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Q68

Which one of the following movements has contributed to a split in the Indian National Congress resulting in the emergence of 'moderates' and 'extremists'? (a) Swadeshi Movement (b) Quit India Movement (c) Non-Cooperation Movement (d) Civil Disobedience Movement Official key: A.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2015 · General Studies · 2 marks · History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)
Ancient, medieval and modern Indian history - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a) Official key**

The Swadeshi Movement after the 1905 **Partition of Bengal** deepened the moderate-extremist rift, which surfaced at the Surat session of 1907. That split produced the two camps named in the question. This option is the official key.

(b)

The Quit India Movement of 1942 came long after the 1907 split; Congress was not then dividing into **Moderates** and **Extremists**. This option is not the key.

(c)

Non-Cooperation (1920-22) is a Gandhian mass movement after the **Extremists** had already been a distinct group. It did not create that split. This option is therefore wrong.

(d)

Civil Disobedience (1930 onwards) is likewise far later than Surat 1907. This option is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (a) Swadeshi Movement. The 1905-08 Swadeshi upsurge, methods of boycott versus constitutionalism, and the **Surat split** of 1907 created the Moderate and Extremist wings. Quit India, Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience belong to a later Gandhian phase. Dating alone rules out (b), (c) and (d). Only Swadeshi fits the emergence of those labels.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Surat split

INC session 1907; **Moderates vs Extremists** (Lal-Bal-Pal camp)

Partition of Bengal

1905; trigger of Swadeshi and boycott

Extremists

Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Lala Lajpat Rai, Aurobindo

Moderates

Gokhale, Pherozeshah Mehta, Surendranath Banerjee among leaders

Lucknow 1916

Reunion of the two Congress groups, plus Congress-League Pact

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