



# Lecture-20



## **Peasant movements**

### **Indigo movement: -**

- This movement started in 1859 in Govindpur village of Bengal. The farmers of Bengal wanted to cultivate rice in their fields but European were forcing them to cultivate indigo.
- In this situation, the peasants led by local leaders Digambar Vishwas and Vishnu Vishwas started a movement. All farmers, either Hindus or Muslims, were involved in this movement. Finally, the government had to close the indigo plant and the government constituted the indigo commission in 1860 and ordered an inquiry. The decision of the Commission was in favor of the farmers.
- This movement is described by Deenbandhu Mitra in his play Neeladarpan.

### **Pabana Movements**

- This movement started against the exploitation of the farmers by the zamindars in 1873 -76. In this, the farmers formed an association named "Kisan Sangh" in Yusufshahi Pargana of Pabana district. Ishana Chandra Rai, Keshav Chandra Rai were the main leaders of this movement.
- This movement was against the zamindars and moneylenders but not against colonialism. Leaders like Bakim Chandra Chatterjee, Dwarikanath Ganguly supported it.

### **Deccan Revolt:**

- The agrarian movement was not confined to North India alone, but it also spread to the south as the moneylender in Maharashtra's Pooana and Ahmednagar districts were exploiting the peasants, with the government raising the tax under the Ryaytwari system. The taxes raised due to the American civil war of 1864, were not reduced even after the end of the war, then the anger of the farmers increased.
- At the same time, in December 1874, a moneylender Kaluram obtained a decree auctioning the house against the farmer (Baba Sahib Deshmukh). On this, the farmers started the movement. In this, farmers refused to buy goods from Mahajan, moneylender shops, work in their homes, and work in their fields.

- To pacify this movement, the government protected farmers against moneylenders by the "Deccan Farmers Relief Act".

### **ChampanSatyagrah: -**

- This movement started in a place called Champaran in Bihar to protest against the Tinkathia system. In this system, the British planters had signed a contract with the farmers of Champaran, under which farmers were required to cultivate indigo on 3 / 20th of the land.
- By the discovery of chemical dyes ended the indigo market in the late 19th century. But the planters made illegal collection from the farmers to stop indigo cultivation.
- Local leaders invited Gandhiji in this movement. After the arrival of Gandhiji, this movement became the subject of discussion at the national level.
- The government and the planters had to listen to the farmers' side. The government constituted a commission to pacify this movement, in which Gandhiji was also made a member and the planters relied on returning 25% of the illegal recovery.

### **Mopla Peasant Revolt: -**

- This peasant revolt was against the landlords. The Mopla farmers were from the Muslim community and the zamindars belonged to the Hindu community, so the colonial government attempted to give this movement a communal frame.
- Initially this rebellion was against the British rule. This movement was supported by leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Shaukat Ali, MaulanaAbulKalam Azad. 'Ali Musaliyar' was the main leader of this movement. This movement was contemporary to the non-cooperation and Khilafat movement.

### **Kheda Satyagraha**

- This movement started in Kheda (Gujarat) in 1918 when the government was collecting tax even after crop wastage. This movement was led by Gandhiji and SardarBallabhbhai Patel.
- To pacify this movement, Gandhiji said that the farmers incapable of paying rent should not be recovered while the farmers capable of paying rent will give the entire tax voluntarily.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS:

**1. Munda Uprising/Rebellion took place in which region?**

- A. Assam
- B. Chhotangapur region Ranchi
- C. Andhra Pradesh
- D. Punjab

**Ans: B**

**2. Which of the following tribal rebellion was made famous by Bankim Chandra Chaterjee through his novel Anandmath?**

- A. Sanyasi Rebellion
- B. Revolt of Ramosis
- C. Kittur Rising
- D. Sambalpur Outbreaks

**Ans: A**

**3. Who was the leader of the Bundela Revolt's of Bundelkhand?**

- A. Dhar Rao Pawar and Narsing Dattatreya Pettkar
- B. Phond Savant-(leading noble) and Anna Sahib (heir apparent)
- C. Madhukar Shah and Jawahir Singh
- D. Phoolchand

**Ans: C**

**4. Why was the Kuka Movement started?**

- A. Movement against the moneylenders
- B. Resentment of the peasants against the operession of zamindars
- C. Forced cultivation off Indigo without any proper remuneration
- D. Degeneration of Sikh religion and loss of sikh sovereignty

**Ans: D**

**5. Which of the following is not tribal movement?**

- A. Tebhaga movement

B. Chuars movement

C. Bhils movement

D. Kolis movement

**Ans: A**