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## **Non-violent Movements after Gandhi**

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*By: Kshyama Sagar Meher*



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# QUESTION PAPER

June – 2024

(Solved)

## NON-VIOLENT MOVEMENTS AFTER GANDHI

M.G.P.E.-7

Time: 2 Hours ]

[ Maximum Marks: 50

Note: Attempt any **five** questions. Attempt at least **two** questions from each section. All questions carry equal marks.

### SECTION-I

**Q. 1. Discuss the prospects and limitations of social revolution in India.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-1, Page No. 4, 'Democracy and Social Revolution', Page No. 8, Q. No. 5.

**Q. 2. Discuss the role of leadership in peace movements in India.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-2, Page No. 17, Q. No. 2.

**Q. 3. Critically examine the outcomes of non-violent movements after Gandhi.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-3, Page No. 26, 'Outcomes of Non-violent Movements'.

**Q. 4. Discuss the different ecological issues that are affecting the mankind today.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-4, Page No. 38, Q. No. 2.

**Q. 5. Examine the major concerns of liquor policy and public health related issues in contemporary India.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-7, Page No. 71, Q. No. 5.

### SECTION-II

**Q. 6. Explain the debate on New Farmers' Movements in India.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-8, Page No. 80, Q. No. 3.

**Q. 7. 'Chipko Movement is an ecofeminist movement'. Discuss.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-9, Page No. 86, 'Chipko as an Ecofeminist Movement'.

**Q. 8. Examine the Tehri Bachao Andolan and its non-violent struggle to save the Himalayan region.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-10, Page No. 98, Q. No. 3.

**Q. 9. Write an essay on the Silent valley movement as an example of the new social movements.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-11, Page No. 104, Q. No. 2.

**Q. 10. Write short notes on the following:**

(a) The Plachimada campaign in Kerala.

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-12, Page No. 113, Q. No. 3.

(b) Green Peace Movement.

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-14, Page No. 135, Q. No. 1.



# QUESTION PAPER

December – 2023

(Solved)

## NON-VIOLENT MOVEMENTS AFTER GANDHI

M.G.P.E.-7

Time: 2 Hours ]

[ Maximum Marks: 50

Note: Attempt any five questions. Attempt at least two questions from each section. All questions carry equal marks.

### SECTION-I

**Q. 1. 'State planned economic policies have created more problems.' Do you agree with this statement?**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-1, Page No. 7, Q. No. 3.

**Q. 2. Name five peace movements in India with brief introduction.**

**Ans.** India has a rich history of peace movements, deeply rooted in its cultural, religious, and philosophical traditions. These movements have played a significant role in shaping India's political and social landscape, especially during times of colonial oppression, communal conflict, and political turmoil. Here are five prominent peace movements in India:

1. The Bhoodan Movement
2. Chipko Movement
3. Narmada Bachao Andolan
4. Farmers' movements
5. Anti-arrack movement

**Also Add: Ref.:** See Chapter-5, Page No. 49, Q. No. 1 and Chapter-9, Page No. 88, Q. No. 2 and Chapter-10, Page No. 97, Q. No. 2, Chapter-8, Page No. 74, 'New Farmers' Movement' and Chapter-7, Page No. 67, 'Case Study : Anti-arrack/Liquor Movement in Andhra Pradesh'.

**Q. 3. Discuss three main social problems that India is facing today. Do you see any movement against them?**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-4, Page No. 38, Q. No. 1 and Chapter-12, Page No. 113, Q. No. 2.

**Q. 4. What do you understand by Total Revolution? Was it to be a continuous process?**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-6, Page No. 55, 'Concept of Total Revolution'.

**(b) New farmers' movement in India.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-8, Page No. 74, 'New Farmers' Movement'.

**Q. 5. Has Narmada Bachao Andolan succeeded in its objectives? Who is Medha Patkar?**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-10, Page No. 97, Q. No. 2.

### SECTION-II

**Q. 6. Was Silent Valley Movement a Gandhian Movement? Explain with example.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-11, Page No. 103, Q. No. 1.

**Q. 7. Who was Martin Luther King (Jr.)? Was he influenced by Gandhi?**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-13, Page No. 120, 'Black Civil Rights Movements' and Page No. 119, 'Introduction'.

**Q. 8. Discuss briefly about two peasant movements during our national movement.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-8, Page No. 78, Q. No. 1.

**Q. 9. Critically examine the contemporary relevance of Bhoodan Movement.**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-5, Page No. 51, Q. No. 3.

**Q. 10. What accomplishments can greenpeace be credited with?**

**Ans. Ref.:** See Chapter-14, Page No. 134, 'Major Accomplishments'.

■ ■

# Sample Preview of The Chapter

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# NON-VIOLENT MOVEMENTS AFTER GANDHI

## Post-Gandhian Scenario

1

### INTRODUCTION

India does not represent what Gandhi wanted to have after independence of the country from the British. Gandhi envisioned democratic village republics with self-reliant people committed to minimisation of wants. However, Jawaharlal Nehru undermined what Gandhi wanted about the reconstruction of the country. Nehru aimed to create a new India based on industrial civilisation, which Gandhi derided in Hind Swaraj.

Nehruvian vision also faced three major problems. The first problem was India had ethnic and social divisions, extreme economic disparities, regional differences and imbalances, multitudinous languages and existence of princely states. Thus, the country required integration of these diversity and unification of political purpose. The second, India also needed a political system that could unite the country politically and helped in the realization of the visions.

The third problem was related to social and economic reforms in the context of economic backwardness of the country, illiteracy, lower mortality rates, low agriculture productivity and zero health services. The solution to these problems was the top priority and required a strategy of development. India thus had to quit its old socio-cultural garb and shape it as a modern political entity.

India thus needed reconstruction with a new pattern of social life and a radical change in the economy. In this chapter, we will discuss different facets of Indian polity, assess the achievements, shortcomings and problems.

### CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

#### POLITICAL STRUCTURE AND ITS WORKING

India got its Constitution on January 26, 1950 after three years of rigorous deliberation, discussion and drafting. The Preamble promised social, economic and political justices to the people. It incorporated fundamental rights, duties and the directive principles of state policy. Provisions were made for separate powers for the central government and the states. The Supreme Court became the apex judicial body to decide on disputes and other matter. The President was made the constitutional head of the country. Separate provisions were made for executives to implement the policies made by the legislative bodies. The Finance Commission and the Planning Commission were set up. The government including the executives were made responsible for the development of the country.

The federal structure introduced by the 1935 Reforms Act was refurbished to enhance national unity and to promote economic development. The Constitution made provisions for three lists and three tiers systems of governance – the central, state and concurrent lists, specifying the areas where the centre, the state and both the governments have power to act respectively.

The Constitution made provision for a parliamentary system of government with Lok Sabha as the lower house and Rajya Sabha as the upper house. The Lok Sabha comprises the people's representatives directly elected by the people. The Lok Sabha is the



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highest legislative organ elected once in a five years unless dissolved for any other reason. The members of the Rajya Sabha are not elected directly by the people, but by elected representatives. Both the houses enjoy equal power except with regard to money bills, which originate in the Lok Sabha.

The Constitution aims to institutionalize the rule of law and prescribes certain goals to be fulfilled by the elected representatives and the authorities. It also provides a framework for fulfilling these goals. The constitutional provisions are subject to change depending on the aspiration of the people and requirements as per the diverse socio-economic interests. Changes are also made when the values and views change.

The provision has made India a democracy with elected representatives ruling the country. The representatives are chosen with majority votes. The Constitution also provides for a multi-party system. Political parties contest in the elections to capture power. Congress party was the dominant party for many years after independence, but now many other parties have come to power in the country.

Congress faced oppositions in 1970s with the emergence of the JP Movement. The party became unpopular after Indira Gandhi declared emergency in June 1975 following the Allahabad High Court unseated her on the charge of electoral malpractices in the 1971 elections. Opposition leaders and a few Congress dissidents were put behind the bars. Press-censorship was also imposed. The party suffered electoral defeat in the 1977 elections after the termination of the Emergency. However, the Janata Party government failed due to factional feuds and ego clashes among its leaders. In the mid-term election in 1980, Mrs. Gandhi came back to power. Congress dominance was restored just after Mrs. Gandhi's assassination in 1984. Under the leadership of Rajiv Gandhi, the party consolidated, but after his assassination its dominance declined. Yet the Congress-led UPA government ruled for about 15 years before the BJP came to power under the leadership of Narendra Modi. There was also rise of various State and regional parties such as the Samajwadi Party (SP) and the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in UP and the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) in Bihar, the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) in Odisha, AIADMK and MDMK in Tamil Nadu, TDP and TRS in Andhra Pradesh. These parties have been playing crucial role in the formation of coalition government in the Centre.

Questions can be raised over this change in the political field: (i) what factors cause this change in the fortunes of political parties, and (ii) what are the implications of this change in the functioning of the party system in the country? This change happens because socio-economic groups compete to control power apparatus with an aim to influence and control collective decision-making to promote their interests. This causes emergence and deepening of social cleavages which get reflected in the electoral process. Diverse socio-economic interests organize themselves as political parties, or work through existing political parties.

If we talk about social creation in the country, it is a complete turnaround of society from what it formerly meant. The emphasis of the reconstruction is on material prosperity which is considered as the basis of the good life without deprivation. Economic prosperity is the basis of all types of development including moral prosperity. It has thus revolutionised the production system and the availability of goods and services to all in the country. People who suffered poverty and deprivation earlier have now have privileged access to scarce societal resources.

Failure to meet these expectations leads to sectional and regional loyalties and then they proceed to form regional/state parties with an aim to capture power and to have greater say in the decision-making process. This has led to the formation of regional parties which have been a major factor in the formation of coalition governments at the Centre.

### ECONOMIC-CHANGE

Democracy and economic development are required today in the process of social creation to sustain irreversible and durable modernisation. India had a backward economy when the British's left the country after draining the country's wealth. The British started the process of economic development but that was insufficient to unleash the creative entrepreneurial energy required for a self-propelling dynamism in the economy. India has the rich natural resources, yet it remained staggeringly poor when it got independence in 1947. Development is critically important for the country in the context of the social backwardness reinforced by economic stagnation. However, Gandhian and the Nehruvian are two different strategies to overcome the backwardness and they are vying for supremacy.

The Gandhian model of development focused on the need for conserving indigenous culture and civilization and promoting organic growth. This plan

emphasised the need to avoid excessive regimentation of the people and to promote a democratic political life and relations as well as ensuring minimum state control. Sriman Narayan Agrawal, inspired by Mahatma Gandhi's vision of man and his world, highlighted the need for setting up the edifice of economy on simplicity, decentralization and cottage industrialism. His aim was to infuse the construction of a reverse pyramid making the village the primary unit of economic activities and for democratic political management of local affairs. For economic growth and revitalization, he advocated the minimisation of wants and complete decentralization to enable the ordinary people to develop their own destiny. In such development, the state will have little role to play and large-scale industrialisation is not required. Gandhi was against the consumerism that the western civilization promoted and the economic and political rivalry.

The Nehru-led Congress government, however, adopted different strategy. Nehru envisioned a modern social order in which the state had the primary responsibility of launching a revolution of social creation. It also gave importance to material life and raising standard of living. However, it accepted the importance of agriculture and small-scale village industries. The strategy was for a centrally planned economic development with emphasis on the capital-producing industries as the key of economic development. It also emphasised on technologically induced and sustained economic growth. It gave importance to growth simultaneously with distribution. But it opted for growth first and then distribution. Nehru held the view that without rapid industrialization the problems of poverty and unemployment, of national defence and of economic regeneration would not be resolved. His focus was on three requirements as the basic for Indian development and national self-sufficiency: They are: (i) Heavy engineering and machine-making industry, (ii) Scientific research institutes, and (iii) Electric power. His model of economy thus included the state controlled planned economic development, developing of industrial base for an autonomous capitalism, controlled core sectors of production, and control over re-distribution. His economy model is thus based on the idea of co-existence of public and private sector.

Post-Nehru period however saw political instability, widespread social unrest and fluctuations in the planning process and in development achievement. The economy was further weakened after the Indo-China war of 1962

and the Indo-Pak war in 1965. The country's economy was also weakened because of the natural calamities like drought, failure of agriculture and absence of radical programme of redistribution, food shortages along with administrative inefficiency and corruption weakened. The planning for economic development also led to regulation and control of the private sector.

The state controlled and planned economic development put emphasis on the development of heavy industries and scientific research institutes led to the building of an industrial base with trained and skilled manpower. The core sectors of production and redistribution remained under the state. The Nehru's vision under Mahalanobis model of economic development included (a) A method of political democracy; (b) Government planning, regulation and control of economy; (c) A Public sector; and (d) A system of tax relief and state financial aid to the private sector.

It aimed for progressive elimination of exploitation and inequality in social, political and economic fields along with the objective of developing private sector in economic activities. This strategy came under the socialist pattern of society. The emphasis was for a sizable increase in national income through improvement in agricultural productivity and industrial development to improve the standard of life in the country. Congress party led by Indira Gandhi introduced some populist policies with programmes like *Garibi Hatao* which helped it won a thumping majority in 1971 elections.

However, the economic development planning was adversely affected by balance of payment problems, food scarcity, increasing population, dipping marketable food surplus and lower agricultural production. Political upheaval, social unrest, economic crisis, corruption and lack of concrete action by the government also have affected the development in the country. The country had to depend on the United States for food supply and India had to agree with the World Bank under the Washington Accord to implement economic policies considered to be growth-inducing.

It led to a shift in emphasis from major to minor irrigation, credit-worthy farmers got adequate provision for credit, rise in new costly agricultural inputs and production of fertilizers and hybrid seeds. Farm production, especially of wheat, increased leading to the Green Revolution. However, this was a lopsided development since it provided more than proportionate benefit to the better off farmers in regions with better infrastructure.

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A link was made between agriculture and industry and thus the farming sector became vulnerable to market fluctuations, mainly with regard to price and availability of major inputs. Productivity improved, but it increased the polarization in the countryside. A crisis in economy ensued causing the devaluation of the rupee, inflation and fall in exports.

In the context of the deepening economic crisis, Indira Gandhi imposed Emergency in 1975. It caused political instability in the country and weakened commitment to socialism. Instead of promoting distributive justice, the state-controlled industrial infrastructure led to an arbitrary, authoritarian, unimaginative and corrupt bureaucratic regime. The 1980s thus saw the starting of a new regime of economic liberalization.

The new planning in 1984 further accelerated the process of liberalization and the state units emerged as power centres and got a decisive voice in government formation at the Centre. The process of liberalization on a large-scale was started in 1991 by P.V. Narasimha Rao-led government. The private sector got a better scope to play a major role in the economic development and it led to a higher growth level.

The liberalization process was inevitable in the wake of malfunctioning of the economy due to excessive state control, straight-jacketed private sector and highly inefficient public sector. The liberalization in the 1980s started economic reforms and removed License Raj, a major factor in widespread corruption and inefficiency with irresponsible and self-perpetuating bureaucracy. Telecommunications and software industry became prominent. The liberalization process helped in tackling the balance of payment problem and ensuring long-term budgetary viability. It also improved the efficiency of the production system. The market-oriented economy and its integration with the global economy led to the promotion of openness of the economy to competition. The liberalization led to the initiatives in three areas: (i) Relaxation or removal of controls on the private sector and reforms in the public sector; (ii) Reorientation of the fiscal policy, and (iii) Modernization of industries.

In 1991, a huge balance of payments crisis offered an opportunity to the government to carry out major policy reforms in domestic investment and international trade policies. The use of quantitative controls in economic management was abandoned in favour of market instruments. Indian economy moved from inward orientation to greater integration with the world

economy. The government has also putting efforts to lure Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Critics of liberalization and privatization say these policies lead to jobless growth, voluntary retirement and job cut. Other areas of concerns are rise in fiscal deficit and neglect of agriculture. The new economic policy however has raised questions with regard to redistribution of income in favour of the internalised elite, deterioration in living standards of the vast majority of people, apathy towards the goals of social equality, justice and welfare.

Liberalization policy has led a higher economic growth rate, yet the country faces several problems such as lower growth in the average Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and per capita income; prolonged deceleration in agriculture and industrial growth rates and increased volatility of the agricultural production. There is also dip in per capita production of food grains; sharp fall in capacity utilization in industry and the surge in unemployment ratio. Agriculture has been neglected. The farm sector needs infrastructure like irrigation, research and extension, power and transport and credit marketing and rural industries.

The Green Revolution made the country self-sufficient in food but the cost of production has greatly burdened the small and marginal farmers. The rich farmers were benefited by the Green Revolution. It has created a vast gap between the rural areas and the urban class in terms of their access to resources for better standard of living. It has also caused increase in poverty, migration of villagers to the cities and low levels of nutrition, and high rates of infant mortality. A new class of middle peasants has gained political clout and emerged as a significant force in Indian politics. A vast number of marginal and landless people are still unable to improve their living.

#### **DEMOCRACY AND SOCIAL REVOLUTION**

After independence, India aimed to create a new social order on the basis of the values of freedom, equality and fraternity. The constitutional provisions such as the Directive Principles of State Policy, Fundamental Rights, the various articles protecting rights the minority, especially Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) have set the goals for social revolution.

The Fundamental Rights protect the individual's private space from interference of the public space including society and its conventions, and the government and other public organizations. The