



Indian History

Important Events in Indian History

Events	Related facts
Oldest Civilization	▪ The Indus Valley Civilization or the Harappan Civilization is the oldest civilization of India. ▪ Important sites include Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro, Lothal, Kalibangan, Dholavira etc.
Buddhism	▪ Gautam Buddha (founder of Buddhism) was born in 563 BC at Lumbini (Nepal). ▪ Important phases of his life include renunciation (at 29 years), Nirvana, i.e. enlightenment (at 35 years in Bodh Gaya), first sermon at Sarnath and death in 483 BC at Kushinagar.
Jainism	▪ Vardhman Mahavira (founder of Jainism) was born in 540 BC at Kundalgram near Vaishali. ▪ Important phases of his life include renunciation (at 30 years), Kaivalya i.e. perfect knowledge (at 42 years) and death in 468 BC at Pawapuri.
Famous Rulers	▪ Mauryan rulers including Chandragupta Maurya, Bindusara and Ashoka (embraced Buddhism after the Kalinga War). ▪ Gupta rulers including Chandragupta I, Samudragupta, Chandragupta II or Chandragupta Vikramaditya. ▪ Harshavardhan, known as the last great Hindu ruler of Northern India; made Kannauj (UP) as his capital. ▪ Sultanate period was the one in which the Slave, Khilji, Tughlaq, Sayyid and Lodhi dynasties ruled. ▪ The Mughal rulers including Babar, Humayun, Akbar, Jahangir, Shahjahan and Aurangzeb.
Freedom struggle	▪ The Revolt of 1857 started on 10th May, 1857 when the sepoys from Meerut marched towards Delhi. Bahadur Shah Zafar was declared as the leader of the Revolt. ▪ Revolt of 1857 had some important leaders like Tantya Tope, Rani Lakshmi Bai, Kunwar Singh etc. ▪ The Indian National Congress was formed in 1885, W.C. Banerjee was its first President. ▪ The first meeting of INC was held at Bombay and was attended by 72 delegates. ▪ Swadeshi and Boycott Movement started after the partition of Bengal. ▪ Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi returned to India from South Africa and then he sets up ashram at Sabarmati. ▪ Jallianwala Bagh Massacre took place in Amritsar where General Dyer fired on the peaceful gathering of people.

- Gandhiji started Non-cooperation Movement and gave a call for the boycott of British goods.
- The British government appointed the Simon commission but it was opposed by Indians because it had no Indian member.
- Gandhiji started Civil Disobedience Movement with march from Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi and broke the salt law.
- Second Round Table Conference resulted in the signing of Gandhi-Irwin Pact that ends the Civil Disobedience movement.
- India attained independence in 1947 with the division of the country into two.

Famous Battles and Wars in Indian History

Name of Battle/ War	Winner
Battle of Hydaspes on banks of Jhelum River	Alexander the Great defeated King Porus of the Paurava kingdom.
Kalinga War	Ashoka of the Maurya Empire defeated the Kalinga Army.
First Battle of Tarain	Prithviraj Chauhan defeated Mohammed Ghori.
Second Battle of Tarain	Mohammed Ghori defeated Prithviraj Chauhan.
First Battle of Panipat	Babar defeated Ibrahim Lodhi and established the Mughal Empire .
Battle of Chausa, near Baxar, Bihar	Sher Shah Suri defeated Humayun and established the Sur Empire.
Second Battle of Panipat	Akbar's forces defeated Hemu, Hindu Emperor of Delhi
Battle of Haldighati	Akbar's army, led by his General Man Singh I, defeated Rana of Mewar, Maharana Pratap.
Battle of Plassey	Robert Clive of East India Company defeated Siraj-ud-daula, the Nawab of Bengal.
Third Battle of Panipat	Ahmed Shah Abdali, King of Afghanistan, defeated the Marathas.
Battle of Buxar	Hector Munro of East India Company defeated combined armies of Nawab Mir Qasim of Bengal, Nawab Shuja-ud-daula of Awadh and Mughal Emperor Shah Alam.
Fourth Anglo Mysore War	East India company forces defeat and kill Tipu Sultan, ruler of Mysore.
India-China War	China defeated India and took over parts of what is now known as 'Arunachal Pradesh'.
Indo-Pakistani War (1965)	Cease fire resulted in the Tashkent Agreement.
Indo-Pakistani War (1971)	India won and liberated Bangladesh.
Kargil Conflict	India regained their territory in Kargil region.



Practice Exercise

- Which of the following are sites of harappan civilization?
 (a) Mohenjodaro (b) Kalibangan
 (c) Dholavira (d) All of these
- Founder of Buddhism was born at
 (a) Lumbini (b) Kushinagar
 (c) Sarnath (d) Pawapuri
- Who was the founder of Jainism?
 (a) Gautam Buddha (b) Vardhman Mahavira
 (c) Harshvardhan (d) Ashoka
- Which of the following is not a ruler of gupta period?
 (a) Chandragupta I (b) Samudragupta
 (c) Chandragupta II (d) Bindusara

5. Who was known as the last Hindu ruler of Northern India?
 - (a) Chandragupta Maurya
 - (b) Ashoka
 - (c) Harshavardhan
 - (d) Samudragupta
6. Which revolt started due to protest by the Indian sepoys of the East India Company?
 - (a) Revolt of 1857
 - (b) Battle of Mysore
 - (c) Anglo Sikh war, 1845
 - (d) Anglo-Gorkha war, 1814
7. Which Indian sepoy was hanged to death for attacking his officer in Barrackpore during March 1857?
 - (a) Bhagat Singh
 - (b) Mangal Pandey
 - (c) Nana Saheb
 - (d) Sukhdev
8. Which amongst the following is not the main leader who actively participated in 1857 revolt?
 - (a) Nana Saheb
 - (b) Rani Lakshmibai
 - (c) Kunwar Singh
 - (d) Mangal Pandey
9. Begum Hazrat Mahal was the main leader in revolt of 1857 from
 - (a) Ahmedabad
 - (b) Kanpur
 - (c) Lucknow
 - (d) Jhansi
10. The English Government introduced the policy of divide and rule to
 - (a) educate Indian
 - (b) encourage Nationalism
 - (c) reform Indians
 - (d) suppress Nationalism
11. To protest against 'Divide and Rule' policy of Britishers, Indians started
 - (a) Champaran Satyagraha
 - (b) Civil Disobedience Movement
 - (c) Swadeshi Movement
 - (d) Quit India Movement
12. Gandhiji returned to India in 1915 from
 - (a) Saudi Arabia
 - (b) South Africa
 - (c) Britain
 - (d) USA
13. Gandhiji started the Champaran Satyagraha to protest against
 - (a) 'Divide and Rule' policy
 - (b) British policies
 - (c) Sepoy mutiny
 - (d) Jallianwala Bagh Massacre
14. What was the first success of Gandhiji with the policy of 'Civil Disobedience'?
 - (a) Dandi March
 - (b) Non-cooperation Movement
 - (c) Khilafat Movement
 - (d) Champaran Satyagraha
15. On which day during 1919, Jallianwala Bagh Massacre took place?
 - (a) Baisakhi Day
 - (b) Pongal
 - (c) Onam
 - (d) Makar Sakranti
16. Gandhiji lead Dandi March to protest against the
 - (a) Khilafat Movement
 - (b) Jalliwala Bagh Massacre
 - (c) Salt law
 - (d) Divide and Rule Policy
17. Which movement was started by Gandhiji asking Britishers to leave India?
 - (a) Civil Disobedience Movement
 - (b) Dandi March
 - (c) Khilafat Movement
 - (d) Quit India Movement

Answers

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