

Introduction

The Round Table Conferences (1930–1932) were meetings held in London between British leaders and Indian representatives to discuss India's constitutional future. These conferences were meant to solve political problems, but unfortunately, they ended in failure. They could not bring unity among Indian leaders, and the British were not ready to give real freedom. This failure pushed India towards more struggle for independence.

British Government's Unwillingness

One of the biggest reasons for failure was that the British Government did not want to give full independence. They only wanted to make small changes to keep control. This disappointed Indian leaders, who had hoped for real progress. The lack of trust between Britain and India made success impossible.

Absence of Important Leaders

At the First Round Table Conference, the Indian National Congress, the main political party, did not attend. Since Congress represented a large part of India, their absence made the talks weak. Without their voice, decisions could not represent the whole country. This made the conference less effective.

Division Among Indian Groups

Indian leaders were divided among themselves. Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, and others could not agree on power-sharing. The Muslim League wanted separate safeguards for Muslims, while Hindus opposed this. These divisions created more arguments than solutions. The lack of unity gave the British an excuse to delay independence.

Failure of Gandhi-Irwin Pact

In the Second Round Table Conference, Mahatma Gandhi came as the sole Congress representative after signing the Gandhi-Irwin Pact. However, he could not agree with other groups, especially Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, who wanted separate rights for Dalits (Untouchables). These differences weakened the conference and made it fail.

Lack of Clear Agreement

Across all three conferences, no clear agreement was reached. The British only listened but did not accept Indian demands. Indian leaders kept fighting among themselves instead of uniting. Because of this, the conferences ended without any real result. The failure proved that freedom could not be achieved through meetings alone; it needed stronger struggle.