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Social movements in india. A Review of Literature. Ghanshyam Shah. Social movements primarily take the form of non-institutionalised collective political action which strive for political and /or social change. While India has witnessed many such movements over the centuries, it is only recently that scholars have begun to study them in depth. More than two years back Mr Tejeshwar Singh suggested a new edition which I agreed to revise and update. While working on the revision I frequently felt like rewriting the whole book as my own theoretical framework on social movements and social transformation has undergone a change since 1990, but then it would have resulted in a new book which in the given time and with my other commitments was not possible. Rowman and Littlefield, a study of social movements since the 1960s. Reprinted by permission. In the late 1960s Virginia H. Hine and I examined the structure of several social movements. We proposed that this segmentary, polycentric, and networked organization was more adapted to the task of challenging and changing society and culture than was centralized organization. At the time, even social movement participants did not fully appreciate the strengths of SPIN organization, believing that anything other than a centralized bureaucracy was either disorganized or an embryonic organization. Since then a consensus has emerged that SPINs have many benefits, and not just for social movements. This chapter revisits and supplements our analysis. An interactionist studying social movements might address social movement norms and tactics as well as individual motivations. For example, social movements might be generated through a feeling of deprivation or discontent, but people might actually join social movements for a variety of reasons that have nothing to do with the cause. They might want to feel important, or they know someone in the movement they want to support, or they just want to be a part of something. While most of us learned about social movements in history classes, we tend to take for granted the fundamental changes they caused and we may be completely unfamiliar with the trend toward global social movement.