



# **HOLY FAITH PRESENTATION SCHOOL**

RAWALPORA SRINAGAR KASHMIR  
TERM- I ASSIGNMENT

(Class: - 8<sup>th</sup> – S.St)

**CLASS 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**SUBJECT: HISTORY**

**CHAPTER :05 (WHEN PEOPLE REBEL 1857 AND AFTER)**

**GLOSSARY:**

**Q1. What was the demand of Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi that was refused by the British?**

**Ans.** Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi wanted the company to recognize her adopted son as the heir to the kingdom after the death of her husband. Nana Saheb, the adopted son of Peshwa Baji Rao II, pleaded that he be given the father's pension when the latter died. However, the company, confident of its superiority and military powers, turned down these pleas.

**Q2. What did the British do to protect the interests of those who converted to Christianity?**

**Ans.** After 1830, the Company allowed Christian missionaries to function freely in its domain and even own land and property. In 1850, a new law was passed to make conversion to Christianity easier. This law allowed an Indian who had converted to Christianity to inherit the property of his ancestors. Many Indians began to feel that the British were destroying their religion, their social customs and their traditional way of life.

**Q3. What objections did the sepoys have to the new cartridges that they were asked to use?**

**Ans.** On 29 March 1857, a young soldier, Mangal Panday, was hanged to death for attacking his officers in Barrackpore. Some days later, some sepoys of the regiment at Meerut refused to do the army drill using the new cartridges, which were suspected of being coated with the fat of cows and pigs. Eighty five sepoys were dismissed from service and sentenced to ten years in jail for disobeying their officers. This happened on 9 May 1857. As a result, on 10 May, the soldiers of Meerut marched to the jail and released the imprisoned sepoys.

**Q4. How did the last Mughal emperor live the last years of his life?**

**Ans.** Delhi was recaptured from the rebel forces in September 1857. The last Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah Zaffar was tried in court and sentenced to life imprisonment. He and his wife Begum Zinat Mahal were sent to prison in Rangoon in October 1858. Bahadur Shah Zaffar died in the Rangoon jail in November 1862.



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**Q5. What could be the reasons for the confidence of the British rulers about their position in India before May 1857?**

**Ans. The reasons for the confidence of British before the revolt of 1857 were:**

- 1. The rebellions and riots that took place before 1857 were localized in nature and were easily suppressed by the British.**
- 2. The powers of of rajas and nawabs were limited by the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century. Their armed forces were disbanded and revenue earning territories were taken away from them.**
- 3. The Mughal empire had weakened by this time and entire India was not united.**
- 4. The British had stationed their residents in many courts and provinces. These residents passed on every detail of the kingdom to the governor.**

**Q6. What impact did Bahadur Shah Zafar's support to the rebellion have on the people and the ruling families?**

**Ans. When the rebellion forces forced their way into the palace and proclaimed Bahadur Shah Zafar as their leader. The ageing emperor had to accept this demand. The Mughal dynasty had ruled over a very large part of the country. Most of smaller rulers and chieftains controlled different territories on behalf of the Mughal ruler. He wrote letters to all the chiefs and rulers of the country to come forward and organize a confederacy of Indian states to fight the British. The single step by Bahadur Shah Zafar had great implication. This decision bless the rebellion changed the entire situation dramatically. Often when people see an alternative possibility they feel inspired and enthused. It gives them the courage, hope and confidence to act.**

**Q7. How did the British succeed in securing the submission of the rebel landowners of Awadh?**

**Ans. The British succeeded in securing the submission of the rebel landowners of Awadh by providing them inheritance rights. The British government regarded Awadh as one of the major centers of revolt. The people of the village along with the Sepoy revolted against the Colonial rule. Though the British government suppressed the revolt they made attempts to regain the loyalty of the people of Awadh by granting them the inheritance rights, for instance, they were allowed to entertain the traditional right over their land and they were exempted from Taxes by the colonial government.**



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**Q8. In what ways did the British changed their policies as a result of the rebellion of 1857?**

**Ans. Given below are the important changes that were introduced by the British:**

- 1. The British Parliament passed a new Act in 1858 and transferred the powers of the East India Company to the British Crown.**
- 2. A member of British Cabinet was appointed Secretary of the State of India and made responsible for all matters related to the governance of India.**
- 3. The Governor General of India was given the title of Viceroy, that is , a personal representative of the Crown.**
- 4. All ruling chiefs of the country were assured that their territory would never be annexed in future. They were allowed to pass on their kingdoms to their heirs, including adopted sons but were made to acknowledge the British Queen as their Sovereign Paramount.**
- 5. It was decided that the proportion of Indian soldiers be reduced and the no of European soldiers, soldiers from Gurkhas, Sikhs and Pathans would be increased in the army.**
- 6. The land and property of the Muslims was confiscated on a large scale and they were treated with suspicion and hostility.**
- 7. The British decided to respect the customary religious and social practices of the people of India.**



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**SUBJECT: HISTORY**

**LESSON : 06**

**(WEAVERS , IRON SMELTERS AND FACTORY OWNERS)**

**Glossary:**

**Q1. What kind of cloth had a large market in Europe?**

**Ans.** Cotton, wool and silk textiles had a huge market in Europe. Indian textiles were by far the most popular, both for their fine quality and exquisite craftsmanship. Different varieties of Indian textiles were sold in the Western markets, for example, chintz or khassa, bandana and jamdani.

**Q2. What is Jamdani?**

**Ans.** Jamdani is a fine muslin on which decorative motifs are woven on the loom. Jamdani , made mainly in Dhaka and Awadh, involved the skillful use of white, black, golden, silver and other coloured threads to weave geometric and floral patterns into the fabric.

**Q3. What is bandanna?**

**Ans.** Bandanna refers to any brightly coloured and printed scarf for the neck or head. Originally, the term derived from the hindi word “bandhna” (tying). It is referred to a variety of brightly coloured cloth produced through a method of tie and dye. It was made in Rajasthan and Gujarat.

**Q4. Who are the Agaria?**

**Ans.** The Agaria were an Indian community of iron smelters. They declined rapidly after the import of English steel in India was promoted during the 20<sup>th</sup> century and the weapons and utensils were made using English steel.

**Q5. Fill in the blanks ( do yourself after reading the chapter)**

**Q6. How do the names of different textiles tell us about their histories?**

**Ans.** Flourishing trade and the craftsmanship of Indian weavers is preserved in many words still current in English and other languages.

**a)** European traders first encountered fine cotton cloth from India carried by Arab merchants in Mosul, so they referred to all finely woven textiles as “Muslin”. Muslin, a fine cotton fabric, was very popular among fashionable European women.



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b) The Portuguese landed in Calicut, took back the cotton textiles which came to be called “Calico”. Calico was a coarse cotton fabric which was not bleached (treated to make it pale or white). In 16<sup>th</sup> century the Portuguese traders named it after Calicut on the Malabar Coast.

c. The English term Chintz is derived from Hindi term Chhint, a cloth with small and colourful flowery designs.

**Q7. Why did the wool and silk producers in England protest against the import of Indian textiles in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century?**

**Ans.** The wool and silk producers in England protested against the import of Indian textiles in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century because they were worried by the popularity and good quality of Indian textiles. In 1720, the British government enacted a legislation banning the use of printed cotton textiles chintz in England. Interestingly, this Act was known as the Calico Act. At this time textile industries had just begun to develop in England. Unable to compete with Indian textiles, English producers wanted a secure market within the country by preventing the entry of Indian textiles.

**Q8. How did the development of cotton industries in Britain affect textile producers in India?**

**Ans.** The Industrial Revolution led to a rapid growth of industries in Europe. It replaced manufacture by hand with manufacture by machine. Machines enabled a English weaver to produce several times more than an Indian weaver. The British cloth was cheap and gave stiff and competition to relatively expensive Indian cloth. British imposed heavy duty taxes on Indian goods of textiles so that they could become more expensive.

Many Indian spinners and weavers were made unable to sell their products and were forced to look for other means of livelihood. All this was a great setback for the Indian textile industries.

**Q9. Why did the Indian iron smelting industry decline in the 19<sup>th</sup> century?**

**Ans.** By mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, iron smelting in India was in decline. With the British conquest of Indian kingdoms one after another, the demand for armours and weapons fell. Moreover, the British forest law restricted the use of forest resources. This made it difficult for the Indian smelters, especially the tribals, to get wood for making charcoal. The British also imposed high taxes on the use of furnaces. This made Indian steel more expensive than the cheap steel imported from England. All this caused many Indian iron smelters to abandon their furnaces and look for other means of livelihood.

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**Q10. What problems did the Indian textile industry face in the early years of its development?**

**Ans.** Indian textile industry faced the following problems in the early years of its development. As the industrial revolution progressed, the English manufactures demanded greater protection against competition from Indian textiles. In the 1770's the parliament withdrew the Calico Act and imposed heavy duties on Indian goods entering the British markets. Since, then Indian goods became very expensive in Britain and their demand fell. Later, the parliament made compulsory the export of certain quantities of machine- made British cloth to be sold in India. By the early 19 century the company's merchants no longer purchased Indian cloth. They now promoted the sale of British cloth in India. The British cloth, being cheap, gave stiff competition to the relatively expensive Indian cloth. Many Indian spinners and weavers were unable to sell their produce and were forced to look for other means of livelihood.

**Q11. What helped TISCO expand steel production during the First World War?**

**Ans.** The outbreak of the First World War in 1914 worked to the advantage of India's infant steel industry. The war forced the British to reduce the export of steel to India. TISCO began to supply most of the steel needed for building new railway lines in India. Later on, it also began to produce goods for use in the war. In course of time, it emerged as the largest producer of steel in the British Empire. By 1919, 90% of steel manufactured by TISCO was being bought by colonial government.