

Q1. What is retreating Monsoon? How does it differ from North-eastern Monsoon? Explain.

Introduction

In simple words, retreating means withdrawal. So, withdrawal of south-west monsoon winds from skies of north India during months of October and November is known as retreating monsoon. The withdrawal is gradual and takes about three months.

Body

Difference between retreating monsoon and north east monsoon:

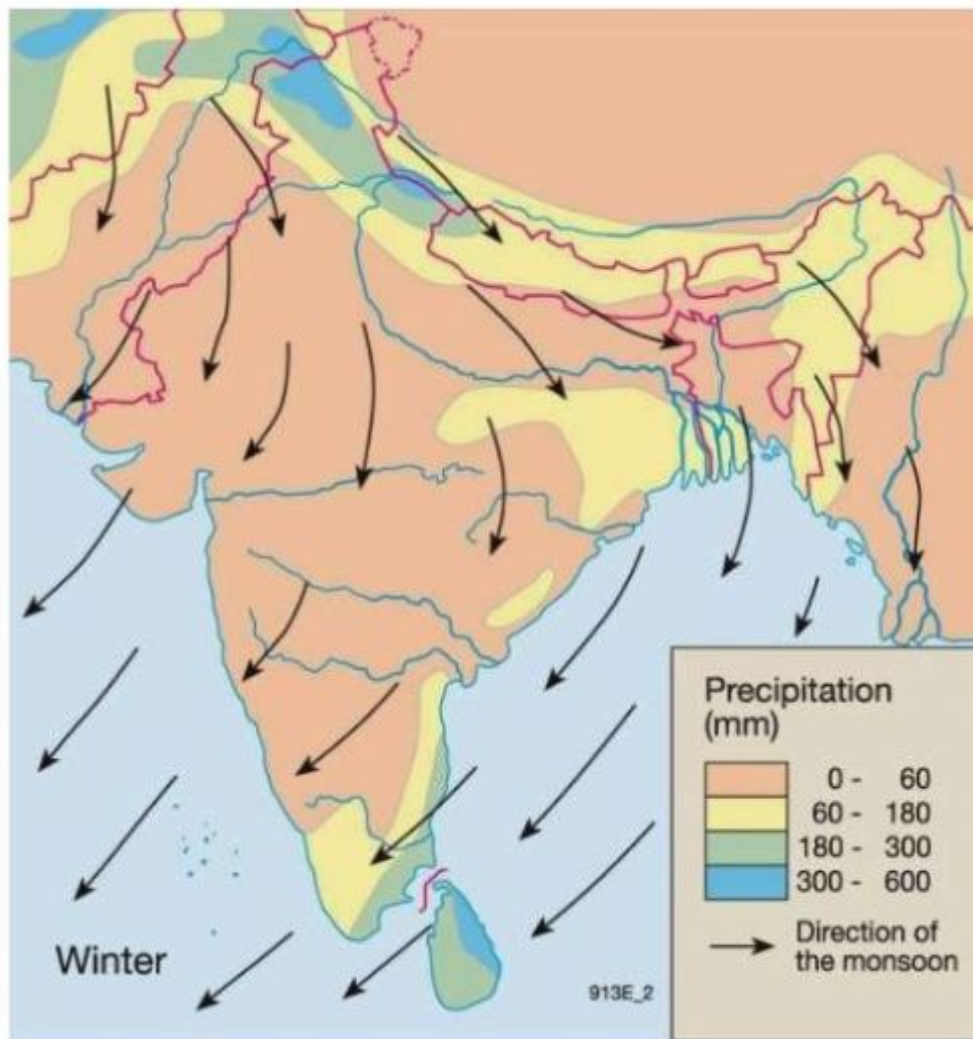
Retreating monsoon:

- With retreat of the monsoons, the clouds disappear and the sky becomes clear. The day temperature starts falling steeply.
- Monsoon rains weaken all over India except few south eastern states.
- Monsoon trough weakens and gradually shifts southwards.
- Most severe and devastating tropical cyclones originate in the Indian seas especially in the Bay of Bengal due to retreating monsoons.
- Direction of winds is from North west to south east and winds blow from surface to sea thereby carrying no moisture.
- It is helpful in Rabi crop cultivation.

North-eastern monsoon:

- Northeast Monsoon affects only five sub-divisions of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, South Interior Karnataka, Rayalaseema and Coastal Andhra Pradesh.
- Onset of north east monsoon coincides with retreating monsoon winds.
- Unlike retreating monsoon, onset of north eastern monsoon is not clearly defined.
- Winds change their direction to north easterly beginning with Tamil Nadu, along with substantial increase in rainfall intensity and spread beginning with Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh.
- Rainfall variation is huge in north-east monsoon.
- El-Niño has no effect on north-eastern monsoon winds unlike south-western monsoon winds.
- Winds blow from sea to land thereby causing rainfall. For instance, monsoon winds absorb moisture while passing through Bay of Bengal and cause rainfall in parts of Andhra and Tamil Nadu.
- The rainfall helps in preparing land for next cropping season.

Wind pattern of how retreating of monsoon occur in India.



Conclusion

Both Retreating monsoon and North-eastern monsoon have certain advantages and disadvantages and affects the climatic conditions of the region through which it passes.

Best answer: Isaac Ali

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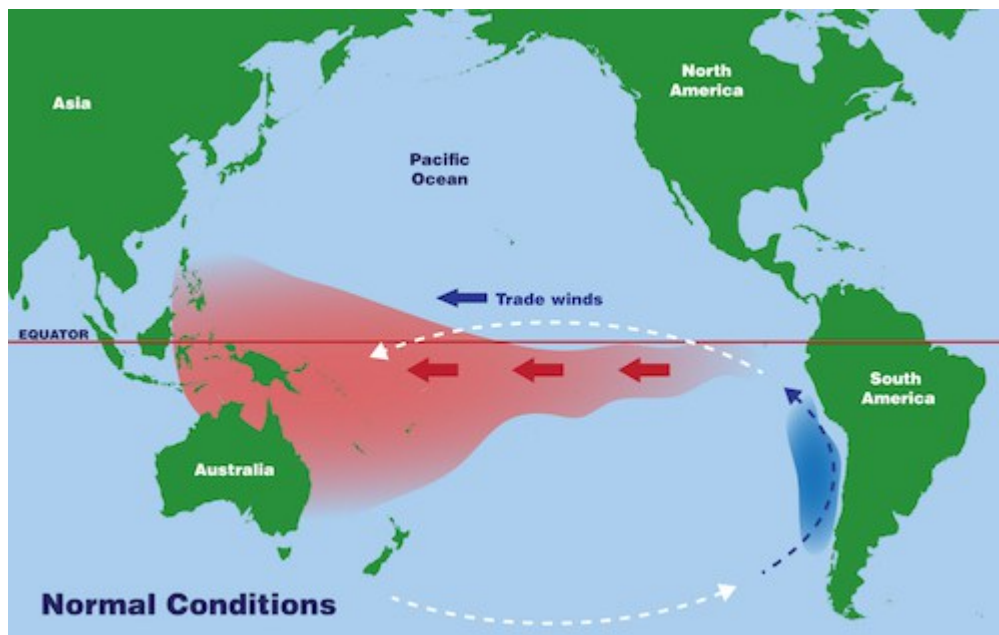
Q2. What is El-Nino and La-Nina? Examine their effects on India's climate.

Approach:

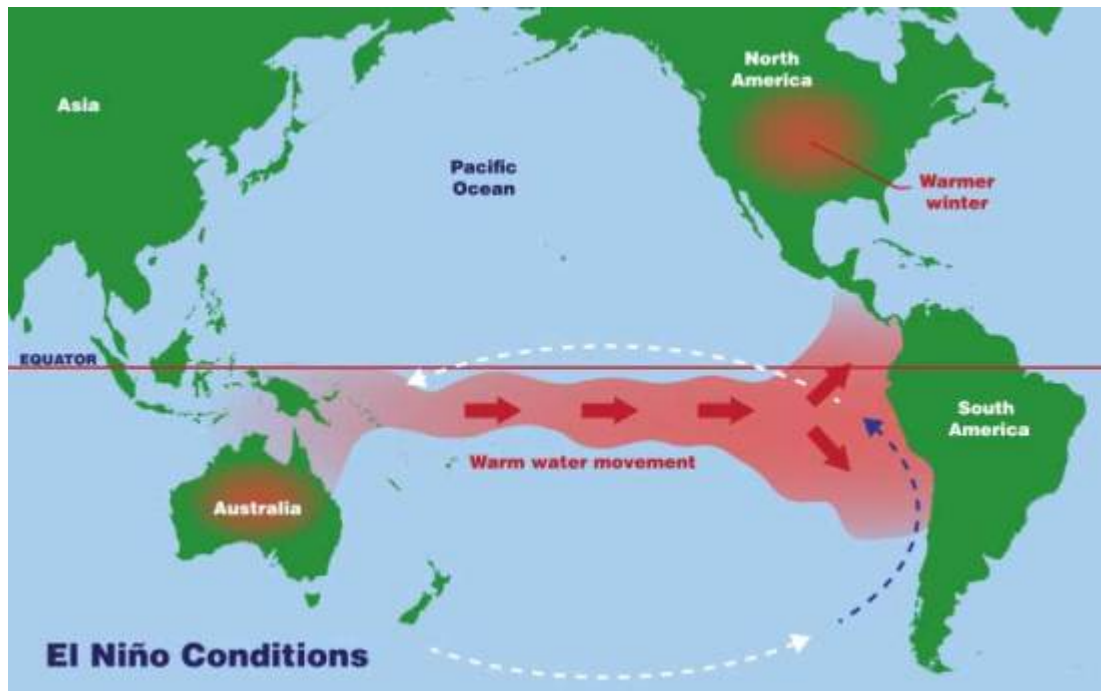
This question has broadly two parts. First part demands the explanation of concepts. In first part, again there are two sub parts, El-Nino and La-Nina. The second part demands effects on climate (note that, it is written climate, not monsoon). Start with introduction, then three parts, and then conclude the answer.

Introduction

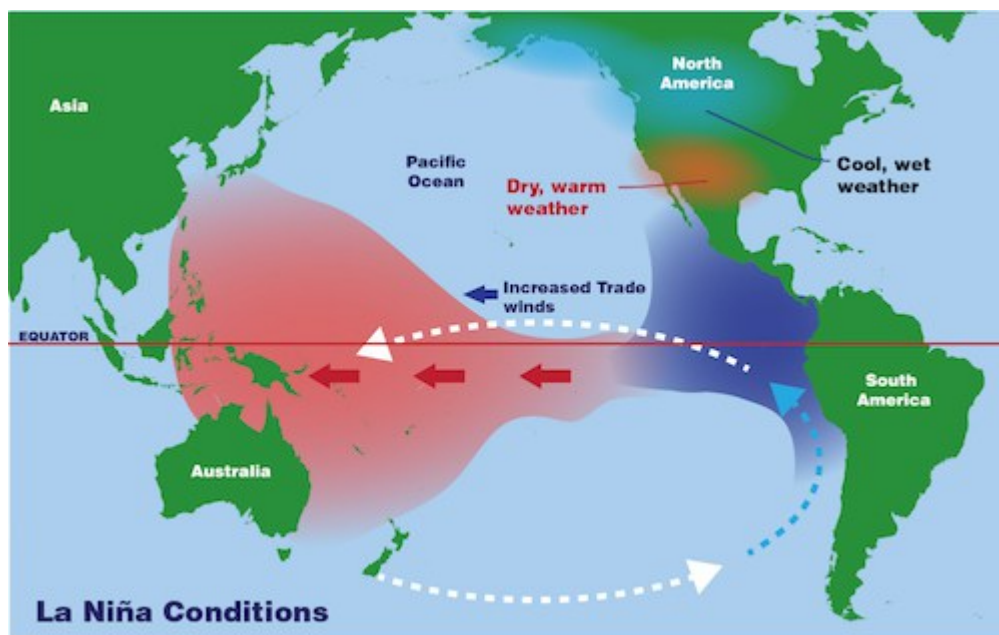
- Indian climatic conditions are shaped by many factors; one of them is El-Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO).
- The El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is a recurring climate pattern involving changes in the temperature of waters in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.
- El Nino and La Nina are the extreme phases of the ENSO cycle.



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<https://www.concernusa.org/content/uploads/2016/07/what-is-el-nino-noaa.jpg>



https://scijinks.gov/la-nina/LaNina_rev1_500.jpg

(Note: These maps are for your understanding. In answer you can draw one map to show both events, with different color pens)

El Nino

- Phenomenon of warming of the ocean surface, or above-average sea surface temperatures (SST), in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean is known as El Nino.
- The low-level surface winds, which normally blow from east to west along the equator (“easterly winds”), instead weaken or, in some cases, start blowing the other direction (from west to east or “westerly winds”).
- This reversal of winds creates unusual warming and low pressure near the Peruvian Coast, and causes heavy rainfall.

La Nina

- Phenomenon of cooling of the ocean surface or below-average Sea surface temperatures (SST), in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean is known as La Nina.
- The normal easterly winds along the equator become even stronger.
- This situation causes heavy rainfall (monsoon) on western Pacific areas.

Effects of El-Nino and La-Nina on India’s climate

- For India, El Nino during winter results in development of warm conditions.
- During summer, it leads to dry conditions and deficient monsoon, leading to droughts and water scarcity.
- Whereas La-Nina brings rains and stronger monsoon in India, it may cause flood like situation in coastal areas.
- El-Nino and La-Nina are complex unpredictable phenomenon and Agriculture being the important occupation, climatic changes due to these are grave for India.

Conclusion

- Research and studies has suggested that, El-Nino and La-Nina do not always affect the climate of India severely. Some other ocean atmospheric phenomena such as Indian Ocean dipole also impact the monsoon.
- Climate change has also adversely affected India’s climate. Global and national efforts such as NDCs, if implemented properly, can bring the stability to the fast changing climatic conditions.

Best Answer: Isaac Ali

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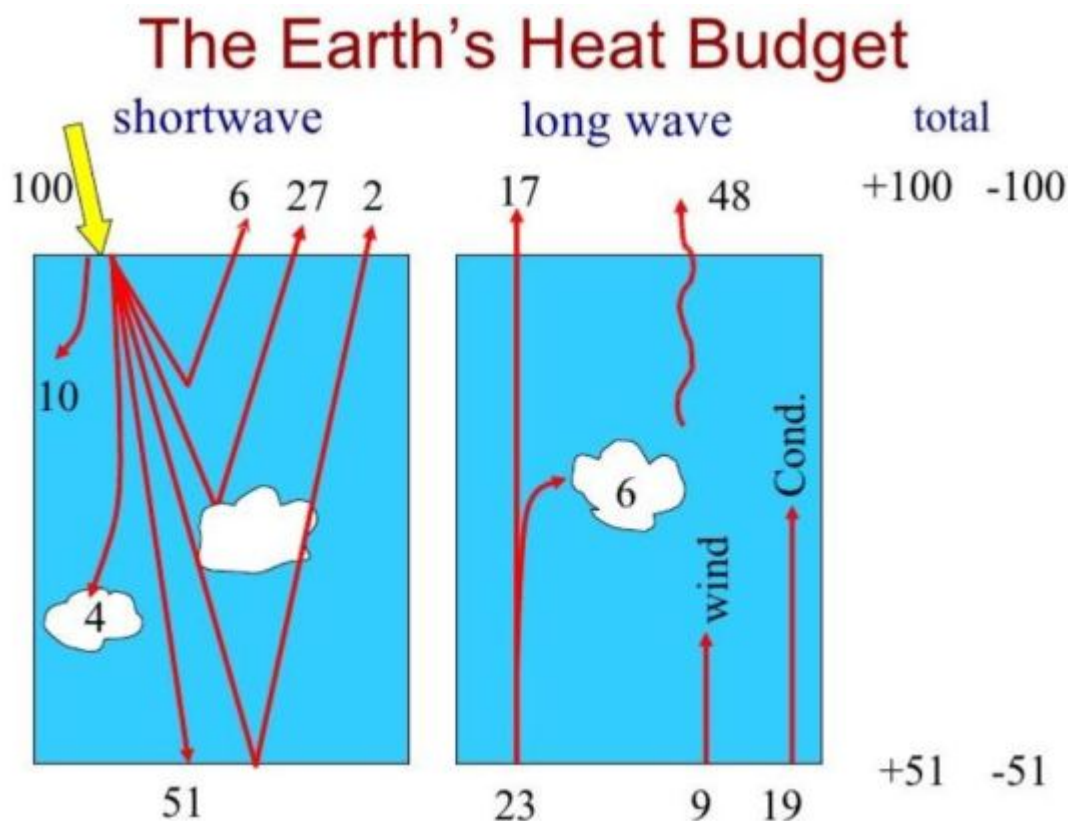
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Q3. What is the heat budget of the atmosphere? What can be the implications of any imbalance in the heat budget? Illustrate.

Introduction:

Incoming heat being absorbed by the Earth, and outgoing heat escaping the Earth in the form of radiation are both perfectly balanced. This balance between incoming and outgoing heat is known as Earth's heat budget.

Body:



This balance in incoming and outgoing radiation prevents excess heating or excess cooling of planet and thus average surface temperature of earth is maintained around 15 degree Celsius.

However, today anthropogenic factors like expanded agriculture, industrialization, increasing urbanization have resulted in deforestation, increased concentration of Green House Gases(GHG's) which have caused imbalance in the heat budget of earth by causing variation in overall albedo of earth surface and amount of heat retained in atmosphere and in oceans at given point of time.

Illustration:

Recent IPCC report points out Human activities are estimated to have caused approximately 1.0°C of global warming above pre-industrial levels. This would mean increase in Mean temperature in most land and ocean regions, hot extremes in most inhabited regions, heavy precipitation in several regions with simultaneous drought and rain deficits in some other regions. This would affect living beings in various ways like

- Threatens Human security due to increasing frequency of extreme weather events like Heat waves, floods, cyclones.
- Food insecurity as crop yield declines due to increasing temperature, new pests and diseases.
- Economic growth of nation is affected.
- Melting ice, expanding sea water cause rise in sea level threatening submergence of small islands and low lying coastal areas.

Conclusion:

Today, with impacts of imbalances in the heat budget being increasingly felt, international efforts are underway to address challenges like Paris climate agreement, Kigali agreement, environment protection laws. Their implementation in letter and spirit is essential for existence of life on planet Earth.

Best answer: Shubh

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Q4 -Examine various geomorphological processes that lead to the formation of mountains. Take suitable examples.

Approach –

Introduction – You can write about what id geo morphological processes. Also, explain which type of processes are called mountain building processes

Body – Define the different exogenic and endogenic processes that lead to mountain forming

Conclusion – write suitable conclusion.

Introduction

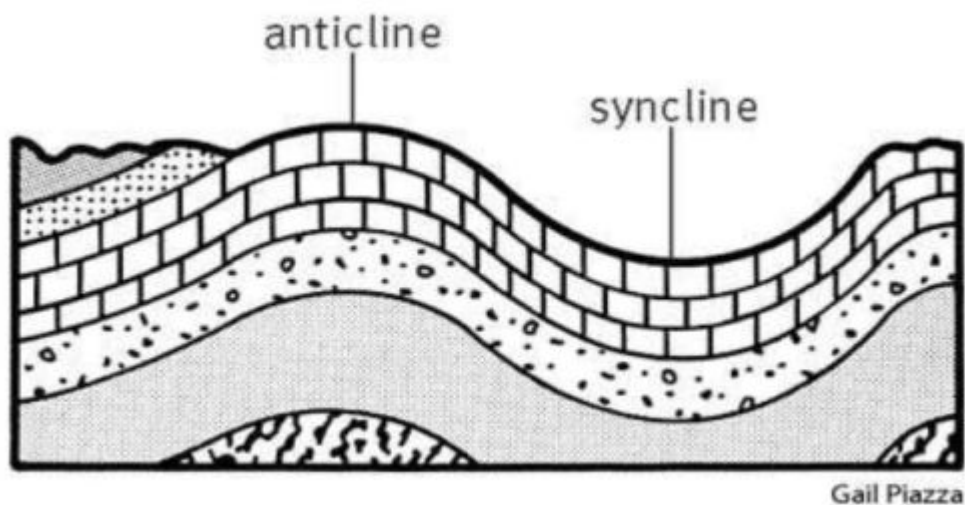
The process in which external (exogenic) and internal (endogenic) forces cause physical and chemical action and bring changes in the configuration of earth surface and form various landforms is known as geomorphic process. Mountains are significant relief feature of second order. The process of formation of mountain building is known as orogeny.

Body

Various geomorphic process that led to formation of geomorphic processes are as follows –

Endogenic processes

- Forces of compression (fold mountains) – these are the forces which push rock strata against a hard plane which leads to bending of mountains in form of anticline and syncline. These bending of rock layer leads to formation of fold mountains.

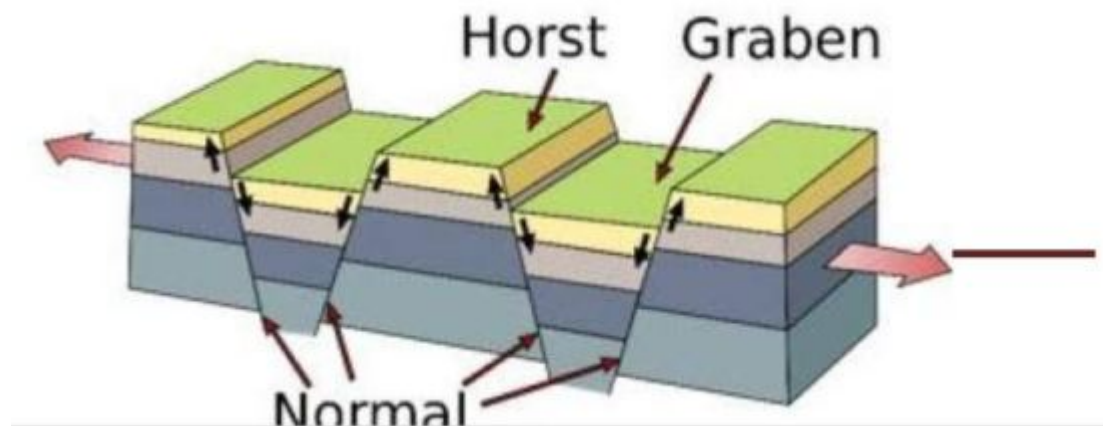


There are three types of fold mountains found in world

- Young fold mountains – Himalaya, Alps
- Mature fold mountains
- Old fold mountains – Aravalis, Vindhya.

Forces of tension (fault mountain) – These forces work horizontally in opposite direction that leads to formation of fracture. The displacement of rocks upward or downward from their original position along the fracture leads to formation of fault mountains. This is also known as block or horst mountains.

For ex Sierra Nevada mountains of California, Salt range of Pakistan etc.



Volcanism – Movement of tectonic plates create volcanoes along the plate boundaries which erupt and form mountains known as volcano mountains. These type of mountains are also known as mountains of accumulation. For example – mount Fuji (Japan), Mount Mayon (Philippines), Mount Merapi (Sumatra)

Exogenic process

Erosion – Where the general level of the land has been lowered by the agent of denudation some very resistant areas may remain and these form residual mountains, e.g. Mt. Manodnock in U.S.A. Residual.

Mountains may also evolve from plateaus which have been dissected by rivers into hills and valleys.

Examples of dissected plateaux, where the down-cutting streams have eroded the uplands into mountains of denudation, are the Highlands of Scotland, Scandinavia and the Deccan Plateau.

Conclusion

Thus these are the geomorphological processes which help in mountain- building.

Best answer – Ankita

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Q5. With the help of suitable examples, discuss various fluvial landforms.

Approach:

In Introduction define what is called fluvial landforms

In the body – Give examples of erosion and depositional landforms-along with examples

End with suitable conclusion

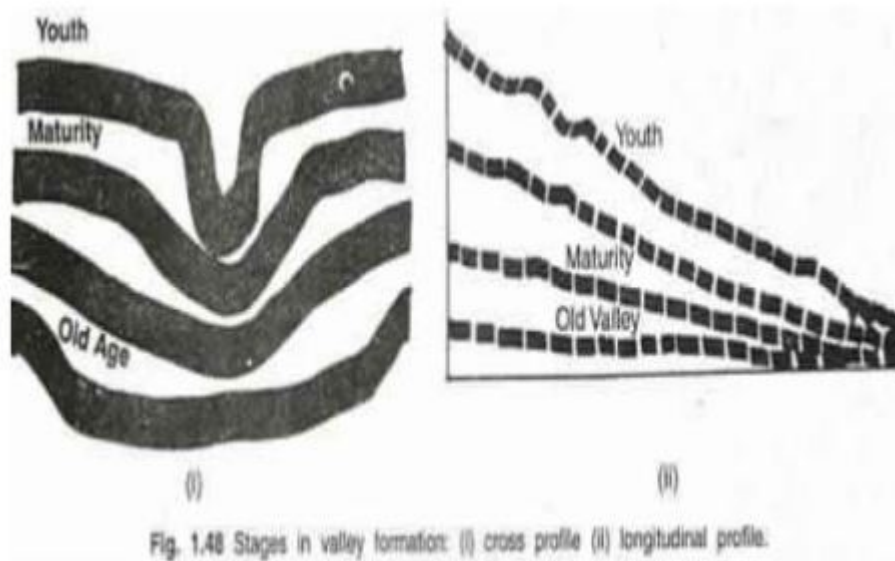
Answer

The landforms created as a result of degradation action (erosion) or aggradations work (deposition) of running water is called fluvial landforms.

These landforms result from the action of surface flow/run-off or stream flow (water flowing through a channel under the influence of gravity).

Erosion Landforms

1. River valleys: The extended depression on ground through which a stream flows throughout its course is called a river valley. At different stages of the erosion cycle the valley acquires different profiles. At a young stage, the valley is deep, narrow with steep wall-like sides and a convex slope. The erosion action here is characterised by predominantly vertical down cutting nature. The profile of valley here is typically 'V' shaped. As the cycle attains maturity, the lateral erosion becomes prominent and the valley floor flattens out. The valley profile now becomes typically 'U' shaped with a broad base and a concave slope.

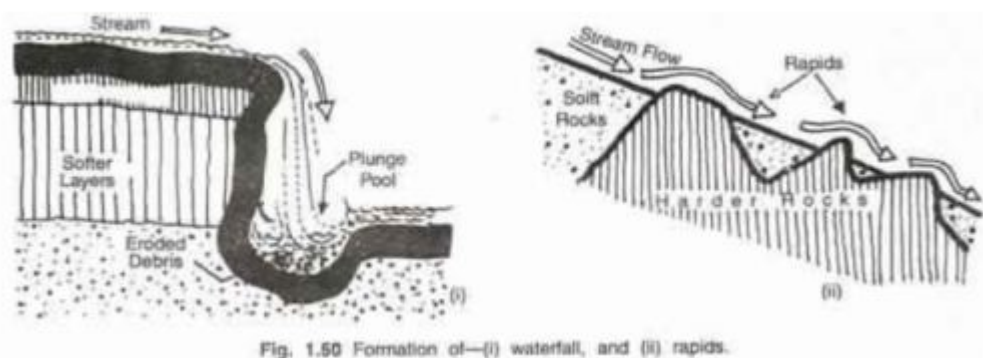


A deep and narrow V shaped valley is also referred to as gorge and may result due to down cutting erosion and because of recession of a waterfall. Most Himalayan Rivers pass through deep gorges (at times more than 500 metres deep) before they descend to the plains. An extended form of gorge is called a canyon-E.g. Grand Canyon Colorado

2) Waterfalls:

A waterfall is simply the fall of an enormous volume of water from a great height, because of a variety of factors such as variation in the relative resistance of rocks, relative difference in topographic reliefs; fall in the sea level and related rejuvenation, earth movements etc. For example, Jog or Gersoppa falls on Sharavati (a tributary of Cauvery) has a fall of 260 metres.

A rapid, on the other hand, is a sudden change in gradient of a river and resultant fall of water



3) Pot Holes:

The kettle-like small depressions in the rocky beds of the river valleys are called pot holes which are usually cylindrical in shape. Pot holes are generally formed in coarse-grained rocks such as sandstones and granites



Fig. 1.51 Potholes in a river bed with hard rock base.

4) Terraces:

Stepped benches along the river course in a flood plain are called terraces. Terraces represent the level of former valley floors and remnants of former (older) flood plains.

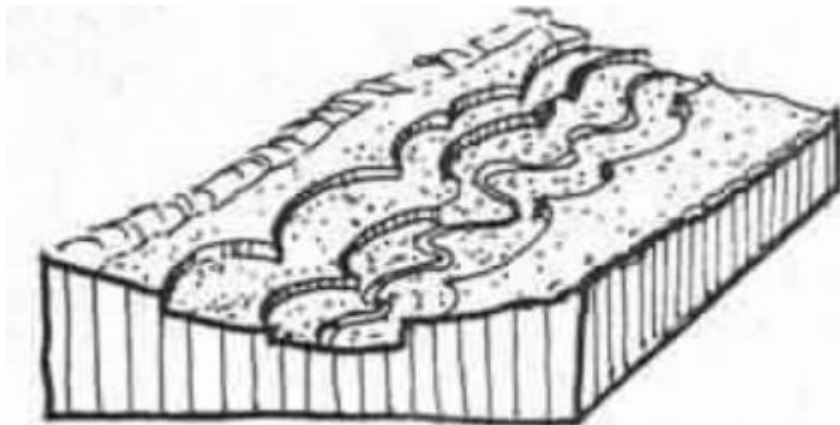


Fig. 1.52 Formation of a series of terraces by a river.

5) Gully:

Gully is an incised water- worn channel, which is particularly common in semi-arid areas. It is formed when water from overland-flows down a slope, especially following heavy rainfall, is concentrated into rills, which merge and enlarge into a gully. The ravines of Chambal Valley in Central India and the Chos of Hoshiarpur in Punjab are examples of gully.

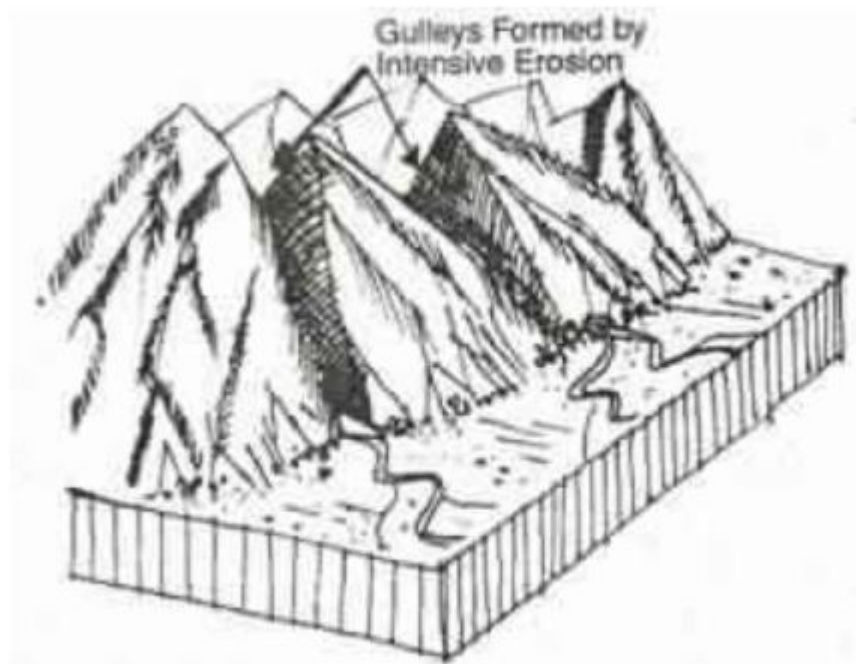


Fig. 1.53 Gulleys formed by intensive erosion through a soft stratum, particularly under arid conditions.

6) Meanders:

A meander is defined as a pronounced curve or loop in the course of a river channel. The outer bend of the loop in a meander is characterised by intensive erosion and vertical cliffs and is called the cliff-slope side. This side has a concave slope. The inner side of the loop is characterised by deposition, a gentle convex slope, and is called the slip-off side.

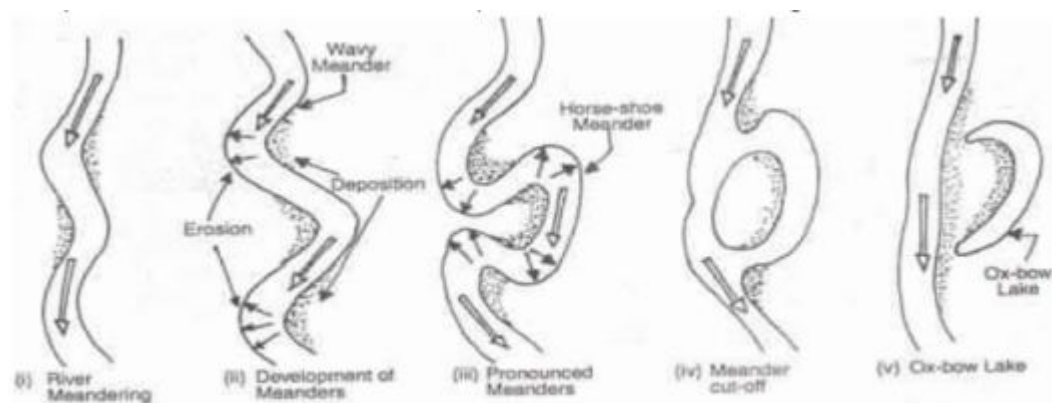


Fig. 1.54 Development of a meander and ox-bow lake.

7) Oxbow lakes

The outer curve of a meander gets accentuated to such an extent that the inner ends of the loop come close enough to get disconnected from the main channel and exist as independent water bodies. These water bodies are converted into swamps in due course of time. In the Indo-Gangetic plains, southwards shifting of Ganga has left many ox-bow lakes to the north of the present course of the Ganga.

8) Peneplains:

This refers to an undulating featureless plain punctuated with low-lying residual hills of resistant rocks. According to W.M. Davis, it is the end product of an erosion cycle.

Depositional Landforms

1) Alluvial Fans and Cones:

When a stream leaves the mountains and comes down to the plains, its velocity decreases due to a lower gradient. As a result, it sheds a lot of material, which it had been carrying from the mountains, at the foothills. This deposited material acquires a conical shape and appears as a series of continuous fans. These are called alluvial fans. Such fans appear throughout the Himalayan foothills in the north Indian plains.



Fig. 1.55 An alluvial fan or cone.

2) Natural levees:

These are narrow ridges of low height on both sides of a river, formed due to deposition action of the stream, appearing as natural embankments. These act as a

natural protection against floods but a breach in a levee causes sudden floods in adjoining areas, as it happens in the case of the Hwang Ho river of China.

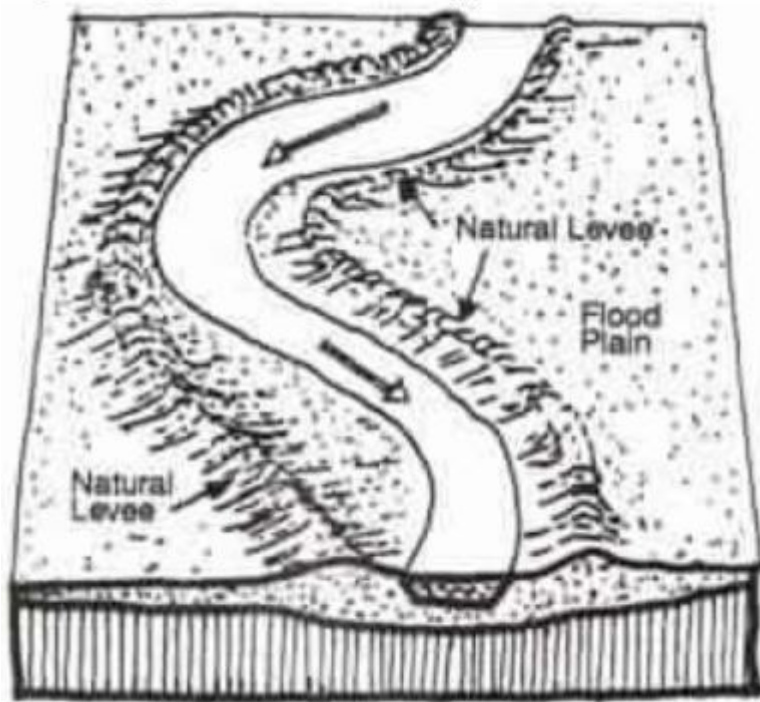


Fig. 1.56 Natural levees in a flood plain.

3) Delta:

A delta is a tract of alluvium usually fan-shaped, at the mouth of a river where it deposits more material than can be carried away. The river gets divided into two or more channels (distributaries) which may further divide and rejoin to form a network of channels

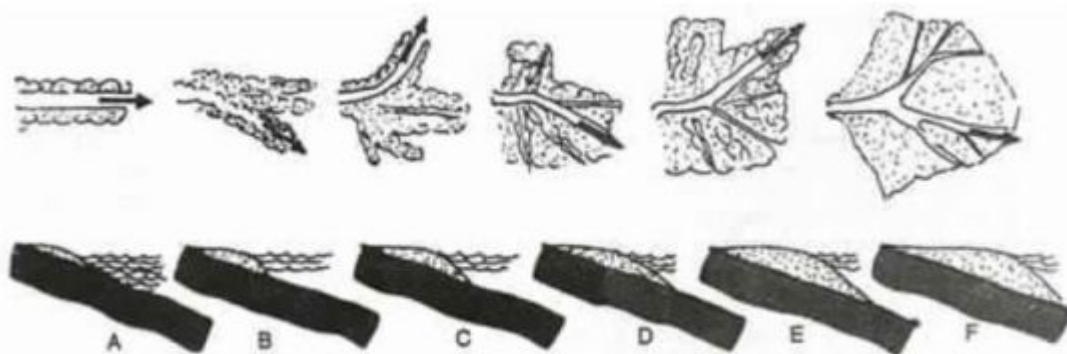


Fig. 1.57 Sequential development of a delta.

Thus various erosion and depositional landforms are formed by rivers.

Best Answer: John Nash:

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Q6 . How do ocean currents affect global climate? Illustrate by taking suitable examples.

Introduction

Ocean currents are body of water mass with a slightly different thermophysical characteristic viz temperature, density and salinity from the surrounding water body. They move in a well-defined path like a river in the ocean and is influenced by the direction of wind and the coastal features.

Body

Effects of Currents on Climate:

- Temperature and Humidity: Warm current increases the temperature and humidity of the coastal area through which it passes, such as the Norwegian current which increase the temperature of the coastal areas of North Sea make the port workable and climate cool and moist.
- Coastal climates: Most of warm current are found in eastern margin of continent in lower latitude and influencing the coastal climate such as North Atlantic drift in eastern USA, Florida current in gulf of Florida etc.
- Desiccating effects: Cold current brings the temperature down and creates a desiccating effect and foggy condition in the coastal area through which it passes.
- Desert: Most of the cold current are found in the western margin of the continents in lower latitude which is associated with the desert landforms in these latitudes eg California current in western USA, Peru current in western south America etc.
- Fog: Places where cold currents meet warm currents are characterized by Fog conditions which make navigation difficult. These areas are also characterized by fishing grounds due to abundance of nutrients to support marine life.
- Global thermohaline circulation: Ocean currents act as global conveyor belts which transfer heat from one part of the earth to another. They regulate the coastal climate thereby indirectly regulating the vegetation, fauna and the lifestyles of the people.

- Fishing grounds: In E. Asia meeting of the warm Kuroshio and the cold Oyashio current provides ideal conditions for rich fishing grounds in Japan. However, navigation becomes difficult due to thick fog.
- El-Nino and La-Nino: El-Nino is also caused due to periodic changes in cold water current replace by warm water currents off Peruvian coasts which affects monsoon in south Asia.

Note: While giving examples for physical geography questions try give diverse examples. Like for this question, u can include examples each from Asia, America, Africa, Europe continents to score high marks.

Ocean Currents

Ocean currents have a significant effect on marine climates around the world.



Best answer: Neha Kumari

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Q7. What is upwelling and downwelling? How do they affect coastal regions? Examine.

Approach:

- This question has broadly two parts. One part is about concepts upwelling and downwelling, second part is about their effects on coastal regions.
- Give a short introduction to the topic, then start explaining the concepts, then their effects on coastal areas and lastly, conclude your answer.

Introduction

- In some coastal areas of the ocean the combination of persistent winds, Earth's rotation (the Coriolis effect), and restrictions on lateral movements of water caused by shorelines and shallow bottoms induces upward and downward water movements.
- The Coriolis effect plus the frictional coupling of wind and water (Ekman transport) cause net movement of surface water at about 90 degrees to the right of the wind direction in the Northern Hemisphere and to the left of the wind direction in the Southern Hemisphere.

Body

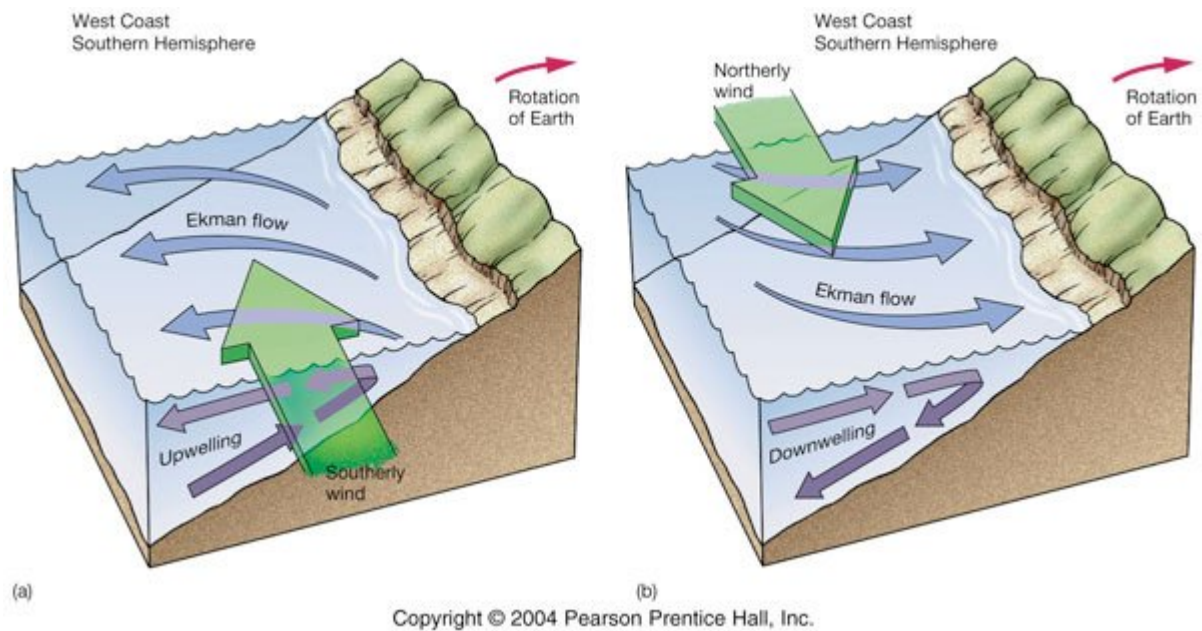
Upwelling

- Upwelling occurs where water from the deeper parts of the ocean is allowed to travel upwards to the surface.
- Upwelling generally found along the equator due to diverging surface waters, around Antarctica between the East Wind Drift and West Wind drift, and along coastlines where the wind blows in such a way that Ekman Transport pushes water away from the coast.
- It is most common along the west coast of continents (eastern sides of ocean basins).

Downwelling

- Downwelling is the vertical movement of surface water to deeper parts of the ocean.
- Downwelling occurs in areas where waters converge and “pile up” such as in the North Atlantic where several surface currents meet and along the outermost boundary of the Southern Ocean where cold Antarctic water sinks below warmer South Pacific and South Atlantic waters.

This figure below shows how Ekman transport, aided by the wind and the coriolis effect, creates areas of upwelling and downwelling in coastal locations of the Southern hemisphere.



http://www.iupui.edu/~gl15/assets/mod10/updownwell_lg.jpg

Effects of Upwelling and downwelling on coastal region

- Upwelling and downwelling influence sea-surface temperature and biological productivity.
- In Upwelling Deep ocean water is generally very cold and nutrient rich. Therefore, in areas of upwelling we often find very productive waters.
- This nutrient rich water transport into the surface waters where sunlight, also required for phytoplankton growth (photic zone), is present, results in rapid growth of phytoplankton populations.
- Since phytoplankton form the base of marine food webs, the world's most productive fisheries are located in areas of coastal upwelling that bring cold nutrient rich waters to the surface.
- On the other hand, in zones of coastal downwelling, the surface layer of warm, nutrient-deficient water thickens as water sinks.
- Downwelling reduces biological productivity and transports heat, dissolved materials, and surface waters rich in dissolved oxygen to greater depths.
- Dissolved oxygen is critical for living organisms in the deep ocean.
- In extreme cases, nutrient-deficient waters coupled with over-fishing cause fisheries to collapse bringing about severe, extended economic impacts.
- Coastal upwelling and downwelling also influence weather and climate.
- Along the northern and central California coast, upwelling lowers sea surface temperatures and increases the frequency of summer fogs.
- Upwelling cold water inhibits formation of tropical cyclones, because tropical cyclones derive their energy from warm surface waters.

Conclusion

- Upwelling and downwelling illustrate mass continuity in the ocean; that is, water is a continuous fluid so that a change in distribution of water in one area is accompanied by a compensating change in water distribution in another area.
- Coastal climate and economy of the coastal areas is mostly affected by these oceanic phenomena.

Best Answer: Ivjyot Oberoi

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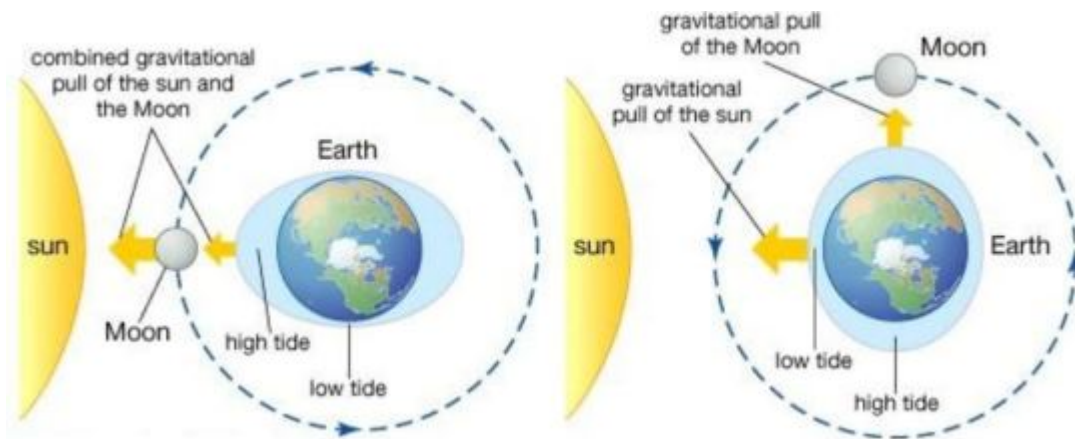
Q8. How do tides originate? What role do tides play in maintaining the coastal ecosystem? Discuss.

Introduction:

Tides are great bulges of water caused by the gravity of the Moon and Sun. Attracted by gravity, these bulges move around the Earth's oceans, causing water levels to rise and fall.

Body:

Combined effects of the gravitational forces exerted by the Moon and the Sun and the rotation of Earth cause occurrence of tides in oceans.



Where a section of the earth points towards the moon, then a high tide will occur as gravity pulls the ocean towards the moon. As well as creating the high tide there, the area on the opposite side of the earth, facing away from the moon will also have a high tide at the same time. This occurs as a result of inertia and centrifugal force, as the gravitational pull is weaker here and the ocean bulges out as a result. The areas at 90-degree angle to the moon at this time will experience low tides. As the Earth spins, different areas of the planet face the moon, and this rotation causes the tides to cycle around the planet.

Role played by tides in maintaining coastal ecosystems:

- Affect reproductive activities of fish and ocean plants: Floating plants and animals ride the tidal currents between the breeding areas and deeper waters.
- The tides help remove pollutants and circulate nutrients required for survival of ocean plants and animals. Ex: seawater in and out of tidal bays and estuaries.
- Moderate temperature: The tides and tidal currents mix arctic water that can't absorb lots of sunlight with warmer tropic water that does. The stirring produces more predictable and habitable climate conditions in coastal areas.
- Tides play vital role for the growth and formation of mangroves, its canopy and formation of zonation in the mangrove ecosystem and associated diversity.
- Help maintain mudflats that provide flora and fauna with habitation.

Conclusion:

Thus in addition to benefits to mankind (navigation, energy), tides have very important role in maintaining coastal ecosystem.

Best answer: Suraj sharma

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Q9.Examine the economic implications of soil erosion in India. Also discuss the ways that can address soil erosion.

Approach

Introduction – You can write about mentioning what is soil and what is soil erosion. You can also mention about any data of soil erosion in India.

Body –

- Write about economic implication of soil erosion in India
- Write the methods to check soil erosion.

Conclusion – write suitable conclusion.

Introduction

Soil is the top layer of earth surface made up of organic and inorganic materials. Soil erosion is movement of soil from one place to another due to wind, water or some other erosion agents. According to a 2015 report of Indian institute of remote sensing, the estimated amount of soil erosion that occurred in India was 147 million hectares.

Body

Economic effects of soil erosion

- More budget allocation – Due to soil erosion, there is more budget allocation by focussing on soil health card scheme.
- GDP losses due to reduced productivity – Every year India loses 68 billion rupees due to soil erosion.
- Hike in food prices commodity – This happens because of less yield
- Decrease in farmer income – soil erosion leads to less yield which in turn leads to decrease in farmer's income
- Imbalance in fiscal deficit – Decrease in farmer's income yield to loan waiver for them which in turn create fiscal deficit for government.
- Soil erosion reduces fertility of soil so agriculture production reduced. It will increase hunger and poverty . With increased hunger and poverty government spending on health need to be increased. Otherwise fund can be utilised somewhere else.

- Large scale soil erosion may lead to ravine topography like Chambal river and land becomes waste land.
- Due to soil erosion top layer organic matter is lost so water holding capacity of soil is reduced. It may lead to reduced water table.

Ways to address the soil erosion

- Careful tilling – Since tilling destroys the top soil, so less tilling will preserve this
- Mulching – It increases humus in the soil, which preserve the soil erosion
- Contour bunding and tillage – Terrace farming with contour bunding is useful for marginal sloping lands.
- Proper irrigation technique- sprinkling etc. Can save the soil erosion
- Shelter belts – these reduce wind speed and prevent soil erosion.
- Afforestation – Tree roots bind with the soil which in turn reduces soil erosion.
- Check over grazing – since due to over – grazing normally top soil is lost. Thus this will help in preventing soil erosion.
- Increasing mangrove cover to prevent soil erosion in coastal regions.

Conclusion

According to report of national centre for coastal research, India lost one – third of its coastline due to soil erosion. Various government initiative like Vanotsva, soil health card are steps in right direction to save the gift of nature

Best Answer – Ram

Soil is top layer of earth surface made of organic and inorganic materials. Soil erosion is movement of soil from one place to another due to wind, water or some other erosion agents.

Economic effect of soil erosion:-

1. Soil erosion reduces fertility of soil so agriculture production reduced. It will increase hunger and poverty one of the SDG to be achieved by 2030 will be missed.

2. With increased hunger and poverty govt spending on health need to be increased. Otherwise fund can be utilised somewhere else.
 2. Around 50% of population engaged in agriculture related activities so will have negative effect on other economic activities like farm related machinery, seed industries etc.
 3. spending capacity of farmers reduced so may lead to unemployment in other sectors.
 5. large scale soil erosion may lead to ravine topography like Chambal river and land becomes waste land.
6. Due to soil erosion top layer organic matter is lost so water holding capacity of soil is reduced. It may lead to reduced water table.

Methods to address soil erosion.

1. To stop man made soil erosion: –

1.1 stop deforestation and increase forest cover.

1.2 stop over grazing

1.3 stop illegal activities like mining in eco-sensitive regions.

1.4 planned urbanisation so that water drained through proper channels instead of eroding soil of surrounding fields.

2. To stop natural soil erosion: –

2.1 control floods in hilly regions by building check dams.

2.2 adopting step farming in sloppy areas.

2.3 increasing mangrove cover to prevent soil erosion in coastal regions.

2.4 after harvesting cover top layer by grass to avoid erosion by wind.

As India is still a developing country with huge dependence on agriculture. According to multi poverty index one third of its population is still below poverty line. So to ensure food security and raise living standard soil must be conserved.

**Q10.What are gene-pool centres? Why is it important to preserve the gene pool?
Discuss.**

The combination of all the genes present in a given population is called the gene pool of that population. It represents the complete genetic diversity found within a population or species.

Gene pool centres refers to areas on the earth where important crop plants and domestic animals originated. They have an extraordinary range of the wild counterparts of cultivated plant species and useful tropical plants. Gene pool centres also contain different sub-tropical and temperate region species

Major Gene Centres:

- 1) Mediterranean Gene Centre: Existed around 4000BC
- 2) South American Gene Centre: Domestication of Plants seems to have taken place around 7000-3000BC
- 3) South West and Middle East: Evidence show plant domestication to have taken place during 8000-6000 BC
- 4) African Gene Centre: Primarily around Nile River –Plants and Animals were domesticated around 5000 BC
- 5) South American and Central American –Developed around 3500 BC
- 6) Indian Gene centre:
 1. A) Indus
 2. B) South Asian: Includes Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar
- 7) Central Asian Gene centre: Developed around 4000BC-3000BC
- 8) East Asia Gene centres: Develop around 6000-5000 BC

Importance of preserving Gene Pool:

- Gene pool represents the total number of genes found within a population, those populations with larger gene pools tend to have more genes, and hence, more genetic diversity. Each gene has a specific purpose, such as giving the plant/animal a particular characteristic, resistance to a disease, tolerance to harsh climate, and

so on. Therefore, a population with a larger genetic diversity will be better prepared to deal with disease outbreaks or extreme environmental changes, because they will, most likely, have those genes that protect them from such adverse changes. On the other hand, populations with a lesser number of genes in their gene pool will be susceptible to such problems, which may cause them to become endangered or even perish altogether, i.e., become extinct. Therefore, populations with a large gene pool will have more chances of survival, while those with small gene pools are in danger of acquiring genetic diseases, deformities, and infertility.

- FAO estimates that in the last century, about 75 percent of crop genetic diversity was lost as farmers worldwide switched to genetically uniform, high-yielding varieties and abandoned multiple local varieties.

Having recourse to genetic material is however essential to adapt and improve agriculture in the face of threats, such as diseases or warming climate that can alter growing conditions. For example, a variety of Turkish wheat, collected and stored in a seed gene bank in 1948, was rediscovered in the 1980s, when it was found to carry genes resistant to many types of disease-causing fungi. Plant breeders now use those genes to develop wheat varieties that are resistant to a range of diseases.

Medicine: Many medicines are obtained from plants/animal sources like Neem oil, Quinine from Cinchona tree to prevent Malaria.

Thus gene pool conservation is important for sustainable development.

Best Answer: Shravya Byri

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Q11. Examine the potential and associated challenges of biofuels as a sustainable energy resource.

Bio fuels are liquid or gaseous fuels primarily produced from biomass, and can be used to replace or can be used in addition to diesel, petrol or other fossil fuels for transport, stationary, portable and other applications. Crops used to make bio fuels are generally high in sugar (such as sugarcane, sugar beet, and sweet sorghum), starch

(such as maize and tapioca) or oils (such as soybean, rapeseed, and coconut, sunflower).

Potential of Bio fuels:

- **Poverty reduction** : Availability of energy is fundamental to intensifying agriculture, industrial development and pro-poor growth. Locally produced liquid bio fuels, e.g. biodiesel, could lead to national and local benefits such as reduced pressure on forests, reduced dependency on oil imports and limited exposure to volatile international prices. However, large scale production for export is not as likely to have these effects.
- **Employment Opportunities**: Bio fuel could offer beneficial employment opportunities, provided Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policies are implemented. Small scale production has shown promising results. Brazil's first biodiesel cooperative, Cooper bio, involves about 25,000 families using castor bean, jatropha, sunflower and other species produced in small scale diversified systems.
- **Opportunities for small-holders**: Substituting fuel wood and dung for bio fuels could both increase local energy efficiency, decrease health risks and pressure on forests. In Mali, a community program has developed small scale jatropha plantations that provide not only liquid fuels but also electricity, heat and mechanical power for a variety of local uses. Smallholders could also increase their incomes as bio fuel crops become cash crops, but markets should be accessible, and mechanisms in place to ensure that price increases accrue farmers.
- **Infrastructural Investment in Rural Areas**: It is estimated that, one 100klpd bio refinery will require around Rs.800 crore capital investment. At present Oil Marketing Companies are in the process of setting up twelve 2G bio refineries with an investment of around Rs.10,000 crore. Further addition of 2G bio refineries across the Country will spur infrastructural investment in the rural areas.

Challenges:

1. Food prices Estimates of the role of bio fuels in the hike of food prices during 2008 have been much debated. It is estimated that 30% (International Food Policy Research Institute) to 65% (World Bank) of the increase in food prices can be attributed to the increased production of bio fuels instead of food.
2. Tenure and Conflicts Large scale bio fuel production often competes with other land and water uses. Power imbalances make it difficult for local communities to negotiate sufficient compensation for e.g. lost land, especially if they hold no formally recognized tenure rights. Indigenous communities and women are particularly vulnerable.
3. Environmental challenges

1. Soil and Water: Many bio fuel crops are highly water intensive. Crops like sweet sorghum, tropical sugar beet and jatropha can grow on drier soils, but may require irrigation and fertilisers to become commercially attractive.
2. Deforestation, climate change and ecosystem services large scale monoculture bio fuel production often leads to deforestation. Rapidly expanding oil palm plantations in South East Asia, considered one of the largest threats to tropical forests and peat lands, serve as alarming examples. These ecosystems store millions of tons of carbon which is released when they are exploited. Deforestation is in turn a major threat to biodiversity, local communities and indigenous groups dependant on biodiversity.

Indian government has realised the potential advantages of bio fuel and have taken steps to promote biofuels through its recent document National Bio fuel policy .This will help in realising dreams of doubling farmers income along with reducing dependency on fuel imports .

Best Answer: Kamlesh Pratap

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Q12.What potential do oceans hold as the next frontier of resources? Examine.

Introduction:

Nations are moving towards Marine based resources to meet their needs. Oceans cover about three quarters of the earth's surface and have huge potential to address the requirements like fisheries, maritime transport, renewable energy, waste management, tourism, climate change etc.

Body:

Potentials of ocean based resources:

- Minerals: Various kinds of minerals like salt, potassium, magnesium, manganese nodules, placer deposits are extracted from continental shelves as well as deep sea floor. These minerals while essential for economic growth, also results in

employment generation through their mining, extraction, enrichment, processing and other activities.

- Energy: Oceans while providing for conventional sources of energy like oil, natural gas, methane hydrates, also help in generation of energy by non-conventional sources like tidal energy, ocean wave energy, ocean thermal energy, offshore windfarms etc. These sources while providing clean energy will also help in improving economy and generating employment.
- Food: Fisheries and seaweed provide a major source of food for the coastal communities and a source of great revenue, while also providing livelihood to a large chunk of population.
- Trade and Commerce: More than 60-70% trade of the world pass through Ocean route. Ex: China Maritime Silk route, Malacca strait etc.
- Protection from disasters: Coral reefs, mangroves etc. acts as a first line defence in case of cyclones, tsunami, Storm surge etc.

Despite being able to generate employment and helping in economic growth, there are concerns regarding sustainability, which is a major component of Blue Economy.

- Over extraction of resources like minerals and fisheries.
- Depleting health of oceans as seen in Great Pacific Garbage Patch, dying corals and extinction of marine species.
- Oil spills, tar balls, marine pollution, ocean bottom trawling are also impacting ocean ecology.
- Other than these several geo-political factors like South China Sea dispute and other coastal boundary disputes, Japanese whaling issue and challenge of climate change and disasters are areas of concern.

Conclusion:

Blue Economy is an area which has huge untapped potential. If utilized in proper way, it can provide a huge boost to our economic growth and development. As the saying goes, one who controls the ocean controls the world. But if not explored sustainably, then it might create huge trouble for future generation.

Best answer: Taregt19

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Q13. Why has water become a stressed resource in many parts of the world? Analyse.

Approach:

The keyword in this question is “Analyse”. When in a question, it is asked to “analyse”, it means a thorough deconstruction is expected. Only enlisting causes is not sufficient here, we have to support our arguments with facts, examples and an overview of the crisis. It would be better to give way forward here.

Introduction

- About 70% of the Earth’s surface is covered with water and 3% of it is actually fresh water that is fit for human consumption. Around two-thirds of that is tucked in frozen glaciers and unavailable for our use.
- Even though there is enough water on earth, most of the regions around earth are facing water Stress.

Body

Water stress and water scarcity

- Water stress is the difficulty of obtaining sources of fresh water for use during a period of time and may result in further depletion and deterioration of available water resources.
- Water scarcity involves water stress, water shortage or deficits, and water crisis.
- Water scarcity can be due to physical water scarcity and economic water scarcity. Physical water scarcity refers to a situation where natural water resources are unable to meet a region’s demand and economic water scarcity is a result of poor water management resources.
- The latter is found more often to be the cause of countries or regions experiencing water scarcity, as most countries or regions lack the means to provide water in an accessible manner.

Causes of Water Scarcity

- **Overuse of Water:** In developed countries per capita water consumption is far more than developing and poor countries. An average U.S. family wastes 13,000 gallons of water every year.
- **Geographical distribution:** Usage depends on availability of water; Canadian households use an average of 91 US gallons each day, while American households use just over 100 gallons. Contrast this to Israel, where water supplies are limited, which uses an average of only 36 gallons per household per day.
- **Pollution of Water:** 80 percent of wastewater from human activities is discharged into waterways without any pollution removal. Bangalore water crisis was due to pollution in city's lakes and rapid urbanisation.
- **Conflict:** Water stress in Yemen, Syria, and Iraq are examples of water crisis due to conflicts. War disrupts the infrastructure as well as administration.
- **Distance:** Areas that are considered to be desert, or areas that are secluded deal with water scarcity because they just aren't close to anywhere that has water.
- Women in sub-Saharan Africa collectively spend about 40 billion hours a year collecting water. This significantly impacts their employment opportunities.
- **Drought:** A drought is an area which is not getting enough rainfall to be able to sustain the life that is residing there. Some areas are in perpetual drought, whereas other areas may be dealing with a drought on occasion.
- Some examples of it are from India itself, Marathwada region in Maharashtra is usually under drought conditions throughout the year. Another classic example is the recent water crisis in Cape Town, South Africa, major reason here was drought.
- **Climate Change:** Due to climate change and rising temperature there is change in global weather pattern and monsoon. Leading to drying up of rivers and reservoirs. Floods too affect the usability of water.

Findings of UNDP

- In 2011, 41 countries experienced water stress – 10 of which are close to depleting their supply of renewable freshwater and must now rely on alternative sources. Increasing drought and desertification is already worsening these trends. By 2050, it is projected that at least one in four people will be affected by recurring water shortages.
- Water scarcity affects more than 40 percent of people around the world, an alarming figure that is projected to increase with the rise of global temperatures as a result of climate change.

Way forward

- Ensuring universal access to safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030 (SDG6) requires we invest in adequate infrastructure, provide sanitation facilities, and encourage hygiene at every level.
- Protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems such as forests, mountains, wetlands and rivers is essential if we are to mitigate water scarcity.
- More international cooperation is also needed to encourage water efficiency and support treatment technologies in developing countries.

Best Answer: Cosmos

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Q14.What are various resource management strategies? Discuss.

Introduction:

With increasing population pressure, climate change, development that is based on intensive use of resources, there is threat of resource scarcity in the world. In such scenario, resource management which aims at optimum utilization of resources keeping in mind needs of present and future generation assumes significance.

Body:

Resources:

- Natural: Land, water, air, forests, wildlife, mineral resources.
- Human resource.
- Financial resource.

Following are few of the strategies employed in resource management.

Technology:

- To Map available resources.
- Enhancing productivity of available agricultural land.

Ex: Green revolution- High Yielding Variety (HYV) of seeds and chemical fertilizers.

- Judicious utilization of resources.

Ex: drip and sprinkler irrigation methods, precision farming.

- Diversify energy resources. Ex: solar energy, waste to energy.
- Food processing technology to minimize loss of agricultural produce.

Decentralized approach:

- Today when construction of multipurpose dams is scientifically discredited, decentralized water conservation strategies are gaining currency.
- Focus on the development of MSME's, which are well distributed throughout the country-decentralised approach to development.
- Social forestry through involvement of common people.

Regional planning:

- Establishment of industries where raw materials are available. Ex: steel plants in Jharkhand. This would help to better channelize limited economic resources.
- Agro- climatic classification to ensure optimum return from agriculture. Ex: emphasis to grow fodder crops in arid regions.

Conservation:

- Conservation of ecosystems and wildlife through protected areas. Ex: Wildlife Protection Act, Biological Diversity Act.
- International efforts to protect environment. Ex: Various conventions of UN on climate change (UNFCCC), biodiversity (UNCBD), MAB program and others.
- Conservation of soil through afforestation, organic farming.

(NOTE: you can also list conservation methods for various natural resources)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle:

- Switching to need based lifestyle to avoid excess consumption of finite resources.
- Recycling and re-usage would also help.

Human resource:

- Regulating population growth. Ex: family planning programmes.
- Development of human capital by broadening access and opportunities in education, health and skills.

Conclusion:

Thus, overall thrust of strategies is to conserve available resources; their efficient usage; finding alternatives and involving communities in their management so as to ensure sustainable development.

Best answer: Rahul

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Q15. What is social forestry? Examine its potential as a measure of sustainable rural development.

Approach –

Introduction – you can mention what is social forestry.

Body – write about different potential like ecological potential , environment potential , social potential etc.

Conclusion – write a suitable futuristic conclusion.

Introduction –

Social forestry means the management and protection of forest and afforestation of barren and deforested lands with the purpose of helping environmental, social and rural development. The term, social forestry, was first used in 1976 by The National Commission on Agriculture, government of India.

Body –

Social forestry is one of the effective techniques to achieve sustainable rural development in following ways –

1. Environment development –
 - It uses waste land and degraded land thus helps in reducing the pressure on natural forests.
 - Increases recreational beauty of rural areas
 - Also make the agricultural land more resilient to climate change
 - This also act as carbon – sink.
2. Economic development –
 - The local needs of timber, firewood and fodders are met.
 - These forests also provide employment opportunities and increased productivity of agriculture.
 - Practises like horticulture and organic farming can be also undertaken which are quite prevalent these days
3. Social development – Since social forestry is done on rural lands, the whole village is involved. Women, children and villagers participate in planting trees and farmers provide with technical know-how. Thus participation of different rural communities provides social cohesion.
4. Behavioural development – Through various programmes rural people are made aware about the importance of trees. The mindless use of forests will lead to change in quality of life. For eg: Van mahotsav.
5. Energy security – Biofuel, biogas and other sources of renewable energy can be extracted out of social forestry

Conclusion –

Thus social forestry not only helps rural people socially but also help in achieving the vision of PM to double the income of farmer by 2022. This not only makes village prosperous but also helps in achieving sustainable development for future generation.

Best answer – mogambo31

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Q16. What do you understand by the quinary sector? Where would you find the maximum concentration of the quinary sector?

Synopsis:

Some economists subdivide the quaternary sector into the quinary sector, which includes the highest levels of decision making in a society or economy. This sector includes top executives or officials in such fields as government, science, universities, nonprofits, health care, culture, and the media. It may also include police and fire departments, which are public services as opposed to for-profit enterprises.

Economists sometimes also include domestic activities (duties performed in the home by a family member or dependent) in the quinary sector. These activities, such as child care or housekeeping, are typically not measured by monetary amounts but contribute to the economy by providing services for free that would otherwise be paid for.

Maximum concentration of Quinary sectors

- 1) Geographical Factors: Usually concentrated in major cities of country E.g.: Bangalore has huge concentration of startups and their top management bosses.
- 2) Human Resource factors: These sectors require highly educated people with relevant experience who can handle pressure therefore this sector is mostly concentrated in urban areas of country
- 3) Economic factors: Decision involving huge amount of money, resources need the help of experts so this sector is mostly dominated by developed countries.
- 4) Political factors: A stable polity allows growth of nation and its efficient practises encourage the decision makers to expand markets E.g.: India has been consistently improving its position in Ease of doing business which has encouraged many big MNCs and CEO to consider it as favourable market.

Quinary activities help the country's GDP grow and hence India has been taking efforts to build a vast pool of talents who can become future CEO and Nobel laureates by concentrating on skill development and providing finances to budding entrepreneurs.

Best Answer: Aspirant123

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[Abhilasha](#)

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Q17.What is outsourcing? What purpose does it serve? Which countries are the major destinations for outsourcing and why?

Introduction:

Outsourcing is the business practice of hiring a party outside a company to perform services and create goods that traditionally were performed in-house by the company's own employees and staff.

Body:

Purpose of Outsourcing:

- Cost reduction: To reduce labour costs significantly. Businesses can also avoid expenses associated with overhead, equipment, and technology.
- Companies can employ an outsourcing strategy to better focus on core aspects of the business.
- Outsourcing non-core activities can improve efficiency and productivity because another entity performs these smaller tasks better than the firm itself.
- Gaining access to world-class capabilities.
- Gives flexibility in staffing, manpower and management.
- Availability of skills like skilled staff with good English in India.

Major countries which are destination for outsourcing are mainly developing nations like India, China, Eastern Europe, Philippines etc.

Major reason for outsourcing to developing countries are:

- Skilled Manpower and Cheap Labour.
- Lack of environmental laws.
- Lack of labour laws.
- Supportive government policies.
- Demographic dividend.
- Market access.

At the same time, outsourcing has certain negative impacts on the overall economy.

- Exploitation of labour.
- Environmental pollution.
- Uncontrolled urban growth causing various issues related to socio-cultural, infrastructure, health, settlement etc.

Note: These above points need 1-2 lines explanation.

Conclusion:

Outsourcing brings opportunities to the developing countries like India. Best example can be growth of Bangalore city, which was majorly due to IT related outsourcing. But along with that it brings out its own set of challenges which needs to be tackled by the policy makers.

Best answer: Neha Kumari.

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Q18. Examine the factors that have led to the changing pattern of distribution of textile sector?

Approach:

Keywords in this question are, “Examine”, “factors, Changing pattern of distribution...” With the advancement in technology, textile industries became one of the most versatile industries. Over centuries, it changed its location distribution across the World. What are the factors behind such change, we have to examine them.

Introduction:

Textile industries are one of the ancient industries on the globe. Initially they used to be dependent on sources of supply of raw material, but with the progress in science and technology, there are frequent changes in factors, on which location of these industries depends.

Body

Types of textiles:

Textile industry can be divided into several segments, some of which can be listed as below:

- Cotton Textiles
- Silk Textiles
- Woollen Textiles
- Readymade Garments
- Hand-crafted Textiles
- Jute and Coir

Factors of change in distribution:

- **Technology:** Earlier, before industrial revolution, India was leading supplier of cotton textiles to the world. These were hand-loom based textiles. Due to industrial revolution came power looms and synthetic cloths, which were cheaper than Indian handloom cotton. Thus handlooms of India began to shut down and modern mechanized textile industry of Europe began to flourish. The same happened in the case of silk and wool too. Industries shifted from place of raw-material to the place of advanced technologies.
- **War and conflicts:** During world war, European economy was completely disturbed, during the period, North America (U.S.) started to supply things of basic needs to Europe. During this period, American textile industries flourished. Similarly, traditional carpet making industry of middle eastern countries are losing ground to machine made carpets of U.S. and China, mainly due to continuous conflict in the region.
- **Capitalism and cheap labour:** Textile industry is a labour intensive industry. With the rise in free economies and profit orientation of capitalist, textile industries started to shift to destinations where cheap labour is easily available such as South Asian countries.
- **Rising demand in developing countries:** India, Indonesia and such other Asian countries are fastest growing economies of the world. In such developing countries with large population, demand is also rapidly increasing. This rise in demand shifted the European textile industries to Asian countries. Australia is one of the largest wool producing countries, but raw material of Australia is taken to Asian industries, because demand in Asia is higher than Australia.
- **Globalisation:** Globalisation and rise of multinational companies, territorial boundaries are no more important. Capital, which is one of the important factor for textile industries can reach to raw material producing countries from developed countries easily. Multinational companies from U.S. are setting up their industries in South Asian and South East Asian countries.
- **Advancement in means of transportation and communication:** Earlier, textile industries used to be located near ports for easy transport, but now with advancement in rail and air cargo facilities, ports are no more that much important.
- **Population pressure:** Once Mumbai was one of the main center of textile production, now due to immense population pressure, rising prices of land and

labour, textile industries of Mumbai shifted to Surat, Ahmadabad and Aurangabad etc.

- **Partition and territorial developments:** Cotton producing rich soil went to Pakistan in West and jute producing went to Bangladesh (erstwhile East Pakistan). This hampered the industries that remained in India without raw material.
- **Advanced agricultural practices:** Natural weather conditions are no more necessary requirement for textile crop production, it can be done with biologically modified seeds and artificial weather creations.

Conclusion:

- Above mentioned are some of the factors which led to change in distribution of textile industries throughout the globe.
- Considering the demographic dividend, India has an opportunity due to these shifts.
- Recent schemes of the government for up-gradation and mechanization of textile industries is a welcome step.

Best Answer: Shri

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Q19. Examine the locational pattern of heavy industries in India. Take suitable examples.

Introduction:

Industries, which use heavy and bulky raw materials and produce products of the same category, are called heavy industries. Heavy industries include Oil, mining, shipbuilding, steel, chemicals, machinery manufacturing and others.

They are very capital-intensive and often sell their products to other industries rather than to end users and consumers.

Body:

Locational pattern of heavy industries in India are influenced by number of factors

Geographical: availability of raw materials, power resources, water, labour, markets and the transport facilities.

Non-Geographical: Government Policies, Industrial Inertia, presence of facilities like Banking and Insurance.

Examples:

1. a) Iron and steel industries:

The iron and steel industry uses large quantity of heavy and weight-losing raw materials, such as iron ore, coking coal and limestone. On the basis of the minimum cost of transportation, the steel plants can be located at three possible places, viz.,

- Near the coalfields
- Near iron-ore mining areas and
- At places between coal and iron ore producing areas.

Taking these factors into account, most of the steel plants in India are located in Jharkhand, West Bengal, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. All these states are rich in coal and iron ore reserves. Ex: TISCO, Durgapur steel plant.

The other raw materials like manganese, limestone, dolomite, chromite, silica, scrap iron, are needed in small quantities and can be transported easily from other places.

1. b) Ship building industry:

Availability of steel and coastal land play important role in the location of ship building industry. In India, Four major ship building centres are located at Vishakhapatnam, Kolkata, Kochi and Mumbai.

- Vishakhapatnam itself has steel industry and Kolkata is well connected with steel industries of Jharkhand and WB.
- flat/level coastal land is available.
- Rich hinterland with excellent railroad connectivity for transport of labor and ancillary components
- Indigenous demand from ONGC, for offshore platforms, drilling rigs and steel jackets and from Indian Navy and Coast guards.

c) Petrochemical industries: are located at coastal regions. Ports help in import of crude oil and export of end products.

- Mumbai is the hub of the petrochemical industries.
- Jamnagar, Gandhinagar and Hajira in Gujarat.

Conclusion:

In most cases locational pattern of heavy industries depends on combination of above factors. With most factors varying in time and space, industries are unevenly distributed.

Best answer: NKY

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Q20. Why are so many start up companies located in the Silicon Valley? Examine.

Approach

Introduction – you can write about the location of Silicon Valley.

Body –write about what makes Silicon Valley a destination choice for tech start – ups like skilled labours like the preferable laws, better chances of getting funding etc.

Conclusion – write a suitable conclusion

Introduction

Silicon Valley is the nick name for northern California area in US. It derives its name from large number of software and hardware companies based there primarily working on silicon chips. Indian Silicon Valley is also known as Bengaluru.

Body

The reason being so many start-ups companies located in Silicon Valley is as follows –

1. **Closer relationship between academia, the private sector, and government**

These 3 powerful sectors converge together to create an environment that's unlike any other in the world. With Stanford University and Berkeley at the epicentre of the valley, there's a permanent flow of new entrepreneurs and talented tech specialists being minted each year. When one takes into account all of these factors – and then integrate them with the fact that launching a business is fairly easy under California law, including the fact that non-compete agreements are void in the state – one can see why businesses get started and thrive in Silicon Valley.

2. Great number of wealthy investors and funding institutions

The amount of both personal and institutional wealth in the valley makes it the best location for business growth. There are thousands of rich investors in the area who organize as angel investors and venture capitalists, looking to invest their money to work instead of paying hefty taxes on earnings to the U.S. government annually. As a result, they want to pour funds into a variety of different businesses, with the hope that a handful will return high dividends in the following years.

3. Availability of amenities

The amazing access to attractive business amenities in the area is also worth mentioning. The valley itself and nearby San Francisco (where many young techies make their homes) have tons of amenities that make the Bay Area an attractive destination for investors, conventions, and more. These amenities include world-class hotels at surprisingly fair prices, large conference centres, some of the world's most highly-rated restaurants, famous sports teams and lots of entertainment options.

4. Encouragement from past success stories

Much of Silicon Valley's present success is rooted in the incredible past success stories. As both an entrepreneur or investor, there's something about being surrounded by success stories that contribute to imagining future victories for beginners. It's as if the accomplishments of past entrepreneurs makes the thought of obtaining great results further down the road, that much more palpable.

5. **Joint industry strength** – presence of various types of industries in close proximity give a combined support .
6. **Climate** – climate is very pleasant which always attract the capital and work force. For eg – it is never sub-zero like New York, Chicago , same thing with the Bangalore.

Challenges of silicon valley

1. Immigration
2. Various security threats
3. Environmental degradation

4. Loss of local culture and identity

Conclusion

In present era, though innovation is no longer geographically centred, start-ups are still concentrated in limited pockets. A free and slightly supporting environment can create more no of Silicon Valley's across globe.

Best answer – Mahismati

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Q21. Examine the correlation between plate tectonics and earthquakes.

Introduction

An earthquake is the shaking of the surface of the Earth, resulting from the sudden release of energy in the Earth's lithosphere that creates seismic waves.

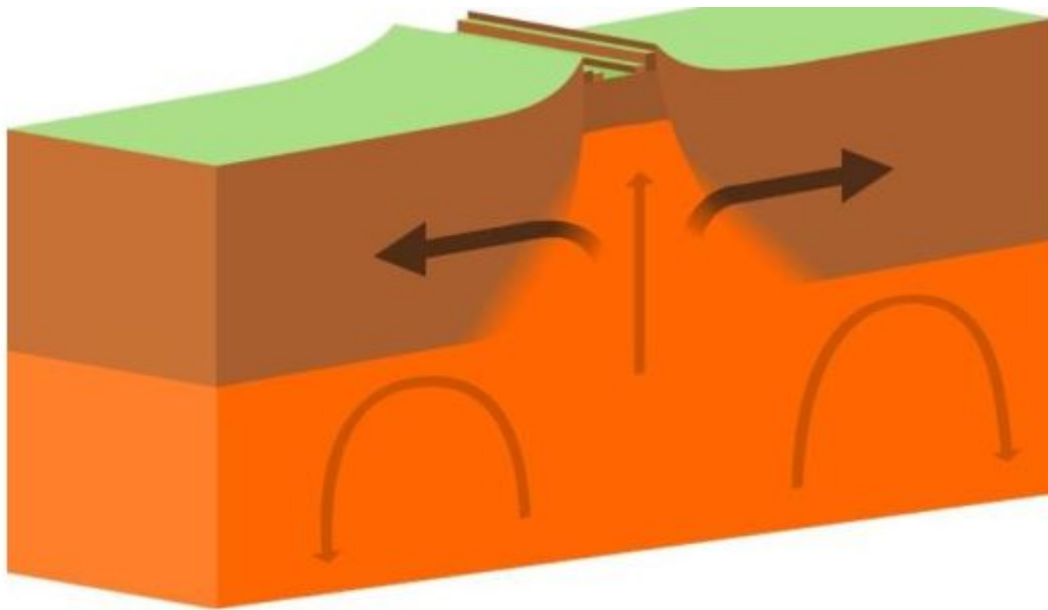
Body

The earth's lithosphere composed of seven major plates and many minor plates. Plate tectonics is a scientific theory describing the large-scale motion of these minor and major plates. Plate motions create plate boundaries. Each dynamic activity of earth is developed at plate boundaries including earthquakes.

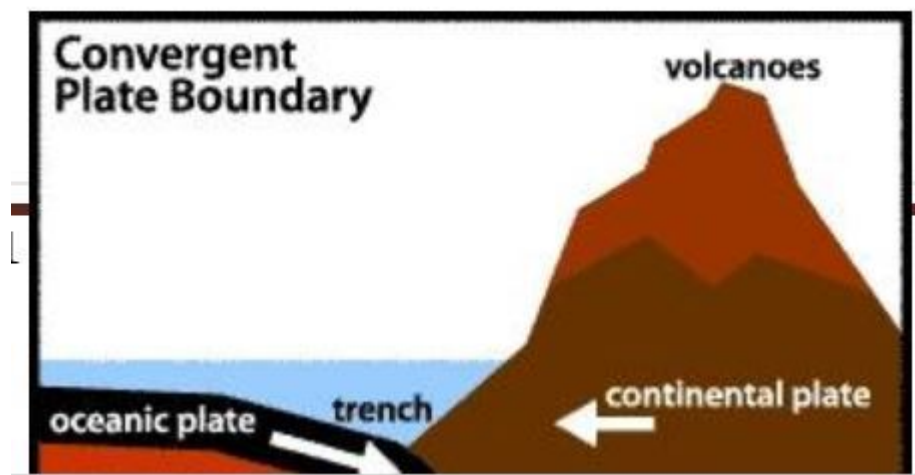
Distribution of earthquake along plate boundaries is as follows

1. Divergent Plate boundary – This happens when two plates move away from each other. Due to this, the energy from beneath finds way to come out striking earthquake along the rift. This creates shallow focus earthquake.

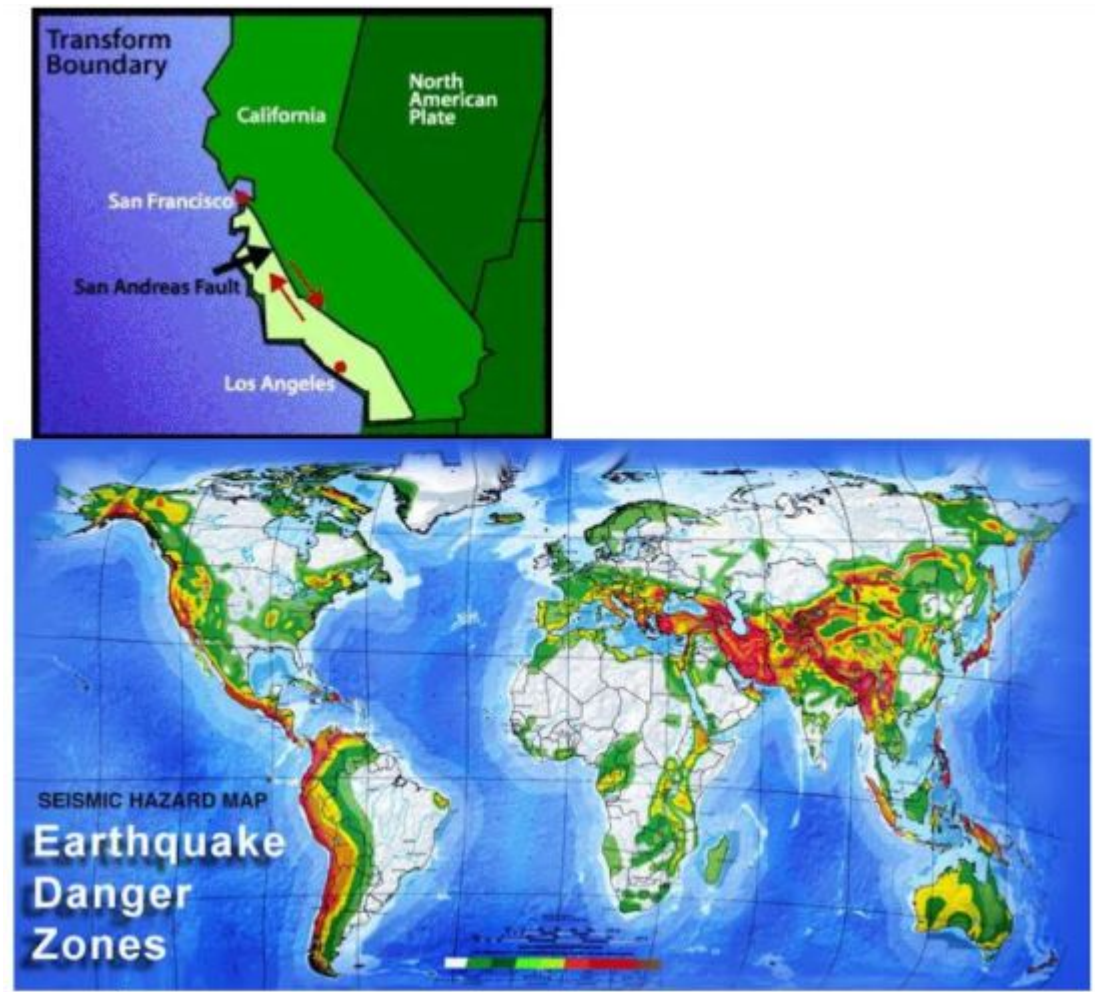
For eg mid-Atlantic ridge



2. Convergent plate boundary – When two plates collide, the impact leads to violent shaking and results in powerful and deep focus earthquakes. Eg – Himalayas, Andes.



2. **Transform plate boundary** – Plates slid past each other .Due to this rocks rub against each other creating fracture. This is side of intermediate focus earth quake. For eg San andreas fault.



Conclusion

Even though earthquake being disaster for mankind but incidence of earthquake beneath the oceans help to understand seafloor expansion with respect to plate tectonics. Also, concentration of earthquake in particular zone helps us to identify the nature, speed and direction of plate. This it holds huge significance in form of plate boundaries.

Best answer Taregt 19

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Q22. What effects do tsunamis have on the coastal ecosystem? Discuss.

Introduction:

A tsunami is a wave, or series of waves, caused by the vertical displacement of a column of water. This can be generated by earthquakes below the sea floor and violent volcanic eruptions above it, landslides above or below water or meteorite impacts into the sea.

Body:

Effects of Tsunami

1. Sea Floor Erosion:
 - The base of a tsunami wave can change the topography of the sea floor. It erodes seafloor sediments and can devastate the benthic – sea bottom – ecosystems on the sea floor. These are usually invertebrates like crustaceans, worms and snails that burrow through sea floor sediments and mix them. Sometimes, huge chunks of the sea floor can be ripped up. The March 2011 Tohoku, Japan, earthquake tsunami deposited the eroded sediments in other locations as huge seafloor sand dunes.
2. Coral Reefs:
 - Coral reefs are natural breakwaters for a tsunami wave as it moves towards the coastline. The December 2004 Indonesian earthquake tsunami devastated coral reefs around Indian Ocean coastlines.
3. Intertidal environments:
 - Sea grass beds, mangrove forests, coastal wetlands and their associated fish and animal life in the intertidal zone are particularly vulnerable to tsunamis. This is the part of a coast that is exposed to the air at low tide and is submerged at high tide.
4. Species Invasion:
 - Tsunamis can carry massive amounts of debris from one side of the ocean to another. A concrete block from Misawa, Japan took 15 months to cross the Pacific Ocean and crash into the Oregon coast. Algae and other organisms attached to this debris survived the ocean crossing. These can establish new communities in Oregon and potentially displace native species.
5. Contamination of soil and water:
 - The 2004 Tsunami led to Salination of water bodies such as rivers, lakes, wells in many of the effected countries

Conclusion:

Tsunami is a natural disaster and damage to Tsunami can be mitigated by healthy well maintained coral reefs, mangroves, sand dunes and other coastal systems such as peat swamp. World over efforts have been taken to reduce the loss of life by tsunami with investment in early warning systems.

Q23. Why do some volcanos become dormant while many remain active? Explain with the help of suitable examples.

Introduction:

A volcano is an opening in the Earth's crust that allows molten rock, gases, and debris to escape to the surface.

Body:

Volcanoes tend to exist along the edges between tectonic plates, massive rock slabs that make up Earth's surface. About 90 percent of all volcanoes exist within the Ring of Fire along the edges of the Pacific Ocean.

Types of Volcanos:

- Active Volcano.
- Dormant Volcano.
- Extinct Volcano.

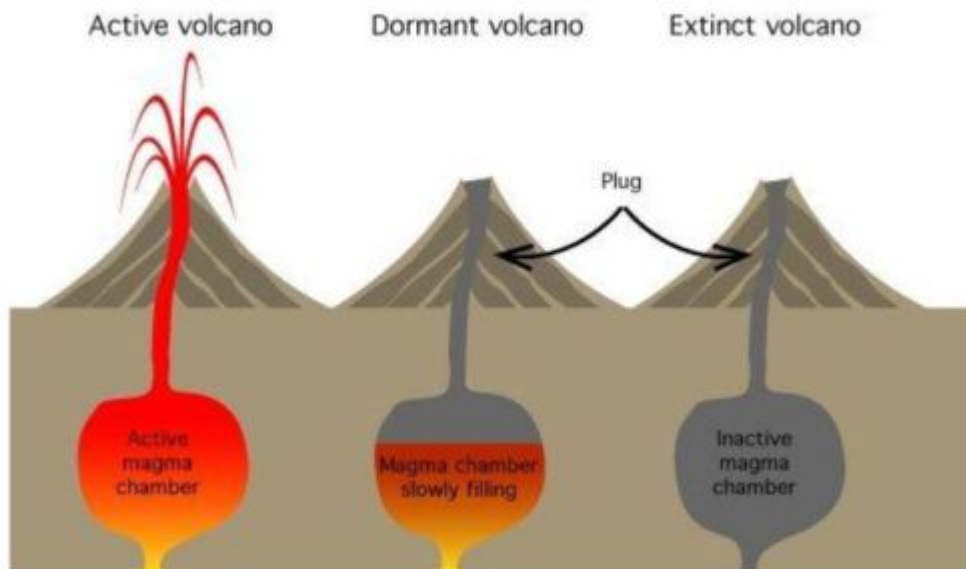
About 1,900 volcanoes on Earth are considered active, meaning they show some level of activity and are likely to explode again. Many other volcanoes are dormant, showing no current signs of exploding but likely to become active at some point in the future.

- Volcanoes go dormant because magma from the Earth's mantle can no longer reach the volcano.
- If a volcano doesn't have a source of magma, it won't erupt.
- As the islands move away from the supply of magma, volcanoes become dormant.
- They become dormant because the Earth's plates are constantly shifting above volcanic hotspots.
- Volcano can also become dormant if when the angle of subduction changes and magma begins to rise through the mantle in a different location.

- The tectonic plate continues to shift above the hotspot, and eventually the volcano is shut off from the magma chamber beneath. The magma finds a new source to the surface, creating a new active volcano. The older volcano stops erupting and becomes dormant.

Examples of Dormant volcanoes:

- Mauna Kea, one of the five volcanoes that make up the Big Island of Hawaii.
- Clear Lake in California.
- Yellow stone national park.
- Tongariro in New Zealand.
- Mt Kilimanjaro, Tanzania.
- Mt Ararat, Turkey.
- Mt Fuji, Japan.



Conclusion:

Write a Brief conclusion.

Best Answer: No Best Answer

Q24. What are the factors that have led to the increased frequency of tropical cyclones? Examine.

Approach

- This is a simple direct question of geography. Start with a short introduction to 'Tropical Cyclones', and mention about increasing frequency of these cyclones.
- In body of the answer, mention various factors such as rising temperatures, changing weather conditions and such other factors are leading to increasing frequency.
- Since question asked to 'examine', simply enlisting the factors will not be sufficient, elaborate them and end the answer with way forward.

Introduction

- Tropical cyclones form over oceans with surface temperatures above 26°C as strong low pressure systems that can reach diameters of more than 500 km.
- Evaporation of immense amounts of water vapour under these high temperature conditions and the related condensation aloft provide ample energy for the cyclone dynamics, leading to high wind speed and extreme precipitation.
- These usual natural phenomena are occurring more frequently than usual due to various anthropogenic and changing natural factors.

Body

We had Ockhi cyclone last year and now Gaja, both of them originated in Bay of Bengal, but travelled all along till western coast of peninsular India.

Similar events of increased frequency as well as intensity are observed throughout the tropical oceans.

The factors leading to increased frequency of tropical cyclones

- Increase in frequency of tropical cyclones is specifically observed in Arabian Sea. Here winter monsoon circulations, plays an important role.
- The interplay of global warming, climate variability and weather changes, the winter northeast monsoon circulation has been weakening over the years.
- One important factor is the wind shear, or the change in direction and speed of the winds from bottom to the top of the atmosphere.
- Generally, this wind shear is relatively strong in the Arabian Sea compared to the Bay of Bengal.
- Opposing winds prevent cyclones from developing vertically, this wind shear is weakening in the Arabian Sea with increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
- Important contributors to rise in global temperatures, such as manmade black carbon particles and sulphate emissions might have increased the intensity of these cyclones in almost all oceans of tropics.

- On the other hand burning of fossil fuels such as petrol, diesel, etc. was the main reason for climate change as it had affected the greenhouse gas cover around the earth, leading to a rise in atmospheric temperature.
- Similarly, aerosols, greenhouse gases, volcanic activity, solar variability, and internal climate variability also add degrees to sea surface temperature, making the conducive weather conditions for tropical cyclones.
- A La Niña (a weather pattern in the Pacific Ocean that is less damaging than El Niño) event is unfolding over the Pacific. Studies have shown that La Niña conditions change the atmospheric circulation over the north Indian Ocean and make them favourable for cyclogenesis.

Way forward

- The most important factors responsible for increase in frequency of tropical cyclones are global warming and climate change.
- According to recent IPCC report, the world is already 1°C hotter than what it was 150 years ago.
- It could witness greater frequency of droughts and floods, tropical cyclones, etc. if the planet heats by a further 0.5°C. That could happen anytime between 2030 and 2050.
- The need of the hour is to implement the conventions like Paris Accord and INDCs in letter and spirit to control the rising global temperatures.
- Conserving the existing ecosystem is the best way to counter climate change.

Best Answer: Ravi Kishore Boddu

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Q25. How do temperate cyclones affect weather conditions? Illustrate.

Introduction:

Temperate cyclones are atmospheric disturbances with low-pressure centres occurring in the middle latitudes. The polar fronts created due to contrasting air masses (warm tropical air mass & cold, dense polar air mass) are responsible for the origin and development of temperate cyclones.

Body:

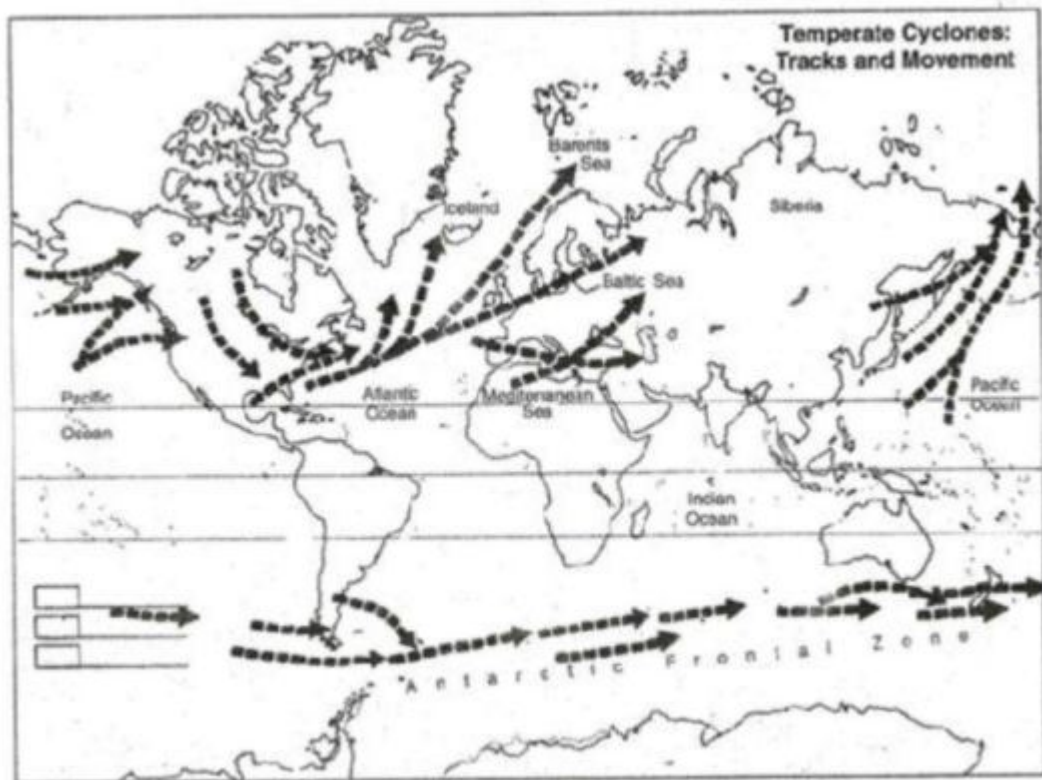


Fig. 3.26 Principal areas and tracks of temperate cyclones.

Different parts of temperate cyclones are associated with varying weather conditions because of different types of air masses and varying temperature conditions.

Warm Frontal Precipitation:

- With the arrival of warm front of the cyclone heavy showers begin with nimbostratus clouds.
- Warm air rises slowly along the front. Hence the precipitation is slow, gradual but of long duration.

Warm sector:

- Sky becomes cloudless and clear but there may be some occasional drizzles.
- There is sudden rise in air temperature and increase in the specific humidity of the air but air pressure decreases remarkably.

Cold front:

- With the arrival of cold front temperature decreases.
- As cold air pushes the warm air upward, sky is again covered with clouds which soon start precipitation.

Cold frontal precipitation:

- Since warm air is forcibly lifted upwards sky becomes overcast with cumulonimbus clouds.
- Heavy downpour with thunder and lightning.
- Precipitation is of short duration.

Cold sector:

- Sharp fall in temperature.
- Sky becomes cloudless and hence clear.

Conclusion:

Temperate cyclones are associated with blizzards in North America and western disturbances in India. They are usually distributed over USA, Canada, belt extending from Iceland to Barents Sea continuing over Russia and Siberia, Mediterranean basin extending even up to India in winters. Thus, in a way temperate cyclones play an important role in global heat transfer.

Best answer: cosmos

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Q26. Where would you find the maximum concentration of mangrove forests? What roles do mangroves play? Discuss.

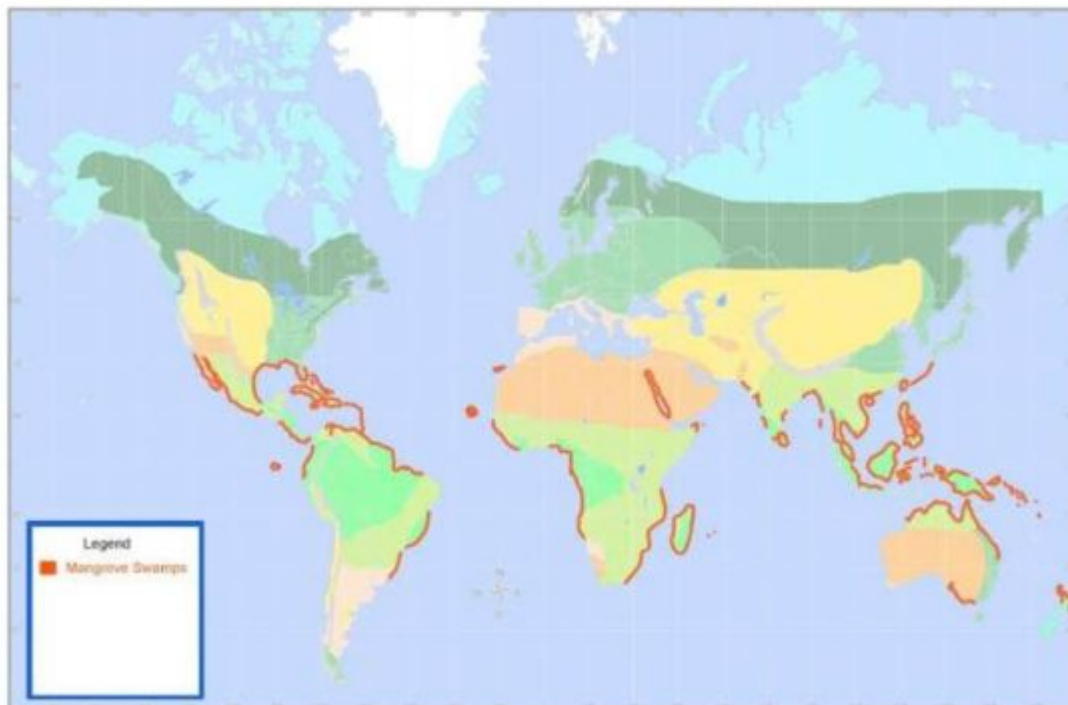
Introduction

Mangroves are trees or large shrubs which are salt tolerant and grows in the intertidal zones in tropical and subtropical regions. These are rich in biodiversity and provide a large number of ecological services

Body

Maximum concentration of mangroves is found between 5-degree north to 5-degree south of equator. Asia has the largest amount around 43 percent of world's mangrove followed by Africa, North America, Oceania and South America

1. Papua province of Indonesia archipelago
2. Tarut island, Saudi Arabia
3. Sundarbans mangroves, India



Role played by mangroves are as follows

- **Biodiversity**– Home to an incredible array of species, mangroves are biodiversity hotspots. They provide nesting and breeding habitat for fish and shellfish, migratory birds, and sea turtles. An estimated 80% of the global fish catch relies on mangrove forests either directly or indirectly.
- **Livelihoods**- fishers and farmers depend on these natural environments to provide healthy fisheries from which to fish, and healthy land on which to farm.

- **Water.** Mangroves are essential to maintaining water quality. With their dense network of roots and surrounding vegetation, they filter and trap sediments, heavy metals, and other pollutants. This ability to retain sediments flowing from upstream prevents contamination of downstream waterways and protects sensitive habitat like coral reefs and sea grass beds below.
- **Coastal defence.** Mangroves are the first line of defence for coastal communities. They stabilize shorelines by slowing erosion and provide communities from increased storm surge, flooding, and hurricanes. In 2003, it was estimated that a quarter of the world's population lived within 100 kilometres of the coast and at 100 meters of sea level. Robust mangrove forests are natural protection for communities vulnerable both to sea level rise and the more intense and frequent weather events caused by climate change
- **Carbon storage.** Mangroves “sequester carbon at a rate two to four times greater than mature tropical forests and store three to five times more carbon per equivalent area than tropical forests” like the Amazon rainforest. This means that conserving and restoring mangroves is essential to fighting climate change, the warming of the global climate fuelled by increased carbon emissions, that is already having disastrous effects on communities worldwide.
- **Materials.** In addition to consuming fish and shellfish from the mangroves, communities have historically used mangrove wood and other extracts for both building and medicinal purposes. Their potential as a source for novel biological materials, such as antibacterial compounds and pest-resistance genes, remains largely undiscovered.
- **Sustainable development.** Intact and healthy mangrove forests have an potential for sustainable revenue-generating initiatives including ecotourism, sport fishing, and other recreational activities.

Conclusion

According to a report by IPCC 2018, mangroves are threaten by impacts of global warming. But seeing the benefit provided by these mangroves, it is highly necessary that we should conserve them with holistic and integrated approach. Mangrove for future by IUCN and government of India is a step in right direction. It will also fulfil sustainable development goal 14 i.e. conservation of lives depended on oceans.

Best answer: DP

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Q27.What is inland drainage? Illustrate with examples.

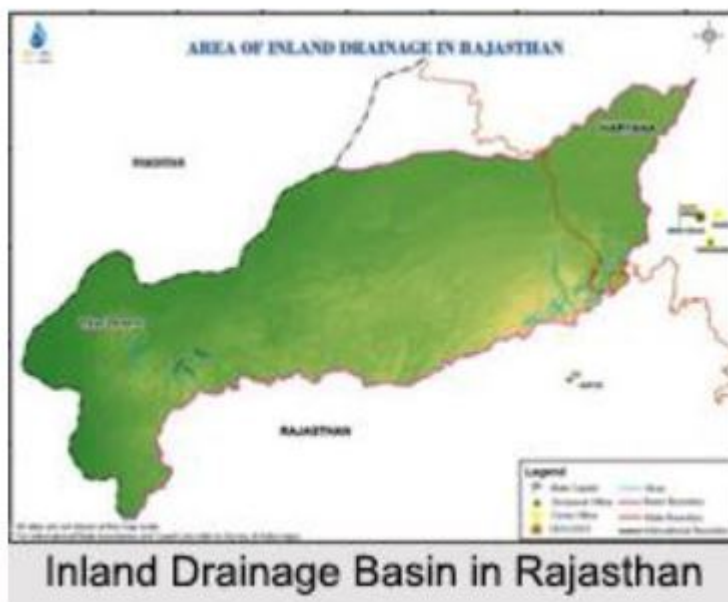
Introduction

Inland drainage is that drainage in which rivers do not reach an ocean or sea but empty their waters in a lake or an inland sea

Body

Main Characteristics of Inland Drainage:

1. In inland drainage streams join lakes or inland seas.
2. They are fed by rainy water.
3. During rains they experience flash floods.
4. During dry season they get dried up.



Ghaggar River:

- The Ghaggar is the most important river of inland drainage. It is a seasonal stream which rises on the lower slopes of the Himalayas and forms boundary between Haryana and Punjab.
- It gets lost in the dry sands of Rajasthan near Hanumangarh after traversing a distance of 465 km.
- Earlier, this river was an affluent of the Indus, the dry bed of the old channel is still traceable.
- Its main tributaries are the Tangri, the Markanda, the Saraswati and the Chaitanya.
- It contains a lot more water in rainy season when its bed becomes 10 km wide at places.
- Most of the streams draining western slopes of the Aravalli Range dry up immediately after they enter the sandy arid areas to the west of this range.

Luni River :

- The Luni or the Salt River (Lonari or Lavanavari in Sanskrit) is named so because its water is brackish below Balotra.
- Luni is the only river basin of any significance in Western Rajasthan, which form the bulk of arid zone.
- Luni originates from western slopes of the Aravalli ranges at an elevation of 772 m near Ajmer flowing in South West direction and traversing a course of 511 km in Rajasthan, it finally flows into the Rann of Kachchh (it gets lost in the marsh).
- Most of its tributaries drain the steep north west of Aravalli hills and join it on left side. Its total catchment area falls in Rajasthan.
- The peculiarity of this river is that it tends to increase its width rather than deepening the bed because the banks are of soils, which are easily erodible whereas beds are of sand. The floods develop and disappear so rapidly that they have no time to scour the bed.

Conclusion

Inland Drainage Basin in India plays an important role in the hydrology of the country. It can become a logical unit for studying the movement of water within the hydrological cycle. When water flows over the ground and along the rivers it picks up nutrients, sediment and pollutants. These minerals get transported towards the outlet of the basin and affect the ecological processes.

Best Answer: FunnyBone

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Q28. What role do ice bodies play in maintaining earth's heat budget? Discuss the threats posed to ice bodies by global warming.

Introduction:

Heat budget is the phenomenon through which earth maintains a constant temperature by reflecting the equal amount of heat as received by it from the atmosphere.

Body:

Role of ice bodies in maintaining heat budget:

- Albedo- Ice bodies reflect most of the sunrays falling on them, thus preventing the earth from becoming warmer.
- Temperature diffusion- Ice bodies along with other global phenomenon helps in creating ocean and wing cycles around the earth which carry surplus heat to poles, thus maintaining the overall global heat balance.
- Carbon sequestration- Ice bodies in the polar region are a sink for a large amount of carbon present on earth and helps to lock it away, so as to prevent it from increasing global temperature.

Threats to ice bodies by global warming:

- Ice melting- the Increasing surface temperature has resulted in an increased pace of glacial melting.
- Loss of permafrost- There is a constant loss of permafrost layer in polar and sub-polar regions endangering the stability of land in those regions.
- Poleward migration of species- Due to increased temperature, species are migrating polewards, thus endangering the survival of the native species of these regions.
- Release of carbon dioxide- Ice melting in certain areas releases the locked carbon dioxide, thus increasing global warming further, leading to a vicious cycle.

- Shrinking Arctic and Antarctic ice shelves- Breaking of Larsen C ice shelf in Antarctica and several smaller ice shelves in the Arctic are a result of global warming.
- Upward movement of snowline in mountainous regions- the Increased pace of melting of glaciers has resulted in the upward shift of snow line, thus reducing albedo of the region.
- **Conclusion:**
 - Ice bodies are vital for maintaining the constant global temperature and any threat to their survival will create a vicious cycle of constantly rising earth's temperatures. Governments must come together and change the consumption patterns to arrest the rise in temperature as well adopt adaptation strategies to ensure the well-being of the population in coastal regions.

Q29. Examine the factors behind the uniqueness of Australian flora and fauna.

Approach:

This is a straight forward question. Australia is located distinctly, isolated from rest of the world therefore it has unique flora and fauna. We have to write all possible geographical factors responsible for uniqueness of Australian flora and fauna. Since question asked to “examine”, thus after detailing factors, we have to write a critical paragraph, discussing about vulnerabilities of this unique flora and fauna. Sum up your answer with a short conclusion or way forward.

Introduction

Australia is a land like no other, with about one million different native species. More than 80 per cent of the country's flowering plants, mammals, reptiles and frogs are unique to Australia, along with most of its freshwater fish and almost half of its birds.

Body

The distribution of both flora and fauna within a geographic range will depend on a number of related factors, including microclimate, predation pressure, competition, habitat structure and the distribution of resources including food, water and mates etc.

Evolutionary isolation and other geographical factors are responsible for unique flora and fauna of Australia.

Evolutionary isolation

- Australia has a unique flora and fauna because it was isolated from the rest of the world for very long periods.
- The Australian continent was surrounded by ocean for many millions of years, and so the plants and animals on that very large life-raft were able to evolve in distinctive ways.

Geographical factors

- **Isolated Location:** Tropic of Capricorn divides Australia into two almost equal parts. It has effects of tropical, subtropical as well as temperate climatic effects. It is surrounded by Ocean from all the sides.
- **Unique Topography:** Australia is divided into three major physical parts viz Eastern highlands, central low lands and western plateau.
- **Diverse climatic features:** Mostly desert or semi-arid in west and central parts of the country, south-east and south-west corners are temperate, whereas northern parts have tropical climate, varied between tropical rainforests, grasslands, part desert.
- **Varying Rainfall:** Due to unique topography and location, rainfall distribution varies throughout the Australian land. Eastern, north eastern and south western parts of the country comes in the way of rain bearing winds, thus receive heavy rainfall. Eastern high lands acts as a barrier to these winds, thus very large parts of western and central Australia have scanty or no rainfall at all.

Conclusion

- Due to such geographic uniqueness and evolutionary isolation, Australia became home to very unique flora and fauna, which includes largest number of marsupials and venomous snakes.
- When animals and plants evolve in isolation they can become more vulnerable to novel predators or pathogens, this is one of the reasons Australia is so vigilant about quarantines and making sure they keep certain pathogens and invasive species out of the country.
- Cane toads and rabbits are an example of invasive species gone amuck in Australia.
- Aborigines of Australia also played an important role in preservation and conservation of country's unique flora and fauna.

Best Answer: Rahul

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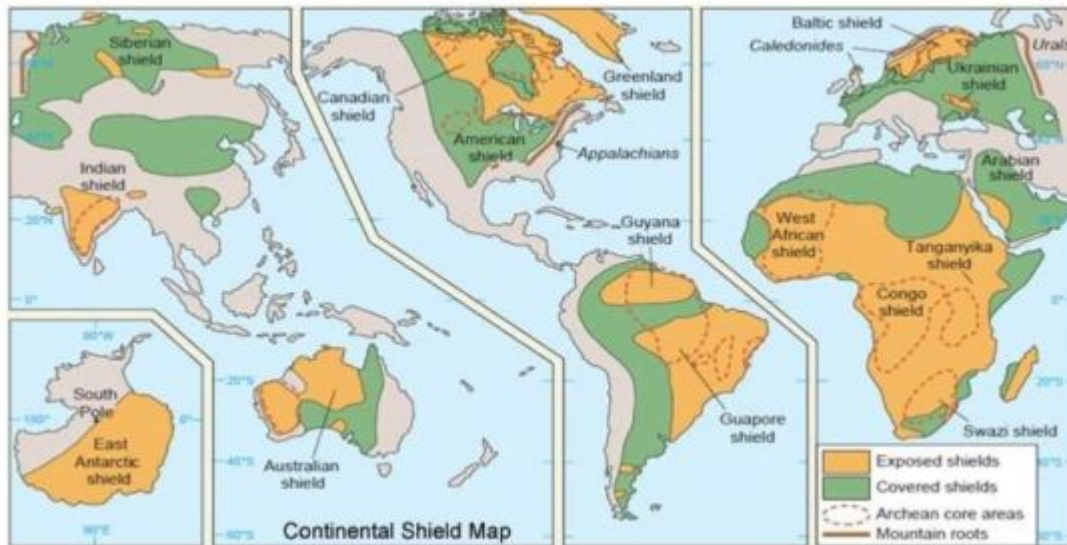
Q30. What are shields? Discuss their economic significance.

Introduction:

A Shield is a large, tectonically inactive mass of Precambrian crystalline rock that underlies most of a continent. They are exposed cratons on the earth surface.

Body:

A shield's rocks are igneous and metamorphic in origin and contain some of the oldest rocks on Earth. Shield areas in general are regarded as continental nuclei. Topography of the continental shield is flattened by the erosion due to its stable area.



Economic significance:

Magma contains ferrous and non-ferrous minerals. Cratons which are blocks of magma when exposed as shield bring these mineral resources to the surface.

- Rich resources propel primary and secondary economic activities like Mining.
- Help in industrialization by providing much needed raw material base for setting up industries.
- Earn forex reserves through exports.
- Employment opportunities and overall economic development in the region by acting as a growth pole.

Examples:

- The Canadian Shield is rich in natural resources, including minerals, forests and freshwater. Mining began in the region in the mid-19th century and was key to Canada's economic development. Various minerals and precious stones have been mined or continue to be mined on the Shield, including gold, silver, copper, zinc, nickel, iron, uranium and diamonds.
- The Singbhum Shield is the area where Jharkhand is situated. Since it's a shield region, there is an abundance of minerals and ores like occurrence of iron, chromite, manganese and silver ores. Hence Jharkhand is a state of Mines, Minerals and Industries.

Based on their location Shields are also known to provide other economic benefits like

- Canadian Shield area: with forest cover there is growth of lumber industry. Its topography with numerous rivers and waterfalls has helped in the generation of hydroelectric power.
- Baltic shield: with glacier retreat shield depressions have turned into lakes supporting inland transport in Sweden and Finland.
- Dharwad Shield with laterite soil has promoted development of building materials like bricks.

Best answer: Chiranjeet bishwas

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Q31. Discuss the contribution of Sufism towards India's musical tradition.

Introduction

- India's musical tradition has a long history. Since ancient times, music remained at the center of religious traditions in India. It is therefore Sufism popularised in India with its musical traditions.
- Contribution of Sufism in India's musical tradition is multifaceted, ranging from poetry to musical instruments as well as ragas and Gharanas.

Body

Contribution of Sufism towards India's musical tradition

Musical instruments:

- Tabla and Sitar two of the important instruments used in Indian classical music are mainly because of Sufi music. Sitar is believed to be invented by Sufi poet Amir Khusro.
- Ustaaad Bismillah Khan, India's renowned Ustaaad of "Shehnaai" was also a Sufi singer.

Poetry & music:

- Qawwali and Kafi are the evergreen examples of genres given by Sufi music to Indian musical tradition.
- Qawwali is one of the better known sub-genres of Sufi music. It has its roots in Indian subcontinent, made famous by Aamir Khusro. Traditionally; this style consists of four distinct sections: hamd, naat, and manqabat, which are all devotional songs, and ghazals, which are usually expressions of the longing to be close to the divine. The popularity of Qawwali is due in part to its aesthetic appeal.
- Kafi style is considered classical, and is generally culled from the poetic verses of well-known writers. Though kafi is similar to Qawwali in the fervor of its delivery, the two forms differ in execution. While Qawwali may be made up of a larger ensemble, kafi music usually consists of a few percussion instruments, a keyboard, and a single vocalist.
- Similarly "Sama" a kind of Sufi ritual, performed with music and dance, satisfies the souls of many Indians. "Mehfil" and "khalay" are some other contributions of Sufism to Indian music.
- Other than genres, various aspects of the hindustani music and ragas evolved with the influence of sufism.
- Gharana, Riyaz, jugalbandi, Ustaaad and many such other words and concepts are gifted by Sufism to Indian Music.

Poets

- The Qawwali and kaafi are the most popular styles, and are associated with poets such as Hafez, Rumi, Amir Khusro, Baba Bulleh Shah, Hazrat Shah Hussein and Khwaja Ghulam Farid.
- Amir Khusro, the parrot of India, is also known as father of Qawwali.
- Even after so many years, Sufi poets Amir Khusro and Bulleh Shah and many other are still alive in Indian Music.
- These poets enriched the Indian music by adding Persian and Arabic elements in it.

Contribution of Sufism in modern Indian music

- From Jodha Akbar to Rockstar, there are many movies which contains the sufi music in modern way.

- Qawwalis by Sabri Brothers, Sufi songs by A.R Rehaman and Ghazals by Jagjeet Singh are few examples to show how Sufi music became irrefutable part of Indian musical tradition.

Conclusion

In Sufism, God is treated as “Maashooq” (beloved), and Ishq (Love) is a subject favourite to masses, it is tale of every heart. Therefore Sufi music not only made its distinct identity in India’s music tradition but also contributed to classical as well as modern music in India.

Best Answer: Rj Upu

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Q32. Classical dance forms are living embodiment of India’s devotional tradition. Elucidate.

Introduction:

Classical dance forms refer to those religious Hindu art forms whose roots can be traced back to Bharat Muni’s Natyashastra, the source book of the art of drama, dance and music.

Body:

The common theme in all classical Indian dance forms is Devotion to almighty through different forms and emotions:

1. Bharatnatyam: Tamil Nadu.

- Starts with invocation song to Supreme being.
 - Shabdham: The accompanying song is generally in adoration of the Supreme Being.
 - Kriti is a composition in which the musical aspect is highlighted. Both are usually devotional in character and represent episodes from the lives of Rama, Siva, Vishnu, etc.
 - Padams and javalis, are on the theme of love, often divine.
2. Kathakali: Kerala. – Kathakali is a blend of dance, music and acting and dramatizes stories, which are mostly adapted from the Indian epics.
 - Aharya: Make-up is suited to character like Krishna and Rama wear special crown decorated with peacock feathers.
 - Todayam: It is a devotional number performed where one or two characters invoke the blessings of the gods
 - sopana sangeet: It is said to be the ritual singing of the Ashtapadis on the flight of steps leading to the sanctum sanctorum.
 3. Kathak: Uttar Pradesh. – Only classical dance of India having links with Muslim culture, it represents a unique synthesis of Hindu and Muslim genius in art.
 - Raslila: The Vaishnavite cult which swept North India in the 15th century. And the resultant bhakti movement contributed to a whole new range of lyrics and musical forms. The Radha-Krishna theme proved immensely popular along with the works of Mirabai, Surdas, Nandadas and Krishnadas.
 4. Manipuri: Manipur. – Because of its geographical location, Manipuri has been protected from outside influences, and able to retain its unique traditional culture.
 - The dance is associated with rituals and traditional festivals, there are legendary references to the dances of Shiva and Parvati and other gods and goddesses who created the universe.
 - Ras: The theme often depict the pangs of separation of the gopis and Radha from Krishna.
 5. Odissi: Odisha.
 - Opening item is Mangalacharan where the dancer slowly enters the stage with flowers in her hands and makes an offering to mother earth. This is followed by an invocation to the deity of the dancer's choice. Generally, Ganesha is called upon to grant an auspicious beginning. The item ends with a nritya sequence with salutations to God, the Guru and the audience
 6. Kuchipudi: Krishan Village, Andhra Pradesh. – Based on the Myth of Krishna asking Siddhendra Yogi to compose dance, drama about bringing Parijata flower for Sathyabama.
 - Invocation: Beginning with invocation called ganesha Vandhana. Now other gods are also invoked.
 7. Sattriya: Assam.
 - The dance was introduced in 15th Century by a great Vaishnava Saint Mahapurush Shankardev in Assam.

- It was primarily a monastery dance and later on evolved as a distinctive dance form and spread across Assam.
 - It has been for centuries, nurtured and preserved with great commitment by the Sattras i.e. Vaishnava maths or monasteries. Because of its religious character and association with the Sattras, this dance style has been aptly named Sattriya.
8. Mohiniyattam: Kerala. – It literally means Dance of Mohini, The female avatar of Lord Vishnu to seduce Asuras during churning of ocean.
- Practiced by a group of Female temple dancers, who assisted the temple rituals by adding expressive gestures to the mantras chanted by the temple priests.

Conclusion:

Based on geographical locations, traditions, rituals many forms of dance have originated over time each having its uniqueness. Even though all might have different forms and emotions they show similar theme of devotion to Almighty.

Best answer: Christina

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Q33. What are the most recurring themes of Mughal paintings? Illustrate.

Introduction

India has a long tradition of artistic excellence and painting is one of the major medium which depicts Indian art and culture. The history of painting can be traced through the ancient mainly mural paintings and medieval mainly miniature paintings. The paintings in Mughal period had a distinctive style drawn from a blend of Indian, Persian and European influence known as Victorian style

Body

The focus of painting shifted from god towards glorifying ruler and showing his life. They mainly focused on hunting scenes, historical events and other court related paintings. These paintings were considered as unique paintings in the world because

of the brilliant colours combination. Some illustrations of these paintings patronised by the Mughal rulers are as follows:

1 Babur- He patronised Persian artist Bihzad who made illustrations of Mughal family tree.

2 Akbar- He was very fond of paintings and he dedicated entire department for paintings called Tasvir Khana . Most illustrated work is Tutanama that is tale of a parrot. Other famous works are Hamzanama, Anvar -i- suhaili etc. From here Indian influence started in painting because he saw painting as a mean of study and amusement.

Theme – Fairs and festivals, 3D printing, use of foresight for signing techniques

3 Jahangir- The Mughal paintings reached zenith . He was naturalist by nature and preferred natural paintings of flora and fauna i.e birds, animals, trees and flowers. He was fond of paintings and even dedicated private workshop for him to practice paintings. He made naturalistic paintings on zebra, Turkey and cock.

4 Shah Jahan – He introduced artificial elements (reduced liveliness) in his paintings. He started using gold and silver in paintings and encouraged artists to use pencil and charcoal .European influence also started in painting

Conclusion

The Mughal school of painting gradually declined during Aurangzeb period. The artist migrated to other places primarily to the south which gave rise to Deccani school of painting. Mughal school of painting is the magnificent period during India's history.

Best answer Nikhita chugh

<https://tlp.iasbaba.com/2018/12/day-23-q-3-what-are-the-most-recurring-themes-of-mughal-paintings-illustrate/>

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Q34. Examine the contribution of Cholas in the development of temple architecture in India.

Introduction

The Chola period saw the culmination of Dravida temple art resulting in the most sophisticated buildings of medieval India. The Tamil Nadu temples were fully evolved in their style and design by the 8th century.

Body

Special features of Chola architecture:

- The dvarapalas, or guardian figures, at the entrance to the mandapa, or hall which started from the Pallava period became a unique feature of the Chola temples
- The Dravidian Style got fully developed after a transition from the rock cut structures of the Pallava Period.
- Early Chola temples at the Bank of river Kaveri were smaller and brick made, in comparison to the colossus buildings of the Imperial Cholas.
- The temples of the Imperial Cholas are covered with exquisite well composed sculptures and frescoes.
- Largest and tallest of all Indian temples i.e. Siva Temple of Thanjore was built in Chola Period.
- Ganas, among the sculptures at the temple, are the most memorable figures made in Chola temples.
- Chola temples are noted for the sculptures and ornamental works. Gopurams of these temples were meaningful.
- Sanctum of the Chola temples is both circular and square in size. Inner side of the external walls and the sanctum were beautified.
- On the upper side of the sanctum special vimanas are built. Dome shaped sikhara and kalasa were also there on the top of Gopurams.
- Many temples are having pillared mandapams namely arthamandapa, mahamandapa and nandi mandapa. Sculptures and inscriptions are also fixed on the walls of these temples.

Examples

1. Vijayalaya Cholisvara Temple, Thanjore

The earliest Chola Temple we find at Narthamalai, where Vijayalaya Chola commissioned a temple named “Vijayalaya Cholisvara” temple, dedicated to lord Shiva

1. Koranganatha Temple, Srinivasanallur Koranganatha Temple is located at Srinivasanallur, in Tiruchirapalli District, on the banks of river Cauvery. This temple was built by Parantaka Chola -I . The base of this temple has the sculpted mythical animals 'Yazhi' . Yazhi is a recurring pattern and unique feature of Chola architecture.
2. Brihadeswarar Temple of Tanjore: Brihadeswarar Temple or Peruvudaiyar Kovil or Rajrajeshwaram temple at Thanjavur is the world's first complete "granite" temple. It was built by Rajaraja Chola-I and is a part of UNESCO's world Heritage sites. The Vimana or the temple tower (known as Raja Gopuram) is 216 Feet in height and is one of the tallest buildings of its kind. The Nandi is carved out of a single rock.
3. Brihadisvara temple, Gangaikondacholapuram Brihadisvara temple at Gangaikondacholapuram was made by King Rajaraja's son Rajendra I, who assumed the title "Gangaikonda"

Conclusion

Thus Cholas contributed extensively to temple architecture and their rule is often referred to golden era of temple construction in Tamil Nadu.

Best Answer: Dazyrani

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Q35.The Bhakti poets took India's literary literary trends to a new direction. Comment.

Introduction:

Bhakti movement began in the 6th century AD in southern India. It emphasized on complete devotion to the God. There was a strong bond that existed between the God and the worshipper. The movement was popularized by poets like Kabir, Tulsidas, Meerabai, Nanak dev, Basavana etc.

Body:

New direction to literary trends:

- Change of language- Creation of new literature and translation of old ones were done in local languages instead of Sanskrit to make them more accessible to the

common man. Eg. Tulsidas wrote most of his works and translated Ramayana in Awadhi.

- Development of new forms of literature- Vachana Sahitya by Basvana and dohas by Kabir, were not focused on mythological matters like earlier literature, rather on social matters and social reform.
- Free from patronage- Unlike earlier texts which under royal patronage, sang praises of kings, the bhakti texts were individualistic and concerned with the lives of common man.
- New class of authors- Shudras and other castes started writing, even on religious matters. For example, Tukaram, a shudra by caste wrote on religious matters in Marathi.
- Different form of devotion- Authors like Kabir, preached monotheism which was different from the earlier religious texts. Other authors too produced secular texts that upturned the religious notions of the time.
- Defiance of patriarchal norms- Women saints like Alvar and Meerabai wrote against the prevalent patriarchy of the time.
- Rise of new languages- Many new dialects were popularized, which later attained the status of language like Braj bhasha and Awadhi.
- Beginning of regional literature- This period led to beginning of Bengali, Gujarati, Punjabi and Marathi literature, which still continues to the present day.

Conclusion:

Bhakti tradition not only introduced literary changes, but also started trends of social transformation. It represented a break from the rites and ritual based devotion and focused on taking the spirituality to the common man.

Best answer: Christina

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Q36. Do you find any philosophical similarity among various religions of India? Discuss.

Introduction

- Many great civilisations such as Mesopotamia and Nile valley civilisation established by human races but later they vanished from the face of the earth. India is an exception, ancient Vedic culture along with many other subsequent religions and cultures still exist here. This is because of special ability of ‘assimilation’.
- From Vedic religion to Buddhism, Jainism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism and the most recent Baha’ism, all these religions in India are may be different due to their practices and rituals, but they have many similarities with respect to their core philosophies.

Body

Aspects of philosophical similarity among various religions of India:

- **Universal brotherhood**

From Sufi Islam to Vedic Hinduism, all the religions in India have same message of “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”, the world is one family.

- **Love and compassion**

From Sufi “Sama” to Bhakti, all religion in India converge on the same message of love which also reiterated by Christ: “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth”.

- **Peace and nonviolence**

All the religions in India agree with the message of Islam, “Killing of an innocent is equal to killing of whole humanity. The same message is in maha-vratas of Jainism and Panchsheel of Buddhism.

- **Equality of all human beings**

All the religions hold the philosophy of equality. Human beings deserve equal consideration and respect because of their common humanity.

- **Devotion**

Be it Sufi music or Bhakti songs all religions in one or other form converge on devotion to supreme power. This devotion is filled with love and peace.

- **Sacrifice and Charity**

All the religions promote sacrifice and charity for wellbeing of the society as a whole. It includes Zakat of Islam and alms of other religions.

- **Oneness of the truth**

May be there are different ways, routes and rituals, but almost all religion give the message “ekam sad vipra bahudha vadanti...” i.e. “Truth is one, but the learned refer to it in different names...”

Conclusion

All these are few of many examples which prove the philosophical similarities between the religions in India. To conclude we can consider one last example of Baha’i community, a minority in India.

“The fundamental purpose animating the Faith of God and His Religion is to safeguard the interests and promote the unity of the human race, and to foster the spirit of love and fellowship amongst men.” – Bahá’u’lláh

Best Answer: Seema

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Q37. Examine the spiritual significance of the Kumbh Mela.

Introduction:

Held four times every 12 years at four different locations across central and northern India, the Kumbh Mela is the largest religious congregation and largest peaceful gathering on the planet. This vast celebration attracts tens of millions of Hindu pilgrims, including mendicant nags.

Body:

According to the legend, the gods and demons vied for the pot that held the nectar of immortality. During the fight for possession which lasted 12 days, Vishnu was running with the pot when four drops of amrit fell to earth namely at places Nasik, Ujjain, Hardwar and Allahabad. The Kumbh Mela is celebrated at each of these places.

Spiritual significance can be understood in the following way:

- Kumbh means an earthen pot. The human body is called 'Parthiv'. The body is created from earth and merges into the earth; therefore, 'Kumbh' (the earthen pot) symbolises the human body.
- This Kumbh is still immature and is filled with anger, lust, ego about our appearance, wealth, achievements and other desires etc.
- As a consequence, when man moves in pursuit of desires he is likely to experience pleasure and/or pain. He experiences them in a never ending cycle.
- Caught up in the recurring moments of pleasure and pain humans seek Moksha and achieve a state of eternal bliss and emptiness that transcends all of the joys, pain, and sorrow of the physical body.
- It is believed that dip in the holy river nullifies sins of devotees and offers the chance to transcend, to reach beyond the endless suffering of material existence and reincarnation.
- It promises to purify us in the spiritual sense, and merge or become connected with the Divine in all of us. Thus promotes spiritual growth, health, emotional strength and puts us on the path to moksha.
- Transmission of knowledge: Since many Deities, individuals with Divine Knowledge, Saints and Sages congregate during the Kumbh Mela, the benefit of their guidance can be obtained within a short time and at one place.
- Performance of pitratarpana is believed to ensure liberation to the departed ancestors.

Given its significance there should be equal focus to address concerns like:

- Environment pollution: degradation in water quality.
- Inadequate infrastructure to handle large pilgrimage.

Conclusion:

Apart from its central role in spirituality of the country, the event encapsulates the science of astronomy, astrology, ritualistic traditions, and social and cultural customs and practices, making it extremely rich in knowledge. Hence UNESCO has inscribed it on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

Best answer: Gargi Gupta

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Q38. Should India's deteriorating monuments be restored artificially? Won't it take away their antiquity? Give your views.

Introduction

According to UNESCO, monuments are any form of structures with historical significance used for reconstruction and understanding of the past. Though India is blessed with many such monuments across the nation, according to report of INTACH, 60 percent face serious restoration threats.

Body

Reason for deterioration

1. Pollution like yellow colour of Tajmahal due to acid rain
2. Poor maintenance
3. Excessive encroachment
4. Apathy of people and government

Need for conservation of monuments artificially

1. Using modern scientific technique, these monuments can be brought to original position.
2. Will bring large tourist inflow to India
3. Large scale employment will be generated
4. Greater revenue for the government
5. Can be restored for long time and without artificial restoring can't be restored for e.g. Sarai at Nizamuddin, Delhi was restored by Aga Khan Foundation
6. Monuments help connectedness with past and if not restored the future generation may lose this connectedness with history

Whether it would take the antiquity

1. People visit these monuments to get attached to their heritage, which won't be after artificially restoring them.

2. Chemical might react with original and destroy their antiquity
3. There won't be much difference between new one and old heritage.

Way forward

1. The government scheme of Adopt a heritage is a positive step in this regard
2. Take help of international methods and technology for restoration
3. Avoid painting over panels and carving to preserve antiquity
4. Enforce strict restoration through amendment to monument and preservation act, 2016
5. Use of organic colours

Conclusion

‘History is the insights of our soul’. As monuments represent our history, we should holistically protect and preserve them as entailed in the fundamental duty of our constitution in form of article 51(A).

Best answer: P29

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Q39. Differentiate between the terms culture and civilisation. How are they interrelated? Explain.

Introduction

The term ‘culture’ is a Latin origin of the word ‘cultus’, which refers to cultivating or refining something, in such a way that it provides admiration and respect. In finer terms, culture is the way people live, reflected in the language they spoke, food they eat, clothes they wear and the Diet they follow or worship. It expresses the manner in which one thinks and do things.

Civilization is described as a process of civilizing or say developing the state of human society, to the extent that the culture, industry, technology, government, etc. reaches the maximum level. The term ‘civilization’ is derived from a Latin term ‘civis’ which indicates ‘someone who resides in a town’.

Body

Differences Between culture and civilisation:

1. The term 'culture' refers to the embodiment of the manner in which we think, behave and act. On the contrary, the improved stage of human society, where members have the considerable amount of social and political organisation and development, is called Civilization.
2. Our culture describes what we are, but our civilization explains what we have or what we make use of.
3. Culture is an end; it has no measurement standards. As against this, civilization has precise measurement standards, because it is a means.
4. The culture of a particular region can be reflected in religion, art, dance, literature, customs, morals, music, philosophy, etc. On the other hand, the civilization is exhibited in the law, administration, infrastructure, architecture, social arrangement, etc. of that area.
5. Culture denote the greatest level of inner refinement, and so it is internal. Unlike, civilization which is external, i.e. it is the expression of state of the art technology, product, devices, infrastructure and so forth.
6. Change in culture is observed with time, as in the old thoughts and traditions lost with the passage of time and new ones are added to it which are then transmitted from one generation to another. On the flip side, civilization is continuously advancing, i.e. the various elements of civilization like means of transportation, communication, etc. are developing day by day.
7. Culture can evolve and flourish, even if the civilization does not exist. In contrast, civilization cannot grow and exist without culture

MacIver and Page have clearly stated the interrelationship between culture and civilisation. They say that civilisation is a ship "which can set sail to various ports. The port we sail to remains a cultural choice.

Without the ship we could not sail at all; according to the character of the ship we sail fast or slow, take longer or shorter voyages. But the direction in which we travel is not predestined by the design of the ship. The more efficient it is; the more ports lie within the range of our choosing". In short, civilisation is the driving force of society. Culture is its steering wheel.

Conclusion

Culture and civilisation both are created by human and are means to express the way we lead our lives.

Best Answer: Navneet Singh

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Q40. Discuss the status, challenges and potential of regional cinema in India.

Introduction:

With recent box office successes like Sairat and Bahubali, and winning of national award by Village Rockstars, limelight has again come on regional cinema. Most of the major Indian languages have their own regional cinemas that strive on the local populace of the region like Tamil, Telugu, Bengali, Punjabi, bhojpuri etc.

Body:

Status:

- Market: Regional Cinema has its own niche market. Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam speakers are spread across continent which has helped regional cinema increase its foot print.
- Foreign acceptance: Tamil and Telugu movies have huge acceptance in countries like Japan, China, UAE etc. Especially the recent Bahubali gained huge response from China. Rajinikanth movies have wide fan base in Korea and Japan.
- Talent: Regional Cinema have high talented actors and actress compared to international cinemas like Rajinikanth, Kamal Hassan, Prabhas, Chiranjeevi, Anushka, Tapsee etc.

Challenges:

- Financial power of Hollywood and Bollywood movies: The Budget and Financial earnings of them are very huge and no way reachable to regional movies.
- Story and Script of Hollywood: The stories are easily relatable towards modern day youths and current lifestyle. They are very realistic than idealistic themes of other regional movies.

- Global coverage of Hollywood and Bollywood movies: Hollywood movies have global coverage due to its language. And Bollywood also has global coverage due to its artists coming from various parts of world, Hindi Native speakers and popularity even in far of places like Russia, Ukraine etc.
- Technology and Effects: Usage of technology, Visual effects, location etc. of Hollywood are far more impressive than regional cinemas.
- Promotion: The amount of Promotion undertaken by international cinema industries sometimes exceed the actual budget of regional movies.

Potential:

- Scripts and Story: Regional Cinema has specific themes or regional issues related scripts or based on Mythological stories which has high acceptance from old generation or above 40 years.
- Digital Media: With boom of digital media like Netflix, Amazon prime, Youtube etc. regional cinema have huge chances of occupying these spaces before entry to big players.
- Migration: Due to globalization, there is wide spread migration of people and inter-mixing of people in metro cities like Bangalore, Delhi, Hyderabad, Chennai etc. This opportunity can be utilized by promoting regional movies to migrated population and slowly gain huge popularity over period of time.

Conclusion:

Regional movies today are giving stiff competition to Bollywood, showing immense potential in its growth. Need is to tap this potential, through state support, alternate media, financial aspects and a good deal of promotion.

Best answer: Dazy rani

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Q41. Why did anti-monarchy sentiments spread in 18th century Europe? Examine.

Introduction:

In Europe, the eighteenth century was a period of intellectual, social, and political ferment. This time witnessed many events like French Revolution, German unification, establishment of republics etc., mainly due to growing anti-monarchy sentiments.

Body:

Reasons for the growth of such sentiments:

- Social factors-
 - Feudalism divided the society into rigid classes which resulted in exploitation of peasants
 - Interference of church beyond religious affairs and incompetence of monarchy to control it
 - Emergence of towns and cities, increased the importance of merchants and artisans
- Economic factors-
 - Transition to money based economy from land based increased the importance of trade and investment
 - Heavy taxation on peasantry
 - Extravagant lifestyles of monarch that depleted the royal treasures
 - Burden of frequent wars, that led to increased taxation
- Political factors-
 - Wavering trust in monarchy due to inefficient rule
 - Rise of middle class and its ability to demand its rights
 - American revolution acted as a source of inspiration
- Renaissance and enlightenment-
 - Concern for worldly matters was rejected and focus shifted on man's happiness
 - New philosophers emphasized on ideas like liberty, equality and fraternity

Conclusion:

Anti-monarchy sentiments, which arose due to changing conditions, further, fuelled the changes in European society by establishing a just and equal order of ruling. Democracy became a dominant political setup and is continuing till date.

Best answer: Christina

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Q42. What role did thinkers and philosophers play in the awakening of the conscience of the European society? What were its consequences?

Introduction

- European politics, philosophy, science and communications were radically reoriented during the course of the “long 18th century” (1685-1815) as part of a movement referred as the Age of Reason, or simply the Enlightenment.
- Enlightenment thinkers in Britain, in France and throughout Europe questioned traditional authority and embraced the notion that humanity could be improved through rational change.

Body

Role played by thinkers and philosophers in the awakening of the conscience of the European society:

- Earlier philosophers whose work influenced the Enlightenment included Bacon, Descartes, Locke, and Spinoza. Other major thinkers and philosophers included Beccaria, Diderot, Hume, Kant, Montesquieu, Rousseau, Adam Smith, and Voltaire.
- The philosophic movement was led by Voltaire and Jean-Jacques Rousseau, who argued for a society based upon reason rather than faith and Catholic doctrine, for a new civil order based on natural law, and for science based on experiments and observation.
- The political philosopher Montesquieu introduced the idea of a separation of powers in a government, a concept which was enthusiastically adopted by the authors of the United States Constitution.
- A moral philosopher Francis Hutcheson described the utilitarian and consequentialist principle that virtue is that which provides the greatest happiness for the greatest numbers.
- John Locke, one of the most influential European thinkers, based his governance philosophy in social contract theory.
- Locke, Hobbes and Rousseau agreed that a social contract, in which the government’s authority lies in the consent of the governed, is necessary for man to live in civil society.

Consequences of new ideas and awakenings

- These philosophers and thinkers produced numerous books, essays, inventions, scientific discoveries, laws, wars and revolutions. The American and French Revolutions were directly inspired by these ideals.
- Thomas Jefferson closely followed European ideas and later incorporated some of these ideals into the Declaration of Independence (1776). Similarly, these ideals were also incorporated into the United States' Constitution during its framing in 1787.
- It was in consequence of these new philosophies and ideas, that, religious (and anti-religious) innovation started, as Christians sought to reposition their faith along rational lines.
- The French Revolution of 1789 was the culmination of the Enlightenment vision of throwing out the old authorities to remake society along rational lines, but it devolved into bloody terror that showed the limits of its own ideas and later led to the rise of Napoleon.
- Still, its goal of egalitarianism attracted the admiration of the early feminist Mary Wollstonecraft. She argued for a society based on reason and that women as well as men should be treated as rational beings.
- These ideals inspired many wars of independence and the radical racial inclusivism in many countries.
- The most influential publication of these philosophers and thinkers was the Encyclopaedia. It helped spread the ideas of the Enlightenment across Europe and beyond.

Conclusion

- Thus the ideas of the philosophers and thinkers in European society were a direct attack on privileges and feudal rights which protected the upper classes.
- They helped rouse the people from inactivity and instilled in them a desire to root out social inequalities and set up a government responsive to their need.
- They played a vital role in focusing the discontent and bringing about the Revolution.
- They completely changed the course of society towards modernism in all aspects of life.
- Most of the modern democracies and their constitutions derive their liberal ideals and civil rights from 18th century European thoughts and ideals.

Best Answer: Lucky Verma

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Q43. How did mercantilism pave the way for colonialism? Discuss.

Introduction:

Mercantilism is a system in which a country attempts to amass wealth through trade with other countries.

Colonialism is the act of one nation controlling another for economic gain. An example of colonialism was England's control over India.

Body:

Mercantilism -> Colonisation:

- Before industrial revolution, agricultural revolution came which generated surplus money and people invested it in trading.
- Trading generated more money and 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.

Example:

- Being trading company British East India Company initially established factors at ports by taking permission from Mughal emperor.
- As they benefited from trade they clashed with other European powers like French, Dutch to establish monopoly in trade with India.
- To further their interest, to have greater control over resources and earn more profit, they gradually involved in war with local rulers and in course of time overthrew Mughal Empire and colonised the country.
- Soon India was turned into market for their end products and exporter of raw materials (Free trade policy). While this led to deindustrialization in India, with economic prowess Britain emerged as a Great power during 18th-19th century.

Conclusion:

Although largely rejected today, it was the main school of economic thought from the 15th to 18th Centuries, and was the push behind much of the exploration and colonization of other lands and many of the wars that happened during that time.

Best answer: Christina

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Q44. Examine the democratic principles that took a concrete shape post American independence.

Introduction

American revolution (1765-1783) was the colonial revolt against British government was seminal and phenomenal incident of the history. It was a source to fight against monarchical rule and imperial power. As put by Thomas Paine – democratic ideology was cherished goal and the values post revolution consolidated them further.

Body

Democratic principles that took concrete shape post American independence were

1. Establishment of republican polity – American constitution was the first written constitution of world. It inspired people across globe to struggle for republican and democratic form of government.
2. Separation of power between different organs i.e. executive, judiciary and legislature led to proper functioning and working in democracy.
3. Rule of law which removed arbitrariness and authoritative power of monarch.
4. Principles of liberty, equality emerged from the ideals of American institution.
5. The bill of rights led to the end of slavery and certain rights limited the government against the authority of people.
6. Adult franchise was given shape.

However, many democratic principles were lacking too:

- Women, blacks were not given voting rights.
- Racism against blacks, other ethnic people continued.
- Slavery couldn't abolished for many years.

Conclusion

Thus American constitution had a profound impact on the democratic and republican history of modern world. French revolution was also influenced by it and adopted the slogan of liberty, equality and fraternity. Indian constitution is also influenced by it. This can be seen in many of its fundamental rights.

Best answer shri

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Q45. How did scientific inventions help the industrial revolution? Illustrate.

Introduction

The Industrial Revolution, which took place from the 18th to 19th centuries, was a period during which predominantly agrarian, rural societies in Europe and America became industrial and urban

Body

Scientific inventions played a huge role in industrial revolution

1) Textiles:

Before mechanization and factories, textiles were made mainly in people's homes (giving rise to the term cottage industry), with merchants often providing the raw materials and basic equipment, and then picking up the finished product. Workers set their own schedules under this system, which proved difficult for merchants to regulate and resulted in numerous inefficiencies. In the 1700s, a series of innovations led to ever-increasing productivity, while requiring less human energy.

1. A) Spinning Jenny: Englishman James Hargreaves (1722-1778) invented the spinning jenny, a machine that enabled an individual to produce multiple spools of threads simultaneously.
2. B) The power loom, which mechanized the process of weaving cloth, was developed in the 1780s by English inventor Edmund Cartwright.

2) Iron industry: Iron and steel became essential materials, used to make everything from appliances, tools and machines, to ships, buildings and infrastructure.

1. a) Englishman Abraham Darby (1678-1717) discovered a cheaper, easier method to produce cast iron, using a coke-fuelled (as opposed to charcoal-fired) furnace.
2. b) British engineer Henry Bessemer (1813-1898) developed the first inexpensive process for mass-producing steel.

3) Transportation:

Before the advent of the steam engine, raw materials and finished goods were hauled and distributed via horse-drawn wagons, and by boats along canals and rivers.

1. In the early 1800s, American Robert Fulton (1765-1815) built the first commercially successful steamboat, and by the mid-19th century, steamships were carrying freight across the Atlantic.
2. In the early 1800s, British engineer Richard Trevithick (1771-1833) constructed the first railway steam locomotive. In 1830, England's Liverpool and Manchester Railway became the first to offer regular, timetabled passenger services. By 1850, Britain had more than 6,000 miles of railroad track.
3. Around 1820, Scottish engineer John McAdam (1756-1836) developed a new process for road construction. His technique, which became known as macadam, resulted in roads that were smoother, more durable and less muddy.

4) Communication and Banking:

Communication became easier during the Industrial Revolution

1. Telegraph :

In 1837, two Brits, William Cooke (1806-1879) and Charles Wheatstone (1802-1875), patented the first commercial electrical telegraph. In 1866, a telegraph cable was successfully laid across the Atlantic.

1. The Industrial Revolution also saw the rise of banks and industrial financiers, as well as a factory system dependent on owners and managers. A stock exchange was established in London in the 1770s; the New York Stock Exchange was founded in the early 1790s.

Conclusion

While the Industrial Revolution brought about a greater volume and variety of factory-produced goods and raised the standard of living for many people, particularly for the middle and upper classes. However, life for the poor and working classes continued to

be filled with challenges. Wages for those who laboured in factories were low and working conditions could be dangerous and monotonous. Unskilled workers had little job security and were easily replaceable. Children were part of the labour force and often worked long hours and were used for such highly hazardous tasks as cleaning the machinery.

Thus while Industrial revolution helped to increase quality of life for a section of society it also widened the class divide.

Best Answer: Dazy Rani

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Q46. Examine the factors that led to the spread of imperialism in Europe? What were its consequences?

Introduction:

The takeover of a country or territory by a stronger nation with the intent of dominating the political, economic, and social life of the people of that nation is called imperialism.

Body:

Factors leading to the spread of imperialism in Europe:

- Industrial Revolution- It provided European countries with a need to add lands to their control. As European nations industrialized, they searched for new markets and raw materials to improve their economies.
- Economic competition- Europeans viewed an empire as a measure of national greatness. As the competition for colonies intensified, each country was determined to plant its flag on as much of the world as possible.
- Racism- Because of their advanced technology, many Europeans basically believed that they were better than other peoples.
- Missionaries- Worked to Christianize the peoples of Asia, Africa, and the Pacific Islands. Many missionaries believed that European rule was the best way to end

evil practices such as the slave trade. They also wanted to “civilize,” that is, to “westernize,” the peoples of the foreign land.

- Technological superiority- European countries acquired the automatic machine gun, while the colonies were forced to rely on outdated weapons. Also, invention of the steam engine, railroads and cables allowed close communications within a colony and between the colony and its controlling nation.
- Internal factors- huge variety of languages and cultures within the colonies discouraged unity among them. Wars fought between ethnic groups or kingdoms also prevented a unified stand against Europeans.

Consequences of imperialism:

Positives-

- Development of modern economy- Laying of railroad networks, road networks, telephone and telegraph lines, dams, bridges, and irrigation canals enabled colonies to modernize.
- Increased life spans and literacy- Humanitarian efforts in some colonies improved sanitation and brought hospitals and schools.
- Economic expansion- African products came to be valued on the international market.
- Reduced local warfare- British troops cleared central India of bandits and put an end to local warfare among competing local rulers.

Negatives-

- Decline of locally owned industries- British held much of the political and economic power. British restricted locally-owned industries such as cotton textiles.
- Loss of self-sufficiency- Emphasis on cash crops resulted in a loss of self-sufficiency for many villagers.
- Famines- Conversion to cash crops reduced food production, causing famines in the late 1800s.
- Disruption in traditional life- The increased presence of missionaries and the outspoken racist attitude of most British officials threatened Indian traditional life.
- Colonial wars- Various Europeans would fight among themselves over ruling the colonies.
- Division of African continent- The artificial boundaries that combined or unnaturally divided groups created problems that plagued African colonies during European occupation. These boundaries continue to create problems for the nations that evolved from the former colonies.

Conclusion:

Imperialism changed the entire course of world history, and its impacts still have ramifications in the ongoing events in the world, like African tribal wars and Israel-Palestine conflict.

Best answer: Christina

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Q47. Discuss the factors that led to the unification of Germany and Italy.

Introduction:

During 19th century, Europe witnessed radical changes in the political borders of the states in the region. The major driving force of these unifications and separations was “Nationalism” and rise of “Nation states”. Unification of Germany and Italy are classic examples of nation states.

Body

There are many factors that led to the unification of Germany and Italy.

Geographical Factors:

- Natural Resources such as coal and Iron was widely available in German areas, to take benefit of these resources along with Industrialization, a Unified Germany was required.
- Geographic unity of Italian peninsula was natural factor that played role in unification of the country.

Renaissance and role of thinkers/Philosophers:

- Most of the initial thinkers and philosophers were from Italy and Germany. Therefore, awakening of the mass was inevitable.
- J. G. Fichte gave the concept of German idealism, glorifying German people, language and culture. Similarly, Friedrich Nietzsche gave the slogan of “Live dangerously”.

Trade and economy:

- The progress of German unification was greatly encouraged by the Zollverein, a customs union in Central Germany, where internal trade tariffs were abolished, and a common trade policy with external states was developed. Similar efforts were taken in Italy also.

Uprisings due Exploitation:

- Earlier, Germany never had German rulers. Pop was the deciding authority for the affairs of German states.
- Similarly, after the defeat of Napoleon, Italy was exploited by France under the shield of Treaty of Campo Formio.

Wars and policies of the Napoleon:

- Napoleon abolished the smaller states in the area and established state of West Phalia in Germany. He took similar steps in Italy too.

Strong leadership:

- “Blood and Iron policy” of Bismarck played an important role in unification of Germany. Similarly, Italy got the great leaders in the form of Mazzini, Garibaldi and Cavour.
- Mazzini formed a nationalist group known as “Young Italy” and called for an end to foreign rule and unification of Italy.

Social and Political Factors:

- Common language and common culture played their role in unification of both the countries.
- Rise of new ideas and a strong wave of nationalism made the unification of both the countries possible.

Conclusion

These are some of the many factors that led to unification of Germany and Italy. Birth of these two new nations started changing the political conditions of Europe, finally leading to most important event in history of the world that is, World War I.

Best Answer:

Aniket Sachan

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Ritik

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Q48. Do you think World War I was a result of hyper nationalism? Critically examine.

Introduction:

Hyper nationalism means extreme nationalism which believes in superiority of one's nation and its culture and of the paramount importance of advancing it.

Body:

First World War or Great War was an international conflict that in 1914–18 embroiled most of the nations of Europe along with Russia, the United States, the Middle East, and other regions. The war pitted the Central Powers—mainly Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey—against the Allies—mainly France, Great Britain, Russia, Italy, Japan, and, from 1917, the United States. It ended with the defeat of the Central Powers.

The war broke out in the wake of the assassination of Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the heir apparent to the Hapsburg throne who was assassinated by a group of Bosnian radical Inter-War Period nationalists on 28th June 1914. The assassination was not the real cause of the war. It was just the pretext.

Was it a result of hyper-nationalism?

- A new and aggressive nationalism, different from its predecessors, emerged in Europe at the end of the 19th century. The new nationalism engaged the fierce us/them group emotions – loyalty inwards, aggression outwards. Example: The leaders of post-1871 Germany relied on nationalist sentiment to consolidate the new nation and gain public support. German nationalism was also bolstered by German militarism under Kaiser, Wilhelm II. To the Kaiser, and to many other Germans, Britain was the main obstacle to German expansion.
- Many Europeans – particularly those in the so-called Great Powers: Britain, France and Germany – were convinced their nation occupied a position of cultural, economic and military supremacy. Under such circumstances defeat of one nation by other would only lead to strong rivalry between the two. Example: German-France rivalry was because of Franco-Prussian war.
- Inflated confidence in one's nation assured Europeans that if war did erupt, their nation would emerge victoriously.

Thus Nationalism was a prominent force in late 19th and early 20th century Europe and was a significant cause of World War I.

However, it was not the sole cause. The causes of the war may be found in the politico-economic developments that had been taking place in the international arena since the Franco-German War (1870).

- There arose economic rivalries: countries were locked in tariff wars and competition for overseas markets.
- Disputes over colonies: There were collisions in Africa and in Asia between the European powers for colonies. In its struggle for acquiring colonies, Germany found Britain as the stumbling block.
- The conflicting alliance system in Europe: Triple alliance between Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy. France and Russia entered into an entente (1893). This entente was aimed at countering the Triple Alliance and also containing Britain, against whom both France and Russia had outstanding disputes over the colonies
- The growing nationalist aspirations in the subject peoples in Europe added fuel to the fire: The Hapsburg Empire, ruled by the Austrians and the Hungarians, had been facing growing discontent by the subject peoples. Italians, Romanian, and the Slavic peoples sought independence and autonomy from the political domination of Austria-Hungary.

Conclusion:

Thus it was hostile relations between European nations on politico-economic grounds combined with aggressive nationalism which ultimately led to First World War.

Best answer: Lucky Verma

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Q49. Why was World War I a total war?

Introduction

First World War also known as the great war occurred between the alliances of Germany-Ottoman Empire-Austria- Hungary and Britain-France-Russia in 1914 to 1919.

According to American English dictionary – total war is war that is unrestricted in terms of weapon used, the territory or combatants involved or the objectives pursued especially the one in which the laws of war are disregarded.

Body

Many great historians acknowledged this war as total war due to the huge destruction it made like-

1)Economic Destruction:

- It led to huge unemployment and inflation all over the world.
- People in Europe were struggling for bread as the prices rose by 1000%.
- Industries both capital and labour intensive collapsed.
- European countries caught in debt.
- led to great depression 1928 –America got unnecessary advantages (web of lean).

2) Social Destruction:

- As per an estimate 37 million people died in war both civil and military.
- Sex ratio changed in favour of females as warriors mainly were males.

3) Political Destruction:

- huge instability occurred all over the world
- friction in the society

4) Environmental Destruction

- huge destruction of forests
- bombs were used which impacted the climate
- divided entire Europe under artificial boundaries for eg new state like Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland and Yugoslavia etc. emerged.

5) Participation – civil societies, labour and economies were all seconded to war effort

Other effects

1. World war 1 gave fillip to hyper-nationalism which later became cause of second world war.
2. Inspired national movement in third world country especially India.
3. It gave rise to arm race and naval expansion between Germany, Britain, Russia and France.

Conclusion

Thus it was truly a total war as destruction scale was heavy and learning from it any issue of dispute, bilateral or multilateral, should be resolved through talks and deliberations

Best answer Harry

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Q50. How did boundaries in Europe get reshaped post World War I? Illustrate.

Introduction

The aftermath of World War I saw drastic political, cultural, economic, and social change across Eurasia (Europe and Asia), Africa, and even in areas outside those that were directly involved. Four empires collapsed due to the war, old countries were abolished, new ones were formed, boundaries were redrawn, international organizations were established, and many new and old ideologies took a firm hold in people's minds.

Body

Three substantial empires ceased to exist: The German, Austro-Hungarian, and Ottoman empires. The reshaping of boundaries of many European nations took place

Mainland Germany:

Germany lost Alsace-Lorraine to France and Eupen-Malmédy to Belgium. Plebiscites caused Northern Schleswig to be ceded to Denmark and Silesia to be ceded to Poland. In order to create Poland, it lost a vast chunk of its eastern portion, whilst its city of Danzig, now Gdansk, as well as its surrounding area, became a League of Nations-administered city.

Mainland Italy:

Italy gained Trieste.

New Countries:

Poland was created from lands lost from Austria, Russia and Germany, whilst Ukraine, Lithuania and the Baltic States all gained independence (although the Soviet Union overran Ukraine by 1920). Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia were created, and Austria and Hungary split.



The boundaries were drawn hastily and to fulfil the wishes of those who won and this lead to lot of resentment and sowed seeds for rise of Mussolini in Italy and Hitler in Germany.

Best Answer: Jungle crow

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Q51. Do you find any difference in the ideology, aspirations and approach of the two groups of nations that fought in World War I? Discuss.

Introduction:

World War 1 was fought between 1914-1918 between two groups of nations, central powers and allied powers.

Body

The ideologies of both groups of nations were similar to each other

- Militarism: The glorification of one's military. Also the belief of a nation or its people to build and maintain a strong military, with the intention to use it whenever it is felt necessary.

Germany—Stemming from the invasion of German-speaking people's lands near the Rhine River by Napoleon during the Napoleonic Wars and the Franco-Prussian War, Otto von Bismarck made it his goal to keep the unified German State prepared to defend itself against France. He felt that it was necessary to keep France isolated and weak at all cost. France—Understanding that Germany was building a large military, saw it as a necessity to in turn build a large military to protect themselves against the Germans. Thus, these two nations were building massive military strength to use against each other. The Germans were also threatening the British by building a large Navy, making the British feel insecure about their place amongst the world's elite navies for the first time in nearly a hundred years. Thus, the British would have to respond to this growing threat as well, by building a larger navy. Though these were not the only countries building and perfecting their arsenal, they were the most significant prior to the outbreak of WWI. It does not take long for these countries to find a reason to use their militaries against each other in an attempt to prove who is superior.

- Alliances: An agreement between two or more countries to work together for the benefit of each country.

The two major alliances that developed prior to WWI were the Triple Entente (Allies) and the Triple Alliance (Central Powers). The Triple Entente consisted of Great Britain, France and Russia. This alliance was created in an effort to counter the Triple Alliance, which consisted of Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Italy. At the beginning

of the war, the Triple Alliance will become known as the Central Powers and will not include Italy. Italy finds that it is in their best interest to wait and see what unfolds during the war; thus, allowing them to further their growth as a nation. The Central Powers will eventually consist of Austro-Hungary (1914), the German Empire (1914), the Ottoman Empire (1914), and the Kingdom of Bulgaria (1915). The Triple Entente would become known as the Allied Powers and grow considerably, consisting of the Kingdom of Belgium, Kingdom of Serbia, the French Third Republic, the Russian Empire, the British Empire, the Kingdom of Italy, the Empire of Japan, the United States, the Portuguese Republic, the Kingdom of Romania, the Kingdom of Greece and many others who lent military and financial aid.

- Nationalism: Extreme pride in one's nations or state. Often seen by the use of flags, national anthems, and other signature items.

Germany was extremely proud of the military power that they had become after the Franco-Prussian War. As a new unified nation after January of 1871, the Germans felt nearly unstoppable as a world power. The French on the other hand had been embarrassed by the Germans and found it necessary to regain their pride. These feelings of resentment led to the massive militarism between these two nations. Also with the growth of Pan-Slavism or the unification of all Slavic peoples, protected by Russia, the areas around Serbia became very unstable. The Serbians were prepared to create their own independent Slavic state supported by the Russians. This will lead to what we call the "Balkan Powder Keg" or an area in the Balkans that would only take a minor issue to explode into full on war.

- Imperialism: Domination by one country over another in terms of the political, economic, or cultural life of the dominated country or region.

Many nations from around the globe were competing for control of colonies in order to gain land, resources, and influence. Specifically, Germany was attempting to control lands in Africa, a place that Britain and France were already established. In 1905 and 1911 Germany was attempting to keep France from imposing a protectorate on Morocco. As a result, Britain and France became closer allies in the conflict against Germany. Britain and France quickly found that keeping Germany out of Africa, the Germans would not be able to build them into a threatening power.

Conclusion

There were some minor differences between two groups of nations fighting amongst themselves but overall their ideologies were quite similar which lead to the Great War and caused large scale destruction.

Best Answer: Shri

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Q52. Why did the US stay away from World War I initially? What led them to enter it later? Explain.

Introduction:

The assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand on June 28, 1914 set off a chain reaction within the alliance system that resulted in the World War I. Though started off as a European conflict, it soon engulfed the entire world into it.

Body:

USA stayed away from the war till the very end due to the following reasons:

- Isolationist policy- Policy of USA to stay away from the affairs of Europe and vice versa.
- Autocratic Czar- USA did not want to side with the autocratic Russia of the time, that was against its own democratic policies.
- No stakes- USA at that time did not have any stakes in the war; no USA interest was being harmed.
- Focus on development- USA was focused on internal development and participating in a war could have jeopardized that.
- Economic benefits- USA provided war support and loans to both sides and thus helped boost its own economy while Europe was fighting.

Factors that forced USA into the war:

- Sinking of Lusitania- In 1915, a German U-boat had sunk British passenger ship, leaving 128 U.S. citizens dead.

- Unrestricted submarine warfare- In 1917, the Germans announced that their submarines would sink without warning any ship in the waters around Britain. It led to sinking of three American ships.
- Zimmermann Telegram- In 1917, a German telegram was intercepted, with a plan to help Mexico “reconquer” the land it had lost to the United States if Mexico would ally itself with Germany.
- Common bonding- England and USA shared a common ancestry and language, as well as similar democratic institutions and legal systems.
- Economic interests- The government of USA and businessmen had provided huge loans to British and French governments to help in their war efforts, defeat of allied powers would have meant huge losses to America.
- Atrocities by Germany- German war atrocities, especially in neutral state of Belgium, led to a strong anti-German feeling in USA.

Conclusion:

Entry of USA into the war, on the side of Allies, changed the entire course of it and the outcome. It not only positioned USA as a great global power, but also prepared grounds for future war through harsh treaties like treaty of Versailles.

Best answer: SASenapati

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Q53. The interwar period was not a phase of reconstruction but that of global politics reshaping itself for a second war. Elucidate.

Introduction:

It has been criticised that the interwar period (1919 to 1939) was not a phase of reconstruction but that of global politics reshaping itself for a second war. The League of Nations and the idea of collective security have been criticized because they failed to secure general disarmament and to control potential aggressors. The world economic crisis has been mentioned, since without it, Hitler would probably never have been able to come to power. These factors and many other, no doubt helped to create the sort of atmosphere and tensions which might well lead to a war.

Body

WHAT ATTEMPTS WERE MADE FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND HOW SUCCESSFUL WERE THEY?

The League of Nations (1920)

One of its main aims was to settle international disputes before they got out of hand, and so prevent war from ever breaking out again.

During the 1930s the authority of the League was challenged several times, first by the Japanese invasion of Manchuria (1931) and later by the Italian attack on Abyssinia (1935). Both aggressors ignored the League's orders to withdraw, and for a variety of reasons it proved impossible to force them to comply.

During Germany's disputes with Czechoslovakia and Poland, which led on to the Second World War, the League was not even consulted, and it was unable to exert the slightest influence to prevent the outbreak of war.

The Washington Conferences (1921-2)

The purpose of these meetings was to try to improve relations between the USA and Japan. The USA was increasingly suspicious of growing Japanese power in the Far East, and of Japanese influence in China, especially bearing in mind that during the First World War, Japan had seized Kiaochow and all the German islands in the Pacific.

The Genoa Conference (1922)

It was hoped that it would solve the pressing problems of Franco-German hostility, European war debts to the USA and the need to resume proper diplomatic relations with Soviet Russia. Unfortunately the conference failed.

The Dawes Plan (1924)

This was an attempt to break the general deadlock. The plan was successful: the German economy began to recover on the basis of the American loans, and international tensions gradually relaxed, preparing the way for the next agreements.

The Locarno Treaties (1925)

These were a number of different agreements involving Germany, France, Britain, Italy, Belgium, Poland and Czechoslovakia. The most important one was that Germany, France and Belgium promised to respect their joint frontiers.

But no guarantees were given by Germany or Britain about Germany's eastern frontiers with Poland and Czechoslovakia, the very areas where trouble was most likely to arise.

The Kellogg-Briand Pact (1928)

65 states signed, agreeing to renounce war as an instrument of national policy. But it was completely useless because no mention was made of sanctions against any state which broke its pledge. Japan signed the Pact, but this did not prevent her from waging war against China only three years later.

The Young Plan (1929)

The aim of this new initiative was to settle the remaining problem of reparations. The plan was welcomed by many in Germany, but the Nazi party campaigned against accepting it. They wanted a much quicker and a much more radical revision of the peace settlement.

Great Depression (1929)

The situation really began to drift out of control with the onset of the economic crisis, or the Great Depression. It brought unemployment and falling living standards to most countries, and caused extreme right-wing governments to come to power in Japan, Germany and Italy. In 1933 Hitler became German Chancellor, and after that, international tension mounted.

The World Disarmament Conference (1932-3)

Although all member states of the League of Nations had undertaken to reduce armaments when they accepted the Covenant, only Germany had made any moves towards disarmament, the rest seem to have increased their arms expenditure. Between 1925 and 1933, world expenditure on arms rose from \$3.5 billion to around \$5 billion.

Problem of Nation states

After First World War, a number of new national states were formed, of which the most important were Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Hungary and Poland. They are sometimes known as the 'successor' states.

Two of the guiding principles behind their formation were self-determination and democracy; it was hoped that they would act as a stabilizing influence in central and eastern Europe and as a buffer against potential attacks from communist Russia. However, they all developed serious problems and weaknesses.

There were so many different nationalities in the region that it was impossible for them all to have their own state. Smaller nationalities found themselves once again under what they considered to be 'foreign' governments, for example, Croats in Yugoslavia, Slovaks and Germans in Czechoslovakia, and Germans, White Russians and Ukrainians in Poland.

Policy of appeasement

Appeasement was the policy followed by the British, and later by the French, of avoiding war with aggressive powers such as Japan, Italy and Germany, by giving way to their demands.

Examples of appeasement; No action was taken to check the obvious German rearmament. There was only half-hearted British action against the Italian invasion of Abyssinia.

Conclusion

This collection of peace treaties was not a conspicuous success. It had the unfortunate effect of dividing Europe into the states which wanted to revise the settlement (Germany being the main one), and those which wanted to preserve it.

The statesmen of the world had only limited success in reconstructing the international relations. Even the 'Locarno spirit' proved an illusion, because so much depended on economic prosperity.

When this evaporated, all the old hostilities and suspicions surfaced again, and authoritarian regimes came to power, which were prepared to risk aggression. And this led to Second World War.

Best Answer: Shri

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Q54. In what ways, World War II was different from World War I? Analyse.

Introduction:

World War 1(WWI) also known as The Great War was fought between the Allied Powers composed of France, Britain, Russia, Japan, Italy, and in the later years, the U.S.; and the Central Powers composed of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria, and Turkey (1914-1918).

World War 2(WWII) was fought between the years 1939 and 1945. The two warring groups were: The Axis powers composed of Germany, Italy, and Japan; and The Allies composed of the U.S., Britain, France, the Soviet Union, and China.

Body:

WWII differed from WWI in the following way:

- Causes: WW I to gain more territory and colonial might. WW II to assert the different ideologies.
- Method: War was fought in the battle field and trenches during WW I, it was taken into the cities in WW II and many civilians died. Modern methods of warfare were used including weapons of mass destruction. And for the first time Nuclear weapon was used in war.
- Area: WW I covered only Europe but WW II covered a much larger arena including Europe, Asia, North America and parts of Africa.
- Outcome: Lead to the formation of League of Nations and sowed the seeds of WW II. WW II lead to the formation of UN and sowed the seed for the cold war.
- After WW II, the world got divided between two power blocks headed by USA and other capitalist countries and USSR and other communist countries. Much more participation of women in WW II than in WW I. WW II indirectly lead to women empowerment.

Conclusion:

Thus in a way WWII with much larger arena and modern warfare (use of nuclear bomb) was more devastating than WW1.

Best answer: Urvi Sharma

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Q55. Many nations got decolonised post World War II. Why? Give reasons.

Introduction:

Decolonization is the process by which colonies become independent of the colonizing country.

Body

Reasons for decolonisation:

- 1) Colonial Education: Western education in colonies was crucial factor in rise of nationalism and subsequent decolonisation. Education shaped thoughts and made the people familiar with rights. Educated and focussed people led the struggle and fought on behalf of masses
- 2) Atlantic Charter: The Charter of 1941 that entailed the goals of allied powers after the war asserted that all the people had the right to self-determination.
- 3) Economic losses: Post Second World War 2 the European powers were economically devastated and exhausted with men and material
- 4) Assurance of independence to colonies: Many of the colonies gave resources and man power to their respective colonial powers during World War 2 in the hope of achieving autonomy or independence.
- 5) Cold war period: The rise of two powers USA and USSR also put pressure on European allies to grant independence as both were against colonial rule.
- 6) Declaration by UN: UN sharply condemned colonial rule as a denial of fundamental human rights.
- 7) Support of newly decolonised: There was mutual support among nations Ex: India supported the cause of African decolonisation.

However, the struggle for colonies to gain independence was not smooth

1. Some European powers tried to regain colonies after world war 2 and left only much later due to continued struggle of colonies Ex: Dutch tried to regain Indonesia back
2. The decolonisation of Africa was not smooth and has led to long standing issues

3. India though gained independence from British had to suffer the pains of partition

Conclusion

Thus the end of world war also marked the end of the power of colonisers and brought a new dawn to the colonies in the form of self-rule .

Best Answer: John Nash

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Q56. What were the principle factors leading to the Cold War? Discuss.

Introduction:

The Cold War was a geopolitical chess match between the United States, the Soviet Union, and both parties' allies in which the major power players sought to project their respective ideologies across the globe in the wake of colonialism's collapse following World War Two.

Body:

Factors leading to the Cold War:

- Different ideologies- USA wanted to spread democracy and control communism using its Containment policy (creating alliances and helping weak countries resist Soviet advances), whereas Soviet Union wanted to encourage communism in other countries.
- Difference in goals- Where USA wanted to gain access to raw materials and markets to fuel its booming industries; Soviet Union wanted to rebuild its war-ravaged economy using Eastern Europe's industrial equipment and raw materials.

- Potsdam Conference- The allies refused to open a second war front against Germany which made Soviet Union suspicious of the intentions of Allies.
- Soviet's Wall of Satellite Nations- The Soviet Union regarded the countries along its western border as a necessary buffer, or wall of protection. It installed or secured Communist governments in Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Poland, and Yugoslavia. It created 'The Iron Curtain' that represents Europe's division between a mostly democratic Western Europe and a Communist Eastern Europe.
- The Truman Doctrine- It provided support for countries that rejected communism. It provided over \$400 million in aid to Turkey and Greece.
- The Marshall Plan- America gave aid to the needy European countries in form of food, machines, and other materials. The plan achieved spectacular success in Western Europe and in Yugoslavia.
- The Berlin Airlift- In 1948, France, Britain, and the United States decided to withdraw their forces from Germany to allow their three occupation zones to form one nation. Soviet Union responded with the blockade of West Berlin. Seeing the city in starvation, American and British flew food and supplies into West Berlin. This incidence created another rift in the already tensed relations.
- UN factor- Soviet Union's refusal to become part of UN for long time and UN's failure in establishing a global order.
- The Berlin Airlift- In 1948, France, Britain, and the United States decided to withdraw their forces from Germany to allow their three occupation zones to form one nation. Soviet Union responded with the blockade of West Berlin.

Conclusion:

The cold war though involved hostilities among nations and a prolonged ongoing conflict in a bipolar world, it still the globe from another world war.

Best answer: Teja D

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Q57. How did the 9/11 attack in the United States change the world? Discuss.

Introduction

September 11, 2001 was a defining moment, not just for America but for the world at large. The attacks that were claimed by “Al-Qaeda” would change the global order of things forever.

Body

The war on terror

- The Authorization for Use of Military Force (AUMF) gave all power to President George Bush to carry out force against any country without legal approval.
- It would go on to produce some critical moments of world history such as the US invasion of Afghanistan in 2002 and the Iraq war of 2003, the impact of which could be felt in its worst form today.

Afghan Invasion

- A year later, America invaded Afghanistan which was the haven of the Taliban, who according to intelligence reports were aiding the “Al-Qaeda”. The following year, the Bush administration embarked upon its first “preventive war”, which laid out the necessity of acting against a country before the danger seemed imminent.

Iraq War

- On the basis of a presumption that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction, America with the support of the United Kingdom, Poland and Australia invaded Iraq. The most devastating result of the armed struggle with Iraq was the terror that envelops the world today in the form of the Islamic State.

Rise of Islamic State and other radical organizations

- Having its origins in the “Al-Qaeda”, the prime grievance of the Islamic State has been that the invasion disturbed the order of things in the region.
- The outrage against the United States provided a unifying force. This, along with the American policy to imprison the Sunni Jihadists in Camp Bucca made the ideal environment for the formation of the radical terrorist organisations.

Immigration and travel since 9/11

- Since the attacks of September 11th, America's focus on internal security has been paramount. The clearest result of this has been on the immigration rules. The Transport Security Administration (TSA) is involved in carrying out detailed screening and security measures in airports. Further the Aviation and Transport Security Act was also passed.
- Immigration policies had changed drastically throughout the world.

Security measures and Defence spending:

- Security measures for flights and on borders across the world changed like never before. Even inside aircraft, passengers felt the changes as there is always an air of tension. Maritime security also became one of prime focus areas.
- Defence spending US and many other countries increased exponentially considering the environment of mistrust and protectionism.

USA and India since 9/11

- Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, relations between America and India had been on the upswing due to converging economic interests. The attacks on the WTC accelerated the process wherein India's role in combating religious extremism in Asia was seen as vital. Since 2001 there has been a sustained effort in increasing military cooperation between the two countries. It includes Indo-US nuclear deal, LEMOA and joint military exercises, etc.

Rise of jingoism and Islamophobia:

- Extreme form of nationalism and success of right wing politics increased its pace after 9/11 attack. It increased the feeling of hatred for 'outsiders'.
- One of the most devastating change is abrupt rise in Islamophobia, which includes hatred and phobia related to middle eastern and some eastern cultures and languages. It gave rise to mistrust and conspiracy theories throughout the world.

International cooperation on fight against terrorism:

- Aftermath of 9/11, terrorism became one of the important aspect of foreign policy. Sharing of information, establishments such as FATF (Financial Action Task Force) etc are some of the examples of cooperation among countries against terrorism.
- India gained international support for its fight against terrorism, especially along the borders.

Conclusion

- American strategy of ‘war on terror’ had come as a ray of hope for India that was struggling to develop security measures in the aftermath of several terror attacks in the subcontinent over the past decade.
- However, 17 years since the 9/11 attack, India is yet to become full immune when it comes to terror activity within its domains.
- Though many security measures were taken throughout the world in aftermath of 9/11, but there is need to take multifaceted, political, economic, social, approach to reclaim the global peace.

Best Answer: Sreelakshmy Vijayan Uma

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Q58 .Comment upon the efforts of the United Nations (UN) in peace keeping post Word War II.

Introduction:

The United Nations was established in 1945 “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war” and one of its main purposes is to maintain international peace and security.

The Charter of the United Nations gives the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Body:

Security Council to fulfil its responsibility has made following efforts

1. Peacekeeping:

- UN peacekeeping operations are deployed to support the implementation of inter-state ceasefires or peace agreements. Example: first peacekeeping mission, the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), set up in 1945 to monitor an Armistice Agreement between Israel and its Arab neighbours.
- Today’s multidimensional peacekeeping operations facilitate the political process, protect civilians, assist in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of

former combatants; support the organization of elections, protect and promote human rights and assist in restoring the rule of law.

2. Peacebuilding:

- The United Nations established the Peacebuilding Commission in 2005 to better anticipate and respond to the challenges of peacebuilding to reduce a country's risk of lapsing or relapsing into conflict by strengthening national capacities for conflict management, and to lay the foundations for sustainable peace and development.
- The United Nations uses the political tools of preventive diplomacy and mediation to help nations prevent and resolve conflicts peacefully.
- Since the 1990s, many conflicts have been brought to an end either through UN mediation or the action of third parties acting with UN support. Recent examples include Sierra Leone, Liberia, Burundi, the north-south conflict in the Sudan and Nepal. Currently channelizing efforts to bring peace in war torn Afghanistan.

3. Disarmament:

- In a world that is heavily militarised sustaining peace calls for disarmament.
- Thus there is need for reducing and eventually eliminating nuclear weapons, destroying chemical weapons and strengthening the prohibition against biological weapons, to halting the proliferation of landmines, small arms and light weapons.
- These efforts are supported by a number of key UN instruments. The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the most universal of all multilateral disarmament treaties, came into force in 1970. The Chemical Weapons Convention entered into force in 1997, the Biological Weapons Convention in 1975. The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was adopted in 1996, however it has not yet entered into force. The 1997 Mine-Ban Convention came into force in 1999.
- IAEA experts work to verify that safeguarded nuclear material is used only for peaceful purposes. To date, the Agency has safeguards agreements with more than 180 States.

4. Counter terrorism:

- Countering the scourge of terrorism is in the interest of all nations and the issue has been on the agenda of the United Nations for decades.
- Member States of the United Nations have agreed to a global strategy to counter terrorism in September 2006 common strategic and operational framework to fight terrorism.

- Fourteen global agreements have been negotiated under UN auspices, including treaties against hostage-taking, aircraft hijacking, terrorist bombings, terrorism financing and nuclear terrorism.

5. Organized crime:

- Transnational organized crime takes many forms from trafficking in drugs, firearms and even people to money laundering and corruption. Today organized crime has diversified, gone global and reached macro-economic proportions, so that it constitutes a threat to peace and security.
- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) is the guardian of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Organized Crime Convention) and the three supplementary Protocols -on Trafficking in Persons, Smuggling of Migrants and Trafficking of Firearms.

6. The Council may also decide on sanctions, such as trade embargoes, to enforce its decisions. Example: sanctions on Russia when it annexed crimea.

UNSC issues: western tilt, lack of funds, Human rights violations in peace keeping missions.

Conclusion:

Though it had mixed success and shortcomings, still UN provides platform for countries to come together on important global issues. Hence need of the hour is structural and functional reforms of UNSC to meet the challenges of 21st century.

Best answer: Rj Upu

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Q 59 . How responsible do you hold Germany for World War II? Substantiate.

Introduction

World War II was a global war fought between two groups – the Axis Powers and the Central Powers. Germany along with Italy and Japan formed the Central Powers while Britain, France and later USA comprised of the Axis Powers.

Body

Though putting fingers on Germany alone for initiating the world war 2 would be unfair, as the allied powers were equally to be blamed for opening the door for the infamous war to occur at the first place, which has its root on colonial and imperialistic interest, however for most part of it, Germany could be held more responsible due to the follow reasons:

1. Annexation of Czech followed by Poland – Germany in the case of Czech was given Sudetenland under Munich Agreement which had a significant German Population. However, Germany later captured the whole of Czech which showed its aggressive intentions. Later it invaded Poland which started World War 2.
2. Attack on Russia – Despite the peace pact signed with Russia , Hitler , Germany's chancellor, attacked Russia as he wanted to destroy communism.
3. Aspirations of Hitler – His ultimate goal was to exterminate Jews(Holocaust) and establish a Greater Germany with comfortable living space for all Germans. This could only be achieved by capturing territories which portrays the aggressive intent behind German's foreign policy.
4. German Preparations before War – Remilitarization, naval growth, conscription, etc. point to the intent towards a possible war in future However Germany was allowed to continue due to the 'Appeasement' policy followed by Britain and France which emboldened Hitler to commit such acts.
5. Fascism or cult of personality, triumph over popularly represented government and Germany. This government preached hatred for against democracy and communism vehemently.
6. German Youths and her populace were being indoctrinated with racial supremacy, which by all means advocated the assertion of their dominance against every other citizens and nations.
7. The spread of Nazis ideology had severely infested the perspectives of majority of the population, that leads to segregation of the Jewish during 1939 in separate concentration camps, and the atrocious acts continues till 1945 which had led to t

Conclusion

Although failure of league of nations is a major reason for starting of world war two. Despite this, Germany can be seen responsible for starting a war which led to death of five crore people and start of a nuclear era.

Best answer: Shri

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Q60 . Examine the concept of ‘swadeshi’ as a tool of fighting the foreign rule. How was it deployed in India’s freedom struggle?

Introduction

The word swadeshi means ” AN ENTITY WHICH IS MADE ON HOME SOIL ” . It plays a crucial role in making indigenous things and avoid using the foreign things . In addition it helps the indigenous industries to grow as the foreign industries were giving tough competition to the indigenous industries .However, the use of swadeshi depends upon its operation scale i.e it depends upon the extent of social involvement .

Body

The concept of swadeshi was used during the swadeshi moment which was held to mark as way of protest against the “SPLIT IN BENGAL ” . Some important accomplishments of Swadeshi were there, which can be put as follows:

1. Bengal Chemical Swadeshi Stores organised by P.C Ray.
2. National Education Council formed on August 15,1906 for Spreading Swadeshi education.
3. National College with Aurobindo Ghosh as it’s Principal.
4. Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company by V.O. Chidambaram Pillai. In the economic field, textile mills, soap factories, handloom weaving units, insurance companies and national banks were opened.
5. Swadeshi had also produced significant results in the field of art and culture. There was boom in nationalist poetry, prose and journalism. Patriotic songs written by Tagore, Syed Abu Mohammed are still popular and alive in Bengal. The most significant was active participation of women in the movement.
6. Foreign cloths , liquor , food items were discarded and indigenous utensils were used

7. Ganpati festivals started by Tilak as a mass gathering to spread nationalism

However, it does not lead to a success because of the following reasons:

- 1) huge Government repression
- 2) Emergence of a divide between the moderates and extremist as moderates want to confined the moment to Bengal only whereas the extremist want to expand it to other parts of country.
- 3) absence of strong leadership.
- 4) It confined mostly to upper and middle class
- 5) Failed to create effective organisation

Swadeshi contribution to freedom struggle

- It encompassed different sphere i.e. art, culture and craft in freedom struggle
- It undermined hegemony of Britishers.
- Brought all section specially women and children in sphere of freedom struggle
- Use of Khadi as nationalism

Conclusion

The legacy of Swadeshi can be seen in freedom struggle of African nationals too. Also even in globalised world swadeshi is used as a tool can be seen in India when people boycotted Chinese goods or Chinese people boycotted Japanese products. These are modern days uses of swadeshi.

Best answer : P29

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Q61. What were the achievements of the moderate phase of freedom struggle in India? Examine.

Introduction:

Moderates are the early leaders of the congress between the time period of 1885-1905. The leaders of this time period included Dadabhai Naoroji, Pherozshah Mehta, SN Banerjee who were staunch believers in liberalism and moderate politics.

Body

Contribution of moderates:

- 1) They were the architect of first all India political forum. They build up a political platform which became the focal point of national mainstream movement in the years to come.
- 2) They exposed the true nature of the colonial rule and elements associated with it – that Indian poverty was result of colonial exploitation. They could corrode much of the popular belief in benevolence and good will of imperial rule
- 3) They strengthened the process of India becoming a nation. They fostered a sense of political unity, spirit of togetherness and unity of purpose
- 4) They also began process of inculcating national sentiments among the people in organised manner. They strengthened democratic conception popularised the idea of representative institutions and elective principles.
- 5) Some of the major achievements of moderates were a) Passing of Indians council's act of 1882 b) Formation of welby commission on Indian expenditure in 1895 c) Passing of resolution in House of commons for simultaneous examinations in 1893

However, the moderates also suffered from some limitation

1. The movement under moderates failed to acquire roots among masses. Their programme remained confined to elite
2. They failed to carry out plan for nationwide constitutional agitation

Conclusion

Thus Moderates provided a significant ground work and awakened another generation of nationalists who continued to demand for their rights.

Best Answer: John Nash

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Q62. How did British land policies affect the India's rural landscape? Discuss.

Introduction

British introduced various land policies like Permanent settlement, Ryotwari and Mahalwari systems and many other modifications that transformed the rural way of living from social systems to economy related areas.

Body

British policies and how they impacted rural landscape:

- High land revenue- Extraction of high revenue under all three systems led to growth of poverty and deterioration of agriculture.
- Debt burden- Inability of peasants to pay high land revenue drove the peasant to borrow money at high rates of interest from the moneylender and got the peasant deeper and deeper into debt till he parted with his land
- Commercialization of agriculture- The commercial non-food crops substituted the food grains that led to famines. Also, inequalities grew in the rural society as only rich farmers got benefits.
- Regional specialization- Commercialization led to regional specialization of crops based upon climatic conditions instead of food sustenance in every part of the country. Bombay presidency grew cotton, Bengal grew jute and Indigo, Bihar grew opium, Assam grew tea, Punjab grew wheat.
- New class of zamindars- Landed property of old zamindars was transferred to merchants and other moneyed classes that led to rack-renting and ejection of peasants.

- Overcrowding in agriculture- Ruin of traditional industries and avenues of artisans overly crowded the agriculture.
- Changed land use- With increased need of infrastructure development, agriculture and forest lands were cleared.
- Increased subinfeudation- Absentee landlords whose main aim was to extract revenue without being responsible sublet the lands to others, increasing burden on peasants.

Conclusion:

The land policies adopted by British were for their own profit maximization and not for the benefit of Indian society. These policies later became a major factor in most of the revolts against British and played a major role in instigating the fight for independence.

Best answer: John nash

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Q63 . In what ways did the development of railways by the British further their own interests? Examine?

Introduction

The railway construction received “the first decisive stimulus” during Dalhousie’s administration. When Dalhousie anchored in India in 1847, he recommended the policy of constructing trunk lines connecting the interior of each of the three Presidencies.

It has been argued that construction of railways in India served the interests of British more than India.

Body

Development of railways and British interests

Drain of wealth

- Dalhousie recommended that railway construction should be entrusted to private companies, he flatly rejected the idea of Government constructing the railways.

- In railway construction contracts there were provisions of free gift of land by the State to the private companies on a lease for 99 years and guaranteed interest at rates varying between 5% and 4.5% on the capital investment in India.

Access to raw material and new market

- For construction of railways in India, there was pressure from Lancashire manufacturing interests who argued that a larger supply of clean raw cotton and Indigo could be drawn from India, so that the English textile industry could flourish.
- Similarly, railways provided access to other raw material such as iron ore and coal supply, and to consumer market for machine made finished goods of Britain. In other words it supported British Industrial revolution on both the ends.

Revenue administration and law & order

- Railway acted as source of oppression by reaching to large number of people. More and more people were brought under regular taxation and revenue administration.
- Railway even acted as a pacifier in the event of rebellion so that soldiers can be reached at the trouble site within short time.
- Railway and postal/telegraph system gave strength to British administration in India.

Political stronghold

- Railways helped in expansion of Raj in frontiers as well as far flung areas and provided for administrative ease, surveying, etc.
- These developments created to some extent pro British feelings among masses, making it easy for them to rule longer without any powerful resistance.

Conclusion

Though, railways in India were constructed to reach the British interests but it did helped Indian side too. Railway acted a source of unification for the people of India as many people could travel to remote places. The feeling of Real India or One India became true. It helped in the freedom struggle to a large extent.

Best Answer: Utkarsh Saxena

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Q64. Examine the concept of 'satyagraha'. Was it a successful strategy? Examine.

Introduction:

Satyagraha is a moral weapon based on the superiority of soul-force or love-force over physical force and was evolved by Gandhiji for meeting the aggression and settling conflicts. It became a major tool in the Indian struggle against British imperialism and has since been adopted by protest groups in other countries.

Body:

Concept of Satyagraha:

- According to this philosophy, satyagrahis—practitioners of satyagraha—achieve correct insight into the real nature of an evil situation by observing a nonviolence of the mind, by seeking truth in a spirit of peace and love, and by undergoing a rigorous process of self-scrutiny.
- In so doing, the satyagrahi encounters truth in the absolute.
- By refusing to submit to the wrong or to cooperate with it in any way, the satyagrahi asserts that truth.
- Throughout the confrontation with evil, the satyagrahi must adhere to nonviolence, for to employ violence would be to lose correct insight.
- Satyagrahis always warn their opponents of their intentions; satyagraha forbids any tactic suggesting the use of secrecy to one's advantage.
- Satyagraha includes more than civil disobedience. Its full range of application extends from the details of correct daily living to the construction of alternative political and economic institutions.
- Satyagraha seeks to conquer through conversion: in the end, there is neither defeat nor victory but rather a new harmony.
- Concept of Satyagraha draws from the ancient Indian ideal of ahimsa ("noninjury"), In developing ahimsa into a modern concept with broad political

consequences, as satyagraha, Gandhi also drew from the writings of Leo Tolstoy and Henry David Thoreau, from the Bible, and also from the Bhagavadgita.

Was it a successful strategy?

Critics of Satyagraha, both in Gandhi's time and subsequently, have argued that

- It is unrealistic and incapable of universal success, since it relies upon a high standard of ethical conduct in the opponent.
- Even demands an unrealistically strong level of commitment from those struggling for social amelioration.
- Method is slow to yield results and rather than 'struggle-truce-struggle' there is need for 'struggle-victory' strategy.

However,

- Satyagraha proved to be a novel method of political action, a technique which revolutionised Indian politics and galvanised millions to action against the British Raj.
- Its success is clearly visible in various movements like Champaran Satyagraha, Ahmedabad Workers strike, Kheda Satyagraha where efforts of Gandhiji on the lines of Satyagraha yielded results in the form of passage of Acts and compromise between the parties involved.
- Martin Luther King used it in his battle against racism.
- Nelson Mandela used the Satyagraha technique in South Africa to end apartheid.
- Today legacy of Satyagraha continues in the form of protests employed in India and around the world.

Conclusion:

Gandhi believed that change in the polity or society is to be brought about by changing the hearts and minds of men and not by bloody revolutions. Since every individual has a conscience, Gandhi aimed at its awakening, not through violent means, but, by stressing on self-purification and moral influence. He was convinced that through Satyagraha the change of heart can be made possible.

Best answer: P29

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Q65 .What role did students play in India's freedom struggle? Examine.

Introduction

As said by doctor APJ Abdul Kalam "Nation development depend on What's its people think". Then people are grown trees whereas student are seeds. In the Race where Mother India needed most of her children, the role of the student in the round cannot be forgotten.

Body

Some important contribution of students during the freedom struggle-

- 1.In 1848 Dadabhai Naoroji founded 'The student's scientific and historical society, as a forum for discussion.
- 2.The student's strike at King Edward Medical College ,Lahore was first student strike against discriminatory practice of English against Indians.
- 3.With the increased colonizers interference, the student movements also increased between 1906 to 1918 when 184 persons out of which 68 were students were convicted in Bengal in connection with revolutionary activities.
4. Swadeshi Movement organised students and gave a revolutionary outlook such as boycott colleges, British goods, students clubs etc.
- 5.In 1912 All India College Students Conference nailed the students' commitment to work for freedom with moto of "Swaraj first, education after".
- 6.Student Christian Movement against western colonialism with aim to orient students with Christian faith.

7. When Gandhiji launched his campaign against the Rowlett act and Jallianwala bagh atrocities, students participated in big numbers. Gandhiji called the students to withdraw from school and colleges. Students from all over the country responded promptly and boycotted schools and colleges.
8. Hindu Students Federation and All India Muslim Students Federation also added voice in freedom struggle by putting demands of students on the basis of their religious ideologies.
9. Quit India Movement got largest support of students. They successfully shut down colleges and got involved in most of leadership responsibilities e.g. Matagani Hazra, Aruna Asaf Ali, Garimella Satya Narayana etc. They also provided link between underground leaders and movement.
10. The youth of India was not confined to Indian boundaries but also supported freedom struggle from abroad e.g. Bhikaji Kama, Lala Hardayal etc.
11. Students also played very important role in various campaigns launched by Gandhiji against the British such as no tax campaign 1921, the civil disobedience movement, the Dandi satyagraha of 1930 etc.
12. In 1936, the All India Student Federation, the first Student Organisation of India, was born in order to support the Indian National Congress in its struggles.

Conclusion

Students are the future of any country and they decide where the future of country can be taken. Indian students play this role well at the time of independence. Youth of India have always been remembered as dynamic, enthusiastic identities of nation. They were young, fresh brains and strength of country who raised a collective voice which added fuel to the fire of mass movement and showed the love for their motherland.

Best answer: john nash

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Q66 .Discuss the contribution of Indians in the two World Wars.

Introduction

The two world wars fought between 1914-1918 and 1939-1944 were watershed movement in the 20th century geopolitical history.

Indians too were dragged in the war by the British to fight for them

Body

Contributions of Indians in world wars:

World War I

1) Role of Indian Army

- Approximately 13 lakh Indian soldiers served in World War I out of which over 74,000 lost their lives
- Indian Army served in France, Belgium, Egypt, Mesopotamia, Gallipoli, Sinai among other locations
- India also supplied various equipment for war along with animals required for battle
- The Indian Army fought the German Empire on the Western Front and German East Africa (a German colony in the African Great Lakes region)
- The Western Front became the main theatre of WWI when it was opened by Germany by invading Luxembourg and Belgium which bordered France

2) Economic contribution of India in world war 1: India gifted as high as 100 million British Pounds (Rs 893 crore) to Britain to fund their war in hope of dominion status and home rule in return. India also supplied as much as 37 lakh tonnes of supplies to the British.

World War 2

1) Role of Indian Army

- Approximately 2.5 million Indian soldiers served in World War 2. Over 36,000 Indian soldiers lost their lives, 34,000 were wounded and 67,000 were taken prisoners of war. Indian soldiers of the British Army earned 17 Victoria Crosses, the highest military honour under the British.
- Noor Inayat Khan –The well-known Spy was torture and executed by Germans.
- The Indian soldiers, on the ground, fought courageously in every battle and built an envious reputation which the Indian Army has carried forward to this day. Their exploits were seen in East and North Africa, Italy, Burma, and as far out as Singapore, Malay Peninsula, Guam, and Indo China. The role played by Air Force pilots from India are legendary and well documented. Pilots like MS Pujji and Prithpal Singh's feats are among many who left their mark. The list of names and achievements is indeed long.
- In the East, the Indian soldiers, as part of the British Indian Army, fought against the Japanese and were responsible for ultimately securing South East Asia that included Singapore, the Malay Peninsula and Burma.

2) Contributions beyond Army :

- Indian doctors and nurses were deeply involved on the British soil and other countries. In 1939, the Indian Comforts Fund (ICF) was established at India House in Aldwych that was run by Indian and British women. Between 1939 and 1945, the ICF supplied over 1.7 million food packets to soldiers and Asian prisoners of war, besides putting together warm clothes and other supplies.
- The nation contributed by collecting food and other material to support the war. Kolkata was the Allies' Rest and Recreation point, where American and British soldiers stopped to rest and recuperate before heading back to war .
- India was also home to Italian POWs. As early as 1941, a batch of Italian POWs, which included four Generals, arrived by ship at Mumbai. Ranchi, capital of Jharkhand today, had a camp where POWs were housed.

Indians thus contributed substantially in world wars. Their efforts are now beginning to be more substantially recognised worldwide.

Best Answer: Suraj Sharma

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Q67. Under what circumstances was the Quit India movement launched? What were its impacts?

Introduction:

Quit India movement was mass based freedom struggle movement. It has been variously describes as the “People’s Movement” and “Leaderless movement”.

Body:

Circumstances for the launch of the movement:

1. Failure of Cripps mission: Cripps mission was sent from Britain to negotiate with Indian leaders to support Britain in WW-2. Indian National congress has declared Purna Swaraj as final goal in Lahore session in 1928 and was not ready to concede on this. While British government was promising only dominion that too after war.
2. Escalation of Prices and food shortage: WW-2 has increase demand of goods which lead to escalation of prices. Food and other good were supplied to soldiers from India and common people have bear it repercussion in form of high prices. Public was more ready for mass based movement than our leaders.
3. Advancement of Japan: Japan was advancing toward India after subjugating South East Asia. Indian saw it as opportunities to over-throw the British.
4. The British saw the threat it posed and arrested all the major national leaders before the dawn of the day, the whole movement was carried out by the masses without the leaders.

Impact of the movement:

1. QIM demoralized British government to rule India. People participated without any guides and attacked the symbols of British authority. In many places self-rule local governments were

established. This pressurized British government to accept demands of congress. So, the British lifted Ban on Congress and National leaders were released from prison.

2. Paved the way for constitutional proposal of the Cabinet Mission. Latter Constituent assembly was organized on the Mission's recommendations.
3. Relent on INA Trials: The British were in favor to punish every participant on treason charges but due to QIM has forced the British to be relent on trial.

Conclusion:

Write a brief conclusion

Best answer: Dazy Rani

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Q68 .Do you think the transfer of power from the British to the Indians was hastily handled? Critically comment.

Introduction

Attlee's statement gave 30 June 1948 as Deadline for transfer of power to India, but it was further hastened to 15 August 1947. There were many reasons behind this hurry also there were very few options left to opt. However, a better planned transfer of power could have avoided not only blood bath of partition but also the ongoing tug of war on Kashmir and other border areas.

Body

Rationale for an Early Date (August 15, 1947)

Britain wanted to secure Congress' agreement to the dominion status. At the same time, the British could escape the responsibility for the communal situation.

Problems of Early transfer of power

- The breakneck speed of events under Mountbatten caused anomalies in arranging the details of partition and totally failed to prevent the Punjab massacre, because
- There were no transitional institutional structures within which partition problems could be tackled;
- Mountbatten had hoped to be the common Governor- General of India and Pakistan, thus providing the necessary link, but Jinnah wanted the position for himself in Pakistan;
- There was a delay in announcing the Boundary Commission Award (under Radcliffe); though the award was ready by August 12, 1947 Mountbatten decided to make it public after August 15 so that the British could escape all responsibility of disturbances.

Inevitable Early transfer of power

However, on many other grounds, it was an inevitable decision to be made.

- All possibilities of negotiations between Congress and League were exhausted. It included C. Rajagopalchari formula, Desai Liaqat Pact, Cabinet mission etc.
- After World War II, there was growing support for right to self-determination. And it created international pressure on Britain to give independence to India as soon as possible.
- By the beginning of 1947, both Congress and League agreed on partition and many other issues.
- During indecisive period there were rapidly increasing communal riots in India which were causing irreparable damage to Social fabric of India.

Conclusion

Though the declaration of Independence avoided the possibility of Balkanisation of India by British hands, still proper planning and infra could have avoided the blood bath of partition and would have settled border issues and Kashmir issue which is still a bone of contention between both the countries that is India and Pakistan.

Best answer: Ankur

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**Q69. In what ways did partition shape India's post independence society?
Analyse.**

Introduction:

India was partitioned at Independence on 15th August 1947 into two distinct nations: Pakistan and India. The partition had serious social, political and economic impacts which had complicated the bilateral relationship between India and Pakistan.

Body:

Post-partition unspeakable atrocities were perpetrated on the minorities in both India and Pakistan. In the span of a few months, nearly 500,000 people were killed and property worth thousands of millions of rupees was looted and destroyed. Influx of migrants caused demographic changes in the border states, people were deprived of access to pilgrim centres. Thus experience of Partition and its immediate effect shaped post-independence society in the following way

- Communal consciousness of people was aroused with the formation of Pakistan- principally Muslim state and India as Hindu dominated country. Dominance of Hindu community led to insecurity among Muslims in India.
- Social segregation: clearly visible in the agglomeration of Muslim communities within a particular locality in cities.
- Assertion by dominant communities: Positive discrimination by State to protect the interest of minorities had unintended consequences of further widening the gulf between Majority and Minority communities. Majority community feel they are discriminated in their own land and are increasingly assertive today.

- Thus communal divide and riots became a distinctive feature of Indian social life.
- Starting from partition, the country has witnessed a number of severe riots: dramatic events occurred in Calcutta, Rourkela, and Jamshedpur, Kashmir, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Moradabad, Nellie and Gujarat.
- The controversy over the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya is a matter of national concern and there is a bone of contention between the two communities in each and every Indian city.

Conclusion:

Thus, post-partition fragmented identities strengthened and much celebrated value of tolerance and acceptance appears to have weakened disturbing social harmony in the country. Exploitation of religious sentiments for political gains has further polarized the society.

Best answer: SID

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Q70.Do you think too much religiosity hinders scientific temperament? Examine in the context of the Indian society.

Introduction

“Science without religion is lame and religion without science is blind” Words by Albert Einstein appeal masses regarding complimentary role that science and religion must play in human development.

Body

What religion and science convey?

Science speaks of materialistic values and physical reasons of existence and laws governing it while religion looks beyond materialistic view into spiritual values with experienced.

Example- Many priest has been scientist in past like Sushruta and Kannada rishi to Aryabhata.

Why conflict arises then?

Conflict arises when one or both competitively engage in imperialistic race irrespective of considering the evidences or facts or considering each other's view.

Religiosity may seem to create hindrance in scientific temperament in Indian Context in following ways-

1. Economic, Political, educational, cultural participation with rest of the world is necessary for growth and development. However, Gandhiji was threatened to be declared an outcast if he crossed the sea and went to England for studies.
2. Women by virtue of being equally capable must enjoy same rights as men. However gender equality is elusive due to strong religious sentiment regarding triple talaq, disallowing women entry in certain temples like Sabarimala, Shani Shingnapur considering menstruating women an impurity denying their entry without considering the fact that menstruation has been proved a normal physiological phenomenon.
3. In case of conflict of ideas with science, too much religiosity results in disregarding scientific ideas. eg : Discrediting of Darwin's Theory.
4. Health taboos-Still people are claiming that shingles or pox due to deities impact or anger in spite of proven scientific evidence that it is an infectious viral disease.
5. Casteism in India-Ancient Varna system considering to be shudras as impure and polluted without considering that are born of one cell zygote through similar genetic makeup with same physical or physiological capabilities yet it is prevalent still due to false superior dominancy

However, if religiosity is used with emotional intelligence and values of tolerance and compassion, as was practiced by Gandhiji, then scientific temperament will be enhanced

1. Teaching of Vedas like "Ishavasyam Idam Sarvam" (Divine principle pervaded every atom of this universe) must have motivated people to find life in plants.
b) Glorious Quran begins with the word 'Iqra', directing the reader to read and seek knowledge, both of this world and hereafter.

c) All religious scriptures talk about creation of this universe. This must spark human brain to inquire more.

Conclusion

Aristotle said virtues are mean state between extremes of excess and deficiency. Religiosity brings brotherhood, compassion, piety, sobriety. However, must be practiced with tolerance and compassion to not hinder scientific temperament. Rightly said by Pope John Paul II “Science can make religion free of error and superstition. Religion can make science free of idolatry and absolutism”.

Best answer: The lion

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Q71. The absence of women at the level of policy making is a serious impediment to inclusive growth. Elucidate.

Introduction:

Women in India make up 7.5% of the world's total population. In spite of this the representation of women in the level of policy making is abysmally low. The report Women In Politics ranked India at 148 position in representation of women in executive government.

Body

Absence of Women and its impediment to inclusive growth

1. Lack of gender specific policies: Though there is increasing representation of women in agriculture, there is less attention provided to support women .

The budget allocated to projects concerning women are not a=utilised properly.

1. Achieving gender equality is seen as essential to reducing poverty and improving governance. Women's participation in politics can facilitate democracy, not only because it improves their civil rights and helps them speak out their interests, but also because powerful women tend to make different policy choices from their male counterparts, which are beneficial to the local distribution of public resources and the development. When a woman is in charge, they invest more in infrastructure which matches the needs of women in order to cover the imbalance of women resulting from the past ignorance of women.
2. Women are more risk averse than men, leading them less corrupt since corruption can be regarded as risky activity.
3. Role Models for other women : It is believed that women in the office are supposed to create and increase opportunities for the career of other women

The government of India has taken positive steps to improve participation of women in politics by providing 1/3 rd reservation in panchayats and local bodies.

Conclusion

Participation is often necessary for inclusive growth and women participation will help India achieve more prosperity and increase in GDP, thus onus is on government to encourage them to participate in decision making process.

Best Answer: Aniket Sachan

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Dazy Rani

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Q72. How does linguistic diversity add to India's social capital? Analyse.

Introduction

India is a land of many languages, boasting of 22 languages accepted by the Constitution and many more languages and regional dialects. Even the States were organized on linguistic basis, making it an important part of the Indian social and political fabric.

Body

The linguistic diversity adds to social capital

- Intra-language social capital- People sharing same language tend to bond better among themselves in comparison to those speaking other languages.
- Increases tolerance- Diversity in languages as well as cultures have led to high tolerance levels in India, which is the reason that despite huge diversity Indians have peaceful co-existence.
- Common root- Most of the Indian languages can be divided under Indo-Aryan or Dravidian sharing a common language ancestry and thus despite being different languages are not difficult to comprehend by other language speakers.
- Adds to curiosity- People often encourage communication to get to know about other languages and associated customs, this act as a bridging link in social capital.
- Sharing of traditional wisdom- Each language has its own rich literature and associated traditional wisdom. Translation into other languages enriches the entire society and acts as a way to social harmony.

Conclusion

Despite being a strong force behind integration, linguistic diversity is facing a threat due to abandonment of rare languages and adoption of major languages. The problem needs to be addressed at societal level, in which the communities have to take part in conservation of language diversity that is part of cultural wealth.

Best answer: Aniket Sachan

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Q73 .Bring out the significance of sustainable urban planning for Indian cities. What have we missed out in its absence? Discuss.

Introduction

Currently, India's nearly 30% population lives in urban areas and it is expected to rise upto 50% by 2050. Being a developing country with a huge population pressure India is facing many challenges due to rural to urban migration. To contain these challenges and to make a proper trajectory towards new India, Sustainable urban planning is an important aspect.

Body

Significance:

- **Safe drinking water:** According to a report by NITI Ayog, 21 cities will run out of groundwater by 2020. To avoid further worsening of such crisis we need careful urban planning.
- **Affordable housing:** One of the largest government programmes is to provide affordable housing to citizens. Sustainable urban planning will help to manage land resources in equitable way.
- **Urban sewage and solid waste management** In India less than quarter of the waste generated gets proper treatment. For rapidly growing urban agglomerations we need planning to manage this rising challenge.

- Transportation and communication: Sustainable urban planning will provide efficient and eco-friendly public transport facilities to overpopulated urban cities of India.
- Sustainable urban planning will also help in equitable **resources distribution and affordable service delivery**.
- It will also help in creating **sustainable environment and disaster management**.

In absence of sustainable urban planning India is facing manifold challenges:

- **Rise in Slums:** Few of the Asia's largest slums are in Delhi and Mumbai where unplanned urbanisation led to polluted water, health issues and rising rate of crimes.
- **Urban flooding:** Floods in Mumbai and Chennai are examples of urban flooding. These are results of unsustainable urbanisation.
- **Rising number of accidents:** Fires in buildings and deaths in various urban accidents are daily routine in Indian cities.
- **Degrading environment:** According to WHO report, out of 20 most polluted cities, 14 are in India.

Way forward

- India needs to work on achieving the goals set by United Nations under SDG-11 to be achieved by 2030.
- Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums, transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport.
- Give special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women and children, persons with disabilities and older persons.
- Significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses caused by disasters.
- Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.
- Provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces.
- Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning
- Substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Best Answer: Sid

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Ankur

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Q74.Examine the implications of adverse sex ratio for India's future.

Introduction:

Sex ratio is defined as the number of females per 1000 men. It is a useful indicator to understand women's health and position in a society. India, along with china and few other South Asian countries, has a deficit of females for a long period. Sex ratio in India has declined over the past century from 972 in 1901 to 927 in 1991. According to 2011 census there are 940 females per 1000 of males.

Body:

A number of reasons like poverty, illiteracy, culture and preference for male child are held accountable for the continuous decline in the sex ratio.

According to a Youth in India report brought out by the ministry of statistics and programme implementation, the sex ratio is declining steadily. It is projected to fall to 898 by 2031. This could have serious repercussions.

- The shortage of women has led to a sharp rise in violence against them. Likely increase in crimes like trafficking and forced marriages.
- This will lead to a situation where, apart from the ingrained son preference, people don't want girls all the more as they feel that it is difficult to keep them safe. In a study done by the Centre for Social Research in Haryana, fear of violence is a cause for female foeticide.

- Male dominated society will lead to reinforcement of patriarchy.
- The economic consequences are grave for this means that a huge proportion of the productive population is missing (effect on agricultural sector) and also the lack of women impairs the ability of men to work.
- Further lowers political representation of women making it difficult to address their concerns.
- At global stage nation will be portrayed in bad light.

To address the issue Government of India has come out with initiatives to save girl childlike Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, meant for uplifting women in the sphere of women's education; Sukanya Samriddhi Account, meant to help families' save for their daughters. However, still lot needs to be done on this front as declining sex ratio will have destabilizing effect socially, economically and politically.

Conclusion:

Ways to address the issue:

- More effective implementation of PCPNDT Act.
- Active monitoring of birth ratios.
- Detailed medical audits of all ultra sound examination carried out by registered clinics including sale-purchase records of ultra sound machines and to make these record public;
- Sustained social campaigns, financial incentives to parents giving birth to female child, free educational scholarships, reservation for females in educational institutions and jobs; and
- Active involvement of community, NGOs and other voluntary organisations and SHGs with support from government are needed.

Best answer: Utkarsh Saxena

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Q76. Has globalisation been advantageous to the farmers of India? Do a critical assessment.

Introduction

World Trade Organization was established in January 1995. The member countries including India involved themselves in globalization through WTO. Initially the World Trade Agreement of 1994 brought agriculture within its policy framework. The obligations and disciplines incorporated in the agreement which seek to reform trade in agriculture and provide the basis for market-oriented policies on agriculture. Government had to introduce reforms in agricultural sector too. Reforms in agricultural policies were felt necessary for achieving trade liberalization in the agricultural sector.

Body

Following are some positive consequences of globalization on Indian agriculture.

1. A) Positive Consequences-

1) Availability of modern Agro- technologies:

There is availability of modern agro technologies in pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers as well as new breeds of high yield crops were employed to increase food production. These technologies included modern implementations in irrigation projects, pesticides, synthetic nitrogen fertilizer and improved crop varieties developed through the conventional, science-based methods available at the time. HYVs significantly outperformed traditional varieties in the presence of adequate irrigation, pesticides, and fertilizers.

2) Rise in production and productivity:

Due to adoption of HYV technology the production of food grains increased considerably in the country. The production of wheat has increased from 8.8 million tonnes in 1965-66 to 184 million tonnes in 1991-92. The productivity of other food grains has increased considerably. It was 71% in case of cereals, 104% for wheat and 52% for paddy over the period 1965-66 and 1989-90.

4) New areas employment-

While exporting agricultural products it is necessary to classify the products, its standardization and processing, packing etc. Therefore, after LPG the agro allied industries has created employment in various sector like packing, exporting, standardizing, processing, transportation and cold storage etc. The industries depending on agriculture are stored and it made an increase in employments.

Agriculture is the biggest unorganized sector of the Indian economy accounting for more than 90% share in the total unorganized labour force. The share of agriculture in total employment stands at 52.1%

5) Reduction in poverty-

India's prior concern is to remove poverty, which is worse than death, and if India makes efforts, globalization can be a key to get rid of it. Moreover, the percentage of people below the poverty line has been decreasing progressively, from 36 percent in 1993-94 to 21.9 percent in 2004-05.

1. B) Negative Consequences-

2. Vicious debt trap and farmers suicides-

The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) Report 2005 indicates that 1 in 2 farm households are in debt and only 10 per cent of the debt was incurred for non-production purposes. Also, 32.7 per cent of farmers still depend on money lenders. The National Crime Records Bureau reports that between 1997-2005 1,56,562 farmers committed suicide. Nearly 60% of them took place in the 4 progressive states, viz., Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. More than 20 per cent of suicides have taken place in Karnataka.

2. Migration of labours-

For the Indian farmer, who is already paralyzed by low productivity and lack of postharvest storage facilities has resulted in heavy loss of produce and revenue. It is only because of low tariff in imports due to liberalized import duties which came as a bombshell. The domestic farmer could not stand the competitiveness of international market, which has resulted in migration of labor from agriculture to other industrial activities.

3. Lower income of rural farmers

Trade agreements now forbid most subsidies excepted for agricultural goods. This depresses incomes of those farmers in the developing countries who do not get subsidies.

4) Lessening international competitiveness –

In India 60% of population depend on agriculture. This pressure on agriculture is increasing day by day because of the increasing population. Because of marginal land holding the production cost of Indian farmers is higher as well as the quality and standardization of agro produce is much neglected. Along with this, the curtailment in subsidies and grants has weakened the agricultural sector. On the contrary before the reduction in grants by WTO, developed countries had distributed grants on large scale.

They had grown the amount of the grants on large scales in agriculture during 1988-1994. So they have not to face many difficulties if there is a reduction in grants. On this background the farmers are not in a position to compete international market.

5) Abnormal hike in Fertilizers and Pesticide prices-

Immediately after globalization Indian rupee was devaluated by 25% and Indian crops became very cheap and attractive in the global market, which led Indian farmer for export and encouraged them to shift from growing a mixture of traditional crops to export oriented 'cash crops' like chilli, cotton and tobacco. These need far more inputs of pesticides, fertilizers and water than the traditional crops require. It automatically increased Fertilizer and pesticide prices by 300%.

6) Electricity tariffs have also been increased-

Pre liberalization, subsidized electricity policy helped farmers to keep the costs of production low. The electricity costs increased dramatically when farmers turned to the cultivation of cash crops, which needed more water, hence, more water pumps were needed and there was higher consumption of electricity. Andhra Pradesh being traditionally drought prone, the situation further worsened. In Andhra Pradesh tariff was increased 5 times between 1998 and 2003. This caused huge, unsustainable losses for the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board, so it increased the electricity tariff.

7) Price crash-

As per reforms of WTO, Indian government removed import tariffs and duties. Earlier these were working as cushion to protect and encourage domestic producers. By 2001, India completely removed restrictions on imports of almost 1,500 items including food. As a result, cheap imports flooded the market, pushing prices of crops like cotton and pepper down. As a result, most of the farmers committing suicides in Maharashtra were concentrated in the cotton belt till 2003 (after which paddy farmers followed the suicide trend).

8) Fall in agricultural employment-

In 1951, agriculture provided employment to 72 per cent of the population and contributed 59 per cent of the gross domestic product. However, by 2001 the population depending upon agriculture came to 58 per cent whereas the share of agriculture in the GDP went down drastically to 24 per cent and further to 22 per cent in 2006-07. This has resulted in a lowering the per capita income of the farmers and increasing the rural indebtedness

Conclusion

Write a suitable and apt conclusion

Best answer: Dazy Rani

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Q76. What are the tools of social empowerment? How does social empowerment lead to social justice? Discuss.

Introduction

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.

Body

Tools of Social empowerment

1. Constitutional Safeguards: Constitution is best tool of empowerment.

Fundamental rights enshrined in constitution ensured a right of dignity and respect to all sections of society.

1. Various acts and policies to tackle discrimination and corruption: Ex: SC/ST act which empowers the weaker section of society to speak against their perpetrators. RTI act empowers them to seek information.

2. Institutional safeguards: In order to ensure the rights guaranteed by constitution are enforced commissions like NCW, NCM work on complaints and investigate matter.
3. International bodies like UN: SDG goals which stress around holistic development in the form of elimination of poverty, universal access to health care, education, and housing.
4. Specific schemes by Government: Schemes like Stand up India, Skill India, and Make in India focus on empowering the weaker sections.
5. Pressure groups: Various pressure groups and NGOs have often helped in empowerment and bring about substantial change.
6. Role of mass and social media: Media has been helpful by providing a voice to weaker section of society by highlighting their plights and demands.

Social empowerment leads to social justice in following ways

1. Constitutional Safeguards: The constitution has specifically tried to provide representation to SC/ST; due to this many leaders from community have emerged who have led to empowerment of their communities.
2. Government Schemes: Various schemes of government has helped to empower weaker sections and provided them jobs and improving their standard of living

For India to become a developed nation social empowerment of its weaker sections need to be fastened and efforts are constantly taken to achieve the same through various policies and initiatives.

Best Answer: Suraj Singh

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Q77. What are the characteristics of a secular society? How does India perform on the yardsticks of secularism? Examine.

Introduction

Secularism as a Western concept is defined as separation of powers of church and state. In context of other societies, it is near-complete freedom of religion and lack of authority of religious leaders over political matters.

Body

Characteristics of a secular society:

- Separation of state and religion- Religious groups don't interfere in affairs of state, and the state doesn't interfere in religious affairs.
- Religious freedom- Defend the absolute freedom of religious and other belief. It protects rights of both believers and non-believers.
- Equal access to public services- No discrimination is allowed to access public services on the basis of religion. State-funded schools are non-religious in character.
- Protection of free speech and expression- Religious people have the right to express their beliefs publicly but so do those who oppose or question those beliefs.
- Promote idea of democracy- All citizens are considered equal irrespective of their religious affiliation and universal human rights precedes the religious demands.

Performance of India:

- No clear distinction between state and religion- State interferes in religious issues when they involve human rights, for example banning untouchability and passage of triple talaq bill.
- Constitutional provisions- India has provided religious safeguards under constitution through fundamental rights especially Article 14, 15, 17, 19 and 25-28.
- Freedom for individual and community- Religious minorities have right to practice and propagate their religion.

There have been several fallouts too

- Rise of communalism- Riots, Mandir-Masjid issues keep cropping up every now and then.
- Minority appeasement- Vote bank politics has resulted in minority appeasement at the cost of basic pillars of democracy.
- Uneven development among different religious groups- Political mileage has prevented necessary interventions in some communities resulting in their backwardness.

Conclusion

Indian secularism is sometimes criticized for being interventionist, but it is this intervention that has helped maintain a balance in society. Political masters need to look beyond vote bank and step forward to undertake some long due religious reforms.

Best answer: Arvind Senta

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Q78. Why does communalism remain a potent political tool in 21st century India? Why haven't forces of development overcome communal factors? Analyse.

Background

In everyday language, the word 'communalism' refers to aggressive chauvinism based on religious identity. Chauvinism itself is an attitude that sees one's own group as the only legitimate or worthy group, with other groups being seen – by definition – as inferior, illegitimate and opposed. Thus, to simplify further, Communalism is an aggressive political ideology linked to religion.

This is a peculiarly Indian or South Asian, meaning that is different from the sense of the ordinary English word.

In the English language, "communal" means something related to a community or collectively as different from an individual.

Communalism in India

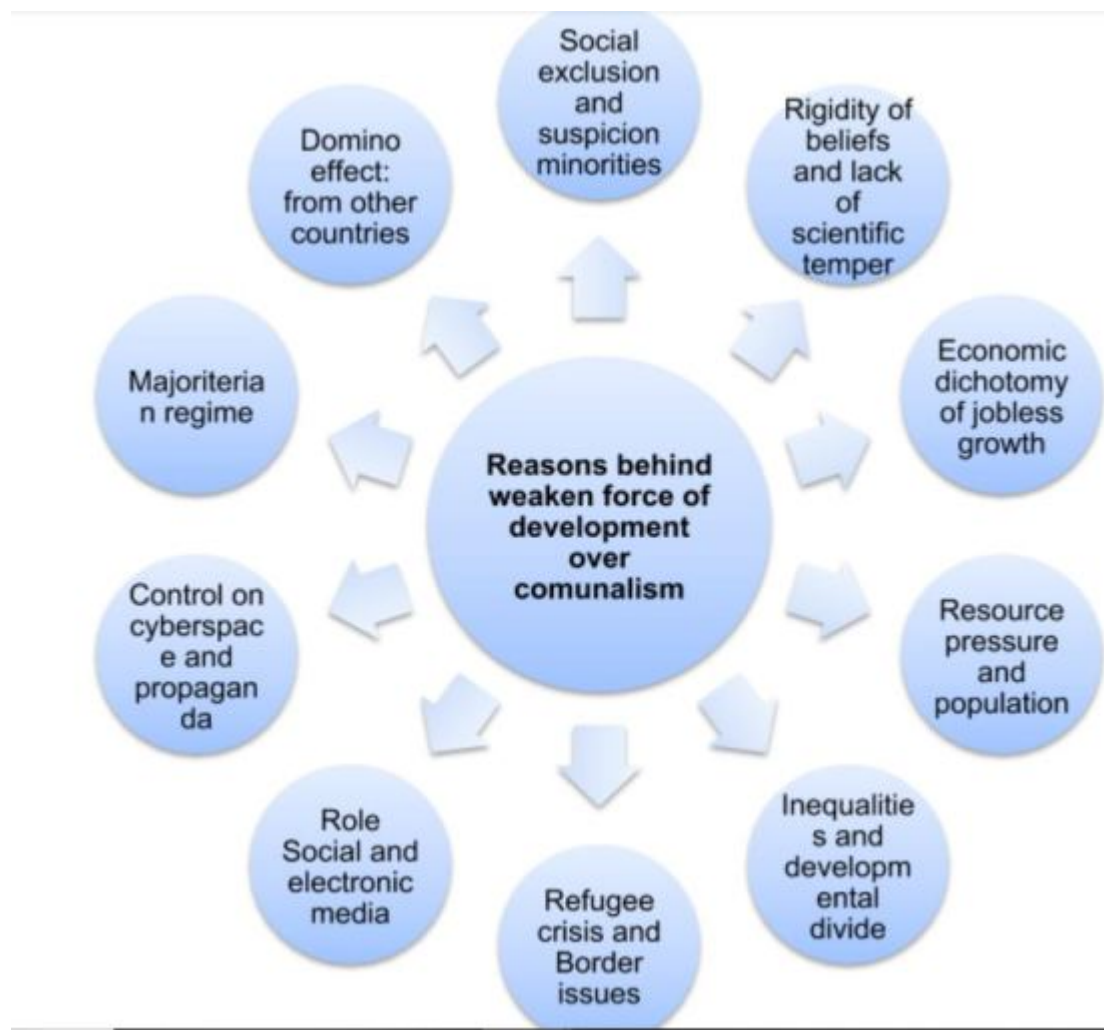
- Communalism is an especially important issue in India because it has been a recurrent source of tension and violence.
- India has had a history of communal riots from pre-Independence times, often as a result of the divide-and-rule policy adopted by the colonial rulers.
- But colonialism did not invent inter-community conflicts – there is also a long history of pre-colonial conflicts – and it certainly cannot be blamed for post-Independence riots and killings.

Communalism remains a political tool

- Politicians have played a villainous role in creating serious communal situations in India. There was politics at the root of painful division of India in 1947 in the name of a particular religious' community.
- But even after paying a heavy price in the form of partition, in many riots provoked thereafter, we can find the involvement directly or indirectly, of political parties or their supporters.
- Along with this for the sake of vote bank, the policy of appeasement, selection of candidates on the basis of community, sect, sub-sect and caste, and flaring up religious sentiments at the time of elections, led to the rise of communalism.

Why haven't forces of development overcome communal factors?

- Even though Socio economic conditions of India have improved but still there are many challenges in front of Indian society, which are becoming threat for its diversity.
- Population, Poverty, illiteracy and unemployment create a lot of compulsions, especially before younger generation.
- Many from younger generation who are unemployed and are in a state of poverty, get involved in the evil like communalism.
- External elements (including non-state actors) also have a role in worsening the problem of communalism, and making it serious.



Conclusion:

We had instances of religious, cultural, regional or ethnic conflict they can be found in almost every phase of our history. But we should not forget that we also have a long tradition of religious pluralism, ranging from peaceful co-existence to actual inter-mixing or syncretism. This syncretic heritage is clearly evident in the devotional songs and poetry of the Bhakti and Sufi movements.

Best Answer: SID

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Q79. What have been the strategies of the government to address regionalism in India? Illustrate.

Introduction:

Regionalism is a sub-nationalism and political concept. It is a movement which seeks to politicize the territorial predicaments of its regions with the aim of protecting its regional interest. Generally, regionalism evolves on the basis of some social and cultural characteristics like ethnicity, caste, creed, language, color or culture.

Body:

Regionalism may help in solving some socio-political and economic problems at local level, but it is one of the big obstacles in national integration. In India, trends of regionalism are being observed in states like Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Maharashtra, Punjab, Kashmir, Tamil Nadu, etc. Such kind of sub-nationalism has already posed some serious problems for India, especially in form of Punjabiya and Kashmiriya.

After independence Indian government adapted various strategies to overcome the issue of regionalism.

- Provision of autonomy within 5th Schedule and 6th Schedule.
- Linguistic reorganization of states with passage of States Reorganization Act of 1956.
- Three language formula, special grants to backward states.
- Federal institutions like Inter-State Council, NITI Aayog, GST Council.
- Creation of new states like Telangana and Uttarakhand.
- Initiatives like 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' to promote the spirit of national integration through a deep and structured engagement between all Indian States and Union Territories through a year-long planned engagement between States.
- Incentives for Promoting Investment in Backward Regions like Income Tax Concession and tax Holiday in order to give stimulus to new industries in backward regions.

Conclusion:

While regionalism highlights regional issues and provides an opportunity address them, it also has negative impacts like instability, internal security challenge, affects national politics. Uniform development of all regions should be taken up so that no region feel isolated and left behind. Government needs to come with innovative solutions so that problems of regionalism are meaningfully solved.

Best answer: Ankur

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Q80. Many political experts had predicted that India would balkanise after independence. However, India emerged strongly from the shadows of colonial rule and became a true nation state. What made this possible? Analyse.

Introduction:

India is land of diversity in terms of language, religions, ethnic groups, culture, and physiography. Despite this, there was always an underlying unity amidst diversity.

Body:

After independence, it was commented that India would balkanise because of its rich diversity as

- Before India, most nations were constructed on the basis of a shared language, a single religion and a common enemy – or all of the above. This nation, however, had large populations of all the major faiths, while its citizens spoke many languages, written in different scripts.
- Also, before India, democracy had never been attempted in a poor and largely illiterate country. India adopted Universal adult franchise despite 85% of voters being illiterate.
- Presence of multiple religions, multiple caste system, and ethnic groups would break down social unity in a democratic system where groups compete with each other for access to resources and power.
- Presence of princely states (around 560) will hinder integration.

With communalism at its peak post-partition India was seen as ‘unlikely nation’ meant to disintegrate.

However, division did not happen due to

- Strong leadership at the centre like Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhai Patel and others.

- Feeling of nationalism which was strengthened during freedom struggle.
- Fear of consequences of partition.

Our national leaders were aware of difficulties that would arise in the future and hence carefully used various means to protect unity of India which have so far held India together.

- Strong centre in terms of finance, legislative and administrative powers. Example: suppression of Khalistan movement in 1980's.
- Enough autonomy being given to states and presence of institutional mechanisms to safeguard their interests. Ex: state list, independent judiciary.
- Accommodating regional aspirations. Ex: flexible constitution with provisions like 371j, 35A; Reorganisation of states on linguistic lines, Non-imposition of Hindi.
- Skilfully integrating princely states into Indian Union.
- Focus on development of nation as a whole by taking care of backward states and regions. Ex: Finance commission, special category status that was accorded, regional planning approaches.
- Being multi-religious country, equidistance of state from all religions prevented division of society on religious lines. Ex: Article 25-28.

Conclusion:

Today, factors such as economic forces, sports, movies have further strengthened national feeling. Though examples of divisive tendencies exist, today India has emerged as a much stronger nation state.

Best answer: Arvind Senta

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Q81. To not realise the shimmering discontent over the issue linguistic reorganisation within the country was a grave miscalculation on the part of Indian leaders post independence. Critically comment.

Introduction

Though 1921 amendment of the constitution of the INC supported the formation of the regional branches on linguistic basis and it also supported the redrawing of the provisional boundaries based on it, after independence the linguistic reorganization listed as the low priority issue.

Body

Though the Dhar committee and JVP committee were against the linguistic reorganization, Nehru had to create the Andhra state immediately after the death of Sri Potti Sriramalu. So it was considered a miscalculation on the parts of Indian leaders. The arguments for it are

1. Language is the key determinant of culture of people.
2. ease of administration set up.
3. large no of population can understand it so it is necessary for mass education and development.
- 4 ensure the federalism
5. one of the easy criteria for reorganization and would heal the communistic voices to some extent.

However, leaders have their own concern:

1. The immediate linguistic reorganization make the partition effect much more deep so leaders wanted to conserve unity.
2. fillip regionalism.
3. large no of speaking languages- linguistic reorganization leads to balkanisation.
4. minority languages becomes more vulnerable.

However later it proved to a tool of unity and spirit of regionalism in a way promoted development for eg. Telangana, Gujarat

However, there are still some challenges looming over India

- Insurgency in north east
- Demand for creation of Bodoland, Gorkhaland, Vidharbha, Bundelkhand , Khalistan as a separate state
- Naxaliasm

Conclusion

Thus in the nut shell, linguistic reorganization strengthened the democratic set up and it also promoted the cultural diversity of our country. The linguistic reorganization was also become instrumental to prevent the communistic forces. However, challenges mentioned above need to be addressed.

Best answer: Ankur

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Q82. Under what circumstances was the war of 1965 with Pakistan fought? How did it affect India? Discuss.

Introduction:

The 1965 war between India and Pakistan was the second conflict between the two countries over the status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. The clash did not resolve this dispute, but it did engage the United States and the Soviet Union in ways that would have important implications for subsequent superpower involvement in the region.

Body:

- Issue of Kashmir- Since Partition, Kashmir problem has been central to the dispute between India and Pakistan.
- Skirmishes over Rann of Kutch- Pakistan's army's performance during the limited conflict in the Rann of Kutch in April 1965 boosted its morale.
- Image of a weak India- The Indian Army had lost badly to the Chinese in 1962, which created a sense of false superiority in the Pakistan army. Also, India was still in the process of modernizing its armed forces, which seemed like an opportune moment for Pakistan.
- Other factors- Death of Nehru, India's struggle with food crisis and support of China to Pakistan also influenced its strategy to challenge India.
- Operation Gibraltar- Strategy of Pakistan to infiltrate Jammu and Kashmir, and start a rebellion against Indian rule.

The war was fought at two fronts and culminated in a ceasefire where India was believed to have an upper hand.

Effect on India:

- Tashkent Declaration- It was a peace agreement signed between India and Pakistan to give effect to ceasefire.
- Establishment of RAW- India established Research and Analysis Wing for external espionage and intelligence to avoid such incidents in future.
- Enhanced tri-service co-ordination- India focused on enhancing communication and coordination within and among the tri-services of the Indian Armed Forces.
- Modernization of army- Post war, India took it upon itself to re-organize its armed forces as well as modernize its weaponry, the effect of which can be clearly seen in the 1971 victory.
- Changed foreign policy- United States and United Kingdom refused to supply India with sophisticated weaponry which strained the relations between the West

and India. It distanced itself from Western powers and developed close relations with the Soviet Union.

Conclusion:

The war could not resolve the Kashmir resolve, which continues till date and is a major factor behind strained Indi-Pakistan relations.

Best answer: John Nash

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Q83. Do you think India's democratic institutions got further strengthened post emergency? Analyse.

Introduction

- India alone among the post-colonial countries has sustained democracy since its inception. Paradoxically, even the experience of the Emergency underlined the strength of democracy in India.
- Emergency was a test of democracy, and India cleared this test with ever growing success as the largest democracy in the world.

Body

There were many historical events that occurred in India since after Emergency of 1970s. These historical developments further strengthened the democratic institutions in India. To mention few, these events are as follows:

- **Constitution:** The most basic unit of democracy, Indian Constitution got its strength with enactment of 44th and subsequent constitutional amendment acts. These amendments further strengthened the fabric of democracy in India.
- **Parliament:** Being an assembly of elected representatives, Parliament should be more important than any autocratic leader. Powers of Parliament were further strengthened by 44th amendment act and subsequent measures.

- **Judiciary:** By the end of 1970 and in the beginning of 1980s Public Interest Litigation (PIL), a new instrument of justice got developed in Indian judicial system, making it easier for people to fight for their common rights and interests. And such many other measures strengthened one of the most important the democratic institution of India, i.e. Judiciary.
- **Election commission:** It was made a multi-member body with more powers to conduct free and fair elections. State Election Commissions were also established on the similar lines to conduct elections for local bodies.
- **Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs):** PRIs are one of the milestones in history of Indian democracy. 73rd and 74th amendment acts in early 1990s, with its provision for reservation of one third seats for women, gave constitutional status to these most important institutions of grass-root democracy.
- **Expansion of fundamentals rights and Press:** Fundamental Rights under Article 19 and Article 21 expanded into much bigger set of rights. With expansion of Right to Speech, Press or Media became an important pillar of democracy. Similarly, Right to information Act of 2005 became an important instrument of democracy.

With all the above developments and strengthening of regional parties, formation of coalition governments led to strengthening of democratic institutions in India. But recent developments in India are cause of concern.

Threats to democratic fabric of India

- Populist appeals or appeals on grounds of caste, region or religious community
- Role of caste in electoral politics has increased in recent years
- Communalisation of politics
- Growing intolerance and hatred
- Restricted powers to PRIs
- Insufficient representation of women in Parliament and Judiciary
- Use of governor to dictate states
- So on...

Conclusion

- It can be concluded that in the post-emergency period, there has been the steadily growing political awareness among the people and their greater direct and indirect participation in the democratic processes.
- The disadvantaged—women, agricultural labourers, small peasants, the urban poor—have increasingly come to believe that the desired change can be brought about by the assertion of their democratic rights.
- Though democratic institutions are strengthened but communalism and caste-ism are some of the gravest threats to India's fabric of democracy.

Best Answer: Chetan R

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Q84 What were the achievements of the first non-Congress government? Analyse.

Introduction:

First non-congress government was formed in 1977 with Morarji Desai as the prime minister.

Its significance lies in the fact that it broke the prevalent party system in India which was till then characterised as “one party dominant or the Congress system” and raised high hopes about the institutionalization of two party system of the British and American patterns of party democracy in India.

Body:

1. Constitutional reforms aimed to restore the balance between the people and the parliament, the state and the Centre, the citizen and the government and to prevent abuse of power.

(i)Democratic set up restored

- The state of internal emergency was lifted on 21st March 1977 and the external emergency which was imposed on 3rd December 1971 during Indo-Pakistani war was revoked on 27th March 1978.
- The Janata government also restored the civil liberties and freedom to the press by lifting press censorship imposed during emergency rule.

(ii) Court's jurisdiction Restored

The 44th Amendment Act restored the original power of the High Courts and Supreme Court to examine the constitutional validities of the state and Central laws and replaced the powers of the Parliament to enact laws in respect of antinational activities and to ban political dissent against the government.

(iii) Amendment in Emergency provisions as a check on the misuse of powers:

- Emergency can only be proclaimed by the president when the security of India or any part thereof is threatened by war or by armed rebellion. Internal disturbance not amounting to armed rebellion could not be a ground for the proclamation of emergency.
- The act provided that the emergency can be proclaimed after the written advice of the ministers and within one month it will be approved by the two third members of both the houses for six months.

2. Social field:

- Appointment of 2nd Backward Classes Commission (Mandal Commission) to identify Socially and Educationally backward classes and steps needed for their advancement which recommended for 27% reservation to people belonging to OBC category.
- Prohibition on Alcohol: Gradual introduction of prohibition was a significant achievement of the Janata Party in the field of social reform.
- Education: The Janata government initiated for the achievement of the directive of the constitution of India. The Janata party government at the centre had made obligatory to the state governments to enable students to study free in the elementary stage i.e. up to the age of 14.
- Relief to minority and weaker sections: The financial aid for the Haj pilgrims allowed to go to Haj was raised. The number of pilgrims was also raised to 25000 from 15000.

3. Foreign policy:

- The government re-established diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China, which had been severed due to the Sino-Indian War of 1962. Both nations established regular dialogue to resolve long-standing territorial disputes, expand trade and enhance border security.
- Improvement in relation with USA to avoid perception of India as close ally of Soviet Union and thus genuine adherence to Non Alignment Policy (NAM).

Failures of Janata government:

On Economic front:

- The Janata government had lesser success in achieving economic reforms.
- It launched the Sixth Five-Year Plan, aiming to boost agricultural production and rural industries. Seeking to promote economic self-reliance and indigenous industries, the government required multi-national corporations to go into partnership with Indian corporations.
- The policy proved controversial, diminishing foreign investment and led to the high-profile exit of corporations such as Coca-Cola and IBM from India.
- Government was unable to address the issues of resurging inflation, fuel shortages, unemployment and poverty. The legalisation of strikes and re-empowerment of trade unions affected business efficiency and economic production.

Continuous in-fighting and ideological differences made the Janata government unable to effectively address national problems.

Conclusion:

Though Janata Government remained in power for brief period of time, it had quite a number of achievements to its credit which had lasting value for our democracy, administration and society.

Best answer: Ragnar LK

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Q 85. What strategies were adopted to address India's food crisis post independence? Discuss.

Introduction:

India which was once called as a land of plenty had suffered numerous famines before independence. However fortunately post-Independence there has been no major famine

Body

India had to face a serious food crisis at the time of independence.

To meet the deficiency in the supply of food grains in the short run, the Government made the following provisions:

- (a) Extension of the rationing system to cover both urban and rural areas;
- (b) Import of food grains to make easy the situation and the amount of import reached the level of 2.7 million tonnes in 1947
- (c) Introduction of subsidy for the distribution of imported food grains as it was expensive as compared to indigenously produced food grains. But the public distribution system which was mostly maintained in the urban areas primarily had been suffering from huge degree of inefficiency and corruption.

Between 1951 and 1954. The share of imports in the total availability of food grains in the country was 4.8 percent, which in the next five years i.e. 1955-59 declined to 3.9 percent. However, during the first half of the sixties this share increased to 6.25 percent and further to 8.3 percent in the late sixties (1965-69). Thus to increase production of food grains in country emphasis was put on

1) Increasing land productivity: As the potential for bringing more areas under cultivation had started saturating. Introduction of high yielding variety of seeds by applying the modern farm inputs like HYV seeds, chemical fertilizers and mechanization of certain agricultural operation.

2) Input Subsidies: Input subsidies are provided to enhance the food grain production in the country, as it encourages the adoption of specific technology and benefits small producers. Fertilizer, electricity, irrigation and bank credit at nominal charges are the major input subsidies besides HYV seeds and other facilities that help farmers encourage food production.

3) Minimum Support Price: The rationale of minimum support price lies in assuring the farmers who may suffer from periodicals gluts caused by good monsoon or the use of superior technology. The minimum support price for principal commodities are generally announced at the sowing time and the government agree to buy any amount of quantity offered for sale at those prices.

4) Issue Price: These are the prices at which the Government releases food grains stocks from the central pool to the PDS. They are lower than the prevailing market prices and slightly higher than the procurement prices. These prices involve heavy element of subsidy from the government on food grains as well as non-food items such as sugar and edible oil.

5) Institutions to implement Agriculture Price policy:

1. a) The Food Corporation of India (FCI): The FCI was set up in 1964 through an act of parliament. Its primary responsibility is to undertake purchase, storage, transportation, distribution and sale of food grains.

However even after 70 years of India gaining independence there are still some challenges

- 1) Green revolution: The revolution occurred only at few places in north; the rest of states still had less production of food grains
- 2) Infrastructural barriers such as insufficient road networks and transportation, food security become a real challenge. Such barriers cause massive wastage of food that could be used to feed the hungry.
- 3) Indian agriculture also depends on its yearly monsoons. Poor rainfall not only causes fiscal burdens, but leads to other grave and tragic consequences.

Conclusion

The need of hour is to improve the food production across length and breadth of country and also improving income of farmers so that farming becomes more viable profession and India achieves the promised goals of SDG to end hunger and poverty.

Best Answer: Ankur

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Q 86 .The BoP crisis of the early 90s was a turning point in India's economic history. Comment.

Introduction:

India faced a balance of payment crisis in 1991. The crisis forced India to liberalise the economy.

Body

An analysis of pre and post BoP crisis

Pre Reform Era	Post Reform era(1990 onwards)
Import Substitution Industrialisation	Export led industrialisation
Controls in the form of licenses, permit, quota etc	Removal of controls and regulations and hence de-licensing and debureaucratisation etc
State sponsored development	Market driven and technology led development
Inward looking trade policy	Outward looking trade policy(open economy, globalisation)competition and knowledge drive society
Restrictions of FDI	Removal of restrictions of FDI for entry of MNCs
Private sector not allowed to enter in many industries	Private sector limited only in few sectors like defence
Control of interest rates	De regulation of interest rates, sale of share of PSEs , entry of private banks, movement towards capital account convertibility
High as well as complex tax rate , as well as predominance of indirect taxes and high direct taxes	Simplification of tax laws
RBI, a regulator and operator of banks and other institutions under strict scrutiny	Rbi-a facilitator

The crisis of 1991 which led to major changes impacted India in varied ways

Positives

1. For the first time since Independence the absolute number of people living below poverty lines declined during 1994-2004.
2. Large improvement in service sector: communication, insurance and IT services.
3. Inflation kept under control after reforms.
4. Between 1991 and 2016, per capita income rose from Rs 6,270 to Rs 93,293.
5. India remained the second fastest growing economy in the world, behind China until 2015. Especially, between 2005 and 2008, the economy clocked the 9% mark annually.

Drawbacks:

- 1) GDP growth rate has not brought about an increase in employment.
- 2) Agricultural sector is affected: International competition, export oriented production.
- 3) Industrial sector facing competition from imports, insufficient investment issues.

Conclusion

Indian economy has responded favourably to changes made post BoP crisis. However there is scope to increase growth further through rationalising labour policies and addressing challenges faced in agriculture and industrial sectors.

Best Answer: Gargi Gupta

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Q87. The nuclear tests conducted in Pokhran gave India a strategic upper hand and a stronger voice at global forums? Examine.

Introduction:

On May 11, 1998, India conducted a series of five nuclear bomb test explosions known as Pokhran II under the code name Operation Shakti. The tests gave India a strategic upper hand and a stronger voice at global forums.

Body:

Global impact:

- India entered the club of elite nuclear powers.
- Opened up the global nuclear market for development of nuclear power without signing the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) or the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

- India secured rights to receive uninterrupted nuclear fuel supplies as a trade-off against safeguards on its civilian nuclear facilities.
- India occupied a special position as a responsible state with advanced nuclear technology due to its no-first use policy and commitment to disarmament with advanced nuclear technology.
- After the tests, there has been a growing engagement of India with global players on the high-tech sectors of defence, space and atomic energy.
- India became full partner in the mega ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor) project and other mega-science projects like LIGO, and Thirty Metre Telescope.

Domestic impact:

- Raised national pride
- It has helped in commerce and economy.
- The nuclear tests played a big role in technology integration, which can help us take advantage of our demographic dividend.

Fallouts:

- U.S. imposed sanctions on India.
- The tests were criticized by almost all global players.
- Pakistan too entered the nuclear race.

Conclusion:

India did suffer international repercussions for a while, but at the end the impact on Indian economy was positive. Technological barriers were brought down; India got established as a responsible nuclear power and raised its stature in the world.

Best answer: Gargi Gupta

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Q88 . How did the Kargil war of 1999 affect the geopolitics of South Asia? Discuss.

Introduction

After nuclear tests of two rival countries of South Asia, India and Pakistan in 1998, Kargil was the first major conflict in 1999 which almost took the shape of bloody war with heavy losses of life and economy. This event, also known as Operation Vijay changed the course of South Asian geopolitics forever.

Immediate geopolitical effects of Kargil war:

- International community including China, nearly unanimously convicted that Pakistan was culpable.
- India Confirms Its Worst Beliefs about Pakistan are true.
- Pakistan realised that Kargil-like operations are not viable in the current international environment.
- With a coup d'état, Pakistan came under military rule

Long term effects on South Asian geopolitics

- It was beginning of international isolation of Pakistan.
- Aftermath of war decreased the legitimacy of Pakistan on international platforms.
- Close watch of international community increased over two Nuclear powers India and Pakistan to avoid any major war.
- Pakistan realised that Kargil-like operations are not viable in the current global environment, so it adopted other tactics such as Proxy war or terrorist activities and increased militancy.
- These tactics are to “calibrate” the heat of the insurgency in Kashmir and possibly pressure India through the expansion of violence in other portions of India’s territory, for example 2008 Mumbai Terror Attack.
- On one hand proximity between China and Pakistan increased, on the other hand relations between India and Afghanistan also reached to another level.
- India Strengthened its Determination to Marginalize Pakistan on Kashmir
- One of the major impacts of Kargil war is decline of SAARC and subsequent rise of BIMSTEC.
- Moral victory of India in Kargil strengthened the position of India as idol of democracy and net security provider amongst South Asian countries such as Nepal, Bhutan

Conclusion

- Kargil was India's first televised war. India made use of the media to shape domestic and international response in its favor.
- The international reaction to the Kargil intrusion, particularly from the United States, G-8, UN, and China, demonstrated to India the power of world opinion to restrict Pakistan's options at all levels of diplomacy and war.
- Though the war brought heavy losses to India but a moral victory in this war helped India to establish its leading position within South Asian countries.

Best Answer: Ankur

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