

4. **Secularism:** With experience of British policy of divide and rule based on religion and subsequent communal violence, our leaders unhesitatingly supported ideas of secularism and policy of freedom of religion.
5. **Pro-poor policies:** Our freedom struggle had a pro-poor orientation. For e.g., Economic critique by Dadabhai Naoroji emphasised the relation between colonialism and poverty. With arrival of Gandhiji, removal of abject poverty became a goal of independence. Therefore, our policy makers have shown a socialist tilt as seen in Land reforms, Economic Policies like state run heavy industries etc.
6. **Unity in Diversity:** Freedom struggle saw participation of people from different cultures, sect, religion and region. Therefore, there was a deliberate attempt to ensure unity in diversity as seen from the Official Language Act, Reorganisation of states and Tribal policies.
7. **Foreign Policy:** Suffering from colonialism for over two decades, India took an anti-colonial stance in its foreign policy. It provided support towards **decolonization in Indonesia, Congo, Vietnam** etc. As a propounder of peace, India has always shown respect for international laws and organisations. E.g., UN peacekeeping force deployed in Suez Crisis etc.

Therefore, the ideals and legacy of freedom movement has served as the guiding light for our policy makers. Even today, India stands in support of democracy, tolerance, equality, civil liberties and world peace.

19. Elaborate on the role of the Indian press in transforming India politically and socially during colonial times. How did Indians try to resist and respond to the British attempt to suppress the freedom of press?

(15 marks, 250 words)

Mentor Hint: Significance of Indian press during the colonial period along with the personalities associated with these can make a good start. Further, how the use of press helped in spreading the nationalism in India is expected. In later part, brief mention of British policies to curb the freedom of press and response of Indian leaders to this is important aspect of other part of the demand.

Answer: Since the early 19th century, politically conscious Indians has been attracted to modern civil liberties, especially freedom of the press. Powerful newspapers emerged during the early formative years of national movement under distinguished and fearless journalists. These included The Hindu and Swadesamitran under G. Subramaniya Aiyar, The Bengalee under Surendranath Banerjee, Voice of India under Dadabhai Naoroji, Kesari and Maharatta under Tilak and many more.

Use of Press to take nationalism to the people:

The role of press was of utmost important as it was a powerful tool to propagate political ideas.

- Around 1870 to 1918, the press was the chief instrument for spreading political propaganda, education, and formation and propagation of nationalist ideology to arouse, train, mobilize and