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ABHYAAS

Mock Papers Series For Class 6th Entrance Exam.



Chapter 1

Indian History

Important Events in Indian History

Ancient India

- **Indus Valley Civilization (2600 BCE - 1750 BCE)**
 - ❖ This civilization was one of the earliest in the world, and developed in the Indus River valley it is now in Pakistan and western India.
 - ❖ The IVC is known for its advanced urban planning and engineering, as well as its sophisticated culture and religion.
 - ❖ Important sites include Harappa (Pakistan), Mohenjodaro (Pakistan), Lothal (Gujarat), Kalibangan (Rajasthan), Dholavira (Gujarat), Rakhigarhi (Haryana) etc.
- **Vedic Period (1500 BCE - 600 BCE)**
 - ❖ This period is marked by the composition of the Vedas, the earliest sacred texts of Hinduism, and the emergence of the caste system. Four vedas are Rigveda, Yajurveda, Samaveda and Atharvaveda.
 - ❖ Rigveda is the oldest veda, it has 1028 verses and 10 mandals.
- **Age of the Mahajanapadas (600 BCE - 300 BCE)**
 - ❖ This period saw the rise of 16 powerful kingdoms or republics known as the Mahajanapadas, including the powerful kingdoms of Magadha, Kosala, and Kuru. Elephants were first used by Magadh Empire in battles.
 - ❖ Bimbisara, the ruler of Magadha, and Chandra Pradyota, the ruler of Avanti, were contemporaries of the Buddha. The capital of the ancient Magadha Empire was Pataliputra. Which was established by Udayin and made his capital. Although its initial capital was Girivraja.
- **The Rise of Jainism and Buddhism (6th century BCE)**
 - ❖ This period saw the emergence of Jainism and Buddhism, two major Indian religions that had a significant impact on Indian culture and society.
- **The Persian and Greek Invasions (5th century BCE - 2nd century BCE)**
 - ❖ This period saw the invasions of India by Persian and Greek armies, led by Darius and Alexander the Great, respectively, which had a significant impact on Indian culture and society.
- **Maurya Empire (322 BCE - 185 BCE)**
 - ❖ Founded by Chandragupta Maurya, this empire was the first to unite most of the Indian subcontinent under one rule, and was known for its advanced administration and military organization.
- Ashoka was the greatest ruler of this dynasty who addressed the public through stone inscriptions and established 'Srinagar' in Kashmir.
 - ❖ Ashoka was the grandson of Chandra Gupta Maurya and son of Bindusara.
 - ❖ The last ruler of the Maurya dynasty was Brihadratha.
 - ❖ Ashoka's inscriptions and Brahmi script were deciphered by James Prinsep.
- **Post-Mauryan Period (200 BCE – 300 CE)**
 - ❖ After the decline of the Mauryan Empire, several kingdoms emerged, including both indigenous and foreign rulers. The Satavahanas were indigenous, while the Indo-Greeks, Shakas and Kushanas were foreign.
 - ❖ The Satavahana kingdom came under Gupta control. Its first ruler was **Simuka**, whose guru and priest was **Patanjali**.
 - ❖ **Kanishka** was a famous Kushana ruler. During his reign, the Silk Route became very popular. It connected trade between India and China. He adopted Buddhism and organized the **Fourth Buddhist Council**.
 - ❖ Among the Shaka rulers, the most famous was **Rudradaman I**, who got the **Sudarshan Lake** repaired.
 - ❖ Among the Indo-Greek rulers, the most famous was **Menander (Milinda)**, who adopted Buddhism. He held a discussion with **Nagasena**, which is recorded in the book *Milinda Panha*.
- **Gupta Empire (320 CE - 550 CE)**
 - ❖ The founder of this dynasty was Shri Gupta.
 - ❖ The Gupta ruler Kumar Gupta established Nalanda University in the fifth century. For admission in it, an examination was conducted by Dwar Pandit.
 - ❖ The Gupta ruler Samudra Gupta is called the Napoleon of India.
 - ❖ The Chinese traveller Fa-Hien came to India during the time of the Gupta ruler Chandra Gupta II.
 - ❖ This empire was known for its achievements in art, science, mathematics, and literature, and is often referred to as the "Golden Age" of ancient India.
- **Vardhan Dynasty (606 CE - 647 CE) and King Harsha**
 - ❖ Ruled by King **Harsha** of Vardhana dynasty this empire controlled a large portion of northern India, and was known for its achievements in literature religion and the arts.
 - ❖ During the reign of Harshavardhana, the Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang came to study at Nalanda University. He came to India via the Silk Route, which is now known as Nathula Pass.
 - ❖ Nalanda University was the first residential university in the world.

- **The Rise of the Rajputs (6th century - 12th century)**
 - ❖ The Rajputs were a group of warrior dynasties that controlled a large portion of northern and western India, and played a major role in shaping medieval Indian history.
 - ❖ The most famous among the Rajput rulers was Prithviraj Chauhan, who defeated Muhammad Ghori in the First Battle of Panipat.
 - ❖ Pala ruler Dharmapala established Vikramshila University.

Medieval India

- **The Ghaznavid Empire (977 CE - 1186 CE)**
 - ❖ This empire, founded by Sabuktigin and expanded by his son Mahmud of Ghazni, controlled a vast territory that included parts of present-day Pakistan, Afghanistan and North-western India.
- **The Delhi Sultanate (1206 CE - 1526 CE)**
 - ❖ This empire was founded by Qutb-ud-din Aibak, and saw the rule of several dynasties, including the Mamluk dynasty, the Khalji dynasty, the Tughlaq dynasty, Sayyid dynasty and Lodhi dynasty.
 - ❖ "Ibn Battuta came to India during the time of the Tughlaq ruler Muhammad Tughlaq."
 - ❖ "During Qutb ud-Din's time, the capital of the Sultanate was Lahore."
- **The Vijayanagara Empire (1336 CE - 1646 CE)**
 - ❖ This empire, located in Southern India, was known for its achievements in art, architecture, and literature, and played a major role in resisting Islamic invasions in South India.
- **The Bahmani Sultanate (1347 CE - 1527 CE)**
 - ❖ This empire, located in Southern India, was founded by the Bahmani family, and saw the rule of several dynasties, including the Bahmani dynasty, the Barid Shahi dynasty and the Qutb Shahi dynasty.
- **The Mughal Empire (1526 CE - 1858 CE)**
 - ❖ This empire, founded by Babur, was known for its achievements in art, architecture, and literature, as well as its patronage of scholars and scientists. Prominent rulers were Babar, Humayun, Akbar, Jahangir, Shahjahan, Aurangzeb etc.
 - ❖ Sher Shah Suri introduced a currency called Rupiya and his tomb is located in Sasaram, Bihar.
- **The Maratha Empire (1674 CE - 1818 CE)**
 - ❖ This empire, founded by Shivaji, controlled a large portion of western and central India, and played a major role in resisting Mughal rule.

Modern India

- **The British East India Company (1600s CE - 1858 CE)**
 - ❖ The British East India Company was a British trading company that gradually established control over large parts of India, leading to the colonisation of India by the British.

- **The Indian Rebellion of 1857 (also known as the Indian Mutiny)**
 - ❖ A widespread rebellion against British East India Company's rule in India, which started from Meerut which eventually led to the British Crown taking control of India. W.C. Banarjee was its first president.
- **The Indian National Congress (1885)**
 - ❖ The Indian National Congress (INC) was formed as a political organisation to voice the demands and grievances of Indians and to represent them in the British government.
- **The Indian National Movement (19th century - 20th century)**
 - ❖ This period saw the emergence of the Indian national movement, which aimed to achieve independence from British colonial rule.
- **The Partition of Bengal (1905)**
 - ❖ This event, also known as the "Bengal Divide," was a British government policy to weaken the nationalist movement by dividing Bengal into Hindu and Muslim-majority regions.
- **Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (1919)**
 - ❖ On April 13, 1919, in Amritsar, Punjab, India, a peaceful gathering of people was taking place in the Jallianwala Bagh, a public garden, to protest the arrest and deportation of two popular leaders of the Indian independence movement, Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew and Dr. Satyapal.
 - ❖ The gathering was fired upon by British Indian Army soldiers under the command of Brigadier-General Reginald Dyer, who ordered his troops to open fire without warning on the unarmed crowd resulting in the deaths of hundreds of people.
- **The Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922)**
 - ❖ The Non-Cooperation movement was started by Mahatma Gandhi with an aim to achieve freedom through non-violent means, it was a significant event as it was the first countrywide movement against British colonial rule.
- **Simon Commission (1927)**
 - ❖ On 8 November, 1927, the British Government announced the appointment of the Indian Statutory Commission, composed of seven members, headed by Sir John Simon, to go into the question of further constitutional reform. It came to be widely known as the Simon Commission.
 - ❖ It was opposed by Indians as it had no Indian member.
- **The Salt Satyagraha (1930)**
 - ❖ This was a non-violent civil disobedience movement against the British salt monopoly led by Mahatma Gandhi, it was a significant event which was started from Dandi on 12 March, 1930 as it brought the issue of Indian independence to the world stage.

- **The Quit India Movement (1942)**
 - ❖ This movement, launched by Mahatma Gandhi, called for an immediate end to British rule in India and was marked by widespread civil disobedience.
- **India's Independence and the Partition of India (1947)**
 - ❖ On August 15, 1947, India achieved independence from British colonial rule, and the country was partitioned into two separate states: India and Pakistan.
- **The Indian Constitution and the Formation of the Republic of India (1950)**
 - ❖ India adopted its own Constitution, and officially became the Republic of India on January 26, 1950.
- **Emergency in India (1975-1977)**
 - ❖ This period, also known as the "Internal Emergency," was a 21-month period during which Prime Minister Indira Gandhi suspended civil liberties and imposed press censorship.
- **The Indian Nuclear Tests (1998)**
 - ❖ India conducted a series of nuclear tests, which led to international condemnation and economic sanctions.

Famous Wars and Battles of Indian History

Ancient India

- **Battle of Kurukshetra (Mahabharata War)**
 - ❖ This battle, described in the Hindu epic the Mahabharata, took place around 3102 BC between the Kauravas and the Pandavas, two groups of cousins, for the throne of Hastinapura. This battle was fought for 18 days.
 - ❖ Lord Ganesha wrote Mahabharata while Vyasa narrating him.
- **Battle of the Ten Kings (Rigvedic Battle)**
 - ❖ This battle, described in the Rigveda, an ancient Indian sacred text, took place around 1500 BC and involved a coalition of ten kings who challenged the rule of Sudas, the king of the Bharatas.
- **Battle of the Hydaspes (Alexander's Invasion of India)**
 - ❖ This battle was fought in 326 BC between Greek ruler Alexander and King Porus, resulting in a Macedonian victory but also marking the end of Alexander's Indian campaign.
- **Conquest of Magadha**
 - ❖ This series of battles and wars were fought in the 4th century BC between the Nanda Empire and the expanding Maurya Empire, resulting in the establishment of the Maurya Empire as the dominant power in ancient India.
- **Kalinga War**
 - ❖ This war was fought in 260 BC between the Mauryan Empire and the Kingdom of Kalinga, resulting in a Mauryan victory and the annexation of Kalinga to Mauryan Empire. The war had a profound effect on the Emperor Ashoka, who renounced violence and adopted Buddhism.
- **The Tripartite Struggle**
 - ❖ This series of conflicts took place in the 3rd century BC between the Mauryan Empire, the Shunga Empire and the Satavahana Empire for control of the Indian subcontinent.
- **First Battle of Tarain**
 - ❖ This battle was fought in 1191 AD between the Rajput king Prithviraj Chauhan and the Muslim ruler Muhammad Ghori. Prithviraj Chauhan defeated Muhammad Ghori.
- **Second Battle of Tarain**
 - ❖ The second battle of Tarain was fought between the Ghurid army led by Muhammad Ghori and the Rajput Chahamanas and their allies led by Prithvi Raj Chauhan in 1192. The battle saw the defeat of the Rajputs.
- **First Battle of Panipat**
 - ❖ This battle was fought in 1526 AD between the Mughal emperor Babur and the Sultan of Delhi, Ibrahim Lodi, resulting in a Mughal victory and the establishment of Mughal rule in India.
- **Battle of Khanwa**
 - ❖ This battle was fought in 1527 AD between the Mughal emperor Babur and the Rajput king Rana Sanga, resulting in a Mughal victory and the consolidation of Mughal rule in northern India.
- **Battle of Chausa**
 - ❖ This Battle was fought in 1539 AD between the Mughal emperor Humayun and the Afghan king Sher Shah Suri. The battle took place near the village of Chausa, in Buxar district of Bihar, India. Humayun was defeated and it resulted in the loss of control over northern India to Sher Shah Suri, who established the Sur Empire and ruled for a brief period of time.
- **Second Battle of Panipat**
 - ❖ This Battle was fought between the forces of Samrat Hem Chandra Vikramaditya, popularly called Hemu, the Hindu king who was ruling North India from Delhi, and the army of Akbar, on November 5, 1556. It was a decisive victory for Akbar's generals Khan Zaman I and Bairam Khan.
- **Battle of Talikota**
 - ❖ This battle was fought in 1565 AD between the Vijayanagara Empire and an alliance of Deccan Sultanates, resulting in a crushing defeat for Vijayanagara Empire, which marked the end of the empire's power.
- **Battle of Haldighati**
 - ❖ This battle was fought in 1576 AD between the Mughal emperor Akbar and the Rajput king Maharana Pratap, resulting in a Mughal victory but with Maharana Pratap being able to retreat and maintain control over his kingdom.
- **Battle of Plassey**
 - ❖ This battle was fought in 1757 between the British East India Company and the Nawab of Bengal, Siraj-ud-daulah, resulting in the British victory and the establishment of British rule in Bengal.
- **Battle of Buxar (1764)**
 - ❖ This battle was fought in 1764 between the British East India Company and the combined forces of the Nawab of Bengal, the Nawab of Awadh, and the Mughal emperor Shah Alam II, resulting in a British victory which made their power reach its peak.

- **First Anglo-Mysore War (1766-1769)**
 - ❖ This war was sparked by the rise of Hyder Ali, the ruler of Mysore, who sought to expand his kingdom and challenge the British presence in southern India. The war ended with a treaty that recognized the independence of Mysore, but also imposed restrictions on its military power.
- **Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780-1784)**
 - ❖ This war was sparked by the continued expansion of Mysore under Hyder Ali and his son, Tipu Sultan. The war ended with a British victory and the Treaty of Mangalore, which imposed further restrictions on Mysore's military power.
- **Third Anglo-Mysore War (1789-1792)**
 - ❖ This war was sparked by the continued expansionist ambitions of Tipu Sultan, who sought to challenge British control of southern India. The war ended with a British victory and the Treaty of Seringapatam, which imposed heavy fines on Mysore and reduced its territory.
- **Fourth Anglo-Mysore War (1798-1799)**
 - ❖ This war was sparked by the continued expansionist ambitions of Tipu Sultan and his alliance with the French, who were at war with the British. The war ended with a British victory and the Treaty of Seringapatam, which resulted in the death of Tipu Sultan and the annexation of Mysore by the British East India Company.
- **First Anglo-Maratha War**
 - ❖ This war was fought in 1775-1782 between the British East India Company and the Maratha Empire, resulting in a British victory and the establishment of British control over much of India.
- **Second Anglo-Maratha War**
 - ❖ This war was fought in 1803-1805 between the British East India Company and the Maratha Empire, resulting in a British victory and the end of the Maratha Empire as a major power in India.
- **Third Anglo-Maratha War**
 - ❖ This war was fought in 1817-1818 between the British East India Company and the Maratha Empire, resulting in the end of Maratha power and the establishment of British rule over much of India.
- **Anglo-Sikh Wars**
 - ❖ These wars were fought in 1845-1846 and 1848-1849 between the British East India Company and the Sikh Empire, resulting in British victory and the annexation of the Punjab region by the British.
- **Indian Rebellion of 1857 (First War of Indian Independence)**
 - ❖ This rebellion was a widespread uprising against British rule in India, sparked by a number of factors, including resentment towards British policies and the use of Indian soldiers in the Crimean War.
- **Partition of India**
 - ❖ In 1947, the British government announced its intention to transfer power to the Indians. This led to a period of communal violence and mass migration, as Muslims and Hindus were separated into two different countries: India and Pakistan.

- **Sino-Indian War**
 - ❖ This war was fought in 1962 between China and India over a disputed border, resulting in a Chinese victory.
 - ❖ In this India lost a large land area.

Post Independence

- **Indo-Pakistani War of 1965**
 - ❖ This war was fought between India and Pakistan over the disputed region of Kashmir, resulting in a stalemate and a UN-mediated ceasefire.
- **Indo-Pakistani War of 1971**
 - ❖ This war was fought between India and Pakistan, resulting in the independence of East Pakistan (present-day Bangladesh) and a decisive Indian victory.
- **Kargil War**
 - ❖ This war was fought in 1999 between India and Pakistan in the Kargil district of Kashmir, resulting in an Indian victory and the withdrawal of Pakistani forces from Indian territory.

Indian Freedom Struggle

- In ancient times India used to be known as the golden bird. At that time India's trade was spread across half the world. There was great demand for Indian spices, specially black pepper and cardamom, in European countries.
- This trade was carried out by the traders of Arab countries. In European countries Indian goods fetched a very high price.
- Vasco de Gama, a sailor from Portugal, was the first to come to India after a long sea voyage. His ship docked at the port of Calicut in 1498.
- After Vasco de Gama's journey the Portuguese started trading with India. They would buy goods at cheap prices from India and sell them at high prices in European markets.
- In a short time Portugal became a rich country. This made countries such as Britain, Italy and France also keen to do trade with India. Around this time, after the death of Aurangzeb in 1707, the condition of the Mughal Empire was not good.
- Small kingdoms sprang up in different parts of India. All this made it easier for European nations to find their footing in India.
- **Establishment of British Rule in India**
 - ❖ India was a rich country then Mughal kings were growing weak. Apart from Portugal, other European nations such as Holland, France and England also started trading here.
 - ❖ In order to trade with India English traders set up the East India Company (EIC) in 1600. This company first set up business establishments in Surat, Chennai, Kolkata and Mumbai.
 - ❖ These cities were already centres of trade. The British kept cannons at their business establishments. They recruited soldiers. All the countries wanted to have trade monopoly with India and so would keep fighting among themselves.
 - ❖ EIC emerged as the winner in these fights. It gained trade monopoly with India. The British had come to India to exploit it economically and later they became its rulers.

- ❖ Nawab Siraj ud-daulah of Bengal did not like the British setting up their establishments in Kolkata and keeping soldiers there. This led to tension between the Nawab and the British.
- ❖ In the battle of Plassey in 1757 Nawab Siraj ud-daulah of Bengal was defeated. The company took possession of Bengal. This victory was the beginning of British Empire in India.
- ❖ After the battle of Buxar in 1764. The company became the zamindar of Bihar, Bengal and Orissa. It took control of a major part of India. In order to collect money the British now started committing atrocities on the people.
- ❖ Farmers were stopped from farming according to their free will. Instead of wheat they were forced to grow opium, indigo and cotton.
- ❖ At the time when the English were spreading their empire in India Haider Ali was the Sultan of Mysore. He was a brave, courageous and intelligent person. There were battles between him and the British. In both the battles he taught the British a lesson. The British were scared of him.
- ❖ After his death, his son Tipu Sultan kept the English engaged in battles. He kept fighting for two years till his death in the battlefield. The British started grabbing the kingdoms of the Indian rulers. This happened with the Nawab of Oudh and the queen of Jhansi.
- ❖ The company made laws which did not allow Indians to set up factories. They did not have the freedom to do business. Workers could not take up work of their choice and people could not travel at their free will.
- ❖ This harmed the country a great deal. The people of India became slaves in their own country. British atrocities kept increasing. The anger of Indians against the British also kept increasing.
- ❖ To maintain their rule in India the British adopted the policy of divide and rule and tried to harm the Hindu-Muslim unity.
- ❖ This anger finally burst out in the shape of 1857 revolt. This revolt was spread across a major part of the country. In Indian history this revolt is termed as the first war of independence.
- ❖ The soldiers had to bite these cartridges with their teeth in order to fire them. Mangal Pandey shot dead a British officer. He was sentenced to death.
- ❖ When this news reached Meerut cantonment the soldiers over there revolted on 10th May, 1857. Many Englishmen were killed. Imprisoned soldiers were set free. The sepoys reached Delhi the next day. They took control of the Red Fort and declared the old king Bahadur Shah Zafar as the emperor of India.
- ❖ The fire of revolt spread all across North India. Peshwa Nana Sahib in Kanpur, Rani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi and Tanya Tope in Central India, Begum Hazrat Mahal in Lucknow and Kunwar Singh in Bihar led the revolt. In Allahabad, Bundelkhand, Kanpur, Delhi, Awadh, Ruhelkhand and parts of Bihar apart from the soldiers even the common people took part in this fight.
- ❖ The mass killings of Britishers started in many towns. For the first time kings, soldiers and the common people fought together for freedom.
- ❖ However, though fought bravely, the revolt could not succeed. This was because the Britishers had modern arms whereas the Indians fought with bows and arrows, axes, swords, spears etc.
- ❖ Nevertheless, the revolt shook the foundations of the East India Company. Queen Victoria of England took the reins of administration of India in her own hands in 1858.
- ❖ The rule of the East India Company in India came to an end. After 1857 the Viceroy became the ruler of India on behalf of the British government.
- ❖ At this time Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the ruler of Punjab. He extended the Sikh empire by taking control of Kangra, Cuttack, Multan and Peshawar. Cleverly Ranjit Singh signed a treaty with the British.
- ❖ Because of the treaty, for a long time, the British could not go to the west through Punjab. Although powerful yet the Marathas, Nizam and Raja Ranjit Singh could never unite against the British. This made it easy for the British to extend their empire.

Do You Know?

- ✱ The doctrine of Subsidiary Alliance was introduced by Lord Wellesley, the British Governor-General of India from 1798 to 1805. The Nizam of Hyderabad was the first to enter into such an alliance in 1798.
- ✱ Warren Hastings was the first governor general of British India.

● Revolt of 1857

- ❖ There was anger in India's farmers, workers, weavers, nawabs and kings against the British in British Empire in India.
- ❖ The Indian soldiers in the British army were also angry at the unequal treatment given to them. On 29 March, 1857 a sepoy named Mangal Pandey in the Barrackpore branch of the Bengal regiment of the British army started the revolt. He refused to fire the cartridges greased with the lard of cow and pig.

● Towards Freedom

- ❖ The 1857 fight for independence did not stop. The atrocities and exploitation by the Britishers increased. The struggle for independence also continued though its method changed. People realized that till the British were ruling the country they could not be happy.
- ❖ In 1885 a British officer named Allen Octavian Hume founded the Indian National Congress (INC). In the beginning the aim of the congress was to attract the British attention towards the condition of the Indians.
- ❖ Through the efforts of Dada Bhai Naoroji and Gopal Krishna Gokhale Indians got a platform in the form of the congress.
- ❖ Gradually the number of members of the Congress started increasing. Apart from the educated, even the common man started joining it. Men of new ideas such as Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Madan Mohan Malviya, Lala Lajpat Rai, Arvind Ghosh, Ajmal Khan and Bipin Chandra Pal joined the Congress.

- ❖ At the time of the growth of nationalist sentiment, Mohammad Iqbal wrote the song 'Sare Jahan Se Achcha Hindustan Hamara' in 1904. It is called Tarana-e-Hind.
- ❖ With their coming the Congress was divided into two groups: Moderates and Radicals. Those with revolutionary ideas were in the Radical group while those who wanted to confront the British in peaceful ways were a part of the moderate group.
- ❖ In the meantime, in 1916 Mahatma Gandhi became active in Indian politics. He had already faced the British in South Africa. The Congress gave the reins of the freedom movement in the hands of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi. Later he was known as Mahatma Gandhi.
- ❖ Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi had lived in Africa for 20 years. Over there he had seen the British discriminating against and committing atrocities on those with dark skin and also on Indians.
- ❖ When he came to India he saw the British doing injustice to the Indians and committing atrocities. Therefore, he decided to join the freedom struggle.
- ❖ Gandhiji saw that there were many evils in Indian society. He realised that without removal of these evils, he could not fight with strength.
- ❖ He tried to remove untouchability and the caste system from society. He worked towards getting respect for women and those belonging to the backward class. He himself lived in a simple manner.
- ❖ Gandhi ji asked the people to adopt the policy of non-violence or Ahimsa in the fight for independence. He started the Non Cooperation Movement and said that the British would receive no support from us for any work but all this would be done in a peaceful manner.
- ❖ Lakhs of people joined this movement. Angered by police misbehaviour, agitators set fire to a police station in a place in Uttar Pradesh called Chauri Chaura. A police station was set on fire. Some policemen died in this incident. Gandhiji recalled the movement.
- ❖ In 1917 Gandhiji started the Satyagraha Movement in Champaran district of Bihar in protest against atrocities on farmers by the British. It was a peaceful movement. In this peaceful movement Gandhiji was victorious.
- ❖ With the arrival of Gandhiji the struggle for independence spread to all states of the country. The leaders in the different states of India as well as the common man joined the struggle for freedom.
- ❖ Distinguished leaders such as Pandit Moti Lal Nehru, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Subhash Chandra Bose, Chakravarti Rajagopalachari, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Abul Kalam Azad, Sarojini Naidu, Aruna Asaf Ali were a part of the freedom struggle.
- ❖ The British government became nervous on seeing the increasing strength of the Congress. It made new laws in order to suppress the freedom movement.
- ❖ People took out processions at various places. They assembled at different places to oppose the new laws.
- ❖ On 13 April, 1919 in Amritsar's Jallianwala Bagh British soldiers opened fire raining bullets at the people assembled peacefully. Hundreds of unarmed people were killed. After this incident patriotic revolutionaries got together.
- ❖ Revolutionaries such as Chandra Shekhar Azad, Bhagat Singh, Ram Prasad Bismil, Batukeshwar Dutt, Ashfaq Ullah Khan, Rajguru and Sukhdev kept the torch for freedom lit and aflame.
- ❖ In 1920 Gandhiji launched the Non Cooperation Movement to oppose the Rowlatt Act and the Jallianwala Bagh incident. This rendered the government handi-capped.
- ❖ In 1929 Jawaharlal Nehru made a demand for 'Purna Swaraj' which means full independence from British rule. At that time only the government had the right to make salt.
- ❖ On 6 April, 1930 Gandhiji completed his Dandi March by breaking the 'salt law'. This is known as the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- ❖ In 1942 under the leadership of Gandhiji the people launched the Quit India Movement. Gandhiji said that we would either gain independence or die. The Azad Hind Fauj of Subhash Chandra Bose also engaged the British army.
- ❖ Finally on 15 August, 1947 India gained independence from the British Empire. As India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru unfurled the tricolour from the ramparts of the Red Fort in Delhi.
- ❖ Since then every year 15 August is celebrated as Independence Day. We gained this freedom after a lot of struggle. We should protect it with our lives. It is said that even in our dreams slavery is not a happy situation.

Important Personalities of the Freedom Struggle

- **Annie Besant**
 - ❖ Founded the Theosophical Society in India and started the Home Rule League.
 - ❖ Established Central Hindu School and College at Banaras.
 - ❖ National women's day is celebrated every year on 13 February in her memory.
 - ❖ President of the Calcutta Session of INC, AD 1917.
- **Lala Lajpat Rai**
 - ❖ He was a great freedom fighter of India and a member of the extremist trio of Congress 'Bal Lal Pal'. Along with Lala Hansraj, he established Dayanand Anglo Vedic Colleges all over the country.
- **Chandra Shekhar Azad**
 - ❖ He was a famous revolutionary activist, member of the Hindustan Republican Association and leader of the Hindustan Social Republican Army.
 - ❖ He was involved in the Kakori Conspiracy of 1925, Second Lahore Conspiracy, the Delhi Conspiracy, the killing of Saunders in Lahore and the Central Assembly bomb episode.
- **Lal Bahadur Shastri**
 - ❖ He was born in Varanasi in 1904 in a Kayastha family.
 - ❖ He gave up his surname Srivastava and adopted the educational title Shastri in protest against casteism. He became the Prime Minister of the country after the death of Jawaharlal Nehru in 1964.

- ❖ He gave the slogan Jai Jawan Jai Kisan.
- ❖ He died under suspicious circumstances in Uzbekistan in 1966.
- **Dadabhai Naoroji**
 - ❖ First to demand 'Swaraj' in the Calcutta Session of INC, 1906.
 - ❖ First Indian to be selected to the "House of Commons" on Liberal Party ticket.
 - ❖ He highlighted the draining of wealth from India by the British and its effect in his book "Poverty and un-British Rule in India "(1901).
 - ❖ He was known as "Grand Old Man of India"
- **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**
 - ❖ He founded the Depressed Classes Institute (1924) and Samaj Samata Sangh (1927).
 - ❖ Participated in all the Three Round Table Conferences and signed the Poona Pact with Gandhiji in 1932.
 - ❖ Chairman of the Drafting Committee of Indian Constitution.
 - ❖ As the first Law Minister of Independent India, he introduced the Hindu Code Bill.
- **Dr. Rajendra Prasad**
 - ❖ Founded the National College at Patna.
 - ❖ Minister in charge of Food and Agriculture in the Interim Government (1946).
 - ❖ President of the Constituent Assembly.
 - ❖ First President of the Indian Republic.
 - ❖ Honoured with 'Bharat Ratna' in 1962.
- **Gopal Krishna Gokhale**
 - ❖ Gandhiji regarded him as his political guru.
 - ❖ President of the Banaras Session of INC, 1905, supported the Swadeshi Movement.
 - ❖ Founded the Servants of Indian Society in 1905.
- **Bal Gangadhar Tilak**
 - ❖ Bal Gangadhar Tilak was the top leader of India during the freedom struggle. He belonged to the extremist group. He gave the slogan 'Swaraj is my birth right, I will take it'.
 - ❖ He made Ganapati Puja and Shivaji Jayanti as a public festival.
- **Jawaharlal Nehru**
 - ❖ He was born in November 1889 in Prayagraj. His birthday is celebrated as Children's Day in India.
 - ❖ He started a newspaper named 'National Herald'.
 - ❖ He was appointed the chairman of the first Planning Committee of India.
 - ❖ General Secretary of INC in 1928 and its President in 1929.
 - ❖ The Independence resolution was passed under his Presidentship at the Lahore Session.
 - ❖ First Prime Minister of Republic India (from 1947 to 1964), also known as architect of Modern India.
 - ❖ He authored the Doctrine of Panchsheel and believed in the policy of non-Alignment.
- **Rabindranath Tagore**
 - ❖ He founded Shantiniketan near Bolpur on December 22, 1901.
 - ❖ He wrote 'Gitanjali', which fetched him the Nobel Prize in 1913.
 - ❖ In 1915, the British Crown granted him a 'knighthood' which he renounced after the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.
 - ❖ His compositions were chosen as National Anthem by two nations:
 - (i) India - Jana Gana Mana
 - (ii) Bangladesh - Amar Shonar Bangla
- **Sarojini Naidu**
 - ❖ Popularly known as the "Nightingale of India", she was a nationalist and poetess from Uttar Pradesh.
 - ❖ She participated in the Dandi March with Gandhiji and presided over the Kanpur Session of Congress in 1925.
 - ❖ She was the first woman to become the Governor of Uttar Pradesh State.
- **Mahatma Gandhi**
 - ❖ Mahatma Gandhi was born in 1869 in Porbandar, Gujarat. His father's name was Karamchand Gandhi.
 - ❖ He advocated for non-violent civil disobedience and was a key figure in India's struggle for independence from British colonial rule. He is called the father of India.
 - ❖ He returned to India from South Africa in 1915. Then he established 'Sabarmati Ashram' in Ahmedabad. Gandhiji first used Satyagraha in Champaran in 1917. It was against the Tinkathia system.
 - ❖ Mahatma Gandhi gave the slogan 'Do or Die'.
 - ❖ Mahatma Gandhi did the Dandi March to break the salt law.
 - ❖ He edited and published news papers and magazines like Indian opinion, Navjeevan, Young India, Harijan.
 - ❖ He started his political career in 1917 from Champaran in Bihar.
 - ❖ He led many major campaigns like the Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement and Quit India Movement. On January 30, 1948, Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated by traitor Nathuram Godse. This day is celebrated as Martyr's Day.
- **Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel**
 - ❖ He was a key figure in the Indian independence movement and played a key role in the integration of the princely states of India into a united nation.
 - ❖ He served as India's first deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs after independence.
- **Subhash Chandra Bose**
 - ❖ He was born on 23 January 1897 in Cuttack, Odisha. His birthday is celebrated as Parakram Diwas. He broke away from the Congress in 1939 and formed the Forward Block.
 - ❖ He gave the slogan " Dilli chalo" and "You give me blood, I will give you freedom."

- ❖ He advocated for a more aggressive and militant approach to the struggle for independence. He is also known as Netaji.
- ❖ He established Azad Hind Fauz in 1943 in Singapore under the leadership of Captain Mohan Singh. He became its first commander.
- **Bhagat Singh**
 - ❖ A socialist revolutionary, he played a key role in the Indian independence movement and is considered a national hero for his acts of rebellion against British colonial rule. He formed the Naujawan Bharat Sabha in 1924.
 - ❖ He advocated for the use of violence as a means of achieving independence.
 - ❖ He threw a bomb at the Central Legislative Assembly in 1928.
 - ❖ He wrote the book 'Why I am an Atheist' and gave the slogan 'Inquilab Zindabad'. The day of his hanging is celebrated as Martyrs Day in India.
- **Rani Lakshmbai**
 - ❖ A queen of the Maratha-ruled state of Jhansi in North India, She was one of the leading figures of the Indian Rebellion of 1857 and became an icon of resistance to British rule in India.
- **C. Rajagopalachari**
 - ❖ He served as the last Governor-General of India before it became a republic and was the Chief Minister of Madras state.
 - ❖ He started civil disobedience movement in Tamil Nadu.
- **Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay**
 - ❖ Composed Vande Mataram, the national song of India.
- **Madan Mohan Malaviya**
 - ❖ Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya founded the Central Hindu College in 1917 as part of educational reforms in India, which later developed into Banaras Hindu University.

Social Reformers of India

Raja Rammohan Roy

- Rammohan Roy (1772-1833) was one of the earlier reformers influenced by the Western ideas to initiate reforms. He was a great scholar, well-versed in Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian, and English apart from his knowledge in his mother tongue, Bengali.
- He held that all the principal ancient texts of the Hindus preached Monotheism (worship of one God) and opposed Polytheism (belief in more than one God).
- He founded Atmiya Sabha in 1915.
- He appealed to reason and humanity and compassion of the people. His campaign played a key role in forcing Governor-General William Bentinck's legislation abolishing sati in 1829. Rammohan Roy condemned the subjugation of women and opposed the prevailing ideas that women were inferior to men.
- He is called the "father of Indian Nationalism" and "the new morning star".

- He maintained an English school in Calcutta at his own cost. Subjects like mechanics and philosophy were also taught among other subjects.
- A Vedanta college was opened in 1825. Raja Ram Mohan Ray helped in the opening of the Hindu college in Calcutta for higher learning.
- He strongly advocated education for women. He gave his full support for the introduction of English language and western sciences in schools and colleges. He also started a Bengali newspaper called Samvad Kaumudi.
- Rammohan Roy founded the Brahma Samaj on 20 August 1828. He opened a temple in Calcutta, where there was no image.
- There he laid down that 'no religion should be reviled or slightly or contemptuously spoken off or alluded to.' The Samaj forbade idol-worship and condemned meaningless religious rites and ceremonies.

Maharishi Debendranath Tagore

- After the death of Rammohan Roy (1833), Maharishi Debendranath Tagore (1817-1905), the poet Rabindranath Tagore's father, carried on the work. He laid down four articles of faith :
 - ❖ In the beginning there was nothing. The one Supreme Being alone existed who created the Universe.
 - ❖ He alone is the God of Truth, Infinite Wisdom, Goodness, and Power, eternal, omnipresent, the one without second.
 - ❖ Our salvation depends on belief in Him and in His worship in this world and the next.
 - ❖ Belief consists in loving him and doing his will.

Keshub Chandra Sen

- Debendranath was a moderate reformer. But his younger colleagues in the Sabha were in favour of rapid change. The most prominent of these was Keshab Chandra Sen, (1838-84) who joined the movement in 1857. But in 1866 the Brahma Samaj split.
- Keshub left the Brahma Samaj and founded a new organisation, the Prarthana Samaj. Thereafter, Debendranath's organisation came to be known as the Adi Brahma Samaj.
- After Keshub married his fourteen-year-old daughter to an Indian prince, the opponents of child marriage left the Brahma Samaj of India and started the Sadharan Samaj because of the violation of the idea of social condemnation of child marriage.

Ishwar Chandra Vidhyasagar

- Another outstanding reformer in Bengal was Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar (1820-1891). He was the principal of Calcutta Sanskrit college. He considered knowledge to be as vast as the ocean. While Ram Mohan Roy and others looked to western rationalist ideas to reform society, Vidyasagar argued that the Hindu scriptures were progressive.
- He provided evidence from scriptures that there was no sanction for burning of widows or for the prohibition on the remarriage of widows. He wrote a number of polemical tracts, and was the pioneer of modern Bengali prose. He played a leading role in promoting education of girls and helped them in setting up a number of schools.

- He dedicated his whole life for the betterment of the child widows of the Hindu society. He devoted his entire life for the welfare of child widows of Hindu society. As a result of the movement and practices led by Vidyasagar, the then Governor General Lord Dalhousie passed the Widow Remarriage Reform Act 1856. The aim of this Act was to improve the condition of child widows and save them from permanent widowhood.

Swami Dayanand Saraswati and Arya Samaj

- The Arya Samaj led the reform movement in North India and Punjab. It was founded (1875) in Bombay by an itinerant ascetic, Swami Dayanand Saraswati (1824-83). He was born in Maurvi, Gujarat.
- Swami Dayanand later settled in Punjab to propagate his views. His book, Satyarth Prakash, became widely popular. He declared that practices such as child marriage, prohibition of widow remarriage and the alleged ill-effects of foreign travel had no scriptural sanction.
- The positive principles propounded by Dayanand were Vedic philosophy of life with a complex monotheism, opposition to idolatry, and rejection of Brahmanical domination of rituals and social practices. He also rejected superstitions in Hinduism and gave the slogan "Back to the Vedas".
- The Arya Samaj attempted to investigate the phenomenon of religious conversion in British India. One of its main objectives was conversion, wherein a purification ceremony called Shuddhi was conducted for those Hindus who had converted to Islam and Christianity.
- The primary achievements of the Arya Samaj were in the field of social reform and the spread of education. The Arya Samaj also started several Dayanand Anglo-Vedic (DAV) schools and colleges.

Swami Vivekananda

- Narendra Nath Datta (1863-1902), later known as Swami Vivekananda, was the prime follower of Ramakrishna Paramahansa. His birthday is celebrated as National Youth day in India. He died in 1903 at the age of 39.
- An educated youth, he was drawn to Ramakrishna's message. Dissatisfied with conventional philosophical positions and practices, he advocated the practical Vedanta of service to humanity and attacked the tendency to defend every institution simply because it was connected with religion. He gave the call for 'Return to the Gita and founded the Ramakrishna Mission.
- He emphasized cultural nationalism and made a call to Indian youth to regenerate Hindu society. His ideas bred a sense of self-confidence among Indians who felt inferior in relation to the materialist achievements of the West. He became famous for his addresses on Hinduism at the 1893 World Congress of Religions in Chicago.
- Despite his fame, he was condemned by orthodox Hindus for suggesting that the lower castes should be allowed to engage in the Hindu rituals from which they were traditionally excluded. Vivekananda's activist ideology rekindled the desire for political change among many western-education young Bengalis.

- Many of the youths who were involved in the militant nationalist struggle during the Swadeshi movement following the Partition of Bengal were inspired by Vivekananda.

Jyotiba Phule

- Jyotiba Govindrao Phule was born in 1827 in Maharashtra to an agrarian family which was classified as a Shudra. He opened the first school for the so-called 'untouchables' in Poona in 1848, supported by his wife Savitribai Phule.
- He launched the Satyashodhak Samaj (Truth-Seeker Society) in 1873 to inspire the non-Brahmin masses to self-respect. It was founded with the aim of liberating the so-called lower castes and protecting them from exploitation and oppression.
- He was greatly influenced by the book "The Nation Man" by American writer Thomas Paine.
- Phule opposed child marriage and supported widow remarriage. Jyotiba and his wife Savitribai Phule dedicated their lives to the upliftment of the Dalit classes and women. Jyotiba established orphanages and ashrams for widows in Poona.
- In 1873, Jyotirao Phule dedicated his book 'Gulamgiri' to the American movement for emancipation of slaves. He compared the condition of black slaves in America to the condition of the so-called lower castes in India.
- In his famous book "Gulamgiri", he said that 'the upper castes have no right to the land, because in fact the land belongs to the indigenous people, *i.e.* the so-called lower castes.

Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar

- Ambedkar was born in a Mahar family in Mau, Madhya Pradesh. He was a noted sociologist, economist and reformer of India. After finishing school, he received a fellowship to go to the US for higher studies. On his return to India in 1919, he wrote extensively about the power of the "upper" caste in contemporary society.
- In 1927, Ambedkar launched a temple entry movement, in which his Mahar caste followers participated. Brahmin priests were angered when Dalits took water from the temple well.
- Ambedkar led three such movements for temple entry between 1927 and 1935. His aim was to show everyone the power of caste prejudices within society.
- Ambedkar founded the Independent Labour Party in August 1936 and the All India Scheduled Castes Federation in July 1942.
- He was appointed as the first Law Minister of India in 1947. He is known in India as Baba Saheb and the architect of the Constitution.
- His birthday on 14 April is celebrated as Ambedkar Jayanti and his death anniversary on 6 December.

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

- As part of Muslim religious reforms, Sir Syed Khan founded the Muslim-Anglo Oriental College in 1875, which later developed into Aligarh Muslim University.

Important Questions

1. Who has written 'Sare Jahan Se Achcha'?
(A) Rabindra Nath Tagore
(B) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
(C) Muhammad Iqbal
(D) Subhash Chandra Bose
2. Who is known as 'Iron man' of India ?
(A) Jawaharlal Nehru
(B) Mahatma Gandhi
(C) Sardar Patel
(D) Subhash Chandra Bose
3. Aligarh Muslim University is associated with :
(A) Rabindranath Tagore
(B) Tansen
(C) Kalidas
(D) Syyed Ahmad Khan
4. The English Government introduced the policy of divide and rule to :
(A) educated Indian
(B) encourage nationalism
(C) reform Indians
(D) suppress nationalism
5. Purna Swaraj means :
(A) non-cooperation
(B) civil disobedience
(C) boycott
(D) complete independence
6. Who establish central hindu school at Kamachha, Varanasi ?
(A) Mother Teresa
(B) Annie Besant
(C) Sister Nivedita
(D) Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya
7. The Ashram of Gandhiji is situated in :
(A) Gandhi Nagar (B) Sabarmati
(C) Surat (D) Vardha
8. Which kingdom first used elephants in battles?
(A) Kosal (B) Magadha
(C) Palas (D) Avanti
9. When did Jallianwala Bagh massacre take place?
(A) 1919 (B) 1918
(C) 1917 (D) 1939
10. When did Quit India Movement take place?
(A) 1943 (B) 1942
(C) 1944 (D) 1945
11. In which year did Gandhiji come to India from South Africa?
(A) 1916 (B) 1917
(C) 1915 (D) 1919
12. To which of the republic of Buddha belong?
(A) Lichchavis
(B) Sakyas
(C) Mallas
(D) None of the above
13. Tripitakas are sacred books of :
(A) Buddhists
(B) Hindus
(C) Jains
(D) None of the above
14. Tulsidas, the author of Ramcharitmanas, was a contemporary of which of the following rulers?
(A) Akbar (B) Humayun
(C) Shahjahan (D) Sher Shah Suri
15. During which Indian ruler's reign did Ibn Battuta visit India?
(A) Iltutmish
(B) Alauddin Khalji
(C) Mohammad Bin Tughlaq
(D) Balban
16. From which country did Subhash Chandra Bose call for "Dilli Chalo" movement?
(A) Russia (B) Japan
(C) Italy (D) Singapore
17. What did Gandhiji do to break the salt law?
(A) Dandi March
(B) Ahmedabad March
(C) Champaran
(D) All
18. Who abolished the practice of 'Sati' during the British period?
(A) Dalhousie
(B) Wellesley
(C) William Bentinck
(D) Mayo
19. In which state the ancient city of Lothal situated?
(A) Gujarat (B) Punjab
(C) Haryana (D) Odisha
20. Where was the 'Azad Hind Fauj' established?
(A) Singapore (B) India
(C) Canada (D) USA
21. Who was the first Governor General of British India?
(A) Lord Hasting
(B) Warren Hasting
(C) Lord William Bentinck
(D) None of these
22. For how many days the Battle of Kurukshetra was fought?
(A) 12 (B) 18
(C) 15 (D) 19
23. Who wrote down the epic Mahabharata while Vyasa was narrating?
(A) Narada (B) Vishwakarma
(C) Ganesh (D) Shiv
24. Which of the following rulers were contemporary of Buddha?
(A) Bimbisara of Magadha
(B) Prasenjit of Kosala
(C) Udayan of Vatsa
(D) All of the above
25. Who introduced "Subsidiary Alliance" policy in India?
(A) Lord William Bentinck
(B) Lord Auckland
(C) Lord Wellesley
(D) Lord Dalhousie
26. What is the vehicle of God 'Indra'?
(A) Airavat (B) Garud
(C) Nandi (D) Owl
27. Champaran Satyagraha was led by:
(A) Rajendra Prasad
(B) Pandit Nehru
(C) Sardar Patel
(D) Gandhiji
28. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was the founder of:
(A) Brahma Samaj
(B) Arya Samaj
(C) Ramakrishna Mission
(D) Theosophical Society
29. Who started the magazine 'Young India'?
(A) Jawaharlal Nehru
(B) Ras Bihari Bose
(C) Arvind Ghosh
(D) Mahatma Gandhi
30. The capital of Magadha Empire was :
(A) Girivraj (Rajgir) (B) Vaishali
(C) Bhagalpur (D) Munger

Answer Key

1. (C) 2. (C) 3. (D) 4. (D) 5. (D)
6. (B) 7. (B) 8. (B) 9. (A) 10. (B)
11. (C) 12. (B) 13. (C) 14. (A) 15. (C)
16. (D) 17. (A) 18. (C) 19. (A) 20. (A)
21. (C) 22. (B) 23. (C) 24. (D) 25. (C)
26. (A) 27. (D) 28. (A) 29. (D) 30. (A)

