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# Nationalism in India — CBSE Class 10 Social Science Chapter Test

FREE CHAPTER TEST · CLASS X · SOCIAL SCIENCE (087) · PATTERN OF THE CBSE SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER 2026-27

| TIME ALLOWED | MAXIMUM MARKS | QUESTIONS | NAME / ROLL NO. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1½ hours | 40 | 20 (A 10 · B 4 · C 3 · D 1 · E 2) | |

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. This question paper contains 20 questions. All questions are compulsory.
2. This question paper is divided into five sections: A, B, C, D and E.
3. In Section A, Questions 1 to 8 are multiple choice questions (MCQs) and Questions 9 and 10 are assertion-reason based questions of 1 mark each.
4. In Section B, Q11–14 are very short answer (VSA) type questions, carrying 2 marks each.
5. In Section C, Q15–17 are short answer (SA) type questions, carrying 3 marks each.
6. In Section D, Q18 is a long answer (LA) type question, carrying 5 marks.
7. In Section E, Q19–20 are case study based questions, carrying 4 marks each, with sub-parts of the values of 1, 1 and 2 marks.
8. There is no overall choice. However, an internal choice has been provided in 1 question of Section B, 1 question of Section C, 1 question of Section D and in the 2-mark sub-part of each question of Section E.
9. Answer very short answer questions in about 40 words, short answer questions in about 60 words, long answer questions in about 120 words and case-based questions in about 100 words.
10. This chapter test follows the section structure, question types and marks per question of the CBSE Class X Social Science (087) Sample Question Paper 2026-27, at about half the length of the 80-mark board paper: 40 marks in 1½ hours.
11. The answer key and the marking scheme are at the end of this booklet. Attempt the paper in 1½ hours before you look at them.

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**Chapter:** Nationalism in India (History: India and the Contemporary World – II) · **Topics:** First World War, Khilafat and Non-Cooperation · Rowlatt Act and Jallianwala Bagh · Movements within the movement · Towards Civil Disobedience · Salt March · How participants saw the movement · Limits of Civil Disobedience · Sense of collective belonging

## SECTION A

*This section comprises 10 questions of 1 mark each: 8 multiple choice questions (MCQs) and 2 assertion-reason based questions.*

**1.** Mahatma Gandhi organised a satyagraha in 1917 in Champaran, Bihar, to inspire the peasants to struggle against 1

(A) the Rowlatt Act

(B) the oppressive plantation system of indigo planters

(C) the salt law

(D) a rise in land revenue after a plague

**2.** The Rowlatt Act of 1919 gave the government enormous powers to 1

(A) collect salt tax

(B) partition Bengal

(C) raise taxes on cloth

(D) detain political prisoners without trial for two years

**3.** Arrange in chronological order: (I) Dandi March; (II) Chauri Chaura incident; (III) arrival of the Simon Commission; (IV) Jallianwala Bagh massacre. 1

(A) IV, II, III, I

(B) IV, III, II, I

(C) II, IV, III, I

(D) IV, II, I, III

**4.** At which session in December 1929 did the Congress formalise the demand for 'Purna Swaraj', or complete independence for India? 1

(A) Calcutta

(B) Nagpur

(C) Lahore

(D) Madras

**5.** Who organised the Dalits into the Depressed Classes Association in 1930? 1

(A) Mahatma Gandhi

(B) Muhammad Iqbal

(C) Dr B.R. Ambedkar

(D) Alluri Sitaram Raju

**6.** Who led the guerrilla movement of the tribal peasants in the Gudem Hills of Andhra Pradesh in the early 1920s? 1

(A) Alluri Sitaram Raju

(B) Baba Ramchandra

(C) Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan

(D) Motilal Nehru

**7.** Which of the following was NOT one of the reasons the Non-Cooperation Movement slowed down in the cities? 1

(A) Khadi cloth was often more expensive than mill cloth

(B) Alternative Indian institutions were slow to come up

(C) Teachers and students began trickling back to government schools

(D) The Congress decided to boycott the council elections only in Madras

**8.** Which devout disciple of Gandhiji, arrested in April 1930, led the Civil Disobedience Movement in the North-West Frontier Province? 1

(A) Baba Ramchandra

(B) Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan

(C) Muhammad Iqbal

(D) Alluri Sitaram Raju

**9.** **Assertion (A):** Gandhiji withdrew the Non-Cooperation Movement in February 1922. 1
**Reason (R):** At Chauri Chaura in Gorakhpur, a peaceful demonstration turned into a violent clash with the police.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

**10.** **Assertion (A):** Rich peasant communities of Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh were deeply disappointed when the Civil Disobedience Movement was called off in 1931. 1
**Reason (R):** Rich peasants actively supported the movement because they wanted the abolition of all private landlordism.

(A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is true, but Reason (R) is false.

(D) Assertion (A) is false, but Reason (R) is true.

## SECTION B

*This section comprises 4 very short answer (VSA) type questions of 2 marks each.*

**11.** (a) Why did the Indian leaders oppose the Rowlatt Act? How did Gandhiji respond to it? 2

**OR**

(b) Describe the Jallianwala Bagh incident of 13 April 1919.

**12.** Why did the Indians oppose the Simon Commission? 2

**13.** Why did Gandhiji choose salt as a symbol to unite the nation? 2

**14.** How did the plantation workers in Assam understand the notion of swaraj? 2

## SECTION C

*This section comprises 3 short answer (SA) type questions of 3 marks each.*

**15.** (a) Explain how the Khilafat issue and the Non-Cooperation Movement were brought together. 3

**OR**

(b) Explain Gandhiji's idea of non-cooperation as set out in Hind Swaraj, and the stages in which the movement was to unfold.

**16.** Describe the participation of the peasants of Awadh in the Non-Cooperation Movement. 3

**17.** Why did different social groups join the Civil Disobedience Movement? Explain with reference to (i) rich peasants, (ii) business classes, (iii) women. 3

## SECTION D

*This section comprises 1 long answer (LA) type questions of 5 marks each.*

**18.** (a) Describe the Salt March and the Civil Disobedience Movement that followed. How was it different from the Non-Cooperation Movement? 5

**OR**

(b) Describe the Non-Cooperation Movement in the towns, and its effects on the economic front.

## SECTION E

*This section comprises 2 case study based questions of 4 marks each, with sub-parts of 1, 1 and 2 marks.*

**19.** Nationalism spreads when people begin to believe that they are all part of the same nation. This sense of collective belonging came partly through the experience of united struggles, and partly through a variety of cultural processes — history and fiction, folklore and songs, popular prints and symbols.

**(i)** Who wrote 'Vande Mataram' as a hymn to the motherland in the 1870s? [1]

**(ii)** Name the person who painted the famous image of Bharat Mata. [1]

**(iii)** Explain how folklore helped in creating a sense of nationalism, with one example. [2]

**OR**

**(iii)** Describe the flag designed by Gandhiji in 1921 and explain how flags became symbols of national identity. [2]

**20.** Not all social groups were moved by the abstract concept of swaraj. One such group was the nation's 'untouchables', who from around the 1930s had begun to call themselves dalit or oppressed. For long the Congress had ignored them for fear of offending the sanatanis, the conservative high-caste Hindus.

**(i)** What name did Gandhiji give to the 'untouchables'? [1]

**(ii)** What did Dr B.R. Ambedkar demand for the Dalits at the Second Round Table Conference? [1]

**(iii)** Why did Gandhiji oppose this demand, and how was the issue finally settled? [2]

**OR**

**(iii)** Why were some Muslim political organisations lukewarm in their response to the Civil Disobedience Movement? [2]

**END OF THE QUESTION PAPER**

## ANSWER KEY — SECTION A

| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q5 | Q6 | Q7 | Q8 | Q9 | Q10 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (B) | (D) | (A) | (C) | (C) | (A) | (D) | (B) | (A) | (C) |

## MARKING SCHEME AND WORKED SOLUTIONS

*Marks for each step are shown in brackets, as in the CBSE marking scheme. Any correct alternative method earns full marks.*

**Q1. Answer (B).** In Champaran (1917) he supported peasants against the indigo plantation system. In Kheda (1917) peasants affected by crop failure and plague sought relaxation of revenue.

**Q2. Answer (D).** The Act was hurriedly passed through the Imperial Legislative Council despite united opposition of the Indian members.

**Q3. Answer (A).** Jallianwala Bagh 1919; Chauri Chaura 1922; Simon Commission 1928; Dandi March 1930.

**Q4. Answer (C).** The Lahore Congress, under the presidency of Jawaharlal Nehru, formalised the demand; 26 January 1930 was declared Independence Day.

**Q5. Answer (C).** Dr B.R. Ambedkar demanded separate electorates for Dalits; the issue was settled by the Poona Pact of September 1932.

**Q6. Answer (A).** Alluri Sitaram Raju, who claimed special powers, led the rebels; he was captured and executed in 1924.

**Q7. Answer (D).** Khadi was costly, alternative institutions were slow to come up, and students and lawyers returned. In fact the Justice Party of Madras, a party of non-Brahmans, contested the council elections; the Congress had boycotted them everywhere.

**Q8. Answer (B).** Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan was arrested in April 1930; angry crowds then demonstrated in the streets of Peshawar, facing armoured cars and police firing.

**Q9. Answer (A).** Both true, and R explains A: Gandhi felt the movement was turning violent and that satyagrahis needed proper training. Answer (A).

**Q10. Answer (C).** A is true: their revenue had not been reduced. R is false: rich peasants were producers of commercial crops hit by the depression and wanted revenue reduced; they were not fighting landlordism (many of them were landowners). Answer (C).

**Q11. (2 marks)** Answer: (a) detention without trial, passed despite opposition; nationwide satyagraha, hartal; (b) 13 April 1919 crowd at Jallianwala Bagh; Dyer fired to terrorise.
**(a)** The Act gave the government enormous powers to repress political activities and allowed detention of political prisoners without trial for two years; it was passed despite the united opposition of the Indian members. [1]
Gandhiji launched a nationwide satyagraha against these unjust laws, starting with a hartal on 6 April 1919. [1]
**OR (b)** On 13 April 1919 a large crowd, some come to protest and others to attend the annual Baisakhi fair, gathered in the enclosed ground of Jallianwala Bagh in Amritsar. [1]
General Dyer blocked the exit points and opened fire on the crowd, killing hundreds; his aim was to create a feeling of terror and awe in the minds of satyagrahis. [1]

**Q12. (2 marks)** Answer: No Indian member; 'Go back Simon'.
The Statutory Commission under Sir John Simon was set up to look into the functioning of the constitutional system in India and suggest changes. [1]
It did not have a single Indian member — they were all British; so when it arrived in 1928 it was greeted with the slogan 'Go back Simon'. [1]

**Q13. (2 marks)** Answer: Used by all; the salt tax showed the oppressive face of British rule.
Salt was consumed by the rich and the poor alike; it was one of the most essential items of food. [1]
The tax on salt and the government monopoly over its production revealed the most oppressive face of British rule, so breaking the salt law united all sections against it. [1]

**Q14. (2 marks)** Answer: Freedom to move and return to their villages; they defied the 1859 Act and left.
For them, freedom meant the right to move freely in and out of the confined space in which they were enclosed, and retaining a link with the village they had come from. [1]
Under the Inland Emigration Act of 1859 they were not permitted to leave the tea gardens without permission; when they heard of the Non-Cooperation Movement, thousands defied the authorities and left for home. [1]

**Q15. (3 marks)** Answer: (a) Khalifa threatened; Khilafat Committee and the Ali brothers; Calcutta session 1920; (b) Hind Swaraj; British rule depends on cooperation; stages of non-cooperation.
**(a)** The First World War ended with the defeat of Ottoman Turkey, and rumours spread that a harsh peace treaty would be imposed on the Ottoman emperor, the spiritual head of the Islamic world (the Khalifa). [1]
A Khilafat Committee was formed in Bombay in March 1919; leaders such as the brothers Muhammad Ali and Shaukat Ali discussed united mass action with Gandhiji. [1]
Gandhiji saw it as an opportunity to bring Muslims under a unified national movement; at the Calcutta session of the Congress in September 1920 he convinced other leaders to start non-cooperation in support of Khilafat as well as swaraj. [1]
**OR (b)** In his book Hind Swaraj (1909) Gandhiji declared that British rule was established in India with the cooperation of Indians and had survived only because of it. [1]
If Indians refused to cooperate, British rule would collapse within a year and swaraj would come. [1]
The movement was to unfold in stages: surrender of titles awarded by the government, boycott of civil services, army, police, courts, legislative councils, schools and foreign goods; then a full civil disobedience campaign if the government used repression. [1]

**Q16. (3 marks)** Answer: Baba Ramchandra; against talukdars, high rents and begar; Oudh Kisan Sabha 1920.
The peasants of Awadh were led by Baba Ramchandra, a sanyasi who had earlier been to Fiji as an indentured labourer. [1]
Their movement was against talukdars and landlords who demanded exorbitant rents and other cesses; they demanded reduction of revenue, abolition of begar and a social boycott of oppressive landlords. [1]
In October 1920 the Oudh Kisan Sabha was set up, headed by Jawaharlal Nehru, Baba Ramchandra and a few others; within a month over 300 branches had been set up in the villages around the region. [1]

**Q17. (3 marks)** Answer: (i) falling prices, revenue not reduced; (ii) protection against imports, FICCI; (iii) marches, salt making, picketing.
(i) Rich peasants (Patidars of Gujarat, Jats of Uttar Pradesh) were producers of commercial crops, very hard hit by the trade depression and falling prices; refusal of the government to reduce revenue demand made them join. [1]
(ii) Business classes wanted protection against imports of foreign goods and a rupee-sterling exchange ratio that would discourage imports; they formed FICCI in 1927 and, led by industrialists such as Purshottamdas Thakurdas and G.D. Birla, supported the movement. [1]
(iii) Women participated in protest marches, manufactured salt and picketed foreign cloth and liquor shops; many saw service to the nation as a sacred duty. [1]

**Q18. (5 marks)** Answer: (a) eleven demands; Sabarmati to Dandi, 240 miles in 24 days; 6 April 1930; mass law-breaking; breaking laws, not just non-cooperation; (b) withdrawal of cooperation; students and lawyers; council boycott; foreign cloth halved, ₹102 to ₹57 crore; more Indian production.

**(a)** On 31 January 1930 Gandhiji sent a letter to Viceroy Irwin stating eleven demands, the most stirring being the abolition of the salt tax. [1]

Irwin was unwilling to negotiate, so Gandhiji started the Salt March with 78 trusted volunteers from Sabarmati to the coastal town of Dandi, over 240 miles in 24 days. [1]

On 6 April 1930 he reached Dandi and ceremonially violated the law, manufacturing salt by boiling sea water. [1]

Thousands broke the salt law, demonstrated in front of government salt factories, boycotted foreign cloth, picketed liquor shops, refused to pay revenue and chaukidari taxes, and violated forest laws. [1]

Unlike the Non-Cooperation Movement, people were now asked not only to refuse cooperation with the British but also to break colonial laws. [1]

**OR (b)** The movement began in January 1921 with middle-class participation in the cities. [1]

Students left government schools and colleges, headmasters and teachers resigned and lawyers gave up their legal practices. [1]

Council elections were boycotted in most provinces except Madras, where the Justice Party contested them. [1]

Foreign goods were boycotted, liquor shops picketed and foreign cloth burnt in huge bonfires; the import of foreign cloth halved between 1921 and 1922, from ₹102 crore to ₹57 crore. [1]

Merchants and traders refused to trade in foreign goods, and production of Indian textile mills and handlooms went up. [1]

**Q19. (4 marks)** Answer: (i) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay; (ii) Abanindranath Tagore; (iii)(a) collecting folk tales and songs; Natesa Sastri; (b) Swaraj flag with spinning wheel, symbol of defiance.

**(i)** Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay. [1]

**(ii)** Abanindranath Tagore. [1]

**(iii)(a)** Nationalists began recording folk tales sung by bards and touring villages to gather folk songs and legends; these tales gave a true picture of traditional culture that had been damaged by outside forces. [1]

In Madras, Natesa Sastri published a massive four-volume collection of Tamil folk tales, The Folklore of Southern India, which he believed was the national literature of the people. [1]

**OR (iii)(b)** By 1921 Gandhiji had designed the Swaraj flag: a tricolour (red, green and white) with a spinning wheel at the centre, representing the Gandhian ideal of self-help. [1]

Carrying the flag and holding it aloft during marches became a symbol of defiance; earlier, during the Swadeshi movement in Bengal, a tricolour flag with eight lotuses was designed. [1]

**Q20. (4 marks)** Answer: (i) Harijan; (ii) separate electorates; (iii)(a) would slow integration; Poona Pact 1932, reserved seats with general electorate; (b) alienation, failed 1928 compromise.

**(i)** Harijan, the children of God. [1]

**(ii)** Separate electorates for Dalits. [1]

**(iii)(a)** Gandhiji believed separate electorates would slow down the process of their integration into society; he began a fast unto death. [1]

Ambedkar accepted Gandhiji's position, and the Poona Pact of September 1932 gave the Depressed Classes reserved seats in provincial and central legislative councils, but they were to be voted in by the general electorate. [1]

**OR (iii)(b)** After the decline of the Non-Cooperation-Khilafat movement, a large section of Muslims felt alienated from the Congress, and relations between communities worsened from the mid-1920s. [1]

Efforts at a compromise over the question of representation in future assemblies failed at the All Parties Conference in 1928, so there was an atmosphere of suspicion and distrust. [1]

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