

# Famous Personalities of the Freedom Movement

# Dadabhai Naoroji

- He was the first Indian to be elected to the House of Commons (lower house of British Parliament).
- He was the first Indian to demand swaraj (home rule). He was known as the 'Grand Old Man of India'.

# **Bal Gangadhar Tilak**

- He founded (1914) and served as president of the Indian home rule league.
- He gave the slogan 'Swarajya is my birthright and I shall have it!' He was known as 'Lokmanya Tilak'.

# Lala Lajpat Rai

- He launched the Swadeshi Movement.
- He was known as 'Punjab Kesari' and 'Lion of Punjab'.

## Gopal Krishna Gokhale

He founded the Servants of India Society.
Gandhiji considered him his political guru.

## **Bhagat Singh**

- He was known as 'Shaheed Bhagat Singh', 'Prince of Martyrs' and 'Shahid-e-azam'. He gave the slogan 'Inquilab Zindabad'.
- On April 8, 1929, is accompanied by Batukeshwar Dutt, threw bonb into the central assembly chanber.

 Bhagat singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were hanged on 23 March 1931.

#### Rani Lakshmi Bai

- Her childhood name was Manikarnika and nicknamed was Manu.
- Rani Lakshmi Bai, the Rani of Jhansi was the queen of the Maratha-ruled princely state of Jhansi, situated in the Northern part of India.
- Rani Lakshmi Bai was one of the leading warriors of the India's first struggle for independence.
- On the unfortunate day of 17 June, 1858, this great warrior martyred her life for India's freedom.

#### Mangal Pandey

- He was a sepoy (sipahi) in the 34th Bengal Native Infantry (BNI) regiment of the British East India Company.
- He is an Indian soldier, whose attack on British officers on March 29, 1857 was the first major incident of what came to be known as the Indian or Sepoy, Mutiny.
- A commemorative postage stamp with his image on it was issued by the Indian Government in 1984.
- He was hanged on 8 April, 1857.

#### Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi

- He followed the practice of ahimsa (non-violence) to get his demands met.
- He was the leading figure responsible for India's independence. He also fought against social evils in society like untouchability.
- Slogans given by him include 'Quit India', 'Do or die', 'Hate sin, not the sinner' and 'Truth and non-violence are my God'.
- He was known as 'Bapu', 'Mahatma' 'Gandhiji' and 'Father of the Nation'.

#### Subhas Chandra Bose

- He started the Indian National Army (INA) to fight for independence from the British. He was known as 'Netaji'.
- Slogans given by him include 'Dilli Chalo', 'Jai Hind' and 'Give me blood and I shall give you freedom'.

#### Jawahar Lal Nehru

- He was the first Prime Minister of independent India. He was known as 'Chacha Nehru'.
- Slogans given by him include 'Aaram haram hai', 'Purna Sawarajya' and 'Who lives if India dies'.

#### Bhimrao Ambedkar

- He is popularly known as baba saheb. He was independent India's first law minister.
- He is known as the father of Indian Constitution.

# Sarojini Naidu

- She was the first woman to participate in India's freedom struggle.
- She was known as the 'Nightingale of India'.

#### **Annie Besant**

- She started the Home Rule Movement in India.
- She also founded the Theosophical Society in India with its headquarters at Adyar (Madras).

# Raja Ram Mohan Roy

- He was the founder of the Brahma samaj.
- He abolished the practice of sati.
- He was known as the father of Indian renaissance.

#### Dayananda Saraswati

- He encouraged female education.
- He condemned customs which were degrading the value of women. He founded the Arya Samaj.

# Madan Mohan Malaviya

He founded the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) at Varanasi. He was known as 'Mahamana'.

# Rabindranath Tagore

- He was a Bengali poet. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1913 for his poem *Gitanjali*.
- He composed the National Anthem of India.
- He founded his school at Shantiniketan near Bolpur, West Bengal in 1901. He was known as 'Gurudey'.

#### **Syed Ahmed Khan**

- He established the MAO (Mohammadan Anglo Oriental College) College which later on became the Aligarh Muslim University.
- He opposed ignorance, superstitions and evil customs prevalent in Indian Muslim society.

# Practice Exercise

- **1.** The first Indian to be elected to the house of commons was
  - (a) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
  - (b) Lala Lajpat Rai
  - (c) Mk Gandhi
  - (d) Dadabhai Naoroji
- **2.** Dadabhai Naoroji was known as ..... of India.

- (a) Grand old man
- (b) Bapu
- (c) Chacha
- (d) Lokmanya Tilak
- **3.** Gopal Krishna Gokhale founded the society
  - (a) Servants of Indian Society
  - (b) Lokhitawadi
  - (c) Theosophical
  - (d) Arya Samaj

- **4.** Who droped bomb on Central Legislative Assembly?
  - (a) C Rajagopalachari
  - (b) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
  - (c) Lala Lajpat Rai
  - (d) Bhagat Singh
- **5.** Who gave the slogan 'Inqualab Zindabad'?
  - (a) Subhas Chandra Bose
    - (b) Bhagat Singh
    - (c) MK Gandhi
    - (d) BR Ambedkar
- **6.** Which amongst the following title was not given to Bhagat Singh?
  - (a) Shaheed
- (b) Prince of Martyrs
- (c) Shahid-e-azam
- (d) Lion of Punjab
- **7.** Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi followed the practice of .... to get his demands met.
  - (a) non-violence
- (b) demonstration
- (c) swarajya
- (d) violence
- **8.** Which amongst the following slogan is not given by Gandhiji?
  - (a) Quit India
  - (b) Do or die
  - (c) Hate sin, not the sinner
  - (d) Dilli Chalo
- **9**. Who started "Indian National Army"?
  - (a) Subhash Chandra Bose
  - (b) Motilal Nehru
  - (c) Bal Gnagadhar Tilak
  - (d) Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar
- **10.** The first Indian to demand 'swaraj' (home rule) was
  - (a) Dada Bhai Naoroji (b) CR Das
  - (c) Bipin Chandra Pal (d) Aurobindo Ghosh
- **11.** Who gave the slogan 'Swaraj is my birth right and I shall have it'?
  - (a) Lala Lajpat Rai
  - (b) Bhagat Singh
  - (c) Subhash Chandra Bose
  - (d) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- **12**. 'Punjab Kesari' is the name given to
  - (a) BR Ambedkar
  - (b) Lala Lajpat Rai
  - (c) Ajit Singh
  - (d) Bipin Chandra Pal

- **13.** Who was the mentor or political guru of Gandhiji?
  - (a) Lala Lajpat Rai
  - (b) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
  - (c) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
  - (d) Gopal Krishna Gokhale
- **14.** The slogan of 'Dilli Chalo' was given by
  - (a) Subhash Chandra Bose
  - (b) Mahatma Gandhi
  - (c) Rajendra Prasad
  - (d) Bhagat Singh
- **15**. The title of 'Lokhitwadi' was given to
  - (a) Gopal Krishna Gokhale
  - (b) Gopal Hari Deshmukh
  - (c) CR Das
  - (d) Jyotiba Phule
- **16.** Who is known as 'Shahid-e-azam'?
  - (a) Rajguru
- (b) Sukhdev
- (c) Bhagat Singh
- (d) Ram Prasad Bismil
- **17.** Who was the President of the Constituent Assembly and the first President of India?
  - (a) Rajendra Prasad
  - (b) Dadabhai Naoroji
  - (c) Bhikaiji Rustom cama
  - (d) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- **18.** Who is known as the 'Father of Indian Constitution'?
  - (a) BR Ambedkar
- (b) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- (c) Motilal Nehru
- (d) Mahatma Gandhi
- **19.** The Theosophical Society in India was founded by
  - (a) Lokmanya Tilak
  - (b) Annie Besant
  - (c) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
  - (d) Colonel Olcott
- **20**. Who led the foundation of 'Arya Samaj'?
  - (a) Dayanand Saraswati
  - (b) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
  - (c) Swami Vivekananda
  - (d) Keshab Chandra Sen
- **21.** Who won the Nobel Prize in 1913 for his book 'Gitanjali'?
  - (a) Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay
  - (b) Rabindranath Tagore
  - (c) Aurobindo Ghosh
  - (d) Khan Abdul Gafar Khan

# **Answers**

	1	(d)	2	(b)	3	(a)	4	(d)	5	(b)	6	(d)	7	(a)	8	(d)	9	(a)	10	(a)
1	1	(d)	12	(b)	13	(d)	14	(a)	15	(b)	16	(c)	17	(a)	18	(a)	19	(b)	20	(a)
2	1	(b)																		