Preface

The emergence of environmental movements in India reveals serious flaws in the development planning and processes. A development project that has been the subject of much criticism and controversy is the Sardar Sarovar Project, an interstate multipurpose Project on the river Narmada. It is a part of the Narmada Valley Project - the most ambitious river valley Project planned in India till date. For the purpose of the study the Movement against the Sardar Sarovar Project is selected because the opposition to this Project has been greatest due to the human and environment costs it incurs.

The Narmada Bachao Andolan has taken up the people's cause and is waging a relentless battle against the Project and the very model of development that is being currently followed in India.

The study attempts to provide an understanding of this Movement from the perspective of an environmental movement in the context of the present scenario of development.

The study is conducted in selected villages of West Nimad (Khargone) district of Madhya Pradesh.