

CAREERS360

PRACTICE **Series**

Maharashtra HSC

History Sample Paper 2025

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Time:- 3hr

Max Marks:- 80

Instructions:

- (i) All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) Figures to the right side indicate fill marks.
- (iii) Draw concept maps with pens on the answer sheet.
- (iv) Start a new question on a new page.

Q.1. (A) Choose the correct alternative and rewrite the statement:

(1) In 1609_____made a modified telescope.

- (A) John Key**
- (B) Copernicus**
- (C) Galileo**
- (D) Kepler**

Solution :

So, the statement would be rewritten as:

"In 1609 Galileo made a modified telescope."

Hence the correct answer is :(C)

(2) America's 'Declaration of Independence' was drafted by _____

- (A) George Washington**
- (B) Thomas Jefferson**
- (C) Lord Amherst**
- (D) Lord Cornwallis**

Solution :

So, the statement would be rewritten as:

"America's 'Declaration of Independence' was drafted by **Thomas Jefferson.**"

Hence the correct answer is :(b)

(3) The 'Third Battle of Panipat' was fought between the Marathas and ____.

- (a) British
- (b) Abdali
- (c) Ahmad Khan Bangash
- (d) Najib Khan

Solution:

The 'Third Battle of Panipat' was fought between the Marathas and Abdali

Hence the correct answer is (b)

(4) The first atom bomb was dropped on the city of ____ during the aerial attack of America on Japan.

- (a) Nagasaki
- (b) Hiroshima
- (c) Pearl Harbour
- (d) Stalingrad

Solution:

The first atom bomb was dropped on the city of "Hiroshima" during the aerial attack of America on Japan.

Hence the correct answer is (b)

(5). During Second World War, the first atom bomb was dropped by America on the city of

- (a) Hiroshima
- (c) Pearl Harbour
- (b) Nagasaki
- (d) Stalingrad .

Solution: Hiroshima

Hence the correct answer is (a)

(6) The head office of SAARC is situated at s

- (a) Thailand
- (b) Jakarta
- (c) Kathmandu
- (d) Delhi

Solution: Kathmandu

Hence the correct answer is (c)

(B) Find the incorrect pairs from group ' B ' and write the correct ones :

(i)

Group 'A'	Group 'B'
Arcebispo	- Chief Executive officer
Chancellor	- Judge
Vedor da Fazenda	- Incharge of company's possession
Capitao	- Captain

Solution:

The incorrect pair from the given options is:

(b) Chancellor - Judge

The term "Chancellor" generally refers to a high official in various governmental or academic positions, not specifically a judge. The correction would be:

(b) Chancellor - Head of government or university, depending on the context

(ii)

Group 'A'	Group 'B'
Factory	Place to store goods
Cartaz	Documents containing name and other details of a ship
Factors	Staff working in a factory
Mint	Conquered territory

Solution:

- Incorrect pair: Mint - Conquered territory

- Correct pair: Mint - The printing press

(iii)

Group 'A'	Group 'B'
(i) Cosme da Guarda	Portuguese historian
(ii) Gonsalo Martez	Portuguese emissary
(iii) Francois Martin	Chief of the Dutch factory
(iv) Henry Revington	British Officer

Solution:

Incorrect Pair: Francois Martin - Chief of the Dutch factory

Correct Pair: Francois Martin - French governor-general of Puducherry

(4)	Group 'A'		Group 'B'
(a)	National Human Rights Commission	—	Protection of Human rights
(b)	Centre for Science and Environment	—	Study of Pollution in Delhi
(c)	SEESCAP	—	Institute for conservation of turtles
(d)	INTACH	—	Organisation creating awareness for conservation of heritage

Solution:

Here are the correct matches for Group 'A' and Group 'B':

- (a) National Human Rights Commission — Protection of Human rights
- (b) Centre for Science and Environment — Study of Pollution in Delhi
- (c) SEESCAP — Institute for conservation of turtles
- (d) INTACH — An organisation creating awareness for the conservation of heritage

Q.2. (A) Write names of historical places/persons/events:

- (1) Science who told the world that the centre of our planetary system is the 'Sun' and not the 'Earth'.
- (2) State which merged in India in 1975.
- (3) The founder of Azad Hind Sena.
- (4) The group of nations like England, France, Russia in the first world war.

Solution :

Sure, here are the answers:

- (1) Copernicus (Nicolaus Copernicus)
- (2) Sikkim
- (3) Subhas Chandra Bose
- (4) Allies

Q 2. (A) Write names of historical places/persons/events:

- (1) The treatise was written by Varahmihir - _____.

Solution: Brihatsamhita

- (2) First European to reach India - _____.

Solution: Portuguese

- (3) The name of the group of nations including Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey, and Bulgaria in the First World War.

Solution: Central Power

(4) After the Second World War, the policy of India not to join Soviet Russia or America - ____.

Solution: NAM - Non-Aligned Movement.

2. B. Choose the correct reason and complete the sentence:

(1) Christians in Europe in the eleventh century fought several 'Crusades' because ____ .

- (a) They wanted to establish the dominance of their religion.**
- (b) They were continuously attacked by Islamic religious groups.**
- (c) To regain hold of holy cities like Jerusalem and Bethlehem from Islamic rule.**
- (d) They wanted to win the cities like Venice and Geneva from Islamic Rulers.**

Solution: To regain hold of holy cities like Jerusalem and Bethlehem from Islamic rule.

(2) Charles II leased Mumbai's port to the East India Company because

- (a) The king was going to receive more revenue from it.**
- (b) The East India Company wanted Mumbai's port for the purpose of trade.**
- (c) The expenditure for the maintenance exceeded the income earned.**
- (d) Mumbai was too far away for the king to administer.**

Solution :

The correct reason is:

(c) The expenditure for the maintenance exceeded the income earned.

So, the completed sentence would be:

"Charles II leased Mumbai's port to the East India Company because the expenditure for the maintenance exceeded the income earned."

(3) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj levied octroi on the salt trade to ____

- (a) oppose the Portuguese.**
- (b) stop the British trade of salt.**
- (c) raise funds for Swarajya.**
- (d) oppose the colonialists.**

Solution:

(3) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj levied octroi on the salt trade to

(c) raise funds for Swarajya.

(4) No country was included in the ANZUS treaty except Australia, New Zealand, and the United States of America, because _____.

- (a) They did not want to let the United Kingdom and France have the upper hand.
- (b) It was a military pact.
- (c) It was a secret pact.
- (d) It was a pact only among countries with friendly relations.

Solution:

The correct answer is:

(d) It was a pact only among countries with friendly relations.

The ANZUS Treaty, which stands for the Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty, was established in 1951 as a security pact among these three countries. The primary purpose of the treaty was to coordinate mutual defense and military support in the Pacific region. The treaty was limited to these three nations because they already had established friendly relations and shared strategic interests in the Pacific, particularly in response to perceived threats in the Cold War environment. The exclusivity of the treaty to these countries was based on their specific geopolitical and mutual defense interests rather than secrecy or exclusionary intentions against countries like the UK or France.

Q. 3 . (A) Observe the given map and answer the on it:



(1) Where did Vasco da Gama land in India, in his voyage?

Solution:

Vasco da Gama landed in Calicut (present-day Kozhikode) on the Malabar Coast of India in 1498 during his voyage. This marked the first time a European navigated to India by sea, linking Europe and Asia through an ocean route. This was a significant event as it opened up the direct sea route from Europe to Asia, facilitating increased trade and interaction between the two regions.

(2) In which ocean island Madagascar is situated?

Solution:

Madagascar is situated in the Indian Ocean. It is located off the southeastern coast of Africa and is the fourth largest island in the world.

(3) Through which oceans did Ferdinand Magellan circumnavigate? Name any one.

Solution:

Ferdinand Magellan's expedition circumnavigated through several oceans, but notably, it passed through the Pacific Ocean. This was a significant part of his voyage, as Magellan was the first European to navigate the Pacific Ocean, which he also named "Mar Pacífico," meaning "peaceful sea" in recognition of its calm waters compared to the stormy waters of the Strait of Magellan which he had just passed.

(4) In which continent is Mexico situated?

Solution:

Mexico is situated on the continent of North America.

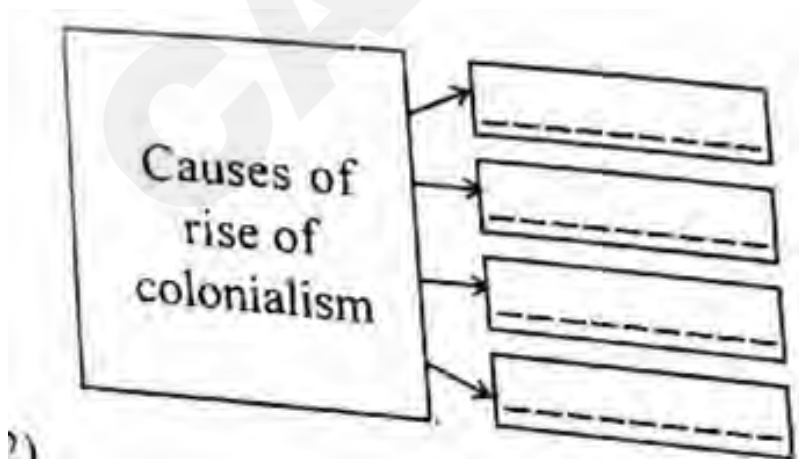
(5) What information does this map give?

Solution:

The map you provided outlines various historical sea routes used by European explorers during the Age of Discovery. It shows the paths taken by notable explorers like Vasco da Gama, Christopher Columbus, Ferdinand Magellan, and Amerigo Vespucci, among others, as they navigated around the globe. These routes highlight the explorations that linked Europe with the Americas, Asia, and Africa, leading to significant global interactions, trade, and the establishment of European colonies in various parts of the world. Each route is marked with the name of the explorer and the year(s) of their voyages, illustrating the expansion of European maritime exploration and the search for trade routes during the 15th and 16th centuries.

(B) Complete the concept maps/table :

(1)



Solution:

To complete the concept map for the "Causes of the rise of colonialism," we can fill in the blank spaces with several key factors:

1. Economic Motives: The desire for new markets and raw materials drove European powers to establish colonies overseas.
2. Political and Military Interests: Nations sought to expand their power and influence through territorial acquisitions, which also provided strategic military advantages.
3. Religious and Cultural Motivation: The spread of Christianity and the belief in the civilizing mission, which justified the cultural, religious, and social transformation of non-European societies.
4. Technological Advances: Improvements in navigation, weaponry, and maritime technology made long sea voyages possible and facilitated the conquest and control of distant territories.
5. Nationalism: The intense national pride and competitive nature between European powers spurred them to acquire colonies to boost national prestige and power.

These factors collectively contributed to the rise of colonialism, as European countries sought to exploit these new lands for economic gain, strategic advantage, and national glory.

(2)

City in India	Centre of which European power
Goa	_____
Kolkata	_____
Nagpattan	_____
Pondicherry (Puducherry)	_____

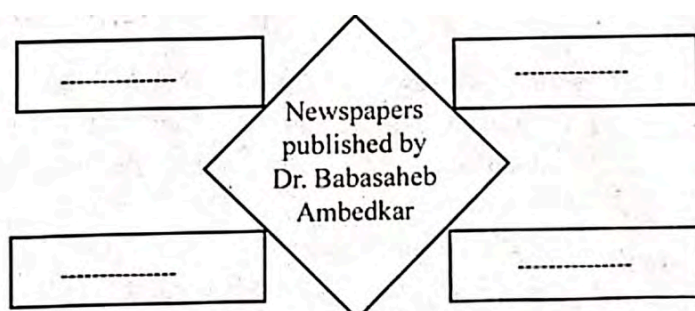
Solution:

To complete the table matching Indian cities with the European powers that historically controlled them, here are the entries:

1. Goa - Portuguese power
2. Kolkata- British power
3. Nagapattanam - Originally Portuguese, later Dutch power
4. Pondicherry (Puducherry) - French power

These cities were significant colonial centers during the periods of European colonization in India, with each European power leaving a distinct cultural and architectural legacy in these regions.

(3)

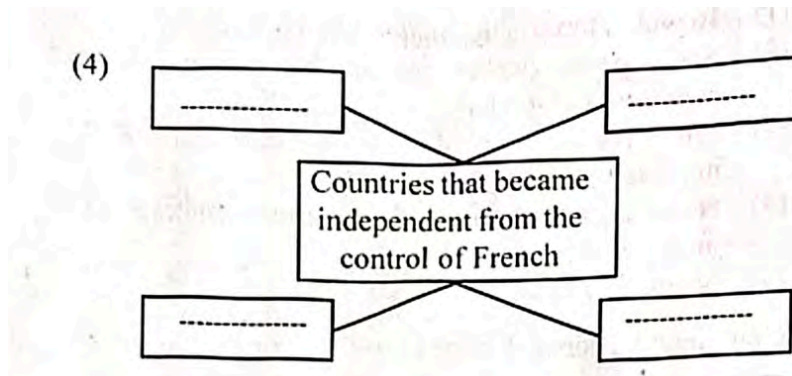


Solution:

Here are the names of newspapers published by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar:

1. Mooknayak
2. Bahishkrit Bharat
3. Samata
4. Janata

Based on the diagram, you can fill in the blanks with these names.

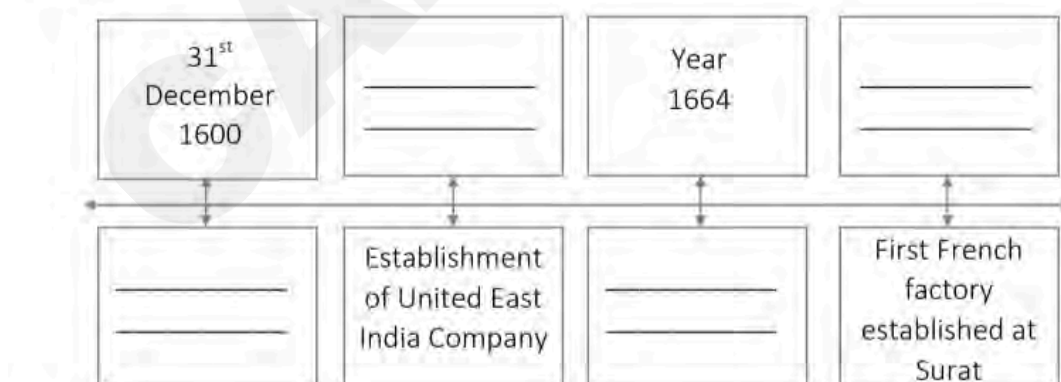
**Solution:**

Here are the names of countries that became independent from French control:

1. Vietnam
2. Algeria
3. Cambodia
4. Laos

You can fill in the blanks with these names.

(5).

**Solution :**

To complete the given timeline regarding European Colonialism, here are the key historical events:

1. 31st December 1600 - The English East India Company was established.
2. 1602- The Dutch East India Company (Vereenigde Oostindische Compagnie or VOC) was established.
3. 1664 - The French East India Company was established.
4. 1668 - The first French factory was established at Surat.

Here's the completed timeline:

31st December 1600

- ↳ Establishment of English East India Company

1602

- ↳ Establishment of United East India Company (Dutch East India Company)

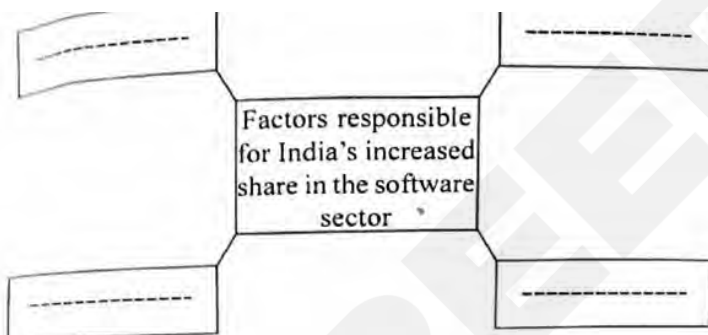
1664

- ↳ Establishment of French East India Company

1668

- ↳ First French factory established at Surat

(6).



Solution:

To complete the concept map regarding factors responsible for India's increased share in the software sector, we can include the following key factors:

1. **Cost-effective Labor:** India provides a large pool of skilled labor at relatively lower costs compared to many Western countries, making it a preferred destination for software development and IT services.
2. **English Proficiency:** The widespread use of English in the Indian education system and business environment makes it easier for multinational companies to communicate and collaborate with Indian IT professionals.
3. **Educational System:** India has a strong focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education, producing a large number of graduates each year who are well-equipped to enter the software and IT industry.
4. **Government Policies:** Supportive government policies, including tax incentives for the IT sector, investment in technology parks, and liberalization measures, have encouraged both domestic and foreign investment in the software industry.

5. Global Outsourcing: India has become a global hub for outsourcing software development, IT services, and business process outsourcing due to its cost advantages and the quality of the services provided.

These factors collectively have played a significant role in boosting India's share in the global software sector, making it one of the world's leading IT service providers.

Q.4. (A) Write short notes (Any THREE):

(1) European Crusades

Solution :

Sure, here are short notes on each topic:

1. European Crusades:

The European Crusades were a series of religious wars sanctioned by the Latin Church in the medieval period, primarily aimed at reclaiming the Holy Land from Muslim rule. These wars lasted from the 11th to the 13th century and had significant political, economic, and social impacts on Europe and the Middle East.

(2) American war of Independence

'Solution :

American War of Independence:

The American War of Independence, also known as the American Revolution, was fought between 1775 and 1783. It was a conflict between Great Britain and thirteen of its North American colonies which sought independence. The war resulted in the formation of the United States of America.

(3) Background of Cold War

Solution:

Background of the Cold War

The Cold War was a period of intense geopolitical tension and ideological rivalry between the United States (and its allies) and the Soviet Union (and its allies) following World War II. It lasted from approximately 1947 to 1991 and profoundly influenced global politics, economics, and military strategy. The background of the Cold War can be understood through several key factors:

Ideological Differences

- Capitalism vs. Communism: The United States represented capitalist democracy, characterized by free markets, private ownership, and political pluralism. The Soviet Union, on the other hand, represented communism, characterized by state control of the economy, one-party rule, and the aim of a classless society.

- **Mutual Distrust:** The ideological differences bred mutual suspicion and distrust. The U.S. feared the spread of communism worldwide, while the Soviet Union feared encirclement and efforts by capitalist countries to undermine its system.

Post-World War II Context

- **Yalta and Potsdam Conferences:** Allied leaders met at these conferences to discuss the post-war order. Disagreements over the future of Europe, particularly Eastern Europe, sowed the seeds of conflict. The Soviets sought a buffer zone of friendly governments to prevent future invasions, while the U.S. and its allies wanted self-determination and democratic governance in these regions.
- **Division of Germany:** Germany was divided into occupation zones controlled by the U.S., the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and France. The city of Berlin, deep within the Soviet zone, was also divided. This division became a flashpoint for Cold War tensions, particularly with the Berlin Blockade and Airlift in 1948-49.

Military and Strategic Concerns

- **Arms Race:** Both superpowers engaged in a massive arms race, building up their nuclear arsenals to deter each other through the doctrine of mutually assured destruction (MAD).
- **Formation of Military Alliances:** The U.S. and its allies formed NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) in 1949 to counter the Soviet threat. In response, the Soviet Union and its allies formed the Warsaw Pact in 1955.

(4) Criteria of Non-Aligned Movement

Solution:

Criteria of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) emerged during the Cold War as a coalition of states that sought to avoid aligning themselves with either the United States or the Soviet Union. NAM was founded with the goal of establishing an independent path in international relations, free from the influence of the major power blocs. Here are the key criteria and principles that define the Non-Aligned Movement:

1. Independence from Major Power Blocs

- **Non-Alignment:** The core criterion for NAM membership is that states must not be formally aligned with or against any major power bloc. This means they should not be part of military alliances such as NATO or the Warsaw Pact.

2. Struggle Against Colonialism and Imperialism

- **Support for Decolonization:** NAM has been committed to supporting the decolonization process and opposing colonialism, imperialism, and all forms of foreign domination.

3. Promotion of World Peace

- **Peaceful Coexistence:** NAM advocates for peaceful coexistence among nations and the resolution of conflicts through dialogue and diplomacy rather than military means.

4. Respect for Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity

- **National Sovereignty:** Member states must respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence of all nations. They should refrain from interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

5. Economic Independence and Development

- Economic Cooperation: NAM emphasizes economic cooperation among developing countries (South-South cooperation) to achieve economic independence and development. It opposes economic exploitation and neocolonialism.

6. Equitable International Order

- Fair International Relations: NAM seeks to promote a more equitable and just international economic order. It supports the rights of all countries to develop their own political, economic, and social systems free from external pressure.

(5) The youth policy of the Government of India

Solution:

. The youth policy of the Government of India:

The Government of India's youth policy aims to empower and engage young people in national development. It focuses on education, employment, skill development, and fostering entrepreneurship among youth. Policies also emphasize social inclusion, participation in governance, and addressing challenges like unemployment and education disparities.

(B) Explain the following statements with reasons (Any THREE):

(1) Industrial Revolution began in England.

Solution :

Industrial Revolution began in England:

The Industrial Revolution began in England primarily due to several interconnected factors:

- Natural Resources: England had abundant coal and iron ore, crucial for industrialization.
- Technological Innovation: Innovations like the steam engine (by James Watt) and mechanized textile production (spinning jenny, power loom) transformed manufacturing.
- Investment and Capital: The country had a growing merchant class willing to invest in new technologies and industries.
- Colonial Expansion: England's colonies provided raw materials and markets for manufactured goods.
- Political Stability: England's stable political environment encouraged investment and innovation.

(2) Policies adopted by Rajarshi Shahu Maharaj were progressive.

Solution :

Policies adopted by Rajarshi Shahu Maharaj were progressive:

Rajarshi Shahu Maharaj, ruler of the princely state of Kolhapur in the early 20th century, implemented progressive policies for social reform and empowerment:

- Education: He promoted education for all castes and communities, including the lower castes and women.
- Social Reforms: He worked to eradicate untouchability and promote social equality.
- Land Reforms: Implemented measures to improve agricultural productivity and protect tenant farmers.
- Political Representation: Encouraged participation of lower castes in local governance and

administration.

- Industrial and Economic Development: Supported small-scale industries and economic initiatives to uplift marginalized communities.

(3) The British Government in India decided to return home.

Solution:

Explanation with Reasons:

1. Economic Strain

- Post-World War II Financial Crisis: The British economy was severely weakened after World War II, making it increasingly difficult to finance and maintain its colonial empire.
- Resource Allocation: The economic strain necessitated reallocating resources to rebuild Britain rather than maintaining a costly and administratively complex colony like India.

2. Indian Independence Movement

- Increased Nationalism: The Indian independence movement, led by figures like Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, gained momentum and mass support through non-violent protests, civil disobedience, and political advocacy.
- Quit India Movement: The Quit India Movement of 1942 demonstrated widespread demand for independence and the inability of the British to maintain control through traditional means.

3. Political Pressure

- Labor Government's Policy: The post-war Labour government in Britain, led by Clement Attlee, was more sympathetic to Indian aspirations for independence and recognized the unsustainability of colonial rule.
- International Pressure: The global trend towards decolonization and pressure from newly formed international bodies like the United Nations also influenced Britain's decision to decolonize.

4. Military Challenges

- Naval Mutiny: The Royal Indian Navy Mutiny of 1946 showcased the unrest within the armed forces and their support for independence, signaling that maintaining control would require significant military effort.
- Potential for Armed Conflict: The potential for widespread armed conflict and insurgency made the continued occupation of India increasingly untenable.

(4) Towards the end of Second World War, the process of decolonisation gained speed.

Solution:

Explanation with Reasons:

1. Weakened Colonial Powers

- Exhaustion of European Powers: European colonial powers like Britain, France, and the Netherlands were economically and militarily exhausted after World War II, reducing their capacity to control and manage colonies.
- Rebuilding Europe: Focus shifted towards rebuilding war-torn Europe, diverting attention and resources away from maintaining overseas colonies.

2. Rise of Nationalist Movements

- Increased Nationalism: The war inspired nationalist movements in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, where colonial subjects sought self-determination and independence.
- Experience of Colonial Troops: Many colonial subjects who fought in the war were exposed to new ideas and returned with a heightened sense of nationalism and desire for independence.

3. International Influence

- United Nations: The establishment of the United Nations promoted principles of self-determination and human rights, encouraging decolonization.
- US and Soviet Pressure: Both the United States and the Soviet Union, emerging superpowers after the war, opposed colonialism and exerted pressure on European powers to decolonize.

4. Economic Realities

- Economic Infeasibility: The economic costs of maintaining colonies became increasingly prohibitive for European powers struggling to recover from the war.
- New Economic Relationships: Former colonies were seen as potential trade partners and markets, making economic cooperation more appealing than colonial exploitation.

(5) In 1993 Human Rights Protection Act was passed.

Solution:

In 1993, the Human Rights Protection Act was passed.

- The Human Rights Protection Act of 1993 in India aimed to strengthen legal protections for human rights and address issues such as torture, custodial violence, and other abuses. The Act established human rights commissions at the national and state levels to investigate violations and promote awareness of human rights issues. It was a significant step towards safeguarding individual rights and ensuring accountability in cases of human rights abuses within the country.

Q.5. State your opinion (Any THREE):

(1) Portuguese had intolerant policies towards Indians.

Solution :

. Portuguese had intolerant policies towards Indians:

The Portuguese did exhibit intolerant policies towards Indians during their colonial rule, particularly in areas like Goa where they imposed the Inquisition and persecuted Hindus and other non-Christian communities. This intolerance was driven by religious zeal and a desire to assert Portuguese cultural dominance. However, it's important to note that Portuguese policies varied over time and across regions, and there were periods of relative tolerance and coexistence as well.

(2) According to Swatantryaveer Savarkar the Independence war of 1857 was the First War of Independence.

Solution :

According to Swatantryaveer Savarkar, the Independence war of 1857 was the First War of Independence:

Swatantryaveer Savarkar viewed the revolt of 1857 as the First War of Independence due to its widespread and coordinated nature across different regions of India against British colonial rule. His perspective emphasizes the early nationalist sentiment and resistance against foreign domination. While historians debate whether it meets the criteria of a true "war of independence," the 1857 revolt was indeed a significant event in Ind.

(3) There was fundamental difference between German nationalism and Indian nationalism.

Solution:

Opinion: There were indeed fundamental differences between German nationalism and Indian nationalism. German nationalism in the 19th and early 20th centuries was primarily based on ethnic and cultural homogeneity, seeking to unite the German-speaking peoples into a single nation-state. It often emphasized militarism and ethnic superiority, which culminated in aggressive expansionist policies under the Nazis. In contrast, Indian nationalism was inclusive and diverse, born out of a colonial context where various linguistic, religious, and ethnic groups came together to oppose British rule. Indian nationalism emphasized unity in diversity, democratic values, and a non-violent struggle for independence. Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi promoted ideas of tolerance, secularism, and social justice, making Indian nationalism fundamentally different from the ethnocentric and militaristic nationalism seen in Germany.

(4) India has always opposed colonialism.

Solution:

Opinion: India has a long history of opposing colonialism, both during its struggle for independence and in its post-independence foreign policy. The Indian freedom movement was a significant anti-colonial struggle that inspired many other movements worldwide. Post-independence, India has consistently supported decolonization efforts globally. Indian leaders, particularly under Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, were vocal advocates of anti-colonialism in international forums such as the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement. India's stance against apartheid in South Africa and its support for liberation movements in Asia and Africa further underscore its commitment to opposing colonialism and imperialism.

(5) According to Swatantryaveer Savarkar, the Independence War of 1857 was the first war of Independence.

Solution:

According to Swatantryaveer Savarkar, the Independence War of 1857 was the first war of Independence:

- **Opinion:** True, from a nationalist perspective. Swatantryaveer Savarkar, an Indian independence activist and writer, famously termed the revolt of 1857 as the "First War of Indian Independence." This view reflects the perception among many Indian nationalists that the revolt symbolized a united effort against British rule, despite its eventual suppression. However, historical interpretations vary, and some scholars argue that it was more of a localized revolt than a national war of independence.

Q.6. Answer the following questions in detail (Any TWO):

(1) How did Spain establish its colonies in America?

Solution :**(1) How did Spain establish its colonies in America?**

Spain established its colonies in America primarily through a combination of exploration, conquest, and colonization efforts starting in the late 15th century. Here's a detailed breakdown of the process:

- **Exploration:** Spain's colonization efforts began with the voyages of Christopher Columbus. In 1492, Columbus reached the Americas under the sponsorship of the Spanish crown, believing he had found a new route to Asia. This discovery opened the door for further exploration and colonization.
- **Conquest:** Spanish conquistadors, such as Hernán Cortés and Francisco Pizarro, played crucial roles in the colonization of Central and South America. They used superior military technology, alliances with indigenous groups opposed to local rulers, and exploitation of political divisions to conquer large empires like the Aztecs and Inca.
- **Colonization:** Once territories were conquered, Spain established colonial administrations to govern the new territories. They imposed their language, religion (Catholicism), and governmental systems on the indigenous populations. The Spanish crown granted land and rights to conquistadors and settlers, fostering a hierarchical social structure known as the *encomienda* system.
- **Economic Exploitation:** Spain exploited the resources of its American colonies extensively. They extracted precious metals like gold and silver through forced labour systems such as the *mita* in Peru and the *repartimiento* in Mexico. This exploitation enriched Spain's economy significantly during the 16th and 17th centuries.
- **Cultural Impact:** Spanish colonization had a profound impact on indigenous cultures, leading to the spread of Catholicism, the introduction of European diseases (resulting in demographic collapse), and the blending of European, Indigenous, and African cultures in the region known as *mestizaje*.

Overall, Spain's establishment of colonies in America was characterized by exploration, conquest, economic exploitation, and cultural transformation, laying the foundation for centuries of colonial rule and shaping the socio-economic and cultural landscape of the Americas.

(2) Write the information about the Quit India movement of 1942.**Solution :**

Information about the Quit India movement of 1942:

The Quit India Movement of 1942 was a significant milestone in India's struggle for independence from British rule. Here's a detailed overview:

- **Background:** The movement was launched on August 8, 1942, during World War II, demanding an end to British colonial rule in India. It was led by Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress (INC), with the slogan "Quit India" as its central demand.
- **Objectives:** The primary objective of the Quit India Movement was to achieve complete independence for India. It aimed to mobilize mass civil disobedience against British rule, emphasizing non-violent resistance and non-cooperation.

- **Leadership:** Mahatma Gandhi provided moral leadership to the movement, urging Indians to adopt peaceful methods of resistance and non-cooperation. Other prominent leaders included Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- **Response and Repression:** The British responded with harsh repression, arresting thousands of nationalist leaders and activists, including Gandhi and the entire Congress leadership. The movement was declared illegal, and communications were censored to suppress dissent.
- **Impact:** Despite initial setbacks and the arrest of its leaders, the Quit India Movement galvanized Indian nationalism and marked a turning point in the struggle for independence. It inspired widespread civil disobedience, strikes, and protests across the country, demonstrating the depth of popular discontent with British rule.
- **Legacy:** The movement contributed to the growing international pressure on Britain to address India's demand for self-rule after the war. It also paved the way for subsequent negotiations and agreements that ultimately led to India's independence in 1947.

The Quit India Movement remains a symbol of India's commitment to non-violent resistance and mass mobilization against colonial rule, playing a crucial role in shaping the country's path towards independence.

(3) Give information about the 'Right to Information Act'.

Solution:

(3) Right to Information Act

Right to Information Act (RTI) is a landmark legislation in India that aims to promote transparency and accountability in the functioning of the government. Enacted in 2005, it provides citizens with the right to access information from public authorities.

Key Provisions

- **Right to Access Information:** Under the RTI Act, any citizen of India can request information from a public authority, which is required to reply expeditiously or within thirty days.
- **Scope of Information:** The Act covers all levels of government – central, state, and local – and applies to all public authorities, including government departments, public sector undertakings, and non-governmental organizations substantially financed by the government.
- **Public Information Officers (PIOs):** Every public authority must appoint Public Information Officers (PIOs) to handle requests for information and assist citizens in obtaining the required information.
- **Exemptions:** Certain information is exempted from disclosure under the RTI Act, such as information affecting national security, personal privacy, and information forbidden by the court.

Objectives

- **Transparency:** The RTI Act aims to make the functioning of government and public authorities more transparent by providing citizens with access to information.
- **Accountability:** By empowering citizens with the right to information, the Act seeks to hold public authorities accountable for their actions and decisions.
- **Empowerment of Citizens:** The RTI Act empowers citizens to participate more effectively in the democratic process by providing them with the information needed to make informed decisions.

Impact

- **Promotion of Good Governance:** The RTI Act has played a significant role in promoting good governance by ensuring transparency, reducing corruption, and enhancing the accountability of public officials.
- **Civil Society Activism:** The Act has been widely used by civil society organizations and activists to expose corruption, maladministration, and inefficiency in various government departments and public authorities.
- **Increased Citizen Participation:** The RTI Act has increased citizen participation in governance by providing them with the tools to seek information and hold public authorities accountable.

Challenges

- **Implementation Issues:** Despite its success, the implementation of the RTI Act faces challenges such as bureaucratic resistance, lack of awareness among citizens, and inadequate infrastructure for handling RTI requests.
- **Misuse of RTI:** There have been instances where the RTI Act has been misused for personal vendettas or to harass public officials.

Q.7. Answer the following questions with the help of given points (Any THREE):

(1) Write a note on Afghan-Maratha relations:

(a) First invasion of Abdali in 1748

(b) Third invasion of Abdali in 1757

(c) Fourth invasion of Abdali in 1759 (Third battle of panipat)

Solution :

(1) Afghan - Maratha Relations:

Afghan - Maratha relations were characterized by a series of conflicts and invasions during the 18th century.**

- First invasion of Abdali in 1748:

Ahmad Shah Durrani (Abdali) invaded India in 1748 and defeated the Marathas in the Battle of Manupur. This marked the beginning of Afghan incursions into northern India.

- Third invasion of Abdali in 1757:

In 1757, Ahmad Shah Abdali again invaded India, leading to the Battle of Lahore where he faced the Marathas. This invasion highlighted the ongoing struggle for power in northern India between the Marathas and the Afghans.

- Fourth invasion of Abdali in 1759 (Third Battle of Panipat):

The Third Battle of Panipat in 1761 was a major conflict between the Marathas and Ahmad Shah Abdali. The Marathas suffered a decisive defeat, leading to significant changes in the political landscape of northern India and weakening the Maratha power.

(2) Write about the merger of Kashmir princely state:

(a) Invasion of armed intruders from the border of Pakistan

(b) Instrument of Accession**(c) Merger****Solution :**

Merger of Kashmir Princely State:

The merger of the Kashmir princely state into India involved several key events:

- Invasion of armed intruders from the border of Pakistan:

In 1947, armed tribesmen supported by Pakistan invaded Kashmir, prompting the ruler, Maharaja Hari Singh, to seek military assistance from India.

- Instrument of Accession:

Maharaja Hari Singh signed the Instrument of Accession on October 26, 1947, acceding Kashmir to India. This legal document formalized Kashmir's integration into the Indian Union.

- Merger:

The Indian government accepted the Instrument of Accession, and Indian troops were airlifted to Srinagar to defend against the invaders. This marked the beginning of the Indo-Pakistani War of 1947-48 and eventually led to the partition of Kashmir into Indian-administered and Pakistan-administered regions.

(3) Work done by Social workers:**(a) Mahatma Jyotirao Phule****(b) Maharshee Vitthal Ramji Shinde****(c) Sir Sayyad Ahmad Khan****Solution:****(a) Mahatma Jyotirao Phule**

- Education: Phule was a pioneer in promoting education for the underprivileged. He established the first girls' school in Pune in 1848 and worked tirelessly to promote education for women and lower castes.

- Social Reform: He founded the Satyashodhak Samaj (Society of Truth Seekers) in 1873 to fight against caste discrimination and social injustice. Phule advocated for the rights of untouchables and women.

- Writings: His literary works, including "Gulamgiri" (Slavery) and "Shetkarayacha Asud" (The Cultivator's Whipcord), criticized the caste system and called for social equality.

(b) Maharshi Vitthal Ramji Shinde

- Anti-Untouchability Movement: Shinde was a prominent social reformer who worked to eradicate untouchability and improve conditions for Dalits. He founded the Depressed Classes Mission Society of India in 1906.

- Education and Welfare: He established schools, hostels, and workshops for the upliftment of

untouchables and promoted inter-caste marriages and social integration.

- Publications: Shinde wrote extensively on social reforms, including "Bhartiya Asprushyatecha Prashna" (The Problem of Untouchability in India).

(c) Sir Syed Ahmad Khan

- Educational Reforms: A key figure in promoting modern education among Muslims, he founded the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College in Aligarh in 1875, which later became Aligarh Muslim University.
- Social and Cultural Reforms: He advocated for social reforms within the Muslim community, emphasizing the need for scientific and rational thinking and adopting Western-style education.
- Writings and Journalism: Sir Syed wrote extensively on social, political, and religious issues and published the journal "Tahzib-ul-Akhlaq" to spread his reformist ideas.

(4) Write information about Quit-India Movement :

(a) Mumbai session of congress

(b) Appeal from Gandhiji

(c) Movement and its effects

Solution:

(a) Mumbai Session of Congress (1942)

- Resolution for Independence: At the Bombay session of the All-India Congress Committee on August 8, 1942, the Congress passed the "Quit India" resolution demanding an end to British rule in India.
- Leadership: Key leaders, including Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, played crucial roles in mobilizing support for the movement.

(b) Appeal from Gandhiji

- Do or Die: Gandhi's famous "Do or Die" speech urged Indians to participate in a non-violent struggle to achieve immediate independence, calling for mass civil disobedience and non-cooperation with British authorities.
- Mass Mobilization: Gandhi's appeal inspired millions of Indians to join the movement, leading to widespread protests, strikes, and demonstrations across the country.

(c) Movement and Its Effects

- Repression by the British: The British government responded with severe repression, arresting Congress leaders, including Gandhi, and brutally suppressing the movement. Many activists were imprisoned, and violent clashes occurred.
- Mass Participation: Despite the repression, the movement saw massive participation from all sections of society, including students, workers, and peasants, demonstrating the widespread desire for independence.
- Impact on British Rule: The Quit India Movement marked a turning point in India's struggle for independence. It weakened British authority and demonstrated the unyielding spirit of the Indian people, setting the stage for negotiations that eventually led to India's independence in 1947.

(5) Write information about commonwealth of nations:**(a) Objectives of the commonwealth of nations****(b) Establishment of the commonwealth of nations****(c) Advantages of the commonwealth of nations****Solution:**

Commonwealth of Nations

(a) Objectives of the Commonwealth of Nations:

- Promote international cooperation, democracy, and development among member states.
- Support economic growth and mutual assistance among member countries.
- Foster cultural exchanges and shared values among diverse nations.

(b) Establishment of the Commonwealth of Nations:

- The Commonwealth of Nations was established formally in 1949 through the London Declaration, evolving from the British Empire's transformation into a voluntary association of independent states.

(c) Advantages of the Commonwealth of Nations:

- Provides a platform for member states to collaborate on global issues such as climate change, human rights, and trade.
- Facilitates cultural exchanges, educational opportunities, and people-to-people connections.
- Promotes democratic values, good governance, and the rule of law among member countries.