Modern History · GS - I

Highlight the importance of the new objectives that got added to the vision of Indian Independence since the twenties of the last century.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
2017	GS - I	Modern History

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Purna Swaraj; mass mobilisation; social justice; economic emancipation; civil liberties; inclusive nationalism

Model Answer

Introduction

During the 1920s and 1930s, India's freedom struggle expanded beyond demands for political concessions. Nationalist leaders increasingly linked independence with complete sovereignty, social equality and economic transformation.

New Objectives and Their Importance

1. Complete Independence

The demand for *Purna Swaraj* gained prominence and was formally adopted by the Indian National Congress at its Lahore session in 1929. It replaced the idea of limited constitutional reform with complete national sovereignty.

2. Mass Participation

- Peasants, workers, women, students and marginalised groups increasingly participated in the national movement.
- Movements such as the Civil Disobedience Movement widened the social base of nationalism.

3. Economic Justice

- Nationalists criticised colonial exploitation, poverty and the drain of wealth.
- The Karachi Resolution of 1931 emphasised fundamental rights and socio-economic justice.
- Ideas of planning and industrial development became increasingly important.

4. Social Equality

- Campaigns against untouchability and caste discrimination strengthened the demand for a more inclusive nation.
- Women's participation challenged established social restrictions and expanded the meaning of citizenship.

5. Civil Liberties and Democratic Governance

Freedom of expression, equality before the law, labour rights and representative government became integral to the vision of independent India.

Conclusion

These expanded objectives transformed nationalism into a movement for political freedom as well as social and economic reconstruction. They influenced the Constitution's commitment to democracy, fundamental rights and social justice.

BECOME IAS
AI POWERED UPSC PREP