



## INTRODUCTION

- The Indian National Congress was founded at Bombay in December 1885.
- The early leadership – Dadabhai Naoroji, Pherozeshah Mehta, Badruddin Tyabji, W.C. Bonnerji, Surendranath Banerji, Romesh Chandra Dutt, S. Subramanialyer, among others – was largely from Bombay and Calcutta.
- A retired British official A.O. Hume, played crucial part in bringing Indians from the various regions together.
- In an effort to reach all regions, it was decided to rotate the Congress session among different parts of the country.
- The President belonged to a region other than where the Congress session was being held.

① ✓

**Year and Place**

**President**

**Important Outcomes/  
Details**

✓  
Bombay Session,  
1885



(W.C. Bonnerjee)

- First session, attended by 72 delegates.
- Objectives of the Congress outlined.



Calcutta Session,  
1886



Dadabhai Naoroji

- Merger of National Congress and National Conference took place.
- Congress decided to set up Provincial Congress Committees across the country.

Madras Session,  
1887



Syed Badruddin Tyabji

- Appeal was made to the Muslims to join hands with other national leaders.
- First Muslim President.



Calcutta Session,

1896



Rahimtulla Sayani

➤ National Song  
'Vande Mataram'  
sung for the first  
time by Rabindranath  
Tagore. ✓

Benaras Session,  
1905



Gopal Krishna  
Gokhale

- Divisions between the 'moderates' led by Gopal Krishna Gokhale and Surendranath Banerjee and the 'extremists' led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak came to the fore in this session.
- Expressed resentment against the partition of Bengal and proclamation of Swadeshi movement in Bengal.



Calcutta Session,  
1906



Dadabhai Naoroji

- The word 'swaraj' mentioned for the first time.
- Resolution supporting the programme of swadeshi, boycott and national education was passed.

Ras Behari  
Ghosh  
(Surat Session,  
1907)



Rash Behari Ghosh

- Surat Split (split in the INC into the Moderates and the Extremists)

Calcutta Session,  
1911



Bishan Narayan Dhar

- Jana Gana Mana'  
sung for the first time

Lucknow Session,  
1916



Ambicacharan Mazumdar

- Lucknow Pact signed -  
joint session with the  
Muslim League
- Reunion of the  
Moderates and the  
Extremists.



Calcutta Session,  
1917



Annie Besant

➤ First woman president  
of the INC.

1896 ←

Kadambini  
Ganguli

1st woman to  
Address Congress

1925 - Kanpur

Sarojini  
Naidu

## Nagpur Session, 1920



C. Vijayaraghavachariar

- Shift from goal of attainment of self-government through constitutional means to have the attainment of swaraj through peaceful and legitimate means.
- Important organisational changes:
  - Congress working committee (CWC) of 15 members was set up to lead the Congress.
  - Provincial congress committees on linguistic basis were organised.
  - Ward committees was organised; and entry fee was reduced to four annas.



Congress Sessions	When and Where	President	Importance
1 <sup>st</sup> Session	Dec. 28-30, <b>1885</b> — <b>Bombay</b>	W C Bonnerjee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Objectives of the Congress outlined.</b></li></ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Session	Dec. 27-30, <b>1886</b> — <b>Calcutta</b>	Dadabhai Naoroji	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Merger</b> of National Congress and National Conference.</li></ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup> Session	Dec. 27-30, <b>1887</b> — <b>Madras</b>	Syed Badruddin Tyabji	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tayabji became <b>first Muslim President.</b></li><li>• Appeal was made to the Muslims to join hands with other national leaders.</li></ul>
4 <sup>th</sup> Session	Dec. 26-29, <b>1888</b> — <b>Allahabad</b>	<b>George Yule</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• George Yule became <b>first English President.</b></li></ul>

- **Dissatisfaction with Achievements of Moderates**

1. The younger elements within the Congress were dissatisfied with the achievements of the Moderates during the first 15- 20 years.
2. They were strongly critical of the methods of peaceful and constitutional agitation, popularly known as the "Three 'P's"—prayer, petition and protest—and described these methods as 'political mendicancy'.

- **Existence of a Militant School of Thought**

1. By the dawn of the twentieth century, a band of nationalist thinkers had emerged who advocated a more militant approach to political work.
2. These included Raj Narain Bose, Ashwini Kumar Datta, Aurobindo Ghosh and Bipin Chandra Pal in Bengal; Vishnu Shastri Chiplunkar and Bal Gangadhar Tilak in Maharashtra; and Lala Lajpat Rai in Punjab.



# The Swadeshi and Boycott Movement

## Partition of Bengal to Divide People : -

1. The British government's decision to partition Bengal had been made public in December 1903.
2. The idea was to have two provinces: Bengal comprising Western Bengal as well as the provinces of Bihar and Orissa, and Eastern Bengal and Assam.
3. Bengal retained Calcutta as its capital, while Dacca became the capital of Eastern Bengal.
4. The official reason given for the decision was that Bengal with a population of 78 million (about a quarter of the population of British India) had become too big to be administered.

## Anti-Partition Campaign Under Moderates (1903-05)

1. → The government announced partition of Bengal in July 1905.
2. On August 7, 1905, with the passage of the Boycott Resolution in a massive meeting held in the Calcutta Townhall, the formal proclamation of Swadeshi Movement was made.
3. After this, the leaders dispersed to other parts of Bengal to propagate the message of boycott of Manchester cloth and Liverpool salt.
4. \*\*\* October 16, 1905 the day the partition formally came into force, was observed as a day of mourning throughout Bengal.
5. People fasted, bathed in the Ganga and walked barefoot in processions singing Bande Mataram (which almost spontaneously became the theme song of the movement). 'Amar Sonar Bangla', the national anthem of present-day Bangladesh, was composed by Rabindranath Tagore.



## The Congress's Position

1. Condemn the partition of Bengal and the reactionary policies of Curzon
2. support the anti-partition and Swadeshi Movement of Bengal.
3. The militant nationalists led by Tilak, Lajpat Rai, Bipin Chandra Pal and Aurobindo Ghosh wanted the movement to be taken outside Bengal to other parts of the country and go beyond a boycott of foreign goods to become a full-fledged political mass struggle with the goal of attaining swaraj.
4. But the Moderates, dominating the Congress at that time, were not willing to go that far.
5. The militant nationalists tried to transform the antipartition and Swadeshi Movement into a mass struggle and gave the slogan of India's independence from foreign rule. "Political freedom is the lifebreath of a nation," declared Aurobindo.



1. Boycott of Foreign Goods ✕

2. Public Meetings and Processions

3. Corps of Volunteers or 'Samitis

✕ 1. Swadesh Bandhab Samiti of Ashwini Kumar Dutta (in Barisal) emerged as a very popular and powerful means of mass mobilisation. ✓

2. Tamil Nadu, V.O. Chidambaram Pillai, Subramania Siva and some lawyers formed the Swadeshi Sangam which inspired the local masses

4. Imaginative use of Traditional Popular Festivals and Melas

1. Tilak's Ganapati and Shivaji festivals

5. Emphasis given to Self-Reliance ✓

6. Programme of Swadeshi or National Education

1. Bengal National College, inspired by Tagore's Shantiniketan, was set up with Aurobindo Ghosh as its principal

2. On August 15, 1906, the National Council of Education was set up to organise a system of education— literary, scientific and technical—on national lines and under national control

3. A Bengal Institute of Technology was set up for technical education and funds were raised to send students to Japan for advanced learning.



1905 ← GKK ← Swadeshi

1906 ← DB Naroji ← Swaraaj

New-Viceroy

└ Lord Minto

1906 - All India  
Muslim  
League

Decca Nawab

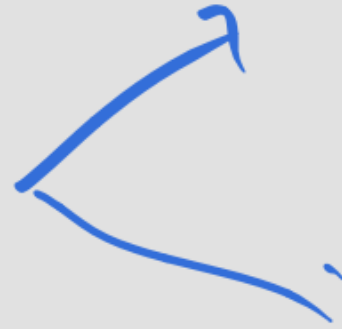
↳ Salimullah & Agha  
Khan



1906

1907

← Burat Split



1908 ← Alipur Bomb Conspiracy ✓

(18) x

Khudi Ram  
Bose

(19)

Prafulla  
Chaki



1909 ⇐ Minto Reforms

↳ Separate electorate  
to muslim

▷ As the father  
Communal  
Representation

1910 ⇐ Harding II Viceray

1911 - Delhi Durbar

L BR - King & George V

1st Jangam  
man

1911 - Delhi  
capital of India

Partition of Bengal  
Nullified



Japan

1912 - Delhi case

L Ras Behari Bose

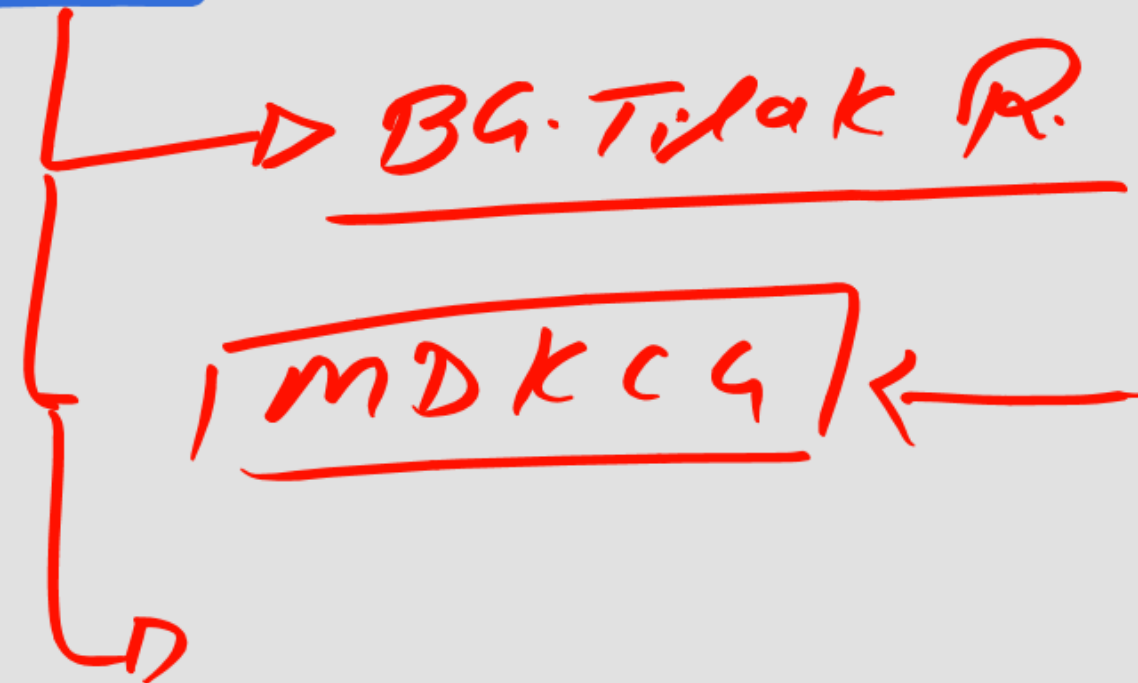
1913

← Lala Hardayal Singh

San Francisco ← Gadar Party

1914 ← WW I - Begun

1915



Caliph/khalif

Islamic

WW I

Ottoman Türk

1453 - 1919

BR  
FR  
Rusia

V S

Aust-Hungary

Germany



(Lucknow  
Session)

B.G. Tilak

Annie  
Beavent

1916

Home  
Rule League  
movement  
1916 - April  
Pune

Mahatma  
Gandhi  
(✓)

HRLM  
1916 + Addyar  
Sept

Imp-CV 1947



