

## Rise of Extremist Leaders and Indian National Movement

The important extremist leaders were Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipan Chandra Pal and Anubandhu Ghosh. They were called extremist because they believed that success could be achieved only through bold means. They adopted a radical trend of militant nationalist approach.

The militant form of nationalism is firstly found in the teachings of Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and Swami Dayanand Saraswati. Swami Vivekananda added spiritual dimension in the idea of nationalism.

The root of extremism lies in two important factors - the policies of colonial rule and the failure of moderate leaders to younger generation and common people.

(- Political factors for the rise of extremism -)

- 1- The Indian Councils Act, 1892 failed to introduce an elective element in India.
- 2- Simultaneously Civil Services Examinations were disallowed.
- 3- Trial and conviction of many nationalist leaders like Damodar, Balkrishna (Chapekar Brothers) and Bal Gangadhar Tilak were unfair and unjust.
- 4- Partition of Bengal, despite opposition from various political leaders.
- 5- curbing freedom of press (1904) and controlling universities through Indian University Act (1904)
- 6- Defeat of Russia (1904-05) by Japan, inspired by educated youth. A small Asian Country had defeated world's largest Country, that too of a white race.