



CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

**Based on GROUP-IV Examination syllabus -prepared by
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NOTE: Dear kalam achievers kindly read at lest 4 to 5 times you can easily understand..

FIRST DAY IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

The Constituent Assembly met for the first time in New Delhi on **9 December, 1946** in the Constitution Hall which is now known as the Central Hall of Parliament House.

The inaugural session began at 11 a.m. with the introduction of Dr. **Sachchidananda Sinha**, the temporary Chairman of the Assembly.

Those who adorned the front row were Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Acharya J.B. Kripalani, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Smt. Sarojini Naidu, Shri Hare-Krushna Mahatab, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Shri Sarat Chandra Bose, Shri C. Rajagopalachari and Shri M. Asaf Ali. Two hundred and seven representatives, including nine women were present.

SOME FACTS

The Constituent Assembly took almost three years (two years, eleven months and seventeen days or **18 days later I will explain** to be precise) to complete its historic task of drafting the Constitution for Independent India.

During this period, it held eleven sessions covering a total of 165 days. Of these, 114 days were spent on the consideration of the Draft Constitution.

As to its composition, members were chosen by indirect election by the members of the Provincial Legislative Assemblies, according to the scheme recommended by the Cabinet Mission.

The arrangement was: (i) 292 members were elected through the Provincial Legislative Assemblies;

(ii) 93 members represented the Indian Princely States; and

(iii) 4 members represented the Chief Commissioners' Provinces. The total membership of the Assembly thus was to be 389.

However, as a result of the partition under the Mountbatten Plan of 3 June, 1947, a separate Constituent Assembly was set up for Pakistan and representatives of some Provinces ceased to be members of the Assembly.

1. As a result, the membership of the Assembly was reduced to 299.
2. On 13 December, 1946, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru moved the Objectives Resolution
3. This Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 22 January 1947.
4. Late in the evening of 14 August, 1947 the Assembly met in the Constitution Hall and at the stroke of midnight, took over as the Legislative Assembly of an Independent India.
5. On 29 August, 1947, the Constituent Assembly set up a Drafting Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to prepare a Draft Constitution for India.

6. While deliberating upon the draft Constitution, the Assembly moved, discussed and disposed of as many as 2,473 amendments out of a total of 7,635 tabled.
7. The Constitution of India was adopted on 26 November, 1949 and the hon'ble members appended their signatures to it on 24 January, 1950. In all, 284 members actually signed the Constitution.
8. On that day when the Constitution was being signed, it was drizzling outside and it was interpreted as a sign of a good omen.
9. The Constitution of India came into force on 26 January, 1950.
10. On that day, the Assembly ceased to exist, transforming itself into the Provisional Parliament of India until a new Parliament was constituted in 1952

Session of Constituent Assembly	Held
First Session	9-23 December, 1946
Second Session	20-25 January, 1947
Third Session	28 April - 2 May, 1947
Fourth Session	14-31 July, 1947

Fifth Session	14-30 August, 1947
Sixth Session	27 January, 1948
Seventh Session	4 November, 1948 - 8 January, 1949
Eighth Session	16 May - 16 June, 1949
Ninth Session	30 July - 18 September, 1949
Tenth Session	6-17 October, 1949
Eleventh Session	14-26 November, 1949

[The Assembly met once again on 24 January, 1950, when the members appended their signatures to the Constitution of India]

Some of the committees of the Constituent Assembly are as :

Name of the Committee	Chairman
Committee on the Rules of Procedures	Rajendra Prasad
Steering Committee	Rajendra Prasad
Finance and Staff Committee	Rajendra Prasad
Credential Committee	Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar
House Committee	B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya
Order of Business Committee	K.M. Munsri

Ad hoc Committee on National Flag	Rajendra Prasad
Committee on the Functions of the Constituent Assembly	G.V. Mavalankar
States Committee	Jawaharlal Nehru
Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas	Vallabhbhai Patel
Minorities Sub-Committee	H.C. Mookherjee
Fundamental Rights Sub-Committee	J.B. Kripalani
North-East Frontier Tribal Areas and Assam Excluded & Partially Excluded Areas Sub-Committee	Gopinath Bardoloi
Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas (Other than those in Assam) Sub-Committee	A.V. Thakkar
Union Powers Committee	Jawaharlal Nehru
Union Constitution Committee	Jawaharlal Nehru
Drafting Committee	B.R. Ambedkar

Members of the Drafting committee were :

1. Dr. B R Ambedkar (Chairman)
2. Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar
3. N Gopaldaswami Ayyangar
4. Dr. K M Munshi
5. Syed Mohammad Saadullah
6. N Madhava Rau (replaced B L Mitter)
7. T T Krishnamachari (replaced D P Khaitan)