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HISTORY OF THE SUBCONTINENT (1600–1947)

MCQ-Targeted Notes for FPSC 17-BPS Written Test

◆ MUGHAL EMPIRE (1600–1707)

- **1600** — British East India Company was founded on 31 December 1600 by a royal charter of Queen Elizabeth I. Its first Governor was Thomas Smythe.
- **1605** — Emperor Akbar died on 27 October 1605. He ruled for 49 years (1556–1605). He was buried at Sikandra, Agra.
- **1605** — Jahangir (Salim) ascended the Mughal throne in 1605. His real name was Nur-ud-Din Muhammad Salim. He ruled until 1627.
- **1608** — Captain William Hawkins arrived at the court of Jahangir in 1608 as the first English representative seeking trade rights.
- **1612** — The English defeated the Portuguese at the Battle of Swally (Suvali) in 1612, which impressed Jahangir and led to the first English factory at Surat.
- **1615** — Sir Thomas Roe arrived as the official ambassador of King James I at Jahangir's court in 1615 and secured trading rights for the East India Company.
- **1627** — Shah Jahan ascended the throne in 1627 after Jahangir's death. His real name was Shahab-ud-Din Muhammad Khurram.
- **1631** — Mumtaz Mahal, wife of Shah Jahan, died in 1631 during childbirth. She was buried in the Taj Mahal, Agra.
- **1632–1653** — Taj Mahal was built by Shah Jahan in memory of Mumtaz Mahal. It was completed in 1653. The chief architect was Ustad Ahmad Lahauri.
- **1639** — The city of Madras (Chennai) was founded by the British in 1639 when Francis Day built Fort St. George.

- **1658** — Aurangzeb imprisoned his father Shah Jahan in the Agra Fort in 1658 and declared himself Emperor. Shah Jahan died in captivity in 1666.
- **1658–1707** — Aurangzeb (Alamgir) ruled from 1658 to 1707. He was the last great Mughal Emperor. He re-imposed Jizya tax in 1679.
- **1668** — The British East India Company took over Bombay (Mumbai) in 1668 from King Charles II, who received it as a dowry from Portugal.
- **1675** — Guru Tegh Bahadur, the 9th Sikh Guru, was executed by Aurangzeb in 1675 in Delhi.
- **1680** — Shivaji, founder of the Maratha Empire, died in 1680. He fought against Mughal rule and is considered a hero of Hindu nationalism.
- **1686** — The Bijapur Sultanate was conquered by Aurangzeb in 1686, and Golconda was annexed in 1687, completing Mughal control of the Deccan.
- **1699** — Guru Gobind Singh founded the Khalsa Panth (Sikh brotherhood) in 1699 at Anandpur Sahib.
- **1707** — Aurangzeb died on 3 March 1707 at Ahmednagar. He was buried at Khuldabad, Maharashtra. His death marked the decline of the Mughal Empire.

◆ DECLINE OF MUGHALS & RISE OF BRITISH (1707–1757)

- **1707** — After Aurangzeb's death, Bahadur Shah I (Shah Alam I) became Emperor. The War of Succession weakened the empire.
- **1717** — The Mughal Emperor Farrukhsiyar granted the East India Company a Farman (decree) in 1717, giving them extensive trading rights — called the "Magna Carta of the Company."
- **1720** — Syed Brothers (Abdullah Khan and Hussain Ali Khan), known as "King Makers," dominated Mughal politics from 1713 to 1720.

- **1739** — Nadir Shah of Persia invaded India in 1739 and defeated Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah at the Battle of Karnal. He looted Delhi and took away the Peacock Throne and Koh-i-Noor diamond.
- **1740** — Maratha power expanded rapidly under Peshwa Baji Rao I (died 1740). The Marathas became the dominant power in central India.
- **1748** — Ahmad Shah Abdali (Durrani) made his first invasion of India in 1748. He invaded India a total of 8 times (1748–1767).
- **1751** — Robert Clive captured Arcot in 1751, establishing British dominance in the Carnatic and marking the rise of British power in South India.
- **1757** — Battle of Plassey was fought on 23 June 1757 between Robert Clive (British) and Siraj-ud-Daula (Nawab of Bengal). The British won due to the treachery of Mir Jafar. This battle laid the foundation of British rule in India.

◆ **BRITISH EXPANSION & CONSOLIDATION (1757–1800)**

- **1760** — Battle of Wandiwash (1760) — British defeated the French, ending French ambitions in India permanently.
- **1761** — Third Battle of Panipat was fought on 14 January 1761 between Ahmad Shah Abdali and the Marathas. Abdali won, crushing Maratha power in North India.
- **1764** — Battle of Buxar (1764) — British under Hector Munro defeated the combined forces of Mir Qasim, Nawab of Awadh, and Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II. More decisive than Plassey.
- **1765** — Robert Clive became the first British Governor of Bengal in 1765. He introduced the Dual Government system (Diwani rights transferred to British).
- **1767–1769** — First Anglo-Mysore War (1767–69) between Hyder Ali and British. Hyder Ali forced the British to sign a humiliating treaty.

- **1772** — Warren Hastings became the first Governor-General of Bengal in 1772 (became Governor-General in 1773 under the Regulating Act).
- **1773** — The Regulating Act of 1773 was the first attempt by the British Parliament to regulate the affairs of the East India Company. It established the post of Governor-General of Bengal.
- **1774** — Warren Hastings became the first Governor-General of India (1774–1785). He abolished the Dual Government system.
- **1775–1782** — First Anglo-Maratha War (1775–1782) ended with the Treaty of Salbai (1782), maintaining the status quo.
- **1780–1784** — Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780–84). Hyder Ali died in 1782 during this war. His son Tipu Sultan continued the fight.
- **1784** — Pitt's India Act of 1784 created a Board of Control to supervise the East India Company. It gave the British government direct control over Indian affairs.
- **1786** — Lord Cornwallis became Governor-General (1786–1793). He introduced the Permanent Settlement of Bengal in 1793.
- **1789–1792** — Third Anglo-Mysore War (1789–92). Tipu Sultan was defeated and signed the Treaty of Seringapatam (1792), ceding half his territory.
- **1793** — The Permanent Settlement Act of 1793 was introduced by Lord Cornwallis. It fixed the land revenue of Bengal permanently with Zamindars.
- **1798** — Lord Wellesley became Governor-General (1798–1805). He introduced the Subsidiary Alliance system to extend British control.
- **1799** — Fourth Anglo-Mysore War (1799) — Tipu Sultan was killed on 4 May 1799 at the fall of Seringapatam. Mysore was reduced to a princely state.

◆ 19TH CENTURY — BRITISH SUPREMACY (1800–1857)

- **1801** — Lord Wellesley annexed Carnatic in 1801 under the Subsidiary Alliance.

- **1802** — Treaty of Bassein (1802) — Peshwa Baji Rao II accepted British Subsidiary Alliance, angering other Maratha chiefs.
- **1803–1805** — Second Anglo-Maratha War (1803–05). British defeated the Marathas. Scindia and Bhonsle submitted to British authority.
- **1806** — Vellore Mutiny (1806) — First major mutiny against the British, by Indian sepoys in Vellore. Suppressed within hours.
- **1809** — Treaty of Amritsar (1809) between the British and Maharaja Ranjit Singh. River Sutlej became the boundary between British and Sikh territories.
- **1813** — Charter Act of 1813 ended the East India Company's trade monopoly (except tea and China trade). It allowed Christian missionaries to work in India.
- **1817–1819** — Third Anglo-Maratha War (1817–19). Peshwa Baji Rao II surrendered. The Maratha Confederacy dissolved. British became the paramount power in India.
- **1819** — Sir Stamford Raffles founded Singapore in 1819 (British expansion in Southeast Asia context).
- **1823** — Lord Amherst became Governor-General (1823–1828). First Anglo-Burmese War (1824–1826) was fought during his tenure.
- **1828** — Lord William Bentinck became Governor-General (1828–1835). He is known as the "Father of Modern India" for his social reforms.
- **1829** — Sati (widow burning) was abolished by Lord William Bentinck through Regulation XVII, under the influence of Raja Ram Mohan Roy.
- **1829** — Thuggee Suppression Act (1829) — Lord Bentinck suppressed the Thuggee cult (ritual murderers) through Colonel William Sleeman.
- **1833** — Charter Act of 1833 made the Governor-General of Bengal the first Governor-General of India, under Lord William Bentinck.

- **1835** — English Education Act (1835) — Lord Macaulay's Minute on Education made English the medium of instruction in India, replacing Persian.
- **1838** — Death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh on 27 June 1839 (first Sikh ruler of Punjab, "Lion of Punjab," ruled 1799–1839); Sikh Empire founded in 1799.
- **1839** — First Anglo-Afghan War (1839–1842) — British invasion of Afghanistan ended in a disastrous retreat. Britain suffered one of its worst colonial defeats.
- **1843** — Sir Charles Napier conquered Sindh in 1843 and reportedly sent the message "Peccavi" (Latin: "I have sinned"). Sindh was annexed to British India.
- **1845–1846** — First Anglo-Sikh War (1845–46). British defeated the Sikhs. Treaty of Lahore (1846) — Sikhs ceded Kashmir to the British (sold to Gulab Singh for 75 lakh rupees).
- **1848–1849** — Second Anglo-Sikh War (1848–49). Punjab was annexed by the British under Lord Dalhousie in 1849.
- **1848** — Lord Dalhousie became Governor-General (1848–1856). He introduced the Doctrine of Lapse to annex Indian princely states.
- **1852** — Second Anglo-Burmese War (1852) — Lower Burma was annexed by Lord Dalhousie.
- **1853** — First railway in India was opened on 16 April 1853 between Bombay (Bori Bunder) and Thane — a distance of 34 km. This was under Lord Dalhousie.
- **1853** — First telegraph line in India was laid in 1853 from Calcutta to Agra under Lord Dalhousie.
- **1853** — Charter Act of 1853 introduced open competitive examinations for the Indian Civil Service (ICS).
- **1856** — Hindu Widows' Remarriage Act was passed in 1856 by Lord Dalhousie/Lord Canning, largely due to the efforts of Pandit Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar.

- **1856** — Lord Canning became Governor-General in 1856 (became the first Viceroy in 1858).
- **1856** — Doctrine of Lapse — used by Dalhousie to annex Satara (1848), Nagpur (1853), Jhansi (1853), and Awadh (1856).

◆ WAR OF INDEPENDENCE 1857

- **1857** — The War of Independence (also called Sepoy Mutiny by British) began on 10 May 1857 at Meerut. The immediate cause was the introduction of greased cartridges (Enfield Rifle).
- **1857** — Mangal Pandey fired the first shot of the 1857 uprising on 29 March 1857 at Barrackpore. He was hanged on 8 April 1857.
- **1857** — Bahadur Shah Zafar II was the last Mughal Emperor (1837–1857). He was declared leader of the 1857 revolt. He was exiled to Rangoon (Myanmar) after the revolt and died there in 1862.
- **1857** — Key leaders of 1857 War: Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi (died 17 June 1858), Nana Sahib of Kanpur, Tatya Tope (hanged 1859), Begum Hazrat Mahal of Awadh.
- **1857** — The revolt was suppressed by November 1857. The last centre of resistance, Gwalior, fell on 20 June 1858.

◆ CROWN RULE & REFORMS ERA (1858–1905)

- **1858** — Government of India Act 1858 — The East India Company's rule ended. India came under the direct rule of the British Crown. Queen Victoria became Empress of India. Lord Canning became the first Viceroy of India.
- **1858** — Queen Victoria's Proclamation (1 November 1858) — promised non-interference in Indian religious matters and equal treatment of Indians.

- **1861** — Indian Councils Act 1861 — introduced the portfolio system and included Indians in legislative councils for the first time.
- **1865** — Sir Syed Ahmed Khan established the Scientific Society at Ghazipur (later moved to Aligarh) in 1864 to translate Western works into Urdu.
- **1867** — Urdu-Hindi Controversy began in 1867 when Hindus demanded that Hindi replace Urdu as the official language of courts in North India. This convinced Sir Syed of the separate identity of Muslims.
- **1869** — Mahatma Gandhi was born on 2 October 1869 at Porbandar, Gujarat. He was assassinated on 30 January 1948.
- **1870** — Lord Mayo introduced the policy of financial decentralization in 1870. He was assassinated in 1872 at the Andaman Islands — the only Viceroy to be assassinated in India.
- **1875** — Sir Syed Ahmed Khan founded the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental (MAO) College at Aligarh on 24 May 1875. It became Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) in 1920.
- **1875** — Arya Samaj was founded by Swami Dayananda Saraswati in 1875 at Bombay. It promoted Hindu reform and revival.
- **1876** — Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India by the Royal Titles Act 1876. The Delhi Durbar was held in 1877 by Lord Lytton.
- **1877** — Delhi Durbar (1877) held by Lord Lytton to proclaim Queen Victoria as Empress of India.
- **1878** — Vernacular Press Act (1878) — passed by Lord Lytton to curb freedom of the Indian press (repealed by Lord Ripon in 1882).
- **1878** — Second Anglo-Afghan War (1878–1880) under Lord Lytton. Treaty of Gandamak (1879) gave Britain control of Afghanistan's foreign policy.

- **1880** — Lord Ripon became Viceroy (1880–1884). He introduced Local Self-Government in 1882 (considered the "Father of Local Self-Government in India"). Repealed Vernacular Press Act.
- **1882** — Hunter Education Commission (1882) under Lord Ripon reviewed the state of primary and secondary education.
- **1883** — Ilbert Bill Controversy (1883) — Lord Ripon's bill allowing Indian judges to try Europeans was opposed by the British community and was eventually amended.
- **1885** — Indian National Congress (INC) was founded on 28 December 1885 at Bombay by A.O. Hume (a retired British civil servant). First President was W.C. Bonnerjee.
- **1886** — Muhammadan Educational Conference was founded by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan in 1886 to promote modern education among Muslims.
- **1888** — Sir Syed Ahmed Khan opposed the Congress and wrote a pamphlet "Asbab-e-Baghawat-e-Hind" (Causes of the Indian Revolt). He warned Muslims not to join the Congress.
- **1891** — Age of Consent Act (1891) raised the age of marriage for girls from 10 to 12 years.
- **1892** — Indian Councils Act 1892 — enlarged the legislative councils and introduced the element of elections indirectly.
- **1893** — Durand Line Agreement (1893) — fixed the boundary between British India and Afghanistan. Signed by Sir Mortimer Durand and Amir Abdur Rahman Khan.
- **1898** — Sir Syed Ahmed Khan died on 27 March 1898. He is called the "Father of Muslim Modernism" and "Pioneer of Muslim Renaissance."
- **1899** — Lord Curzon became Viceroy (1899–1905). He is known for the Partition of Bengal (1905).

- **1900** — Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah enrolled as a member of the Indian National Congress in 1906 (some sources say he joined INC earlier around 1896). Born on 25 December 1876 in Karachi; died 11 September 1948.

◆ PARTITION OF BENGAL & SWADESHI (1905–1911)

- **1905** — Partition of Bengal was announced on 19 July 1905 by Lord Curzon and came into effect on 16 October 1905. East Bengal (with Assam) became a new province with a Muslim majority. Hindus opposed it strongly.
- **1905** — Swadeshi Movement launched in response to Partition of Bengal. Indians boycotted British goods and promoted Indian-made products (Swadeshi). Led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lala Lajpat Rai (Lal-Bal-Pal).
- **1906** — All India Muslim League (AIML) was founded on 30 December 1906 at Dhaka at the All India Muhammadan Educational Conference. Nawab Salimullah of Dhaka was the host. Nawab Viqar-ul-Mulk was the first President. The idea was proposed by Nawab Salimullah Khan.
- **1906** — Simla Deputation (1 October 1906) — A delegation of 35 Muslim leaders led by Sir Agha Khan III met Viceroy Lord Minto at Simla. They demanded separate electorates for Muslims.
- **1907** — Surat Split (1907) — INC split into Moderates (led by Gopal Krishna Gokhale) and Extremists (led by Bal Gangadhar Tilak) at Surat session.
- **1907** — Allahabad session of Muslim League (1907) — Adopted the resolution for the protection of Muslim interests.
- **1909** — Morley-Minto Reforms (Indian Councils Act 1909) — introduced separate electorates for Muslims. Lord Minto is called the "Father of Communal Electorate." John Morley was Secretary of State for India.
- **1911** — Partition of Bengal was annulled on 12 December 1911 by King George V at the Delhi Durbar. Capital was shifted from Calcutta to Delhi (New Delhi).

- **1911** — Delhi Durbar (1911) — King George V and Queen Mary visited India. Partition of Bengal annulled. Capital shifted to Delhi.

◆ WORLD WAR I ERA & HOME RULE (1912–1919)

- **1913** — Muslim League adopted Self-Government for India as its goal at the Agra session in 1913.
- **1914** — World War I began in 1914. Indian soldiers fought for the British. Over one million Indian troops served.
- **1915** — Gopal Krishna Gokhale died on 19 February 1915. He was Gandhi's political mentor and founder of the Servants of India Society (1905).
- **1915** — Bal Gangadhar Tilak founded the Home Rule League at Poona in April 1916. Annie Besant founded a separate Home Rule League at Madras in September 1916.
- **1916** — Lucknow Pact (1916) — A historic agreement between INC and Muslim League. Jinnah brokered the agreement. Congress accepted separate electorates for Muslims. Jinnah was called "Ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity."
- **1917** — August Declaration (Montagu Declaration) 1917 — British Secretary of State Edwin Montagu announced that the goal was gradual self-government for India.
- **1918** — Montagu-Chelmsford Report (1918) formed the basis of the Government of India Act 1919.
- **1919** — Government of India Act 1919 (Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms) — introduced Dyarchy in provinces. Divided subjects into "reserved" (controlled by Governor) and "transferred" (controlled by Indian ministers).
- **1919** — Rowlatt Act (18 March 1919) — allowed detention without trial. Called the "Black Act." Strongly opposed by all Indians including Jinnah, who resigned from the Imperial Legislative Council in protest.

- **1919** — Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (13 April 1919) — General Reginald Dyer ordered firing on unarmed crowd at Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar during Baisakhi festival. Approximately 379 killed officially (thousands by other estimates). This turned Indian opinion firmly against British rule.
- **1919** — Third Anglo-Afghan War (1919) — Afghanistan gained full independence from British control. Treaty of Rawalpindi (1919).
- **1919** — Khilafat Movement launched (1919–1924) by Maulana Muhammad Ali Johar and Maulana Shaukat Ali (Ali Brothers) in support of the Ottoman Caliphate. Gandhi allied with the movement.

◆ NON-COOPERATION TO SIMON COMMISSION (1920–1928)

- **1920** — Non-Cooperation Movement launched by Gandhi on 1 August 1920. Indians were asked to boycott British courts, schools, and goods. Suspended after Chauri Chaura incident (1922).
- **1920** — Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) was established in 1920 by upgrading the MAO College founded by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.
- **1920** — Muslim League and Congress held joint sessions at Calcutta (1920) and Nagpur (1920).
- **1920** — Jinnah left the Congress in 1920, opposing Gandhi's Non-Cooperation Movement as unconstitutional.
- **1921** — Moplah (Mapilla) Rebellion (1921) — Muslim peasant uprising in Kerala against Hindu landlords and British rule.
- **1922** — Chauri Chaura Incident (4 February 1922) — A mob burned a police station in UP, killing 22 policemen. Gandhi suspended the Non-Cooperation Movement.
- **1923** — Swaraj Party founded in 1923 by C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru after the failure of Non-Cooperation Movement.

- **1924** — Khilafat Movement ended in 1924 when the Caliphate was abolished by Turkey's Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.
- **1924** — Maulana Muhammad Ali Johar presided over Congress session at Cocanada (1923) and the Khilafat Conference.
- **1926** — Jinnah's 14 Points were presented in response to the Nehru Report in March 1929 (commonly associated with 1929, prepared after 1928 Nehru Report).
- **1927** — Simon Commission was appointed in November 1927 by the British Government under Sir John Simon to review the Government of India Act 1919. All seven members were British — no Indian was included.
- **1928** — Simon Commission arrived in India in February 1928. It was greeted with the slogan "Simon Go Back" across India.
- **1928** — Nehru Report (1928) — prepared by a committee under Motilal Nehru, recommended dominion status and joint electorates (abolition of separate electorates for Muslims). Opposed by Muslim leaders.
- **1928** — Lala Lajpat Rai died on 17 November 1928 after being lathi-charged during anti-Simon Commission protests in Lahore.

◆ JINNAH'S 14 POINTS TO ROUND TABLE CONFERENCES (1929–1932)

- **1929** — Jinnah's 14 Points presented on 28 March 1929 in response to the Nehru Report. Key demands included: separate electorates for Muslims, one-third Muslim representation in Central Legislature, residual powers to provinces, Punjab and Bengal to have Muslim majority representation.
- **1929** — Lahore Resolution of INC (December 1929) — Congress under Jawaharlal Nehru demanded complete independence (Purna Swaraj). 26 January 1930 was declared Independence Day by Congress.

- **1930** — Allama Iqbal's Allahabad Address (29 December 1930) — At the annual session of the Muslim League, Iqbal proposed a separate Muslim state in Northwest India (Punjab, NWFP, Sindh, Balochistan). This is considered the intellectual foundation of Pakistan.
- **1930** — Civil Disobedience Movement launched by Gandhi on 12 March 1930 with the famous Dandi March (Salt March) — walked 241 miles in 24 days to make salt at Dandi, defying the Salt Law.
- **1930** — First Round Table Conference (November 1930 – January 1931) — held in London. Congress did not attend. Muslim League, Hindu Mahasabha, princes, and minorities attended.
- **1931** — Gandhi-Irwin Pact (5 March 1931) — Viceroy Lord Irwin and Gandhi agreed to suspend the Civil Disobedience Movement. Congress agreed to attend the Second Round Table Conference.
- **1931** — Second Round Table Conference (September–December 1931) — Gandhi attended as the sole representative of Congress. Failed due to communal disagreements.
- **1931** — Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev, and Rajguru were hanged on 23 March 1931 for the killing of British officer John Saunders.
- **1932** — Third Round Table Conference (November–December 1932) — Congress did not attend. Its recommendations formed the basis of the Government of India Act 1935.
- **1932** — Communal Award (August 1932) — British PM Ramsay MacDonald gave separate electorates to depressed classes (Dalits), Muslims, Sikhs, and Christians. Gandhi opposed it and went on fast.
- **1932** — Poona Pact (24 September 1932) — Gandhi and B.R. Ambedkar agreed to reserved seats for Dalits within the general Hindu electorate, replacing separate electorates.

◆ GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ACT 1935 & PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

- **1933** — The name "Pakistan" was coined by Choudhary Rahmat Ali in his pamphlet "Now or Never" on 28 January 1933. P=Punjab, A=Afghan (NWFP), K=Kashmir, S=Sindh, TAN=Baluchistan.
- **1935** — Government of India Act 1935 — the longest and most comprehensive constitutional act for India. It introduced provincial autonomy, a federal structure, dyarchy at the Centre, and separate electorates. It became the basis of the Constitutions of India and Pakistan in 1947.
- **1936** — Jinnah returned from England and reorganized the Muslim League in 1934–1936. He became permanent President of AIML in 1934.
- **1937** — Provincial Elections held under Government of India Act 1935. Congress won majority in 7 out of 11 provinces. Muslim League performed poorly. Congress formed governments but refused to include the League in coalition governments — this became a turning point.
- **1937–1939** — Congress Rule (1937–1939) — Muslims alleged discrimination during Congress rule (Bande Mataram controversy, Vidya Mandir scheme, etc.). These years confirmed to Jinnah that Muslims needed a separate homeland.
- **1938** — Allama Iqbal died on 21 April 1938. He is the poet-philosopher of Pakistan, known as "Shair-e-Mashriq" (Poet of the East). Born 9 November 1877. He wrote "Shikwa," "Jawab-e-Shikwa," "Bang-e-Dra," and "Asrar-e-Khudi."
- **1939** — World War II began on 3 September 1939. Viceroy Lord Linlithgow declared India at war without consulting Indian leaders. Congress governments in provinces resigned in October 1939. Muslim League celebrated "Day of Deliverance" on 22 December 1939.

◆ LAHORE RESOLUTION TO PARTITION (1940–1947)

- **1940** — Lahore Resolution (Pakistan Resolution) was passed on 23 March 1940 at the annual session of the All India Muslim League at Minto Park (now Iqbal Park), Lahore. It demanded independent states for Muslims in the Northwest and East of India. Mover: Fazlul Haq (A.K. Fazlul Haq, Premier of Bengal). Presided by: Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.
- **1940** — The Lahore Resolution did not use the word "Pakistan." The term was first used officially by the League in the Delhi session in 1941.
- **1942** — Cripps Mission (March 1942) — Sir Stafford Cripps came to India with a proposal offering dominion status after WWII. Both Congress and Muslim League rejected it. Congress called it "a post-dated cheque on a failing bank."
- **1942** — Quit India Movement launched by Gandhi on 8 August 1942 ("Do or Die" speech at Gowalia Tank, Bombay). Gandhi, Nehru, and other Congress leaders were arrested. Jinnah and the Muslim League did not support this movement.
- **1943** — Bengal Famine (1943) — Over 2 million people died in Bengal due to famine under British wartime policies.
- **1944** — Gandhi-Jinnah Talks (September 1944) — Talks failed. Gandhi offered a formula (C.R. Formula / Rajagopalachari Formula) but Jinnah rejected it as inadequate.
- **1945** — Shimla Conference (June–July 1945) — called by Viceroy Lord Wavell. Failed due to Jinnah's insistence that all Muslim seats on the Executive Council be filled by the League alone.
- **1945–1946** — General Elections (Winter 1945–46) — Muslim League won 30 out of 30 central assembly Muslim seats and most provincial Muslim seats, proving it was the sole representative of Muslims.
- **1946** — Cabinet Mission Plan (May 1946) — Three British Cabinet Ministers visited India: Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Sir Stafford Cripps, A.V. Alexander. Proposed a federal India with groupings. Both Congress and League initially accepted but later Congress's interpretation differed.

- **1946** — Direct Action Day (16 August 1946) — Jinnah declared Direct Action Day to demand Pakistan. Massive communal riots in Calcutta ("The Great Calcutta Killings") — over 4,000 killed.
- **1946** — Interim Government formed on 2 September 1946 under Nehru. Muslim League joined in October 1946 but refused to cooperate.
- **1946** — Constituent Assembly of India met for the first time on 9 December 1946. Muslim League boycotted it.
- **1947** — Attlee's Statement (20 February 1947) — British PM Clement Attlee announced that Britain would leave India by June 1948 and appointed Lord Mountbatten as the last Viceroy.
- **1947** — Lord Mountbatten arrived in India on 22 March 1947 as the last Viceroy.
- **1947** — Mountbatten Plan / 3 June Plan (3 June 1947) — Lord Mountbatten announced the partition of India. Both Congress and Muslim League accepted it.
- **1947** — Indian Independence Act 1947 — passed by British Parliament on 18 July 1947. It partitioned British India into two independent dominions: India and Pakistan, effective 14–15 August 1947.
- **1947** — Pakistan came into existence on 14 August 1947. Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah became the first Governor-General. Liaquat Ali Khan became the first Prime Minister.
- **1947** — India became independent on 15 August 1947. Lord Mountbatten became the first Governor-General of independent India. Jawaharlal Nehru became the first Prime Minister.
- **1947** — Radcliffe Award — Sir Cyril Radcliffe drew the boundaries of India and Pakistan. The award was announced on 17 August 1947 — two days after independence.

◆ KEY GOVERNOR-GENERALS & VICEROYS (CHRONOLOGICAL)

Governor-General / Viceroy	Tenure	Key Event
Warren Hastings (GG Bengal)	1772–1785	Regulating Act 1773; First Anglo-Maratha War
Lord Cornwallis	1786–1793	Permanent Settlement 1793; 3rd Anglo-Mysore War
Sir John Shore	1793–1798	Policy of non-intervention
Lord Wellesley	1798–1805	Subsidiary Alliance; 4th Anglo-Mysore War (Tipu Sultan killed)
Lord Minto I	1807–1813	Charter Act 1813; Morley-Minto Reforms (1909)
Lord Hastings	1813–1823	3rd Anglo-Maratha War; Pindari War
Lord Amherst	1823–1828	1st Anglo-Burmese War
Lord William Bentinck	1828–1835	Abolition of Sati 1829; English Education 1835
Lord Auckland	1836–1842	1st Anglo-Afghan War
Lord Ellenborough	1842–1844	Conquest of Sindh 1843
Lord Dalhousie	1848–1856	Doctrine of Lapse; Railway; Telegraph; 2nd Anglo-Sikh War
Lord Canning	1856–1862	War of 1857; First Viceroy; Universities Act 1857
Lord Elgin I	1862–1863	Died in office
Lord Lawrence	1864–1869	Lawrence Policy (masterly inactivity toward Afghanistan)
Lord Mayo	1869–1872	Financial decentralization; assassinated 1872
Lord Northbrook	1872–1876	Famine relief
Lord Lytton	1876–1880	Delhi Durbar 1877; Vernacular Press Act; 2nd Anglo-Afghan War
Lord Ripon	1880–1884	Local Self-Government; Ilbert Bill; repealed Vernacular Press Act
Lord Dufferin	1884–1888	INC founded 1885; 3rd Anglo-Burmese War
Lord Lansdowne	1888–1894	Durand Line 1893; Indian Councils Act 1892

Governor-General / Viceroy	Tenure	Key Event
Lord Elgin II	1894–1899	Famine and plague
Lord Curzon	1899–1905	Partition of Bengal 1905; Universities Act 1904
Lord Minto II	1905–1910	Muslim League founded 1906; Morley-Minto Reforms 1909
Lord Hardinge	1910–1916	Delhi Durbar 1911; Partition of Bengal cancelled
Lord Chelmsford	1916–1921	Rowlatt Act 1919; Jallianwala Bagh Massacre; Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms
Lord Reading	1921–1926	Non-Cooperation Movement; Chauri Chaura; Khilafat Movement
Lord Irwin	1926–1931	Simon Commission; Gandhi-Irwin Pact; Civil Disobedience Movement
Lord Willingdon	1931–1936	2nd and 3rd Round Table Conferences; Communal Award 1932
Lord Linlithgow	1936–1943	GOI Act 1935 implemented; WWII; Lahore Resolution 1940; Quit India 1942
Lord Wavell	1943–1947	Shimla Conference 1945; Cabinet Mission 1946; Direct Action Day
Lord Mountbatten	1947	3 June Plan; Partition; Last Viceroy and first GG of India

◆ KEY PERSONALITIES — BIRTH & DEATH DATES

Personality	Born	Died	Key Role
Aurangzeb	3 Nov 1618	3 Mar 1707	Last great Mughal Emperor
Hyder Ali	1720	7 Dec 1782	Ruler of Mysore; enemy of British
Tipu Sultan	Nov 1751	4 May 1799	"Tiger of Mysore"; died at Seringapatam

Personality	Born	Died	Key Role
Raja Ram Mohan Roy	22 May 1772	27 Sep 1833	Abolished Sati; founded Brahmo Samaj 1828
Maharaja Ranjit Singh	13 Nov 1780	27 Jun 1839	Lion of Punjab; founded Sikh Empire
Sir Syed Ahmed Khan	17 Oct 1817	27 Mar 1898	Founded MAO College 1875; Muslim modernist
Bal Gangadhar Tilak	23 Jul 1856	1 Aug 1920	"Father of Indian Unrest"; Extremist leader
Mahatma Gandhi	2 Oct 1869	30 Jan 1948	Father of Indian Nation; Civil Disobedience
Gopal Krishna Gokhale	9 May 1866	19 Feb 1915	Moderate Congress leader; Gandhi's mentor
Allama Iqbal	9 Nov 1877	21 Apr 1938	Poet-philosopher of Pakistan; Allahabad Address 1930
Quaid-e-Azam Jinnah	25 Dec 1876	11 Sep 1948	Founder of Pakistan; Governor-General
Liaquat Ali Khan	1 Oct 1895	16 Oct 1951	First PM of Pakistan; assassinated
Jawaharlal Nehru	14 Nov 1889	27 May 1964	First PM of India
B.R. Ambedkar	14 Apr 1891	6 Dec 1956	Dalit leader; Poona Pact; drafted India's Constitution
Subhas Chandra Bose	23 Jan 1897	18 Aug 1945	INA; "Netaji"; "Give me blood, I'll give you freedom"
Maulana Muhammad Ali Johar	10 Dec 1878	4 Jan 1931	Khilafat Movement leader; Ali Brothers
Choudhary Rahmat Ali	16 Nov 1897	3 Feb 1951	Coined the name "Pakistan" in 1933
A.K. Fazlul Haq	26 Oct 1873	27 Apr 1962	Moved the Lahore Resolution 1940
Nawab Salimullah	7 Jun 1871	16 Jan 1915	Host of Dhaka meeting; Muslim League founded

◆ KEY ACTS & LEGISLATION (CHRONOLOGICAL)

- **Regulating Act 1773** — First British Parliamentary control over EIC; created post of Governor-General of Bengal.
- **Pitt's India Act 1784** — Created Board of Control; dual control by company and Crown began.
- **Charter Act 1813** — Ended EIC trade monopoly; opened India to missionaries.
- **Charter Act 1833** — EIC became purely administrative; post of Governor-General of India created; first Law Commission.
- **Charter Act 1853** — Introduced open competition for ICS; last charter act before 1857.
- **Government of India Act 1858** — Crown rule began; Viceroy replaced Governor-General title; Secretary of State for India created; India Council of 15 members.
- **Indian Councils Act 1861** — Portfolio system introduced; Indians included in viceroy's executive council.
- **Indian Councils Act 1892** — Enlarged legislative councils; indirect elections introduced.
- **Indian Councils Act 1909 (Morley-Minto Reforms)** — Separate electorates for Muslims introduced; Indians in Executive Council.
- **Government of India Act 1919 (Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms)** — Dyarchy introduced in provinces; bicameral legislature at Centre.
- **Government of India Act 1935** — Provincial autonomy; federal structure; separate electorates; basis of Pakistan/India constitutions.
- **Indian Independence Act 1947** — Partition of India; two independent dominions; paramountcy of British Crown lapsed.

◆ KEY WARS & BATTLES

- **Battle of Plassey 1757** — British vs. Siraj-ud-Daula (Bengal). British won; Mir Jafar betrayed Siraj. Foundation of British rule.
- **Battle of Buxar 1764** — British vs. combined forces of Mir Qasim + Nawab of Awadh + Mughal Emperor. More significant than Plassey; British supremacy confirmed.
- **Battle of Panipat (Third) 1761** — Ahmad Shah Abdali vs. Marathas. Abdali won; Maratha power crushed.
- **Anglo-Mysore Wars** — 4 wars (1767–69, 1780–84, 1789–92, 1799). Tipu Sultan killed in 4th war.
- **Anglo-Maratha Wars** — 3 wars (1775–82, 1803–05, 1817–19). Marathas finally defeated in 3rd war.
- **Anglo-Sikh Wars** — 1st (1845–46): Treaty of Lahore; 2nd (1848–49): Punjab annexed.
- **Anglo-Afghan Wars** — 1st (1839–42): British disaster; 2nd (1878–80): Treaty of Gandamak; 3rd (1919): Afghan independence.
- **World War I (1914–1918)** — India contributed over 1 million troops; Lucknow Pact; Montagu Declaration.
- **World War II (1939–1945)** — Cripps Mission; Quit India Movement; INA; led to Indian independence.

◆ KEY PACTS & AGREEMENTS

- **Treaty of Allahabad 1765** — Mughal Emperor granted Diwani rights to EIC; foundation of British territorial power.
- **Treaty of Salbai 1782** — Ended First Anglo-Maratha War; status quo maintained.
- **Treaty of Seringapatam 1792** — Tipu Sultan defeated; ceded half his territory to British.

- **Treaty of Amritsar 1809** — Ranjit Singh and British; Sutlej river as boundary.
- **Treaty of Lahore 1846** — After First Anglo-Sikh War; Kashmir sold to Gulab Singh.
- **Lucknow Pact 1916** — Congress and Muslim League; separate electorates accepted by Congress.
- **Gandhi-Irwin Pact 1931** — Civil Disobedience suspended; Congress to attend Second RTC.
- **Poona Pact 1932** — Gandhi and Ambedkar; reserved seats for Dalits within general electorate.
- **3 June Plan 1947 (Mountbatten Plan)** — Plan for partition of India into two dominions.

◆ KEY PARTIES, ORGANIZATIONS & JOURNALS

- **East India Company** — Founded 1600; ended 1858 (Government of India Act).
- **Brahmo Samaj** — Founded 1828 by Raja Ram Mohan Roy; monotheistic Hindu reform movement.
- **Arya Samaj** — Founded 1875 by Swami Dayananda Saraswati; Hindu revivalist movement; opposed Islam and Christianity.
- **Indian National Congress (INC)** — Founded 28 December 1885 by A.O. Hume; first president W.C. Bonnerjee.
- **All India Muslim League (AIML)** — Founded 30 December 1906 at Dhaka; first president Nawab Viqar-ul-Mulk; permanent president Jinnah from 1934.
- **Hindu Mahasabha** — Founded 1915; extreme Hindu nationalist organization.
- **Khilafat Committee** — Founded 1919 by Ali Brothers; demanded preservation of Ottoman Caliphate.

- **Swaraj Party** — Founded 1923 by C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru; contested elections to obstruct government from within.
- **Indian National Army (INA / Azad Hind Fauj)** — Founded by Mohan Singh 1942; reorganized by Subhas Chandra Bose; fought alongside Japan in WWII.

Key Journals & Newspapers

- **Al-Hilal** — Founded 1912 by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad; revolutionary Urdu journal.
- **Comrade** — Founded 1911 by Maulana Muhammad Ali Johar; English newspaper.
- **Hamdard** — Urdu newspaper of Maulana Muhammad Ali Johar.
- **The Hindu** — Founded 1878; major Indian English newspaper.
- **Kesari** — Marathi newspaper founded by Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1881).
- **Young India** — Published by Mahatma Gandhi (1919–1932).
- **Harijan** — Published by Gandhi (1933 onward) for the welfare of untouchables.
- **Dawn** — Founded by Quaid-e-Azam Jinnah in 1941; still published as Pakistan's leading English newspaper.
- **Zamindar** — Urdu newspaper; published by Zafar Ali Khan; strongly pro-Muslim.
- **Tahzib-ul-Akhlaq (Mohammedan Social Reformer)** — Published by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan from 1870; promoted rational/modern thinking.

◆ KEY TITLES & HONOURS

- **Quaid-e-Azam (Great Leader)** — Title of Muhammad Ali Jinnah.
- **Mader-e-Millat (Mother of the Nation)** — Title of Fatima Jinnah (Jinnah's sister).
- **Shair-e-Mashriq (Poet of the East)** — Title of Allama Iqbal.
- **Hakeem-ul-Ummat (Sage of the Nation)** — Another title of Allama Iqbal.

- **Father of the Nation** — Mahatma Gandhi (India); Quaid-e-Azam Jinnah (Pakistan).
- **Lion of Punjab** — Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
- **Tiger of Mysore** — Tipu Sultan.
- **Grand Old Man of India** — Dadabhai Naoroji (first Indian elected to British Parliament, 1892).
- **Ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity** — Muhammad Ali Jinnah (before 1920).
- **Father of Modern India** — Lord William Bentinck (for social reforms).
- **Father of Indian Unrest** — Bal Gangadhar Tilak (title given by British).
- **Lokmanya (Accepted by the People)** — Title of Bal Gangadhar Tilak.
- **Deshbandhu (Friend of the Nation)** — Title of C.R. Das.
- **Deenbandhu (Friend of the Poor)** — Title of C.F. Andrews.
- **Father of Local Self-Government** — Lord Ripon.
- **Father of Communal Electorate** — Lord Minto.
- **Father of Pakistani Nation** — Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

◆ QUICK MCQ FACTS TO MEMORISE

- **East India Company founded: 1600**
- **Battle of Plassey: 1757 (Clive vs. Siraj-ud-Daula)**
- **Tipu Sultan died: 4 May 1799**
- **Sati abolished: 1829 (Lord Bentinck)**
- **First railway in India: 16 April 1853 (Bombay to Thane)**
- **War of Independence began: 10 May 1857 (Meerut)**

- **Last Mughal Emperor: Bahadur Shah Zafar II (exiled to Rangoon)**
- **Crown Rule began: 1858**
- **MAO College founded: 24 May 1875 (Sir Syed Ahmed Khan)**
- **INC founded: 28 December 1885 (A.O. Hume)**
- **Muslim League founded: 30 December 1906 (Dhaka)**
- **Partition of Bengal: 16 October 1905 (cancelled 1911)**
- **Morley-Minto Reforms: 1909 (separate electorates)**
- **Jallianwala Bagh: 13 April 1919 (General Dyer)**
- **Iqbal's Allahabad Address: 29 December 1930**
- **Name "Pakistan" coined: 28 January 1933 (Rahmat Ali)**
- **Lahore Resolution: 23 March 1940 (Minto Park, Lahore)**
- **Jinnah's 14 Points: 28 March 1929**
- **Cabinet Mission: May 1946**
- **Direct Action Day: 16 August 1946**
- **3 June Plan: 3 June 1947**
- **Pakistan Independence: 14 August 1947**
- **India Independence: 15 August 1947**
- **Radcliffe Award announced: 17 August 1947**
- **Iqbal born: 9 November 1877 | died: 21 April 1938**
- **Jinnah born: 25 December 1876 | died: 11 September 1948**

Good luck for your exam tomorrow! You've got this — InshAllah you will do great! ☺