

A study on independence movement with special reference to Bankura District

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Abstract

The Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922) and the Civil Disobedience Movement (1930-1934) were two significant phases in the Indian independence movement, characterized by mass participation and non-violent resistance against British colonial rule. Bankura, like other regions in India, witnessed the impact of these movements. Here's a glimpse into how these movements unfolded in Bankura district.

Key words: Non-Cooperation Movement, Civil Disobedience Movement, violent resistance

Introduction :

Bankura actively participated in the Non-Cooperation Movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920. The movement aimed to boycott British institutions, including schools, courts, and administrative bodies, and promote indigenous alternatives. In Bankura, people boycotted British-run institutions and adopted indigenous methods of education, justice, and governance. Local leaders and activists played a crucial role in mobilizing support for the movement. There were instances of non-violent protests, public meetings, and processions in Bankura during the Non-Cooperation Movement. The movement gained momentum across the district, reflecting widespread discontent with British rule.

It seems there is a typographical error in your question ("Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922)"). Assuming you meant the Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922), I will provide information on how this movement unfolded in Bankura.

1. Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922):

The Non-Cooperation Movement was a significant phase in the Indian independence movement led by Mahatma Gandhi. It aimed at non-violent resistance and non-cooperation with British authorities to protest against the repressive Rowlatt Act, the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, and other issues. Bankura, like many other regions in India, actively participated in this movement. Here are some key aspects:

Boycott of British Institutions:

- The movement encouraged people in Bankura to boycott British-run institutions such as schools, colleges, and law courts. Indians were urged to withdraw from government jobs and titles, showcasing a united front against British rule.

Promotion of Swadeshi:

Swadeshi, or the use of locally produced goods, was a central theme of the Non-Cooperation Movement. In Bankura, people were encouraged to buy and promote indigenous products, contributing to the idea of economic self-sufficiency.

Withdrawal from Legislative Bodies:

- Indian representatives withdrew from legislative bodies as a mark of protest against the unjust laws imposed by the British government. This withdrawal symbolized the rejection of a system that did not represent the interests of the Indian people.

Peaceful Demonstrations

- Bankura witnessed peaceful demonstrations, marches, and public meetings as part of the Non-Cooperation Movement. People expressed their dissent against British policies through non-violent means, adhering to the principles of Mahatma Gandhi.

Local Leadership and Participation

- Local leaders and activists in Bankura played a crucial role in mobilizing support for the Non-Cooperation Movement. Their leadership was instrumental in organizing protests, spreading awareness, and encouraging widespread participation.

Repression And Impact:

- The British authorities responded to the movement with repression, including arrests and other punitive measures. Despite the challenges, the Non-Cooperation Movement left a lasting impact on the consciousness of the people in Bankura, fostering a sense of unity and defiance against colonial rule.

Legacy

- The Non-Cooperation Movement in Bankura, like in other parts of India, contributed to the

broader struggle for independence. The principles of non-violence, non-cooperation, and Swadeshi that were central to the movement continued to influence future phases of the Indian independence movement.

The Non-Cooperation Movement in Bankura showcased the district's active participation in the larger struggle for independence and the determination of its people to assert their rights and freedom.

2. Civil Disobedience Movement (1930-1934):

- The Civil Disobedience Movement, launched by Mahatma Gandhi with the Dandi Salt March in 1930, aimed to challenge British laws and authority through non-violent disobedience.

- Bankura actively participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement, with people defying colonial laws, organizing protests, and boycotting British goods and services.

- Salt Satyagrahas, protests against land revenue policies, and defiance of salt laws were some of the forms of resistance witnessed in Bankura during the Civil Disobedience Movement.

- Local leaders, including those affiliated with the Indian National Congress and other nationalist organizations, played key roles in organizing and leading the movement in Bankura.

The Civil Disobedience Movement (1930-1934) was a significant phase in India's struggle for independence, marked by non-violent resistance against British colonial rule. Bankura, like many other regions in India, actively participated in this movement. Here are some key aspects of the Civil Disobedience Movement in Bankura:

Dandi March and Salt Satyagraha:

- The Civil Disobedience Movement was launched by Mahatma Gandhi with the Dandi March in 1930. Gandhi's symbolic act of picking up a handful of salt from the shores of Dandi and breaking the salt laws sparked widespread civil disobedience.
- In Bankura, people participated in the Salt Satyagraha by making and selling contraband salt, challenging the British monopoly on salt production and distribution.

Local Boycotts and Non-Cooperation:

- Bankura witnessed local boycotts and non-cooperation movements against British authorities. People refused to comply with laws, pay taxes, and follow regulations imposed by the colonial administration.

Participation of Local Leaders:

- Local leaders and activists in Bankura played a pivotal role in mobilizing support for the Civil Disobedience Movement. They organized protests, marches, and meetings to raise awareness and encourage mass participation.

Defiance of Forest Laws:

- The movement also saw defiance against oppressive forest laws. People in Bankura resisted restrictions on access to forests, which were essential for their livelihoods, as part of the broader civil disobedience campaign.

Arrests and Repression:

- The British authorities responded to the Civil Disobedience Movement with arrests, repression, and other punitive measures. Many leaders and activists in Bankura were detained for their participation in the movement.

Women's Participation:

- Women in Bankura actively participated in the Civil Disobedience Movement. They joined protests, picketed liquor shops, and played a crucial role in advocating for the cause of independence.

Boycott of Foreign Goods:

- The movement also emphasized the boycott of foreign goods. People in Bankura were encouraged to support Swadeshi (indigenous) products and reject British-made goods.

Impact on Local Economy:

- The Civil Disobedience Movement had economic repercussions in Bankura, as people abstained from buying British goods and engaged in activities that challenged the economic exploitation imposed by the colonial administration.

The Civil Disobedience Movement in Bankura, like in other parts of India, contributed to the broader struggle for independence. It showcased the resilience, unity, and determination of the people to challenge colonial rule through non-violent means. The legacy of the Civil Disobedience Movement continued to inspire subsequent phases of the independence movement in Bankura and across the country.

3. Repression and Resistance:

- The British colonial administration responded to the Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience Movements with repression, including arrests, violence, and punitive measures.

- Despite the repression, the spirit of resistance remained strong in Bankura, with people continuing to defy British laws and assert their demand for independence.

4. Impact and Legacy:

- The Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience Movements in Bankura, like in other parts of India, left a lasting impact on the national consciousness and contributed to the eventual attainment of independence in 1947.

- These movements fostered a sense of unity, self-reliance, and resilience among the people of Bankura, shaping their collective identity and aspirations for freedom.

Conclusion

Overall, the Non-Cooperation Movement and Civil Disobedience Movement had a significant impact on Bankura district, mobilizing the masses and laying the groundwork for future struggles against colonial rule. The participation of Bankura in these movements exemplifies the widespread desire for independence and self-determination among the Indian populace.

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