

Independence Movement of India

Includes many political organizations,
philosophies and movements with the
common aim of ending the British
Colonial Rule in India

British Raj 1858-1947

- Following Sepoy rebellion of 1857 many political organizations were formed
- East India Association- Dadabhai Navroji
- Indian National Association- Surendranath Banerjee
- India National Congress- formed in 1885 by upper class and western educated people. Mostly loyal to British Raj, passes non-controversial resolutions and functioned as debating society serving interests of urban elites than masses

Socio-religious Groups

- Arya Samaj- Dayananda Saraswati
- Brahmo Samaj-Raja Ram Mohan Roy pioneered reforms in Indian Society
- Vivekananda and Ramakrishna
- Sri Aurobindo
- Subramanya Bharati
- Sir Syed Ahmad Khan
- Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
- Rabindranath Tagore

Rise of Nationalism

- Nationalism-need to have representation and say in governing of India.
- Tilak- First to embrace “Swaraj” as birthright and destiny of nation. Opposed British Education System that defamed India’s culture, resented denial of freedom of expression for nationalist, started “public Ganesh Utsav” in Maharashtra as an occasion to have large gatherings to motivate people for freedom-struggle

Nationalism contd.....

- In 1907 congress split into two. Tilak's views were deemed "extremism". He wanted direct assault on British Raj and abandon all British things. He was backed by Lala Lajpat Rai and Bankim Chandra Pal. Tilak was forced to leave the party.
- As a result- Indian Offensive was stalled. Congress lost credibility. Muslim league asked for increased number of elective offices reserved for Muslims and asked for separation from Hindu Dominated Congress

Partition of Bengal

- Lord Curzon- 1909
- Swadeshi Movement
- Boycott of British Goods
- Visit of King George V in 1911 as a goodwill gesture and cancelled the Partition

Impact of World War -I

- 1915- Indians sent 1.3 million troops and princes sent food, money and ammunition.
- Hindu-German Conspiracy- This was resisted by nationalists in Bengal and Punjab and with the help of Indians outside India- mostly in the USA, Canada and Germany headed by Berlin Committee and Ghadar Party attempted resistance and mutiny similar to 1857 known as Hindu-German Conspiracy. This was suppressed by international counter intelligence and Defence of India act.

WW I impact contd.....

- Post war increase in Indian casualties and sufferings, increase in taxation and Influenza epidemic in India
- Pre-war Nationalist movement was revived as moderate and extremist grps.
- Soldiers smuggled arms to overthrow British Govt
- Lucknow Pact- to form temporary alliance with Muslim League.
- Montague Act- Dual control of administration with increasing involvement of Indians in the governing of the country.