



5. Read again the extracts from Nehru's speech 'Tryst with Destiny' and answer the following:

(a) Why did Nehru use the expression "not wholly or in full measure" in the first sentence?

(b) What pledge did he want the makers of the Indian Constitution to take?

(c) "The ambition of the greatest man of our generation has been to wipe every tear from every eye". Who was he referring to?

Answer:

(a) The expression 'not wholly or in full measure' in the first sentence was used by Nehru because he thought that the task they had undertaken was incomplete and it wasn't possible to fulfill the pledges all at once but would be gradually fulfilled.

(b) The pledge that he wanted the makers of the Indian Constitution to take was to dedicate their lives to the service of India, Indians and humanity at large.

(c) He was referring to Mahatma Gandhi.

6. Here are some of the guiding values of the Constitution and their meaning. Rewrite them by matching them correctly.

(a) Sovereign (b) Republic (c) Fraternity (d) Secular	(i) Government will not favour any religion. (ii) People have the supreme right to make decisions. (iii) Head of the state is an elected person. (iv) People should live like brothers and sisters.
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Answer:

(a) Sovereign (b) Republic (c) Fraternity (d) Secular	(ii) People have the supreme right to make decisions. (iii) Head of the state is an elected person. (iv) People should live like brothers and sisters. (i) Government will not favour any religion.
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7. A friend from Nepal has written you a letter describing the political exercises situation there. Many political parties are opposing the rule of the king. Some of them say that the existing constitution given by the monarch can be amended to allow more powers to elected representatives. Others are demanding a new Constituent Assembly to write a republican constitution. Reply to your friend giving your opinions on the subject.

Answer:

Dear Yam,

I read your letter. These are exciting times indeed for you! My country has been independent for almost sixty years, and we have already gone through the whole process of establishment of democracy. Fortunately, it has survived on this soil as well. I just hope the same happens in Nepal.

I find myself hoping that the demand for a new Constituent Assembly would take root in Nepal. A republican constitution has its benefits you know! In countries like yours and mine, there is already too much wastage in terms of government expenditure. Unfortunately, such is the reality of our national culture. In addition, if Nepal has a Constitutional Monarchy, a lot of money would have to be spent on maintaining the high standards of living for the royalty. UK has a Constitutional monarchy, but it can also afford it--centuries and centuries of colonial exploitation of other countries has its benefits! However, in my opinion, for countries like India and Nepal, a Republican government is best suited.

By all means, the Constitution offered by your king can hardly be called democratic! It hardly gives any powers to your Parliament or the civilian government or so I've heard. Nevertheless, whatever I might think as a foreigner, the people of Nepal will be the best judge of your country's political future. Let's see what happens.

P.S. - I have heard the Maoists are making some inroads in the rural heartland of Nepal? I don't personally support violence of any kind and am a believer in democracy. However, the Maoists intrigue me to no limit. What is their attitude towards India? What do they think about the Chinese? Do let me know what you think.

Your Friend,

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