

Chapter 1- How, When and Where

Page No: 8

Let's Recall

1. State whether true or false:

a) James Mill divided Indian History into three periods- Hindu, Muslim, and Christian. ►

False

b) Official documents help us understand what the people of the country think. ► False

c) The British thought surveys were important for effective administration.

► True

Let's Discuss

2. What is the problem with the periodisation of Indian History that James Mill offers?

Answer

James Mill divided his book into three periods, namely: Hindu, Muslim, and British. According to his prejudiced version of Indian history, the British rule represents all the forces of progress and civilisation, while the period before British rule represents darkness, ignorance, despotism, religious intolerance, caste taboos, superstitious practices, etc.

The view of Mill has several problems which are not acceptable due to reasons:

→ A variety of faiths, apart from Hinduism and Islam, existed in the periods categorised as Hindu and Muslim by Mill.

→ All rulers in ancient India did not share the same faith.

→ It is this country from where two other religions like- Buddhism and Jainism developed and spread to other parts of the world while Hindu religion also existed.

3. Why did the British preserve official documents?

Answer

The British preserved the important official documents because these served as records of what the officials thought, what they were interested in and what they wished for. According to the British, writing

can be utilized for reference at a much later period whenever required for studying or debating. These can also serve as an information or proof of any decision or action taken earlier on some matter.

4. How will the information historians get from old newspapers be different from that found in police reports?

Answer

Information is essential for writing history of a time which can be gathered from various sources. Apart from official documents in the archives, historians gather information also from old newspapers, diaries of people, accounts of pilgrims, autobiographies of important personalities and booklets etc. Information found in newspapers is varied, based on incidents that have happened across the country whereas; the police reports are limited and localized. Because of this fact sometimes the information historians get from police reports is not as useful as it is from old newspapers. However for any incidence the newspaper may not quote all the reasons behind this and biased as per the thinking of reporter while in police records we could find some evidences for an incident and unbiased reports.

Chapter 2- From Trade to Territory

Page No: 24

Let's Recall

1. Match the following:

Diwani	Tipu Sultan
“Tiger of Mysore”	right to collect land revenue
<i>faujdari adalat</i>	<i>Sepoy</i>
Rani Channamma	criminal court
<i>sipahi</i>	led an anti-British movement in Kitoor

Answer

Diwani	right to collect land revenue
“Tiger of Mysore”	Tipu Sultan
<i>faujdari adalat</i>	criminal court
Rani Channamma	led an anti-British movement in Kitoor
<i>sipahi</i>	<i>Sepoy</i>

2. Fill in the blanks:

(a) The British conquest of Bengal began with the Battle of _____.

► Plassey

(b) Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan were the rulers of _____.

► Mysore

(c) Dalhousie implemented the Doctrine of _____.

► Lapse

(d) Maratha kingdoms were located mainly in the _____ part of India.

► South-Western

3. State whether true or false:

(a) The Mughal empire became stronger in the eighteenth century.

► False

(b) The English East India Company was the only European company that traded with India.

► False

(c) Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the ruler of Punjab.

► True

(d) The British did not introduce administrative changes in the territories they conquered.

► False

Let's Discuss

4. What attracted European trading companies to India?

Answer

European trading companies were attracted to India because of a number of reasons: → Trading with India was highly profitable and fruitful to the businessmen in Europe.

→ The European trading companies purchased goods at cheaper and sold them in Europe at the higher prices.

→ The fine qualities of cotton and silk produced in India had a big market in Europe.

→ Indian spices like - pepper, cloves, cardamom and cinnamon were in great demand in Europe.

5. What were the areas of conflict between the Bengal nawabs and the East India Company?

Answer

In the 18th century, after the death of Aurangzeb, the Bengal nawabs asserted their power and autonomy. Through the eighteenth century, the conflicts between them and the East India Company intensified. The nawabs refused to grant the Company concessions, demanded large tributes, denied it the right to mint coins, and stopped it from extending its fortifications. They claimed that the Company was depriving the Bengal government of huge amounts of revenue, and also undermining their authority by refusing to pay taxes, writing disrespectful letters, and humiliating them and their officials.

On the other hand, the Company declared that its trade was getting ruined because of the unjust demands of the local officials. It believed that trade could only flourish if the duties were removed. To expand trade, it wanted to enlarge its settlements, buy up villages, and rebuild its forts.

6. How did the assumption of Diwani benefit the East India Company?

Answer

The Diwani right to the East India Company benefitted it in several ways:

- The Diwani allowed the Company to use the vast revenue resources of Bengal.
- The East India Company monopolized trade and began direct plunder of India's wealth.
- Revenues from India financed Company expenses. These revenues were used to purchase cotton and silk textiles in India, maintain Company troops, and meet the cost of building the Company fort and offices at Calcutta.
- The company used its political power to monopolize trade & dictate terms. They could impose their own prices that had no relation to the costs of production.
- The company used revenue of Bengal to finance exports of Indian goods.

7. Explain the system of "subsidiary alliance".

Answer

After the battle of Plassey in 1757, the battle of Buxar in 1764 and gaining the Diwani of Bengal, the company began to expand its rule in many parts of India.

For that it had devised several plans, one among them was the “Subsidiary Alliance”. According to the terms of this alliance -

→ Indian rulers were not allowed to have their independent armed forces. → They were to be protected by the company but pay for the Subsidiary Forces, that the company was supposed to maintain for the purpose of their protection. → If the Indian rulers failed to make payment, then that part of territory was taken away by the company as penalty. For example, in 1801, the nawab of Awadh was forced to give over half of his territory to the Company for failing to pay for the “subsidiary forces”.

8. In what way was the administration of the Company different from that of Indian rulers?

Answer

→ British territories were broadly divided into administrative units called Presidencies. There were three Presidencies like - Bengal, Madras & Bombay whereas under the Indian rulers administration was divided into four parts - District (Zila), Paragana, Tehsil and Villages.

→ Each administrative unit was ruled by a Governor.

→ The supreme head of the administration was the Governor-General, whereas under the Indian Administrative system the supreme head was King or Nawab. → Warren Hastings introduced the new system of justice. Each district was to have two courts- civil & criminal court.

→ The European District Collector presided over civil courts.

→ The criminal courts were still under a Qazi and a Mufti.

→ Under the Regulating Act of 1773, a new supreme court was established.

→ The main figure in an Indian District was Collector.

→ According to his title Collector, his main job was to collect the revenue and the taxes and maintain law & order in his district with the help of judges, police officers and darogas.

9. Describe the changes that occurred in the composition of the Company's army.

Answer

During the eighteenth century, when the East India Company began recruitment for its own army, it started recruiting peasants and began training them as professional soldiers. Like the Mughal army, the Company's army was also composed of the cavalry and the infantry regiments, with the cavalry dominating the army. However, as warfare technology changed during the nineteenth century, the cavalry requirements of the Company's army declined. As the soldiers had to be armed with muskets and matchlocks, the infantry regiments became more important.

Chapter 3- Ruling the Countryside

Page No: 37

Let's Recall

1. Match the following:

<i>ryot</i>	village
<i>mahal</i>	peasant
<i>nij</i>	cultivation on <i>ryot's</i> lands
<i>ryoti</i>	cultivation on planter's own land

Answer

<i>ryot</i>	peasant
<i>mahal</i>	village
<i>nij</i>	cultivation on planter's own land
<i>ryoti</i>	cultivation on <i>ryot's</i> lands

Page No: 38

2. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) Growers of woad in Europe saw _____ as a crop which would provide competition to their earnings.
- (b) The demand for indigo increased in the late-eighteenth-century Britain because of _____.
- (c) The international demand for indigo was affected by the discovery of _____.
- (d) The Champaran movement was against _____.

Answer

- (a) Growers of woad in Europe saw indigo as a crop which would provide competition to their earnings.
- (b) The demand for indigo increased in the late-eighteenth-century Britain because of the expansion of cotton production as a result of industrialisation, which in turn created an enormous demand for cloth dyes.
- (c) The international demand for indigo was affected by the discovery of synthetic dyes.
- (d) The Champaran movement was against indigo planters.

Let's Discuss

3. Describe the main features of the Permanent Settlement.

Answer

In order to get a stable revenue income, most of the East India Company's officials believed that investment in land had to be encouraged and agriculture had to be improved. This led to introduction of permanent settlement in 1793 → By the terms of the settlement the rajas and taluqdars were recognized as zamindars. → They were asked to collect rent from the peasants and pay revenue to the company.

- The amount to be paid was fixed permanently.
- It was felt that this would ensure a regular flow of revenue into the company's coffers and at the same time encourages the zamindars to invest in improving the land.
- If the zamindars failed to pay the revenue, which they usually did as the fixed revenue was very high, they lost their zamindari.

4. How was the mahalwari system different from the Permanent Settlement?

Answer

Mahalwari Settlement	Permanent Settlement
-----------------------------	-----------------------------

The <i>mahalwari</i> system, devised by Holt Mackenzie, came into effect in 1822, in the North Western provinces of the Bengal Presidency.	The Permanent Settlement was introduced in 1793 by Lord Cornwallis.
It was devised as an alternative to the Permanent Settlement.	It was aimed at ensuring stable revenue for the East India Company.
The village headmen were in charge of collecting revenue.	The <i>rajas</i> and <i>taluqdars</i> were in charge of collecting revenue.
The revenue amount was not fixed, and was to be revised periodically. The estimated revenue of each plot within a village was added up to calculate the revenue that each village or <i>mahal</i> had to pay.	The revenue amount was fixed and was never to be increased in the future.

5. Give two problems which arose with the new Munro system of fixing revenue.

Answer

Two problems which arose with the new Munro system of fixing revenue were:
 → Driven by the desire to increase the income from land, revenue officials fixed too high a revenue demand. →Peasants were unable to pay ryats fled the countryside and villages became deserted in many regions.

6. Why were ryots reluctant to grow indigo?

Answer

The ryots reluctant to grow indigo because:

- The planters paid a very low price for indigo.
- The ryots was not in a position to even recover his cost, earning a profit was a far-fetched idea. This meant that the ryot was always under debt.
- The planters insisted that the peasants cultivate indigo on the most fertile parts of their land, but the peasants preferred growing rice on the best soils as after an indigo harvest, the land could not be used for sowing rice.

7. What were the circumstances which led to the eventual collapse of indigo production in Bengal?

Answer

The ryots began to refuse to grow indigo. They were supported by the village headmen and some zamindars in their fight. The scale of protest was so much that the government had to intervene. The Indigo Commission was set up to enquire into the problems. The Commission accepted the faults of the planters and allowed the ryots to grow whatever they wished. This led to eventual collapse of indigo production in Bengal.

Chapter 4- Tribals, Dikus and the Vision of a Golden Age

Page No: 49

Let's Recall

1. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) The British described the tribal people as _____. (b)
The method of sowing seeds in jhum cultivation is known as _____.
- (c) The tribal chiefs got _____ titles in central India under the British land settlements.
- (d) Tribals went to work in the _____ of Assam and the _____ in Bihar.

Answer

- (a) The British described the tribal people as wild and savage. (b)
The method of sowing seeds in jhum cultivation is known as broadcasting or scattering.
- (c) The tribal chiefs got land titles in central India under the British land settlements.
- (d) Tribals went to work in the tea plantations of Assam and the coal mines in Bihar.

Page No: 50

2. State whether true or false:

- (a) Jhum cultivators plough the land and sow seeds.
► False

(b) Cocoons were bought from the Santhals and sold by the traders at five times the purchase price.

► True

(c) Birsa urged his followers to purify themselves, give up drinking liquor and stop believing in witchcraft and sorcery.

► True

(d) The British wanted to preserve the tribal way of life.

► False

3. What problems did shifting cultivators face under British rule?

Answer

For administrative and economic reasons, the British government tried settling the jhum or shifting cultivators. However, settled plough cultivation did not prove to be helpful to these jhum cultivators. They often suffered because their fields did not produce good yields. The new forest laws also affected the lives of the shifting cultivators. Shifting or jhumcultivation is usually done on small patches of forest land. Under the forest laws, the British extended their control over all forests and declared that forests were state property. Thus, the jhum cultivators were prevented from practising jhum cultivation freely. Many were forced to move to other areas in search of work and livelihood.

4. How did the powers of tribal chiefs change under colonial rule?

Answer

Under the colonial rule the functions and powers of the tribal chiefs changed considerably. Before the arrival of the British these tribal chiefs enjoyed a certain amount of economic power and used to administer and control their territories, which were not so now. They were allowed to

keep their land titles over a cluster of villages and rent out lands. In this process they lost much of their administrative power and were forced to follow laws made by the British officials. They also had to pay tribute to British and discipline the tribal groups on behalf of the British. Hence, under the colonial rule they lost the authority they had earlier enjoyed amongst their people and were unable to fulfill their traditional functions.

5. What accounts for the anger of the tribals against the dikus?

Answer

The word “dikus” means outsiders or who come from outside like – moneylenders, traders, zamindars, contractors, British etc. There are a number of reasons for anger of the tribals against the dikus:

- The tribals practiced shifting cultivation but the British forced them to follow settled agriculture and also introduced land settlements.
- Traders and moneylenders were coming into the forest, wanting to buy forest produce at a very cheap rate, luring them to take cash loans at high interests etc. The innocent and poor people initially fell in the trap of these moneylenders and traders and remained indebted throughout their lives. So the tribals considered the traders, moneylenders as evil outsiders.
- Under British rule the tribal chiefs lost their authorities they had enjoyed earlier amongst their people, were unable to fulfill their traditional functions. Rather they had to pay tribute to the British.
- By the introduction of forest laws, the British evacuated them from their own lands. As a result they became homeless and went in search of work and livelihood.

6. What was Birsa's vision of a golden age? Why do you think such a vision appealed to the people of the region?

Answer

Birsa talked about a golden age, a satyug, an age of truth in which, like in the past, the tribal people would live a good life, construct embankments, tap natural springs, plant trees and orchards and practise cultivation to earn their living. He talked of an age in which the tribals would not kill one another and would live an honest life. His golden age consisted of a reformed tribal society in which there was no place for vices like liquor, uncleanliness, witchcraft and sorcery, and outside forces like the missionaries, Hindu landlords, moneylenders, traders and the Europeans.

This vision was appealing to the tribal people as all the vices and outside forces that Birsa talked about were indeed thought of by everyone as the root causes of their misery and suffering.

Chapter 5- When People Rebel

Page No: 62

Let's Recall

1. What was the demand of Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi that was refused by the British?

Answer

Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi wanted the East India Company to recognise her adopted son as the heir to the kingdom after the death of her husband. This demand was refused by the British.

2. What did the British do to protect the interests of those who converted to Christianity?

Answer

In 1850, a new law allowed an Indian who had converted to Christianity to inherit property of his ancestors. This law made it easier to convert to Christianity.

3. What objections did the sepoys have to the new cartridges that they were asked to use?

Answer

The new cartridges were suspected of being coated with the fat of cows and pigs. Both Hindus and Muslim sepoys were offended by the introduction of these cartridges. Their religious sentiments were affected, and this was the reason they refused to use the cartridges. They felt that the British were trying to insult their religions.

4. How did the last Mughal emperor live the last years of his life?

Answer

The last Mughal emperor spent the last years of his life in a jail in Rangoon along with his wife.

Page No: 63

Let's Discuss

4. What could be the reasons for the confidence of the British rulers about their position in India before May 1857?

Answer

The reasons for the confidence of the British rulers about their position in India before May, 1857 were too many as described below:

- There were several riots, rebellion and revolts which occurred before May, 1857. But all these were localized and were suppressed by the British then and there.
- In the mid 18th century, the powers of Nawabs, rajas, zamindars etc. were eroded. The freedom of the Indian rulers was reduced, their armed forces were disbanded, and their revenue and territories were taken by stages.
- The Mughal Emperor had lost its control over the provinces. The traditional rulers fought among themselves and could not present a united front against a powerful foreign rule.
- Residents had been stationed in many courts by the British as their representatives. These residents kept informing the governors about the important developments in every kingdom.
- Indian princes and chiefs whom the British had allowed to continue used to side with the British during revolts before May, 1857.

5. What impact did Bahadur Shah Zafar's support to the rebellion have on the people and the ruling families?

Answer

There was a wide spread impact on the people of the whole country and its ruling families after Bahadur Shah Zafar's support to the rebellion.

These were:→ He wrote letters to all the chiefs and rulers of the country to come forward and organize a confederacy of Indian states to fight with Britishers. All small and big kingdoms, kings, Nawabs, Rajas, princes, zamindars, chiefs and even many Hindu and Muslim religious leaders welcomed this initial step taken by the Emperor and joined hands to rebel against the British.

→ Regiment after regiment mutinied and started to join other troops at nodal points like- Delhi, Kanpur and Lucknow.

→ The people of towns and villages also joined the rebellion in mass and rallied around local leaders, zamindars and rulers who were prepared to regain their lost authority and fight against the British.

6. How did the British succeed in securing the submission of the rebel landowners of Awadh?

Answer

The British succeed in securing the submission of the rebel landowners of Awadh by adopting various methods such as: → They announced reward for loyal landowners.

→ They were assured that they would be allowed to continue to enjoy traditional rights over their lands.

→ Those who had rebelled were told that if they submitted to the British, and if they had not killed any white people, they would remain safe and their rights and claims to land would not be denied.

7. In what ways did the British change their policies as a result of the rebellion of 1857?

Answer

Changes in the policies of the British after the suppression of the rebellion of 1857:

→ British Crown took over the control of administration - The British Parliament passed an Act in 1859, under which, the powers of the East India Company were transferred to the British Crown. The British government was now directly responsible for ruling India.

→ Provided a sense of security to the local rulers - The ruling chiefs of the country were assured that their territories would never be annexed by the British. However, they had to swear allegiance to the British crown. They also abolished the Doctrine of Lapse, thereby allowing rulers to pass on their kingdoms to adopted sons.

→ Provided a sense of security to landowners - Policies were made to protect landlords and zamindars, and give them security of rights over their lands.

→ Reorganised the army- The proportion of Indian soldiers in the army was reduced and the number of European soldiers in the army was increased.

→ Treated the Muslims with suspicion and hostility - Considering them to be responsible for the rebellion in a big way, the British confiscated the land and property of Muslims on a large scale.

→ Promised non-interference in the sphere of religion - The British assured the people of India that their religious and social practises would be respected and not interfered with.

Chapter 6- Colonialism and the City

Page No: 76

Let's Recall

1. State whether true or false:

(a) In the Western world, modern cities grew with industrialisation.

► True

(b) Surat and Machlipatnam developed in the nineteenth century.

► False

(c) In the twentieth century, the majority of Indians lived in cities.

► False

(d) After 1857 no worship was allowed in the Jama Masjid for five years.

► True

(e) More money was spent on cleaning Old Delhi than New Delhi.

► False

Page No: 77

2. Fill in the blanks:

(a) The first structure to successfully use the dome was called the _____.

(b) The two architects who designed New Delhi and Shahjahanabad were _____ and _____.

(c) The British saw overcrowded spaces as _____.

(d) In 1888 an extension scheme called the _____ was devised.

Answer

(a) The first structure to successfully use the dome was called the _____.

• This question is not clear. Note that Jama Masjid was the first mosque in India with minarets and full domes.

(b) The two architects who designed New Delhi and Shahjahanabad were _____ and _____.

• This question is not clear. Note that Edward Lutyens and Herbert Baker were the two architects who designed New Delhi and its buildings.

(c) The British saw overcrowded spaces as unhygienic and unhealthy, the source of disease.

(d) In 1888 an extension scheme called the Lahore Gate Improvement Scheme was devised.

3. Identify three differences in the city design of New Delhi and Shahjahanabad.

Answer

New Delhi	Shahjahanabad
Unwalled city, constructed on Raisina Hill, south of Shahjahanabad or Old Delhi	Constructed as a walled city with 14 gates, adjoining a fort-palace complex, with the river Jamuna flowing near it
Broad, straight streets	Mazes of narrow and winding lanes and bylanes and quiet cul-de-sacs
Sprawling mansions set in the middle of large compounds	Crowded and congested <i>mohallas</i>

4. Who lived in the "white" areas in cities such as Madras?

Answer

The British were lived in the "white" areas.

Let's Discuss

5. What is meant by de-urbanisation?

Answer

For the sake of convenience of trade the British developed new centers of trade like Calcutta, Madras and Bombay on eastern and Western coastal areas respectively. In late 18th century these places became as Presidency cities under the British rule. These cities which were very important right from the ancient as well as during the Mughal period gradually lost their importance. Simultaneously many towns manufacturing specialized goods declined due to a drop in the demand for what they produced. Old trading centers and ports could not survive when the flow of trade moved to the new centers. Trades and exports via the earlier important ports like Surat, Masulipatnam etc failed dramatically. At the same time, the earlier centers of regional power collapsed when local rulers were defeated by the British and new centers of administration emerged. As a result of all these happenings more and more people began to shift from these places which used to be important cities in the past. This process is often described as deurbanization.

6. Why did the British choose to hold a grand Durbar in Delhi although it was not the capital?

Answer

Though Calcutta was the capital of the British, they were aware of the symbolic importance of Delhi. It was the city where the Mughals had ruled. It was the same city that had become the rebel stronghold in the rebellion of 1857, a rebellion that had momentarily threatened the collapse of the British rule in India. It was therefore important to celebrate British power with pomp and show at this very place. So, a grand Durbar to acknowledge Queen Victoria as the Empress of India was held in Delhi, in 1877. Later, in 1911, a Durbar was held in Delhi to celebrate the crowning of King George V. It was at this Durbar that the decision to shift the capital of India from Calcutta to Delhi was announced. What these displays did was to show to the people of India the ultimate power and supremacy of the British.

7. How did the Old City of Delhi change under the British rule?

Answer

The Old City of Delhi was constructed as a walled city with 14 gates, adjoining a fort-palace complex, with the river Jamuna flowing near it. The city was characterised by mosques, havelis, crowded mohallas, narrow and winding lanes and bylanes and water channels. The British gained control of Delhi in 1803. Before the revolt of 1857, the British adjusted themselves to the Mughal culture of the Old City by living in the Walled City, enjoying Urdu/Persian culture and poetry, and participating in local festivals. The Delhi College was established in 1792, which led to a great intellectual flowering in the sciences as well as the humanities. However, after the revolt, they embarked on a mission to rid the city of its Mughal past. They razed several palaces, closed down gardens and built barracks for troops in their place. For security reasons, the area around the Red Fort was completely cleared of gardens, pavilions and mosques. Mosques in particular were either destroyed or put to other uses. No worship was allowed in the Jama Masjid for five years. One-third of the city was demolished, and its canals were filled up. In the 1870s, the Western walls of Shahjahanabad were broken to establish the railway and to allow the city to expand beyond the walls. The sprawling Civil Lines area came up in the North of the city. This was the place where the British began living. The Delhi College was turned into a school, and shut down in 1877. The British constructed a new city, known as New Delhi, South of the Old City. Built as a complete contrast to the Old City, New Delhi became the centre of power. The Old City, meanwhile, was pushed into neglect.

8. How did the Partition affect life in Delhi?

Answer

The partition of India in 1947 led to a massive transfer of people on both sides of the new border. As a result, the population of Delhi swelled (nearly 500,000 people were added to Delhi's population). Delhi became a city of refugees, with people living in camps, schools, military barracks and gardens. The riots accompanying the Partition led to the killing of thousands of people, and the looting and burning of their houses. Over two-third of the Delhi Muslims migrated, and almost 44,000 homes were abandoned. Their places were taken over by Sikh and

Hindu refugees from Pakistan. These refugees were mostly rural landlords, lawyers, teachers, traders and shopkeepers. After Partition, their lives changed as they took up new jobs as hawkers, vendors, carpenters and ironsmiths. The influx of Sikh and Hindu refugee population and the outflow of the Muslim population changed the social milieu of Delhi. An urban culture largely based on Urdu was

Chapter 7- Weavers, Iron Smelters and Factory Owners

Page No: 93

Let's Recall

1. What kinds of cloth had a large market in Europe?

Answer

Cotton and silk textiles had a huge market in Europe. Indian textiles were by far the most popular, both for their fine quality and exquisite craftsmanship. Different varieties of Indian textiles were sold in the Western markets; for example, chintz, cossae or khassa, bandanna and jamdani. From the 1680s, there started a craze for printed Indian cotton textiles in England and Europe, mainly for their exquisite floral designs, fine texture and relative cheapness.

2. What is jamdani?

Answer

Jamdani is a fine muslin on which decorative motifs are woven on the loom, typically in grey and white. Often a mixture of cotton and gold thread is used.

3. What is bandanna?

Answer

'Bandanna' refers to brightly coloured and printed scarf for the neck or head produced through a method of tying and dying.

4. Who are the Agarias?

Answer

The Agarias are an Indian community of iron smelters.

5. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) The word chintz comes from the word _____.
- (b) Tipu's sword was made of _____ steel.
- (c) India's textile exports declined in the _____ century.

Answer

- (a)The word chintz comes from the word chhint.
- (b)Tipu's sword was made of Wootzsteel.
- (c)India's textile exports declined in the nineteenth century.

Let's Discuss

6. How do the names of different textiles tell us about their histories?

Answer

→ European traders first encountered five cotton cloths from Indian carried by Arab merchants in Mosul in present day Iraq. So they began referring to all finally woven textiles as muslin" – a word acquired wide currency.

→ When Portuguese first came to India in search of spices they landed in calient on the Kerala coast in South West India. The cotton textiles which they took back to Europe, along with the spices, came to called "Caloco" (derived from Calicnt) and subsequently calico became the general name for all cotton textiles.

→ Chintz is derived from the Hindi word chhint, a cloth with small and colourful flowery designs.

→ Bandanna now refers to any brightly coloured and printed scarf for the neck or head. Originally the term derived from the word "bandhna" (Hindi for tying).

7. Why did the wool and silk producers in England protest against the import of Indian textiles in the early eighteenth century?

Answer

By the early eighteenth century, worried by the popularity of Indian textiles, the wool and silk makers in England began protesting against the import of Indian cotton textiles. At this time, the textile industries had just begun to develop in England. Unable to compete with Indian textiles, English producers wanted a secure market within the country by preventing the entry of Indian textiles.

8. How did the development of cotton industries in Britain affect textile producers in India?

Answer

Effects of the development of cotton industries in Britain on the textile producers in India: → Competition- Indian textiles had to compete with British textiles in European and American markets.

→ High duties- Exporting textiles to England became increasingly difficult due to the very high duties imposed on Indian textiles imported into Britain.

→ Capture of foreign markets- By the beginning of the nineteenth century, English-made cotton textiles ousted Indian textiles from their traditional markets, thereby throwing thousands of Indian weavers out of employment. The English and European companies stopped buying Indian textiles and their agents no longer gave out advances to weavers to secure supplies. → Capture of the Indian market- By the 1830s, British cotton cloth flooded Indian markets. By the 1880s, two-third of all cotton clothes worn by Indians were made of cloth produced in Britain. This greatly affected both the weavers and the spinners.

Thus, Indian textiles declined in the nineteenth century, and thousands of Indian weavers and spinners lost their livelihood.

9. Why did the Indian iron smelting industry decline in the nineteenth century?

Answer

The Indian iron smelting industry declined in the nineteenth century for the following reasons.

→ The forest laws implemented by the colonial administration prevented the free movement of people in reserved forests. Charcoal - an essential ingredient in the iron smelting process - could therefore not be obtained easily.

→ When in some areas the government did grant access to the forests, the iron smelters were in return required to pay a very high amount in tax to the forest department for every furnace they used. This reduced their income.

→ By the late nineteenth century, iron and steel was being imported from Britain. Ironsmiths began using the imported iron to manufacture utensils and implements. This reduced the demand for iron produced by local smelters.

→ In the late nineteenth century, a series of famines devastated the dry tracts of India. As a result, many of the local smelters stopped work, deserted their villages, and migrated, looking for some other work to survive the hard times.

10. What problems did the Indian textile industry face in the early years of its development?

Answer

The development of cotton industries in Britain affected textile producers in India in several ways.

→ Indian textiles now had to compete with British textiles in the European and American markets. Exporting textiles to England also became increasingly difficult since very high duties were imposed on Indian textiles imported into Britain.

→ By the beginning of the nineteenth century, English made cotton textiles successfully outsets Indian goods from their traditional markets in Africa, America and Europe.

→ Thousands of weavers in India were now thrown out of employment.

→ Bengal weavers were the worst hit. English and European companies stopped buying Indian goods and their agents no longer gave out advances to weavers to secure supplies. Distressed weavers wrote petitions to the government to help them.

→ The textile factory industry in India faced many problems. It found it difficult to compete with the cheap textiles imported from Britain.

→ In most countries, governments supported industrialization by imposing heavy duties on imports. This eliminated competition and protected infant industries.

11. What helped TISCO expand steel production during the First World War?

Answer

→ In 1914 the First World War broke out.

→ Steel produced in Britain now had to meet the demands of war in Europe.

→ So imports of British steel into India declined dramatically and the Indian Railways turned to TISCO for supply of rails.

→ As the war dragged on for several years, TISCO had to produce shells and carriage wheels for the war.

→ By 1919 the colonial government was buying 90 per cent of the steel manufactured by TISCO.

→ Over time TISCO became the biggest steel industry within the British Empire.

Chapter 8- Civilising the "Native", Educating the Nation

Page No: 106

Let's Recall

1. Match the following:

William Jones	promotion of English education
Rabindranath Tagore	respect for ancient cultures
Thomas Macaulay	<i>gurus</i>
Mahatma Gandhi	learning in a natural environment
<i>Pathshalas</i>	critical of English education

Answer

William Jones	respect for ancient cultures
Rabindranath Tagore	learning in a natural environment
Thomas Macaulay	promotion of English education
Mahatma Gandhi	critical of English education
<i>Pathshalas</i>	<i>gurus</i>

Page No: 107

2.State whether true or false:

(a) James Mill was a severe critic of the Orientalists.

► True

(b) The 1854 Despatch on education was in favour of English being introduced as a medium of higher education in India.

► True

(c) Mahatma Gandhi thought that promotion of literacy was the most important aim of education.

► False

(d) Rabindranath Tagore felt that children ought to be subjected to strict discipline.

► False

Let's Discuss

3. Why did William Jones feel the need to study Indian history, philosophy and law?

Answer

William Jones felt the need to study Indian history, philosophy and law as this will not only help the British learn from Indian culture but it would also help Indian to rediscover their own heritage and understand the lost glories of their past. This would establish the British as guardians of Indian culture and gain total control.

4. Why did James Mill and Thomas Macaulay think that European education was essential in India?

Answer

→ James Mill and Thomas Macaulay thought that European education would enable Indians to recognize the advantages that flow from the expansion of trade and commerce and make them see the importance of developing the resources of the country.

→ Introducing European ways of life would change their tastes and desires and create a demand for British goods, because Indians would begin to appreciate and buy things that were produced in Europe. → It would also improve the moral character of Indians. It would make them truthful and honest and thus supply the company with civil servants who could be trusted and demanded upon. It could also instill in people a sense of duty and commitment to work and develop the skills required for administration.

→ Macaulay felt that knowledge of English would allow Indians to read some of the finest literature the world had produced. It would make them aware of the developments in Western Science and philosophy. Teaching of English could civilize people setting. He saw it as an abode of peace, where living in harmony with nature, children could cultivate their natural creativity.

5. Why did Mahatma Gandhi want to teach children handicrafts?

Answer

Mahatma Gandhi wanted to teach children handicraft because that would develop their minds and their capacity to understand. This would also enable them to know how different things operated. This would help them to have lived experience and practical knowledge.

6. Why did Mahatma Gandhi think that English education had enslaved Indians?

Answer

English education, according to Mahatma Gandhi, created a sense of inferiority in the minds of Indians. It made them see Western civilisation

as superior, and destroyed their pride in their own culture. Thus charmed by the West and by everything coming from the West, the Indians educated under the colonial system would end up being the admirers of British rule in India; thus, willingly forgetting their enslavement, and enslaving themselves further.

Chapter 9- Women, Caste and Reform

Page No: 121

Let's Recall

1. What social ideas did the following people support?

Rammohun Roy

Dayanand Saraswati

Veerasalingam Pantulu

Jyotirao Phule

Pandita Ramabai

Periyar

Mumtaz Ali

Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar

Answer

Rammohun Roy: Supported the banning of the practice of 'Sati'

Dayanand Saraswati: Supported Widow remarriage

Veerasalingam Pantulu: Supported Widow remarriage

Jyotirao Phule: Supported equality among castes Pandita

Ramabai: Supported women's Education Periyar:

Supported equality for untouchables.

Mumtaz Ali: Supported Wome's Education

Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar: Supported Widow remarriage

Page No: 122

2. State whether true or false:

(a) When the British captured Bengal they framed many new laws to regulate the rules regarding marriage, adoption, inheritance or property, etc.

► True

(b) Social reformers had to discard the ancient texts in order to argue for reform in social practises.

► False

(c) Reformers got full support from all sections of the people of the country.

► False

(d) The Child Marriage Restraint Act was passed in 1829.

► False

Let's Discuss

3. How did the knowledge of ancient texts help the reformers promote new laws?

Answer

Whenever they wished to challenge a practice that seemed harmful, they tried to find a verse or sentence in the ancient sacred texts that supported their point of view. They then suggested that the practice as it existed at present was against early tradition. Thus, the knowledge of ancient texts helped the reformers promote new laws.

4. What were the different reasons people had for not sending girls to school?

Answer

The following were the different reasons people had for not sending girls to school.

→ They feared that schools would take girls away from home, thereby preventing them from doing their domestic duties.

- They felt that travelling through public places in order to reach school would have a corrupting influence on girls.
- They felt that girls should stay away from public spaces.

5. Why were Christian missionaries attacked by many people in the country? Would some people have supported them too? If so, for what reasons?

Answer

In the nineteenth century, Christian missionaries started setting up schools for tribal groups and lowercaste children. These children were trained to find a footing in the changing world. Soon the poor left the villages and started looking for jobs in the cities. People who looked down on the lower caste did not like the progress of this section of people. Social reformers would have supported the missionaries for their work against social evils.

6. In the British period, what new opportunities opened up for people who came from castes that were regarded as "low"?

Answer

The British period saw the rise of the cities. Many of the poor living in the Indian villages and small towns at the time began leaving their villages and towns to look for jobs that were opening up in the cities. As the cities were growing, there was a great demand for labour - labour for digging drains, laying roads, constructing buildings, working in factories and municipalities, etc. This demand for labour was met by the population migrating from the villages and towns. There was also the demand for labour in the various plantations, both within the country and abroad. The army too offered opportunities for employment.

Many of these migrating people belonged to the low castes. For them, the cities and the plantations represented the opportunity to get away from the oppressive hold that upper-caste landowners exercised over their lives and the daily humiliation they suffered.

7. How did Jyotirao and the reformers justify their criticism of caste inequality in society?

Answer

Jyotirao Phule developed his own ideas about the injustices of caste society. He did not accept the Brahmins' claim that they were superior to others, since they were Aryans. Phule argued that the Aryans were foreigners, who came from outside the subcontinent, and defeated and subjugated the native Indians. As the Aryans established their supremacy, they began looking at the Indians as inferior and low caste people. According to Phule, the "upper" castes had no right to their land and power: in reality, the land belonged to indigenous people, the so-called low castes.

8. Why did Phule dedicate his book Gulamgiri to the American movement to free slaves?

Answer

Jyotirao Phule was concerned with all forms of inequalities and injustices existing in society - whether it was the plight of the upper-caste women, the miseries of the labourer, or the humiliation of the low castes. By dedicating his book Gulamgirito the American movement to free slaves, he linked the conditions of the black slaves in America with those of the lower castes in India. This comparison also contains an expression of hope that one day, like the end of slavery in America, there would be an end to all sorts of caste discriminations in Indian society.

9. What did Ambedkar want to achieve through the temple entry movement?

Answer

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar started a temple entry movement in 1927 which was participated by his Mahar caste followers. Brahman priests were outraged when the lower castes used water from the temple tank Dr. Ambedkar led three such movements for temple entry between 1927 and 1935. His aim was to make everyone see the power of caste prejudices within the society.

10. Why were Jyotirao Phule and Ramaswamy Naicker critical of the national movement? Did their criticism help the national struggle in any way?

Answer

Both Jyotirao Phule and Ramaswamy Naicker were critical of the national movement as they could barely see any difference between the preachers of anticolonialism and the colonial masters. Both, according to them, were outsiders and had used power for subjugating and oppressing the indigenous people. Phule

believed that though the upper-caste leaders were then asking people all over the country to unite for fighting the British, once the Britishers had left, they would continue with their oppressive caste policies, thereby causing divisions amongst the very people they were trying to unite. He believed that they only wished for unity to serve their purposes, and once the purposes had been served, the divisions would creep in again.

Naicker's experience in the Congress showed him that the national movement was not free from the taint of casteism. At a feast organised by nationalists, the seating arrangements followed caste distinctions, i.e., the lower castes were made to sit at a distance from the upper castes. This convinced him that the lower castes had to fight their battle themselves.

Their criticism did lead to rethinking and some self criticism among the uppercaste nationalist leaders. This in turn helped strengthen the national struggle, as free from prejudices of caste, religion and gender, the leaders could unite and concentrate their attentions upon the single aim of overthrowing the colonial administration.

Chapter 10- The Changing World of Visual Arts

Page No: 139

Let's Recall

1. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) The art form which observed carefully and tried to capture exactly what the eye saw is called _____.
- (b) The style of painting which showed Indian landscape as a quaint, unexplored land is called _____.
- (c) Paintings which showed the social lives of Europeans in India are called _____.
- (d) Paintings which depicted scenes from British imperial history and their victories are called _____.

Answer

- (a) The art form which observed carefully and tried to capture exactly what the eye saw is called portraiture.
- (b) The style of painting which showed Indian landscape as a quaint, unexplored land is called picturesque.
- (c) Paintings which showed the social lives of Europeans in India are called Kalighat paintings.
- (d) Paintings which depicted scenes from British imperial history and their victories are called history paintings.

Page No: 140

2. Point out which of the following were brought in with British art:

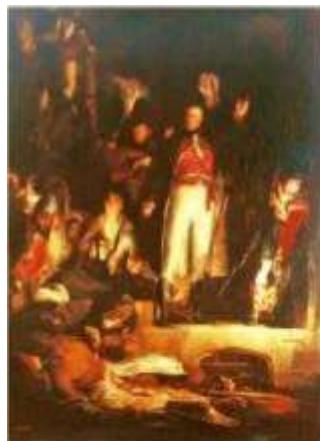
- (a) oil painting (b) miniatures (c) life-size portrait painting (d) use of perspective
(e) mural art

Answer

(a) Oil painting, (c)life-size portrait painting and (d) use of perspective.

3. Describe in your own words one painting from this chapter which suggests that the British were more powerful than Indians. How does the artist depict this?

Answer



The painting which depicts the discovery of the body of Tipu Sultan shows the British as more powerful than Indians. In this painting, the British General is shown as if standing on a high pedestal and exuding all the confidence. On the other hand, Tipu Sultan is shown half naked and lifeless; lying in the dark recess. The painting appears to announce that those who dare to challenge the British authority would meet the same fate.

4. Why did the scroll painters and potters come to Kalighat? Why did they begin to paint new themes?

Answer

The scroll painters and potters come to Kalighat in the hope of new patrons and new buyers of their art. After the 1 & IOs, a new trend was visible within the Kalighat artists. Living in a society where values, tastes, social norms and customs were undergoing rapid changes, Kalighat artists responded to the world around and produced paintings on social and political themes.

5. Why can we think of Raja Ravi Varma's paintings as national?

Answer

Raja Ravi Varma was one of the first artists who tried to create a style that was both modern and national. He used the Western art of oil painting and realistic life study to paint themes from Indian mythology. He dramatised on canvas scene after scene from the Indian epics Ramayana and Mahabharata. This portrayal of an Indian consciousness is what makes his paintings national. This was perhaps one of the reasons why his paintings were popular not only among Indian princes and art collectors but also among the masses.

Let's Discuss

6. In what way did the British history paintings in India reflect the attitudes of imperial conquerors?

Answer

The British history paintings sought to dramatise and recreate various episodes of British imperial history. These paintings celebrated the British power, their victories and their supremacy. The imperial history paintings attempted to create a public memory of imperial triumphs. Victories had to be remembered,

implanted in the memory of people, both in India and Britain. Only then could the British appear invincible and all-powerful.

7. Why do you think some artists wanted to develop a national style of art?

Answer

Some artists rejected the art of Ravi Varma as imitative and westernised and declared that such a style was unsuitable for depicting the nation's ancient myths and legends. They felt that a genuine Indian style of painting had to draw inspiration from non-Western art traditions, and try to capture the spiritual essence of the East. These artists broke away from the convention of oil painting and the realistic style, and turned for inspiration to medieval Indian traditions of miniature painting and the ancient art of mural painting in the Ajanta caves. Abanindranath Tagore was one of the first artists who wanted to develop a national style of art.

8. Why did some artists produce cheap popular prints? What influence would such prints have had on the minds of people who looked at them?

Answer

By the late nineteenth century, mechanical printing presses were set up in different parts of India. This allowed prints to be produced in large numbers. These prints could therefore be sold cheap in the market. As a result, even the poor could buy them. With the spread of nationalism, the popular prints of the early twentieth century began carrying nationalist messages. Such popular prints would have inspired people to fight British rule.

Chapter 11- The Making of the National Movement

Page No: 159

Let's Recall

1. Why were people dissatisfied with British rule in the 1870s and 1880s?

Answer

There was great dissatisfaction with British rule in the 1870s and 1880s. Some of the reasons for this dissatisfaction are as follows:

- The Arms Act- Passed in 1878, this Act disallowed Indians from possessing arms.
- The Vernacular Press Act in 1878, this Act was aimed at silencing those who were critical of the government. Under this Act, the government could confiscate the assets of newspapers if they published anything that was found “objectionable”.
- The Ilbert Bill controversy- In 1883, the government tried introducing the Ilbert Bill. This bill provided for the trial of British or European individuals by Indians, and sought equality between British and Indian judges in the country. However, the white opposition forced the government to withdraw the bill. This enraged the Indians further.

2. Who did the Indian National Congress wish to speak for?

Answer

Indian National Congress wished to speak for all the people of India, irrespective of class, colour caste, creed, language, or gender. It stated that India, its resources and systems were not of any one class or community of India, but of all the different communities of India.

3. What economic impact did the First World War have on India?

Answer

The First World War led to a huge rise in the defence expenditure of the Government of India. The government in turn increased taxes on individual incomes and business profits. Increased military expenditure and the demands for war supplies led to a sharp rise in prices which created great difficulties for the common people. On the other hand, business groups reaped fabulous profits from the war. The war created a demand for industrial goods such as jute bags, cloth and rails, and caused a decline in the imports from other countries into India. As a result, Indian industries expanded during the war.

4. What did the Muslim League resolution of 1940 ask for?

Answer

The Muslim League resolution of 1940 asked for "Independent States" for Muslims in the North-Western and Eastern areas of the country.

5. Who were the Moderates? How did they propose to struggle against British rule?

Answer

In the first twenty years of its existence, the Congress was “moderate” in its objectives and methods. The Congress leaders of this period were called the Moderates. They proposed to struggle against British rule in non-violent manner which the radicals called “politics of petitions”. They wanted to develop public awareness about the unjust nature of British rule. They published newspapers, wrote articles, and showed how the British rule was leading to the economic ruin of the country. They criticised British rule in their speeches and sent representatives to

different parts of the country to mobilise public opinion. They felt that the British had respect for the ideals of freedom and justice, and so would accept the just demands of Indians.

6. How was the politics of the Radicals within the Congress different from that of the Moderates?

Answer

The Radicals were opposed to the “politics of prayers” followed by the Moderates within the Congress. They explored more radical objectives and methods. They emphasised the importance of self reliance and constructive work. They argued that people must rely on their own strength, not on the “good” intentions of the government (as was the stated policy of the Moderates). They believed that people must fight for swaraj.

7. Discuss the various forms that the Non-Cooperation Movement took in different parts of India. How did the people understand Gandhiji?

Answer

During 1921 and 1922 the Non-Cooperation Movement gained momentum.

- Thousands of students left government-controlled schools and colleges
- Many lawyers gave up their practises
- British titles were surrendered
- Legislatures were boycotted
- People lit public bonfires of foreign cloth.

In most cases, the calls for non-cooperation were related to local grievances.

- In Kheda, Gujrat, Patidar peasants organised non-violent campaigns against the high land revenue demand of the British.
- In coastal Andhra and interior Tamil Nadu, liquor shops were picketed.
- In the Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh, tribals and poor peasants protested against the colonial state for restricting their use of forest resources. They staged a number of “forest satyagrahas”, sometimes sending their cattle into forests without paying grazing fees.
- In Punjab, the Akali agitation of the Sikhs sought to remove corrupt mahants - supported by the British - from their gurudwaras.
- In Assam, tea garden labourers demanded a big increase in their wages. When the demands were not met, they left the British-owned plantations.

People thought Gandhiji as messiah, someone who could help them overcome their misery and poverty. Peasants believed that he would help them in their fight against zamindars, while agricultural labourers felt that he would provide them with land.

8. Why did Gandhiji choose to break the salt law?

Answer

Gandhiji choosed to break the salt law as British government had a monopoly on the manufacture and sale of salt. It also imposed a tax on the sale of salt. Gandhiji believed that it was sinful to tax salt as it was an essential part of food. He led a march to the coastal town of Dandi, where he broke the salt law by gathering natural salt found on the seashore, and boiling sea water to produce salt. This march related the general desire of freedom to a specific grievance shared by everybody, and thus, did not divide the rich and the poor.

9. Discuss those developments of the 1937-47 period that led to the creation of Pakistan.

Answer

The developments leading to the creation of Pakistan:

→ A two-nation theory - From the late 1930s, the Muslim League began viewing the Muslims as a separate “nation” from the Hindus.

→ Provincial elections of 1937 - The provincial elections of 1937 convinced the League that Muslims were a minority, and they would always have to play second fiddle in any democratic structure. It feared that Muslims may even go unrepresented.

→ Rift between Congress and Muslim League - In 1937, the Congress rejected the Muslim League's proposal for a joint Congress-League government in the United Provinces. This annoyed the League.

→ Wide mass support base for Muslim League - In the 1930s, the Congress failed to mobilise the Muslim masses. This allowed the Muslim League to widen its social support. It sought to enlarge its support in the early 1940s when most Congress leaders were in jail.

→ Failure of talks - At the end of the Second World War in 1945, the British opened negotiations between the Congress, the League and themselves for the independence of India. However, the talks failed as the League saw itself as the sole spokesperson of India's Muslims, and the Congress could not accept this claim since a large number of Muslims still supported it.

→ Provincial elections of 1946 - Elections to the provinces were again held in 1946. The Congress did well in the “General” constituencies but the League's success in the seats reserved for Muslims was spectacular. This led to more demands for a separate nation for Muslims.

→ Failure of talks again - In March 1946, the British cabinet sent a three-member mission to Delhi to examine this demand and to suggest a suitable political framework for a free India. This mission suggested that India should remain united and constitute itself as a loose confederation with some autonomy for Muslim-majority areas. But it could not get the Congress and the Muslim League to agree to specific details of the proposal. Partition was now more or less inevitable.

→ Mass agitation and riots - After the failure of the Cabinet Mission, the Muslim League decided on mass agitation for winning its Pakistan demand. It announced 16 August 1946 as “Direct Action Day”. On this day riots broke out in Calcutta, lasting several days and resulting in the death of thousands of people. By March 1947, violence had spread to different parts of Northern India.

→ Partition- Finally, the demand for the Partition of India was finalised, and “Pakistan” was born.

Chapter 12- India After Independence

Page No: 172

Let's Recall

1. Name three problems that the newly independent nation of India faced.

Answer

Three problems that the newly independent nation of India faced:

- As a result of Partition, 8 million refugees had come into the country from Pakistan. These people had to be found homes and jobs.
- The maharajas and nawabs of the princely states (almost 500) had to be persuaded to join the new nation.
- A political system had to be adopted which would best serve the hopes and expectations of the Indian population.

2. What was the role of the Planning Commission?

Answer

The Planning Commission was set up to help design and execute suitable policies for the economic development of India.

3. Fill in the blanks:

(a) Subjects that were placed on the Union List were _____, _____ and _____.

(b) Subjects on the Concurrent List were _____ and _____.

- (c) Economic planning by which both the state and the private sector played a role in development was called a _____ model.
- (d) The death of _____ sparked off such violent protests that the government was forced to give in to the demand for the linguistic state of Andhra.

Answer

- (a) Subjects that were placed on the Union List were taxes, defence and foreign affairs.
- (b) Subjects on the Concurrent List were forest and agriculture.
- (c) Economic planning by which both the state and the private sector played a role in development was called a mixed-economy model.
- (d) The death of Potti Sriramulu sparked off such violent protests that the government was forced to give in to the demand for the linguistic state of Andhra.

Page No: 173

4. State whether true or false:

- (a) At independence, the majority of Indians lived in villages.
► True
- (b) The Constituent Assembly was made up of members of the Congress party.
► False
- (c) In the first national election, only men were allowed to vote.
► False
- (d) The Second Five Year Plan focussed on the development of heavy industry.
► True

Let's Discuss

5. What did Dr Ambedkar mean when he said that "In politics we will have equality, and in social and economic life we will have inequality"?

Answer

According to Dr Ambedkar, political democracy had to be accompanied by economic and social democracy. Giving the right to vote would not automatically lead to the removal of other inequalities such as between rich and poor, or between upper and lower castes. He believed that India needed to work towards eradicating all forms of inequality in the economic and social spheres. Only then would the equality granted by the Constitution in the sphere of politics (i.e., one vote for every adult Indian citizen) be of any value. Otherwise, India would just be a land of contradictions - following the principle of "one man, one vote and one value" in its political life, and denying the principle of "one man, one value" in its economic and social lives.

6. After Independence, why was there a reluctance to divide the country on linguistic lines?

Answer

In the 1920s, the Congress had promised that once the country won independence, each major linguistic group would have its own province. However, after independence, it did not take any steps to honour this promise. There was a reason for this. India had already been divided on the basis of religion. The joy of freedom had come along with the tragedy of Partition. This Partition had led to the killing of a million people in riots. Fresh divisions were not considered to be feasible. Congress leaders believed that any further divisions of the country would only disrupt its unity and progress. They felt that the need of

the hour was for India to remain strong and united, and work towards becoming a nation, and anything that hindered the growth of nationalism had to be rejected.

7. Give one reason why English continued to be used in India after Independence.

Answer

People of the south those who could not speak Hindi, opposed Hindi as National Language. They threatened to separate from India if Hindi was imposed on them. The Constituent Assembly finally decided that Hindi would be the "official language" of India and English would be used in the courts, the services, and communications between one state and another.

8. How was the economic development of India visualised in the early decades after Independence?

Answer

The economic development of India visualised in the early decades after Independence were:

- Objectives: Lifting India and Indians out of poverty, and building a modern technical and industrial base were among the major objectives of the new nation.
- Planning Commission and Five Year Plans: A Planning Commission was set up to help design and execute suitable policies for economic development.
- Mixed-economy: A mixed-economy model was agreed upon. In this economic model, both the State and the private sector would play important and complementary roles in increasing production and generating jobs.

→ Focus on heavy industries and dams: In 1956, the Second Five Year Plan was formulated. This focussed strongly on the development of heavy industries such as steel, and on the building of large dams.

→ The focus on heavy industry, and the effort at state regulation of the economy (which was to guide the economic policy for the next few decades) had many critics. This approach was criticised because:

- (i) It put inadequate emphasis on agriculture
- (ii) It neglected primary education
- (iii) It did not take into account the environmental implications of concentrating on science and machinery