

The Non-Cooperation Movement

Chapter 2: Nationalism in India · Topic 1

Key Concept

Gandhi called for Indians to boycott British goods, schools, courts, and government jobs, encouraging the use of Indian-made goods (swadeshi) and self-reliance instead.

The movement gained widespread participation across India, uniting people from different backgrounds, religions, and social classes in a common cause against colonial rule.

The movement was suddenly called off by Gandhi in 1922 after the Chauri Chaura incident, where a violent clash resulted in the deaths of police officers, contradicting Gandhi's principle of non-violence.

Despite ending abruptly, the Non-Cooperation Movement significantly boosted nationalist sentiment and demonstrated the power of mass, non-violent civil disobedience against colonial rule.

Quick Revision Notes

- The Non-Cooperation Movement ran from 1920-1922.
- Gandhi led the movement.
- It called for boycotting British goods, schools and courts.
- It promoted swadeshi (Indian-made goods).
- The movement had widespread participation across India.
- It united people across religions and classes.
- Gandhi called it off after the Chauri Chaura incident (1922).
- The incident involved violence, contradicting non-violence principles.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research the causes of the Non-Cooperation Movement.
- 2 Discuss what 'boycott' meant in this movement's context.
- 3 Research the Chauri Chaura incident.
- 4 Explain why Gandhi called off the movement.
- 5 Discuss the movement's impact on nationalist sentiment.
- 6 Create a timeline of the Non-Cooperation Movement's key events.