

Long Answer Questions

Q. 1. Give an account on the Rowlatt Satyagraha.

Ans. (i) The Rowlatt Act was passed in 1919 by the British.

(ii) The Act curbed fundamental rights such as the freedom of expression and strengthened police powers.

(iii) This Act empowered the provincial governments to search any place and arrest any person whom they suspected without a warrant.

(iv) Mahatma Gandhi, Mohammad Ali Jinnah and other leaders criticised the act as 'devilish' and tyrannical.

(v) Satyagraha were organised under the leadership of Gandhiji.

(vi) On 6 April, 1919 a nation-wide hartal was launched and the day was observed as the 'day of humiliation and prayer.'

Q. 2. Briefly describe Nationalism in Africa.

Ans. (i) Colonial rule in Africa was dictatorial. Only the "Chiefs" were allowed to rule on behalf of the foreign powers.

(ii) Africans had no decision-making powers or representation.

(iii) The British forcefully took over the land from local owner or users, increased taxes and poor working conditions caused the revolt by the Africans against Britishers.

(iv) In 1957, Ghana became the first sub-Saharan African country to gain independence.

(v) The freedom movement was led by Kwame Nkrumah's Convention People's Party through strikes, boycotts and mass rallies.

(vi) In 1951, this party won a huge electoral victory and opposed the existing system of allowing the Chiefs to nominate representatives to the legislature.

(vii) In 1956, elections to the new Legislative Council were held and the Convention People's Party won and Ghana was proclaimed as an independent nation.