



## Competitive Exams: National Movement of India 1931 – 1940

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### **National Movement of India: 1931 to 1940**

#### Gandhi Irwin Pact (1931)

- Moderate Statesman, Sapru, Jaikar and Srinivas Shastri initiated efforts to break the ice between Gandhiji and the government.
- The two (government represented by Irwin and INC by Gandhiji) signed a pact on March 5, 1931.
- In this the INC called off the civil disobedience movement and agreed to join the second round table conference.
- The government on its part released the political prisoners and conceded the right to make salt for consumption for villages along the coast.

#### Second Round Table Conference (1931)

- Gandhiji represented the INC and went to London to meet British P. M. Ramsay Macdonald.
- However, the session was soon deadlocked on the minorities issue and this time separate electorates was demanded not only by Muslims but also by Depressed Classes, Indian Christians and Anglo Indians.

#### The Communal Award (Aug 16, 1932)

- Announced by Ramsay McDonald. It showed divide and rule policy of the British.
- Envisaged representation of Muslims, Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo Indians, women and even Backward classes.
- Gandhiji, who was in Yeravada jail at that time, started a fast unto death against it.

#### Poona Pact (September 25, 1932)

- After the announcement of communal award and subsequent fast of Gandhiji, mass meeting took place almost everywhere.
- Political leaders like Madan Mohan Malviya, B. R. Ambedkar and M. C. Rajah became active.
- Eventually Poona pact was reached and Gandhiji broke his fast on the sixth day (Sept 25, 1932).

- In this, the idea of separate electorate for the depressed classes was abandoned, but seats reserved to them in the provincial legislature were increased.

### Third Round Table Conference (1932)

- Proved fruitless as most of the national leaders were in prison. The discussions led to the passing of the Government of India Act, 1935.

### Demand for Pakistan

- In 1930, Iqbal suggested that the Frontier Province, Baluchistan, Sindh and Kashmir be made the Muslim State within the federation.
- Chaudhary Rehmat Ali gave the term Pakistan in 1923.
- Mohd. Ali Jinnah of Bombay gave it practicality.
- Muslim League first passed the proposal of separate Pakistan in its Lahore session in 1940.

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