

Use the text below to answer the questions that follow.

Many Indians grew angry at British domination of Indian life. Indian nationalism had been growing since the mid-1800s. Some Indians joined the Congress Party or the Muslim League. These were two groups that worked toward independence.

More than one million Indians served in the British army in World War I. The British promised to make changes to the government of India in return for their service. These changes would give the Indian people greater control of their own nation. After the war, though, returning Indian soldiers were once again treated as second-class citizens. Reforms were not made. When Indians protested, the British Parliament passed the Rowlatt Acts that allowed protesters to be jailed without a trial. Western-educated Indians believed this to be a violation of their rights.

About 10,000 Indians gathered at the city of Amritsar to protest this act in the spring of 1919. The British had also banned such public meetings. But the crowd was mostly unaware of that fact. British troops fired on the crowd. Several hundred protesters were killed. The Amritsar Massacre sparked further protests. Almost overnight millions of Indians changed from loyal British subjects to revolutionaries and nationalists.

Mohandas K. Gandhi became the leader of India's protest movement. He had attended law school in England. He had a deeply religious approach to political activity. His teachings contained ideas from all of the major religions of the world, including Hinduism, Islam, and Christianity.

Gandhi organized a campaign of noncooperation with the British. It was based on passive resistance, or civil disobedience, to unjust laws. He asked Indians to stop buying British goods, attending British schools, paying British taxes, or voting in British-run elections. He also persuaded his followers to take these actions while not using violence. British jails filled with thousands of Indians who broke British laws in order to protest them.

Indians resented a British law that forced them to buy salt only from the government. Gandhi organized a huge march to the sea to make salt by evaporating sea water. This action was called the Salt March.

Soon afterward, some demonstrators planned another march. They went to the place where the British government made salt. They wanted to close this site down. The British violently broke up the march. A news story about the event was published everywhere. It helped Gandhi's independence movement gain worldwide support. In 1935, the British finally gave in. They passed a law that allowed local Indian self-government.

1. List two Indian nationalist groups that worked toward independence from the British.
2. What motive did Indians have for fighting for the British in WWI?
3. What was the British government's reaction to Indian protests after WWI?
4. What affect did the Amritsar Massacre have on many Indians?
5. What was Gandhi's campaign of passive resistance and noncooperation of unjust laws called?
6. What was Gandhi's *Salt March* protesting?
7. What change did the British government make in India in 1935?