

USE OF MACHINES:

Mahatma Gandhi was firmly convinced that the modern technological civilization was responsible for human frustration, violence and war. He believed that the large scale use of machinery - the main symbol of modern civilization was a great sin. However, Mahatma Gandhi was not against the use of all types of machinery. He did not want the replacement of human labour by the power driven machines. He welcomed simple tools and implements which helped the workers and lightened the load of millions of cottage industry workers.

Mahatma Gandhi view was that industrialization and mechanisation exploited other countries, hence they were bad. Mechanisation was good when there were a few hands to work but it was a evil when there were more hands to work, as in the case of India.

REGENERATION OF VILLAGES:

Mahatma Gandhi often said that the real villages of India was to be found in villages, not in the cities and towns. He further described the exploitation of villagers, lack of supplementary occupations, inadequacy of medical attention, extreme poverty etc. He wanted every village to develop into a little republic, independent of its neighbours in so far as its vital wants are concerned. He evolved the ideal 'Village Sarsaj'.

If all the villages of the country could come up to the ideal conceived by him, Gandhi was confident that India would be free from most of her worries.

In order to solve the problem of poverty, Mahatma Gandhi laid 'emphasis' on the revival of village industries - Khadi, hand pounding, hand-grinding, soap making, paper making, tanning etc.

KHADI INDUSTRY:

Mahatma Gandhi stressed the need for the development of the Khadi Industry. Khadi to him was "the symbol of unity of Indian humanity, of its economic freedom and equality". The khadi mentality means the decentralisation of production and distribution of the necessities of human life.

Before 1909, Mahatma Gandhi had not seen the spinning wheel or the charkha. The Khadi Movement began after his return from South Africa. He believed that the Khadi industry would save the lives of millions of people from starvation.

When Gandhi proposed the charkha as a major means of solving the problem of India's poverty, he was ridiculed. Several objections were raised to the Khadi Movement. The ~~Some~~ socialist think that Khadi has arrested the forward march to prosperity. They believe that industrialization is the only answer

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to poverty. But, Gandhi believed that the evils of industrialization can be removed by the Khadi Industry.

DOCTRINE OF TRUSTEESHIP:

Mahatma Gandhi considered it desirable to appeal to the basic human principles of reason and love to persuade capitalists to realize that the capital in their hands represented the fruits of labour of others and it should be treated as such. His concept of trusteeship was that all social property should be in the hands of a trust. It would mean that all people whether rich or poor, capitalist being trustees would take care not only of themselves but also of others. Some of their wealth would be used by the rest of the society.

Mahatma Gandhi believed that trusteeship would help considerably "in realising a state of equality on earth."