

## History Chapter - 7

### Colonial Education

Q1. Answer these questions in brief.

Who was Ishwar Chandra Vidhyasagar and how did he contribute to education?

Ishwar Chandra Vidhyasagar was an eminent Sanskrit scholar and social reformer.

He established schools and colleges for imparting both Western and Indian education.

Q2. What were the shortcomings of the traditional system of education, according to Anglicists?

According to Anglicists, in traditional system of education the students were unaware of the latest developments and happenings around the world, especially in scientific studies.

Q3. Which educational institutions in India were set up on the recommendation of the Woods Despatch?

On the recommendation of the Woods Despatch, educational institution based in the model of London University

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should be established in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

Q4. What were the main provisions of the English Education Act of 1835?

Ans The English Education Act was passed in 1835 by Lord William Bentinck. According to this Act only the institutions that taught western education with English as the medium of instruction would be supported financially by the Company.

Q5. What were the aims of the National Council of Education?

Ans The aims of the National Council of Education were:

- ▶ To impart education in regional Indian languages.
- ▶ To encourage the study of culture, arts and natural sciences.

E Explain these questions in detail.

Q1. What were the main objectives of the British in propagating western education?

Ans The main objectives of the British in propagating western education were:

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- ▶ The introduction of the English language would expose educated Indians to western culture, literature and science.
- ▶ They wanted to employ educated Indians in administration, as it would benefit them economically.

Q2 Explain Mahatma Gandhi's system of education.

Ans Mahatma Gandhi promoted the cause of national education as he felt it suited Indian needs. The purpose of education according to him, was to develop a person's mind and soul. He did not consider literacy or simply learning to read and write as education. People had to work with their hands, learn a craft and know how different things operated.

Q3. What were the main recommendations of the Wood's Despatch?

Ans The main recommendations of the Wood's Despatch were:

- To set up an educational institution in every province of India.
- Educational institution based on the model of the London University.

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- To give grants and aid to the private institutions in India.
- To use the vernacular languages as the medium of instruction besides English.
- Setting up an education department in all the provinces.

Q4. What was the impact of English education on Indian people?

Ans The impact of English education on Indian people were  
Negative Impact: Educational centres were placed mainly in the urban areas and less provisions was made for the education of girls.

English-medium education neglected the study of Indian literature, history, law and philosophy. Scientific and technical education for Indians was also limited to Europeans.

Positive Impact: With the coming of English medium education, gradually English became a language of communication among educated Indians living in different parts of India. This in long run helped the Indians unite. Western education also

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introduced Indians to modern and liberal ideas and thoughts.

Q5 Why do you think that Rabindranath Tagore's system of education was unique?

Ans Rabindranath Tagore wanted to establish an educational system where students would be happy, carefree, creative and free to explore. He believed that this would be possible only if a child was exposed to a natural environment. Therefore he established a school and the Visva-Bharati University in rural Shantiniketan, which meant "the abode of peace".

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## WORK OUT

A. Fill in the blanks with the correct answers.

- ..... set up the Asiatic Society in Bengal.  
a. Thomas Macaulay  
b. Mountstuart Elphinstone  
c. Nathaniel Halhed  
 d. William Jones
- Visva Bharati University was established by ....  
a. Mahatma Gandhi  
b. Raja Ram Mohan Roy  
c. Sri Aurobindo  
 d. Rabindranath Tagore
- The Hindu College was established in Banaras in ....  
a. 1784  
 b. 1791  
c. 1780  
d. 1799
- The Elphinstone University was located in ....  
a. Calcutta  
b. Madras  
 c. Bombay  
d. Banaras
- The first principal of the Bengal National College was ....  
a. Raja Ram Mohan Roy  
b. Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar  
 c. Aurobindo Ghosh  
d. Satish Chandra Mukherjee

**B. Fill in the blanks.**

1. Before the advent of British, the patshahas and the madrasas imparted learning.
2. Sanskrit language was used in Hindu scriptures.
3. National education developed with the Non-cooperation and Swadeshi movements.
4. The DAV schools are associated with the social reformer Suzami Dayanand Saraswati.
5. A person who was a severe critic of the Orientalists was Jamnal Mill.

**C. Write T for true and F for false.**

1. A school for the teaching of Arabic and Persian languages was opened in Kolkata by Lord William Bentinck.
2. Henry Thomas was the director of the Royal Asiatic Society.
3. Shantiniketan means 'the abode of peace'.
4. Raja Ram Mohan Roy encouraged English education in India.
5. Macaulay was in favour of the Persian language as the official language of India.

**D. Answer these questions in brief**