

## Chapter-4 Tribals, Dikus and the Vision

- Important Dates:-

- i. *In 1895, a man named Birsa was seen roaming in the forests and villages of chottanagpur in Jharkhand.*
  - ii. *Revolt of Songram Sangma in 1906 in Assam.*
  - iii. *The forest Satyagraha of the 1930s.*
  - iv. *The Kols rebelled in 1831-1832.*
  - v. *Santhal rose in revolt in 1855.*
  - vi. *The Bastar Rebellion in Central India broke out in 1910.*
  - vii. *The Warli revolt in Maharashtra in 1940.*
  - viii. *Birsa was born in the mid-1870s.*
  - ix. *In 1895 Birsa urged his followers to recover their glorious past.*
  - x. *Birsa was arrested in 1895.*
  - xi. *Birsa was released in 1897.*
  - xii. *In 1900 Birsa died of Cholera.*
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- Question & Answer

1. *What problems did the shifting cultivation face under the British?*

*The problem that the shifting cultivators faced under the British were:-*

- i. *the British insisted them to settle at one place and leave their traditional method of shifting cultivation.*
  - ii. *plough cultivation was not easy in the areas where the water was scarce and land was dry.*
  - iii. *their fields did not produce good yield.*
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2. *How did the powers of tribal chiefs change under colonial rule?*

*Under colonial rule, the functions and powers of the tribal chiefs changed considerably. They were allowed to keep their land titles but lost much of their administrative power and were forced to follow laws*

*made by British officials in India. They had to pay tribute to the British, and discipline the tribal groups on behalf of the British. They lost the authority, which they earlier enjoyed among their people and unable to fulfil their traditional functions.*

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*3. What accounts for the anger of the tribals against the dikus?*

*The reasons for the anger against the dikus by the tribal were:-*

- i. they stopped tribal people from living in the forest.*
  - ii. they stopped them from practicing.*
  - iii. they were forced to work on fields.*
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*4. What were Birsa's vision of a golden age? Why do you think such a vision appealed to the people of the region?*

*Birsa's vision of a golden age was that munda's were free of the oppression of the dikus, and there would be a time when the ancestral right of the community would be restored. It appealed to the people of the region saw themselves as the descendents of the original settlers of the region, fighting for their land.*