



169th Anniversary of Santhal Rebellion

Why in News?

Recently, the 169th anniversary of [Santhal Rebellion](#) was celebrated. The Prime Minister paid tribute to the sacrifices and bravery of the **Santhal tribal community**.

Key Points

- The Santhal uprising, one of the most **noted events of revolt against the British Raj**, took place in **1855 and 1857**.
- This was **India's first major peasant uprising** fueled by the implementation of the [Permanent Land Settlement in 1793](#).
- It was led by four brothers, Sidho, Kanho, Chand, and Bhairav Murmu, along with sisters Phulo and Jhano and **covered the regions of Bihar**.

Santhal Tribe

- Santhals are the **third largest scheduled tribe community in India** after [Gonds](#) and [Bhils](#).
- Their greatest concentration is in the states of **Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Orissa**, in the eastern part of the country.
- **Language:**
 - Their **language is Santhali**, a dialect of Kherwari, a Munda (Austroasiatic) language.
 - Santhali, written in [Ol-Chiki script](#), is recognised as one of the scheduled languages in the [Eighth Schedule to the Constitution](#).
- **Religion:**
 - They are **nature worshippers** and could be seen paying respect at Jaher (sacred groves) in their villages.
- **Occupation:**
 - Most Santhals are **agriculturists**, depending on their farmlands or forests.
 - **Seasonal forest collection** is one of the important sources of their subsidiary income.

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