

Gandhi-Irwin Pact

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise Gandhi-Irwin Pact history. 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 Gandhi-Irwin Pact (1931) - Overview

- **Date Signed:** March 5, 1931
- **Signatories:**
 - Mahatma Gandhi (on behalf of the Indian National Congress)
 - Lord Irwin (the Viceroy of India, on behalf of the British government)
- **Primary Purpose:** To facilitate the participation of the Indian National Congress in the Second Round Table Conference in London.
- **Common Nickname:** 'The Two Mahatmas' (as referred to by Sarojini Naidu).
- **Key Mediators:** Tej Bahadur Sapru and M.R. Jaykar initiated the talks.



Key Provisions of the Pact

From the British Government (Lord Irwin)	From the Indian National Congress (Mahatma Gandhi)
Agreed to withdraw all ordinances promulgated in connection with the Civil Disobedience Movement.	Agreed to end the Civil Disobedience Movement.
Would release political prisoners, but only those not charged with violence.	Agreed to participate in the Second Round Table Conference.
Would permit peaceful picketing of liquor and foreign cloth shops.	
Would restore confiscated properties of satyagrahis (where not yet sold).	
Allowed free collection or manufacture of salt by persons near the sea-coast.	
Officially invited the Indian National Congress to the Second Round Table Conference.	

What Was Not Included in the Pact

- The British government **did NOT accept** Gandhiji's demand for an **official inquiry into police excesses**.

Outcome: The Second Round Table Conference

- **Congress Representation:** Mahatma Gandhi attended as the **sole official representative** of the Indian National Congress.

- **Other Indian Participants:**
 - **Sarojini Naidu** (representing women's organizations)
 - **Pt. Madan Mohan Malviya** (Hindu Mahasabha)
 - **B.R. Ambedkar** (Depressed Classes)
 - **Muhammad Ali Jinnah** and **Aga Khan** (Muslim representatives)
 - **Tej Bahadur Sapru** (Liberals)
- **Key Leaders Who Did NOT Participate:**
 - Dr. Rajendra Prasad
 - Vallabhbhai Patel (was in prison)

Contemporary Reactions & Criticism

- The pact was criticized by some for not achieving more substantial concessions.
- **Alan Campbell Johnson** (Lord Irwin's biographer) described Gandhi's gains from the pact as "**consolation prizes**".
- Within the Congress, leaders like **Subhas Chandra Bose** were strongly critical, believing the pact to be inadequate.

Know More About Gandhi-Irwin Pact:

- [Gandhi-Irwin Pact – Old Year Questions and Answers](#)
- [Gandhi-Irwin Pact One Liner Questions & Answers](#)