

**MODULE-3 NATIONALIST MOVEMENT PRE-
GANDHIAN ERA
TOPIC- SURAT SPLIT**



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SURAT SPLIT



- **Conflict b/w moderates & extremists** in the congress ended in the splitting of the organization
- The **anti-partition movt** in Bengal lined up the 2 sides together, this unity was short lived- both parties confronted each other in 1906 for **Presidential post in Congress**
- controversy was resolved with the election of the Dadabai Naoroji as the President
- Moves of the moderates came into direct confrontation with those of extremists



- Next meeting of the congress was changed from Nagpur to Surat, which was preferred place for the moderates
- Also attempted to avoid Tilak & replace him with Rash Bihari Bose as the congress president
- Extremists were enraged at the moves of the congress
- decided to confront the moderates at the Surat summit
- Summit of the congress on **26 December 1907** witnesses many dramatic event



- First day meeting off the congress had to be stopped following an agitation by the extremists
- Next day, when the elected president of the summit Rash Bihari rose to speak, Tialk ran up to the presidential platform , which was followed by a direct physical confrontation b/w the moderates & extremists
- Slippers, chairs & lathis were fling about & the summit was temporarily suspended
- Extremists exited the congress



- With this congress split became official
- Moderates captured the organization
- **Consequences:**
 - Weakened the congress as well as nationalist movt
 - Moderates & extremists splitting up, a unified struggle against the British became impossible
 - British used this split to destroy the nationalist movt- started cleverly using the strategy of 'divide & rule'
 - Historians say that Surat split marked the beginning of political party split in India