

**I: REVOLT OF 1857**  
**Dr. A. Ravisankar, Ph.D.,**

**BACKGROUND**

- Popular revolt igniting in North and Central India during the regime of Lord Canning.
- V.D. Savarkar said, “1857 Revolt was considered as first war independence”
- R.C. Majumdar said, “It was neither first, nor national, nor war of independence”
- S.N. Sen, “What began as a fight for religion, ended as a war of independence”
- Trevelyan, “A Mutiny confined to the army which did not commend the support of people at large”
- Disreli, “A national rising”
- Karl Marx, “The struggle of the soldier, peasant, democratic combine against foreign as well as feudal bondage”
- Medley, “A war of races”

**CAUSES**

- Political Causes: Policy of Doctrine of Lapse (introduced by Dalhousie).
  - Feeling of suspicious arose among the princely rulers.
  - Annexation of Oudh and Carnatic region
  - Absentee of Sovereignty ship.
- Economic Causes: Domination of British trading company & decline of Indian Industries.
  - Confiscation of Jagir lands.
  - All the high post was reserved for the English and Indians are not appointed.
- Social and Religious Causes: Role of Christian Missionaries- conversion
  - Interfere the religious affairs of the Indians.
  - Introduction of Railway and telecommunication.
- Military Causes: Indians expected more pay
  - The “General Service Enlistment Act” passed in 1856 created great bitterness among Indian soldiers as they were reluctant to go overseas.
  - The privilege of free postage enjoyed by the sepoys was withdrawn with the passing of the Post Office Act of 1856.
  - Sepoys declined unfit for foreign service were not allow to retire with pension, but were to be posted for duty at cantonments.
- Immediate Causes: Introduction of new Royal Enfield rifle replace the Brown Bess. The Loading process involved the biting off the top cap with mouth which was allegedly greased with the fat of cow or pig.

**MAJOR EVENTS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> February 1857 -Mutiny of the 19<sup>th</sup> Native Infantry at Berhampur
- 10<sup>th</sup> May 1857 – Mutiny of Sepoy’s at Meerut.
- 11 to 30<sup>th</sup> May 1857- Revolts in Delhi, Aligarh, Bareilly, Bombay, Bulandshahar, Ferozpur and Nasirbad.
- The Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah proclaimed as the Emperor of India.

- June 1857- Revolts at Jhansi, Allahabad, Bharatpur, Gwalior, Lucknow, Faizabad, Central India and Indo-Gangetic Plain.
- July 1857- Revolts at Punjab, Indore and Saugar.
- September 1857- Delhi was recaptured by British.
- November 1857 – General Windham was defeated by the Nan Sahib’s army, out of Kanpur.
- December 1857 – The Battle of Kanpur was won by Britishers, Tantia Tope escaped and joined with Jhansi Rani.
- March 1858 – Lucknow was recaptured by British.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1858 – Jhansi was captured by Sir Hugh Rose- fresh rising in Bihar by Kunwar Singh.
- June 1858 – Gwalior was captured.
- July to December 1858 – British authority was re-established in India.
- April 1859 – Tantia Tope was captured and Hanged.

### **LEADERS OF THE REVOLT**

<b>Place</b>	<b>Name of the Leader</b>
Delhi	Bahadur Shah and Bankt Khan
Jhansi	Rani Laxmi Bai
Bihar	Kunwar Singh
Mathura	Devi Singh
Meerut	Kadam Singh
Lucknow	Begum Hazrat Mahal, Maulvi Ahmadullah
Kanpur	Nana Sahib, Azimullah
Allahabad	Liakat Ali
Gwalior	Tantia Tope
Bareilly	Khan Bahadur Khan

### **CHIEF EVENTS OF GREAT UPRISING**

- Barackpore: Mangal Pandey attacked the Adjutant.
- Meerut: 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Regiment- General Hewitt.
- Delhi- Bahadur Shah- Sir Jhon Nicolson
- Kanpur- Hugh Wheeler and General Havelock- Nana Sahib was escaped to Nepal
- Lucknow- Henry Lawrence.
- Central India- Hugh Rose.

## **CAUSES FOR THE FAILURE**

- The revolt was not inspired by any positive and creative idea. It lacked plan, programme and funds.
- The revolt was localized and poorly organized.
- The Sikhs, Rajputs, Marathas and the ruling chief of the Eastern India did not take part in the revolt.
- Supremacy of the British power.
- The revolt of 1857 was mainly feudal in character.
- The revolutionaries no idea.
- Powerful Generals like, Ottram, Hugh Rose, Lawrence, Havelock and Colin Cambell.
- Lack of interest shown by the intellectuals.
- Lack of united leadership and co-ordination.

## **RESULTS**

- Passing of the Queen's Proclamation- promised non-interference of the religious affairs.
- Special Act was passes on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1858, Board of Control and the Board of Directors were abolished and the office of the Secretary of State was created.
- GG of India became Viceroy of India.
- Began to follow "Divide and Rule".
- Zamindars, merchants etc., were patronized to promote the interest of the British.
- The revolt left heavy financial crisis.
- The Revolt sowed the seeds of that tree which bore fruits in 1947 when India became Independence.

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## **II: INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS-1885**

### **Foundation & Pre-political organization**

- Indian National Congress was formed on 28<sup>th</sup> December, 1885 by A.O.Hume.
- The first Congress session was held at Gokuldas Tejpal College, Bombay and W.C. Banerjee was elected as its President, A.O. Hume was General Secretary.
- 72, members were attended the first session.
- 9 resolutions were passed.

### **Pre-Political Organization.**

- Land Holder's Society- Bombay, 1837
- The British Indian Association- Calcutta, 1843
- The Madras Native Association- Madras, 1852
- The Deccan Association, 1852, Poona
- Poona Sarvajanik Sabha-1870
- Indian Association- Calcutta, 1876
- Madras Mahajana Sabha, 1884

### **Objectives of Indian National Congress during Moderate's period.**

- The promotion of personal intimacy and friendship amongst the countrymen
- To relish the opinions of educated classes on day to day problems.
- To remove the prejudices relating to race, creed or provinces.
- National unity

- Future course of action in the public interest.
- To fulfill Indian demands through the following method.
- PPP- petition, prayer and protest.

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### **III: MODERATES AND EXTREMIST**

#### **Demands of Moderates (1885 to 1907)**

- Enlargement of Governor General's Council with more Indian representation.
- Reduction in Salt Tax.
- Reduction in Defence budget.
- Revival of Indian textile industry.
- Replacement of English officers by Indian officials.
- Freedom for press
- Reduction of Burden of tax and rent on land.
- Protections of peasants from the oppression of land lords.
- Competitive exams to be held in India.
- To safeguard the interests on Indian living in abroad.
- Separation of Judiciary from Executive.
- Setting up of rural bank.
- Inclusion of Indians in high post.
- Setting up of more military colleges in India.

#### **Early Nationalist Leaders**

- Dadabhai Naoroji
- Pheroz Shah Mehta
- Badruddin Tyabji
- Ramesh Chandra Dutta
- Surendra Nath Banerjee
- Gopal Krishna Gokhale
- Mahadev Govind Ranade
- Anand Mohan Bose.
- Moti Lal Ghosh.
- Anand Mohan Bose.
- Madan Mohan Malaviya
- G. Subramanya Iyer.

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### **IV: ERA OF EXTRIMISM**

#### **Causes of the Rise of Extremism**

- Policies of Lord Curzon who treated Congress as a seditious organization.
- Partition of Bengal (1905)
- Russo-Japanese war 1905
- Russian Revolution- 1907.
- Anti-peoples policy of the British Government
- Method of Moderate leaders agitation.

- Economic exploitation of British.
- Rise of leaders like Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Aurabindo Ghosh and Lala Lajpat Rai.

**Difference between Moderates and Extremists**

<b>Believed in loyalty of the English.</b>	<b>British rule in India was a curse and they did not believe in the loyalty of the English.</b>
Adopted constitutional methods	Extremists were convinced that constitutional agitation will lead them nowhere.
Believed in reasoned and emotional appeals, irresistible statements of facts.	Believed in the policy of passive resistance
Believed in a policy of conciliation and compromise.	Did not bother about the petty concessions. Swaraj was the final remedy.
Depended for their success on the goodwill and sympathy of the Englishmen	They believed that the people of India were the masters of their own destiny and not any foreign power.
They would get what they asked for without any sufferings.	The solvation of India was not possible without sufferings and self sacrifices.

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**IV: SPLIT IN CONGRESS IN 1907**

Session was led by Rashbehari Ghosh

Divided into to Moderates and Extremists.

1916-Lucknow session united Moderates and Extremists

