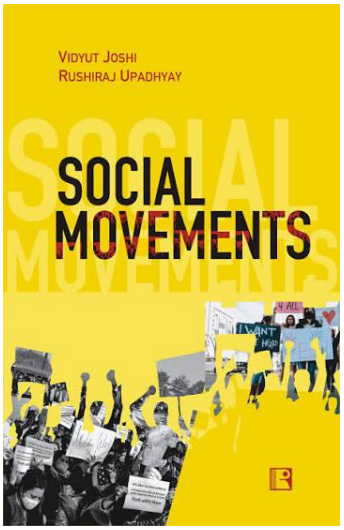
INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
Social Movements (GRADE XII)
Question Bank & Notes

Main Sub-topics in this chapter:



- Features of Social Movements
- Sociology & Social Movements
- Types of Social Movements
- Ecological, Class-based, workers, caste-based, tribal, women's movements

1. **Define Social Movements**.(2mks) Ans: A social movement essentially involves sustained collective mobilization through either informal or formal organization and is generally oriented towards bringing about change in the existing system of relationships. Ideology is an important component of a social movement.

2. **Differentiate between social change and social movements** (2mks) Ans: **Social change** is continuous and ongoing and is a sum total of countless individual and collective actions gathered across time and space. **Social movements** are directed towards some specific goals. It involves long and continuous social effort and action by people. e.g. Sanskritization and westernization are examples of social change and the 19th century social reformers efforts to change society are examples of social movements.

3. **Give two examples of peasant movements** (2mks) Ans: At the time of Independence, we had the two most classical cases of peasant movements- namely the **Tebhaga movement** (1946-7) and the **Telangana movement (1946**-51). The first was a struggle of sharecroppers in Bengal & in North Bihar for two thirds share of their produce instead of the customary half. It had the support of the Kisan Sabha and the Communist Party of India (CPI). The second, directed against the feudal conditions in the princely state of Hyderabad and was led by the CPI.

4. **Name two trade unions (2mks)** Ans: In 1920 the **All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC**) was formed in Bombay. The AITUC was a broad-based organization involving diverse ideologies. The main ideological groups were the communists led by S.A. Dange and M.N. Roy, the moderates led by M. Joshi and V.V. Giri and the nationalists which involved people like Lala Lajpat Rai and Jawaharlal Nehru.

During the last few years of British rule, the communists gained considerable control over the AITUC. The Indian National Congress chose to form another union called the Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC) in May 1947.

5. **Give four examples of caste-based movements** (2mks) Ans: The Satnami Movement of the Chamars in the Chattisgarh plains in eastern MP, Adi Dharma Movement in Punjab, the Mahar Movement in Maharashtra, the socio-political mobilization among the Jatavas of Agra and the Anti- Brahman Movement in South India are all examples of caste-based movements.

6. **Name four tribes in India with a large population**. Ans: The tribes of India are largely located in the so called 'tribal belt; in middle India are: Santhals, Hos, Oraons, Mundas in Chota Nagpur and the Santhal Parganas.

7. **Name two women's organizations that were at the forefront of the women's movement in India**. Ans: The early 20th century saw the growth of women's organizations at the national and local level. Some of these organizations were- The Women's India Association (WIA- 1917), All India Women's conference (AIWC- 1926) and the National Council for Women in India (NCWI- 1925)

8. **Mention the issues against which the leaders of Jharkhand agitated. (2mks)** Ans: The issues against which the leaders of the movement in Jharkhand agitated were as follows:

- acquisition of land for large irrigation projects and firing ranges
- Survey and settle operations, which were held up, camps closed down, etc.
- Collection of loans, rent and cooperative dues, which we resisted
- Nationalization of forest produce which they boycotted

9. **What is Chartism and what were their demands?**

Ans: Voting rights in Britain were limited to property-owning men. Chartism was a social movement for parliamentary representation in England. In 1839 more than 1.25 million people singed the People's Charter asking for universal male suffrage, voting by ballot, and the right to stand for elections without owning property.

10. **What are counter movements? (2mks)**

Ans: Social movements seek to bring in social change and counter movements sometimes arise in defense of status quo. There are many instances of such counter movements- When

Raja Rammohun Roy campaigned against sati and formed the Bramho Samaj, defenders of sati formed Dharma Sabha and petitioned the British not to legislate against sati.

11. **Through an example explain what is meant by everyday acts of resistance (2mks)**

Ans: Studies on poor women in South Asia has shown that often they are forced to give their small savings to their husbands' who demand it for their drinks. They then devised a way out by hiding their money in two places. When they were forced to give up their hard-earned saving, they gave the money from of one of the hiding places, and thereby ensured the safety of other saving.

12. **Write a short note on the 'New Farmer's movements' (2mks)**

Ans: The so called 'new farmers' movements began in **1970s in Punjab and Tamil Nadu.** These movements were regionally organized, were **non-party** and involved farmers rather than peasants (farmers are said to be market-involved as both community producers and purchasers). The basic ideology of the movement was strongly anti state and anti-urban. The **focus of demand** were price related issues. **Novel methods of agitation** were used: Blocking of roads and railways, refusing politicians and bureaucrats entry to villages.

13. **Social movements of Dalits show a particular character. Explain (2mks)**

Ans: The Dalit movements cannot be explained satisfactorily by reference to **economic exploitations** alone or **political oppression.** This was a **struggle for recognition as fellow human beings**. It was a struggle for self- confidence and a space for self- determination. It was a struggle for abolishment of stigmatization that untouchability implied.

14. **Sociologists, attempts to classify Dalit movements have led them to believe that they belong to all the types, namely reformative, redemptive, revolutionary. Explain (6mks)**

Ans: The anti-caste movement which began in the 19th century under the inspiration of Jyotiba Phule and was carried forward in the 1920s by the non-Brahmin movements in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

Developed under the leadership of Dr. Ambedkar, the Dalit movement had characteristics of all types. At its best it was **revolutionary** in terms of society and **redemptive** in terms of individuals. In partial context, the 'post Ambedkar Dalit movement' has had revolutionary practice.

It has provided alternative ways of living, at some points limited and at some points radical and all-encompassing, ranging from changes in behaviour such as giving up eating beef to religious conversion. It has focussed on changes in the entire society, from radical revolutionary goal of abolishing caste oppression and economic exploitation to the limited goals of providing scope for members of Scheduled Caste to achieve social mobility.

But on the whole, this movement has been a reformist movement. It has mobilized along caste lines, but only made half-hearted efforts to destroy caste; it has attempted and achieved some real though limited societal changes with gains especially for the educated sections among Dalits, but it has failed to transform society sufficiently to raise the general mass from what is still among the most excruciating poverty in the world.

15. D**ifferentiate between Redemptive, reformist, and revolutionary movement (6mks)**
Ans: There are different kinds of social movements. They can be classified as:
(i) redemptive or transformatory; (ii) reformist; and (iii) revolutionary.
A *redemptive* social movement aims to bring about a change in the personal consciousness and actions of its individual members. For instance, people in the Ezhava community in Kerala were led by Narayana Guru to change their social practices.

Reformist social movements strive to change the existing social and political arrangements through gradual, incremental steps. The 1960s movement for the reorganization of Indian states on the basis of language and the recent *Right to Information* campaign are examples of reformist movements.

Revolutionary social movements attempt to radically transform social relations, often by capturing state power. The Bolshevik revolution in Russia that deposed the Tsar to create a communist state and the Naxalite movement in India that seeks to remove oppressive landlords and state officials can be described as revolutionary movements.

Q16. **Differentiate between old and new social movements (4mks) OR In India, it is difficult to make a clear distinction between the old and new social movements. Discuss (6marks)**

	Old Movement		**New Movements**
1.	Most have links with political parties and they were very imp. e.g India's freedom struggle	1.	Do not have links to politics parties. May sometimes oppose the practices of govt., e.g workers movement.
2.	Main aim was the reorganization of power relationships.	2.	No longer focus on redistribution of power rather are more concerned with improving the quality of life e.g. Right to education, clean environment.
3.	Usually to do with economic inequality.	3.	Involves economic, social, political and cultural inequality.
4.	E.g's: Class based- workers movt •Anti-colonial movements.	4.	Took up not just narrow class issues but broad, universal themes, which involved a broad social & environmental issue. People joined these groups irrespective of their class.

Q1

17. **Explain the ecological movement. OR** Environmental movements often also contain economic and identity issues. Discuss. (4mks)

Ans. The Chipko movement is a suitable example of an ecological or environmental movement. It is an appropriate example of intermingled interests and ideologies. Ramchandra Guha says in his book 'Unquiet Woods' that villagers came together to save the oak and rhododendron forests near their villages. The government forest contractors came to fell the trees but the villagers, including large number of women, came forward to hug the trees to check their being felled. The villagers relied on the forest to get firewood, fodder and other daily requirements. It was a conflict between livelihood needs of poor villagers and government's desire to make revenue from selling timber.

Chipko movement raised the issue of ecological sustainability. Felling down natural forests was a form of environmental destruction which resulted in demonstrating floods and landslides in the area. Therefore, concerns about economy, ecology and political representation underlay the Chipko movement.

Q18. **Explain the evolution of women's movement in India highlighting some of its distinguishing characteristics. Also mention the issues taken up by the women's organizations (6mks)**

Ans. It is often assumed that only middle class educated women were involved in social movements. But part of the struggle is to remember the forgotten history of women's participation. Women participated along with men in struggles and the revolt originated in tribal and rural areas in the colonial period. Thus, not only urban women but also rural and tribal women participated in political agitations struggles, gradually empowering themselves.

(i) **Early Women's Movement:** The early 20th Century saw the growth of women's organizations such as 'Women's India Association (WIA) (1917)' All India Women's Conference (AIWC) (1926), 'National Council for Women in India (NCWI) (1925)'. While many of them began with a limited focus, their scope extended overtime.

(ii) The **mid-1970s saw the second phase of Indian women's movement**. There was growth of autonomous women's movement, i.e., they were independent from political parties as well as women's organizations that had links with political parties. Educated women took active part in radical politics. This simultaneously promoted an analysis of women's movement.

(iii) **New issues were now being focused upon** such as violence against women, application for schools' forms had both father's and mother's name: legal changes such as land rights, employment, rights against sexual harassment and dowry.

In conclusion, it is important to recognize that in women's movements, there is bound to be disparity because women belong to different classes and thus their needs and concerns are bound to be different.

19. Q. Explain how cultural identity and economic exploitation contributed to the emergence of tribal movements in India, with reference to Jharkhand. (4 Marks)

Ans. Cultural identity and economic exploitation played a significant role in the emergence of tribal movements in India, particularly in Jharkhand.

1. **Economic Exploitation:** Adivasis faced exploitation by *dikus* (migrant traders and moneylenders), who acquired tribal lands and wealth. The benefits of mining and industrialisation largely went to outsiders.
2. **Land Alienation:** Tribals protested against the acquisition of their lands for irrigation projects and firing ranges, as well as the nationalization of forest produce.
3. **Cultural Identity:** The documentation of tribal history, myths, customs and traditions by literate adivasis helped develop a **unified ethnic consciousness and shared Jharkhandi identity**.
4. **Collective Mobilisation:** Inspired by leaders like **Birsa Munda**, tribal communities mobilised against marginalisation and injustice. The emergence of an educated adivasi leadership strengthened the demand for a separate state, leading to the **formation of Jharkhand in 2000**.

OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTIONS

Kindly refer to MCQ's discussed and posted in class group for revision

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