

Growth of Nationalism and the Indian National Congress

Chapter 2: Growth of Nationalism and the Indian National Congress · Topic 1

Key Concept

Growing awareness of British exploitation, combined with Western education and ideas, fostered a sense of Indian national identity and unity.

The Indian National Congress (INC), founded in 1885 by A.O. Hume and others, initially sought moderate reforms through petitions and dialogue with the British.

Early INC leaders, called Moderates, believed in constitutional methods and gradual reform rather than direct confrontation with British rule.

The formation of the INC marked an important step in organised Indian political activity, laying groundwork for the independence movement.

Quick Revision Notes

- Nationalism grew from awareness of British exploitation.
- Western education fostered national identity.
- The INC was founded in 1885.
- A.O. Hume was a key founder.
- Early INC sought moderate reforms.
- This was through petitions and dialogue.
- Early leaders were called Moderates.
- The INC organised Indian political activity.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research A.O. Hume's role in founding the INC.
- 2 Discuss what Moderates believed in.
- 3 Explain how Western education fostered nationalism.
- 4 Research an early INC leader.
- 5 Discuss the INC's early methods.
- 6 Create a timeline of the INC's early years.