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CLASS-10TH

(BASED ON N C E R T PATTERN)

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HISTORY

NATIONALISM IN INDIA

HOW PARTICIPANTS SAW THE MOVEMENT OF THE FOLLOWING :-

1. RICH PEASANT COMMUNITIES
2. POOR PEASANT COMMUNITIES
3. BUSINESS CLASSES/INDUSTRIALISTS

1. RICH PEASANT COMMUNITIES

- The rich peasant communities like the Patidars of Gujarat and the Jats of Uttar Pradesh actively participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement.
- Their notion of Swaraj was struggle against high revenues.
- These rich peasants became enthusiastic supporters of the Civil Disobedience Movement
- They organised their communities and at times forced reluctant members to participate in the boycott programmes.
- However they were deeply disappointed when the movement was called off in 1931 without the revenue rates being revised.
- Hence when the movement restarted in 1932, many of them refused to participate.

2. Poor Peasant Communities

- The poorer peasantry wanted reduction in the revenue demand and also

exemption in rent because many of them were small tenants cultivating land rented from landlords.

- They joined a variety of radical movements, often led by Socialists and Communists.
- However Congress did not support their 'No Rent Campaigns' because of their association with the rich peasants and landlords.
- The relationship between poor peasants and Congress was uncertain.
- The participation of poor peasants was limited in the movement.

3. Business Classes/Industrialists

- The industrialists were keen on expanding business activities and hence participated in the movement against the colonial policies that restricted business.
- Their participation was for following demands:
 - Protection against imports of foreign goods
 - Rupee-Sterling foreign exchange ratio
- The Business Classes formed the Indian Industrial and Commercial Congress in 1920 and the Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industries(FICCI) in 1927 for their business interests.
- They were led by prominent industrialists like Purushottam Das Thakurdas and G.D. Birla.
- They attacked colonial control over the Indian Economy and supported the Civil Disobedience Movement when it was first launched.
- They gave financial assistance and refused to buy or sell imported goods.
- For them the meaning of Swaraj was when colonial restrictions on business would end and trade & industry would flourish without constraints.
- After the failure of Round Table Conference, business groups were not enthusiastic.

- They were also apprehensive of the spread of militant activities and worried about prolonged disruption of business.
- They were also cautious due to the growing influence of socialism amongst the younger members of Congress.

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