

STUDY MATERIAL

LESSON -6

STRUGGLE AND FREEDOM

1. Point out the reasons that helped Gandhiji to gain the trust and recognition of the common people of India very soon ?

- His protests for the Indian expatriates in South Africa made him famous to the Indians.
- Gandhi was very popular because he lived among the common people and his food and clothing was similar to that of the common man in India and he spoke in their language
- Common people found in Mahatma Gandhi a saviour who could solve their problems

2. Mention early struggles under Gandhi in India ?

• The Struggle of indigo farmers in Champaran	• Bihar	• 1917
• Ahmedabad cotton mill strike	• Gujarat	• 1918
• Peasant struggle in Kheda	• Gujarat	• 1918

3. Write a short note on Champaran indigo struggle, Ahmedabad cotton mill strike and Peasant struggle in Kheda.

a) The struggle of the Indigo farmers in Champaran :- It took place in 1917. Gandhi's involvement in the problems of the indigo farmers in Champaran compelled the authorities to pass laws in favour of the indigo farmers. Gandhi worked for the progress of the Champaran region by establishing primary schools, initiating medical aids and introducing cleaning activities.

b) Ahmedabad Cotton mill strike (1918) :- It was in 1918 when the cotton mill workers were denied 'Plague Bonus'. Following the satyagraha of Gandhi, the authorities agreed to hike the wages of the employees and the strike came to an end.

c) Peasant struggle in Kheda (1918) :- Owing to the drought and crop failure, farmers in Kheda were living in utter misery. The rulers decided to collect tax from these poor villagers. Starting Satyagraha Gandhi protested against that decision and advised the people not to pay tax. Consequently the authorities were forced to reduce tax rates.

4. How did early struggles of Gandhiji reflect in Indian national movement ?

- It popularized Gandhiji's ideologies and method of protest
- His methods of protest attracted even the laymen to the movement
- The city centric national movement spread to the rural areas
- He became a national leader acceptable to all sections of the society

5. Write a short note about Rowlatt Act and Jallianwala Bagh Massacre.

Rowlatt Act :- Under Sir Sydney Rowlatt the British Parliament passed the Rowlatt Act in 1919 as a part of limiting the civil rights. As per this act any person could be arrested and imprisoned without trial.

Jallianwala Bagh Massacre :- When the protests against the Rowlatt Act failed Gandhiji suggested starting Satyagraha. People in various parts of the country went to the streets and started demonstrations and strikes. On April 13, 1919 a large number of people gathered together at the Jallianwala Bagh maidan in Amritsar to protest against the arrest of Saifuddin Kichlu and Sathyapal (Leaders of Anti Rowlatt Act agitation). The army Chief General Dyer ordered to shoot without warning. The shooting of ten minutes killed 379 protesters.

6. Identify the first national level struggle by the Indian National Congress under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi ? Ans: Non-cooperation movement.

7. What are the features of non-cooperation movement ?

- Lawyers shall boycott courts
- The public shall boycott foreign products
- Boycott elections
- Returning the British awards and prizes
- Students shall boycott English schools

8. How did the Indian society respond to Gandhiji's appeal for non-cooperation ?
- Farmers in Awadh refused to pay taxes.
 - The tribal groups in northern Andhra entered the forests and collected the forest produce violating the forest laws.
 - Farmers in Uttar Pradesh refused to carry the luggage of the colonial officials
 - Workers struck work.
 - Lawyers boycotted courts.
 - Students quitted colleges and schools run by the British.
 - The public, including women, burnt foreign clothes on the streets.
 - In addition to his appeal for non-cooperation, Gandhiji motivated the people to participate in constructive programmes. Inspired by this, people began to make indigenous products, spin khadi cloth using charka, establish national schools, popularise Hindi and eradicating untouchability.
- Kashi Vidya Pith Gujarat Vidya pith, Jamia Millia, etc. are some of the national institutions.
9. Who were the leaders of Khilaphat Movement ? What was the result of Khilaphat Movement ?
- Maulana Mohamad Ali and Maulana Shoukath Ali
- Anti-British feeling spread to the nook and corner of the nation.
 - Hindu-Muslim unity was intensified
10. What do you know about Chauri Chaura incident ?
- In response to the police firing at a mob, the villagers fired the police station and 22 police men died. The incident disappointed Gandhiji and he realised that the people could not fully understand the essence of Ahimsa. Gandhiji withdrew the non-cooperation movement.
11. The Lahore congress session was a turning point in the history of freedom movement in India. Explain?
- It held in 1929 under the chairman ship of Jawaharlal Nehru . The session declared that the ultimate aim of Indian Freedom struggle was to attain complete freedom (poorna Swaraj). It also resolved to start the Civil Disobedience Movement under the leadership of Gandhiji.
12. Identify the second national agitation under the leadership of Mahatha Gandhi ?
- Civil disobedience Movement
13. What is meant by Civil disobedience Movement ?
- With the Civil disobedience movement Gandhiji meant to disobey all anti-popular and anti democratic civil laws made by the British government
14. Point out the proposals put forward by Ghandiji as part of Civil disobedience movement ?
- To lift salt tax
 - To declare 50% tax relaxation for farmers
 - To increase the tax on imported foreign clothes
 - To release political prisoners
 - To cut short military budget and high salary of top officials
 - To dissolve the secret surveillance wing formed to watch Indians
 - To start coastal shipping service
 - To implement prohibition of liquor
15. Identify some centres of Civil disobedience Movement (Salt Satyagraha) ?
- Payyannur in Kerala, Vedaranyam in Tamil Nadu, Bombay in Maharashtra, Noakhali in Bengal and North West Frontier Province were the centres of civil disobedience Movement.
16. Name of the lady whom the British police severely tortured due to participate in Salt Satyagraha
- Sarijini Naidu at Dharasana salt field in Gujarat
15. Examine the reasons why Gandhiji selected salt as a powerful weapon against the British ? -
- Salt tax constituted two fifth portion of the income collected by the British through taxes.
 - This tax was a heavy burden for the poor people.
 - The British government banned small scale indigenous salt production.
 - There was three fold hike on salt price.
 - The demand for lifting salt tax was a slogan suitable to inspire all segments of the society.

16. What did Gandhi prove by making salt as a tool of protest ?
- any trivial issue can be snowballed into a popular strategy to trigger public protest and intensify a mass movement.
 - Succeeded in securing support of the society at large.
 - Sensitised the public in a very simple way to the exploitation of the British.
17.is the best example for bravery based on non-violence Ans: The Salt Sathyagraha
18. Identify the the last popular protest organized by the Indian National Congress under the leadership of Gandhiji. Ans: Quit India Movement
19. Write a short note about Quit India Movement.

Causes:

- (a) Reluctance of the British to implement constitutional reforms in India.
- (b) Public disgust with price hike and famine.
- (c) The assumption that the British would be defeated in the Second World War.

Results:

The British government arrested leaders including Mahatma Gandhi.

The uncontrolled mob demolished government offices, electric lines and transportation facilities.

At the end of 1942, India was under the fire of popular unrest.

12 Proposals of the Mount batten plan

☞ To form a separate country in Muslim majority area.

☞ To divide Punjab & Bengal

☞ To conduct a referendum to determine whether to add northwest frontier province to Pakistan or not

☞ To appoint a commission to determine the borders in Punjab & Bengal.