

Class 8 Subject: Social science (history) Date: 2 September 2021

Chapter 5: When People Rebel (The Revolt of 1857)

Extra Question and Answers

Q1. What were the Political causes of the Revolt of 1857?

Answer:

There were many causes for the Sepoy mutiny.

Political causes

(i) Doctrine of lapse: Governor General Lord Dalhousie (1848-1856) devised the policy of the Doctrine of Lapse. According to this policy, if an Indian ruler died without a male heir his kingdom would “lapse” and would become a part of the Company territory.

(ii) Subsidiary Alliances: An Indian ruler was not allowed to have independent armed forces, they were forced to enter into a subsidiary alliance with the British and also agreed to pay for their maintenance.

(iii) Nana Saheb was the adopted son of Peshwa Baji Rao II. When Peshwa Baji Rao II died, Nana Saheb pleaded with the British to give him his father’s pension but the British refused to do so.

(iv) The state of Jhansi was captured by the Britishers.

Q2. What happened to the Nawabs when the British established political power in India?

Answer:

- When the British established political power in India, the Nawabs and Rajas lost their authority and honour.
- British Residents were stationed in all the courts to monitor the proceeding, thus undermining the authority of the Nawabs.

- The Nawabs' armies were disbanded and the freedom of the rulers was reduced. The revenue collected by the Nawabs was taken by the British and their territory was also seized.

Q3.What were the Economic causes of the revolt of 1857?

Answer:

- Both the farmers and the zamindars resisted high taxes and rigid methods of collecting taxes and revenues.
- Many farmers failed to pay back the loans to the moneylenders, due to which they lost their lands.
- The Indian farmers were becoming poor and poorer day by day.

Q4. Discuss the social causes of revolt of 1857?

Answer:

Social causes

- The continuous interference of English in the basic way of living, traditional beliefs, values and norms was seen by the Indian masses as threat to their religion.
- Laws were passed to stop sati practice
- Conversion to Christianity become easier
- The activities of the Christian missionaries, whose objective was to convert people to their faith, led to people's believe that the British Government wanted to eradicate their caste and convert them to Christianity.

Q5.What were the Immediate causes of the revolt of 1857?

Answer:

Immediate Causes

