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QUESTION PAPER

(June – 2019)

(Solved)

MODERN INDIA: 1857 – 1964

Time: 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks: 100

Note: This question paper has **three** sections. Attempt any **two** questions from **Section-I**, any **four** questions from **Section II** and any **two** short notes from **Section III**.

SECTION – I

Q. 1. Discuss the various phases of the development of colonial economy in India.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 1, 'Stages of Colonialism'.

Q. 2. Why did the Revolt of 1857 fail? How did it affect the British Policy in India.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-4, Page No. 12, Q. No. 4 and Q. No. 5.

Q. 3. Write a note on the Quit India Movement.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-34, Page No. 114-115, 'Background to the Quit India Movement' and 'The Movement'.

Q. 4. Analyse the factors which led to the emergence of nationalism in India.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 7, 'Factors Contributing to National Consciousness'.

Q. 5. Describe the rise of Non-Brahmin movements in Western and Southern India.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-20, Page No. 63, 'Cultural Struggle in Maharashtra' and Page No. 64, 'Non-Brahmin Movements in South India'.

Q. 6. Briefly discuss the popular struggles in princely states.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-32, Page No. 105, 'Introduction' and Page No. 108, Q. No. 2 and Q. No. 5.

Q. 7. Write a note on the Khilafat movement.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-18, Page No. 57, Q. No. 1 and Page No. 55, 'The Issue of Khilafat'.

Q. 8. Evaluate the functioning of the Congress ministries after the elections of 1937.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-30, Page No. 99, 'Election of 1937', 'Office Acceptance', 'Congress Ministers at Work'.

Q. 9. Discuss the popular upsurges during 1945-46.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-35, Page No. 119, 'The Popular Urges'.

Q. 10. Analyse the main characteristics of the popular movements during the second half of the 19th century.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 20, Q. No. 3.

Q. 11. Write a note on the Swadeshi Movement in Bengal.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-11, Page No. 33, Q. No. 2, 3 and 4.

Q. 12. Discuss the factors which led to the partition of India.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-36, Page No. 122, 'Background to Pakistan'.

SECTION – III

Q. 13. Write short notes on the following :

(a) Indian National Army

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-34, Page No. 115, 'Indian National Army'.

(b) Rowlatt Satyagraha

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-16, Page No. 50, 'The Rowlatt Satyagraha'.

(c) Poona Pact

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-29, Page No. 96, 'Communal Award' and 'Poona Pact'.

(d) Santhal Rebellion

Ans. On 30 June, 1855, two Santhal rebel leaders, Sidhu and Kanhu Murmu, mobilized ten thousand Santhals and declared a rebellion against British colonists. The Santhals initially gained some success in guerilla war tactics using bows and arrows but soon the British found out a new way to tackle these rebels. As the legend goes, the Santhals skilled in archery could

fire arrows extremely accurate and with great impact. The British soon understood that there was no point fighting them in the forest but to force them come out of the forest. So in a conclusive battle which followed, the British, equipped with modern firearms and war elephants, stationed themselves at the foot of the hill on which the Santhals were stationed. When the battle began, the British officer ordered fire without bullets. As the Santhals could not trace this trap set by the much experienced British war strategists, they charged in full force. This step proved to be disastrous for them for as soon as they neared the foot of the hill, the British army attacked with full power and this time by using real bullets. The helpless Santhals were cut to pieces.

Thereafter the British attacked every village of the Santhals, plundered them, raped their women and whipped and castrated their teenagers, to make sure that the last drop of revolutionary spirit was annihilated. Although the revolution was brutally suppressed, it marked a great change in the colonial rule and policy. The day of rebellion is still celebrated among the Santhal community with great respect and spirit for the thousands of the Santhal martyrs who sacrificed their lives along with their two celebrated leaders in their glorious albeit unsuccessful attempt to win freedom from the rule of the zamindars and the British operatives.



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Sample Preview of The Chapter

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MODERN INDIA

1857-1964

IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM AND NATIONALISM

Imperialism and Colonialism: A Theoretical Perspective



INTRODUCTION

The word "Imperialism" denote to the aggressive policy of conquering and dominating the third world or precapitalist countries by developed capitalist countries. In this chapter, we will study the development of capitalism and subjugation of pre-capitalist countries i.e. known as colony by the capitalist countries, and this whole process known as colonialism.

CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

COLONIALISM:VARIOUS VIEW POINTS

The understanding of word colonialism is a matter of debate among historians. However, various view points on colonialism as given below:

According to some sociologists, political scientists and economists, the colonial society was basically a traditional society", while some other sees it as a transitional society, i.e., "the transformation of traditional society into modern capitalist society."

Some other stresses on dualistic nature of colonial society while some other sees it as nothing more than foreign political rule.

Nature of colonialism: Colonialism produced a society which was neither capitalistic nor pre-capitalistic. But we can say that during colonialism. Indian societies underwent a fundamental transformation, and this period also witnessed changes in the Indian agrarian system, the big example to this:

Capitalism was a world system, which must covers the entire world, but in different ways:

It has two faces, in one face, it develops the metropolis as modern, industrially advanced modern economy while on the other face it conquered pre-capitalist countries, and puts barriers in its economy and maintains the underdevelopment of the colonies.

It made the colony as part of world capitalist system, but without taking part in industrial revolution.

Impact on colony: Colonialism in not just a political control, but it is a structure in which implementation of each and every policies was done within the framework of colonial structure. Even the economic surplus in the colony was extracted by imperialist country.

STAGES OF COLONIALISM

Colonialism is not a continuous phenomenon but it can be divided into three stages on the basis of the distinct form of exploitation and the different pattern of subordination of colonial economy, society and policy. However, these different stages occupy different periods in different countries, but the content of each stage remains same. The stages of colonialism are:

First Stage: During the first stage company has on objective of acquiring a monopoly over Indian trade. So that, neither Indian nor any other foreign company can compete with them, and they can buy Indian product at the cheapest rate and sell them in the world at the highest price.

While the other objective at this stage was to take over the governmental revenues through control over state power. Financial resources had to be raised in India in order to conquer different Indian provinces, to wage war against European rivals, to maintain naval force etc. And they needed Indian money to purchase the Indian goods because British goods could not compete with Indian products and export of gold and silver was barred to India.

So, this first stage is known as the period of "Monopoly of Trade and Direct Appropriation," and both these objectives fulfilled with the conquest of India and company used its political power to acquire monopoly over Indian trade and handicraft product. At this stage Indian traders were gradually replaced and ruined.

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However, this period did not witness any kind of changes into the colonial administration, judicial system, methods of agriculture and industrial production, transportation and communication, forms of business or in education or in intellectual field, culture or social organisation. So, the colonialism of this stage could be superimposed over its existing economic, cultural, social and political structure.

This period witnessed large scale drain of wealth from India which constituted 2 to 3 percent of Britain's national income at that time.

Second Stage: This period witnessed the exploitation through trade, it also termed as 'colonialism of free trade'. Immediately after gaining political dominance over India, an intense struggle broke out in Britain. The newly developing industrial capitalists began to attack the East India Company and they wanted India to serve as a market for their ever-increasing manufactured goods and demanded raw materials, especially cottons and food grain from India, but India could not buy British goods due to the lack of foreign exchange. So, for fulfilling the demands of British industrial capitalist, India must become a subordinate trading partner of Britain, as a market to be exploited and as a dependent colony to produce and supply the raw materials and food stuffs which Britain needed.

During this phase British Indian government find a new tool of exploitation, that is, "Free Trade". All import duties in India were either totally removed or drastically reduced to nominal rates. British manufacturers had full-fledged right to develop tea, coffee and indigo plantation, trade, transport mining and modern industries in India.

This theory of free trade which led the large scale import and export of bulky raw material required a cheap and easy system of transport and communications. So, the government introduced the steamships on the rivers, improved the rivers, canals and the roads. Above all, it encouraged and financed a large network of railways linking India's major cities and markets to its ports. Similarly a modern postal and telegraph system was introduced to facilitate economic transaction.

Administrative field also witnessed many changes. Administration was made more elaborate and comprehensive so that British goods could reach, and agricultural product drawn from, its interior villages.

Modern education was also introduced with the objective of generating the loyal middle class for expanded administration.

However, the earlier forms of surplus extraction continued during this phase, but this costly administration and effort of economic transformation led to a rise in taxation and burden upon the peasant.

During this stage, India played a crucial role in the development of British capitalism. Approximately, 10 to 12 percent of British export goods absorbed in India.

Third Stage: During this third stage, which is known as the "Era of Foreign Investment and International Competition for colonies," in the world economy several major changes were taking place.

Spread of industrialisation led to emergence of several countries of Europe, The United State and Japan

as a strong competitor of Britain's industrial supremacy. The new industries of industrialised countries required immense quantities of raw materials, increasing urban population needed more food. This led the intense struggle for new, secure and exclusive markets and sources of raw material and food stuffs.

Moreover, accumulation of capital through the development of trade and industry at home and increasing exploitation of colonies and semi-colonies by capitalist countries led to the concentration of capital into a fewer hand, this began a search and competition among developed capitalist countries for areas where they could invest their surplus capital. This whole process began the division and re-division of the world.

So, these rival capitalistic countries constantly challenged and weakened to Britain's position in the world. The reactionary imperialist policies now replaced as liberal imperialist policies for the purpose of consolidating their control over India. Because India not only providing surplus to Britain but also provided the army which could be used to fight Britain's rival in this struggle. So, during 1904, 52 per cent of Indian revenues was absorbed in the standing army.

This stage witnessed a major changes in the ideology of colonialism. Now, the administration became more bureaucratically tight, efficient and extensive than earlier, but this change in ideology led the declaration that "Indian people are immature, as a child, which needed British control or trusteeship.

The effort at the transformation of India ended with nothing or meagre results may be because of financial constraint and also due to rise of national movements. Now, the British administrator assumed a neutral stand on social and cultural questions.

CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q. 1. Discuss the main features of colonialism.

Ans. Colonialism as we understand it today was a form of society which was developed and modernised only to a level where it was of benefit to the British rule. We have seen that how England drained its colonies economically and exploited its natural resources. Subordination and exploitation have been the key features of colonialism. We can see it in the choice of agriculture to political policies. The colonies do not have any choices in these matters. Over a period of time colonialism becomes a way of life, affecting the society, culture, ideologies. We get to see the lingering remains even today.

To begin with in the first phase colonies had vast land resources which England lacked. So it led to mining, agriculture and plantations. Soon the British realised that the colonies were excellent markets to sell their finished goods from England. Colonies used to sell off their raw materials for pittens and bought back the manufactured products at enormous prices. As the demand and supply race begins we see the coming up of more and more plantations, mines, railway lines, all for the convenience of trade and to satisfy the never quenching greed of the imperialistic power.

Q. 2. Discuss the two major objectives of the East India company.

Ans. The East India Company had two major objectives—first to acquire exclusive rights to trade from and to India and second to somehow take over the financial resources of the country.

They set about to achieve their first target by persuading the British Govt. to pass a Royal Charter which allowed only the East India Company to trade with India and the east from England. To exclude their European rivals they had many wars on land and sea. Now they could pursue their ambition of dominating the Indian trade. The Company took advantage of the deteriorating Mughal empire with its unstable political scene and once political domination was acquired. The Indian resources fell into the lap of the East India Company. The Indian resources were employed directly by the Company and forced to produce materials at less than market value, this led to major profit boom for the Company and left the Indian merchants unemployed.

The second objective was for the Company to somehow takeover the Government revenues. This could only be achieved by getting a political hold over the country and for a political hold they needed to conquer certain territories and to conquer they needed an army of their own which in turn would require funds which the Company did not possess. So the Company began to devise a plan to raise Indian money to purchase Indian goods. This was fulfilled with first the conquest of Bengal and parts of South India. With that done the East India Company acquired direct control over the revenues of the Indian states and initially this led to uncontrolled extortion of wealth soon. Things were streamlined and the British Government stepped in and appointed officials to overlook matters.

Q. 3. List the main features of the monopoly trade phase of the colonialism in India.

Ans. The meaning of the term monopoly trade is that the other English or European merchants or trading companies should not compete with British in terms of sale or purchase of Indian goods. Neither should the Indian trader do so. With this system East India Company would be able to purchase Indian products at the cheapest possible rates and sell them in the world markets at the highest possible rates. In this way British intended to appropriate the Indian economic surplus through monopoly trade.

In this process, the British rivals were kept away by forcing the British Government to grant a monopoly of right to trade with India and the east to East India

Company through a Royal Charter. And to keep away Indian merchants, Company took advantage of the fall of Mughal Empire to prevail a political domination and control over various parts of India. Thus by last half of the 18th century, India was controlled by a monopoly trading corporation the East India Company.

Q. 4. Discuss the basic forms of surplus extraction or exploitation during the second and third stages of colonialism in India.

Ans. When the East India Company took over territories in India, there was a huge influx of wealth into the Company—seeing this the British Government back in England wanted a piece of the pie too and soon there was a struggle between the Company and Britain as to whose interests the new colony (India) would serve. Since the British Government did not profit much from the Company's monopoly they began putting pressure on the Company to prepare India as a market for their ever increasing products of goods and textiles, soon India was made to grow and produce raw materials specifically for British industries and at extremely low rates in fact they had to buy the finished goods at steep prices. The trade by Indian merchants was non-existent and soon India was a helpless victim of British monopoly, in other words, a subordinate trading partner of Britain as a market to be exploited to solely satisfy British needs.

Q. 5. Discuss the effort made by the British to consolidate their position in India in the latter half of the 19th century.

Ans. During the latter half of the 19th century there was an industrial boom in various countries of Europe, United States and Japan. This led to them searching for markets, raw materials and fields for capital investments. Hence Britain's position in the world was challenged so it had to make efforts to consolidate its position in India. So in 1850 we see major investments from British capital in setting up of railways, loans to the Indian Govt., trade in plantations, coal mining, jute mills, shipping and banking in India. India also aided Britain by providing men and financial resources to the British army. The British administration became more efficient and began to expand at a rapid rate. The Indians were literally brain-washed into believing that they were incapable of managing an independent Government and thus needed permanent British control and trusteeship. And this is how Britain had an autocratic reign over India for centuries to come.

■ ■



Imperialism: Its Effects

INTRODUCTION

In order to understand the nature and impact of colonialism in India, it is must to understand the colonialism at a world perspective. As per the first view, a good deal of what happened might appear to be due to the bad policies or from another point of view good policies of certain individual figures among the British rulers. A great deal of historical criticism in the past has been done by both the nationalist as well as Europeans scholar. However scope of study of the scholar belongs to both the school is different. The nationalist scholars mainly talked about the Indian context while European scholar made a general survey of colonialism the world over and linked it up with the capitalism the detail of both the views is given below.

CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

THEORIES OF COLONIALISM

European Views: Hobson, Hilferding, Rosa Luxemburg, Lenins are the scholars who belonged to European school of thoughts.

Hobson's theories of under-consumption and over-saving suggested that colonial expansion i.e. imperialism was the result of capitalism. Over production of goods due to rise of capitalism needed the new market to sell their product. Then, increasing surplus further needed more sectors for further investment. So, both these need leds to the colonial expansion.

According to the Rudolf Hilferding "capitalism is dominated by huge banks and financial interest who act in close association with monopolist industrial business houses". This analysis further extended by Lenin in his "Imperialism", the last stage of capitalism". And in 1913 Rosa Luxemburg published her work of accumulation of capital and the capitalist machinations leading to world war.

Indian Nationalists' Views: The scholars like Dadabhai Naoroji, Mahadev Gobind Ranade, Romesh Chandra Dutt etc., sharply criticised the colonial economic impact on India. The main component of a "School of Economic Nationalist analysis are given below.

According to the theory of "Drain of wealth" propounded by Dadabhai Naoriji and R.C. Dutt, the

wealth of India is transferred in the form of plunder, loot, illicit gain by servant of East India Co., and in form of home charges that derived in the form of interest and profit and capital to England on private account which only improvised India. They also put forward the idea of de-industrializations, i.e., the destructions of small-scale industries of India. The idea of Free Trade and laissez fair led to a tariff and industrial policy while stifled the possibilities of the growth of industries in British India which lead India to serve as a source of raw materials only. Then the rate of taxation of agriculture and expenditure incurred for maintaining army by govt. was also criticized by R. C. Dutt and other scholars.

The Indian Nationalised critique is characterised as 'Formal imperialism' i.e. imperialism in India under the formal political subjugation of the colony under British imperial power. However, European critique characterised as 'Informal Imperialism' i.e., where political subjugation of colony might not have occurred but economic colonialism characterised metropolitan colonial relation. On the whole critique of imperialism offered by Indian Nationalist was one of the most powerful instrument of building national Consciousness.

EFFECTS OF COLONIALISM

De-industrialisation: The word De-industrialisation means the destruction of traditional Indian industries due to colonialism. During the 18th century, the Indian products were prized as valuable item of commerce and during this period Indian artisans were in a good bargaining position. But after 1765, the Britisher's established their hegemony in some regions like Bengal which allowed them to become monopolist in the market. And this monopoly leds the excessive exploitation of Indian artisans which destroyed the possibility of improvement of Indian industries. And this period was period of industrialization in England which wiped out all the market for Indian product. Not only the export market of the Indian artisans were taken away by the foreign factories, but the home market began to be invaded by imported factory products.

This is the process which has been called de-industrialisation since it is the reverse of the process of industrialisation.

There is debate among the historians regarding the questions of de-industrialisation in India during 19th century. Romesh C. Dutt and Madan Mohan Malviya used the statistics of import to prove their point. They