

CHAPTER NOTES

Nationalism in India

From the First World War to Civil Disobedience

SUBJECT

History (Social Science)

CLASS / COURSE

Class 10 · CBSE

PREPARED BY

Subject Teacher

How to Use These Notes

These notes cover the growth of the national movement from 1918 to the early 1930s. Each chapter starts with a short overview, then lists the key definitions, explains the core concepts with examples, and ends with practice questions. Answers to the multiple-choice questions are at the end.

Study plan

- Read the overview and definitions first
- Work through the solved examples without looking at the answers
- Attempt the practice questions in timed conditions
- Revise using the summary sheet the night before the exam

Contents

Topic 1: The First World War, Khilafat and Non-Cooperation.....	4
Key Definitions.....	4
Early Satyagrahas.....	4
The Non-Cooperation Movement.....	4
Solved Examples.....	4
Practice Questions.....	5
Topic 2: Civil Disobedience Movement.....	6
Key Definitions.....	6
Why Salt?.....	6
Participation and Limits.....	6
Solved Examples.....	6
Practice Questions.....	7
Topic 3: The Sense of Collective Belonging.....	8
Key Definitions.....	8
Symbols and Culture.....	8
Solved Examples.....	8
Practice Questions.....	9
Quick Revision Sheet.....	10
Sample Test Paper.....	11
Answer Key.....	12

Topic 1: The First World War, Khilafat and Non-Cooperation

The war created new economic and political conditions in India. Gandhiji's idea of satyagraha and the Khilafat issue brought Hindus and Muslims together in the Non-Cooperation Movement of 1920–22.

Key Definitions

Term	Meaning
Satyagraha	Mass agitation based on truth and non-violence
Rowlatt Act (1919)	Law allowing detention of political prisoners without trial
Jallianwala Bagh	Massacre at Amritsar on 13 April 1919
Khilafat	Movement to defend the Ottoman Caliph after the war
Non-Cooperation	Boycott of British institutions, goods and titles

Early Satyagrahas

Gandhiji led satyagrahas at Champaran (1917) for indigo farmers, Kheda (1917) for peasants hit by crop failure and Ahmedabad (1918) for mill workers.

The Non-Cooperation Movement

Launched in 1920, it began with the surrender of titles and boycott of civil services, courts, councils, schools and foreign goods. It was called off in February 1922 after the violence at Chauri Chaura.

- Boycott of foreign cloth
- Picketing of liquor shops
- Tribal and plantation workers' protests

Solved Examples

Q1. Why did Gandhiji withdraw the Non-Cooperation Movement?

The movement turned violent at Chauri Chaura in 1922, and Gandhiji felt that satyagrahis needed more training for mass struggle.

Q2. Why was the Rowlatt Act opposed?

It allowed detention without trial for two years, denying basic civil rights.

Exam tip

Use a timeline in your answer for “events leading to” questions — it organises points and saves words.

Practice Questions

A. Multiple choice

1. The Rowlatt Act was passed in

(a) 1917 (b) 1919 (c) 1920 (d) 1922

2. Champaran Satyagraha concerned

(a) Mill workers (b) Indigo farmers (c) Salt (d) Tax on land

3. Non-Cooperation was withdrawn after

(a) Jallianwala Bagh (b) Chauri Chaura (c) Dandi March (d) Simon Commission

4. Khilafat leaders included

(a) Ali brothers (b) Nehru (c) Patel (d) Bose

B. Short answer

1. What is satyagraha?
2. Why was the Khilafat issue taken up by Gandhiji?
3. Name three early satyagrahas.

C. Long answer

4. Explain the causes and spread of the Non-Cooperation Movement.
5. How did different social groups participate in the Non-Cooperation Movement?

Topic 2: Civil Disobedience Movement

The Salt March of 1930 started a new phase of the struggle in which people broke colonial laws, not only refused to cooperate.

Key Definitions

Term	Meaning
Simon Commission	All-British statutory commission that arrived in 1928
Purna Swaraj	Complete independence, demanded at Lahore in 1929
Dandi March	Gandhiji's 240-mile march to make salt in 1930
Gandhi–Irwin Pact	1931 agreement suspending Civil Disobedience
Poona Pact	1932 agreement on reserved seats for depressed classes

Why Salt?

Salt was used by rich and poor alike, so a tax on it united everyone. Gandhiji's letter to Viceroy Irwin listed eleven demands; when they were ignored, he began the march from Sabarmati to Dandi.

Participation and Limits

Rich peasants, poor peasants, businessmen, industrial workers and women joined for different reasons. Dalits and many Muslims remained distant, and the movement's unity was limited.

Solved Examples

Q1. Why did the Simon Commission face protests?

It had no Indian members, so it was greeted with "Simon go back".

Q2. What did the Gandhi–Irwin Pact provide?

Gandhiji agreed to attend the Second Round Table Conference and the government agreed to release political prisoners.

Exam tip

In "participation" questions, take each social group separately and give its reason for joining and its limits.

Practice Questions

A. Multiple choice

1. Dandi March began in
(a) 1928 (b) 1930 (c) 1931 (d) 1932
2. Purna Swaraj resolution was passed at
(a) Calcutta (b) Lahore (c) Madras (d) Nagpur
3. Poona Pact was signed between Gandhiji and
(a) Jinnah (b) Ambedkar (c) Irwin (d) Nehru
4. Simon Commission came to India in
(a) 1927 (b) 1928 (c) 1929 (d) 1930

B. Short answer

6. Why was salt chosen as a symbol?
7. What was the Poona Pact?
8. Why was the Simon Commission boycotted?

C. Long answer

9. Describe the Salt March and the spread of the Civil Disobedience Movement.
10. How was Civil Disobedience different from Non-Cooperation?

Topic 3: The Sense of Collective Belonging

Nationalism spreads when people begin to believe that they are part of the same nation. History, folklore, songs and symbols helped create this sense of belonging.

Key Definitions

Term	Meaning
Bharat Mata	Image of the nation as a mother figure, painted by Abanindranath Tagore
Vande Mataram	Hymn by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay
Swaraj flag	Tricolour with a spinning wheel designed in 1921
Folklore	Traditional stories and songs collected to recover national culture

Symbols and Culture

Folk tales were collected to discover a true national culture, the tricolour became a symbol of defiance, and reinterpretation of history encouraged pride in India's past.

- Painting of Bharat Mata
- Collection of folk songs and stories
- Swaraj flag with the charkha
- Histories of ancient achievements

Solved Examples

Q1. How did the image of Bharat Mata help nationalism?

It gave a visible, emotional identity to the nation, and devotion to the mother figure became a sign of patriotism.

Q2. Why did nationalists reinterpret history?

To counter British claims that Indians were backward and to instil pride in India's achievements.

Exam tip

Link each symbol to a person or year — examiners reward specific detail.

Practice Questions

A. Multiple choice

1. Vande Mataram was written by
(a) Rabindranath Tagore (b) Bankim Chandra (c) Gandhiji (d) Nehru
2. The Swaraj flag of 1921 had a
(a) Lotus (b) Spinning wheel (c) Chakra (d) Star
3. Bharat Mata was first painted by
(a) Raja Ravi Varma (b) Abanindranath Tagore (c) Nandalal Bose (d) M. F. Husain
4. Folklore was collected to
(a) Entertain (b) Discover national culture (c) Teach English (d) Raise taxes

B. Short answer

11. Name two symbols that united Indians.
12. What role did folklore play in nationalism?
13. Who painted Bharat Mata?

C. Long answer

14. How did cultural processes help create a sense of collective belonging?
15. Explain the role of symbols and history in the growth of nationalism.

Quick Revision Sheet

Chapter	Term	Remember
The First World War, Khilafat and Non- Cooperation	Satyagraha	Mass agitation based on truth and non-violence
The First World War, Khilafat and Non- Cooperation	Rowlatt Act (1919)	Law allowing detention of political prisoners without trial
The First World War, Khilafat and Non- Cooperation	Jallianwala Bagh	Massacre at Amritsar on 13 April 1919
Civil Disobedience Movement	Simon Commission	All-British statutory commission that arrived in 1928
Civil Disobedience Movement	Purna Swaraj	Complete independence, demanded at Lahore in 1929
Civil Disobedience Movement	Dandi March	Gandhiji's 240-mile march to make salt in 1930
The Sense of Collective Belonging	Bharat Mata	Image of the nation as a mother figure, painted by Abanindranath Tagore
The Sense of Collective Belonging	Vande Mataram	Hymn by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay
The Sense of Collective Belonging	Swaraj flag	Tricolour with a spinning wheel designed in 1921

Sample Test Paper

Time: 1 hour Maximum marks: 25

General instructions: All questions are compulsory. Marks are shown against each question. Draw neat diagrams wherever required.

Q1. What is satyagraha? [2]

Q2. Why was salt chosen as a symbol? [2]

Q3. Name two symbols that united Indians. [2]

Q4. Explain the causes and spread of the Non-Cooperation Movement. [5]

Q5. Describe the Salt March and the spread of the Civil Disobedience Movement. [5]

Q6. How did cultural processes help create a sense of collective belonging? [5]

Answer Key

Chapter	Question	Answer
1	1	b
1	2	b
1	3	b
1	4	a
2	1	b
2	2	b
2	3	b
2	4	b
3	1	b
3	2	b
3	3	b
3	4	b