate"**.
- **Executive Council**: Provision for one Indian in the Viceroy's Executive Council. **Satyendra Prasad Sinha** was the first Indian to join.
- The number of members in the Imperial Legislative Council was increased from 16 to 60.

Annulment of Partition (1911)

- **Delhi Durbar 1911**: Organized by **Lord Hardinge II** for the coronation of **King George V**.
- **Key Decisions**:
  1. **Reunification of Bengal** announced by King George V.
  2. **Capital** shifted from **Calcutta to Delhi**.



Revolutionary Activities (Timeline)

- **1890** : Shivaji and Ganpati Festival organised by Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

- **1897: Chapekar Brothers** (Vasudeo, Damodar and Balkrishna) assassinated **W.C. Rand** (Plague Commissioner of Poona).

- **1899: Mitra Mela** founded by **Savarkar Brothers** in Poona.

- **1902: Anushilan Samiti** (Bengal) formed by Satish Chandra Basu, Jatindranath Banerjee, P. Mittar and Barindra Kumar Ghosh (formed the Jugantar Group in 1906).
  - In Patna, this Samiti was founded by Sachin Sanyal.

- **1904: Mitra Mela** merged with **Abhinav Bharat Society** by **V.D. Savarkar**.

- **1905: Indian Home Rule** Society and **India House** formed by **Shyamji Krishna Verma** in London.
  - He also started the journal **The Indian Sociologist.**



- **1907: Madam Bhikaji Cama** became the first Indian to hoist the Indian Flag on foreign soil (in Stuttgart, Germany).
  - She published the journal **Vande Mataram**.

Note: The flag was smuggled into India by **Indulal Yagnik**.

- **1908:** (Alipore/Manicktala Bomb Conspiracy):
  - Attempt to murder Judge Kingsford in Muzaffarpur.
  - **Involved:** Khudiram Bose and Prafulla Chaki.
  - **The Mistake:** The bomb accidentally killed two innocent women (Mrs. Kennedy and her daughter) instead of Kingsford.
  - **Result:** Prafulla Chaki committed suicide due to the guilt of killing innocents; Khudiram Bose was hanged in Muzaffarpur jail.
  - **Kanailal Dutta** killed the witness **Narendranath Goswami**.

- **1909:**
  - **Madan Lal Dhingra** killed **Curzon** Wyllie.
  - **A.M.T. Jackson** was killed by **Anant Lakshman**.

- **1910:**
  - **Swadesh Sevak Home** (Vancouver), **United India House** (in USA) was founded by **Taraknath Das and G.D. Kumar**.

- **1911:**
  - **V.D. Savarkar** was sent to **Cellular Jail** in Andaman and Nicobar Island.

- **1913:**
  - **Ghadar Party** was formed in San Francisco (HQ: USA).
  - By Lala Hardayal, Sohan Bhakna (First President of Gadar), Barkatullah, Parmanand, Kartar Singh.

- **1915:**
  - **Berlin Committee** was formed by **Virendranath Chattopadhyay.**

Komagata Maru Incident, 1914

- A Japanese ship taken on lease by Sikh businessman and sailed to Vancouver (Canada) from Hong Kong.
- This incident involved a ship carrying 376 Indian passengers, primarily Sikhs who were denied entry to Canada due to discriminatory immigration laws. Forced to return to India, they faced further mistreatment, highlighting the struggle against racial discrimination and colonial operation.





World War I & Defence of India Act

World War I (1914-1918):
- **Allies (Won):** Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Russia, and USA.
- **Central Power:** Austria-Hungry, Bulgaria, Germany, and Ottoman Empire (Turkey).

Defence of India Act 1915:
- Enacted to suppress the Ghadrites particularly in Punjab.

Note: Later replaced by a Permanent Act called **Rowlatt Act**.

Indian Response to War:
- **Moderates:** Supported as a matter of duty.
- **Extremists:** Supported hoping for future self-governance.
- **Revolutionaries:** Saw it as opportunity to actively fight against British rule.

HOME RULE LEAGUE (HRL), 1916

- Two Home Rule Leagues were formed by: Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Annie Besant, both in 1916.
- After B G Tilak's death in 1920, his Home Rule League was re-named as **Swarajya Sabha** by MK Gandhi.

Bal Gangadhar Tilak's HRL:

- **HQ:** Poona.
- It was founded first.
- **Centre:** Maharashtra (excluding Bombay City), Karnataka, Central Province, Berar.

Annie Besant's HRL:

- **HQ:** Madras.
- It had more branches of HRL.
- **Centre:** Madras and Bombay City.

Lucknow Session, 1916

- Presided over by Ambika Charan Mazumdar.
- **Key Events:**

1. Reunion of Extremists and Moderates.
2. **Lucknow Pact** (a Joint Pact) was signed between INC and Muslim League.

Demands

- Self Government.
- Abolition of Indian Council.
- Separation of Judiciary & Executive.
- Salary of Secretary of State from British Exchequer.
- 1/2 members of Executive Council to be Indians.
- 1/3rd representation to Muslims.

Important Journals/Writings

- **New India & Commonweal**: by Annie Besant.
- **Al Hilal** (Urdu Weekly newspaper): by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (He also wrote India Wins freedom).
- **Comrade** (English Weekly newspaper): by Maulana Md. Ali.





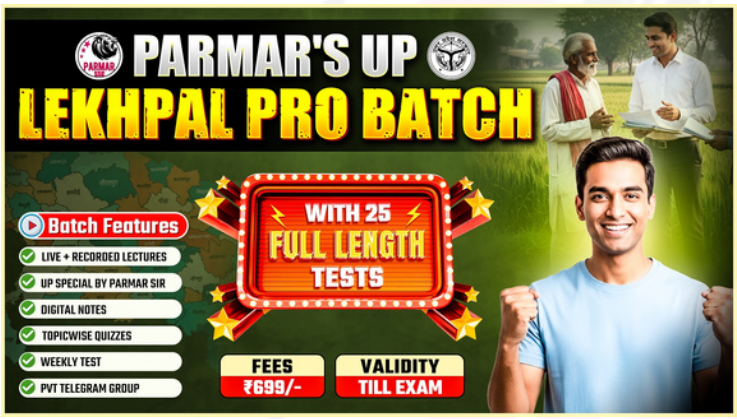


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