



SOURCE-BASED QUESTIONS

Question 1. Read the following extract (Sources 1 and 4) taken from NCERT textbook and answer the questions that follow:

“We first tie them down to the pile”

Rammohun Roy published many pamphlets to spread his ideas. Some of these were written as a dialogue between the advocate and critic of a traditional practice. Here is one such dialogue on sati:

ADVOCATE OF SATI:

Women are by nature of inferior understanding, without resolution, unworthy of trust ... Many of them, on the death of their husbands, become desirous of accompanying them; but to remove every chance of their trying to escape from the blazing fire, in burning them we first tie them down to the pile.

OPPONENT OF SATI:

When did you ever afford them a fair opportunity of exhibiting their natural capacity? How then can you accuse them of want of understanding? If, after instruction in knowledge and wisdom, a person cannot comprehend or retain what has been taught him, we may consider him as deficient; but if you do not educate women how can you see them as inferior.

Questions:

- (a) What notions did the society have in favour of the practice of sati?
- (b) What arguments did the reformers put against the practice of sati?

Answers:

- (a) The society believed women to be of inferior understanding without resolution and unworthy of trust. So, she was not allowed to live without her husband. Therefore, she was forced to be inflamed with the body of her husband after his death.
- (b) The reformers accused the society for not recognising women's potentialities. They said that the society had never bothered to educate women and had always neglected them. So, it was quite unjustified to call them inferior and untrustworthy.

Question 2. “We are also human beings”

In 1927, Ambedkar said:

We now want to go to the Tank only to prove that like others, we are also human beings ... Hindu society should be reorganised on two main principles— equality and absence of casteism.

Questions:

- (a) Who was Ambedkar?
- (b) On what basis did he wish Hindu society to be reorganised?

Answers:

- (a) Ambedkar was a dalit leader. He belonged to a Mahar family. He did a lot for the upliftment of the condition of dalits.
- (b) He wished Hindu society to be reorganised on the basis of two principles— equality and absence of casteism.

PICTURE-BASED QUESTIONS

Question 1. Observe the pictures below taken from is NCERT textbook and answer the questions that follow:



Questions:

(i) This is a picture of a child bride at the beginning of the 20th century. Which Act was passed to prevent child marriage and when?

(ii) What did the Act mention?

Answers:

(i) In 1929, the Child Marriage Restraint Act was passed to prevent this practice.

(ii) According to the Act no man below the age of 18 and woman below the age of 16 could marry.

Question 2.



Questions:

(i) Who are these people? What are they doing in the picture.

(ii) What did they do for upper-caste landowners?

Answers:

- (i) These people are Dublas of Gujarat. In the picture, they are carrying mangoes to the market.
- (ii) Dublas did hard work for upper-caste landowners. They cultivated their lands and worked at a variety of odd jobs at the landowner's house.

***** END *****