

History & Civics

The Indian National Congress originated in 1885 A.D. At that time, the leaders of the Indian National Congress were the Moderates. But during the rule of Lord Curzon due to repressive policy of the British, the differences were created among the leaders of the INC. A group of leaders came into existence who did not believe in sympathy and justice of the British Government in India. They were called the Assertive Nationalists. Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal were the main leaders of the Assertives.

Objectives: Achievement of Swaraj, Disestablishment of the relations between India and England. The Assertive Nationalist used self reliance and self sacrifice, sufferings and hardships for achieving their aim.

The Early Nationalists did not fully approve the resolutions passed by the Assertive Nationalist in 1906, as a result this led to a split in the Congress in 1907.

Bal Gangadhar Tilak: He was also known as Lokmanya. He organized Akharas and Lathi Clubs. His famous slogan was 'Swaraj is my birthright and I will have it'. Through the Ganapati festival and revival of Shivaji festival in Maharashtra he installed a spirit of glory and patriotism.

Bipin Chandra Pal: He was a great supporter of National Education. He opposed the partition of Bengal by spreading the message of boycott, swadeshi and national education. He also championed the cause of women education and opposed caste system.

Lala Lajpat Rai: He was influenced by Tilak's philosophy. His courage and determination have earned him the title of 'Sher-i-Punjab'. He is remembered for his patriotism, courage and revolutionary ideas.

Short questions

1. Who were Assertive Nationalists?
2. Name any 2 causes for the rise of Assertive Nationalism in the 20th century.
3. Name the leaders who constituted the Aggressive-trio in the early years of 20th century.
4. Who said 'Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it'?
5. Name two books written by Tilak.
6. Who is known as Sher-e-Punjab?
7. Who started the paper Young India?

Long questions:

1. There were some striking differences between the early nationalist and the assertive wings of the Indian National Congress. In this context, explain the differences regarding:

a)The basic beliefs and objectives

b)Their methods of struggle.

c)Attitude of British towards them.

2)Describe briefly the achievements of the Assertive nationalists.

3)Write briefly on the contribution to the cause of the Indian Independence of each of the following:a)Bal Gangadhar Tilak b)Lala Lajpat Rai

4)Make a comparative study of the Early Nationalist and the Assertives.