

The Indian National Movement (1935-47)

EXERCISES

A. Fill in the blanks:

1. The menacing presence of the Japanese army on the eastern borders of India posed a serious threat to **India's security**.
2. When the Quit India Resolution was passed in the year **1942**, Gandhiji gave the Indians the mantra **Do or Die**.
3. The Quit India Movement had shaken the very foundations of the **British rule** in India.
4. In Tokyo, **Subhash Chandra Bose** took over the leadership of the Indian Independence Movement in East Asia from Rash Behari Bose.
5. In February 1947, the British government declared that power would be transferred to the Indians by **June 1948**.

B. Match the following:

A	B
1. Quit India Movement	(a) Subhash Chandra Bose
2. Forward Bloc	(b) Suppressed by the British
3. World War ended	(c) Division of British India into India and Pakistan
4. Mountbatten Plan	(d) 30 January 1948
5. Assassination of Gandhi	(e) 1945

Answer:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Quit India Movement | (b) Suppressed by the British |
| 2. Forward Bloc | (a) Subhash Chandra Bose |
| 3. World War ended | (e) 1945 |
| 4. Mountbatten Plan | (c) Division of British India into India and Pakistan |
| 5. Assassination of Gandhi | (d) 30 January 1948 |

C. Choose the correct answer:

1. The Cripps Mission was sent to India in 1942, when the British Empire was under the threat of a Japanese/German/ Russian

Ans. The Cripps Mission was sent to India in 1942, when the British Empire was under the threat of a Japanese attack.

2. The Quit India Resolution was passed by the Congress in 1929/1930/1942.

Ans. The Quit India Resolution was passed by the Congress in 1942.

3. Subhash Chandra Bose/Mahatma Gandhi/Rash Behari Bose was the supreme commander of the Indian National Army.

Ans. Subhash Chandra Bose was the supreme commander of the Indian National Army.

4. Mahatma Gandhi/Subhash Chandra Bose/Jawahar Lai Nehru gave the slogan, 'You give me blood, I will give you freedom'.

Ans. Subhash Chandra Bose gave the slogan, 'You give me blood, I will give you freedom'.

5. The Constitution of India was introduced on 26 January 1950/26 January 1948/26 January 1949.

Ans. The Constitution of India was introduced on 26 January 1950.

D. State whether the following are true or false:

1. The Quit India Resolution was passed by the Muslim League.

False

Correct: The Quit India Resolution was passed by the Congress.

2. The upsurge of 1942 was the last great mass challenge to British authority.

True.

3. Subhash Chandra Bose formed a new party called the Forward Bloc.

True.

4. The INA, with the help of the Japanese, liberated Imphal and Kohima in 1944.

True.

5. Indian Independence from British rule was finally attained on 15 August 1950.

False.

Correct: Indian Independence from British rule was finally attained on 15 August 1947.

E. Answer the following questions in one or two words/ sentences:

Question 1.

Why was the Cripps Mission sent to India ?

Answer:

Japan joined the Second World War against British in 1942. The British desperately needed the active cooperation of the Indians to check the Japanese advance against the British Empire in India. So it sent the Cripps Mission to India to resolve the political deadlock.

Question 2.

Why did the Cripps Mission fail?

Answer:

Cripps Mission failed because the British were not prepared to transfer any effective power to the Indians during the war.

Question 3.

What did the British realize after the Quit India Movement?

Answer:

The impact of this brief, spontaneous and powerful outburst of national sentiment was tremendous. It sounded the death knell of British rule in India. The British realized their days were numbered. Independence was now a matter of time. It demonstrated the great capacity of the masses to suffer and die for the cause of freedom.

Question 4.

What was the main objective of the Indian National Army?

Answer:

The primary objective of the INA was to liberate India through armed struggle.

Question 5.

When did India become:

(a) an independent dominion (b) a sovereign, democratic, republic?

Answer:

(a) British rule in India finally came to an end of 15 August 1947.

(b) The Constitution of India was enacted and adopted by the Constituent Assembly on

26 November 1949. It was introduced on 26 January 1950-another important landmark in the history of India. On that day, the Indian dominion was transformed into a sovereign, democratic republic.

F. Answer the following questions briefly:

Question 1.

With reference to the Quit India Movement, answer the following:

- (a) Why did the Congress pass the Quit India Resolution. How did the government react to it?
- (b) Briefly discuss the events of the Quit India Movement.
- (c) What was the impact of the Quit India Movement on the national movement?

Answer:

(a) The Congress passed the Quit India Resolution on 9 August, before dawn, Gandhiji and all other important nationalist leaders were arrested. The Congress was banned. The news of these arrests, even before the movement began, shocked the nation. A spontaneous, nationwide movement of protests arose; there were demonstrations, hartals and processions. Leaderless and without any guidelines, the Quit India Movement took different shapes in different parts of the country.

The government came down heavily on the people. They were lathi-charged and fired upon. The brutality of the police enraged the people. They reacted violently. Police stations, post offices, and other government buildings were destroyed. Railway, telegraph and telephone lines were disconnected. The army was called in to crush the revolt. Over 10,000 people were killed in police and military firing. The movement was savagely crushed within a very short period of time.

(b) Among the significant causes of this movement were codlin oppression exemplified by the Rowlatt Act and Jallianwala Bagh massacre, economic hardship to the common man due to large chunk of Indian wealth being exported to Britain, ruin, of Indian Artisans due to British factory made goods replacing hand made goods, and popular resentment with the British over Indian soldiers dying in World War I while fighting as part of British army, in battles that otherwise had nothing to do with India.

The movement aimed to ensure that the colonial economic and power structure would be seriously challenged and British authorities would be forced to take notice of the people demand.

(c) The impact of this brief, spontaneous and powerful outburst of national sentiment was tremendous. It sounded the death knell of British rule in India. The British realized their days were numbered. Independence was now a matter of time. It demonstrated the great capacity of the masses to suffer and die for the cause of freedom.

Question 2.

With reference to Indian national movement, answer the following:

- (a) What were the objectives of the Forward Bloc ?
- (b) Examine the role of Subhash Chandra Bose in the Indian freedom struggle.
- (c) Why do Indian still respect and revere Netaji?

Answer:

(a) Objectives of the Forward Bloc

1. To win freedom from the British without any further delay.
2. To rebuild India, after Independence, on the principles of socialism e. economic equality, freedom and justice, equitable distribution of wealth etc.
3. To promote world peace.

(b) Subhash Chandra Bose believed that the only way India could get her freedom was to drive the British out of India by use of armed force. Subhash Chandra Bose had resigned from the Congress in 1939 and formed a new party called the Forward Bloc.

He decided to go abroad to join hands with the enemies of the British and drive the British out of India. He was put under house arrest in Calcutta, but he managed to escape in 1941. He first went to Russia and then to Germany and finally to Japan. In Tokyo, he took over the leadership of the Indian Independence Movement in East Asia from Rash Behari Bose.

Captain Mohan Singh (a former captain in the British Indian army) had organized the Azad Hind Fauz of the Indian National Army (INA).

Subhash Chandra Bose became the supreme commander of the INA. In 1944 at a meeting in he took an oath to liberate India. 'Give me blood and I will give you freedom,' he declared. Netaji infused a new life and spirit into the INA.

He fired the imagination of his soldiers with passionate, inspiring speeches, They were ready to lay down their lives for the liberation of their motherland. With the battle cry of 'Dilli Chalo' the INA advanced into India along with the Japanese army.

(c) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose lives on in the memories of successive generations of Indians. He was a true patriot who dedicated his life to the cause he passionately believed in-India's freedom.

He fired the imagination of a nation with his intense patriotism, personal courage, unwavering conviction and bold leadership. He restored to India her pride and is greatly admired and revered throughout the country even to this day.

Question 3.

With reference to Indian independence, answer the following questions:

1. What was the importance of the Mountbatten Plan
2. What was the significance of the Indian Independence Act, 1947
3. What is the significance of 26 January 1950 ?

Answer:

(a) Mountbatten announced his plan for the division of British India into India and Pakistan and the transfer of power to the two dominions. The North-West Frontier Province, Sind, Baluchistan, West Punjab and East Bengal separated from the rest of India to form a new country called Pakistan.

(b) On the basis of the Mountbatten Plan, the British Parliament passed the Indian Independence Act in July 1947. British rule in India finally came to an end on 15 August 1947.

(c) Constitution of India was introduced on 26 January 1950. It was another important landmark in the history of India. On that day, the Indian dominion was transformed into a sovereign, democratic republic. With confidence in their capacity and a determination to succeed, the people of India set out to build the country of their dreams—a country based on liberty, equality, justice and fraternity.

G Picture study.

This is the picture of a leader who formed a new party called the Forward Bloc in 1939.



1. Identify the leader in the picture.

Ans. Subhash Chandra Bose

2. What was the name of the army of which he was the supreme commander.

Ans. INA (Indian National Army)

3. What was his slogan for the liberation of India?

Ans. Dilli Chalo

4. Write a few lines on the leadership qualities of this person.

Ans. Subhash Chandra Bose was born on 23 January 1897, popularly known as Netaji (literally respected leader), was one of the most prominent leaders in the Indian Independence Movement and a legendary figure in India today. Bose was elected president of Indian National Congress for two successive terms but had to resign from the post following ideological conflicts with Mohandas K. Gandhi.

He established a separate political party, the All India Forward Bloc and continued to call for the full and immediate independence of India from British rule. He was imprisoned by the British authorities eleven times. His famous motto was "Give me Blood and I will give you Freedom".

He is presumed to have died on 18 August, 1945 in a plane crash in Taiwan. However, contradictory evidence is believed to be extant regarding his death in the accident.