
Intense Revision Day 15 - Modern Indian History

Q1. Why victory of Bengal in Battle of Plassey was important to British ?

1. It raised their prestige immensely and presented them as a strong contender in India.
2. Bengal was one of the richest province sat that time and it helped British to amass huge wealth from its exploitation and maintain a large army.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: C

British victory of Bengal in Battle of Plassey was important from following grounds –

- I. It raised their prestige immensely and presented them as a strong contender in India.
 - II. British also gained an upper hand on their colonial rival France and it paved way or decline of French influence in India.
 - III. Bengal was one of the richest province sat that time and it helped British to amass huge wealth from its exploitation and maintain a large army.
 - IV. Further, while British plundered the state, they had no accountability.
- After the Battle of Plassey in 1757 CE, they had become the real masters of Bengal. They used political control over Bengal to increase their trade and export of foreign goods. They eliminated the Indian as well as foreign rivals in trade so that there could be no competition.

Q2. Which of the following are features of Subsidiary Alliance ?

1. British stationed their forces permanently in their allies and the Indian ruler has to pay for them and also accept British paramountcy.
2. Indian ruler could keep his force along with British force but was also debarred from making any transactions from other foreign power without British approval.
3. British promised non-interference in internal affairs of allies.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- (a) 1, 2 and 3
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 2 only
 - (d) 1 and 3 only
-

Answer: d

Subsidiary Alliance had following features –

Indian rulers were made to sign alliance under which British stationed their forces permanently in their allies and the Indian ruler has to pay for them and also accept British paramountcy.

Indian ruler himself has to disband his own forces and Was also debarred from making any transactions from other foreign power without British approval.

A Resident of British was appointed in the court of ruler as British representative.

Ruler was promised protection from external attacks.

British also promised non-interference in internal affairs, but this promise was broken more often than was kept.

Thus, Indian rulers have to pledge their independence through this treaty. The treaty had a great adverse effect on Indian rulers.

Q3. Which of the following style or features is/are incorporated while constructing New Delhi ?

1. Classical Greek.
2. Stupa at Sanchi
3. Mughal architecture

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

Foundation of New Delhi – New Delhi was constructed as a 10-square-mile city on Raisina Hill, south of the existing city. Two architects, *Edward Lutyens* and *Herbert Baker*, were called on to design New Delhi and its buildings. The features of these government buildings were borrowed from different periods of India's imperial history, but the overall look was Classical Greece (fifth century BCE).

The central dome of the Viceroy's Palace – now Rashtrapati Bhawan was copied from the Buddhist stupa at Sanchi

The red sandstone and carved screens or jalis were borrowed from Mughal architecture. But the new buildings had to assert British importance, that is why *the architect made sure that the Viceroy's Palace was higher than Shah Jahan's Jama Masjid.*

Q4. Consider the following pairs :

1. Khond Uprising - Orissa.
 2. Santhal Rebellion - Bengal
-

3. Kuki Movement - Nagaland

Which of the pairs given above are correct?

- a) 1,2 and 3
- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Answer: d

Tribal Movements during colonial times were –

I. Khond Uprising – These tribal lived mainly in Orissa and they were led by Chakra Bisoi.

II. Chaur Uprising, 1832 – Uprising by the Tribals in Bihar and Bengal region.

III. Kol and Ho Uprising, Chota Nagpur, 1832 – They belonged to Chota Nagpur belt, the kols inhabited large portion of the Chota Nagpur region. They rebelled to resist British entry into their dominion. Soon they joined the Munda rebellion. In Kol uprising the chief leader was – Buddho Bhagat

IV. Koli Revot – In Sahyadri Hills

V. Satara Revolt, 1840 – Nar Singh and Dhar Rao

VI. Santhal Rebellion, 1856 – They belonged to Bengal Region, commonly known as SANTHAL HOOL was a native rebellion in present day Jharkhand, in eastern India against both the British colonial authority and corrupt upper caste zamindari system by the Santal people. Led by Sidhha and Kanku

VII. Nayak Dae Revolt, Gujarat, 1858 – Leaders were Roop Singh and Joria Bhagat

VIII. Rampa Rebellion, Andhra, 1879 – It was against money lenders. These tribes paid a regular tribute to a zamindar or mansabdar who was a subject of British India. The then zamindar of the region, an illegitimate son of his predecessor, was an oppressive tyrant. To make matters worse, the Madras government introduced a law making toddy tapping illegal and introducing a toddy tax. This led to a full-scale rebellion in early 1879.

IX. Bhil Uprising, Rajasthan, 1913 – Led by Gobind Guruin Gujarat belt

X. Khonds Revolt, Orissa, 1914 – leader was Chakra Bisayi

XI. Oraon Revolt, Chota Nagpur, 1914 – Led by Jatra Bhagat

XII. **Kuki Revolt, Manipur**, 1917-19. The first Resistance movement by the kuki People was the kuki Rebellion of 1917-19. It was against the British hegemony. Kuki country was subjugated by the British and divided between British India and British Burma administrations following the 'Kuki Uprising of 1917-19'. Up until the fateful defeat in 1919, the Kukis were an independent people ruled by their chieftains. Jado Nang was major leader.

XIII. Chinchu Revolt, Andhra, 1921 – led by Hanumanthu

XIV. Koyas Revolt or Gudem Hill Revolt or Rampa Rebellion, Andhra, 1922 – This was during the Non Cooperation Movement and was led by Alluri Sitaram Raju. The Gudem rebels attacked police stations, attempted to kill British officials and carried on

guerrilla warfare for achieving swaraj. Raju was captured and executed in 1924, and over time became a folk hero.

Q5. Consider the following statements with reference to ‘Sanyasi Rebellion’ :

1. It took place around Murshidabad and Baikunthapur forests of Jalpaiguri.
2. Sanyasis oppressed by the British policies retaliated by organizing raids on the companies factories and state treasuries under leadership of ‘Kena Sarkar’ and ‘Dirji Narayan’ in West Bengal and Bihar.
3. The book ‘Neel Darpan’ gives details about ‘Sanyasi Rebellion’.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a

SANYASI REBELLION (1770 onwards)

The Sannyasi Rebellion or Sannyasi is a term used to describe activities of sannyasis and fakirs, or Hindu and Muslim ascetics respectively, in Bengal, India in the late 18th century. It took place around Murshidabad and Baikunthapur forests of Jalpaiguri.

Sanyasis oppressed by the British policies retaliated by organizing raids on the companies factories and state treasuries under leadership of ‘Kena Sarkar’ and ‘Dirji Narayan’ in West Bengal and Bihar.

Perhaps, the best reminder of the Rebellion is in literature, in the Bengali novel Anandamath, written by India's first modern novelist Bankim Chandra Chatterjee ‘*Neel Darpan*’ – It is the name of a book and famous play by writer Deen Bandhu Mitra. It highlighted the plight of Indigo farmers.

Q6. Consider the following statements about Bahadur Shah Zafar

1. He was the last Mughal ruler
2. He was killed in the 1857 revolt

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: a

<http://civils360.com/2017/01/11/decline-mughal-empire/>

Mirza Abu Zafar Sirajuddin Muhammad Bahadur Shah Zafar was the last Mughal emperor. He was the second son of and became the successor to his father, Akbar II, upon his death on 28 September 1837. He used Zafar, (translation: victory) a part of

his name, for his nom de plume (takhallus) as an Urdu poet, and wrote many Urdu ghazals. He was a nominal Emperor, as the Mughal Empire existed in name only and his authority was limited only to the city of Delhi (Shahjahanbad). Following his involvement in the Indian Rebellion of 1857, the British exiled him to Rangoon in British-controlled Burma, after convicting him on conspiracy charges in a kangaroo court.

Q7. During the colonial period in India, what was the purpose of the Whitley Commission?

- (a) To review the fitness of India for further political reforms
- (b) To report on the existing conditions of labour and to make recommendations
- (c) To draw up a plan for financial reforms for India
- (d) To develop a comprehensive scheme for Civil Services in India

Answer: b

Also known as Joint Industrial Council (JIC)/National Joint Industrial Council (NJIC) is a council of employers and trade unions established in the initially in United Kingdom. It works as a connecting channel between employers and worker groups for consultation between to foster better and friendly industrial relations. It was brainchild of John Whitley. During World War I, in 1917, John Henry Whitley chaired a committee which produced a report on the 'Relations of Employers and Employees' identifying good industrial relations as a vital need for industrial relations. Whitley proposed a system of regular formal consultative meetings between workers and employers to address industrial unrest which evolved as wage negotiating bodies over the time. Councils were established from 1919. They typically worked to determine wage rates, terms and conditions in a specific industry. There were several of these, one for each industry and most of them were established between the 1920s and the 1940s. These are empowered to cover issues of pay and conditions of service and works as a forum between employers and employees.

8. Which of the following women Became president of Indian National Congress Before independence of India?

- 1. Annie Besant
- 2. Sarojini Naidu
- 3. Aruna Asaf Ali

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- a. 1 and 2 only
 - b. 2 and 3 only
 - c. 1 and 3 only
 - d. 1, 2 and 3
-

Answer: a

Before Independence of India, there were only 3 women presidents – Besant, Sarojini Naidu and Nelli Sengupta

9. Consider the following statements with reference to history of Press in India :

1. First law to curb press was Censorship of Press Act, 1799 .
2. James Augustus Hicky began publication of Bengal Gazette on January 29, 1780
3. Charles Metcalfe lifted of restrictions from press. Thus he is termed as 'liberator of press in India'.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

First newspaper Bengal Gazette started as early as 1780. First law to curb press also followed soon with Censorship of Press Act, 1799 under which all the material has to be sent for scrutiny before publishing. Then came licensing regulation of 1823. However, Charles Metcalfe became acting Governor General and he lifted of the restrictions from press. Thus he is termed as 'liberator of press in India'.

After the revolt of 1857, the attitude to freedom of the press changed. Canning assumed office and several restrictions including Licensing Act of 1857. Enraged Englishmen demanded a clamp down on the 'native' press. As vernacular newspapers became assertively nationalist, the colonial government began debating measures of stringent control.

In 1876, Dramatic Performances Act and in 1878, the Vernacular Press Act curbing the freedom of the press, modelled on the Irish Press Laws. Vernacular Press Act provided the government with extensive rights to censor reports and editorials in the vernacular press. From now on the government kept regular track of the vernacular newspapers published in different provinces. When a report was judged as seditious, the newspaper was warned, and if the warning was ignored, the press was liable to be seized and the printing machinery confiscated.

Vernacular Press Act was however repealed in 1882 by Lord Ripon.

Q10. Consider the following pairs :

1. William Jones : Asiatic Society.
2. Charles Wilkins : Translation of the *Bhagavad Gita*
3. Alexander Cunningham : Decipherment of Mauryan Brahmi script

Which of the pairs given above are correct?

- a) 1,2 and 3
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- b) 2 and 3 only
- c) 1 and 2 only
- d) 1 and 3 only

Answer: c

William Jones (28 September 1746 – 27 April 1794) studied ancient Indian texts on law, philosophy, religion, politics, morality, arithmetic, medicine and the other sciences and founded Asiatic Society.

Henry Thomas Colebrooke and Nathaniel Halhed were also busy discovering the ancient Indian heritage, mastering Indian languages and translating Sanskrit and Persian works into English. Together with them, Jones set up the Asiatic Society of Bengal (1784), and started a journal called Asiatick Researches.

Charles Wilkins published the first English translation of the Bhagavad Gita in 1785. The most important of the society's achievements was the decipherment of Mauryan Brahmi script by James Prinsep in 1837. This successful decipherment inaugurated the study of Indian palaeography.

Alexander Cunningham, a protégé of Prinsep, carried out a detailed survey of the Buddhist monuments which lasted for over half a century. Inspired by early amateur archaeologists like the Italian military officer, Jean-Baptiste Ventura, Cunningham excavated stupas across the length and breadth of India. While Cunningham funded many of his early excavations himself, in the long run, he realized the need for a permanent body to oversee archaeological excavations and the conservation of Indian monuments and used his stature and influence in India to lobby for an archaeological survey. While his attempt in 1848 did not meet with success, the Archaeological Survey of India was eventually formed in 1861 by a statute passed into law by Lord Canning with Cunningham as the first Archaeological Surveyor.

Q11. Which one of the following Acts of British India strengthened the Viceroy's authority over his executive council by substituting "portfolio" or departmental system for corporate functioning?

- (a) Indian Council Act, 1861
- (b) Government of India Act, 1858
- (c) Indian Councils Act, 1892
- (d) Indian Councils Act, 1909

Answer : a

Q12. At the battle of Biddera the English crushed the power of

- (a) French
- (b) Dutch
- (c) Portuguese
- (d) Danes

Answer: b

The Battle of Chinsurah (also known as the Battle of Biderra) took place near Chinsurah, India on 25 November 1759 during the Seven Years' War between a force of British troops mainly of the British East India Company and a force of the Dutch East India Company which had been invited by the Nawab of Bengal Mir Jafar to help him eject the British and establish themselves as the leading commercial company in Bengal. Despite Britain and the Dutch Republic not formally being at war, the Dutch advanced up the Hooghly River. They met a mixed force of British and local troops at Chinsurah, just outside Calcutta. The British, under Colonel Francis Forde, defeated the Dutch, forcing them to withdraw. The British engaged and defeated the ships the Dutch used to deliver the troops in a separate naval battle on November 24.

Q13. Consider the following Princely States of the British rule in India:

1. Jhansi
2. Sambalpur
3. Satara

The correct chronological order in which , they were annexed by the British is:

- (a) 1-2-3
- (b) 1-3-2
- (c) 3-2-1
- (d) 3-1-2

Answer: c

Q14. Which of the following are introduced by Lord Dalhousie ?

1. Railways
2. Public Works Department
3. Modern postal system
4. Census

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- a. 1, 2 and 3 only
- b. 1, 2 and 4 only
- c. 2, 3 and 4 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: d

<http://civils360.com/2017/03/22/early-governor-generals-lord-dalhousie/>

Q15. With reference to the tenure of Lord Ripon, the purpose of the Ilbert Bill was to

- (a) Enable the Europeans to keep arms freely while the Indians could not do so without licence
- (b) Give the Indian magistrates the power to try the Europeans
- (c) Enable the British to annex the territories of native princes without heirs
- (d) Introduce the western education in India

Answer: b

Q16. With reference to the period of colonial rule in India, “Home Charges” formed an important part of drain of wealth from India. Which of the following funds constituted “Home Charges”?

1. Funds used to support the India Office in London.
2. Funds used to pay salaries and pension of British personnel
3. Funds used for waging wars outside India by the British.

Select the Correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

HOME CHARGES

Home charges refer to the expenditure incurred in England by the Secretary of State on behalf of India. Before the Revolt of 1857 the Home charges varied from 10% to 13% of the average revenues of India. After the Revolt the proportion shot up to 24% in the period 1897-1901. In 1901-02, the Home charges amounted to £ 17.36 million. During 1921-22, the Home charges sharply increased to 40% of the total revenue of the Central Government. It is part of drain of wealth theory which included funds used to support India Office in London; British Personnel Engaged in India; Funds used for waging wars outside India by the British.

Q17. What was the purpose with which Sir William Wedderburn and W.S.Caine had set up the Indian Parliamentary Committee in 1893 ?

- (a) To agitate for Indian political reforms in the House of Commons.
 - (b) To campaign for the entry of Indians into the Imperial Judiciary.
 - (c) To facilitate a discussion on India’s Independence in the British Parliament.
 - (d) To agitate for the entry of eminent Indians into the British Parliament. in the House of Commons.
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Answer: A

William Wedderburn was a liberal MP member of the Royal Commission on Indian Expenditure in 1895 and chairman of Indian Parliamentary Committee. He was considered a great friend of the Indian Progressive Movement and presided at the Indian National Congress, 1889, later Chairman, British Committee of the Indian National Congress. With their efforts, a resolution was passed that called for Civil Services exam to be held simultaneously in London and India. He along with WS Caine set up '**Indian Parliamentary Committee**' to agitate for the Indian political reforms in house of commons.

Q18. Which of the following statements about the Satya Sodhak Samaj are correct?

1. It was founded by Jyotiba Phule.
2. The movement aimed at the complete abolition of the caste system.
3. The movement aimed to spread education among women and lower caste people.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: d

Jyotiba Phule and his wife founded Satya Shodhak Samaj in Maharashtra where they worked against untouchability and upliftment of lower caste women. Phule attacked the Brahmins' claim that they were superior to others, since they were Aryans. Phule argued that the Aryans were foreigners, who came from outside the subcontinent, and defeated and subjugated the true children of the country – those who had lived here from before the coming of the Aryans. Phule claimed that before Aryan rule there existed a golden age when warrior-peasants tilled the land and ruled the Maratha countryside in just and fair ways. He proposed that Shudras (labouring castes) and Ati Shudras (untouchables) should unite to challenge caste. In 1873, Phule wrote a book named Gulamgiri, meaning slavery. Some ten years before this, the American Civil War had been fought, leading to the end of slavery in America. Phule dedicated his book to all those Americans who had fought to free slaves, thus establishing a link between the conditions of the "lower" castes in India and the black slaves in America.

Q19. Which of the following British policies undermined the caste system?

1. Introduction of modern industries and railways
2. Free sale of land
3. Reforms in education system
4. Entrance into administrative services

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

ANSWER: D

Q20. Which of the following statements about the Theosophical Movement are correct?

1. The movement was founded in India by Annie Besant.
2. The movement glorified Indian religious and philosophical traditions.
3. The movement was revivalist in nature and lacked a positive programme.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

ANSWER: b

The movement was founded in the US and India by Madame Blavatsky and Colonel Olcott.

