

The Making of India's Constitution

Chapter 13: Constitutional Design · Topic 1

Key Concept

The Constituent Assembly, chaired by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, worked for almost three years, debating and drafting India's Constitution, which was adopted on 26 November 1949.

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, as the chairman of the Drafting Committee, played a crucial role in shaping the Constitution's structure, ensuring it protected fundamental rights and promoted equality.

The Constitution came into effect on 26 January 1950, a date now celebrated as Republic Day, marking India's transition to a sovereign, democratic republic.

The makers of the Constitution drew inspiration from various sources, including the constitutions of other countries, while ensuring it reflected India's unique needs and values.

Quick Revision Notes

- The Constituent Assembly drafted India's Constitution (1946-1949).
- Dr. Rajendra Prasad chaired the Constituent Assembly.
- The Constitution was adopted on 26 November 1949.
- Dr. B.R. Ambedkar chaired the Drafting Committee.
- Ambedkar helped shape the Constitution's rights and equality provisions.
- The Constitution came into effect on 26 January 1950.
- This date is celebrated as Republic Day.
- The makers drew inspiration from other countries' constitutions.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's role in drafting the Constitution.
- 2 Discuss why 26 January is celebrated as Republic Day.
- 3 Research how long the Constituent Assembly worked.
- 4 Explain the difference between 26 November 1949 and 26 January 1950.
- 5 Discuss why India's Constitution drew from other countries' constitutions.
- 6 Create a timeline of key Constitution-making events.