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*ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENTS
IN INDIA*

*Photography by Harish Halmanur
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MOVEMENTS

The Chipko Movement

Narmada Bachao movement

SAVE GANGA MOVEMENT

The Chipko Movement

Chandi Prasad Bhatt

- Founder of Chipko movement.
- Organized rallies to protect the forest from mass destruction.



Success of Chipko movement

- The movement has spread to many states in the country.
- It stopped felling of trees in the Western Ghats and the Vindhyas.
- Generated pressure for formulation of a natural resource policy.
- Achieved a major victory in 1980 with a 15-year ban on green felling in the Himalayan forests
- More than 1,00,000 trees have been saved from excavation.
- Started protecting forest slopes and Restoring bare ones.

Chipko Movement (1973-1981)



Success of Chipko movement

- ▶ Afterward environmental awareness increased dramatically in India.
- ▶ New methods of forest farming have been developed, both to conserve the forests and create employment.
- ▶ By 1981, over a million trees had been planted through their efforts.
- ▶ Villagers paid special attention in care of the trees and forest trees are being used judiciously.



Save the Narmada Movement

- ▶ Established in 1989
- ▶ Sept 1989 - 60,000 people rally against destructive development.



- ▶ **Jan 1990 – 5,000 people marched on the Narmada Valley Development authority offices forcing them to close**
- ▶ **March 1990 – 10,000 protesters blocked the highway from Bombay for two days**
- ▶ **May 1990 – 2,000 people staged a sit-in outside the prime ministers house in Delhi**



SAVE GANGA MOVEMENT

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) published on 20th March 2007. Apart from the Ganga, the Indus, Nile, and Yangtze are among the 10 most endangered rivers of the world, that are lifeline of billions of people.



Objective of the Movement :-

- **To create mass awareness for an eco-friendly non-violent culture of development for the protection of our life.**
- **On the other hand, to put moral pressure on the government, to take time-bound decisive steps to completely and permanently save the Ganga symbolizing all rivers and water bodies & also all mountains forests and wildlife**



Failure of Ganga Action Plan

- It is truly deeply anguishing that we have failed to make the Ganga free from pollution in spite of our central government launching the **Ganga Action Plan in 1985, and spending hundreds of crores of rupees for this purpose, even though we know that the Ganga is the lifeline of our crores of people and crores of our people consider her to be their divine mother, and our experts claim that we have the necessary knowledge, skill and wealth to make the Ganga and her tributaries completely pollution free within two years.**

Future Programme

- As the next major step of our Movement, we are planning to organize a “ **Save Ganga & Save Himalayas Yatra**” from **Badrinath to Rameshwar**. The main objective of the Yatra will be to bring various major religious institutions of different faiths (**Temples, Mosques, Churches, Gurudwaras, etc**) under one roof to devote to the cause of preventing the impending massive ecological crises by creating a non-violent culture of development through a Gandhian Non-violent Mass- Movement.

How I would like to go back and make mankind understand...

...that we still had time to save our Planet Earth.

Any Questions??

THANK YOU

Photography by Ravichandra Kamath