

Popular struggles and Movements

Very Short Answer Questions

- 1.** When did extraordinary popular movement begin in Nepal?
Ans. In April 2006, Nepal witnessed an extraordinary popular movement.
- 2.** What was the aim of popular movement of Nepal?
Ans. The popular movement aimed at restoring democracy.
- 3.** Who was the constitutional Monarch of Nepal?
Ans. King Birendra was the constitutional Monarch of Nepal.
- 4.** Why did King Gyanendra replace King Birendra?
Ans. King Birendra was killed in a mysterious massacre of the royal family in 2001, so king Gyanendra replaced him.
- 5.** Why did King Gyanendra dismiss the then Prime Minister and dissolve Parliament?
Ans. He was not prepared to accept democratic rule. He took advantage of the weakness and unpopularity of the democratically elected government.
- 6.** What does 'SPA' mean?
Ans. It means "Seven Party Alliance".
- 7.** What was the role of SPA in Nepal Movement?
Ans. All the major political parties in the parliament forced a Seven Party Alliance and called for a four day strike in Kathmandu, to start the popular movement to revive democracy.
- 8.** Who were Maoists?
Ans. Those communists who believed in the ideology of Mao, the great leader of the Chinese Revolution were called Maoists.
- 9.** What were the three main demands of the protestors?
Ans. (i) Restoration of Parliament
(ii) Power to an all party government.
(iii) A new constituent Assembly.
- 10.** Who was made the new Prime Minister of Interim government of Nepal?
Ans. Girija Prasad Koirala was chosen by SPA as the PM of the interim government of Nepal.
- 11.** Where is Bolivia located?
Ans. Bolivia is a poor country located in Latin America (South America).
- 12.** What was the main reason of Bolivia's popular movement?
Ans. (i) The government of Bolivia sold the rights of water supply to a multinational company.
(ii) The company increased the price of water by four times.
- 13.** What was 'FEDECOR'?
Ans. It was an organisation formed by an alliance of labour, human rights and community leaders who organised a successful four day general strike in Bolivia against MNC.

- 14.** What was the result of People's movement in Bolivia water war?
 Ans. (i) Power of people forced the officials of the MNC to flee the city and made the government concede to all the demands of the protesters.
 (ii) The contract with the MNC was cancelled and water supply was restored to the municipality at old rates.
- 15.** Give one difference between Nepal and Bolivia movements.
 Ans. The movement in Nepal was to establish democracy, while the struggle in Bolivia involved claims on an elected, democratic government.
- 16.** Give one similarity between Nepal and Bolivia movements.
 Ans. Both of these are instances of political conflict that led to popular struggle.
- 17.** How can you say that democracy evolves through popular struggles?
 Ans. Democracy usually involves conflict between those groups who exercise powers and those who aspire for a share in power.
- 18.** Is Democratic conflict resolved through mass mobilisation?
 Ans. When there is a deep dispute in democracy, institutions like parliament and judiciary also cannot resolve it, at that time the resolution has to come from outside, from the people in the form of movement.
- 19.** Besides SPA which other organisation joined Nepal movement?
 Ans. All the major labour unions and their federations joined this movement. Many other organisations like the organisation of indigenous people, teachers, lawyers and human rights groups extended support to this movement.
- 20.** Which other people joined FEDECOR in Bolivia water movement?
 Ans. They were supported by a federation of farmers, confederation of factory workers, unions, middle class students from the university of Cochabamba and the city's growing population of homeless street children.
- 21.** What are 'pressure groups' or 'interest groups'?
 Ans. Pressure groups or interest groups are the organisations that undertake activities to promote their interest or their viewpoints.
- 22.** How are these pressure groups or interest groups formed?
 Ans. These groups are formed when people with common occupation, interest, aspirations or opinions come together in order to achieve a common objective.
- 23.** What is a movement?
 Ans. Movement attempts to influence politics rather than directly taking part in Electoral competition. They depend on spontaneous mass participation.
- 24.** Give some examples of movements.
 Ans. (i) Narmada Bachao Andolan
 (ii) Movement for Right to Information
 (iii) Anti-liquor Movement.
 (iv) Women's Movement
 (v) Environmental Movement
- 25.** Who are Sectional Interest groups?
 Ans. They seek to promote the interests of a particular section or group of society.

- 26.** Give some examples of Sectional Interest Groups.
 Ans. Trade Unions, business associations and professional like lawyers, doctors teachers, etc. are some of the examples of Sectional Interest Groups.
- 27.** What is a Public Interest Groups?
 Ans. They promote collective rather than selective goods. They aim to help groups rather than their own members.
- 28.** What does 'BAMCEF' mean?
 Ans. It is Backward and Minority Community Employees Federation.
- 29.** What is the role of 'BAMCEF'?
 Ans. It is an organisation largely made up of government employees that campaigns against caste discrimination.
- 30.** What is Principal concern of BAMCEF?
 Ans. Its principal concern is with social justice and social equality for the entire society.
- 31.** What are 'Issue-specific' Movements?
 Ans. They seek to achieve a single objective within a limited time frame.
 E.g., Narmada Bachao Andolan.
- 32.** What are generic movements?
 Ans. They seek to achieve a broad goal in the very long term.
 E.g., The women's movement and the environmental movement.
- 33.** Give one difference between Issue specific movements and generic movements.
 Ans. (i) Issue specific movements tend to have a clear leadership and some organisation. But their active life is usually short.
 (ii) Generic movements share a broad objective and have a similar approach.
 Sometimes, these broad movements have a loose umbrella organization as well.
- 34.** What does 'loose umbrella organisation' mean?
 Ans. Various movement groups struggling on specific issues are constituents of this loose organisation which coordinates the activities of a large number of people's movements in our country.
- 35.** What do pressure groups and movements do to influence politics?
 Ans. They often organise protest activities like strikes or disrupting government programmes. For, e.g., Workers' Organisation resort to these tactics in order to force the government to take note of their demand.
- 36.** Give examples of the political parties of India which have grown out of movement.
 Ans. (i) Assam movement led by students against the 'foreigners' came to an end, it led to the formation of Asom Gana Parishad'.
 (ii) The roots of parties like the DMK and the AIADMK in Tamil Nadu can be traced to a long drawn social reform movement during the 1930's and 1940's.