1. Fakir-Sannyasi Rebellion (1770–1806)

Oppression: The British East India Company imposed heavy taxes and economic restrictions, exacerbating the famine of 1770. Religious ascetics (Fakirs and Sannyasis) who relied on alms faced persecution.

Resistance: Fakirs and Sannyasis organized armed groups, resisting British revenue collection.

Protest: Sporadic attacks on British officials and revenue collection centers.

Mass Movement: The movement gained widespread support from peasants, discontented zamindars, and local leaders.

Revolt: Organized raids on British treasuries, factories, and convoys.

War: The British responded with military force, executing and imprisoning rebels.

Aftermath: The movement gradually declined by 1806 due to British crackdowns and internal disunity.

2. Faraizi Movement (1818–1860) - Haji Shariatullah & Successors

Oppression: Muslim peasants suffered under British rule and Hindu landlords (zamindars) who imposed excessive taxes and forced labor. Religious oppression was also rampant.

Resistance: Haji Shariatullah led a reformist movement promoting Islamic purity and peasant rights.

Protest: Peasants refused to comply with unjust taxes and practices; they rejected social customs imposed by Hindu landlords.

Mass Movement: Under Dudu Miyan (Shariatullah’s son), the movement gained strength, organizing collective resistance and land reclamation.

Revolt: Clashes with landlords and British forces became frequent; Faraizis established self-governance in some areas.

War: The British and Hindu landlords launched a coordinated crackdown, arresting leaders and suppressing uprisings.

Aftermath: The movement lost momentum after Dudu Miyan’s death in 1862 but inspired later peasant movements.

3. Titumir and the Barasat Revolt (1829)

Oppression: Muslim peasants in Bengal faced high taxes, forced labor, and religious discrimination from Hindu landlords and British authorities.

Resistance: Syed Mir Nisar Ali (Titumir) led Islamic reformist activities and organized resistance against landlords.

Protest: Peasants refused to pay unjust taxes and rejected oppressive practices.

Mass Movement: Titumir built a strong peasant army and established local authority in opposition to British rule.

Revolt: The construction of Bansher Kella (Bamboo Fort) marked open defiance against British rule.

War: In 1831, British forces attacked the fort, and after a fierce battle, Titumir was killed, and his followers were crushed.

Aftermath: Though defeated, the movement remained a symbol of resistance and influenced later peasant revolts.

4. Santhal Rebellion (1855–1856)

Oppression: Santhal tribes faced land dispossession, bonded labor, and extreme exploitation under British landlords and moneylenders (Mahajans).

Resistance: Sidhu and Kanhu Murmu organized tribal communities to resist.

Protest: Santhals stopped paying taxes, refused to follow landlords' rules, and boycotted exploitative practices.

Mass Movement: Over 60,000 Santhals mobilized, forming an organized resistance.

Revolt: They attacked landlords, moneylenders, and British institutions in open defiance.

War: British troops crushed the rebellion with brutal force, killing thousands.

Aftermath: The British created Santhal Parganas to pacify the region, but oppression persisted.

5. Indigo Rebellion (Neel Bidroho) (1859–1860)

Oppression: Indigo planters forced Bengali peasants into contracts that left them in perpetual debt, using violent enforcement methods.

Resistance: Peasants refused to cultivate indigo, supported by local leaders and intellectuals.

Protest: Organized refusal, legal battles, and media campaigns highlighted their plight.

Mass Movement: The rebellion spread across Bengal, with thousands participating in coordinated resistance.

Revolt: Peasants attacked indigo factories, landlords, and agents, burning records and resisting violently.

War: The British suppressed the movement using military force but avoided full-scale war due to public sympathy.

Aftermath: The Indigo Commission (1860) recommended ending forced indigo cultivation, marking a rare victory for peasant movements.

6. The First War of Independence (1857)

Oppression: The British implemented exploitative land revenue systems (Permanent Settlement, Mahalwari), suppressed traditional rulers, and introduced social reforms offensive to Indian culture (like the introduction of the Enfield rifle cartridges rumored to be greased with cow and pig fat).

Resistance: Discontent simmered among sepoys, landlords, and peasants.

Protest: Incidents like Mangal Pandey’s revolt in Barrackpore indicated growing unrest.

Mass Movement: The uprising spread to major regions (Delhi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Jhansi). Local rulers (Bahadur Shah II, Nana Sahib, Rani Lakshmibai) joined the cause.

Revolt: Cities fell into rebel hands, and parallel administrations were established.

War: The British launched a brutal counter-offensive, using superior military tactics to reclaim lost territory.

Aftermath: By 1858, the revolt was crushed. The British Crown took direct control of India, ending the East India Company’s rule. Mass executions, displacement, and economic devastation followed.