

5. Colonialism and Tribal Societies

Worksheet 1

A Why were the tribals or adivasis angry and unhappy?

B What are the most important sources of information about the tribals?

C Fill in the blanks to complete the following sentences:

1. The Santhals opposed the activities of the _____, the _____ and the _____.
2. The Munda rebellion was led by _____ in the south of _____ and was called _____ or the Great _____.
3. The _____ Act of 1908 reduced the _____ of the _____ and banned _____.
4. The war between the British and the Manipur princes arose from a _____ when _____, the heir, sought help from the British against the new king _____.
5. The revolt in the Khasi hills was led by _____, but the British _____ the revolt, captured the leader and _____ him publicly.
6. _____ led the tribals in 1914 in a non-violent protest against exploitation by _____.

_____ and opposed the _____, and advised people to give up many _____ evils.

ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET I

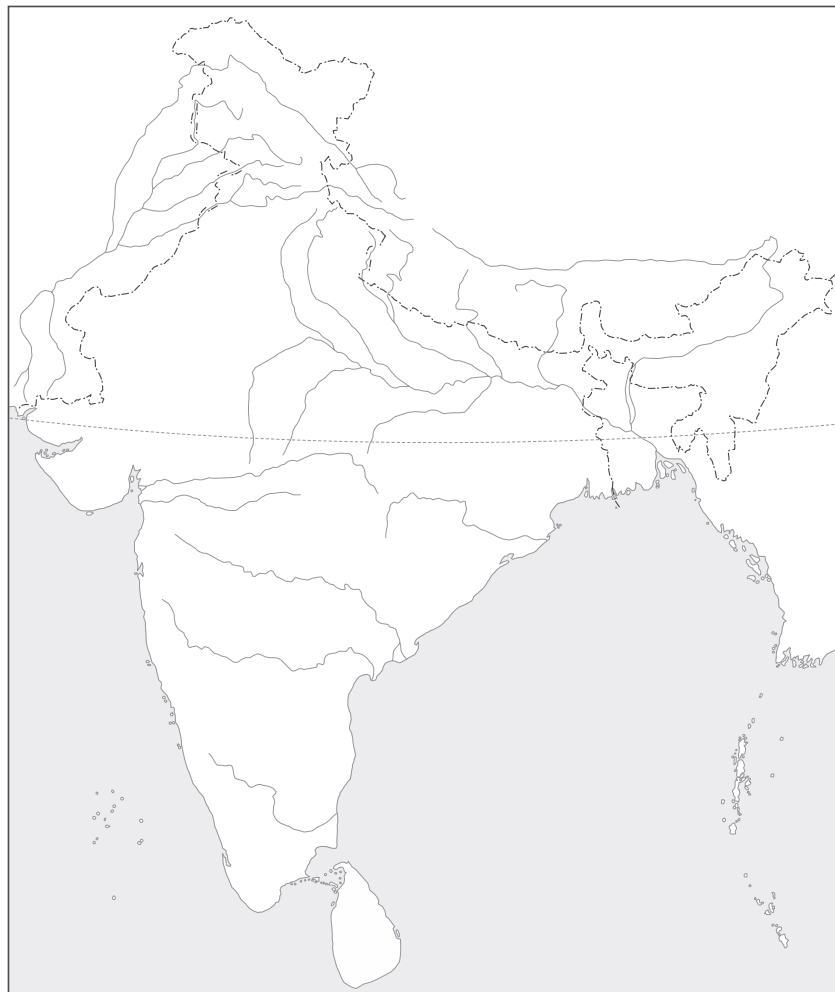
- A. The British took over large areas of forests and hills, where tribals lived, for cultivation, and forced them to cultivate indigo, jute and poppy. Tribals or adivasis lived quietly, sharing a common territory, language and culture. The British forced them to become landless labourers at very low wages, and they were exploited by moneylenders who forced them to also work as coolies in mines and factories. The tribals objected to restriction of their freedom and rights, and the loss of livelihood and identity. They were also angry with the Christian missionaries who questioned their culture. The ruthless British policies, the moneylenders and the Christian missionaries made them angry and unhappy, and this ultimately led to revolt.
- B. The most important sources of information on tribals are folklore and ballads passed through generations. There are also official documents like records of administrative proceedings, reports of judgements of enquiry commissions, newspapers and biographies of those times.
- C. 1. British; moneylenders; Christian missionaries
2. Birsa Munda; Ranchi; Ulgulan; Tumult
3. Chota Nagpur Tenancy; grievances; Mundas; forced labour
4. misunderstanding; Surchandra; Tikendrajit
5. U Kiang Nangbah; suppressed; hanged
6. Jatra Oraon; moneylenders; British; social

Worksheet 2

(A) Name the tribals found in the following places:

Tribals	Locations
1. _____	Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra
2. _____	Bihar
3. _____	Maharashtra, Bihar, Bengal and Odisha
4. _____	Odisha
5. _____	Rajasthan
6. _____	Meghalaya
7. _____	Bihar and Bengal

(B) On a map of India, roughly mark the areas mentioned above and the tribals found there.



ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET 2

A. Tribals

Bhils

Mundas

Kols

Gonds and Khands

Meos

Khasis

Santhals

Locations

Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra

Bihar

Maharashtra, Bihar, Bengal and Odisha

Odisha

Rajasthan

Meghalaya

Bihar and Bengal

B. Refer to your atlas and mark the areas roughly, and indicate which tribes lived there.