TLP MAINS 2016 COMPILATION
GENERAL STUDIES 1

The message of universal rights underlying the French Revolution was beset with contradictions. Do you agree? Substantiate.

Introduction:
The French Revolution was a composite movement caused mainly as a result of discontent due to a centralized despotic government, class privilege and absolute rule.

The revolution spread new principles of government, ideas of social organization, theories of rights of man and was thus a challenge to the established norms.

Body:
French revolution (1789) started a new chapter of liberty, equality and fraternity worldwide. It was perceived as the ideological ground of subsequent revolutions.

n the contrary , there are examples which reveal that message of universal rights underlying the French Revolution was beset with contradictions. Although it managed to topple monarchy and established a new government, but there were many contradictions as well:

1. **Government dominated by bourgeois**. The working class and peasantry were side-lined.
2. **Voting:** though popular form of government was conceived, yet voting was limited to only men of 25 years of age
3. **Equality:** though all humans were declared equals, only men had rights, women were only passive citizens
4. **Liberty:** though it was one of crucial part of Declaration, yet the Reign of terror saw many political executions where many intellectuals were guillotined.
5. **Income inequalities:** the post revolution period saw the shift towards imperialism and capitalism, voting was based on property criteria.
6. **Republic:** French revolution declared France as the Republic but post-revolution contradictions led to the rise of monarchy under Napoleon.
7. **Colonies:** French revolution projected French as the liberators of man but they turned out to be oppressors who acquired many colonies by conquests and wars.

Conclusion:
Write a brief conclusion.

Best answer: PEEKU

The French Revolution is not merely an event of history; it is a living legend. The ideals of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity are eternal contributions of this Revolution. However, the

message of Universal Rights underlying the French Revolution was beset with contradictions:

The law had the right to forbid only the actions "injurious to society" and had nothing to say about criminal offences against other individuals.
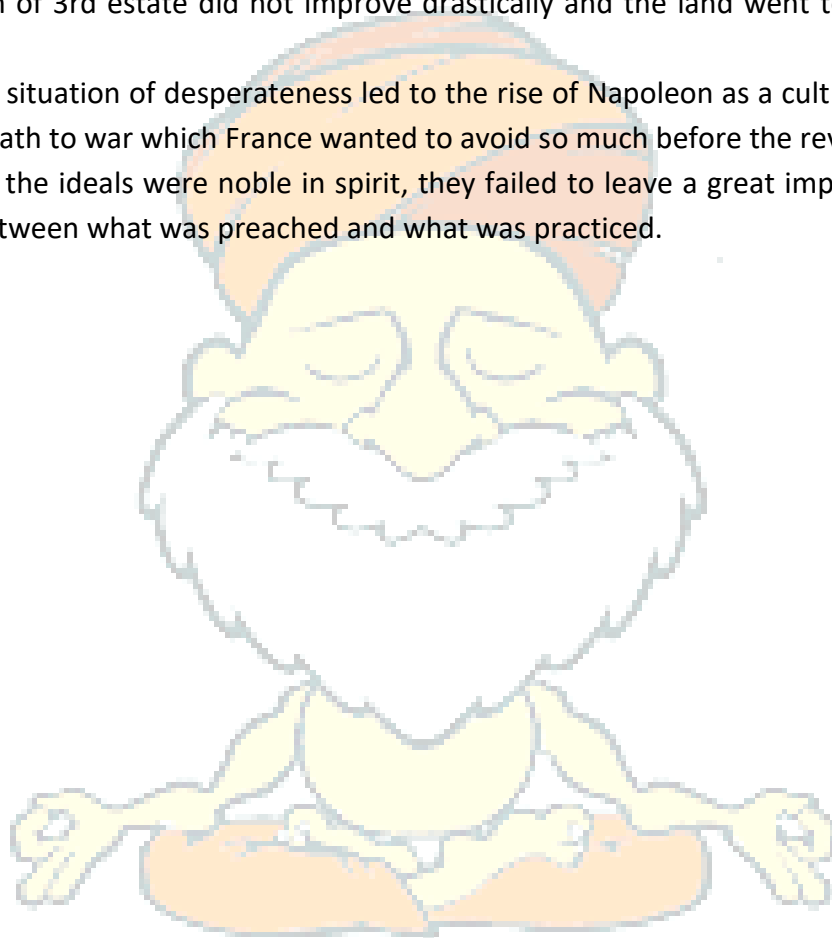
Even though the declaration advocated the right of ALL citizens to participate in the formation of law, many citizens including men who did not pay sufficient taxes, women and all men under age of 25 were not allowed to vote at all.

The Jacobeans unleashed a reign of terror and 'Revolutionary tribunal' was formed to deal with moderates. Constitution was suspended and thousands were murdered.

The condition of 3rd estate did not improve drastically and the land went to the hands of capitalists.

The resultant situation of desperateness led to the rise of Napoleon as a cult figure who led France on a path to war which France wanted to avoid so much before the revolution.

Thus, though the ideals were noble in spirit, they failed to leave a great impact. There was difference between what was preached and what was practiced.

What do you understand by the term 'enlightenment' in the historical context? What were the core concepts that drove enlightenment in Europe? Discuss.

Before answering any question, identify the demand areas. For instance, in this question we have to identify two demands:

- Enlightenment should be explained 'in the historical context'
- 'Core concepts' that drove enlightenment in Europe + 'Discuss'

Introduction should cover the following:

Try to explain the historical setting or mood before Enlightenment in Europe (preconditions).

- How freedom of thought was banned, how obstacle to its development was not from the state but came from the Catholic Church. (Add example – Galileo was imprisoned for his heretical ideas)
- Natural and social 'orders' were believed to be creation of God, and therefore not the affairs of men.
- How medieval society slipped into barbarism and ignorance.
- How early Middle Ages witnessed a stupefying decline in levels of education and literacy.

Explain the journey from Dark Age to enlightenment. (explain the term Enlightenment)

- Now explain Enlightenment by highlighting the shift from that Dark age to radical change in thinking and socio-economic setting, shift from church dominating all spheres of life etc.
- The Victory of Reason
- Orthodox, superstitious and illogical thinking gave way to reasoning and logical behavior in every aspect of life , be it social, religious and political

In Body, focus on core concepts that drove enlightenment (priority to be given to important points first):

- The three revolutions: Industrial Revolution, Scientific Revolution and Social and Political Revolution (Explain each in few lines with examples)
- Work of thinkers such as Liberalism, Individualism, Rationality etc. (Try to provide examples of few philosophers and early scholars).

Scientific Revolution: works of Astronomers and Mathematicians such as Kepler, Galileo and Newton. Their ideas got diffused in Europe and seriously challenged the conventional ideas of those days.

Awareness came about with the growth of historical scholarship, but more importantly with the technological and social changes of late 18th century.

Political Revolution: Philosophical movements stressed humans to oppose the supernatural understanding of society and questioned the doctrines of the Church such as natural and social orders were creations of god.

Politically, the spread of doctrines of equality, liberty and nationhood had tremendous repercussion in America and Europe.
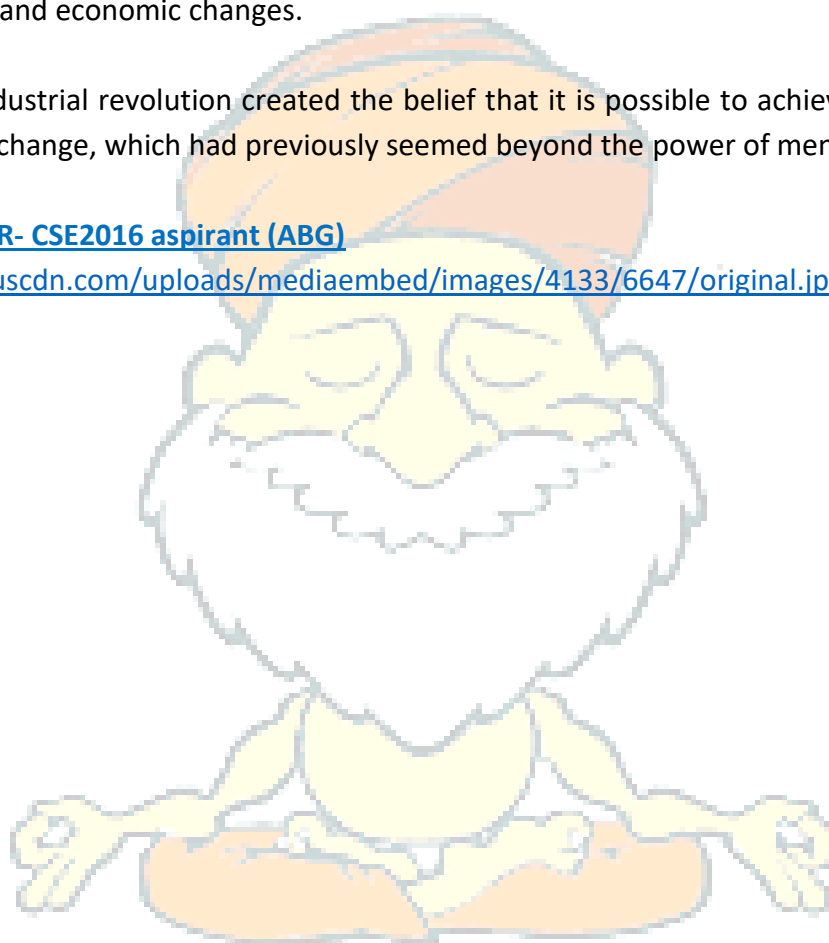
We can add works of Matin Luther, Voltaire, Locke.

Industrial Revolution: How geographical discoveries and exploration of world created drastic social and economic changes.

Trade and industrial revolution created the belief that it is possible to achieve control over the forces of change, which had previously seemed beyond the power of men.

BEST ANSWER- CSE2016 aspirant (ABG)
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How did mercantilism give rise to colonialism and industrial revolution? Analyse.

In this question, there are three key terms and you are asked to analyse the connection between the three.

The Three key terms are- Mercantalism, Colonialism and Industrial Revolution.

In introduction, you need to define what mercantilism is:

Mercantalism basically is economic theory which means the involvement of Government in trading activity to gain maximum profit. This can be done by adopting a protectionist policy, i.e imposing high tax on imports and giving tax exemptions to exports, or by influencing other regimes politically.

Mercantalism -> Colonisation:

Before industrial revolution, agricultural revolution came which generated surplus money and people invested it in trading. Trading generated more money. Also traders started voyages to far off lands to find new markets. These merchants started making political relations with foreign governments to earn more profits. Foreign lands not only provided a large market but also cheap raw materials and labour. To have more control over these resources, European countries started colonizing them. Hence European countries entered the third world countries as traders but then colonized them.

Mercantalism-> Industrial Revolution:

Industrialisation was going on in Europe (especially Britain) parallel to colonization. Mercantalism generated more capital to be invested in local industries. It created markets in far off lands for cheap mass produced products. As more demand was created, industrialists were forced to modernize, which lead to several technological and scientific inventions giving impetus to industrial revolution.

Mercantalism also lead to bitter rivalry amongst the European nations to earn more profit which further lead to more colonisation and industrialization.

(Note: This is just a rough framework, more points can be added. Also it is not written in an answer form. You need to have proper introduction and conclusion.)

Best Answer: The Credible Hulk

Mercantilism, refers to the idea that trade and commerce generates wealth and is hence, a effective means for progress as a social group. Competition and innovation are key identifiers of the same.
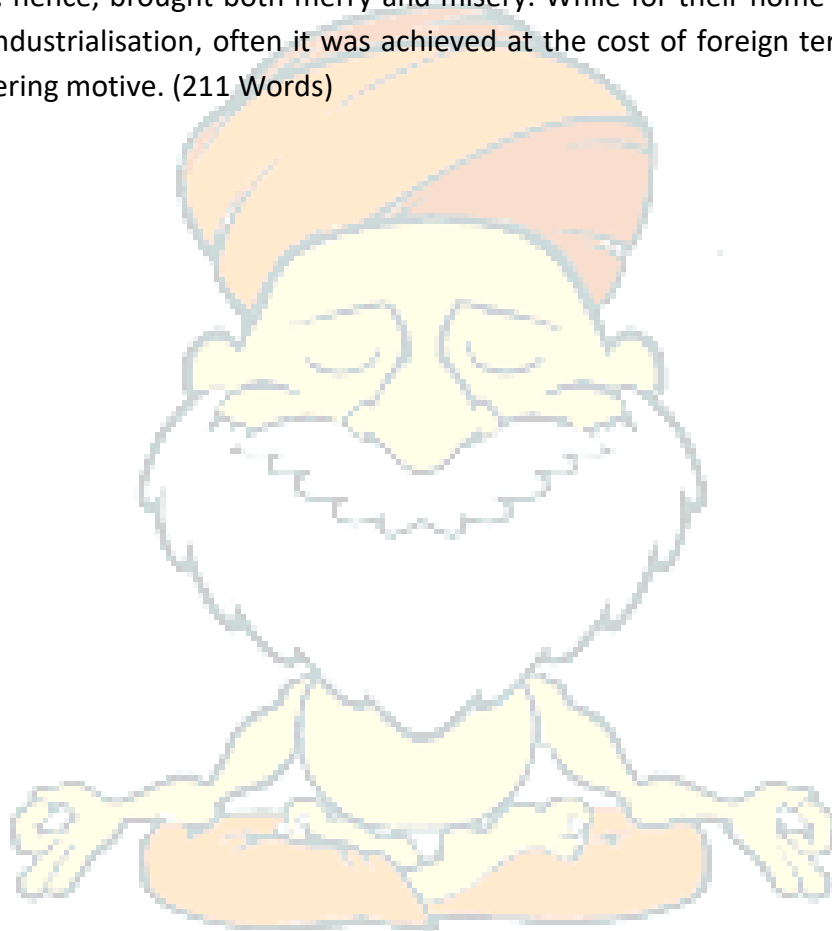
State mercantilism rose significantly in the 16th century Europe with enlightenment and rising propensy of people to acquire material pleasures. But a country has limited resources – both in quantity and quality. Advent of communication and transportation

innovations encouraged mercantilists to explore more areas, particularly in Latin America and Asia, which could serve both as source of raw materials and prospective markets.

Without a concrete political presence in the foreign lands, this assurance of unfettered raw material supply and stable markets was not sustainable and this slowly metamorphosed in the form of Colonialism.

Demand and supply further rose and encouraged mass production. Discovery of resource rich areas, scientific innovations like steam engine, spindles, etc., labour availability and urbanisation made it viable for the merchants to produce more and earn profits. The process which begun with the mass production of cotton clothes slowly became the first Industrial Revolution.

Mercantilism, hence, brought both merry and misery. While for their home nations, it was the seed of industrialisation, often it was achieved at the cost of foreign territories due to sheer profiteering motive. (211 Words)

Colonialism was a specific structure which was neither capitalist nor pre capitalist. Rather it was a combination of semi feudal and semi colonial elements. Do you agree? Substantiate.

- Here, the question is in the form of a statement. The evaluator wants your opinion, whether the given statement is correct or wrong.
- Evaluator wants you to provide justification for your opinion by giving some evidences (examples) and since it is world history, evaluator expects you to provide examples/evidences of structure of colonialism in other countries as well.

Introduction:

In this paragraph you have to give your opinion along with some sentences explaining why colonialism is a unification of all the above structures, why it has overlapping features with many ideologies and not purely a capitalist or feudalistic.

1) You can compare the principles of capitalism or feudalism with colonialism.

Colonialism does mean the introduction of capitalist relations of production or capitalist structure into trade, industry, agriculture and banking; the introduction of bourgeois state structure, legal and property relations, but not the development of capitalist production or productive powers. The structure of colonialism cannot be considered as capitalist as there is no capitalist development when the social forces of production are not developed nor constantly revolutionized.

Or

2) simply, define colonialism, capitalism and feudalism. Explain the exploitative nature of colonialism, non laissez-faire nature, welfare was not the motive and also explain why it was not purely pre-capitalist.

Body:

Provide evidences of different colonies, how colonialism had combination of semi feudal and semi colonial elements.

The development of agrarian relations in the colonies—India, Indonesia, Egypt and Latin America—provides an interesting example of semi-feudal structure of colonialism.

There were massive efforts to transform pre-colonial agriculture into capitalist agriculture. But since this was done under colonial conditions, the result was a semi-feudal, semi-colonial agriculture dominated by the colonial state, world capitalist market, landlords, merchants and moneylenders and exhibiting many capitalist features—bourgeois property relations, commercialization and other elements of capitalist agriculture.

Provide examples of polices such as permanent settlement, zamindari system, subsidiary alliance etc., slavery in Africa and forced labour (Begar) in India.

Semi colonial elements such as African and Indian colonies were made supplier of raw material and market for European produced manufactured products.

Policies such as one way free trade policy followed by European countries, imperial power wanting to control the political and social system of their colonies with the little efforts for their improvement, influence by spreading Christianity, non-association of natives in legislative and executive functions. Also many colonies were not subjugated directly but were brought under spheres of influence by colonial powers.

Best answer 1: veracity29

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Best answer 2: Heidi

The traditional elements prevailing in the colonies were stronger than the modernizing events in the capitalist world. The remnants of feudal and semi-feudal elements in the colonies have been utilized for exploitation and suppression by the colonial powers.

Colonialism was neither Capitalist nor Pre-Capitalist because,

1- The method and relation of production was not modern but traditional (absence of major industries and factories)
2- The economy wasn't purely capitalist, but was based on feudal land ownership system (Zamindars, hereditary-rights, land-grants)
3- Failed attempts to modernize the colonies due to strong traditional elements (casteism, forced-labour)
4- Failed land-revenue systems causing stagnant production and revenue-losses (permanent-settlement didn't favor capitalism)

Semi-feudal & Semi-colonial Elements

1- Colonialism continued a land-revenue system based on feudal exploitation (Zamindari-system, high-revenue).
2- Society and economy were based on land ownership which dictated social order. (Landed-aristocracy, unsecured-peasants)
3- Imposed rules and laws irrespective of the conditions in the colonies. (White man's-burden, imperialism)
4- Non-association of natives in legislative and executive functions especially the landless and downtrodden (Voting-right based on land-ownership, appeasement by titles)

Colonialists and landed aristocracy shared strong association and mutual support through out the colonial history. They supported each other. Feudal elements made economic and

social exploitation easier for imperialist. This makes us in agreement with the fact that, colonialism was a combination of semi feudal and semi colonial elements.

How did the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire lead to the First World War? What were the immediate political fallouts of the war? Discuss.

Introduction:

Balkan which constitutes present day Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia and Herzegovina etc. was ruled by Ottoman Empire but since 1870s people of the area who were called as Slavs started to question the authority and wanted to overthrow the monarchy by internal reforms.

Body:

1- This led to the weakening of empire which made the region a hot bed of rivalry for territory and trade among then major European powers like Britain, Germany, Russia and Austria-Hungry.
2- European powers which were opposed to each other in Europe were prepared to collaborate when dealing with the Ottoman Empire. Because France had occupied Tunisia in 1881, and Britain had occupied Egypt in 1882, they both agreed, between 1902 and 1905, that Italy should acquire the Ottoman Province of Libya.
3- Bosnia and Herzegovina, which was a Slav dominated region was put under the protection of Austria. This led to hostility between Austria and Further, Austria had signed tripartite alliance with Germany and Italy.
4- This rivalry led to assassination of duke of Austria which became the immediate cause for the WW1.

Political fallouts:

1- **End of the four dynasties** : Austro-Hapsburg empire, Germany empire, Czar empire of Russia, and Ottoman empire.
2- **Emergence of newly independent states** : Because of disintegration of Ottoman empire, Hapsburg empire such as Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.
3- **Emergence of new super powers:** USA ended its isolation and developed hegemony over world. Japan emerged as superpower in Asian continent.
4- **Self-determination movements:** Intensification of self-determination movements in the colonies of Asia and Africa.
5- **League of Nations:** league of nations emerged as the world body to prevent future catastrophe of previous scale.

Conclusion:

Write a brief conclusion.
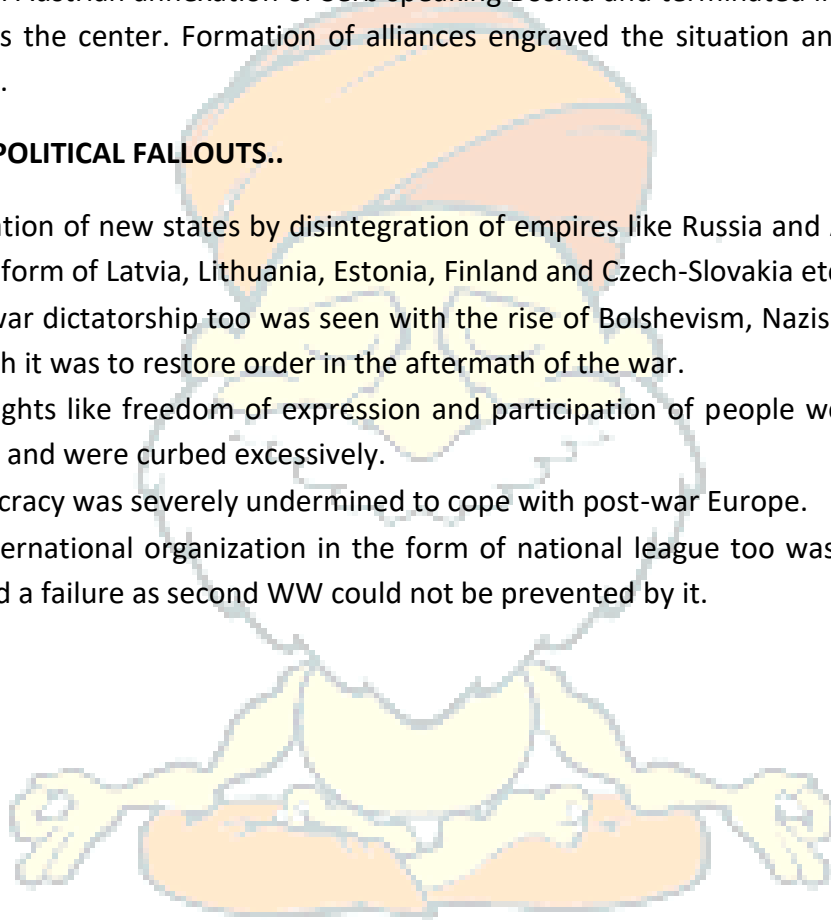
Best answer: BHAWANA

Morocco crisis and Balkan crisis are two important landmarks for the development of WW 1. The former was however not culminated in war but the later lead to the surge of nationalism.

Balkan which constitutes present day Romania, Bulgaria, Serbia, Croatia and Herzegovina etc. was ruled by Ottoman Empire but since 1870s people of the area who were called as Slavs started to question the authority and wanted to overthrow the monarchy by internal reforms. This led to the weakening of empire which made the region a hot bed of rivalry for territory and trade among then major European powers like Britain, Germany, Russia and Austria-Hungry.

It started with Austrian annexation of Serb speaking Bosnia and terminated in series of wars with Serbia as the center. Formation of alliances engraved the situation and came out as WW1 in 1914.

IMMEDIATE POLITICAL FALLOUTS..

- Formation of new states by disintegration of empires like Russia and Austria-Hungry in the form of Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Finland and Czech-Slovakia etc.
- Post war dictatorship too was seen with the rise of Bolshevism, Nazism and fascism. Though it was to restore order in the aftermath of the war.
- Civil rights like freedom of expression and participation of people were deemed as threat and were curbed excessively.
- Democracy was severely undermined to cope with post-war Europe.
- An international organization in the form of national league too was formed but it proved a failure as second WW could not be prevented by it.

Rise of Nazism in Germany and that of Fascism is Italy during the inter war period were two different yet similar developments that laid the foundation of the Second World War. Elucidate.

- In the above question, the following keywords are to be taken care of- **Nazism, Fascism, Different yet similar and how they laid foundation of WW2.**
- It is a straight forward factual question, which many aspirants have answered very nicely.

Introduction:

WW I gave birth to two ideologies – Fascism in Italy and Nazism in Germany, which changed the course of World Politics and economics. Italian were dissatisfied by perceived injustice by Allied forces that they did not give deserved share to Italy in war exploits. Germany was forced to accept the one sided terms of Treaty of Versailles, which created a feeling of vengeance amongst the Germans.

Similarities:

- Both were based on Jingoistic Nationalism. They fed on the emotions of their countrymen.
- Both Mussolini and Hitler, were strong dictators who infused their ideology into general public through press and educational institutions.
- Both the countries followed expansionist policy and tried to expand their borders by means of force. They both encouraged wars and believed in the concept of "might is right".
- They were strongly against communism and any sort of democracy.

Dissimilarities:

- Fascism believed in superiority of the nation (Italy) which Nazism was based in superiority of Race as well as nation. The kind of atrocities seen against Jews under Nazi regime was not seen under Fascist regime of Italy.
- Hitler did mix religion with government matters but Mussolini allied with the Church.
- Mussolini initially was against Germany supported the allied nations, but later was influenced by Hitler's style of rule and allied with him.

Events leading to WW2

Germany and Italy both encouraged arms race and manufactured sophisticated weapons like warplanes, submarines etc. Germany even made conscription compulsory.

Although this was not liked by other European powers, but they neglected it as Both of them were against communism.

Both Germany and Italy neglected the presence of League of Nations, which was a toothless organization. They kept following expansionist policy and what league did was to slam weak sanctions, which were ignored by them.

Due to aggressive policy of Nazis and Fascists, expansion of army and accumulation of arms, a war of catastrophic scale became imminent.

Best Answer 1: Night Fury

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(The answer is not complete yet presentation and content is very good.)

Best Answer 2: The Credible Hulk

Nazism and Fascism arose during the same period and although Hitler attributed Mussolini as his ideological mentor, the two movements were quite different:

- Nazism was based on the ideology of racial superiority, Fascism was more driven by nationalism.
- Nazism committed massive ethnic cleansing while Fascism had no such agenda.
- While Fascism was more a response to the economic and diplomatic under-performance of the incumbent communist government, Nazism bred out of enormous humiliation of Germany by the Allies at the end of WWI.

That said, there were a few crucial similarities between the two which contributed to intra-regional tensions laying the foundation of WWII:

- Extreme nationalism and severe muffling of the political dissenters.
- Policy of expansionism and military up-scaling.
- Severe dislike of the extra-state actors' interference in domestic affairs which was perceived to be done to undermine national security.

Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, were gradually drawn together in an alliance, further aggravating the security dilemma of the Allies. Germany's invasion of Poland turned out to be the last straw culminating into the full scale WWII.(175 Words)

Atrocities against Dalits are on a rise and so is the assertion of Dalit identity and rights. Are we witnessing a Dalit uprising in the country? Give your opinion on the issue.

For answering this type of questions, you should first analyze the question and identify the demand areas. Most of the answers have Dadri lynching etc. as the example and also have wrong facts in the answers. Please avoid.

Here, question is asking for your opinion on whether we are witnessing a Dalit uprising in the country or not. So you can argue by telling what do you understand by 'uprising' and why it can be considered as an uprising or is it just a movement of small faction.

Introduction:

You can start with giving historical examples of BR Ambedkar, Jyotiba Phule, Dalit panthers etc. and then link it with the present scenario.

OR

You can also start with giving details of recent events of atrocities etc.

Body:

Are Atrocities against Dalits rising?

- Historically, Dalit Movement is the result of the constant hatred being generated from centuries from the barbaric activities of the upper castes of India. Since Dalits were assigned the duties of serving the other three Varnas, that is all the non– Dalit, they were deprived of higher training of mind and were denied social-economic and political status.
- But in recent times, the safeguards provided by Constitution and efforts of leaders like B R Ambedkar, Babu Jagjeevan Ram, Kashiram, Mayawati etc we have seen the rise in social conditions of Dalits.
- So there is a threat to traditional post bearers as the educated Dalit is not only rising its voice but also asserting its identity socially, politically and economically as well.
- This is why the atrocities against them are rising slightly. Apart from that, Rise of new media – (Social media, 24 X 7 tv) also helped them gaining mass audiences and the instances of atrocities are getting attention.

Is it an uprising?

Technically uprising means a usually violent effort by many people to change the government or leader of a country. However, in this case, even though there were some violent protests happened but over its more of like a silent uprising where efforts have been made in every single dimension to improve their position and standing. Rising education level, economic status, presence in bureaucracy, politics shows the same.

Conclusion:

So overall we can say that due to changing economic and political standing of Dalits, social change started happening and which resulted into the conflicts and atrocities. But due to the rising awareness about their fundamental and political rights, Dalits are able to assert and fight back against it. In coming days it will help in improving their social standing too.

Additional Info:

Rise in education level of SC/ST – according to Census 2011

Primary occupies the top position in terms of percentage share to total literates in 2011 for both total (24.1 per cent) and SCs (27.7 per cent) and for STs, it is below primary (29 per cent).

The percentage share of graduate and above to population of 15 years and above has shown improvement from 5.7 per cent to 8.2 per cent for total, 2.2 per cent to 4.1 per cent for SCs and 1.5 per cent to 2.6 per cent for STs during 2001-11.

The percentage share of graduate degree other than technical degree to total graduate and above has declined by 7.2 per cent for total, 7.7 per cent for SCs and 7.5 per cent for STs during the decade 2001-2011.

Best Answer: Mukesh MAX

The past year or so has seen a number of incidents involving atrocities against Dalits. The clashes between Dalits and upper castes have been quite common even in independent India, especially in rural areas. But the latest incidents like Dalits being **beaten by "cow vigilantes"** in Gujrat etc. have set a bad precedent.

But the new Dalit class is not passive. **Educated, employed and self-sustaining Dalits are equally assertive of their fundamental rights** like any other castes.

Moreover, the **new Dalit class is not ashamed of its identity** in social milieu but is highly assertive of its entitlements and vociferously protests any cattiest bias/activity that hurts them. The recent protests against the atrocities are a testimony to this. Also, the new Dalit entrepreneurs class (like DICCI) is changing Dalit's image from a "job seeker" to "job provider" and entering into the domains that were traditionally the stronghold of higher castes.

Is there a Dalit uprising happening?

Dalit uprising is surely happening in the spheres of education, social upliftment and with respect to their entitled rights. But if uprising connotes to overhauling the system towards

an egalitarian society, then it is far away from it. It is because Dalits are separated by geographies, access to public services and literacy level. A complete uprising can only occur when Dalits emerge as an integrated class and voice their uniform opinion.

What do you understand by the term 'geomagnetism'? What causes the earth to behave as a magnet? Has earth's magnetic field changed in it's geological past? Discuss its implications.

The earth acts as a giant bar magnet with its magnetic field range up to 60,000km. This phenomenon is called 'Geo-magnetism'. The magnetic north pole lies near the geographic South Pole and vice-versa.

Causes:

The earth contains a liquid lower mantle and outer core, with a solid metallic inner core. Due to extreme heat and pressure, the liquid metals, mainly Nickel and iron, are in ionic/charged plasma form. This molten metal is in constant motion due to convectional currents. Because of this constant motion of charge around a metallic centre, a very strong magnetic field is generated. The earth acts like a large solenoid. Magnetic field is also affected by rotation of the earth, ionosphere, and on local scale by large transformers, trains and aircrafts etc.

Changing of Magnetic field:

The magnetic field keeps on changing with time, and the poles get shifted. Since conventional currents do not follow the same path, the fields generated by them keep changing. This is evident by the study of fossils and paleo-magnetism (the alignment of dipole in rocks due to magnetic field.). It has also been found that magnetic poles completely reversed several times in geological history. But these changes are not sudden.

Implications:

- Magnetosphere of earth protects us from solar flares and ions. It deflects the charged particles towards poles and creates an impenetrable shield around the earth. If it weakens, the solar flares will reach the earth's surface and cause irreversible damage to flora and fauna.
- Magnetism helps in navigation. A change will make communication satellite, GPS, Compasses go haywire.
- Change in geomagnetism, will affect migratory pattern of birds.

(More points can be added).

Best Answer 1: Dreamz Unlimited

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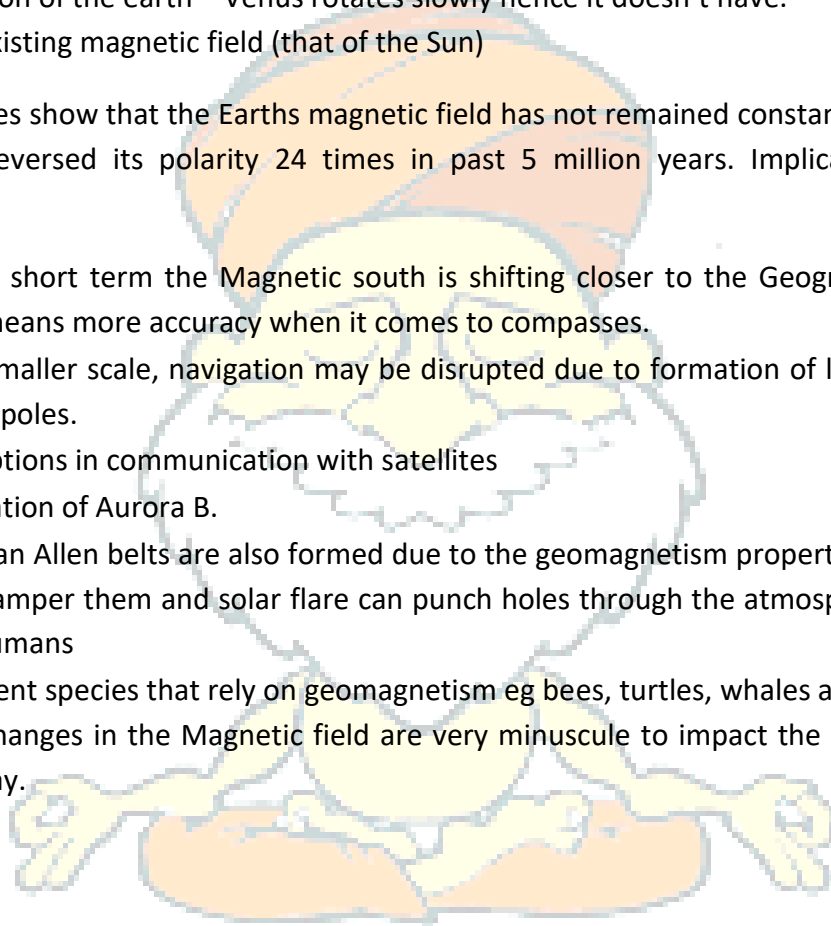
Best Answer 2: Karim Khan

Geomagnetism is a phenomena associated with the Earth's Magnetic Field. The fundamental principle lies in the fact that the earth behaves like a huge magnet with its magnetic north and south poles coinciding with the geographic south and north poles respectively. It has helped in revealing much about how the earth works.

Until recently, the causes for the existence of magnetic field were debated. It is now believed that the following 4 reasons are responsible-

1- Conducting Fluid (molten iron in the outer core)
2- Convection of sufficient magnitude in order to produce the currents to induce magnetic field.
3- Rotation of the earth – Venus rotates slowly hence it doesn't have.
4- Pre-existing magnetic field (that of the Sun)

Various studies show that the Earths magnetic field has not remained constant. In fact it has completely reversed its polarity 24 times in past 5 million years. Implications of such changes:

- In the short term the Magnetic south is shifting closer to the Geographical North. This means more accuracy when it comes to compasses.
- At a smaller scale, navigation may be disrupted due to formation of local north and south poles.
- Disruptions in communication with satellites
- Formation of Aurora B.
- The Van Allen belts are also formed due to the geomagnetism properties. Weak field can hamper them and solar flare can punch holes through the atmosphere, harming the humans
- Disorient species that rely on geomagnetism eg bees, turtles, whales and pigeons.
  The changes in the Magnetic field are very minuscule to impact the earth in a very big way.

Last year few soldiers died in an avalanche in the Siachen glacier. What is an avalanche? How an avalanche is triggered? Identify the regions in the world that are prone to this geophysical phenomenon.

Introduction:

The word avalanche is derived from the French word "avalance" meaning descent. An avalanche is a mass of snow, often mixed with ice and debris which travels down mountain sides, destroying all in its path
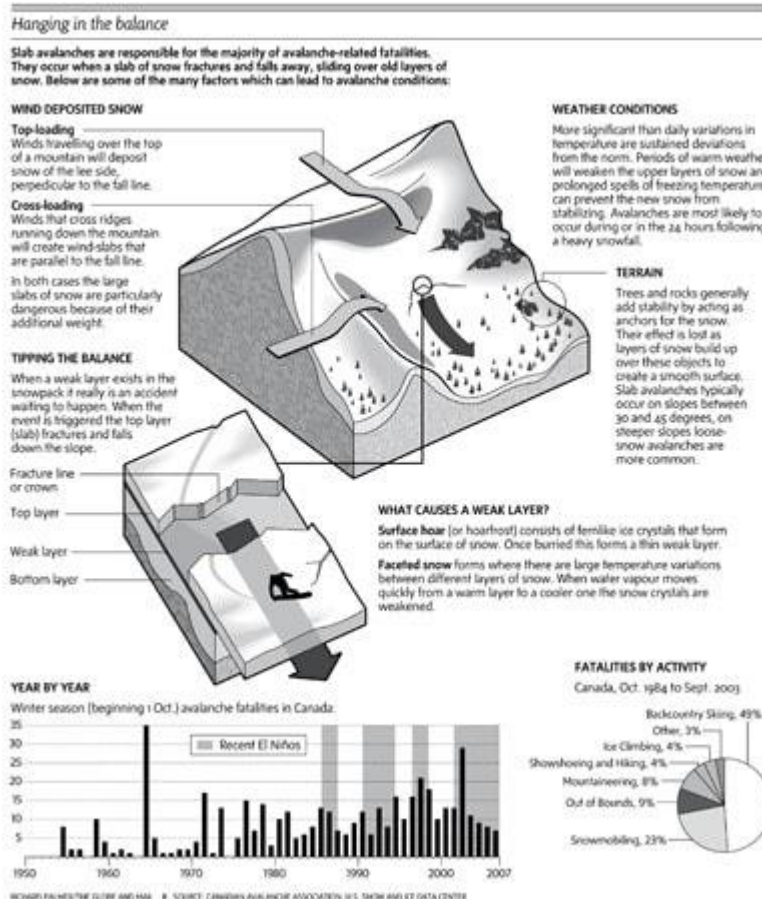
Body:

Triggers:

1- Natural :
    overloading: Overloading is an important trigger, the weight of the snow increases until it overcomes cohesion to the snow pack underneath
2- Temperature: Temperature has an effect on the cohesion of snow; a rise in temperature weakens the bonds creating weakness, whilst a fall in temperature increases the brittleness and tension of a slab.
3- Slope Angle: Slope angle is important as most avalanches occur on slopes between 25 and 400C, although avalanches have been noted on slopes as gentle as 150C and as steep as 60oC.
4- Vibrations: Vibration is a physical trigger cause by thunder, a gun shot, by explosions or other loud noises such as shouting.
5- Tectonic activities: tectonic activities like earthquakes and landslides can also cause the snowpack to crumble leading to an avalanche.

Anthropogenic :

1. movement of skiers, animals , snowmobiles, trekkers ,notice from heavy machinery.
2. explosions done on or near the snow surface for construction purposes
3. Wars,military exercises and explosions.

http://www.richardpalmergraphics.com/technical-infographics/infographics5.html

Regions of the world:

Alpine mountain ranges across the world are prone to avalanches like: Himalayas of India, Alps of Europe, Andes mountains of South America, Rockies and Appalachian mountains of North America.

Best answer: Valar Dohaeris

An Avalanche is a rapid mass-movement of snow/debris down the mountain slope.

Though mostly considered a natural phenomenon the avalanche-trigger causes can be both natural and anthropogenic.

1. Natural causes- extreme weather, high precipitation, strong winds, glacier movements etc all have the ability to make the snow pack unstable and loosen the snow to make it fall under the influence of gravity.

One imp trigger is tectonically active zones that cause internal movements leading to instability of the snow-pack.

2. Anthropogenic factors- heavy machine movements (for construction), of people over fragile zones(army- Siachen glacier) can trigger avalanches too.

All higher mountainous snow covered regions of the world- Himalayan belt(Eurasian and Indo-Australian plate colliding), the Alps of Europe, Rockies of North-America, Andes, Antarctica etc are Avalanche prone regions of the world as they have the required conditions of snow mountains availability and other natural/anthropogenic factors at play that become the trigger.

Many lives are lost each year to such catastrophic events. To avoid there is need to map the regions continuously, avoiding excessive human activity in fragile frozen tectonic zones, equipment to read avalanche signs in time and awareness among people in face of such condition.

The polar regions are characterized by a typical optical phenomenon. Identify this phenomenon and explain its mechanism. What are the common names given to this phenomenon? Also discuss its impacts.

(The best answer for this question is so complete that no further synopsis is required. The Best answer can be taken as the synopsis):

Best answer 1 : Aragorn

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Best answer 2 : vidhu

The polar regions experience an optical phenomenon called the Auroral lights. They are called as Aurora Borealis in the North Pole and Aurora Australis in the South Pole region.

This strange yet beautiful phenomenon has 2 elements:

1. earth's magnetic field
2. solar flares emitted from the sun

In this phenomenon, glowing lights are produced in the atmosphere due to the

Mechanism:

1. The sun emits solar flares due to regular explosions at it surface. These solar flares have a huge amount of atomic particles released by it which travel due to the solar winds.
2. On reaching near the earth, they interact with the earth's magnetic field.
1- 3.The earth's magnetic field deflects these solar flares and prevents them from entering the earth's atmosphere.
3. the mixing of the highly ionised stream of electrons and the magnetosphere at the poles produces cosmic glowing lights called the auroral lights.

Impact of such phenomenon

1. Solar flares which cause such effect cause ionising of the atmosphere and thus can affect our communication satellites
2. they disturb the power distribution channels of those regions
3. Astronauts who come under their influence might have health issues
4. Telecom and internet services are affected
5. they attract a lot of tourist who visit to see this event
6. they might help in solar and outer universe studies

Best Answer 3: Yanger

http://a.disquscdn.com/uploads/mediaembed/images/4149/6859/original.jpg

A cloudburst is short-term extreme precipitation that takes place over a small area. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) labels rainfall over 100 mm per hour as cloudburst. Usually small areas – anywhere between 20-80 square kilometers are affected.

Essential conditions

http://2.bp.blogspot.com/_alCX1pMbG3o/TG6HKyrGHPl/AAAAAAAAAYo/H-x-COhYGqE/s1600/Cloudburst.jpg

Cloud burst can result from several different right ingredients that comes together.

Cloudbursts are associated with intensive heating of air parcels (not Air Mass), its rapid rising, and formation of thunderclouds. Interaction with local topography results in upward motion, especially where the atmospheric flow is perpendicular to topographic features.

Technically, Cloud burst is a situation when the inter-molecular forces between the H_2O molecules get very high due to the rapid decrease in the temperature or excess of electrostatic induction in the clouds causing the lighting to remain inside the cloud only, which causes hyperactive energy inside the cloud. The water molecules get denser and denser and get condensed but do not leave the cloud due to excess of electro forces.

As the water concentration get higher and higher and so the weigh gets heavier the water no longer is able to maintain force with the clouds and so they fall and it precipitates.

Adverse Impact

 (Just mentioning points. It can be further elaborated.)

Landforms:

- Floods
- Landslides
- Erosion
- Damage to the standing crops
- Change in river course

Man Made structures:

- Siltation in Dams
- Destruction of buildings, roads etc.

(few more points can be added)

Best answer 1: DK

When a heavy rainfall of almost 100mm occurred in the small geography within the few minutes, it is termed as cloudburst. Normally, particular rainfall can be leveled as cloudburst in the light of destruction caused by particular event. Cloudburst can be easily noted in mountainous areas although plain areas also susceptible to it.

Cloudburst occurs when the warm air from the air rushes to the clouds, obstruct drops from falling on the ground, mixing the raindrops into each other to form bigger drops and eventually, a stage comes when clouds as well as drops cannot be held anymore in the air, and hence heavy downpour occurs like the immediate downside the bucket full of water.

Topographical and atmospheric conditions such as mountain blocking the air flow which leads to rise in the temperature, presence of mountain to act as ladder for the uprising of the air and mountain itself generating heat for the air are necessary conditions for cloudburst.

Adverse impacts:

Heavy rainfall turns into the **flash floods** after destructing the infrastructure due to heavy hit of water on houses and other infrastructure, hence generating double difficulty for human and other livings beings.

Economic loss and environmental losses are always attached to disasters and same can be associated with cloudburst.

Loss of roads and other communication modes make it difficult for disaster forces to act in immediate mode.

Best answer 2: NR5

http://a.disquscdn.com/uploads/mediaembed/images/4149/6013/original.jpg

Best answer 3: Snowyyy (Good Explanation of causes)

A cloudburst is an extreme amount of precipitation, sometimes with hail and thunder which last no longer than few minutes but is capable of creating flood like condition. According to **IMD rainfall rate equal or greater than 100mm/hr. is cloudburst.**

These are manifestation of **intense vortices on small scale** that generates strong convection currents that lifts **the moisture laden air to form cumulonimbus** cloud and these clouds sheds loads of water with ferocity.
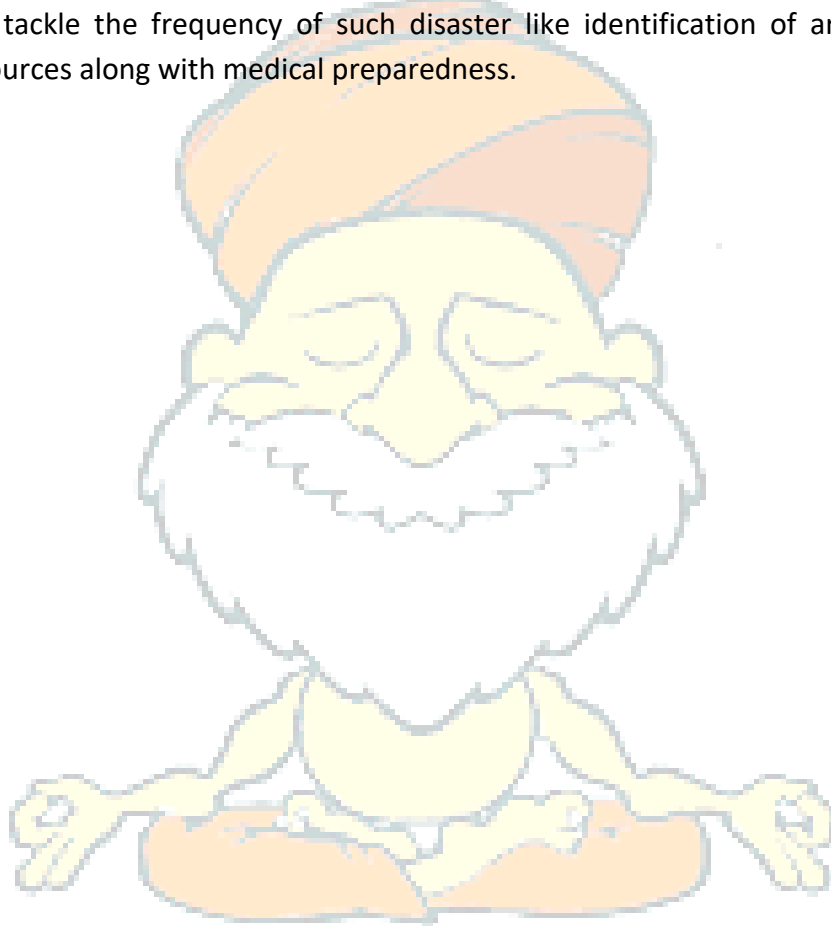
But this is rapid precipitation which is possible only when large droplets can grow rapidly with small droplets which fall slowly and this is when chemical reaction takes place like diffusion of solid particles.

Topographical conditions like steep hills favors its formation. example 2013 kedarnath cloud burst in Uttrakhand.

Adverse effects include

1. ON HUMAN – causes flood that led to loss of life and property. especially houses on slope gets damaged. it causes huge distraction. these further causes diseases.
2. ON ENVIRONMENT- causes loss of vegetation, deforestation further deteriorating conditions like rise of temperature in the area.
3. ON ANIMALS- animals lose their shelter and have to migrate to other places.

During rainy season especially in hilly regions thus it becomes vital to ascertain preventive measures to tackle the frequency of such disaster like identification of area and locally available resources along with medical preparedness.

What is an air mass? What are the essential conditions for the formation of an air mass? How does the passage of an air mass affect the weather conditions of a place. Explain by taking an example.

Introduction:

Air Mass is an extremely large body of air whose properties of temperature and moisture content (humidity), at any given altitude, are fairly similar in any horizontal direction.

- can cover hundreds of thousands of square miles.
- there can be small variations.

Body:

Conditions for the formation:

1. Ideal source regions are regions that are generally flat topography and of uniform composition. Examples include central Canada, Siberia, the northern and southern oceans and large deserts.
2. Their must be atmospheric divergence at the source region which creates conditions of stability
3. temperature and humidity must be relatively uniform for a long time for the development of air masses.
4. Area with high pressure but little pressure differences is ideal for air mass formation.

(http://40north70west.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Air-Masses.png)

Effects on the region of migration:

1. Maritime air masses carry moisture from ocean to continents, thus bringing rainfall.e.g. northwest USA.
2. Tropical air masses, transport latent heat, thus removing latitudinal heat imbalance.
3. Most of the migratory atmospheric disturbances like cyclones originates at the contact zone of two air masses(called fronts), and the weather associated with it is determined by the characteristics of air masses involved.

Conclusion:
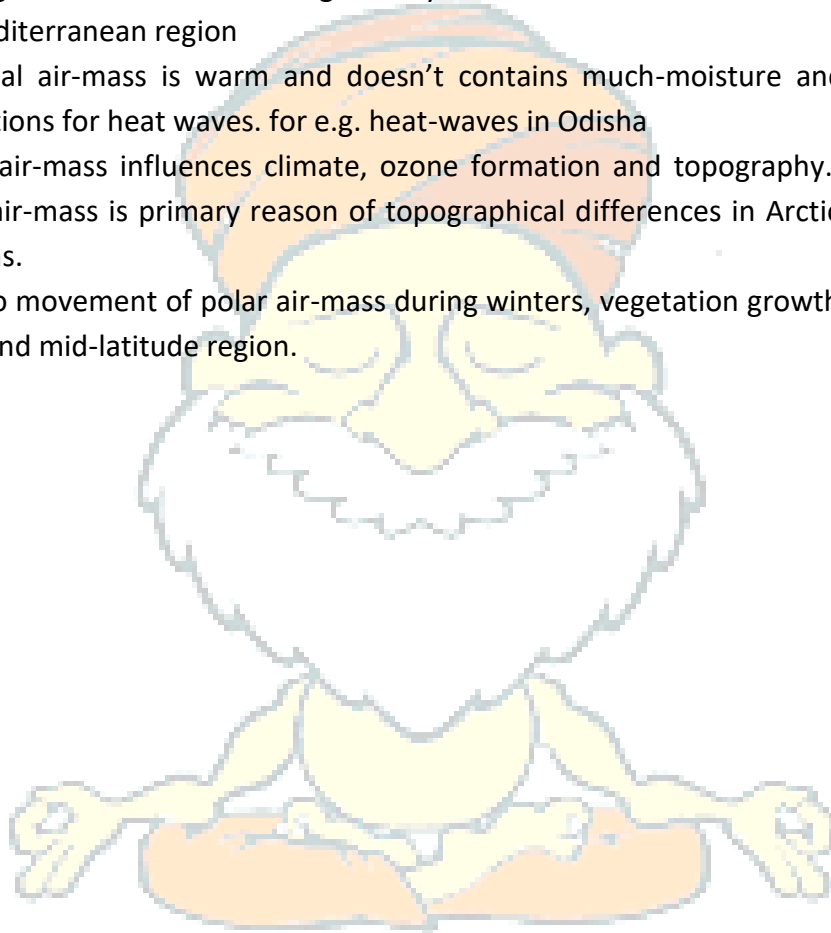
Write a brief conclusion.

Best answer: Vish

An air mass is a large body of air having uniform temperature, humidity and pressure which it adapts from the surface present below it.

Essential conditions for air-mass

– uniformity in meteorological conditions on surface over which it is present.
– ample amount of time to adapt to the characteristics of surface
– plain topography will generally assist their formation. e,g, temperature inversion will not happen

Effects of passage of air mass:

– when cold and hot air-mass meet, they could cause rain due to formation of occluded front. for e.g. formation of extra-tropical cyclones in mid and high latitudes.
– passage of Maritime air-mass generally contains moisture and causes rain. e.g. rain in Mediterranean region
– Tropical air-mass is warm and doesn't contains much-moisture and could create conditions for heat waves. for e.g. heat-waves in Odisha
– Polar air-mass influences climate, ozone formation and topography. Movement of such air-mass is primary reason of topographical differences in Arctic and Antarctic regions.
– Due to movement of polar air-mass during winters, vegetation growth is hindered in high and mid-latitude region.

Somali is perhaps the only region close to the equator that has dry climatic conditions. Discuss the factors that cause this anomaly. (Hint: Think in terms of ocean currents, elevation of Somalian plateau, direction of south west monsoon etc)

The African continent is affected by a number of local winds. Identify at least three of them. Discuss their properties and also explain the changes that they bring to the regions through which they pass.

The expansion of the British rule during the Goverener-Generalship of Lord Wellesley resulted in the East India Company becoming a paramount power in India. Discuss.

Note:

- Many of you have written extensively on Lord Wellesley's conquests and achievements. But the question simply asks you to discuss that the expansion of British Rule under his reign resulted in EIC's paramount power.
- Just give small description on methods adopted by Wellesley and his objectives, because of which he could bring as many Indian states subordinate to the paramount authority of the Company.
- Explain because of his policies the Indian powers were forced to suspend non – British European officers, which advantaged only East India Company to gain control of the province's trade (monopoly) and become a paramount power in India.

Sample answer:

Lord Wellesley was already a member of the British Parliament for several years and of the **Board of Control over Indian affairs**, when he was appointed as Governor General of India (GGI). This enabled him to rule over India effectively as **GGI from 1798-1805 AD**.

He came to India when the British were locked in a life-and- death struggle with France all over the world. **In his eyes, India was a threat** in the world war with France and he was a statesman who **feared the conquests of Napoleon**.

The main objective of Wellesley was to

- expand British rule in India and to extend the trade relationship of the East India Company
- bringing as many Indian states as possible under British control
- prevent Indian rulers allying with the French or other European competitors.

Therefore, he reversed the policy of non-intervention and adopted the policy of Subsidiary Alliance. By this policy the Indian powers were forced to come under British protection by suspending non – British European officers.

To achieve his political aims Wellesley relied on **three methods**: the system of '**Subsidiary Alliances', outright war, and the assumption of the territories** of previously subordinated rulers. He used these methods to subordinate the Indian states to the paramount authority of the Company.

His term of office for seven years introduced an important phase in the development of British power in India and his policy allowed him to remove all kinds of French influence from India and to **make the British the paramount power of the subcontinent**. He succeeded in his job by implementing wars as well as by peaceful annexations.

Wellesley was an important figure who has contributed a lot in extending the British power in India. To ensure this he took some necessary steps that showed his complete sensory mind. He **concluded alliances with the weaker native rulers**. The company made itself responsible for the defence of the state and **gained control of the province's trade**. He also conquered the whole of the Carnatic on the east coast and large areas around Bombay on the west coast.

The expansion of the British rule during his reign resulted in the East India Company becoming a paramount power in India. At the time of his returning home Wellesley left the British absolutely supreme in India.

Best answer: Vikrant Madhusudhan Parab

Wellesley came to India with a determination to launch strong forward policy and to make "British Empire in India" to "the British Empire of India"

The period when he came to India was marked with major threats form Marathas, Mysore and Nizam of Hyderabad. Napolean Expansion Policy towards East was also threat to British in India.

He came with a policy of Subsidary Alliance. The main reason for its introduction was threat form Napolean and Native states. Under this, treaty was signed between EIC and Native States in which EIC would assume responsibility from Internal and External Threats and in return Native States will give up their claim on Defence and External Affaris. (This marked the turning point and process of British empire of India begun as Native States gave up their claims)

Fourth Anglo Mysore War 1799 and Second Maratha War 1803 also marked success for EIC and helped them to expand its territory.

Wellesley strictly ordered Native States not to recruit any Foreigners in the Service which further closed the door for outsiders particularly France.

With victories in Wars, control in Internal /External Affairs, Diplomacy etc helped EIC to have a good hold over Indian territories and thus EIC became paramount power in India and Wellesley became one of the greatest Empire Builders that England had ever produced.

Give an account of the land revenue policy of the British in India. How did the settlement systems introduced by the British lead to impoverishment of the Indian economy in general and agriculture in particular? Explain.

British came to India as traders to earn maximum profit. The same tendency reflected in their revenue policy.

Three major systems of land revenue collection existed in India. They were – Zaminidari (permanent settlement), Ryotwari and Mahalwari.

Zamindari System– introduced by Cornwallis / Zamindars were given ownership rights of the land / in Bengal, Bihar, Odissa and parts of United Provinces. / Out of collected amount 1/11 share of zamindar and 10/11 of East India company.

Ryotwari System– introduced by Thomas Munro/ tax directly collected from peasants/ in Madras, Bombay, parts of Assam and Coorg / tax rate- 50% of produce in dry areas and 60% in irrigated areas.

Mahalwari System– introduced during William Bentick / Mahals comprised of 2-3 villages. Tax was collected from village committees/ in Central Province, North-West Frontier, Agra, Punjab, Gangetic Valley, etc of British India.

Effects on Indian Economy:

- Self sustainable economy of Villages called Jajmani system was destroyed.
- De-industrialisation, as raw materials were not provided to industries.
- Life expectancy reduced, under nourishment and malnourishment caused a weak workforce.
- High tax rates resulted into low capital in the hands of Indians.
- Caused large scale famines.

Effects on Agriculture:

- Tax money was not invested in agriculture and was siphoned out. This made even the most productive lands barren.
- Commercialisation of agriculture. Farmers were forced to grow indigo and opium.
- In a large part of country, peasants were left as tenants on their own lands.
- No finance facility by government caused money lenders to charge exorbitant rates pushing farmers into a vicious circle of poverty.
- Farmers started migrating to cities to look for petty labour jobs, leaving farming.

(Although so many other points can be given, it is important to restrict yourself to some important ones. Do not write essays. Remember preciseness is one of the qualities which examiners look for. Crossing the world limit creates a very bad impression and you end up

losing marks rather than earning them. In questions like this, you can save time by making a diagram, using slashes, or flowchart.)

Best answer : Zubeendoc

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(There were other answers as well which covered the topic comprehensively. But they are not selected because it not an essay writing competition.)

The steps taken by the British post 1813 to transform Indian society and culture were driven mainly by the capitalist interests back home in Britain. Critically comment.

(These are just the guidelines to write a better answer. Points are given for Indicative purpose and for knowledge point of view. You should cut short them and select the best ones while writing in the exam.)

Introduction:

Your introduction should reflect following points.

1. Till 1813, Britishers followed the policy of non-interference in Indian Society and culture.
2. Post 1813, Mercantile capitalism was turned into Industrial capitalism or Free trade
3. Changes in England's socio-economic setup was the driving force of those changes in India

Body:

What was the demand of an Industrialized England?

1. **Raw material** – Earlier India used to export their products but Industrial Revolution changed the scenario. Now the demand for Raw material had increased in England. Various taxes etc had been
2. **Market share to others** – Charter Act 1813 ended the monopoly of East India company which gave access to other businessmen from England which led to intense competition and resulted into exploitation. Charter Act 1833 made it a totally free market by ending company rule.
3. **Labour – Macaulay Minute, Wood's dispatch** etc – to create educated Indians which can be used as a cheap labour and would also help in better administration.
4. **Transport and Communication** – Movement of **Raw material, labour, better administration etc** had forced Company and Crown to invest in **Railways, Telegraph**
5. **Market to sell** – Christian missionaries were encouraged to promote their religion among the tribals with the aim to keep them at their sides and **exploit the vast forest resources for their own benefits**. New ideas in name of Scientific Ideas and rational thinking was promoted to change the preferences and tastes of Indian society to create a market of their products.

However, apart from that, few positive changes also happened due to various other factors.

When the British came to India, they brought new ideas such as **liberty, equality, freedom and human rights from the Renaissance, the Reformation Movement and the various revolutions that took place in Europe.** These ideas appealed to some sections of our society and led to several reform movements in different parts of the country

At the forefront of these movements were visionary Indians such as Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Aruna Asaf Ali and Pandita Ramabai. These movements looked for social unity and strived towards liberty, equality and fraternity. Many legal measures were introduced to improve the status of women. For example, the **practice of sati was banned in 1829 by Lord Bentinck, the then Governor General. Widow Remarriage was permitted by a law passed in 1856. A law passed in 1872, sanctioned inter-caste and inter-communal marriages. Sharda Act was passed in 1929 preventing child marriage. The act provided that it was illegal to marry a girl below 14 and a boy below 18 years.** All the movements severely criticized the caste system and especially the practice of untouchability.

Conclusion:

Your conclusion should say that even though largely the changes were done as per the need of the capitalist class but other factors were equally important and had a long lasting impact on socio economic status of the country.

Best answer: Shernizaad

Till 1813, British followed the **policy of non-interference** in Indian society and culture. However, the charter act of 1813 opened up the gates of transformation for India driven by different values and interests: –

1) Britain was blooming under **Industrial revolution** and therefore to expand the markets, India had to be transformed and made modern at least partially for serving the capitalist interests. And hence, monopoly of EIC was ended increasing trade and commerce in India.
2) Christian missionaries were encouraged to promote their religion among the tribals with the aim to keep them at their sides and **exploit the vast forest resources** for their own benefits.
3) modern education through woods dispatch was pro**moted to establish cadre of Indians** which would understand British psyche and help them in their administration.
4) **promotion of railways and telegraphs** was done with the **motive of expanding British trade to each nook and corner of India.**

However, there are also examples which show that only capitalistic interests were not behind these developments. **Renaissance gave values of humanism** and reasons which could be found in the administration under William Bentick and Dalhousie who **abolished sati, promoted widow remarriage and increased minimum age of marriage, etc** with help of Indian reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy. Moreover, few Britishers considered it as

their duty under **"white man's burden"** theory to civilize Indian society thus promoting Indian universities and Schools.

Overall the steps taken post 1813 were driven by mixed values while keeping British interests at the top most level.

Discuss the contributions of Raja Rammohun Roy to the social and cultural awakening in the 19th century India.

Raja Rammohan Roy is rightly known as "the Father of Modern India" in recognition of his epoch making social, political and educational reforms.

(Though his father Ramakanto was very orthodox but he wanted his son to have higher education and after the basic formal education in Sanskrit and Bengali in the village school, Ram Mohan was sent to Patna to study Persian and Arabic in a madrasa. After that he went to Benares (Kashi) for learning the intricacies of Sanskrit and Hindu scripture, including the Vedas and Upanishads. He learnt English language at the age of 22 years.)

Educational Reforms:

Ram Mohan viewed education as a medium to implement the social reforms. He came to Calcutta and started an English college from his own savings. He was well aware that the students should learn the English language and scientific subjects and that's why he criticized the government's policy of opening only Sanskrit schools. According to him, Indians would lag behind if they do not get to study modern subjects like Mathematics, Geography and Latin.

Government accepted this idea of Ram Mohan and also implemented it but not before his death. Ram Mohan was also the first to give importance to the development of the mother tongue. His 'Gaudiya Byakaran' in Bengali is the best of his prose works.

Political Reforms:

Ram Mohan Roy was a staunch supporter of free speech and expression and fought for the rights of vernacular press. He also brought out a newspaper in Persian called 'Miratul-Akhbar' (the Mirror of News) and a Bengali weekly called 'Sambad Kaumudi' (the Moon of Intelligence). In those days, items of news and articles had to be approved by the government before being published. Ram Mohan protested against this control by arguing that newspapers should be free and that the truth should not be suppressed simply because the government did not like it.

Social Reforms:

Among his efforts, the abolition of the sati-pratha-a practice in which the widow was compelled to sacrifice herself on the funeral pyre of her husband-was the prominent. His efforts were also instrumental in eradicating the purdah system and child marriage. In 1828, Ram Mohan Roy formed the Brahmo Samaj, a group of people, who had no faith in idol-worship and were against the caste restrictions.

These points should be backed by facts.

(Since everyone has read about it in detail, social reforms can be elaborated further according to the question.)

Best Answer 1 : Jyoti

Remembered as the "Maker of Modern India", social and cultural reformer Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a visionary who lived during one of India's darkest social phases.His pioneering efforts can be seen as follows:

Social Reforms:

1. His greatest achievement in the field of social reforms was abolition of Sati in 1829.
2. He advocated abolition of polygamy and wanted women to be educated and given the right to inherit property
3. Established Brahmo Samaj which proclaimed freedom from the bondage of caste and from the authority of scriptures.They advocated and performed inter-caste marriages and widow marriages and opposed the purdah system.
4. He advocated western learning as a means through which India could progress
5. He greatly valued freedom of press and spread of information. He was the first Indian who was the editor and owner of any newspaper(Samvad Kaumudi)

Cultural Reforms:

1. He translated the Vedas and the Upanishads into Bengali with the aim of bringing to the knowledge of the people the original texts of their religion.
2. Advocated belief in a universal religion based on the principle of one supreme god. Wrote books such as "A Gift to the monotheists", "The Precepts of Jesus", "Manzarat-ul-Adiyan" which highlighted the similarities and dissimilarities in various religions and advocated oneness
3. The Brahmo Samaj was the first important organization of religious reform. It forbade idol-worship and discarded meaningless rites and rituals.

Thus through his efforts he ushered in a new era into the Indian culture and society and is aptly called the "Father of Indian Renaissance".

Best Answer 2 : Angelwings

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http://a.disquscdn.com/uploads/mediaembed/images/4175/1526/original.jpg

The revolt of 1857 was a desperate effort to save India in the old way and under traditional leadership. Critically comment.

It was a result of the intrinsic nature of foreign imperialism and its harmful impact on the lives of the Indian people that a powerful anti-imperialist movement gradually arose and developed in India. Elucidate.

Several developments abroad in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries encouraged the growth of militant nationalism in India. Discuss.

The revolt of 1857 was a desperate effort to save India in the old way and under traditional leadership. Critically comment.

"Under the British Indian despot the man is at peace, there is no violence; his substance is drained away, unseen, peaceably and subtly- he starves in peace and perishes in peace, with law and order!" Comment.

(Question 4 was only for peer review. So here we are providing only the guidelines to attempt this question.)

Introduction:

Your Introduction should include the reference and context of this statement.

Body:

You should compare the conditions of peasants, Artists, Workers, rulers etc. in Native Indian rules and British Rule

- The difference was there in the basic interest of the parties. Even though Native rulers also exploit the local people but ultimately the money get invested locally whereas in case of Britisher the money went to England and the local here suffered.

Also mention the reasons why and how their conditions become worse.

- The peasant saw that the government took away a large part of his produce as land revenue; that the government and its machinery— the police, the courts, the officials—favoured and protected the zamindars and landlords, who rack-rented him, and the merchants and moneylenders, who cheated and exploited him in diverse ways and who took his land away from him.
- The artisan or the handicraftsman saw that the foreign regime had helped foreign competition ruin him and had done nothing to rehabilitate him.
- Later, in the twentieth century, the worker in modern factories, mines, and plantations found that, in spite of lip sympathy, the government sided with the capitalists, especially the foreign capitalists.

Conclusion:

It should reflect the idea propounded in the body of the Answer.

Best Answer1: – vengeancee

It is generally believed that when pain rises anger begins, but when pain supersedes everything else in life it leads to numbness. Above statement is reflective of the fact that intense imperialism & oppressive British rule led to severest of exploitation possible which went on for decades, the argumentative poor Indian was no longer his original being, and made peace with his misery.

Peasant had started losing their land, losing their income, and was at prey of oppressive zamindar. They had no resort to judicial, police to give them healing touch, and after decade & century of subjugation they made peace with pain.

Artisans whose prowess transformed to worthlessness after British came in power saw their own downfall, and they lost everything they had from skill to market to income to life.

Workers at factories had long working hours & inhumane conditions, there was no question of leisure hour & family time when entire family was involved in same activity.

Plantation workers faced double edged effect of British imperialism where they lost monetarily against merchants as well as planters. Hard working conditions made their life utter gloomy, and starving in peace.

Such awful & rotten life surrounding poor Indians were symbolic of their numbness in life that lost all their hopes.

Best Answer2 -Skylar7450

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The emphasis on Atmashakti or self-reliance was an integral aspect of the Swadeshi movement. Why so much importance was attached to this philosophy? Which means were adopted to achieve the same?

One of the important aspect of the Swadeshi Movement was the great emphasis given to self-reliance or 'Atmasakti' as a necessary part of the struggle against the Government.

The only strength which could be used by Indians to fight the colonialists was the inner strength which could come from Atmashakti only.

Importance of Atmashakti or self-reliance:

- Nationalists wanted to bring emphasis on **re-assertion of national dignity, honor and self respect.**
- They wanted to **instill confidence among the Indians** that Indian industries and enterprises controlled and run by Indian people could protect and promote them.
- There was a conscious effort by British to divide India on communal lines, hence "Atmasakti" was potential effort to raise conscience among fellow Indians to understand British policy and remain united.
- **Self-help and constructive work at the village level** was envisaged as a means of bringing about the **social and economic regeneration** of the villages and of **reaching the rural masses.** (Social reform and campaigns against evils such as caste oppression, early marriage, the dowry system, consumption of alcohol, etc.)
- **Atmasakti was able to draw for the first time large sections of society into active participation** in modern nationalist into the ambit of modern political ideas.
- The social base of the national movements now extended to include a certain zamindari section, the lower middle class in the cities and small towns and school and college students on a massive scale. (including women)

Means adopted to achieve the same:

- **Promoting Swadeshi education**: National Council of Education was setup to intensify these efforts. Primary education in vernacular language was encouraged. Opening of national colleges across the country.
- **Swadeshi festivals and melas**: The Swadeshi period saw the creative use of traditional popular festivals and melas as a means of reaching out to the masses.
- **Traditional folk theatre forms**: such as jatras i.e. extensively used in disseminating the Swadeshi message in an intelligible form to vast sections of the people, many of whom were being introduced to modern political ideas for the first time.
- **Revival of Indian art and literature**: It led to the composition of nationalist songs and poems.

- **Boycott of foreign goods and services**: Swadeshi was complimented by boycott of foreign goods and services. Shops selling foreign goods were picketed and goods were burnt in public.
- **Fostering indigenous industries and other enterprises**: Many textile mills, soap and match factories, handloom weaving concerns, national banks, and insurance companies were opened.

Best answer Lizzy

Partition of Bengal has resulted in swadeshi and boycott movement. An important aspect of swadeshi movement is 'Atmashakti' which means self reliance. The main intention of the movement is to use all Indian goods and boycott of British goods.

Partition of Bengal has resulted in swadeshi and boycott movement. An important aspect of swadeshi movement is 'Atmashakti' which means self reliance. The main intention of the movement is to use all Indian goods and boycott of British goods.

Importance given to self reliance because:

1. Nationalists wanted to bring emphasis on re-assertion of national dignity and self respect.
2. They wanted to instill confidence among the Indians that Indian industries could not flourish except under an government controlled and run by Indian people which could protect and promote them.
3. It came to mean not just the adoption of Indian goods but also becoming self reliant in the production of local good and services.
4. It message of swaraj can reach masses with more intensity.

Means adopted were:

1. Promoting Swadeshi education: National council of Education was setup to intensify these efforts. Primary education in vernacular language was encouraged. Opening of national colleges across the country.
2. Growth of many indigenous industries in textiles, soap, chemicals, banking, insurance, etc.
3. Revival of Indian art and literature. It led to the composition of nationalist songs and poems.

With the movement of self reliance a remarkable aspect is women came out to protest and students played a major role in its success.

Even though the Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience Movement had ended in apparent failure, the national movement had been strengthened in many ways? Do you agree? Substantiate.

The question has itself mentioned that the movements had ended in "apparent" failure. "Apparent" is a keyword here. Many of you have mentioned that the movements were a failure, in your introduction. Which itself will make your answer incorrect.

This question can be approached by two ways- dealing with one movement at a time or combining the two and writing the common points.

We would suggest the later approach as it will save some words and still convey what the examiner is looking for.

How that national movement was strengthened?

Most of you have written beautiful points. Some of the important points are:

- The movements gave a clear leadership and path to be followed.
- They converted a class movement into a mass movement.
- Congress emerged as a strong political party , from being just a pressure group. It was perceived as the voice of Indians at large.
- They encouraged different sections of society, to contribute towards India's independence and aroused the feeling of nationalism.
- They created awareness regarding rights of Indian people and exploitative policies of the British administration.
- These mass movements shake the inherently condescending British Empire to treat Indians on equal footing. Round table conferences were a result of that.
- People started taking pride in their Indian Identity and promoted Swadeshi.
- These movements nurtured the future leadership of Independent India.

(Give an example if possible for every point)

You can mention about Struggle-Truce-Struggle (STS) policy of Gandhiji.

These movements became the stepping stone towards India's Freedom. The apparent failure taught great lessons for the future movements and gave an idea of the strength of the masses to Indian leadership and the British Government.

Best Answer : Sahil Garg

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The socialist ideals that independent India followed had its roots in the freedom struggle. Do you agree? Who were the eminent proponents of socialist ideals during this phase? Discuss their contributions in the growth of socialist ideas.

Introduction:

Your introduction should include the definition or the ideals of socialism which are presented in the Independent India. Also link it with the Russian Revolution to trace the origin of the movement.

Basic of Socialism

Socialism is a range of economic and social systems characterized by **social ownership** and **democratic control of the means of production**; as well as the political ideologies, theories, and movements that aim at their establishment. Social ownership may refer to forms of **public, collective, or cooperative ownership**; to **citizen ownership of equity**; or to any combination of these. Although there are many varieties of socialism and there is no single definition encapsulating all of them, social ownership is the common element shared by its various forms

- Planning
- Trusteeship
- Land reform
- Rural development
- Trade Unions and labour rights
- Various provisions in DPSP
- Social equality

(You can add more points here)

Eminent Proponents & their contribution (Indicative)

- **Mahatma Gandhi –** trusteeship, decentralization.
- **Jawaharlal Nehru –** Before independence he brought socialist ideas to the Indian National Congress and made sure that the preamble of the Constitution of India called India a socialist state. He formed the planning commission of India and led to many socialist reforms in the early years of this nation.
- All India Kisan Sabha, Eka movement.
- **R. Ambedkar –** against social discrimination
- **Subhash Chandra Bose –** Forward Bloc party was made to propagate socialist ideas within Congress
- **Vinoba Bhave –** Bhoodan Movement
- **JP Narayan –** Sampoorna Kranti
- **A. Dange –** published a pamphlet titled*Gandhi Vs. Lenin*, a comparative study of the approaches of both the leaders with Lenin coming out as better of the two
- **N. Roy –** Communist party of India

- **Bhagat Singh** – HSRA.
- **Singaravelu Chettiar** – Labour Kisan Party of Hindustan was founded in Madras.
- **G.Ranga, E.M.S Namboodiripad, Karyanand Sharma, Yamuna Karjee, Yadunandan (Jadunandan) Sharma, Rahul Sankrityayan, P. Sundarayya, Ram Manohar Lohia, Jayaprakash Narayan, Acharya Narendra Dev and Bankim Mukerji** – All India Kisan Sabha (AIKS)
- At the 1931 **Karachi session** of theIndian National Congress, **socialist pattern of development was set as the goal for India**.

Conclusion:

Your conclusion should summarize the idea and shows its impact in the present Indian context.

Best answer: Yogesh Bhatt

Socialist ideas deeply rooted in Indian freedom movement but India has not copy paste form other countries rather under Gandhiji leadership it was nurtured. Other than Gandhi ji, Nehru, Subash Bosh, Jayprakash Nrayan, Binova Bhave, and so on follow the path. Main contribution offered by them was following

1- Trusteeship- it is unique combination of capitalism and socialism and under which made richer section of society more responsible to poor people. Cooperative movement, trust model, and now CSR draw inspiration from it.

2- Planned economy model- in 1931 congress choose this model propagated by Nehru and Boss and after independence till today we are following this model for Indian development.

3- Land reform- Bhave focus on Bhoodan and Gaondaan, Nehru policy on jamindari removal, tenancy reforms, and land reconciliation were major steps which had root in socialistic approach.

4- Constitution- Indian constitution made by forefathers draw a lot of motivation for freedom fight and under DPSP, Gandhi socialism and other provisions are gift of socialist ideology of Indian citizens.

5- Rural development model- in post independence like community development programme than idea of panchayat raj, and later many other innovations had strings from socialist ideas.

6- Idea of developmental administration- after colonial administration which was guided by Patel and Nehru had motivation from socialist ideas to deliver the independence promises.

7- Trade unions- farmers' movement and trade unions was an idea from socialism movement which worked in continuation after independence also.

After 25 year of liberalization, India is still on same path as we have one of the largest social welfare programs in India like MGNREGA and PDS. True we have made important changes in economic policies but it has also strengthened the social movement in India.

The INA trials served as a plank for national unity and also a point from where it was impossible for the British to ignore the Indian public opinion. Elucidate.

Note – Understanding the issue: First two paragraphs gives brief description of the issue. You can simplify and use it as intro

In the history of India's freedom struggle, the INA occupies an important place. At the time when there were all round divisions on the Indian national scene, the INA exhibited complete national unity.

The Indian soldiers fought unitedly for a united India. This armed struggle of the INA forced the British to realise that they could no longer depend upon the loyalty of the Indian Army for the maintenance of their rule in the country. Besides, the countrywide support and sympathy of the Indian masses for the INA and the opposition of the Indian section of the British Indian Army to the INA trials led the British to transfer power through a negotiated settlement. Thus the INA revolt hastened the end of British rule of India.

(Some of the below points should be written in your answers)

INA trials served as a plank for national unity

1) The selection of a Hindu, a Muslim and a Sikh — who hailed from the three principal communities of India — for court martial was taken as a challenge to whole of India. (Strengthened the secular sentiments)
2) Almost all the political parties like Congress, Muslim League, Communist Party, Akalis, RSS, hindu Mahasbha, stood for the cause of INA prisoners which indicates the unity of Indians against the Britishers.
3) Press coverage and other publicity – brought masses from different sections and different part together.
4) First time there were signs of demoralising effect from both civil service and Indian Army personnel. Growth of nationalist feeling generated by the trials affected the Armed Forces and soldiers.

Why it became impossible for the British to ignore the Indian public opinion:

1) Because of its wide geographical reach and the participation of diverse social groups and political parties. INA trials made the masses conscious of their power to gain political freedom.
2) The agitation which surrounded the trial turned the issue of independence for India into an instant, burning question once more. Britishers realised that they were sitting on the brink of a volcano which could erupt any time.
3) The release of INA prisoners made people attain a sense of pride, regained self-respect

4) There was rebellion among masses and since the Army was also in favour of, there was no suppression of rebellion

5) Stirring deeds of the INA caught the imagination of all Indians and the fire of patriotism burned brighter than ever before and found expression in the mutiny in the Indian Navy in Bombay

The INA and the trials gave a powerful and decisive message to the British that they can't ignore the Indian public opinion and it was time for them to leave.

Best answer: SherniZaad

The INA trials are considered to be a watershed in history of India's freedom struggle because after this, there was no looking back for the Indians and it also made the Britishers understand that the demands of Indians couldn't be ignored any further.

1. The campaign against INA trials had wide geographical reach witnessing participation of diverse groups and sections of the population.
2. Almost all the political parties like Congress, Muslim League, Communist Party, Akalis, RSS, hindu Mahasbha, stood for the cause of INA prisoners which indicates the unity of Indians against the Britishers.
3. The agitation gained huge publicity due to wide coverage of press, graffiti, distribution of pamphlets, holding of public meetings.
4. Nation wide celebration of INA Day and INA week filled the country with enthusiasm.
5. India also witnessed massive upsurges during INA trial like strikes by Indian Naval ratings which proved that even army was now against the Britishers.

Thus, the change in the mood of the masses, countywide sympathetic strikes including the revolt of armed forces, various upsurges , paralysis of British hotspots like Calcutta and Bombay marked the beginning of the end of the British rule after which there was no looking back till we got our independence.

The integration of the princely states was a result of the successful interplay of persuasion, diplomacy and force. Do you agree? Substantiate.

(This is a straight forward question where people have written some very good answers. In these questions, there is hardly something new which you can write to surprise the examiner. But people generally lose their marks by committing some trivial mistakes.)

Points to remember while answering this question:

- Role of VP Menon and Lord Mountbatten was equally important as Sardar Patel. You need to mention about them.
- You need to specifically mention the names of the Princely states. And not their current names.
- **Persuasion, Diplomacy and Force needs to be distinctly mentioned.**
- Many of you have mentioned the exact number of Princely States. Don't do that. Different numbers are given in different accounts. It better to write more than 500 small and large Princely states were there.
- Persuasion: Most of the Princely states agreed to join Indian Union after persuasion from Mountbatten, Menon and Patel. They were reasoned and assertively asked to join the Union.
- Diplomacy: Brilliant piece of diplomacy was seen in the case of Bopal, Plebiscite of Junagarh and Kashmir (Hari Singh was asked to first sign the Instrument of Accession and then the Army was sent to push the rebels Out.). Many of you have mentioned Pakistani Army or Pakistan Government backed rebels attacked Kashmir. Try to stick to non controversial Government Source saying, Pakistani Tribal Pathans.
- Force: Force was used against Nizam of Hyderabad and later in the case of Goa and Daman and Diu. Many of you have written the complete story of Hyderabad which was not required in the answer.

Best Answer: Rishabh

The integration of over 500 princely states without waging a civil war was no mean feat. The lapse of paramountcy had created a big problem. The credit for the current territory of India goes to the then home minister Sardar Patel and VP Menon. Following were the methods deployed to integrate the princely states together:

1) Persuasion: Nehru who had excellent relations with the then viceroy Mountbatten convinced him to take hold of the situation and the viceroy extended invitations to all the princes for a meeting, seeing the background of the viceory many princes signed the instrument of accession early on. Many were persuaded with the offering of privy purse and role of governors in the Union. Eg Mysore . Jodhpur was assured of enough trade routes and ports for its trading rights helped integrate them.

2) Diplomacy: Indian integration of Junagadh , when the Nawab refused to join India and instead joined hands with Pakistan, India cuts of all essential supplies and transportation lines to the state. Patel had even instigated the vassals and the chiefs to revolt against the Nawab. Finally plebsite occurred and without the use of any weapon , Patel had won.
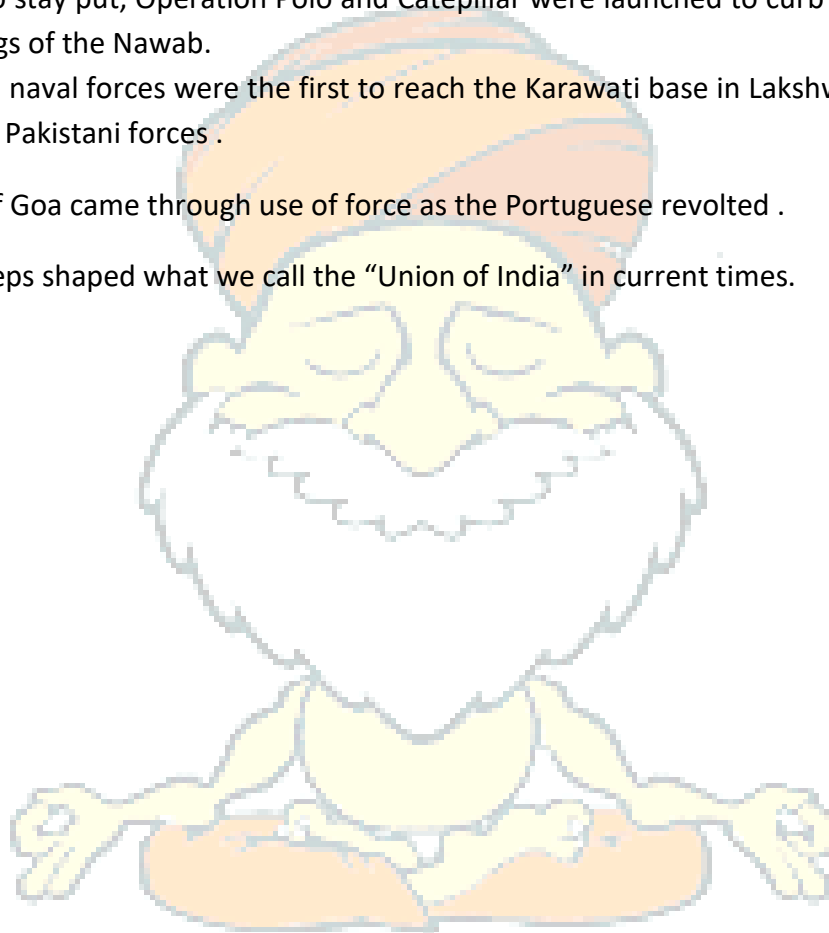
   Attack on Kashmir by the tribals ,since Kashmir had not signed the instrument of accession till then , Maharaja Hari Singh appealed India for help and India put down the condition that only after the signing of the accession possible help could be rendered. Bhopal was also closely won over diplomatically by Patel.

3) Force: The Nizam of hyderabad was in favour of PAKISTAN but the general opinion was to stay put, Operation Polo and Catepillar were launched to curb anti nationalist feelings of the Nawab.

   Indian naval forces were the first to reach the Karawati base in Lakshwadeep instead of the Pakistani forces .

Integration of Goa came through use of force as the Portuguese revolted .

The above steps shaped what we call the "Union of India" in current times.

What we know today as 'caste' is more a product of colonialism than of ancient Indian traditions. Do you agree? Which British interventions led to the strengthening of the caste system in India? Discuss.

Introduction:

The caste system did exist in India prior to the British rule, however, not in the same form as it exists now with its functional differences, hierarchy, cultural/belief distinctions, etc. The traditional caste system was based on Varna system which was based on hereditary occupations.

Body:

1. The British used census to differentiate different castes by cataloguing each caste's characteristics. The censuses became a catalyst for an increased consciousness about their caste and its status among the Indian people.
2. The census provided an avenue to the lower castes to gain higher status by enrolling as higher caste members and by subsequently Sanskritization.
3. The British policy of raising regiments based on religion and region further strengthened the notion of separation of castes and strengthened caste identities. E.g. Maratha, Sikh and Gurkha regiments.
4. British policy of promoting western education through English medium, which was unlike the inaccessible Vedas, made lower castes understand the historical oppression and injustice by upper-castes and helped in instilling in them values such as human rights, liberty, equality etc.
5. Caste identities were strengthened when caste took on the associational character when many caste associations were formed e.g. Bahishkrit-Hitakarini Sabha by Dr.Ambedkar.
6. The British under GOI act of 1935 introduced "Scheduled casts" term which though dividing the society also gave an important identity to the depressed classes who later on took on the nomenclature of Dalits.
7. The upper castes owing to the western education moved on to caste neutral jobs like clerks, lawyers, doctors etc. but the lower castes were still following their traditional jobs which increased their solidarity.

Conclusion:

Write a brief conclusion.

Best answer: Mani

"Caste" has been a component of Indian society since ancient times. With land grants to higher varnas, different tribal sections got mingled with them. This eventually led to the
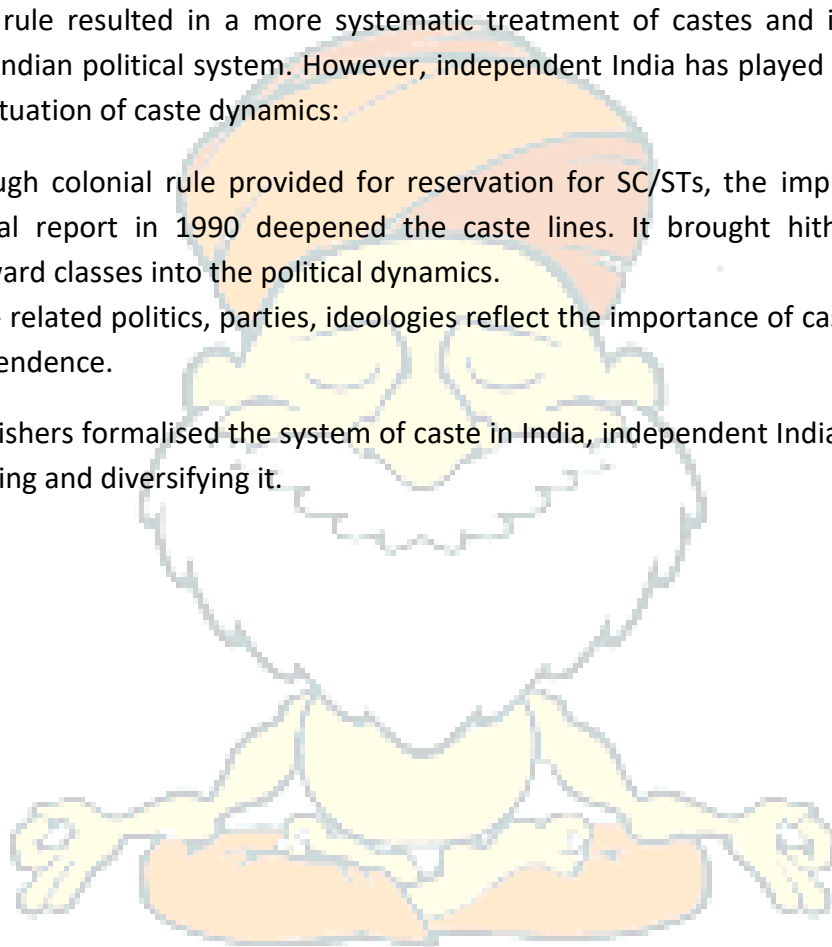
formation of many castes and sub-castes within the varnas. However, today "caste" is evolved version of the caste system that existed before colonial rule.

1. In order to understand the societal dynamics and proportion of various castes, they tried to evaluate the position of castes in hierarchical order through census. This led to severe disturbances as different castes tried to project themselves as superior.
2. The legal framework under the govt of India act 1935 led to the formation of "scheduled castes and scheduled tribes".
3. The practice of giving land ownership on basis of caste further increased the importance of the system.

Thus, British rule resulted in a more systematic treatment of castes and increased their relevance in Indian political system. However, independent India has played a major role in the current situation of caste dynamics:

1. Although colonial rule provided for reservation for SC/STs, the implementation of Mandal report in 1990 deepened the caste lines. It brought hitherto excluded backward classes into the political dynamics.
2. Caste- related politics, parties, ideologies reflect the importance of caste 70 yrs after independence.

Although Britishers formalised the system of caste in India, independent India too has a role in strengthening and diversifying it.

Tribal identity today is centered on ideas of resistance and opposition to the overwhelming force of the non-tribal world. Comment.

Introduction:

Your introduction should include the recent events related to tribal. Ex. Niyam giri, Left wing extremism etc.

Body:

Identity is the conception, qualities, beliefs, and expressions that make a person (self-identity) or group (particular social category or social group)

(you can add more points below)

Why there is an opposition from tribal community

1. Historical reasons: Britishers – Munda revolt, Santhal etc
2. Exploitation: – Removal of Forest, mining
3. Fear
4. Lack of education
5. Conflict with religious and cultural right
6. Forced entry in their area – Poor rehabilitation after displacement

Ways in which opposition is being shown

1. Naxalism/ Left wing extremism
2. Not allowing developmental process
3. Confrontation with the local authorities/ outsiders – manipur demand of ilp etc.
4. Political presence

Govt. policy/effort's for development in tribal area

1. Tribal Panchsheel
2. Constitution provides for special autonomy/rights under Schedule 5 &6
3. Extension of Panchayat Act in Scheduled Area (PESA)
4. Forest Rights Act 2006
5. Setup of Tribal ministry in 1999

Conclusion:

Your conclusion should say that we should try to avoid stereotyping the identity and work on making them part of the growth story in their own way.

Best Answer 1: Skylar7450

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http://a.disquscdn.com/uploads/mediaembed/images/4214/4062/original.jpg

Best Answer 2: shiva09

http://a.disquscdn.com/uploads/mediaembed/images/4214/2884/original.jpg

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Best Answer 3: SherniZaad

Tribal communities have always had their own separate identity and culture which was respected by the Indian rulers till the medieval period . However, with the advent of the Britishers , their rights and sense of belongingness to the forests were snatched away which culminated into various tribal uprisings showing resistance and opposition.

Post independence, our leaders tried to reverse the discriminatory treatment and respect their unique identity and rights by formulating various laws like Forest Rights Act and PESA. However, ineffective and faulty implementation of these laws left dissatisfaction and frustration in the hearts of the tribals who continue to show resistance and opposition to the outsiders, government and industries . Resistance of tribals in Niyamgiri hills against mining is a classic example.

Resistance and opposition continue and have taken different forms like naxalism, anti-mining movements, demand for separate homelands, etc due to:-

1. Threat to their own culture and laws.
2. Poor rehabilitation after displacement.
3. Welfare services haven't reached them fully like health and education.
4. Feeling of alienation from forests which is their homeland.
5. No share in developmental profits despite them making huge sacrifices.

India is a land of diversity and therefore its imperative to acknowledge each other's rights and culture, giving space to each community to lead a way of life with dignity and freedom. Laws must be implemented in true spirits and overall the society must be more sensitive towards the tribals.

There is no unity in diversity. Rather unity coexists with diversity in India. Elaborate.

Keywords in the question: Unity, Diversity and India's perspective.

With the vastness of India, comes its diversity. The diversity can be seen in the physical features of the country, which has led to different cultures, customs, traditions, races, languages, religions and castes.

Because of this diversity many prophets of doom said that India will disintegrate into many smaller nations in a time span of 10-15 years after the independence. But they will be shocked in their graves now, to see, India, not only united but also progressing at an unprecedented pace.

Diversity inherently comes with differences. Different religions have different faiths, customs, living styles and values. Similarly, people with same religion but different region and language have differences in their life styles. It is important to note that differences are important. And they exist even at individual scale. All members of a family are different in some aspects. But differences do not mean friction.

The diversity of India makes it so unique and beautiful. The great tendency of Indians to adopt new cultures and customs and change with the pace of time is what makes this country great.

Sometimes we have seen some clashes in the form of communal riots, caste clashes, and demand of separate state.

But these are sporadic events and Unity can be seen by the fact most of the time people are asking for statehood but not to secede from the country. Unity can be seen during emergencies, sports events, natural calamities etc. And this idea of India is reflected in our Constitution as well where every individual is given equal rights irrespective of the differences. Minorities, whether religious or linguistic, are given protection. States were divided on the basis of language which helped in Uniting India rather than dividing it.

India is like a rainbow, where every individual colour is beautiful, but together it is spectacular.

(This is not an answer. Just an Idea on what lines you had to think.)

Best answer : DS27

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The nature of struggle for women's issues has been changing with time. Draw a comparison between the nature of movements centered around women in the 19th century India and post independence India.

Note: Here the question clearly asks about the comparison between "Women Movements" before and after independence. Many of you have mentioned different movements and not the comparison and many of you have also mentioned about the role of women in different National Movements which was not asked.

The comparison can be made broadly in three aspects-

- Nature of the Movement
- Aim of the movements
- Leadership

Nature of movements: Before independence, the movements were not popular and mass based. They were lead by Charismatic leaders who tried to bring the attention of British Government towards these evils and persuade them to pass revolutionary laws. They also tried to create awareness through their organisations etc.

Movements in free India were more mass based involving popular leadership. People especially women were more aware of their rights and fought to assert them.

Aim of the movements: Pre independence movements were started by people who were moved by women's plight. They wanted to save women from unjustified and cruel customs which were there from ancient times eg. Sati, Child Marriage, Polygami, witch hunting, low social status etc.

Post independence movements were basically towards three aims- Empowerment- political rights, employment, equal wage for equal work etc.; Health and Education- right to education to girl child, improvement in maternity health etc. and Social: female infanticide, dowry, objectification of women, equality of women. Many movements are going on against physical and sexual abuse against women.

Leadership: Pre Independence movements were led by western educated people. Almost all were males and there was negligible participation of women. They were influenced by the British culture and wanted to improve the condition of Indian Women. Eg. Raja Rammohun Roy, bahramji Malabari, Ishwar Chand VidyaSagar, Jyotibaphule etc.

Modern movements saw more participation of women and women organizations and leaders came to the frontline. Eg- Nandita Das, Medha Patkar, Women organizations like SEWA, Mujlis, Saheli etc.

(You can add examples of more leaders and organizations in the answer to support these points. Do not write more about the organizations.)

Points were missing in most of the answers but amongst them the best answer selected is

Best Answer : CSE2016 aspirant (ABG)

The struggle for women's issues drives it's nature from the conditions persisting at that time Consequently, there is a vast difference between nature of 19th century and post independence women's rights movement.

(1) From Recognition to assertion of rights :

In 19th century, women's rights did not have any legal backing. By struggle, ban on derogatory traditions like Sati and Child marriage was enacted. Hence, struggle then was to recognise those rights.

However, post independence, women have been backed with constitutional rights. Present women struggle is to assert these rights. Ex : Asserting equality (Article 14) by temple entry movement.

(2) From single reformer to civil society :

19th century struggle was possible due to few intellectuals who tried to raise their voice for women's rights, eg. Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar. However, present day society civil society itself with women at forefront participate in movement.

(3) Role of women in nation's growth :

Present day movement is concentrated on assimilating women in progress of nation by increasing their participation in labour force, giving them political rights, providing them adequate health and educational facilities. This was not possible in 19th century India. Ex : Women probing into erstwhile male dominated fields like Air force fighter plane pilot.

The post independence struggle for women's rights was only possible due to the foundation laid by the struggle before and the ideals of freedom struggle developed.

Urban security ecosystem in Indian cities is not conducive for women. Do you agree? What are the associated issues and challenges? Elaborate.

Introduction:

Indian urban space is increasingly becoming unsafe for it women population. There has been increasing instances of crimes against women. As per NCRB reports, there is a crime against a woman every 2 minutes. There are incidents like eve teasing, chain snatching, acid-attacks etc. happening daily in cities.

Associated issues:

1. Women dis-empowerment:- women are reluctant to choose late night jobs, thus made their presence in offices low.
2. Poor or inefficient security systems (poor coverage of CCTV cameras, etc.), low police to population ratio i.e., only 106 policemen for 1 lakh population, with low ratio of women police officers.
3. Increased case related to dowry and of domestic violence in urban areas.
4. Increased cases of physical mental sexual harassment at work places for organized and unorganized sector women.

Challenges:

1. The patriarchal mindset prevents the women from reporting the cases of eve teasing and hence culprits become repeat offenders.
2. Even if the administration is prompt in catching the culprits and presenting a robust charge sheet, the judicial process is so long that justice is invariably delayed.
3. Lack of funds, personnel and training to the police who find it hard to implement good initiatives.
4. Lack of avenues for information attainment or grievance redressal—low number of female police force compounds the problem. The need is to sensitize the forces while increasing female participation.
5. Poorly lit areas in the city which makes their travel unsafe and makes them vulnerable to crime, Poor public transport system with ill trained and insensitive staff.

Conclusion:

Write a brief conclusion.

Best answer: Nazia

Urbanisation India is taking place at a rapid pace. The cities of India are not usually pre planned, societies and complexes come up anywhere permitted by the government.

1.The biggest factor harming the security of women in India cities is lack of Public security cameras. Though newer buildings and malls may have one, the older parts of most of the cities provide many nooks and corners for criminals.

2.There is no or very less patrol police in the cities and those too do not cover every place or area.

3.The response time of the police is very slow, even if called at the time of distress, they usually reach after the crime is committed.

4.Many organised work places are not properly connected to the women cell this makes reporting misconduct of seniors in the work place difficult as it can directly affect the livelihood of the female employee.

5.Majority of women are employed in unorganised sector, are poor and illiterate. they are not capable of making complaints hence are marginalised and exploited easily and without fear.

6.The rapid pace of life has disconnected people to a large extent too. People are so engrossed in themselves that they forget to ask about a missing neighbour.

The challenges faces by the government in such scenario include

- Formation of dedicated task force for crime against women
- speed up the judicial process.
- Stricter laws against all kinds of offences.
- Instead of politicising the issues action needs to be taken.
- Educating the marginalised women about their rights.

Yet the various plans and policies by government like fast track courts, severe punishment for sexual offence women commission, Nirbhaya fund, etc are making it comparatively easier for women to live with dignity.

Imposition of secularism on the people of a country who are deeply religious has led to communalism. Do you agree? Critically analyze.

Introduction:

You should briefly introduce the idea of secularism and also mention about secular structure of Indian Society. Also explain the idea of secularism enshrined in the Indian constitution.

Body:

- Impact of inclusion of secularism in Indian constitution: – legal status, protection to minorities, religious freedom etc.
- How secularism has helped in strengthening the social bonding between communities.

How Indian idea of secularism is different from western concept and how does it help in improving the **multiculturalism** rather than creating **plural mono culturalism**.

- Discuss the **fault lines** arising due to secularism – idea of pseudo secularism, appeasement, food habits etc.(use examples of other countries too)
- Discuss how these fault lines are disguised in the name of religion and which have other major reasons too – political, economic, social etc.

Conclusion:

You should state that the idea of secularism is one the bedrock of a multi-cultural society like India and it should be followed in its true spirit.

Best Answer1: Peeku

Secularism is a belief that religion should not be a part of state affairs. Indian Secularism is based on concept of Sarva Dharma Sambhava- equality of all religions. Communalism on the other hand implies strong allegiance to one's ethnicity, race or religion than to society as a whole.

Secularism not leading to Communalism:

1. India, the birth place of major religions has traditionally been secular promoting equal tolerance for all religions
2. Though the term 'Secular' was added to Indian Constitution via the 42nd amendment, India has seen various examples be it Dhamma of Ashoka or Din-e-Elahi of Akbar.

3. Communalism in India has roots in the British Policy of Divide and Rule. United India was a threat to British, thus through policies like Partition of Bengal, Separate Electorates, Communal awards etc, they ensured that Indians remain divided.

4. India is still one of the most Secular countries where all religions get equal respect and Constitutional protection.

Secularism leading to Communalism:

1. Indian Secularism is State driven. Minorities argue that state should not interfere in religious matters. In the issue of Triple Talaq, AIMPLB said that personal laws cannot be re-written in name of social reforms.

2. While minorities fear that state led interventions will impose will of majority, the majority thinks that the state is busy in appeasing minority.

3. Such misconceptions, fuelled by motives of anti-social elements result into extreme communalism.

Holding Secularism completely responsible for Communalism would be a mistake. As much as it is responsibility of State to maintain communal harmony, the citizens are equally responsible too.

Best Answer2: Lucky

Secularism in India is a unique phenomenon. The Supreme Court declared it a Basic Feature of the Constitution. However, sometime ,it is alleged that imposition of secularism on its people vide 42nd Amendment has led to communalism.

Yes, it has led to-

1. 1.Our cultural, religious practices are our identity .A homogenization is certainly a jolt on these values.

2. 2.Our secularism is a positive connotation where the state gives equal respect to all religion. Here, the majority religious people take it being disfavored. Even positive discrimination in the matter of minorities are creating problems as people take it political appeasement.

3. on the other hand, minorities allege that in the garb of uniform Civil Code like legislation which have bearing on secularism, the state is trying to impose majority based codes by infringing upon their personal laws.

4. Backwardness of few religious communities in economic and political form, have also been cited because of being marginalized or not provided with equal opportunities. The Sachar Committee Report has highlighted it in detail.

But, it can't be concluded that adoption of secularism model is only led to communalism.

Why-

1. India is secular because its people, its culture and national ethos are secular. Secularism is India's manifest destiny. Right from ancient history to modern India through medieval India, we can find many examples which highlights rich culture of tolerance, mutual-coexistence and respect diversity.
2. India has exemplified a model which can be described as 'diversity is unity'. If the communalism would have been the only fall out of secularism, India as a state would have not survived so far who can forget our constitution assembly which was occupied by majority Hindu people, envisioned for cultural and religious rights in the form of fundamental rights for the other minor communities. This was the biggest example of tolerance and mutual trust.

Apropos, communalism cannot be cited an outcome of adoption of secularism. Increasing trends of riots and religious hatred are having multiple causes requiring a comprehensive strategy to tackle.

Best Answer3: Deep

Communalism is a political ideology which states that people who follow the same religion have common secular interests whereas **Secularism** in Indian context means equal treatment of all religions by the state.

Communalism in India is the result of the emergence of modern politics, which has its roots in partition of Bengal in 1905 and feature of separate electorate under Government of India Act, 1909, Communal award in 1932, Government of India Act, 1935 etc.

Secularism was first constitutionally imposed by 42nd CAA 1976 where in the preamble the word 'secular' was added. Supreme Court in 1985 Shah Bano verdict established secularism and need of UCC(Art44). In 1994 Supreme Court said Secularism was a basic feature of the Indian Constitution.

The root of communalism lies in 'divide and rule' politics. Communalism was created to separate human beings on basis of religion and to exploit them. Deeply religious peoples can be exploited and manipulated by showing the communalism agenda and misguiding their religious sentiments and beliefs. But secularism is based on mutual respect of each other's religion and it can never lead to communalism. Instead it can eradicate the poison of communalism from the hearts of people.

India is the land of **"Sarba Dharma Sambhaba", Ashoka's Dhamma, Akbar's Sulh-i-kul**. India will always maintain the idea of secularism and religious tolerance. As Paulo Coelho said, **"All religions lead to the same God, and all deserve the same respect."**

Regionalism in the Indian context hasn't necessarily been a bad experience. Critically comment.

Introduction:

Politically India is a union of states but culturally it is a melting pot of diverse and magnificent cultures. Our founding fathers always aimed at preserving national unity but encouraging diversity to flourish.

Body:

Regionalism: the theory or practice of regional rather than central systems of administration or economic, cultural, or political affiliation.

Regionalism has been associated with various issues and problems such as

1. Regionalism sometimes borders sub nationalism which can create separatist tendencies
2. In the era of coalition politics, the feeling of regionalism sometimes dominates issues of national interest.
3. Lopsided developments where certain regions are able t corner-off the benefits at the expense of other regions.
4. Local issues dominating or subverting national issues and agenda.

However it has certain positive aspects are well, which are not recognized explicitly, such as:

1. Constitutes the rainbow-culture of India where each region strives to preserve its uniqueness discarding attempts towards uniformity. This has a great economic value in the form of tourism as well.
2. Strengthens federal spirit of Indian polity by bringing in diverse perspectives and region-specific issues through the Upper House.
3. Acceptance of culture specificity of some states for administration purposes and providing them autonomy under Schedules 4 and 5.
4. Led to rise of regional leadership in the late 1960s which made our democracy more resilient towards majoritarianism.

Conclusion:

Write a brief conclusion.

Best answer: Nazreen

Regionalism is an ideology which gave priority to regional contents like geographical distinction; language barriers; and cultural diversity, over national priorities. India being a

right contender according to region differentiation also allowed it to establish. It has mix attributes:-

(good ones)

– **Federal notion**:- though Indian preamble called india, a union of state, but its some provision like formation of autonomous councils; special status to some states for easy dissimination of democracy, helps to curb tensions in regions

– **Better utilisation of resource**:- state formation in 2000, UK(river resources)-JHARKAND&CHHATISGARH(mineral resourses), devide their parent states acoording to their geographical needs. Only to enhance their efficiency,

– **Participation in democracy**:- several regional parties emerged from regionalism like AIDMK(TN), TELGU DESAM(ANDHARA), helps to strengthen the peoples participation in polity.

– **Preservation**:- helps to protect distinct identities like TRIBES are allowed to work according to their cultural demand e.g>PESA Act.

(bad ones)

– **Vote bank politics**:- this led to some time violence over regional identity.

– **Coalition parties**:- prevent the development and growth of one single idea, due to amalgamation of different ideologies e.g>current "mahagathbandhan"in bihar.

– **Inequalities**:- due to progress of favourite regions other one deprived of their demands thus led to "pocket growths"and "lopsided development"e.g> Mumbai and dharavi.

– **Riots**:- emphasis to one religion, main conflict in india is over hindu-muslim e.g> ayodhya dispute, kashmiri pandit exodus.

Thus it has both consequence over INDIAN society, and in current scenario, it emerges as tension due to conflicts between different region. Thus what we should encourage is nationalism with strengthened federalism so that co-operation and competition among different nodes remain the main propaganda to develop not conflicts. NITI aayog, interstate councils are the right platforms to cherish "ekal Bharat"(united Bharat) goal.

What do you understand by social empowerment? Whom the State wants to empower and why? Analyse.

In introduction, provide the definition of Social Empowerment:

(*Note*: *In our definition 'three basic components' should be mentioned without fail – i.e., Empowerment is multi-dimensional, social, and a process.*)

Empowerment is a **multi-dimensional social process** that helps people gain control over their own lives. It is a process that fosters power (that is, the capacity to implement) in people, for use in their own lives, their communities, and in their society, by acting on issues that they define as important.

Social empowerment is understood as the process of developing a sense of autonomy and self-confidence, and acting individually and collectively to change social relationships and the institutions and discourses that exclude poor people and keep them in poverty.

Whom the State wants to empower?

In general, almost all needs empowerment. In particular, the most vulnerable sections need social empowerment.

In India, the **vulnerable groups** include the very poor,

- Women and Children,
- Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST),
- Aged and Disabled,
- Poor migrants and refugees,
- People living with HIV/AIDS and Sexual Minorities and
- Other Marginalised communities.

You can provide few lines why they need social empowerment (as the question asks analyze)

Some important key points should be mentioned in your answer:

- They often **lack the skills, lacks power and confidence** to engage in community decision-making. This in turn may be taken to imply that they are helpless or victims.
- **To increase their power and autonomy to achieve certain outcomes** they need and desire.
- **voice, organisation, representation and identity**
- **It is constitutional obligation (FR, DPSP) and international covenants/SDGs**
- Social empowerment focuses on supporting disadvantaged people to gain power and **exert greater influence** over those who control access to key resources.

Poor people's **involvement in local associations and inter-community cooperation mechanisms** can contribute to social empowerment by improving their skills, knowledge and self-perception. Local associations also act as self-help mechanisms through which poor people organise their economic activities, such as farming cooperatives, or microfinance groups.

Conclusion:

It may therefore be important to support mechanisms designed to specifically target marginalised groups and an ideal state is always expected to gain power from its citizens and more so from the most vulnerable sections of the society. Hence, it is absolutely essential for the state to take along all sections with itself, so that we become a great nation.

Best answer 1: SherniZaad

Social empowerment is a comprehensive phenomenon which strives to give strength and recognition to the marginalized and weaker sections of the society who due to some factors are lagging behind the other sections of the population by using various positive tools like education, health and social security.

State wants to empower the following sections of the population :-

1) Women- they have been lagging behind their male counterparts in every field whether education, health and employment , hence to achieve faster economic amd inclusive growth there's need to first empower them socially.

2) Children- India is still enslaved in the bondage of social evils like child labour, child trafficking, malnutrition and hunger. Children are the future of our country hence there's a need to empower them.

3) Tribals- their unique culture and way of living enriches India's culture however due to historical injustices and developmental processes, their culture and languages are slowly eroding,hence they need social empowerment.

4) Dalits- Despite granting of political rights , India is still witnessing Dalit movements which indicates they need social empowerment in terms of self respect and social status.

5) Transgenders- they have been subjected to violence and maltreatment by society due to social stigma attached with their identity . Recent Transgender bill is a positive step towards their social empowerment.

Depite these sections, others like senion citizens, BPL public, unorganized workers , disabled etc also need social empowerment and government has been taking gradual amd bold steps

like Stand up India, MUDRA, UJJWALA, SUGAMYA BHARAT ABHIYAN,etc towards achieving holistic and inclusive development of each and every citizen as well as the country as a whole.

Best answer 2: Saurabh (Apart from definition, rest is succinct)

India has been envisioned as a welfare state and one of the functions of a welfare state is to empower its citizens so that even the last man standing is able to share the benefits of development.

Empowerment needs to be social, economic and political. There are certain sections which are vulnerable and need the assistance of the state to rise to their true potential. Social empowerment refers to the process of providing the right opportunities to all sections of the society and according special attention to the vulnerable sections.

There are a multitude of sections in the society which the states should empower:

1) Economically backward citizens since they face all kinds of social discrimination and their dignity is usually taken for granted.

2) Women folk need to be empowered since they have always wrongly been considered as the weaker sex and as subordinate to men. Various social and religious practices are derogatory to female dignity, hence the role of state in empowering them becomes all the more crucial

3) Socially marginalized groups need to be empowered since they face inherent discrimination right from their birth

4) With rapid material growth, the aboriginal population which are referred to as tribals in India have to face the biggest threat to their livelihood and culture.

5) Children, especially poor and orphans are always vulnerable to exploitation in many forms; hence their empowerment is an absolute must

The need for social empowerment is absolutely essential:

1) The quality of a society is normally judged by the way it treats its most vulnerable sections

2) For becoming a world power, the state has to take along all sections of the society along the path of development

3) Gross and persistent neglect of vulnerable sections may lead to social disharmony

4) International conventions also bind individual states to work for empowering vulnerable sections

5) Constitution also mandates that vulnerable sections be empowered so that they also enjoy the fruits of development

6) Empowering individuals would bring out the best in them which would benefit the society as a whole

An ideal state is always expected to gain power from its citizens and more so from the most vulnerable sections of the society. Hence, it is absolutely essential for the state to take along all sections with itself, so that we become a great nation.

The theme of Lord Buddha in meditation finds a prominent place in the rich visual art forms of India. Discuss.

Introduction:

Lord Buddha's depiction of meditation is seen in various visual art forms, especially sculpture and painting. He is shown as sitting in "Padmasana". This depiction of Buddha began with the advent of Mahayana Buddhism, earlier on images of things were worshipped
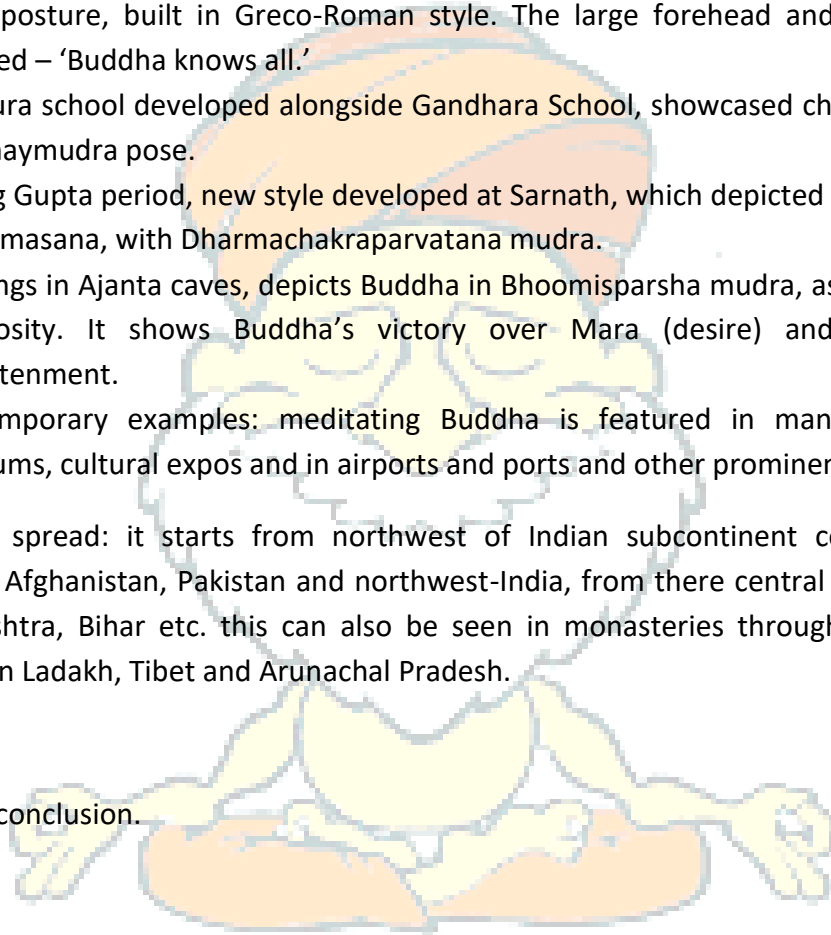
Meditating Buddha was common theme in many sculptures and paintings of ancient India

1. Gandhara School of art, produced early images of Buddha in meditative state and yogic posture, built in Greco-Roman style. The large forehead and protuberance signified – 'Buddha knows all.'
2. Mathura school developed alongside Gandhara School, showcased cheerful Buddha, in Abhaymudra pose.
3. During Gupta period, new style developed at Sarnath, which depicted Buddha seated in Padmasana, with Dharmachakraparvatana mudra.
4. Paintings in Ajanta caves, depicts Buddha in Bhoomisparsha mudra, as witness to his generosity. It shows Buddha's victory over Mara (desire) and his path to enlightenment.
5. Contemporary examples: meditating Buddha is featured in many modern art museums, cultural expos and in airports and ports and other prominent buildings.

Geographical spread: it starts from northwest of Indian subcontinent covers parts of modern days Afghanistan, Pakistan and northwest-India, from there central India including MP, Maharashtra, Bihar etc. this can also be seen in monasteries throughout India and prominently in Ladakh, Tibet and Arunachal Pradesh.

Conclusion:

Write a brief conclusion.

Best answer: Nemi

During early phase of Buddhism, Buddha was depicted through symbols like Chakra, lotus,empty chair etc, especially in Mauryan art. However, during Kushan rule, Buddha begin to be shown in human forms.

Meditating pose of Buddha was usually depicted through various hand gestures (mudras), each with its own special significance.

Meditating Buddha was common theme in many sculptures and paintings of ancient India
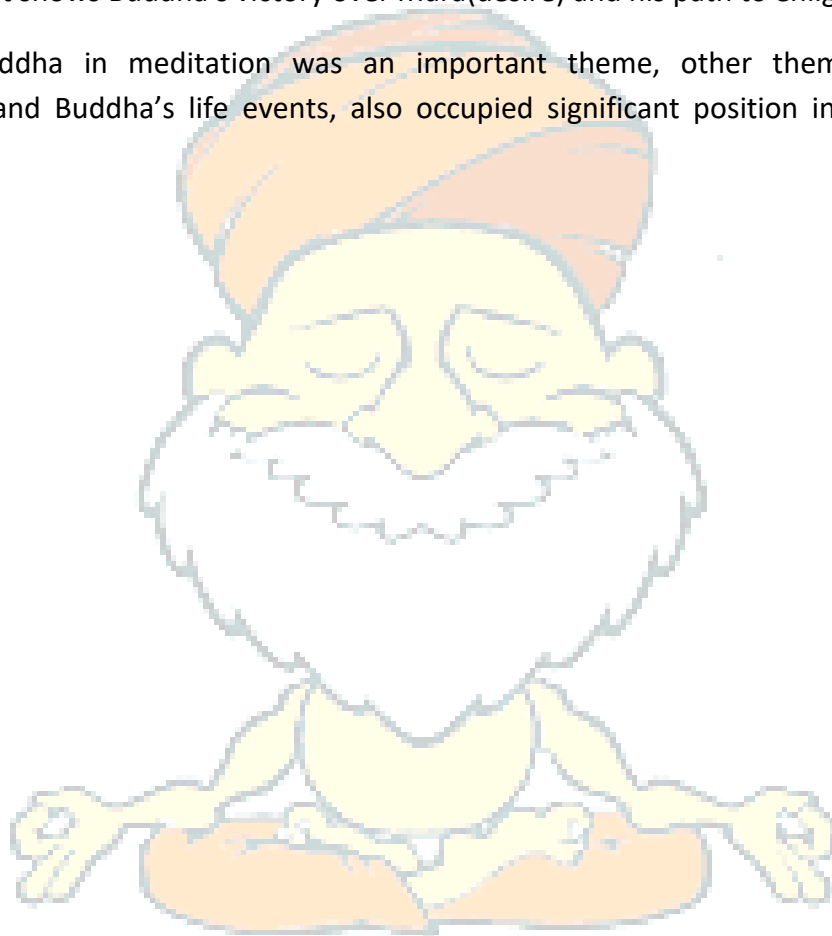
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Although Buddha in meditation was an important theme, other themes of Jataka, Bodhisattva and Buddha's life events, also occupied significant position in visual arts of India.

The musical heritage of India is a living embodiment of the Guru-Shishya tradition. Comment.

(Outline for the answer is being provided. You can add more points)

Introduction:

In your introduction, outline the richness of Indian music and trace the origin of Guru shishya tradition

Body: –

You should mention the examples of the tradition under following heading: –

- **Ancient** – Samveda and Gandharbaveda
- **Medieval** – Hindustani and Carnatic music. Kabir, Nanak etc., Gharanas: – Mewati, Jaipur, Agra, Benaras, Gwalior
- **Modern** – Rahat Fateh Ali Khan (Guru Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, Art Qwalli); Shafqat Amanat Ali (Ustad Amanat Ali Khan, Patiala gharana), Kaushiki Chakrabarty (Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty, Patiala gharana), Gundecha Gurukul
- music that has been preserved in an unbroken oral tradition for centuries may be lost if the tradition disappears—that has often spurred the consecration of gurukuls in India and abroad. While the **Ravi Shankar** Centre has become increasingly popular in Delhi, **Ustad Ziafariduddin Dagar** runs a gurukul in Panvel where students come for a few hours every week. **Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia** set up his first Vrindavan Gurukul in Mumbai and another in Bhubaneswar, **Manoj Hangal** is setting up a gurukul in the memory of his grandmother Gangubai Hangal in Hubli, and **Ustad Zakir Hussain** is in the process of setting up his own gurukul.
- Also trace the importance of this tradition. How it helped the tradition to evolve and sustain.
- Negatives/ limitations of this tradition – (in brief)
  - According to convention, a student of Hindustani music learning in the guru-shishya tradition cannot unilaterally decide to change his or her guru. It is incumbent on the student to seek permission from the first guru before such a change is made. The guru may or may not deign to sanction the move and the student has to accept that as the final word on the subject. There have been several instances of shishyas changing gurus for a variety of reasons, but in general, this was not an easy task to accomplish because of the guru's supreme position in the hierarchy.
  - The ancient oral tradition languishes now in a modern world, where mounting economic pressures have robbed music halls of gurus with the ability and will to support students who come to learn music at their doors.

     o connoisseurs of music lament the disappearing infrastructure, while experts lament the disappearing talent

- Present condition – prospects.

Conclusion:

You should conclude by saying that the tradition has helped in evolution of Indian musical heritage. We should try to conserve this and proper channels should be developed to sustain this for longer period.

Best Answer1: Deep

The Guru–Shishya tradition (parampara) denotes a succession of teachers and disciples in traditional Indian Music.

1) The musical heritage of India originates from Samveda and Gandharbaveda. The learning and knowledge survived generation after generation by Guru-Shishya parampara.

2) In medieval times after 13th century Indian music divided into Hindustani and Carnatic music.

3) Hindustani music again divided into various gharanas like Gwalior and Patiala gharana.

4) In Dagar gharana Gundecha brothers, In Darbhanga gharana Malik family, In Betiah and Talbandi gharana Khandar bani and nauhari bani represent examples of -Shishya parampara.

5) In modern age, Rahat Fateh Ali Khan (Guru Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, Art Qwalli); Shafqat Amanat Ali (Ustad Amanat Ali Khan, Patiala gharana), Kaushiki Chakrabarty (Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty, Patiala gharana) are the examples of continuity of Guru–Shishya parampara .

Music in India evolves and passes to the disciple by the blessings of teacher. From ancient Vedic age to our modern age, the musical heritage of India is a living embodiment of the Guru-Shishya tradition.

Best Answer2: vengeancee

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Story telling through various performing arts is a dominant cultural theme in India. Illustrate with the help of suitable examples.

This was one of the simplest Art and Culture Question that can be asked, where you had so much of scope to write. It's hard to believe that so few people have attempted this question.

Story telling has been the part of Indian traditions from Vedic age where information and knowledge was passed through stories. Even the two great epics Mahabharata and Ramayana were written much later and passed from generation to generation through story telling.

With age, storytelling became the basic theme of most of the performing arts.

Folk Dance and Folk Theatre: Most of the folk dance/theatre depict mythological themes or naturals scenes. Some of them like Bhand Pather of Kashmir and Swang of Haryana are social and political satires.

(You can put as many examples as you want depending upon the word limit.)

Classical Dance: Almost all classical dances use postures and expressions to tell a story. Most of them are mythological. For example Kathakali dancers use face paint to depict the characters. (You can mention different colours as well.)

Kathak of UP derives its name of 'Katha' or story. It depicts both cultural and mythological scenes, usually Rasleela and Romance.

Puppetry: Puppetry is used to depict stories with the use of statues or idols called puppets. The puppeteer dexterily moves them in different styles and music and dialogues are recited from behind the curtains. Different types of Puppetry is famous in different states like Kathputli in Rajasthan, Bommalattam Tamil Nadu, Patul Nach West Bengal etc.

Songs and Poetry: Many songs and poems have been written to describe wars, valour or love stories. Carnatic compositions were used to narrate musical stories. The tradition is known as Kathalaya.

Apart from these, there is a very famous medieval Art called **'Dastangoi'**, which literally translates into 'Story telling'. In this a single person narrates a story dramatically without the help of any props or music.

(In this question, whatever art form you mention, you need to give an example for it.)

Best Answer: Sk19

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http://a.disquscdn.com/uploads/mediaembed/images/4251/1434/original.jpg

The majestic ruins of the Vijayanagar empire in Hampi signify the refined style of temple architecture and sculpture art that was unparalleled. Discuss.

Introduction: Since it is already mentioned in the question that Hampi was built by Vijaynagar rulers, you don't need to mention it again separately in your introduction. You start by mentioning that it has been included in Cultural World Heritage sites, or any other way using fewer words.

Since many of you have written very informative and beautiful answers, we will give you a scholarly article on Vijayanagara architecture – both religious and civil (For your knowledge). You can use the relevant details in your answer.

Temple architecture :

A typical Hindu temple has a cluster of structures with sanctorum as its nucleus. A smaller temple could be a single chambered shrine with the image of the God or Goddess is installed in its sanctum. A large temple can be an elaborate campus with many auxiliary structures within it.

Large Vijayanagara temples are typically enclosed within giant compound walls. Tall pyramidal towers make the gateways to the temple campus. The principle shrine at the center of the campus and the main towered gateway are in the sale axis. Usually this axis is along the East-West direction with the temple facing the east. Immediately around the principle shrines are the auxiliary shrines of the Goddess (typically the consort of the God) and gods of the Hindu pantheon.

For example a temple dedicated to Lord Vishnu would have an image of Vishnu in its main sanctum. Somewhere nearby would be a shrine dedicated to Goddess Lakshmi, the consort of Vishnu. It is not unusual to find the shrines of a number of other gods associated with Vishnu.

A very typical example of Vijayanagara (Vijayanagar) style temple architecture is the Virupaksha Temple at the Hampi village. The temple is dedicated to Lord Siva, the god of destruction. Next to the main shrine are the two shrines of Goddesses Pampa and Bhuvaneswari.

For majority of their grand temples, Vijayanagara borrowed the Tamil country's architecture (The Chola's Architecture) for making its towers. The lower portion is usually made of giant granite blocks with a huge wooden door installed at the centre of it. Either side of the doors is carvings of the doorkeeper deities wielding clubs or other similar weapons. Either sides of the passageway are carved with life-sized nymph figures or images of gods.

The top portion of the pyramidal tower is made of brick & mortar. The exteriors of which is packed with terracotta images of gods, demigods, people, animals and host of other mythological themes. The pinnacle is usually an inverted barrel shaped with two hones

projecting on either side. The hones resemble that of cows, a sacred animal in Hinduism, and the tower is thus called Gopuram (the home of cow).

Usually a large elevated hall with porches stands in between the entrance tower mentioned above and the main shrine. These open halls are one of the architectural pieces that best demonstrate the Vijayanagara architectural skills.

The hall structure stands on a platform with porches. The platform is typically a few feet tall with fluted sides. Chains of intricate carvings go around the platform. The porches, typically located on all sides, give access to the top of the platform. Granite pillars support the usually flat roof structure. These pillars are carved with rampant Yalis (giant mythical creatures). Generally the Yali pillars seems facing the porch or the central hall portions. The other pillars are carved with images of gods and other mythical themes. Vijayanagara architects succeeded in using these monolithic giant pillars as an integral artistic feature of the architecture than merely as a structural inevitability. Though many large temples in Hampi have them in plenty, the halls of Vittala Temple are the best place to see them in close proximity.

A semi closed small hall called Antarala connects the hall to the sanctum.

Usually large temples would have a large standalone hall, typically like the hall above explained, used for the annual ceremonial wedding of the god and goddess.

The long pillared cloisters along the inner side of the compound wall are another typical feature of the Vijayanagara architecture. This was used us a community dining hall and for prayer.

Apart from the above one can find many structures and artifacts like the lamppost, the flag post etc that are of ceremonial and functional significance.

Important Temples: (From Wikipedia)

Hampi has various notable Hindu temples with some vedanta theology inside the temples, some of which are still active places of worship. Among the most notable are:

- **Achyutaraya Temple**
- **BadaviLinga** :This is the largest Linga image in Hampi. Located next to the Lakshmi Narasimha statue the Linga is housed inside a chamber with an opening in the front. A close look on this icon can reveal three eyes (depicting the three eyes of Shiva) carved on it. Legend has it that this was commissioned by a peasant woman and hence the name (Badva means poor in local tongue).The sanctum in which the Linga is installed is always filled with water as a water channel is made to flow through it.According to Hindu theology the River Ganga (Ganges) was brought from swarga to earth to quench the drought. But the river was so forceful that it could split the earth into two pieces if allowed to fall on earth. Lord Shiva consented to take the

impact by allowing the torrent of Ganga to fall on his matted hair. Thus helping to release a smooth flowing river on to earth from his hair. As an iconic representation of this, in Siva temples you can spot a dripping pot hanged over the Linga.

- **Chandramauleshwara Temple**
- **Malyavanta Raghunathaswamy temple** was constructed in the ancient style of architecture, the temple of Malyavanta Raghunathaswamy stands 3 km down the road. Its inner walls flaunt peculiar and interesting motifs of fish and marine creatures.[
- **Hazara Rama Temple** Complex: This ruined temple complex is well known for elaborate frescoes from the Hindu theosophy and a sprawling courtyard well-laid with gardens. It is well known for more than many thousand carvings & inscriptions on & in the temple depicting the mighty story of Ramayana. It has about 1000 carvings & inscriptions depicting the story of Ramayana.
- **Jain Temple**: Reliefs of Jain temples are present in this area hat includes Hemkut Jain temples, Ratnantraykut, Parsvanath Charan and Ganigatti jain temple. Most of the idols are now missing from these temples. Ruins suggest that these temples belong to 14th century.[
- **Krishna Temple Complex**: This temple complex has been recently excavated through the last decade, and restoration work is still in progress. The temple has the Sacred Tank or the Pushkarani located on its eastern side.

The mantapas of Vittala temple

The stone chariot at Vittala complex

- **Vittala** Temple Complex:This is perhaps the most famous and well-known among the ruins of Hampi. The iconic stone chariot in the vicinity of this temple complex is a symbol of Karnataka Tourism. Of late, floodlights have been installed in the temple complex that provide illumination at dusk, thereby adding to the grandeur of the architecture.

The temple houses the famous musical pillars. The British wanted to check the reason behind this wonder and so they had cut two pillars to check if anything was there inside the pillars that was producing the sound. They had found nothing but hollow pillars. Even today we can see those pillars cut by the British.

The road leading to the temple was once a market where the horses were traded. Even today we can see the ruins of the market on both the sides of the road. The temple contains the images of foreigners like Persians selling horses.

- **Muslim Sunni masjid**
- **Preksha temple** and groups
- Saasivekaalu Ganesha

- **Virupaksha Temple** known as the Pampavathi temple, it is an ancient temple situated in the Hampi Bazaar. It predates the founding of the Vijayanagara empire. The temple has a 160-foot (49 m) high tower at its entrance. Apart from Shiva, the temple complex also contains shrines of the erotica statues Bhuvaneshwari and Pampa.
- **Underground Shiva Temple**
- **Yantrodharaka Anjaneya temple**

Best Answer 1: Sk19

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Best Answer 2: Abhi

The Vijayanagara Empire established in 1336 by Harihara I and his brother Bukka Raya I of Sangama dynasty based in South India is known for temples, monuments, palaces and other structures across South India. The monuments in and around Hampi are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site due to its cultural, historical and scientific significance. Temple architecture received a new impetus and reached to new heights under the patronage of the Vijayanagara rulers.

(1) Vijayanagara architecture is a vibrant combination of the Chalukya, Hoysala, Pandya and Chola styles. It is also influenced by later Deccan and Dravidian styles.

(2) Important features of Vijayanagara style of temples and architecture were monolithic pillars, ornate pillared halls, decoration on exterior side of the walls and rayagopurams, or monumental towers adorned with life-sized figures of Gods and Goddesses that stand at the entrance of the temple. Local hard granite was used as building material because of its durability. The courtly architecture is generally made of mortar mixed with stone rubble and often shows secular styles with Islamic-influenced arches, domes and vaults.

(3) Virupaksha temple also known as Pampapati temple in Hampi is dedicated to Lord Shiva, known here as Virupaksha. The gopuram which is more than 50 meters high has a brick superstructure and a stone base.
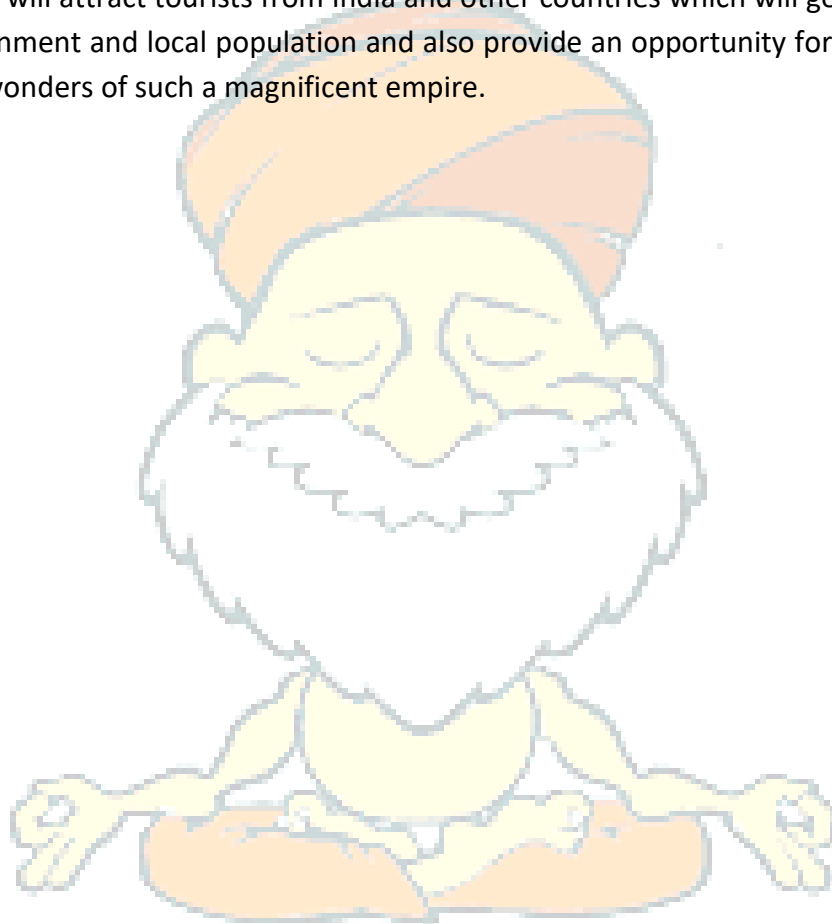
(4) The Hazara Ram temple is dedicated to Lord Rama and the walls of the temple carry the story of Ramayana carved on stone.

(5) Vittala temple dedicated to Vittala, an aspect of Vishnu is known for its world-famous stone chariot or ratha in front of the temple. The other notable feature is the musical pillars

that support the roof of the main temple representing a musical instrument, and is constructed as 7 minor pillars arranged around a main pillar. These 7 pillars, when struck, emanate the 7 notes from the representative instrument, varying in sound quality based on whether it represents a wind, string or percussion instrument.

(6) There are other temples like Krishna temple, Kodandarama temple and Lotus Mahal which are unique and significant.

Unfortunately, most of the city of Vijayanagar is now in ruins, represented by the well-known site Hampi which is dotted with little hills of granite. The Government needs to take immediate steps to protect these monuments because of its cultural and architectural richness. This will attract tourists from India and other countries which will generate income for the government and local population and also provide an opportunity for the tourists to witness the wonders of such a magnificent empire.

"The more I saw, the more I admired the Master's genius — his uncanny ability, through the magic of his brush to depict mood, emotion and atmosphere and to encapsulate the whole story in the selected scene". How far this quote about Raja Ravi Varma describes his art? Discuss.

Introduction:

Raja Ravi Varma, also referred as "Rafael of the East" is considered "father of modern paintings in India". He had the vision and talent to render on canvas, realistic, human-like images of the deities.

Body:

- Ravi Varma was also the first serious Indian painter to use oil as his medium and to use live models to create some of the scenes in his pictures.
- Another departure from the norm (from Indian painters) is his style; many of his paintings are quite similar to those of the Grand Masters from Italy or Holland.
- His favorite subject was people, especially women. From portraits to figures and depiction of elaborate scenes from Hindu mythology, his sense of proportion, perspective, rendering of skin tones and the elaborate folds and texture of clothing, Ravi Varma was a cut above other artists. Ornaments were painted true to the metals, the hands and feet perfectly shaped, the expressions captured accurately and the colors and composition rendered with a rare sophistication.

His works can be classified into three categories:

1. Portraits: The dark background, the subdued light playing on the subject's face, the masterly treatment of the ornaments and clothing all are quite similar.
2. Paintings of Every Day Themes: much care and attention is given to detail of the background that it attains equal importance to the main characters. The background also shows his mastery of perspective as well as that unique quality to impart the texture of the subject.
3. Scenes from Hindu mythology: It is in these paintings Ravi Varma's grandeur becomes obvious. Perfectly proportioned men and women set against elaborate background rival any painting by the Italian or Dutch masters.

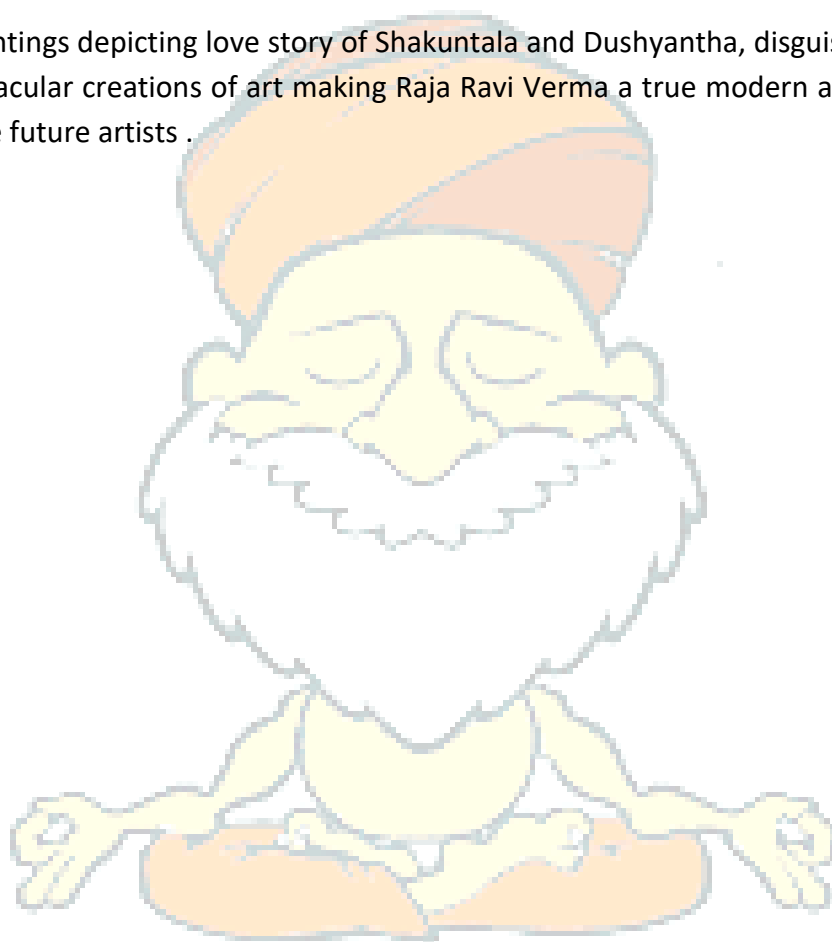**Conclusion:**

(Write a brief conclusion.)

Best answer: SherniZaad

Raja Ravi Varma is known as the legend when it comes to Indian paintings. He was known for his unique style and capacity to depict the mood and atmosphere of the scenes beautifully on the canvas creating magic in true sense.

His style was unique because he painted with European techniques while incorporating Indian themes and subjects thus giving his paintings totally a new dimension. His oil paintings and water paintings depicting Indian mythological scenes are brilliant examples.

Through his paintings like Jatayu trying to save Sita from Ravan, he portrayed excellently the whole mood and emotions of the story on just one canvass. He was often criticized for showing extra emotions in his work but this was his strength usually missing in other artists.

His other paintings depicting love story of Shakuntala and Dushyantha, disguise of Draupadi, etc are spectacular creations of art making Raja Ravi Verma a true modern artist and a role model for the future artists .

The classical dance forms of India are characterised by both similarities and differences. Elucidate.

(Most of the points have been covered under the best Answer section. These are just a guideline for good answer)

Introduction: –

- You should mention about classical dances in India (who gives this distinction, how many are there etc.)
- You should highlight the richness of Indian dances and trace the tradition from its origin.

Body: –

- Highlight the similarities/ differences under broad headings and also give examples.
- Origin
- Places
- Themes
- Artists
- Costumes/ makeup
- Musical instruments etc.
- Uniqueness of each dance
- Patronage
- Positions

(you can add more points)

Conclusion: –

Your conclusion should reflect the concern about the present status of dance forms and a need to provide institutional support to maintain the legacy.

Best Answer1: SherniZaad

The Sangeet Natak Academy currently confers classical status to 8 dance forms- Bharatnatyam, Kuchipudi, Odissi, Kathak, Mohiniattam, Kathakali, Manipuri and Sattriya- all being unique and different in their own way yet showing some similarities.

Differences: –

1) Origin – most basic and important factor differentiating them is the place of their origin for ex Kathak originated in North India and Kuchipudi and Andhra pradesh, Sattriya in Assam and Kathakali in Kerala.

2) Emphasis – each dance form emphasizes on different aspects of natya, nrittya and nritta. For instance, in Bharatnatya emphasis is placed on expressions with dance however in Kathak, the more importance is given to the foot work and dancing.

3) Make up – dancers wear different kinds of makeup according to their culture. In kathakali, heavy painting of face is done using colors like green, white etc. whereas in Odissi, minimal make is done keeping the face very real and natural.

However,apart from the differences these dances show a few signs of similarities like depiction of Tribhanga posture in case of Bharatnatyam and Odissi, invocation of God before starting of the performance, performing on the music of their own regions, portraying of mythological scenes especially from krishnaleela, Mahabharata scenes etc.

Indian culture is unique with combination of all forms of art showcasing diversity under each of them. However, due to western aping culture and focus on new dancing styles like contemporary and freestyle, our classical dance forms are lagging behind. It's the need of the hour to create awareness, encourage these art forms in schools and higher level, incentivize Dance gurus and instill a feeling of pride for our culture in each of us

Best Answer2: – ManojTanajiMane

The similarities and differences are based on the territorial, origin and dance performance features.

Similarities:

1. All have their origin in the Natyashastra of Bharatmuni.
2. Bhawa, Rasa and Taal form the basic of classical form.
3. A combination of Nritya, Nritta and Natya.
4. Two forms – Tandava and Lasya transcend across all the dance forms in varying degree of dominance.

Differences-

Origin:

1. a.Temple Origin: Bharatnatyam, Kathakali and Kathak
2. b.Folklore/Story Telling Origin: Kuchipudi, Manipuri,etc
3. c.While Odissi has botj the features – Mahari and Nartala.

Performer:

1. Bharatnatyam has Ekacharasya feature – single performer playing different roles.
2. Manipuri – involves the entire community – celebrating dance

3. Kathakali and Kuchipudi – different characters for different roles.
4. Devotional, hence math driven – involves all the devotees.
5. Dancer Features:
6. Female Dominated with Lasya dominating – Mohiniattanam, Bharatnatyam, etc.
7. Historically Male dominated while now all participate – Kuchipudi (Bhagavathulu).
8. Odissi: Male childrwn play as female dancers.
9. Dancing elements
10. Bharatnatyam – body composed of triangles.
11. Odissi – Tribhanga; three distinct body movements.
12. Kathakali – facial features dominant over body movement.
13. Manipuri – body composed.of.curves. Nagabhanda Mudra
14. Theme:

Bharatnatyam – carnatic music, Kuchipudi – Bhagwat Purana, Kathakali – Mahabharat, Ramayana.

Sattriya – Gita Govind.

Thus the Indian classical dance is an assemblage of varying dance features in which similarities transcends.

Best Answer3: -Mani

India has recognised 8 dance forms as classical. They are Kathakalli, Mohiniattam (kerala); Bharatnatyam (TN), Odissi (Orissa), Kuchipudi (AP), Manipuri (Manipur), Kathak (UP) and Sattariya (Assam).

These dance forms have many similarities yet are easily distinguishable from each other.

Simialrities

1. Kathakalli, bharatnatyam, mohiniaatam, Kuchipudi and Odissi trace their origins from Baharata's natyashatra
2. Both odissi and Mohiniattam have sensous features.
3. Kathak and Manipuri have origins in bhakti movement. While Manipuri is based on Krishna- radha raaseela theme, kathak reflects the devotion of bhakti poets.
4. Both men and women perform all the eight classical dances.

Differences:

1. While dancers in Kathakali never speak, speech is a feature of Kuchipudi dance where dancers also sing.
2. Thick anklets are a distint feature of Mohiniattam but in Manipuri dance, dancers don't were anklets

3. Elaborate robes in Kathakali are unmatched from all dances. They have earned their unique space in global cultural landscape
4. Sattariya is relatively simple dressed as compared to all other seven dances.
5. The art of drawing paintings with legs while dancing is a feature of Kuchipudi alone.
6. While wooden jewellery is a feature of Kuchipudi, silver jewellery is used in Odissi.

Classical dances are a rich cultural heritage of India reflecting our expertise in dance, music and acting all at the same time.

Social norms deny the possibilities of economic freedom to women provided by the Constitution. Comment.

In this question you need to mention what you understand by economic freedom, in a line or two, Freedom provided by the Indian constitution to women and how the social norms are denying this freedom to them.

Economic Freedom: In literal sense, Economic freedom or **economic liberty** is the ability of members of a society to undertake economic actions. The key ingredients of economic freedom are personal choice, voluntary exchange, freedom to compete in markets, and protection of person and property.

All these freedoms are provided to women by the Indian constitution through-

- Right to equality in terms of education and employment opportunity without the discrimination on the basis of Gender (Since it is a women oriented question, gender is being highlighted). (Art-15 and 16)
- Right to freedom to profess any occupation or profession (Art 19(f))
- Right to education (Art 21A), which is a precursor to economic freedom.
- Article 41 and 42 also speaks that state shall make effective provisions for securing right to work and education, and to provide just and humane conditions for work and maternity relief.

But Social norms have denied the possibilities of economic freedom to women:

- Division of labour: labour has been divided as such that man is considered the bread earner of the family and women have been assigned the task to do the house hold work.
- Male child is still given importance and considered as father's heir. So there are many areas in which sons are given better treatment, healthcare and education while girls are pushed into household chores.
- The patriarchal mindset still thinks that there are certain jobs which are not fit for women and they are stereotyped with occupations like teaching, hospitality industry etc.
- Physical assaults have also increased on women as a backlash by male fraternity(sited by many sociologists). This is to discourage women to come out in the open competition.
- Because of social customs like dowry, a girl child is perceived as a burden on parents
- There are many problems from female feticide, to skewed sex ratio and literacy rate which have proved to be a hindrance for economic freedom of women.

(Note: Always conclude these types of questions on a positive note. Something like this.)

However, the situation is not as grim as it seems. There has been a drastic change in last 1-2 decades where a large number of women have pursued technical and professional courses, their number in top administrative positions have increased, more women are participating in private sector as top executives. Not only this have the participation of women in physically challenging fields like armed forces also increased.

Best Answer: Simplex

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There is a thin line between collective bargaining and mob extortion. Examine the given statement in the light of the role played by pressure groups in India.

Introduction:

In a welfare state, there is always space for negotiation for various demands which expressed by different means. Collective bargaining used more in positive sense where collectively people demand and put pressure on government to achieving the objective for a common cause. Mob exertion many arguer as extreme extension of former in terms of methodology and sometime time demands itself. Both are characters of pressure groups across globe.

Body:

Types of pressure groups:

Organized and formally recognized: they have a organizational structure and they present their interests before the government in the form on requests persuasion and public pressure .they employ non-violent means to achieve their ends. E.g., FICCI, CII etc.

Organized but not fully recognized: they have organization but are not fully recognized by the government, their mode of operation varies from propaganda, requests to outright threats. E.g., many religious groups, regional and linguistic groups, caste groups.

Collective bargaining examples:

- LGBT parade for the rights of LGBT community.
- The retired defense personnel's agitation for OROP.
- India against Corruption movement demanding the Lokpal act.
- Business group pressure helped to make positive sentiment for legislative reform like GST.

Mob extortion recent examples:

- Kaveri agitations in Karnataka and Tamilnadu.
- Patidar and Jat reservation agitations in Gujrat and Haryana respectively.
- Maratha agitations in Maharashtra.

Note:

- (1.Discuss why mob extortion is resorted to, and why it is non-conducive for the democratic setup and national security.
- Add examples that you can think off)

Conclusion: Write a brief conclusion.

Best answer: Abhishek

Pressure groups enrich the political discourse of a country by pushing forward the interests of often marginalized groups through the principle of collective bargaining(strength in numbers) without directly partaking in the political process through elections. Several such groups exist in India such as FICCI, SIMA, CII, etc to name a few. However, due to countless such groups vying for the attention of a govt having limited resources, any interest that finds political representation often comes at the cost of several others.

Thus, it often happens in India that pressure groups that have existed for a long time, or have entrenched connections across political ideologies and divides, or are backed by a mass base and considerable financial resources are successful in holding the govt ransom and making it bend rules and regulations for them. These groups make large donations both legally and illegally to politicians and parties and use their supporters to galvanize support for parties, In return of this, they end up winning lucrative contracts without following due process(single bidder, lack of auction), escape penalties if convicted(defaulters galore), or seek exceptions to rules meant to apply uniformly to everyone. Often heard in the media are complaint of investors pulling out of India due to an unfavorable climate(Ease of doing business, labour legislation), complaining of consumer costs to defer implementation of standards(BS-VI to make vehicles expensive for the common man), etc. Such statements are often veiled threats meant to arm twist the govt into submission.

While PG have every right to push their interests, the Govt needs to draw a fine line between bargaining and extortion, and deal with instance of the latter strictly, Further, excess proximity between PG and the government as seen recently raises ethical questions about how fair the govt can be, and may diminish the govt's public credibility. Such instances too should be avoided. At the end of the day, PG emerge from the electorate and are right in doing what they do, but their undue influence weakens good governance, and may even imperil the principle of equal value of each vote…

By taking suitable examples, discuss the role of business groupings like FICCI and CII in policy formulation.

Introduction:

Your introduction should mention that groups like FICCI, CII etc. consists of major industrial sector of the country. They work as a pressure group to influence the policy making process of the government.

 Body:

Mention how these groups can play the role in policy making:

- pressure on government
- scathing criticisms
- Data and research
- Funding
- Support mobilization
- Economic model
- Negotiations

(You can add more points here. Examples are mentioned in best answers. Please go through them)

Conclusion:

You should conclude it by saying that even though such institutions have gained wider prominence & their role making has improved, precautions should be taken by Government to have national interest at its helm & center of policy making.

Best Answer1: vengeancee

FICCI, CII are associational business groups comprising of eminent personalities from industrial & business sector of India. They are a civil society arrangement to express their views on what is best for growth of business environment in India. Their role has been crucial in policy formulation as:

1) **Accumulate pressure on Govt**: with their demands & express their concerns on lack of business opportunities in India. Ex: before Budget '16-'17, they started to write articles about rationalizing inverted duty, removing tax on ESOP, which was eventually followed in Budget.

2) **Give scathing criticisms**: against Govt & opposition for lacunae in promoting business environment. Ex: FICCI, CII came in open support of GST, and criticized opposition for their adversarial politics.

3) **Present data & research work**: which enhances their legitimacy, ex: NASSCOM has been in active support for growth of StartUps in India which later led to launching of "StartUp India"

4) **Running engine of economies**: & their concerns are bound to be taken seriously for continuous growth of nation. Ex: ATUFS launched recently is another example of ongoing pressure from such groups.

5) **Fund political parties during elections**: which makes them integral part of Government policy making.

Since globalization, such institutions have gained wider prominence & their role making has improved. However, precautions should be taken by Government to have national interest at its helm & center of policy making.

Best Answer2: Yogesh Bhatt

India has long history of business grouping in India FICCI, stabilized in 1927 for protecting business rights under British Raj. Over a period of time many business groups emerged like CII, ASSOCHAM, AIMO and so on. They help in policy formulation by following ways-

1- **Developing economic model**– before independence, business groups presented Bombay plan as model of development for free India. Now also they help for design models like renewable energy policy in recent time.

2- **Mobilize support**– indirectly they help to mobilize support for policy reforms across the political ideology like for telecom sector or GST reform, it organized many events to influence the different political parties at center and state level.

3- **International negotiation**– in bilateral relations between nations like India- USA or in international events like in Davos, these groups work with government to attract more business and investment for India.

4- **Develop best practices**– such forums are actively evolve in policy making body like Niti ayog and provide insight for implementation better policies learn from industry experience and global experience.

5- **Negotiation**– with government for welfare and safe guard for industry welfare as in recent time after NGT ban automobile business group demand government for necessary intervention.

6- **Educating people**– as in case of net neutrality by organizing debates and discussions they helped government to educate people on respected government policy; also government get people perspective by this exercise.

Business groups across groups are closely working with government on policy design; however, they need to broaden the vision for inclusiveness and equality as it seen as major critics against them.

Best Answer3: Simplex

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The decision to ratify the Paris Deal will have several socio-economic implications which require advanced planning and policy formulation. Elucidate.

Introduction:

Your introduction should mention about Paris deal in brief.

Body:

You should mention about the socio-economic implications

- reverse the adverse health conditions
- suppress extreme climatic events
- protect biodiversity
- costly renewable energy
- improve income of farmers.
  Renewable energy – potential employment generation sector.

Also mention about advance planning and policy formulation which is required.

- Collaboration with developed countries for technology transfer.
- Effective usage of global platforms like ISA.
- Comprehensive planning of mitigation and adaptation.
- Encouraging R&D in the field of renewable energy.
- Lobbying for fund transfer.
- Effective domestic policy implementation like CAMPA.

(You can add more points)

Conclusion:

You should mention that implementation of Paris deal will have several socio-economic implications. We should act in suitable manner to strike balance between developmental aspirations and environmental concerns.

Best answer 1: Samudra gupta

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Best answer 2: DS27

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Best answer 3: SherniZaad

Paris Deal 2015 is considered to be one of the most historical and progressive agreement by the global world towards sustainable development. However, the ratification of the deal in terms of increasing the renewable energy component and peaking of GHG emissions in the near future would have some socio economic implications like: –

Social implications: –

1) Stop and even reverse the adverse health conditions with rising pollution level.

2) It will suppress extreme climatic events like droughts and floods thus improve the living conditions of people.

3) It will protect biodiversity on which the world depends for sustenance.

Economic implications: –

1) Renewable energy is costly and will strain the resources of the government.

2) agricultural conditions will improve pushing the income of farmers.

3) Renewable energy is a potential employment generation sector.

However, to achieve the positives and tackle the challenges we need advanced planning and policy formulation: –

1) Collaboration with developed countries for technology transfer.

2) Effective usage of global platforms like ISA.

3) Comprehensive planning of mitigation and adaptation.

4) Encouraging R&D in the field of renewable energy to avoid over dependence on others.

5) Lobbying for fund transfer by the like-minded nations.

6) Effective domestic policy implementation like CAMPA.

Despite taking these measures there's need for creating massive awareness among the public to contribute towards sustainable development even at the individual level. Its high time the world realizes the ramifications of irreversible climate change and works together for saving the mother planet.

Best answer4: –naadan parinda

Paris Deal 2015 came as a watershed moment to preserve Earth where nations came together under bottom-up approach and submitted their INDCs. Overall it was decided to keep the range of rise of earth's temperature within range of 2C & preferably 1.5C by pre-industrial era.

India on its part came forward with an ambitious INDC and has now decided to ratify it. This decision can have multiple implications as-

>**ECONOMIC ANGLE**-India has opted to reduce its emission intensity by 33-35% by 2030 as compared to 2005.It means more reliance will be on non-conventional sources like sun, wind, bio, nuclear energy. We being a developing nation had "coal" as primary fuel to exploit on (power plants). But now this won't be so easy.

This also leads to need of expensive cutting edge technology. Situation gets complicated when still there is lack of clarity in funding mechanism through GCF and western support regarding technology transfer.

>**SOCIAL ANGLE**-We have opted to enhance carbon sink to 3bn tonnes. This means an increased vigilance regarding protection of forests. Therefore, need to work in sync with rights of forest dwellers and tribes. New employment avenues generated will help to improve lifestyle of people

But increased expenditure may hamper public expenditure on health and education services.

Though India has played role of responsible nation sharing the burden of which it wasn't part of initially, need to have proper policy formulation.

Way forward-

>Develop an innovative ecosystem, new technology in participative manner- STARTUP India can come in handy

>diversify technology dependence-In wake of Indo-US solar dispute

>encouraging manufacturing sector to focus on "efficiency" with quality

>working to bring in clarity regarding disposal of GCF with like-minded people

>Steps like improved urban transport system, smart grids be encouraged

>Ensuring accountability and feedback mechanism to be in place

In this way, we can act in suitable manner to strike balance between developmental aspirations and environmental concerns

>Steps like improved urban transport system, smart grids be encouraged

The government in the biggest litigant today. Can you suggest some ways to address the high numbers of litigations involving the government?

A litigant is someone involved in a lawsuit. The one who sues and the one who gets sued are both litigants. In this answer, both the aspects, where government gets sued and where the government is suing, needs to be tackled.

The shocking fact is that, that out of more than 2.5 crore pending cases with judiciary, almost 50% are the ones in which the government is a litigant.

(Note: the question clearly asks about the ways to reduce the number of cases involving Government. And not the pending cases in general. Your answer here needed to be specific.)

Many of you have given good points, some of them very unique but try to avoid suggesting the formation of a new body, like a separate court for government litigations, which many of you have given. Similarly while writing an answer for internal security and intelligence, avoid suggesting formation of a new agency because we already have the resources which are not being used properly.

Some of the measures that can be given in this case are:

- For petty cases like traffic rules violation, theft and other petty crimes there can be 'Alternate Dispute Redressal mechanism' where problems can be solved without bringing them in the purview of judiciary.
- Government Quasi judicial bodies should be made to settle intra-government/inter-department cases.
- Fast track courts should be there for speedy trial of heinous crimes, so that justice is not delayed.
- Strict action against corruption cases should be taken at the government level so that there is least involvement of judiciary.
- There are a number of vague or contradictory laws, because of which whatever action is taken by Government, it is dragged into the court by one or the other. There is a need of clarity in the laws.
- There is an imminent need of judges. The ratio of pending cases and the number of judges is very high.
- Judiciary is the only department which enjoys a summer vacation. For two months all the judges are on an official vacation and the cases keep piling up. The vacations and holidays should be at par with other government offices so that the judicial work goes on smoothly.

(These are only the basic points. You can add many more points with your knowledge of judiciary and government litigations.)

Best Answer1: GPG

"Justice delayed is justice denied." In the Indian judicial landscape, this statement provokes us to think thoroughly why is justice being delayed. The whole idea of justice is diluted if it's twin pillars- accessibility and affordability begin to lose ground. Moreover, in the light of the given statement,a large number of cases coming against the government do not give a good sign.

Our courts are heavily burdened with a large number of pending cases and there is an unfortunate paucity of judges.Consequently,the quality of judgements is suffering miserably.Amidst this backdrop,"responsible litigation"assumes the centre stage.

The government can take the lead by using alternate dispute resolution mechanisms to bring an end to various litigations.Serious analysis and study in the pre litigation stage can prevent the government from entering into unnecessary and avoidable litigation.There needs to be a sound rationale in government's response.The conduct of cases and reviewing the good and the bad cases and intelligently prioritising the issues can act as the starting points.

The government can work with a team of well qualified lawyers to help them analyse the seriousness of the cases and accordingly, grant time and attention.

Technology can act as a boon again in leveraging the judicial infrastructure. E-courts,digitisation of records, timely update of the judicial processes on website etc. can help reduce the time and energy.

The National Litigation Policy has the potential to address the issue and should be implemented in the best of its spirit.

Best Answer 2: Shernizaad

According to the website of National Judicial Data Grid, almost 2.6 crores cases are pending only in the lower courts but the most interesting fact is that out of total pending cases , government has been responsible for nearly half of them. Cases of one department suing the other leaving the courts to decide finds the maximum space and therefore its imperative to find a solution to this serious issue:-

1)Fast Track courts- are successfully sharing the burden however there's need to increase their budget allocation by the centre and increase there numbers.

2) Intra-depatmental quasi judicial bodies- can be set up and made mandatory for the departments to take the matter here before going for judiciary.
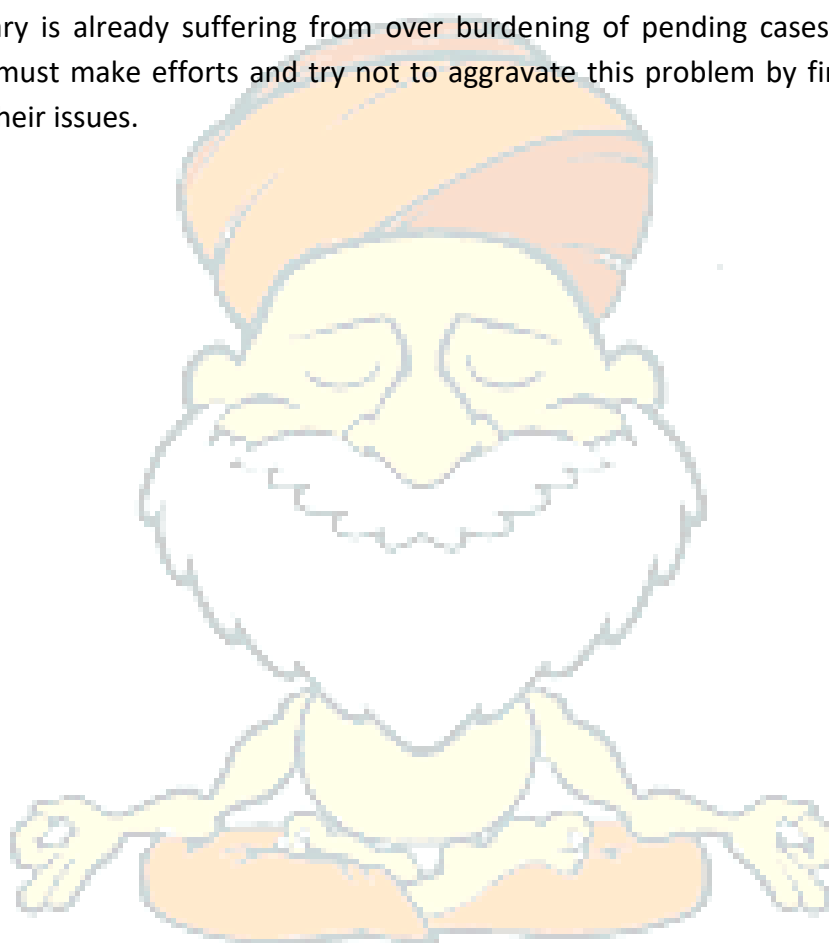
3) Bridging loopholes in legislation – it will help in reducing the cases against government from non-government stakeholders.

4) Separate guidelines – by judiciary for government to government cases can help in solving disputes outside the judicial system.

5) Change in Attitude – of " let the courts decide" by the government to "lets handle this on our own".

6) Manpower- biggest issue regarding increasing burden and hence needs to be addressed by efficient filling up of vacancies of judges and increasing the number of judges if needed.

Indian judiciary is already suffering from over burdening of pending cases and therefore government must make efforts and try not to aggravate this problem by finding alternate solutions to their issues.

SHGs in India are the living embodiment of a concept that has led to women empowerment. However, the success stories are few and far in between. Do you agree? Do you think the successful models of SHGs should be adopted on a much wider scale? What are the constraints?

Introduction:

You should outline the idea of SHG and mention its interlinkage with women empowerment.

SHGs (Self Help Groups) are voluntary association of generally villagers, who believe in solving their problem by mutual help. They save money individually, and then lend it among themselves during times of need. Among women, such SHGs have gained prominence & have led to financial inclusion, independence, interdependence, and has been source of empowerment.

Body:

You should tell about the success stories of SHG's

Need of replication of successful models of SHGs.

Mention the constraints in success of SHGs.

(All the points have been tackled well in best answers section. Please go through each of them individually)

Conclusion:

You should conclude it by saying that SHG's had played an important role in women empowerment. Many successful SHG's has shown us the path to overcome the existing difficulties. Efforts should be made to overcome them.

Best answer 1: Yogesh Bhatt

SHG movement is Indian innovation after 1990 when NABARD promoted it. In last more than two decades SHG movement became symbol of women empowerment because

1. It ensured women financial inclusion and channelized finance resource to them.
2. In group form women are more confident to take many livelihood activities under initiatives like NRLM and Kudumbshreein in Kerala.
3. Raised voice against social issues like alcoholism, gender issues, home violence, and so on.

Success of SHG movement in India, more prominent in South India than Northern states, also they are exceptional than very common norm, it can be understand by few facts

1. Still women financial inclusion meager and financial independence is distant dream
2. More successful in literate states like Kerala and Andhra Pradesh but little impact in states like Haryana and Bihar.
3. SHGs have many challenges like duplicity, low women involvement in SHG process; bank NPAs, NGOs fraud and so on.

To regain SHG success as in Kudumbhshree model in Kerala, need to replicate learninig of success models like

1. Livelihood oriented SHGs from mere saving oriented SHGs as by MYRADA
2. SHGs need to bring together like cluster and federations as in SEWA.
3. SHGs need to see as platform for activities like livelihood promotion and entrepreneurship as in NRLM.
4. Focus on women education

To do that need to address few key challenges

1. Promoting organizations like NRLM professionals, NGOs, and MFIs need to have clarity of purpose.
2. Focus on social capital before infusing finance through banking system.
3. Change in patriarchal mindset in society.

SHGs success can be a major tool for addressing many challenges of rural development and achieving SDGs in India.

Best answer 2: Toad Sage

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Best answer 3: vengeancee

SHGs (Self Help Groups) are voluntary association of generally villagers, who believe in solving their problem by mutual help. They save money individually, and then lend it among themselves during times of need. Among women, such SHGs have gained prominence &

have led to financial inclusion, independence, interdependence, and has been source of empowerment.

Some famous SHGs like Pradan have been fairly successful in their working & outcomes; however, such stories have been relatively few. Most SHGs either go dormant in due course of time. They suffer from absence internal & external constraints including finance, support, connectivity, bureaucratic hassles which have prevented their proliferation.

Successful models of SHGs should be adopted at much larger scale because:

1) Financial security: among poor who are otherwise falling prey to hands of exploitative moneylenders.

2) Motivation & belief: among SHGs member when they find a live model to replicate which have already got success.

3) Fault minimization: during implementation by rectification of mistake in other places maximizes success quotient to future venture.

4) Bank linkages programs: have started to gain success as they consider SHGs as one unit & disburse funds.

However, some constraints exist like:

1) Parochial mindset: amongst villagers who don't consider women as manager of home finances.

2) Internal social cleavages: where trust deficit exists, and SHGs are also divided on caste, class, religious lines.

3) Panchayat interference: when SHGs start to gain success & undermine their important & utility.

4) Unwillingness of banks to reciprocate: their obligations under various schemes.

5) Regional disparities: in regions of India where every village has different social bonds, and inter-personal relationships.

SHGs have been a game changer in recent past, institutionalized credits is one such area where recent advances are same. Further suggestions of Malegam committee are advisable.

Best answer 4: jingoistic

Women empowerment is a process in which women challenge the existing norms and culture, to effectively promote their wellbeing. The participation of women in Self Help

Groups (SHGs) made a significant impact on their empowerment both in social and economic aspects. In the words of Gandhiji "**One step for women ten steps for nation**."

SHGs for mobilization of saving, delivery of credit to the needy, repayment of loans and in building up of opinion for powerful decision making in all spheres of life by Women.

The success stories lie ahead in various places such as:

— "**Mahalir Thittam**"Tamil Nadu Women Development Project, funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development was started on an experimental basis during 1991-1992 in Dharmapuri district.

— "**Podupu Lakshmi**" that had been successfully launched and carried out in the Nellore

district of Andhra Pradesh regarding saving capabilities.

— The success of "**SEWA" of Ahmadabad,"Myrada**" of Mysore, and several other experiments in 15 different other parts of the country, has attracted many States for replicating this strategy.

— Micro credit services being provided by institutions like **BASIX, BANDHAN,SPANDANA** etc.

Many Obstacles being faced by empowering steps:

— Lack of awareness and exposition, due to being treated as slaves within four walls.

— No fulfillment of basic amenities of women such as food, clothing, housing, health, education etc.

— Gender inequality at every step whether it is personal and professional space.

— Culture of silence was very much seen as part of their behavior. Women did not feel free to answer the questions regarding their family details, business, and income and household assets. It was almost a challenge for the researcher and his assistants to get answers from the participants.

— No effective delivery channel for rural credit for further economic activities.

Self-Reliant Women is an active multidimensional process to enable women to realize their identity and power in all spheres of life with the help of Self Help Groups generation in India.

What do you understand by 'vulnerable section of the population'? Why some sections of the population become vulnerable to externalities? What is the best way to address them? Examine by taking suitable examples.

Note: The meaning of vulnerable is highly evasive. There does not any specific definition of this word or rather this term hasn't been anywhere specifically defined in any statute precisely.

Your definition of 'vulnerable section' can be –

- Vulnerable groups are those groups of people who may find **it difficult to lead a comfortable life, and lack developmental opportunities** due to their disadvantageous position.
- Vulnerable groups are those groups whose **resource endowment is inadequate to provide sufficient income** from any available source. As per the World Bank a vulnerable section in a population is one that has some specific characteristics that make it **at higher risk of falling into poverty than others**.

In India there are multiple socio economic disadvantaged sections and vulnerable sections including women, scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, orphans & children, old aged/senior citizens, differently-abled people, poor migrants, people living with HIV/AIDS and sexual minorities.

Why some sections of the population become vulnerable to externalities –

Provide points such as lack developmental opportunities, basic minimum needs (includes health, shelter, employment, education, food etc), structural discrimination, due to disability, disaster, due to migration, Unexplained Vulnerability Associated with Race, Ethnicity, Sex, social stigma/discrimination, social alienation etc.

You can provide other factors too.

Best way to address them –

Demand-driven approaches, such as many social funds and other community driven development projects (CDD) as a strategy for delivering basic services down to the local level

Additional investment should be provided for developing, evaluating, and supporting effective education and health care delivery models designed to meet the specific needs of vulnerable populations.

Right to Education, Clean Drinking Water, Health, Livelihood etc.

Special attention to situations of disaster and humanitarian crisis

Raise awareness of the rights and needs of vulnerable persons in the development agenda and related efforts

Progressively remove barriers to and promote the realization of accessibility and equality as part of the general system of society.

Inclusive growth/development, sustainable development

You can give examples of some government programmes. Prevention is better than cure. So you can give some unique suggestion how to prevent some section falling into vulnerability.

Best answer: thevagabond85

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All the Best ☺