



Read this lesson and the lesson 'Nationalism in India' from the NCERT textbook.

<http://ncert.nic.in/textbook/textbook.htm?jess3=2-5> (TEXT BOOK LINK)

Do the assignment in the History notebook.

SUBTOPICS:

(a) How participants saw the Civil Disobedience Movement.

(b) Limitations of the Civil Disobedience Movement

Participants of the Civil Disobedience Movement:

1. Rich peasant communities
2. Industrialists
3. Women

Rich peasant communities like the Jats of U.P. and the Patidars of Gujarat were very active in the movement as they were affected badly by the great economic depression. They wanted the government to reduce the revenue. For them, the fight for Swaraj was a fight against high revenue. But when Gandhiji called off the movement in 1931 without decreasing the revenue, they were deeply depressed and didn't join the movement when it was relaunched.

Poor Peasantry always stayed aloof from the Congress as it supported the rich peasantry. Their problem was the paying of high rents to the rich peasants as tenants. But they often joined movements led by SOCIALISTS and COMMUNISTS.

Industrialists: Their demands were:

- Protection against imported goods
- Rupee-sterling high exchange ratio to discourage imports. They formed IICC (Indian Industry Commercial Congress) in 1920 and FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers Of Commerce and Industries) in 1927. These were led by **Purshottam Das Thakurdas** and **G.D. Birla**.

For them, Swaraj meant freedom to trade without any restrictions or colonial barriers. But after the failure of the Round Table Conference, they were not at all interested in the movement.

Workers

The industrial working class did not participate in the Civil Disobedience Movement in large numbers, except in the Nagpur region. As Industrialists came closer to the

Congress, workers stayed aloof. Congress never took the workers seriously as this would alienate the industrialists.

Women

Many women in urban areas were from high caste families but in rural areas, they were from the rich peasant communities.

They felt it was their duty to serve the nation. But Gandhiji was only interested in their symbolic presence and himself placed women in households.

Limitations of Civil Disobedience Movement

1. Untouchables did not participate
 2. Muslims felt alienated
- **Untouchables**: Called themselves dalits or the oppressed. They were not included because this would anger the Sanatamis or the conservative high caste Hindus.

But Gandhiji called them Harijans, i.e. children of God and himself cleaned toilets and organized Satyagraha to permit them into temples etc.

But many of their leaders wanted reserved seats in educational institutions and a separate electorate.

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar organized them into Depressed Classes Association in 1930 and demanded separate electorates. Gandhiji believed that a separate electorate would not unite the country, so the Poona Pact of September 1932 was signed where the Dalits were given reserved seats and not a separate electorate and they would be voted in through the general electorate.

- **Muslims**

After the failure of the Non-cooperation and Khilafat movement and seeing Congress associate with Hindu Mahasabha, the Muslims felt alienated and thought that the Hindu majority would suppress the Muslim minority.

Their demands were:

- Separate electorate
- Control of Muslim dominated areas (Punjab and Bengal)

But Muhammad Ali Jinnah gave Congress a chance. He was willing to give up the demand of separate electorate but at the All Parties Conference in 1928, Mr. R Jayakar, of the Hindu Mahasabha strongly opposed any compromise and all hopes were shattered.

For better understanding of the concept, watch the YouTube video as well:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NNRbGujG6pQ>

ASSIGNMENT

Q1. "Evaluate the attitude of the Indian merchants and industrialists towards the Civil Disobedience Movement.

Q2. "Dalit participation was limited in the Civil Disobedience Movement" Examine the statement.

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