

SESSION- 2022-2023

SECOND TERM

QUESTION BANK

HISTORY AND CIVICS

CLASS VIII

HISTORY CH-7 THE GREAT UPRISING OF 1857:

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. How were the economic policies of the British responsible for the Revolt of 1857?**

The British had changed the entire economic structure of India. Changes were introduced to suit their needs. The economic policies of the British that were responsible for the Revolt of 1857 are as follows:

- ❖ The introduction of the new land revenue system which allowed the government to confiscate land and accept revenue in cash brought about misery and suffering for the Indian peasants.
- ❖ With the coming of the Industrial Revolution, markets were flooded with machine-made goods, Indian industries could not compete with them and declined.
- ❖ There was constant drain of wealth from India to Britain, India's wealth was used to expand British trade and maintain their huge administrative staff in India.
- ❖ During the tenures of Bentinck and Dalhousie, thousands of Jagies of Zamindars and Taluqdars were confiscated, resulting in discontentment among the people who had been loyal to the British.

- 2. Discuss the social and religious causes responsible for the Revolt of 1857?**

The advent of British rule brought western culture with it. The Indians were alarmed by its spread and were suspicious of any change. The social and religious policies of the British that were responsible for the Revolt of 1857 are as follows:

- ❖ The British advocated many reforms such as abolition of Sati, infanticide, child marriage, widow remarriage. This caused discontent all over.

- ❖ The introduction of the railways and telegraph was viewed with fear and suspicion. They feared the British inventions.
- ❖ The introduction of western education was also viewed as an attack on the Indian social and religious customs.
- ❖ The Indians were treated with contempt by the British and were subject to humiliation in all walks of life.

3. Why do you think the Revolt of 1857 failed? Discuss any four causes for its failure?

The Revolt of 1857 failed due to the non-involvement of the masses, support of some rulers and sepoys to the British, lack of planning and leadership, and lack of communication.

Four causes of failure of revolt are:

- ❖ Though it was widespread, it failed to involve a large section of the population and different areas of the country.
- ❖ The revolt did not involve the masses. The people who joined the revolt were those who had been adversely affected by British rule and its policies.
- ❖ The British soldiers were better equipped than the Indian soldiers who fought with outdated weapons.
- ❖ The revolutionaries did not have enough resources for their struggle. The British were financially and militarily stronger.

4. Discuss the nature of the Uprising/Revolt of 1857.

Historians have held divergent views about the nature of the outbreak of 1857. British historians have painted it as 'a mutiny' confined to the army which did not command the support of the people at large.

Others described it as a 'religious war against the Christians' or 'a racial struggle for supremacy between the Black and the White.' A few described it the result of 'Hindu-Muslim conspiracy to overthrow the British rule.'

Some Indian nationalists have called it a well-planned national struggle and as 'the first war of Indian independence.'

GIVE REASONS:

1. State of Awadh was annexed by the British.

Awadh was annexed by the British on the grounds of maladministration despite being a loyal ally.

2. Indian artisans, weavers and craftsmen lost their means of livelihood.

With the coming of the Industrial Revolution, markets were flooded with machine-made goods, Indian industries could not compete with them and

declined. This is how the artisans, weavers and craftsmen lost their means of livelihood.

3. The Indian sepoy refused to bite the cartridges of the Enfield rifle

The British had introduced a new rifle 'Enfield' for the sepoy. The cartridges had to be bitten off before use. It was rumoured that these cartridges were greased with the fat of cows and pigs. This enraged the Hindus and Muslims as the cow was the holy animal of Hindus and the pig was considered taboo for the Muslims. Thus, Indian sepoy refused to bite the cartridges of the Enfield rifle.

PICTURE STUDY:



1. How far were the greased cartridges responsible for the Revolt.

The British had introduced a new rifle 'Enfield' for the sepoy. The cartridges had to be bitten off before use. It was rumoured that these cartridges were greased with the fat of cows and pigs. This enraged the Hindus and Muslims as the cow was the holy animal of Hindus and the pig was considered taboo for the Muslims. They felt that the British were doing this to defile their religions. Thus, Indian sepoy refused to bite the cartridges of the Enfield rifle.

2. Give your opinion as to how the Revolt would have been successful.

The Revolt of 1857 would have been successful if:

- ❖ It had touched the masses.
- ❖ Advanced artillery would have been used.
- ❖ It had been planned and well organised.

- ❖ It had sufficient military and finance resources.

HISTORY CH-9 THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM (I):

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

1. How did unification of India help to bring about a feeling of nationalism among the Indians?

The unification of India helped to bring about a feeling of nationalism among the Indians by the following methods:

- ❖ Under British rule India was united as one political unit.
- ❖ The uniformity in administration and laws gave rise to a feeling of oneness among the people.

2. How did modern education bring about unity among Indians?

The Indians who received modern education could now read western thought and literature. They were exposed to the revolutionary changes taking place in the West - the American and French Revolutions. They also became aware of the ideas of democracy, equality and nationalism. The Indians were now inspired by the ideas of nationalism and democracy.

3. Name two early All-India associations.

The two early All-India associations are as follows: The Bombay Association and The Madras Native Association.

4. Why was the need for establishing an all-India organisation, representing Indian opinion, an urgent necessity?

The need for an all-India organisation representing Indian opinion had been felt for a long time, but the immediate reasons which saw its birth, were the repressive policies, like The Arms Act and Removal of duties on British Goods etc., of the British in the 1870s and 1880s.

5. Differentiate between the methods of Early Nationalists and Radical Nationalists.

EARLY NATIONALISTS	RADICAL NATIONALISTS
They believed in Prayer and Petition.	.They believed in Protest.
They wanted autonomy or Swaraj within the British Empire.	They wanted freedom from the British/Colonial Rule.
Masses were not involved.	Masses were involved .
They had faith in the British system of administration and believed that India could develop by staying within the British empire.	They relied on their strength and criticised the policies of the early nationalists.

6. Which factors contributed to the building up of the feeling of nationalism in India?

The factors that contributed to the building up of feeling of nationalism in India are as follows:-

- ❖ Economic exploitation by the British
- ❖ Political and Administrative unification
- ❖ Economic changes
- ❖ Spread of modern education
- ❖ Role of the press
- ❖ Policies of Lord Lytton

7. List down the aims of Muslim League.

The aims of Muslim League are as follows :-

- ❖ To promote loyalty to the government
- ❖ To protect an advanced the interest of the Muslims
- ❖ To ensure that Muslims do not developed the feelings of towards other communities in India

8. Describe the provisions of the Government of India Act(1919).

In 1918, Edwin Montague, the Secretary of State, and Lord Chelmsford, the Viceroy, produced their scheme of constitutional reforms which led to the enactment of the Government of India Act of 1919. The Provincial Legislative Councils were enlarged and a majority of their members were to be elected. A new system called 'Dyarchy' was introduced in the provinces. Under this system, some subjects, such as finance and law and order, were called reserved subjects and remained under the direct control of the Governor.

9. Describe the constructive program introduced by Gandhiji.

The constructive programmes introduced by Gandhiji change the character of the national movement to a mass movement. He worked for the upliftment of the people living in the villages. He also worked towards removing untouchability.

He said that the majority of India's population lived in villages and hence our country could progress only if there was development in the villages, and encouraged setting up of small scale industries in villages. He also popularised Khadi. The charkha became an important symbol of his programmes.

PICTURE STUDY:



1. Identify and name them.

They are Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal; collectively known as LAL-BAL-PAL.

2. Write about the methods which they suggested.

They suggested the following methods:

- ❖ Involvement and participation of the masses
- ❖ Reviving popular festivals to spread political awakening among the people
- ❖ Preparing people for sacrifices in the interest of the nation

3. What was the famous slogan raised by Bal Gangadhar Tilak?

"Swaraj is my birthright and I must have it."

HISTORY CH-10 THE STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM:

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

1. Discuss the main aspects of the Non-Cooperation movement.

The main aspects of the Non-Cooperation are as follows:-

- ❖ It decided not to cooperate with the government by renunciation of titles
- ❖ Boycott of legislatures , resigning from government jobs
- ❖ Boycott of British Goods and many other activities
- ❖ The people refused to pay taxes

2. How and when did the Civil Disobedience Movement start? How did the government suppress it?

The Civil Disobedience Movement started on 12 March, 1930 when Gandhiji marched from his Sabarmati Ashram in Gujarat to Dandi. He carried on this march with 78 followers to break the Salt Law.

The government tried to suppress the movement with a stern hand. The British declared the Congress illegal. There was an uprising all over the country.

3. Why did the Congress pass the Quit India Resolution? How did the government react to it?

When the Second World War broke out in 1939, Britain dragged India into it without even consulting the Indians. The Congress said that if the British wanted their support, they must promise that India would be granted freedom as soon as the war was over. The All India Congress Committee met at Bombay on August 8, 1942 and passed the Quit India Resolution.

The government tried its best to curb it. Lathicharge and firing by the police became a common occurrence. The movement was the greatest mass challenge to British authority. It shook the foundations of British rule in India and showed the British that the masses had an immense capacity to suffer and die for the cause of freedom.

4. Discuss the main features of the Government of India Act , 1935?

The main provisions of the act were as follows:

- ❖ The Act provided for the establishment of an All India Federation.
- ❖ There was to be a bicameral federal legislature.
- ❖ Only 14 percent of the total population in British India was given the right to vote.
- ❖ The federal legislature was denied any real power .
- ❖ Defence and foreign affairs remained outside its control, while the Viceroy retained special control over the other subjects.
- ❖ The Viceroy and the Governors were to be appointed by the British Government and were to be responsible to it.
- ❖ A new system of government was to be organised in provinces on the basis of provincial autonomy.
- ❖ Governors were given powers to veto any legislation and also to legislate on their own.

5. Why did India accept the partition proposal even though it did not accept the two-nation theory?

Lord Mountbatten came to India in March, 1947 as the new Viceroy. He held several rounds of discussion with M.A. Jinnah, Mahatma Gandhi, J.L. Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel and others. He presented a plan for the division of India into two independent states India and Pakistan.

The Congress agreed to the plan of partition not because of any faith in the two-nation theory but because it felt that there was no other way to achieve freedom and prevent death and destruction.

6. Discuss the contribution of INA in the freedom struggle.

The Indian National Army (INA) was formed with the aim to get freedom from British rule. It comprised Indian prisoners of war Subhas Chandra Bose became the Supreme Commander of the INA. He proceeded to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (which the Japanese had taken away from the British) and hoisted India's flag there. He then conquered Imphal and Kohima. But the victory

was short-lived. Britain re-established control over Burma. The INA was defeated. Japan surrendered after the atom bomb attacks.

7. Discuss the main clauses of the Indian Independence Act of 1947.

On the basis of the MountBatten Plan of June 3,1947 the British Parliament passed the Indian Independence Act on July 16,1947. The main clauses of the Indian Independence Act of 1947 are as follows:-

- ❖ Two independent dominions, namely India and Pakistan, shall be set up in 1947.
- ❖ The British Government was to have control over the affairs of the dominions after August 15, 1947 and would transfer all their powers to the Assemblies of India and Pakistan.
- ❖ The office of the Viceroy was to end forthwith and replaced by a separate Governor-General for each Dominion.
- ❖ The Constituent Assemblies of both the Dominions would frame their respective Constitutions.
- ❖ The Constituent Assembly of each Dominion shall exercise the power of the Central Legislature.
- ❖ The Legislature of each of the new Dominions shall have full powers to make laws for that Dominion.
- ❖ The right of the king to veto laws was given up. This right was given to the Governor- General.
- ❖ Till the new Constitution was framed, each of the dominions and all Provinces were to be governed in accordance with the Act of 1935.
- ❖ The states would have the choice to join with either of the dominions or to retain their independence.
- ❖ (The Governor-General was given the powers to modify or adopt the Government of India Act, 1935 by March 31, 1948.
- ❖ The office of the Secretary of State for India was to be abolished.
- ❖ Agreements with the tribes of the NWFP were to be negotiated by the Dominion concerned.

PICTURE STUDY:



1. Which conference is in progress?

The Second Round Table Conference is in progress.

2. When and where was this conference held?

It was held in September, 1934 in England.

3. Who were the main participants in this conference?

Among others Gandhiji, B.R. Ambedkar, Madan Mohan Malviya and Agha Khan participated in this conference.

4. What was the result of this conference ?

The British government refused to concede the basic nationalist demand for freedom, on the basis of the immediate grant of Dominion Status. There was no conclusion again at the conference and it ended in a failure.

CIVICS CH-3 JUDICIARY:

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

1. Why is the Judiciary important?

The Judiciary is important because when the legislature makes laws and the executive carries them out, it is the job of the Judiciary to interpret or explain the meaning of these laws and to give punishment to the law breakers.

2. What is the composition of the supreme court?

The Supreme Court consists of the Chief Justice and not more than 33 other judges (as on 16 August, District Courts and 2019).

The Chief Justice is appointed by the President of India. Other judges are also appointed by the President in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Supreme

Court. The Chief Justice and other judges of the Supreme Court hold office till they complete sixty five years of age.

3. Who appoints the judges of the Supreme Court? What are the qualifications of a Supreme Court?

The President of India appoints the judges of the Supreme Court.

The qualification of a Supreme Court are as follows:

- ❖ He must be a citizen of India.
- ❖ He should either be a distinguished jurist, or
- ❖ He should have been a High Court Judge for at least five years, or
- ❖ He should have been an advocate of a High Court for at least ten years.

4. Describe the powers and functions of the High Court of India. What type of cases come before the High Court of India?

The powers and functions of the High Court of India are as follows:

- ❖ Original Jurisdiction: The original field of the judicial functions of the High Court is very limited. Cases relating to Fundamental Rights, divorce, wills and laws relating to marriage can be brought directly to a High Court.
- ❖ Appellate Jurisdiction: Appeals in civil and criminal cases are made to the High Court against the decision of the subordinate courts. The High Court supervises the functions of all the subordinate courts in the state.

5. What are the functions of a District Judge?

The District Judge exercises the powers of the appellate court and hears the appeals against the judgement and decree passed by the civil judges. When the district judge deals with the criminal cases, he is known as the session judge.

6. Distinguish between civil and criminal cases?

<u>Civil Cases</u>	<u>Criminal Cases</u>
These cases pertain to family matters like property disputes, marriage disputes, contracts, damage to goods, etc.	These cases concern thefts, robberies, killing, physical injury, rioting, etc.

7. Explain various types of writs. When are they issued?

The various types of writs are as follows:

- ❖ The writ of Habeas Corpus
- ❖ The writ of Prohibition
- ❖ The writ of Certiorari
- ❖ The writ of Mandamus
- ❖ The writ of Quo Warranto

- ❖ The writ of Habeas Corpus: It means 'to have a body'. By issuing such a writ, the court can get the body of any person released if it has been unlawfully captured by any person, a group of persons or by the State itself.
- ❖ The writ of Prohibition: Such a type of writ is an order from a superior court- the Supreme Court or a High Court- to an inferior court to stop proceedings in a case which it, in the opinion of the higher court, might be contemplating to do in excess of its jurisdiction.
- ❖ The writ of Certiorari: The writ is issued by a superior court to a judicial or quasi-judicial authorities in order to quash its order or decision.
- ❖ The writ of Mandamus: This writ is a sort of command from a superior court to a subordinate court or an administrative authority in case they refuse to exercise their jurisdiction and fail to perform their duty.
- ❖ Quo Warranto: This writ prevents an unlawful claimant from holding a superior public office.

Writs are issued when the Fundamental Rights are being eroded, abridged, or infringed upon by any person, group of persons or the State itself.

8. Mention the significance of Lok Adalat.

The Lok Adalat is a voluntary forum which settles disputes between the conflicting groups. These Lok Adalats have proved very effective in providing speedy justice to people. They provide justice without much expenditure.

The disputing parties are encouraged to settle their disputes amicably or through dialogue. Free legal aid is given to people who cannot afford to engage lawyers.

CIVICS CH-4 THE UNITED NATIONS

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

1. Why and when was the UNO formed?

The UNO was formed because the people were devastated after the destruction of the Second World War. The major allied powers agreed to establish the UNO(United Nations Organisation), an international organisation to maintain and work for world peace, poverty, injustice, hunger, etc. Therefore to conclude, it was formed to save the world from still another catastrophe of the magnitude of the Second World War.

It was established on October 24, 1945.

2. What are the objectives and principles of the UNO?

Some of the objectives of the UNO are as follows:

- ❖ To save the succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold suffering to mankind.

- ❖ To maintain international peace and security.
- ❖ To cooperate in solving international problems of social, economic, cultural, and humanitarian character and to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedom.

Some of the principles of the UNO are listed below:

- ❖ The member-states shall fulfil their obligations honestly according to the charter of the UNO.
- ❖ All the member-states shall solve their mutual problems through peaceful means.
- ❖ No member-state shall interfere in the internal affairs of any other member-state.

3. Name the chief organs of the UNO and list down their functions.

There are six principal organs of the UN. They are listed below with their respective functions:

The General Assembly:

- ❖ It supervises the work of the other organs.
- ❖ Admits new members of the UNO on the recommendation of the Security Council
- ❖ Elects ten(temporary) members of the Security Council, members of the Economic and Social Council, and members of the Trusteeship Council from amongst its own members.
- ❖ Receives and discusses the reports of its main organs and takes decisions for their improvement.
- ❖ Can draw the attention of member-states to provide human rights to their citizens
- ❖ Passes the annual budget of the UNO.
- ❖ Anytime a state threatens the peace in a particular part of the world, it draws the attention of the Security Council.

The Security Council:

- ❖ It can ask the fighting states to resolve their bilateral talks.
- ❖ It can order military action against a state which persists in undermining the peace and security of the world.
- ❖ It recommends the admission of a new member to the UNO.
- ❖ It recommends the name of person for his appointment as the Secretary-General of the UNO.
- ❖ It can recommend to call a meeting of the General Assembly in an emergency.

The Economic and Social Council:

- ❖ The main function of this Council is to promote economic and social cooperation, among the member states of the UN.

The Trusteeship Council:

- ❖ Its main function is to safeguard the interest of those territories that are not yet fully self-governing.

International Court of Justice:

- ❖ The International Court of Justice's function is to settle disputes between the member-states of the United Nations.

The Secretariat:

- ❖ It is in charge of all administrative works and looks after the administration of the affairs of the UNO.

4. Name the official languages of the UNO.

English, French, Russian, Chinese, Arabic, and Spanish are the official languages of the UNO. The speeches of the delegates are translated simultaneously into all these languages. English and French are the commonly used languages.

5. How does the UNO manage its funds?

The UNO is financed by the contributions made by its member states. The amount is determined by the General Assembly on the recommendations of its committee on contributions.

6. Describe the UNO flag. Draw and colour it.

The UN flag represents two bent olive branches open at the top over a blue background. The branches of the wreath symbolise peace.



7. Name the permanent members of the UNO.

The permanent members of the UNO are the USA(United States of America), UK(United Kingdom), France, China and Russia.