

# Courier Poll Shows Overwhelming Support For India's Fight

*Next Week... MARCH ON WASHINGTON?*

## India Justified In Freedom Fight, Readers Declare

Despite the fact that nothing more than an ominous silence penetrated through the tight censorship from far off India, the American Negro was most articulate this week when he responded with a loud "yes" to the Pittsburgh Courier's Bureau of Public Sentiment query: "Do You Believe That India Should Continue to Contend for Her Rights and Her Liberty Now?"

This question, the third in a series of scientific studies on how colored America thinks on pertinent national and international subjects, yielded the most far-reaching response yet enumerated by the Bureau.

### VARIED GROUPS ANSWERED QUERY

The Negro population, answering in the affirmative 87.8 per cent of the time, was thoroughly sampled. In accordance with their

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# INDIA JUSTIFIED IN FREEDOM FIGHT

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representation in the population, the question was put to housewives, farmers, defense workers, educators, soldiers, businessmen, domestics, clerical workers and other segments of diversified Negro America.

Overwhelmingly, from the north and from the south, from male and from female, the sincere belief was the same. . . India is justified in her contention for freedom—NOW!

So enthused were the people when they were approached on the Indian controversy and so vitally interested in a matter which they considered an important part of the total United Nations war effort. . . It became possible for the Bureau to analyze the reasoning behind this flood of sympathy for Indian independence. It boiled down to this: Negroes believe that freedom for India now would revitalize the millions of colored inhabitants on the side of the United Nations and give conclusive proof that this war is being fought for world freedom.

The question:

**"DO YOU BELIEVE THAT INDIA SHOULD CONTEND FOR HER RIGHTS AND HER LIBERTY NOW?"**

Over 10,000 American Negroes answered.

**87.8% SAID YES**

**10.7% SAID NO**

**1.5% HAD NO OPINION**

Southern Negroes joined with their Northern brothers in full approval of the Indian struggle for self rule. The North was more positive by the small margin of 1.6%.

The South said:

**YES 87.4% OF THE TIME**

**NO 12.6% OF THE TIME**

For the North:

**Yes 89%**

**NO 11%**

Very little difference of opinion was noticed in the thinking of men and women. Result: Males said "yes" 88.2% of the time and the women answered likewise 87.5% of the time.

In the 10.7% negative answers, the minority opinion can be summarized thusly: "Independence now would hurt the war effort." "We cannot afford to embarrass England now." "Indian leaders cannot control their own people." "India is not educationally developed."

Next week: **DO YOU BELIEVE THAT A "MARCH ON WASHINGTON" WITH CONGRESS IN SESSION WOULD ACCOMPLISH ANY MATERIAL GOOD?**