

Indigenous Canon, Wheel of History and Social Revolution: Rammanohar Lohia's Epistemology of Human Approximation

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Abstract : Dr Rammanohar Lohia (1910-67), a radical Indian socialist thinker, left an unfinished and critical oeuvre of works on 'Social Revolution', argued for the necessity of fundamentally reordering our social structures and offered the ideological framework for such a radical change. An alternative kind of democratic political action called Saat Krantiya, or 'seven revolutions', sought to establish socialism with a strong cultural and historical foundation in Indian society. Lohia cautiously adopted civil disobedience [a Gandhian tool] as a means of seven revolutions as a mode of revolution. He saw Indian youth as the vanguard of the social revolution and claimed that the ideas of 'constructive militancy' and 'militant construction' were at the core of such a revolution. This paper demonstrates that Lohia presented a unique short theoretical paradigm to interpret history and revolution, and Sapta Kranti was a normative framework to arrive at an egalitarian society.

Keywords : Rammanohar Lohia, Sapt Kranti, matter and spirit, caste-class, human approximation

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