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Important Indian National Congress Sessions

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Introduction

- The Indian National Congress was founded at Bombay in December 1885.
- The early leadership – Dadabhai Naoroji, Pherozeshah Mehta, Badruddin Tyabji, W.C. Bonnerji, Surendranath Banerji, Romesh Chandra Dutt, S. Subramania Iyer, among others – was largely from Bombay and Calcutta.
- A retired British official, A.O. Hume, also played a part in bringing Indians from the various regions together.
- Formation of Indian National Congress was an effort in the direction of promoting the process of nation building.
- In an effort to reach all regions, it was decided to rotate the Congress session among different parts of the country.
- The President belonged to a region other than where the Congress session was being held.

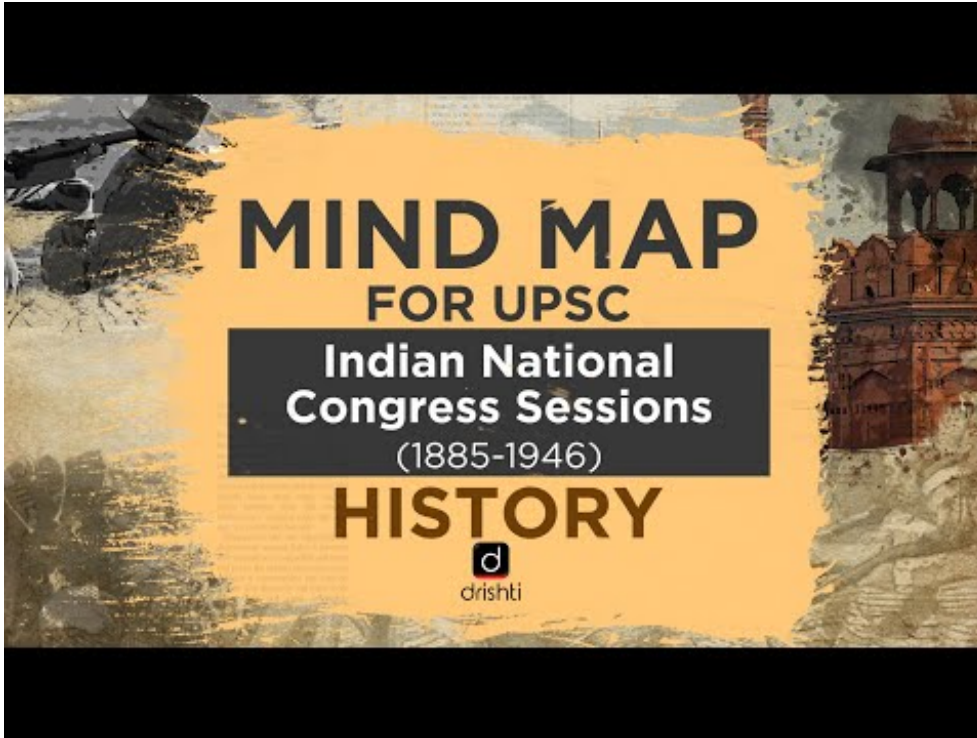
Sessions

- **First Session:** held at Bombay in 1885. **President:** W.C. Bannerjee
Formation of Indian National Congress.
- **Second Session:** held at Calcutta in 1886. **President:** Dadabhai Naoroji
- **Third Session:** held at Madras in 1887. **President:** Syed Badruddin Tyabji, first muslim President.
- **Fourth Session:** held at Allahabad in 1888. **President:** George Yule, first English President.
- **1896:** Calcutta. **President:** Rahimtullah Sayani
National Song 'Vande Mataram' sung for the first time by Rabindranath Tagore.
- **1899:** Lucknow. **President:** Romesh Chandra Dutt.
Demand for permanent fixation of Land revenue
- **1901:** Calcutta. **President:** Dinshaw E. Wacha
First time Gandhiji appeared on the Congress platform

- **1905:** Benaras. **President:** **Gopal Krishan Gokhale**
Formal proclamation of **Swadeshi movement** against government
- **1906:** Calcutta. **President:** Dadabhai Naoroji
Adopted four resolutions on: Swaraj (Self Government), Boycott Movement, Swadeshi & National Education
- **1907:** Surat. **President:** Rash Bihari Ghosh
 - Split in Congress- Moderates & Extremist
 - Adjournment of Session
- **1910:** Allahabad. **President:** Sir William Wedderburn
M.A Jinnah decried the separate electorate system introduced by act of 1909
- **1911:** Calcutta. **President:** B.N. Dhar
First time recital of Jan-Gan-Man in Congress session
- **1915:** Bombay. **President:** Sir S.P. Sinha
Constitution of the Congress was altered to admit the delegates from the extremist section
- **1916:** Lucknow. **President:** A.C. Majumdar
 - Unity between two factions-Moderates and Extremists of Congress
 - Lucknow Pact signed between Congress and Muslim League to build political consensus
- **1917:** Calcutta. **President:** Annie Besant, First Woman President of Congress
- **1918 (Special session):** Bombay. **President:** Syed Hasan Imam
The session was convened to deliberate the contentious **Montagu–Chelmsford Reforms** Scheme
- **1919:** Amritsar. **President:** Motilal Nehru
Congress extended support to Khilafat Movement
- **1920 (Special Session):** Calcutta. **President:** Lala Lajpat Rai
Mahatma Gandhi moved the Non cooperation resolution
- **1920:** Nagpur. **President:** C. Vijayaraghavachariar
 - Reconstitution of Working committees of Congress on Linguistic basis
 - MA Jinnah left the Indian National Congress
- **1922:** Gaya. **President:** C.R. Das
 - CR Das and other leaders broke away from INC
 - Formation of Swaraj Party
- **1924:** Belgaum. **President:** M.K. Gandhi
Only Session presided over by Mahatma Gandhi
- **1925:** Kanpur. **President:** Sarojini Naidu, First Indian Woman President
- **1927:** Madras. **President:** Dr. M.A. Ansari
 - Passed a resolution against the use of Indian troops in China, Iran and Mesopotamia.
 - Passed a resolution against boycott of Simon Commission
 - Adoption of resolution on Purna Swaraj

- **1928:** Calcutta. **President:** Motilal Nehru
Formation of All India Youth Congress
- **1929:** Lahore. **President:** Jawahar Lal Nehru
 - Passed the resolution on 'Poorna Swaraj.'
 - **Civil Disobedience movement** for complete independence to be launched
 - **26 January** to be observed as 'Independence Day'.
- **1931:** Karachi. **President:** Vallabhbhai Patel
 - Resolutions on Fundamental Rights and National Economic Programme
 - Endorsement of Gandhi-Irwin pact
 - Gandhi nominated to represent INC in the **Second Round Table Conference** to be held in London
- **1934:** Bombay. **President:** Rajendra Prasad
Amendment in the Constitution of Congress
- **1936:** Lucknow. **President:** Jawahar Lal Nehru
Push towards socialist ideas by Jawahar Lal Nehru
- **1937:** Faizpur. **President:** Jawahar Lal Nehru
First Session to be held in a village
- **1938:** Haripura. **President:** **Subhas Chandra Bose**
National Planning Committee set up under Jawahar Lal Nehru.
- **1939:** Tripuri. **President:** Rajendra Prasad
 - Subhas Chandra Bose was re-elected but had to resign
 - Rajendra Prasad was appointed in his place
 - Subhash Chandra Bose formed **Forward Bloc**
- **1940:** Ramgarh. **President:** Abul Kalam Azad
Civil Disobedience movement to be launched at appropriate time and circumstances.
- **1941–45:** This Period is marked by events i.e. **Quit India movement**, RIN Mutiny & INA trials.
 - Phase of constitutional negotiations such as Cripps Mission, Wavell Plan and Cabinet Mission.
 - On account of these events during this phase **no congress session was held.**
- **1946:** Meerut. **President:** J.B Kripalani
 - Last session before independence
 - J.B Kriplani was the president of INC at independence.

For Mindmap watch:



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