

## UNIT 8 IV ① Social Reforms in the Second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century:

The 19<sup>th</sup> Century began on January 1, 1801 and ended on December 31, 1900. It was the ninth Century of the 2nd millennium.

The 19<sup>th</sup> Century saw large amounts of social change. Slavery was abolished and the first and second Industrial Revolutions led to massive urbanization and much higher levels of productivity. Profit and prosperity.

The Islamic gunpowder empires were formally dissolved and European imperialism brought much of South Asia, Southeast Asia and almost all of Africa under colonial rule.

It was marked by the collapse of the Spanish, Zulu kingdom, First French, Holy Roman and Mughal empires. This paved the way for the growing influence of the British Empire, the Russian Empire, the United States, the German Empire, the Second French Empire, the Kingdom of Italy and Meiji Japan with the British boasting unchallenged dominance after 1815. After the defeat of the French Empire, and its Indian allies in the Napoleonic wars, the British and Russian empires expanded greatly to become the world's leading powers. The Russian Empire expanded in the Caucasus, central and Far Eastern Asia.

The Ottoman Empire went through a period of westernization and reform known as the Tanzimat, vastly increasing their control over their core territories in Anatolia and the Near East. Despite this, the Sick Man of Europe remained in a period of decline, losing territory in the Balkans, Egypt, and North Africa.

The remaining powers in the Indian subcontinent such as the Kingdom of Mysore and its French allies, Nawabs of Bengal, Maratha Empire, Sikh Empire and the princely states of the Nizam of Hyderabad suffered a massive decline and their dissatisfaction with British East India Company's rule led to the Indian Rebellion of 1857, marking its dissolution. However, it was later ruled directly by the British Crown through the establishment of the British Raj.

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### ② Reform Movements in Kerala

The reformation movement in Kerala refers to a Socio-Cultural movement, which began towards the end of 19th Century and led to large scale change in the social outlook of the Southern India state of Kerala.

The foundations of social changes in Kerala goes back to the 16th Century. The formation of Malayalam language in its modern form and the development of the Bhakt movement under the influence of authors like Thunchaththu Ezhuthachan helped break the monopoly of the Brahmins over literature and knowledge.

The arrival of Europeans beginning with Portuguese followed by Dutch, then the English became a catalyst in these changes. The arrival of missionaries from European nations led to a rise in educational institutions in Kerala and the rise of an educated class among caste groups like Ezhavas.

The changes in the political order of Kerala with the establishment of centralized monarchies in Travancore and Cochin that led to the decline of old feudal order was also a crucial factor that set the stage for reformation. The Mysorean invasion of Kerala 1766-1792 shook the hold of elites like Brahmins or Nambothiris and Nairs on Kerala society. Mysoreans had almost no regard for the caste structures in Kerala. Inevitably most Brahmin and Nair families had to flee to Southern Kerala to avoid persecution by Mysorean forces. In contrast with North India enlightenment in Kerala was driven by lower castes. Narayana Guru, Ayyankali, etc. belonged to caste groups considered lower in the social settings of 19th Century Kerala. Hence most of them emphasized the need for abolition of Caste System rather than a reformation of Caste.

### ③ Reform movements in Andhra Pradesh:

Dewan Bahadur Sir Raghupathi Venkataratham Naidu was an Indian social reformer who hailed from Machilipatram in Andhra Pradesh in India. His father Appayya Nayudu worked as a Subedar in Madras Army. Their forefathers served as Commanders in Madras Army and East Indian Company Army since its inception i.e. late 17th Century. He was a disciple of Veeresalingam and has been described as the most powerful orator of his day.

Raghupathi Venkataratham Naidu was born on 1 October 1862 in Machilipatram in a famous Tebga Naidu family. As his father Raghupathi Appayyanaidu worked as Subedar in the army, he lived in Chandrapur. This helped him gain knowledge of Hindi, Urdu, Persian languages. He continued his education in Nizam High School in Hyderabad when his father was transferred there. He later graduated from

Madras Christian College. He continued further education to completed M.A and L.T. from university of Madras.

Joining the teaching line. he worked as the principal of the Mehboob College. Secunderabad between 1889 and 1904 and then of the Pitapuram Raja College. Kakinada between 1905 and 1919. in 1925 he became the first elected vice Chancellor of Madras university. holding that position until 1928. He was conferred a knighthood by the British government in 1924.

4) Social Legislations in the pre independence period,

The first nationalistic revolutionary movement for Indian independence emerged from Bengal. The last stages of the self-rule struggle from the 1920s was characterized by Congress's adoption of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi policy of non-violence and civil disobedience and several other campaigns. Nationalists like Subhash chandra Bose, Bhagat Singh, Bagha Jatin, Surya Sen. preached armed revolution to achieve self-rule. Poets and writers such as Rabindranath Tagore, Subramania Bharati Bankim Chanda Base, Bhagat Singh, Bagha Jatin, Surya Sen preached armed revolution to achieve self-rule, poets and writers such as Rabindranath Tagore, Subramania Bharati, Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and Kazi Nazrul Islam used literature poetry and speech as a tool for political awareness. Feminists like Sarojini Naidu, prtilata Waddedar, Begum Rokeya promoted the emancipation of Indian women and their participation in national politics. BR Ambedkar championed the cause of the disadvantaged sections of Indian society within the more significant self-rule movement. The period of the World War II saw the peak of the campaigns by the Quit India movement led by congress and by Indian National Army movement led by Subhas Chandra Bose with the help of Japan.

After the 1930s the movements took on a strong socialist orientation. The work of these various movements ultimately led to the Indian Independence Act 1947 which ended the suzerainty in India and the creation of Pakistan. India remained a Dominion of the Crown until 26 January 1950, when the Constitution of India came into force establishing the Republic of India. Pakistan was a dominion until 1956 when it adopted its first republican Constitution. In 1971 East Pakistan declared independence as the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Reference Book

- 1) S. Natarajan : - A century of Social Reforms in India
- 2) Percy brown : Indian Architecture