
ANSWER SHEET

SECTIONAL TEST- V

(MODERN INDIA)

Copyright © by SELFSTUDYHISTORY.COM

Name: *AVDHIVA GUPTA*
Email ID: *[REDACTED]@gupta.com*
Mobile No. *[REDACTED]*

Time Allowed: 90 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 130

=====

There are FOUR questions in this paper.

Candidate has to attempt THREE questions in all.

Question No. 1 is compulsory and out of the remaining, TWO are to be attempted.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

=====

Selfstudyhistory.com

Contact: 9717510106, 8210076034 9718593510

Email ID: selfstudyhistory@gmail.com

Comments for Improvement after Evaluation:

SELFSTUDYHISTORY.COM

Q.1 Answer the following in about 150 words each: $10 \times 3 = 30$

Q.1 (a) "Absentee landlordism was a consequential feature of Bengal's Permanent land settlement."

Comment. [10 Marks]

After annexation of Bengal by ~~East~~ English East India Company in 1764, several land revenue systems like five year settlement, Ijaradari system etc were applied. When all failed, Lord Cornwallis in 1793 came up with his idea of Permanent settlement.

Several features of Permanent Settlement -

- 1) ~~The~~ The land was assessed and the revenue for fixed permanently.
- 2) $10/11^{th}$ of land revenue was to be given to British by landlords who were given land ownership.
- 3) Sun Set law came into force where if a zamindar did not pay revenue on notified date before sunset, his land will ~~be~~ cease to exist.

The zamindars held prime position in this structure. They exploited peasants by making

them cultivate and pay more so that zamindar's revenue could increase after paying the company.

As a result the zamindars became very rich. They acquired lot of wealth and preferred to stay in cities like Calcutta and Murshidabad. Thus they devolved their powers within many small and large fiefs, or middlemen who actually worked on fields and extracted land revenue from peasants.

Some modern historians pointed out that this subinfeudalization and Absentee land lordism became so prominent in some areas that sometimes devolution was upto fifty levels.

Historians concluded therefore that Absentee land lordism became inevitable as a result of settlement because either zamindar's lands were snatched or if not, it was thus subinfeudalization.

Q.1 (b) The railways, instead of serving as the catalyst of an industrial revolution, acted in India as 'the catalyst of complete colonization'. Comment. [10 Marks]

British officer Edwin Arnold had often credited Dalhousie as true uniting force of India due to his contribution by laying down Railways. However, the real deep rooted impacts are far from this.

First Railway ran from Bombay to Thane on 16th April 1853. British claimed that it would act as catalyst to an industrial revolution. However, the rev- elution they meant was not in India but in England. The true motives of East India Company behind railways were -

- 1) Administrative motive - to ease the move- ment of officers within country.
- 2) Political motive - for movement of army, which is important reason of the most used to suppress India Army which on Indian resources was catered.

- 3) Economic motive - For reaching far flung areas of the country and get access to remotest corners. British wanted to exploit every nook and corner of India to supply agricultural raw material for England and act as ready market for finished goods from England. This ~~has~~ hastened the economic imperialism that British always aimed at.
- 4) Religious motive - to allow missionaries carrying message of Christianity to spread in far flung areas of country.

Therefore British exploited Indian resources for the ultimate demise of Indian polity, economy and society. Ian Dervyshire has pointed out that the technological exchange was only at low technical level so as not to share technology with Indians.

Thus G.V. Joshi pointed out that Railways was a subsidy given by Indians to British.

Q.1 (c) What factors contributed to the British success in the Carnatic Wars? [10 Marks]

The turbulent eighteenth century was dominated by the conflict between British, French and other Indian powers to gain control over India. Carnatic war gave a sharp edge to British over other powers.

Three Carnatic wars spanning from 1742 to 1761 between British and French wiped out French settlements from India, gave big boost to British prestige and made Indian powers clients of British.

Factors contributing British success in Carnatic war are -

- ① Command of navy - British had strongest command over navy where French lacked. Their supplies continued for them. They could even block French supplies at various instances.
- ② Control of over Bengal, Bombay and Madras gave British an edge, especially Bengal.

where vast resources did not defeat its aims. On the other hand French only had India Pondicherry

- ③ Superior British commanders like Eyre Coote, Robert Clive etc while arrogant Dupleix of France.
- ④ British always put their territorial interests away from commercial interest thus did not fall short of resources. French were wiped off their revenue.
- ⑤ English East India company was a private body thus had quick decision making power unlike French company which was government owned.
- ⑥ English were quick to realize the weaknesses of Indian princes and exploited it efficiently.
- ⑦ English made use of debt market unlike French.

Historian Bipan chandra had opined that Indians fought on both British and French sides. whichever side won, it would have brought ultimate fall of Indians in European hands, which it actually did.

Q.2 (a) "The British India experienced the 'wind of change' with the arrival of Lord William Bentinck and gave a period of respite from continuous war and annexation." Comment. [20 Marks]

One of the most generous Governor Generals, a Utilitarian from core and one whose era witnessed years of peace was Lord William Bentinck. He stayed in India as Governor General from 1828-1835 which was an era of reforms rather than suppression.

This period is often called 'wind of change' because it gave quite a break from the turbulent politics and war that preceded. Wellesley's policy of Subsidiary Alliance has reduced the Indian prince to the vassals of British. Policy of Ring of Fence by British to secure its own motive also did no good to Indians. Peasant and tribal revolts were also very common accompanied by brutal suppression.

However, William Bentinck viewed Indian polity differently.

Bentinck was a utilitarian and therefore believed in following the policy of 'maximum good for maximum number'.

His period saw reforms like -

- ① Abolition of Sati took place in 1829 persuaded by Raja Rammohan Roy.
- ② Boost to English Education was given for bringing modernity and advancement of Indians.
- ③ English replaced Persian as the language at high level offices.
- ④ Macaulay Minute was passed during his period under which English books were printed at low costs for promotion.
- ⑤ Bentinck made available judicial posts for Indians open.
- ⑥ Codification of laws, Criminal Procedure Code and Indian Penal Code took place during his period.
- ⑦ He was an ardent follower of believer of free trade. Thus it was during

his reign that East India Company's monopoly over China trade was abolished.

③ Overall, rights of prince were respected and least interference took place into their matters. Conquests and wars was not what Bentinck followed.

Shortcoming that still prevailed -

- ① laws like widow remarriage act could not be passed
- ② Some tribal revolts and suppression took place. E.g. Kol Muting 1831-32.
- ③ Though a moderate, Bentinck was ultimately a British who put colonial interest at the fore front.

However, his period in India definitely witnessed a reverse and policies or change with some long lasting reforms in Indian society.

Q.2 (b) "The emergence of press and its growth in India during 18th and 19th century was also associated with diversities and divergence of opinions, ideas and objectives and it catered to the demand of targeted audience." Elaborate. [20 Marks]

Bengal Gazette was the first newspaper ever published in India. This was followed by many forms of press throughout 18th and 19th century which emerged as a result of various socio-economic conditions in society then.

Press in India were often associated with various diversities and divergence of opinions as —

- ① 'Samvad Kaumudi' of Raja Rammohan Roy was to enlighten the society of its evils. His work 'Gift of Monotheism' depicted his views on an ideal society.
- ② On the other hand publications by groups like Dharma Sabha were retrograde in nature and favoured orthodoxy over modernity.

There were various ideas and objectives behind emergence of various press because as —

Many a times, a press came into existence solely to reach out to the masses and ~~target~~ spread awareness. Therefore it catered to the demand of targeted audience. For eg -

1) Dinabandhu Mitra's 'Neeldarpan' was mainly written to create awareness about the miserable plight of indigo workers in Bengal. Thus it catered the targeted audience and achieved its objective.

2) Neeldarpan was translated in English and published by Rev. James to reach out to the educated English.

3) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar wrote Borno Porichay for children which ~~had~~ consisted alphabets in Bengali to reach out to the children in Bengal and spread education.

4) Many newspapers were written by Justice Ranade, Dadabhai Naoroji ~~de~~, R.C. Dutt

to reach the masses. The best of it is Dadabhai Naoroji's 'poverty and Un-British rule in India', which greatly enlightened the middle class and revealed the ~~the~~ true intentions of British behind benevolent despotism. It was meant to serve the objective, i.e., to raise a national awareness and unite India.

5) Swami Dayanand wrote Satyarth Prakash to propagate his ideas among common men as to how one should live and what one should follow and. He made the masses take pride in ancient past and created awareness against social evils.

Thus emergence of press had served multi purpose objectives and catered the targetted audience to create awareness throughout 18th and 19th century.

Q.2 (c) Analyze the nature of peasant movements during the nationalist phase and discuss their shortcomings. [10 Marks]

During the nationalist phase, right from the formation of INC, peasant movements had gained a thrust and they were more organized than before.

The nature of peasant movements in late 19th and 20th century were -

- i) They were more organized thus more impactful. e.g. Bardoli Satyagraha
- ii) Their goals were much broader than before. They had realized the true nature of British rule and its evils.
- iii) They became aware about state machinery and thus utilized agencies like court of law, complained at district magistrate when need arose etc.
- iv) Hindu Muslim unity was maintained as far as possible. However, there are examples of some instances of its breach worst one being Moplah Rebellion.

v) Most of the movements maintained ~~for~~ peace and non violence e.g. Bardoli satyagraha, Champaran satyagraha, Khedda satyagraha. Some breach was there e.g. Moplah rebellion.

Important peasant revolts in nationalist phase include —

- o) Bardoli satyagraha
- o) Eka Movement
- o) Moplah Rebellion
- o) Telangana Movement
- o) Tebhaga Movement etc.

Many of these movements were actually successful because of their changed nature. Shortcomings —

- 1) Some took communal turn e.g. Moplah Rebellion.
- 2) Violence still existed in many revolts.
- 3) Leadership was not organized in many revolts.
- 4) Some revolts still lacked idea of nation and their grievance was still local.

Overall, the ~~19th and~~ 20th c. saw changed in their nature.

Q.4 (a) "Wellesley arrived in India 1798 with a grand imperial vision and took several steps in this direction." Critically examine. [20 Marks]

Lord Wellesley, a 'imperialist to the core', arrived in India in 1798. He possessed strong ambition of building an Indian empire. Throughout his years in India, his policies and measures depicted how his actions synced with his ambitions.

Grand imperial vision of Wellesley became evident due to his actions. Several steps he took in this direction -

- ① This infamous policy of Subsidiary Alliance
 -) The Indian princes had to submit to the British.
 -) They had to keep British army in their empire and pay and maintain ~~to~~ it.
 -) An English Resident will stay in the court and paid by Raja.
 -) Indian princes cannot form any alliances without British permission.
 -) No other European will be allowed in court apart from English.

- in return, Wellesley promised ~~her~~ to protect their territorial integrity. However, even this bit was hardly followed.
- Through this policy, Wellesley brought under English rule - Mysore, Maratha, Hyderabad, Carnatic, Travancore, ~~and other~~ some kingdoms & in Rajputana etc.

② Wellesley established Fort William College for training of civil servants. Thus he aimed to create loyal servants to him and to Indian government rather than government in Britain. This ~~policy~~ step was later vetoed by House of Commons.

③ Wellesley's capture of Mysore was widely condemned because of his cruel & tactics to sabotage the states.

④ He continued interference into the affairs of princes like his predecessors to gain to most out of their rivalry.

Edward Ingram, English historian argued that Wellesley had always framed the policy that would suit his imperial ambitions. ~~He~~ Thus Wellesley was a core imperialist and carried on territorial conquest under the guise of self defense.

Several Cambridge historians have argued that Wellesley's policies were defensive rather than offensive. He acted the way he did to protect the empire from hostile princes. In this journey, he actually brought huge territory under his control. John Seeley pointed out that one of the best things accidentally done by England ever is capture of India.

However modern historians have a consensus regarding imperialistic nature and territorial ambitions of Wellesley which was made wide evident during his reign in India.

Q.4 (b) How the role of the British rule in India proved disastrous to the handicraft/ traditional industry in India for a number of reasons? Also discuss the consequences of the decline of handicraft/traditional industries. [20 Marks]

Economic historian Colin Clark has pointed out that handicrafts, manufacturing and mining in India from 1881 to 1911 had fell from 37% to 15%, i.e., less than a half owing to the British policies.

British rule had often been accused to bringing 'de-industrialization' in India which mainly indicates the steep decline in traditional handicrafts and industries in India. Various reasons cited & by de-industrialization are -

- ① Industrial revolution in England poured in cheap British goods that replace Indian handicrafts.
- ② Changing tastes and preferences of new educated middle class who preferred British goods.
- ③ Most importantly, British policies. British had imposed huge import duties

on the Indian handicrafts entering England. However import duties of British exports in India were reduced to negligible.

- (4) Trade secrets of workers were divulged by British.
- (5) many artisans left their hereditary professions.

Consequences of this decline in handicrafts and industries are -

- (1) The Indian artisans were reduced to miserable plight and abject poverty.
- (2) They ~~see~~ lost patronage of princes also who themselves became vassals of British.
- (3) A.K. Bagchi has pointed out that cotton weaving industry saw greatest decline, i.e., during 1811 to 1909, it decline from ~~to~~ 62% to 15%.
- *) William Bentinck observed that the chest of cotton weavers of India are bleeding. There is no parallel to their misery.

*) Karl Marx also accused British of destroying Indian spinning wheel.

(4) The consequence, which was de industrialization was seen after 1947 also.

(5) More burden on agriculture.

(6) Jirthankar Roy stated that the overall income of handicraft workers increased in this period. However, he agreed that their benefits were taken by big and rich merchants.

Roy ~~to~~ further states that mining and manufacturing was reduced to 10% of entire workforce.

Thus ruin of handicraft were gave boost to English imports. The impacts of this were clearly visible and effects were felt even after independence in 1947.

Q.4 (c) "The Arya Samaj may quite logically be pronounced as the outcomes of conditions imported into India by the west." (Lala Lajpat Rai). Elaborate. [10 Marks]

Lala Lajpat Rai, with respect to coming and establishment of Arya Samaj had commented that it was the result of outcomes the conditions imported to India by the British.

This idea, however has been debated by many other historians and thinkers. Lala Lajpat Rai said so because -

i) British ideas had challenged the religion, life style, social customs etc of Indians particularly to Hindus. This made many Indians embittered and thus they stressed on the revival of ancient glory which was pronounced by Arya Samaj.

ii) People were encouraged to take pride in their past so as not to feel dominated by the clutches of western culture.

iii) Anya Samaj after Swami Dayanand also adopted Buddhi Movement to reconvert the converted Hindus into other religions. This was a direct impact of the forcible British conversions of Indians to Christianity.

iv) Lala Lajpat Rai observed that there was a striking similarity between British Protestantism and India Anya Samaj of Dayanand. Thus he concluded this idea that Anya Samaj was result of western ideas.

v) J.L. Nehru had also accepted Lala's view to great extent.

However other historians have contested this stating that Dayanand did not know English and had no influence of west. His ideas ~~to~~ had totally indigenous inspiration.

Consensus among historians is that Anya Samaj had indigenous inspiration but got a ~~to~~ thrust from west as it made latent ideas ~~emerged~~ emerge.