

# Home Rule League Movement

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise Home Rule League Movement. We've distilled years of previous exam questions (PYQs) into one powerful, concise resource. Everything you need to know, nothing you don't.

- **PYQs, Decoded:** All key concepts from past exams, organized and simplified.
- **Revise in Record Time:** Short, precise, and designed for last-minute review.
- **Focus on What Matters:** Master high-probability topics and boost your confidence.

## The Home Rule Movement in India (1915-1918)

### 1. Leadership and Founders



- **Key Leaders:**
  - **Bal Gangadhar Tilak**
  - **Annie Besant**
- **Founding Leagues:**
  - **Tilak's League:** Launched the first Home Rule League in **April 1916**, based in **Poona**.
  - **Besant's League:** Launched a separate league in **September 1916**, based in **Adyar** (near Madras).
- **Prominent Associates:**
  - **S. Subrahmanyam Iyer** was a key associate of Annie Besant's league.
- **Leaders Not Associated:**
  - C.R. Das, T.S. Alcott, Aurobindo Ghosh, Lala Lajpat Rai, and Vipin Chandra Pal were **not** leading figures in this movement.

## 2. Objectives and Nature

- **Primary Goal:** To achieve **self-government (Swaraj)** for India **within the British Empire**.
- **Methods:** Peaceful and constitutional (e.g., petitions, lectures, publications).
- **Slogan:** Tilak popularized the slogan "**Swaraj is my birthright, and I shall have it.**"
- **Inspiration:** The **Irish Home Rule Movement**.
- **Ideology (Besant):** Annie Besant was a proponent of **Fabianism**, advocating for gradual, reform-based change.

## 3. Scope, Operation, and Publications

- **Geographical Division:**
  - **Tilak's League:** Operated in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Central Provinces, and Berar.
  - **Besant's League:** Operated in the rest of India.
- **Publications:**
  - **Tilak's Organs:** *Kesari* and *Maratha*.
  - **Besant's Organs:** *New India*, *Commonweal* (first wrote about her Home Rule ideas here in **1914**).

## 4. Significance and Impact

- Reinvigorated the Indian national movement after the beginning of World War I.
- Successfully demonstrated its political strength at the **Lucknow Session of the Indian National Congress in 1916**.
- Helped bridge the divide and establish coordination between the **Extremist and Moderate** factions within the Congress.
- Was ideologically significant for presenting a **clear and united demand for self-government** to the nation.

## 5. Key Events and Outcomes

- The British government arrested **Annie Besant and her associates in 1917**, which led to widespread protests that forced their release.
- **Annie Besant became the first female President** of the Indian National Congress at its **Calcutta Session in 1917**.
- The two leagues **operated separately but cooperatively**; there was no formal merger.

### Summary of Key Relationships:

- **Tilak's League & Besant's League:** Separate entities, cooperative, no formal merger.
- **Home Rule Movement & Indian National Congress:** The movement influenced and gained support from the Congress (Lucknow Session 1916, Besant's Presidency 1917).
- **Extremists & Moderates:** The movement acted as a unifying force between these two factions.

### Know More About Home Rule League Movement:

- [Home Rule League Movement – Old Year Questions and Answers](#)
- [Home Rule League Movement One Liner Questions & Answers](#)