

Lesson 3

Nationalism in India

Differing strands within the movement.

1. Rebellion in the countryside : - From the cities, the non co-operation movement spread to the countryside. After the war, the struggles of peasants and tribal were developing in different parts of India.
2. One movement here war against talukdars and landlords who demanded from peasants exorbitantly high rents and a variety of other cases. Peasants had to begar. The peasants movement demanded reduction of revenue, abolition of begar and social boycott of oppressive landlords.
3. Oudh Kisan Sabha was setup headed by Jawaharlal Nehru, within a month, over 300 branches had been set up in the villages.
4. Tribal peasants interpreted the message of Mahatma Gandhi and the idea of Swaraj in yet another way.
5. The colonial govt had closed large forest areas preventing people from entering the forests to graze their cattle, or to collect fuel wood and fruits. Alluri Sitaram Raju claimed that he had a variety of special powers. He asserted that India could be liberated only by the use of force.

How participants saw the movement :

1. Different social groups that participated in the civil disobedience movement.
2. Why did they join the movement?
3. What were their ideals? What did Swaraj mean to them?
 1. In the countryside rich peasant communities, being producers of commercial crops, they were very hard hit by the trade depression and falling prices.
 2. The poorer peasantry were not just interested in the lowering of the revenue demand.
 3. Business classes? They wanted protection against imports of foreign goods, and a rupee sterling foreign exchange ratio that would discourage imports.
 4. The industrial working classes did not participate in civil disobedience movement in large numbers.
 5. Another important feature of the civil disobedience movement was the large scale participation of women. In urban areas, these women were from high caste families in rural areas from rich peasants house holds.

Answer the following Questions :

1. What do you mean by Begar. Who raised the voice against this and what were his ideas?
2. Write a short note on Alluri Sita Ram Raju and his work or his activities, During non co-operation movement.
3. All the different social groups which joined the non co-operation movement why they joined the movement.
4. What was the role of women in non co-operation movement. Describe them.