

HISTORY OF MODERN INDIA

MODULE-1

THE FIRST WAR OF INDEPENDENCE-1857

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THE FIRST WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

1857



- The revolt of 1857 was the landmark in the history of India's struggle for freedom. It started on May 10 1857. Delhi was a mute witness to a band of sepoys crossing over the Yamuna and entering Red fort. They appealed to the aged Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah, an emperor without any authority, to take over the leadership of the revolt. He was proclaimed the shahenshah e hindustan. The sepoys captured the city of Delhi, killed many englishmen and ransacked many public offices.



SITUATION AT THAT TIME

- PRIVATE MANAGERMENTS CONTROLLED MOST OF THE SCHOOLS IN THE STATE –RUNNING THE SCHOOL AS THEIR CONCERN
- THEY RECEIVED THE GRANTS-IN-AID FROM GOVT
- THE SERVICE CONDITIONS OF THE TEACHERS IN THE PRIVATE SCHOOLS WERE DEPRESSING
- THEY HAD NO SECURITY IN SERVICE
- THEY WERE AT THE MERCY OF THE MANAGEMENT
- THE GOVT HAD NO CONTROL IN THEIR APPOINTMENT AND IN ENSURING THEIR SERVICE CONDITIONS
- THE PRIVATE MANAGERMENTS EXPLOITED THE PATHETIC CONDITION OF THE TEACHERS.

- The event was called the Uprising, the Revolt of 1857 or the Sepoy Mutiny by the British. But Indian historians called it the first war of independence as it was the first time that different sections of Indian society united and fought as one nation to throw off the shackles of foreign domination. Ever since Britishers have set foot on our soil, the nation was losing its wealth and independence. They sent foreign wealth home back in England. Their motive was to exploit the resources of our country. This angered the Indians and finally in 1857 a number of Indians revolted.



ECONOMIC CAUSES

The policy of economic exploitation and the destruction of the traditional India economic structure by the British caused widespread resentment among Indians.

Whenever the princely states were annexed, the British got rent free land and huge amount of money. The common people faced unemployment and poverty. When awadh was occupied by the British, Nawab's officials were dismissed and his army was disbanded. About 60,000 professional soldiers lost their livelihood.



SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS CAUSES

The social reforms were considered an interference in the customs and traditions of the Hindus. Many Indians opposed the introduction of western culture in India. The Hindu law of property was changed to enable a Christian convert to receive his share of ancestral property. Moreover, the British followed a system of racial discrimination. The British considered them as superiors. They advocated a judicial system based on the principle of equality but in actual practice it was biased.



MILITARY CAUSES

The sepoys helped the Britishers to establish their empire in India. But instead of receiving awards or promotions they were humiliated by the British. There was a discrimination between the Indian and the British soldiers. The highest pay given to an Indian sepoy (subedar) was less than the minimum pay of a European recruit. The act of 1856 made it compulsory for new recruit to serve overseas.



IMMIDIATE CAUSES

The cartridges of the new Enfield rifle had a greased paper cover which had to be bitten off before the cartridge was loaded into the rifle. It was said that the greased paper was made up of beef and pig fat. Both the Hindus and the Muslims refused to use them as cow is sacred to Hindus and the pig is detestable to the Muslim community.



MANGAL PANDEY

On March 29, 1857 near kolkata , a young boy Mangal Pandey refused to use the enfield rifle and shot down his sergeant. He was arrested, tried and executed. When this news spread, many sepoys started the revolt



HEROES OF THE REVOLT



RANI LAXMI BAI



BEGUM HAZRAT MAHAL

MAIN CENTRES OF REVOLT



THANK YOU

