

- British rule is divine dispensation which introduced Indians to the ideas of freedom. Unlike other imperialism, British imperialism thus provide hope for self-rule.

### Dadabhai Nauroji

- Britishers are justice loving people. British rule will lead to the rule of law.

### Criticism of the liberal perspective

- The first criticism came from the extremist or cultural nationalist.
- They held that India was a nation from the very beginning. There has been a cultural and spiritual unity throughout the sub-continent.
- They even wanted to prove that Indian culture, values and civilizational achievements has been much ahead of the west.

### MARXIST APPROACHES

The Marxist perspective on Indian nationalism is informed by a class approach related to politics and ideology.

The Marxist historians have been critical of both the colonialist and nationalist views on Indian nationalism.

### Basic tenets of Marxist perspective on Indian national movement.

- Understanding of the role of economic factors and classes in the making of the nation as well as a movement.
- Understanding whether Indian national movement was a movement of bourgeois class or a real mass movement.
- The Marxist paradigm is based on the **analysis of the modes of production and classes.**

### Marxist view on Indian national movement through scholar's eyes

- The First work from Marxist perspective on the national movement has been by **Karl Marx** himself. He has given the **interpretation of the revolt of 1857** as a rebellion by the feudal class.
- MN Roy** In his book titled "India in transition" criticized INC. He held that masses in India are ready to take power in their hands but congress is denying them of opportunity.

1. **He was also critical of the Gandhi** and his methods struggle i.e., non-violence and satyagraha.

- A.R. Desai** - Indian national movement, as a movement dominated by the bourgeoisie.
- E.M.S Namboodripad** – Gandhian approach was restricted mass struggle. Gandhi Wanted masses to work under the leadership of bourgeois class.

### Critical analysis of Marxist perspective of Indian national movement

- Bipan Chandra** (book- Indian struggle for Independence) clearly states the national orientation of INC. He called the movement truly inclusive and the largest mass movement ever.
- Sumit Sarkar** (book – Modern India) - held that traditional Marxist analysis require more careful approach. It is true that programme of INC did not help masses as it should be. However we cannot say that INC had any well planned strategy to take work in the interest of bourgeois class.

### DALITS' PERSPECTIVE

The Dalit perspective represents an alternative imagination of Indian national movement majorly proposed by Ambedkar.

### Dalit perspective on Indian national movement

- critical of the lack of commitment on the part of the Congress to share power with Dalit's.**
- expressed **serious doubt about the commitment of upper caste leadership to bring social equality.**
- Their **notion of nationhood was based on abolition of existing inequalities** and also having **equal rights in every sphere of life.**
- Gail Omvedt** in his book "Dalits and the democratic revolution" he has given importance to the various anti –caste movements going around at the time of Indian national movement.
- Valerian Rodrigues** –In his book "Dalit –Bahujan discourse"- He believed nationalism to be rooted in the collectiveness , fraternity , respecting each other's mutual rights and life of dignity to all.
- Jyotiba Phule**
  - o praised British rule for the introduction of rule of law and Equality before law
  - o held that British Raj is better than Pesewa raj.
  - o But he did point out the flaws on British rule as it was not working in the interest of Indian people in many spheres

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