

History Chapter-4  
Tribal Societies

D Answer these questions in brief.

Q1. Who were the adivasis?

Ans The adivasis were the people of India inhabitat different forested and hilly regions of the country.

Q2. State the religious belief of the tribals.

Ans Tribals were religious people and believed in animistic spirits. Sacrifices were performed in order to please these spirits.

Q3. Who was Birsa Munda?

Ans Birsa Munda was the son of poor father. The Munda rebellion was led by Birsa Munda, who protested the encroachment of land by non tribals.

Q4. Give some examples of tribal occupations.

Ans Agriculture, building houses, making mats, cattle rearing, fishing etc are some examples of tribal occupation.

Q5. Mention the areas in India that were occupied by the tribal people.

Ans The areas in India that were occupied

Teacher's Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

by the tribal people are Odissa, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Gujrat, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal.

E  
Q1. Answer the following questions in detail.  
Discuss the reasons for tribal revolts in India.

Ans The reasons for tribal revolts in India are:

- The British seized large areas of land cultivated by adivasis to grow cash crops such as indigo, jute and cotton.
- Their land was sold to zamindars.
- Taxes were levied on tribal products, thus hampering the traditional economy.
- Other reasons such as exploitation by money lenders and traders and unavailability of work.

Q2. Do you agree that the Santhal rebellion was a massive uprising? Support your answer with reasons.

Ans In 1784-85 Baba Tilka Manjhi organized the Santhals to form the Mukti Dal, to fight against the British. This was the beginning of the liberation movement.

Teacher's Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

of the Santhals, known as the Santhal Hul. Many Santhals joined this movement. The British suppressed the uprising by January 1856. However, the movement caused the British to rethink their policies. Finally, the government passed a law to protect the interests and rights of the Santhals, which was known as the Bengal Tenancy Act.

Q3. Describe the tribal revolt and its impact on the north east.

Ans It is said that in the Kamrup and Darrang regions of Assam in north-east, the British government confiscated the lands of those farmers who were unable to pay taxes. This led to series of protest by the farmers against the British administration in 1893-94.

Q4. Discuss the role of Alluri Sitaram Raju in the Rampa Rebellion.

Ans The Hill Reddis of Rampa region of Andhra Pradesh rose in a revolt against the British and the zamindars, in March 1879. This was because the Madras government had not only trebled the

Teacher's Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

land revenue, but also restricted shifting cultivation in most areas. This rebellion, known as the <sup>Rampa</sup> rebellion, spread like wildfire among the local tribes. The Paderu rebellion by the Koya, Paraja and Kandha tribes, led by a non tribal, Alluri Sitaram Raju, followed in 1922-23. Raju was an admirer of Mahatma Gandhi and his tactics. He led the tribal people in their first guerrilla warfare against the English. The rebellion gradually died down after Raju's capture and killing in 1924.

Q5 Describe the economic life of the tribals.  
Ans Adivasis were self-sufficient and were minimally dependent on the market. They would clear small areas of land in forests or hilly regions for shifting cultivation.

Forest produce was used for the purpose of building houses, making mats etc. Besides this occupation, they engaged in cattle rearing, fishing and weaving. They adopted the barter system and exchanged forest produce for what they needed from the market.



## Work out

A. Fill in the blanks with the correct answers.

1. The term 'jhum' refers to .....  
a. step farming  
b.  shifting cultivation  
c. contour ploughing  
d. both options a and b
2. The agitation by the Santhals was known as .....  
a.  Hul  
b. Satyagraha  
c. Dharna  
d. none of these
3. Birsa Munda was born in the year .....  
a. 1854  
b. 1866  
c.  1875  
d. 1888
4. The ..... are a tribal group from Meghalaya.  
a. Santhal  
b.  Khasi  
c. Pampa  
d. Kayathas
5. Pa Togan Sangma was the leader of the revolt in .....  
a. Khasi Hills  
b. Assam  
c.  Garo hills  
d. Central India

B. Fill in the blanks.

1. The Santhal Rebellion was led by Tilka Manjhi
2. Tribals called the outsiders dikus
3. Adivasis were the original inhabitants of India.
4. There was a war of succession between Surshandra and Tikendrajit when the king of Manipur died.
5. The Hill Reddis of the Rampa region of Andhra Pradesh revolted against the British.

C. Write T for true and F for false.

1. The Santhals belonged to the Chhota Nagpur area.
2. The zamindars supported the tribals in their revolt.
3. The British seized large areas of land cultivated by *adivasis* to grow cash crops.
4. Tikendrajit sought the help of the British.
5. Birsa Munda was looked upon as God by the Mundas.