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THE COLONIAL ERA IN INDIA
Class 08 - Social Science (Exploring Society)

Time Allowed: 1 hour and 30 minutes

Maximum Marks: 148

1. Who was proclaimed the leader by sepoys at Delhi during the 1857 rebellion? [1]
 - a) Mangal Pandey
 - b) Tipu Sultan
 - c) Bahadur Shah Zafar
 - d) Nana Saheb
2. What event marked the end of the East India Company's rule in India? [1]
 - a) Treaty of Paris, 1763
 - b) First War of Independence, 1857
 - c) Proclamation by Queen Victoria in 1858
 - d) Establishment of British Raj, 1858
3. What was the significance of Mangal Pandey's actions at Barrackpore in 1857? [1]
 - a) He provided strategic plans for rebellion
 - b) His execution ignited further discontent among sepoys
 - c) He led all sepoys directly to Delhi
 - d) Invented a new weapon for resistance
4. In what year was the Portuguese Inquisition established in Goa, initiating religious persecution? [1]
 - a) 1687
 - b) 1510
 - c) 1498
 - d) 1560
5. Which system primarily replaced India's village governance structures under British rule? [1]
 - a) Judicial systems using native languages
 - b) Traditional kingdom-managed systems
 - c) Centralized bureaucracy to facilitate tax collection
 - d) Local self-governing councils
6. Which company was formed in 1600 to carry on trade with the East? [1]
 - a) Dutch East India Company
 - b) Portuguese Trade Guild
 - c) French India Company
 - d) British East India Company
7. Who was the first Portuguese explorer to reach India? [1]
 - a) Marco Polo
 - b) Vasco da Gama
 - c) Christopher Columbus
 - d) Ferdinand Magellan
8. What was a significant factor that led to the decline of India's indigenous textile industry during the colonial era? [1]
 - a) Introduction of advanced local weaving technologies
 - b) Severe droughts reducing cotton production
 - c) Increase in Indian domestic labor
 - d) Imposition of heavy duties on Indian

costs

textiles by Britain

9. What was the primary cause of the Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion? [1]
- a) Spread of Christianity among Indian tribals b) Introduction of indigo cultivation
- c) Displacement of peasants from their lands d) Restrictions on travel and new taxation policies by the British

10. Which city became the capital of the Portuguese colony in India after its capture in 1510? [1]
- a) Bombay b) Surat
- c) Pondicherry d) Goa

11. Match the following: [1]

Column A	Column B
a. Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion	i. Protest against forced cultivation of indigo
b. Kol Uprising	ii. Leaders of the Santhal Rebellion
c. Sidhu and Kanhu Murmu	iii. Inspired the song "Vande Mātaram"
d. Indigo Revolt	iv. Tribal revolt in Chota Nagpur

- a) a-iv, b-i, c-ii, d-iii b) a-iii, b-iv, c-ii, d-i
- c) a-ii, b-iii, c-i, d-iv d) a-i, b-ii, c-iii, d-iv

12. Match the following: [1]

Column A	Column B
a. Bengal Famine (1770-1772)	i. Government refused to control food prices
b. Lord Lytton	ii. Opened with inadequate supplies
c. Free market policy	iii. Organised an extravagant Delhi durbar during famine
d. Famine relief camps	iv. Killed nearly one-third of Bengal's population

- a) a-iv, b-iii, c-i, d-ii b) a-i, b-ii, c-iii, d-iv
- c) a-ii, b-iv, c-iii, d-i d) a-iii, b-i, c-ii, d-iv

13. Match the following: [1]

Column A	Column B
a. Colonialism	i. Worldwide decline of colonial rule
b. European powers	ii. Control of another region by imposing political systems
c. Christianity	iii. Motivation for conversion of indigenous populations
d. Mid-20th century	iv. Expanded colonies across Asia and Africa

- a) a-iv, b-iii, c-i, d-ii b) a-i, b-ii, c-iii, d-iv
- c) a-iii, b-i, c-iv, d-ii d) a-ii, b-iv, c-iii, d-i

14. **Assertion (A):** Vasco da Gama's arrival in 1498 marked the beginning of European colonization in [1]

India.

Reason (R): The Portuguese established the Inquisition in Goa in 1560, which led to the persecution of Hindus, Muslims, and Jews.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

15. **Assertion (A):** The Revolt of 1857 was successful in ending British rule in India. [1]

Reason (R): Indian sepoys and rulers were united under a common leadership.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

16. **Assertion (A):** The British administration increased land-tax in Bengal during a famine in 1770. [1]

Reason (R): The British believed that higher taxes would encourage more agricultural productivity.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

17. **Assertion (A):** Indian handloom industries declined under British rule. [1]

Reason (R): The British encouraged Indian artisans by providing them modern machines.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

18. **Assertion (A):** Economic advantages were a significant driving force for European territorial expansion during the colonial era. [1]

Reason (R): European powers sought new markets, trade routes, and access to natural resources.

- a) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- b) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- c) A is true but R is false.
- d) A is false but R is true.

19. What was the British perspective on the economic significance of India during colonial times? [1]

20. Name one factor that motivated Portuguese involvement in India during colonial times. [1]

21. What challenges did the Santhal people face that led to their rebellion in 1855-56? [1]

22. Describe the role of village councils in pre-colonial India according to Charles Metcalfe. [1]

23. What was the term used by the British to refer to the 'Great Rebellion of 1857'? [1]

24. Identify the effects of British revenue policies during Indian famines. [1]

25. What was the British justification for restricting the movement of tribals during their expansion? [1]

26. What event in 1806 served as an early sign of discontent among the sepoys? [1]

27. Describe the East India Company's impact on Bengal's economy post-Plassey victory. [1]

28. List the commodities India traded with the Greeks and Romans over two millennia ago. [1]

29. Describe the decline of India's indigenous industries during the colonial era. [2]
30. What led to the emergence of the Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion in Bengal? [2]
31. What role did the Marathas play in weakening the Mughal Empire, and how did this impact British colonization in India? [2]
32. What drew European powers to India? [2]
33. Evaluate the role of the Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion in laying the early foundations of Indian nationalism. [2]
34. Explain how British policies led to the dismantling of India's traditional governance structures. [2]
35. Who was Vasco da Gama, and what was his role in the European colonization of India? [2]
36. Explain the political and economic motivations behind European colonial expansion between the 15th and 19th centuries. [2]
37. Explain the economic strategy of the British Empire that led to recurring famines in India during colonial rule. [2]
38. Describe the significance of India's economy in the Mediterranean trade before the European colonization in the 16th century. [2]
39. What is colonialism? [3]
40. Explain how William Digby and W.W. Hunter contributed to the understanding of famines during British rule. [3]
41. What were some of the economic incentives that drove European powers to embark on colonial enterprises across the globe? [3]
42. What was the significance of the Great Rebellion of 1857 in the context of Indian colonial history? [3]
43. Explain the long-term socio-economic impact of colonialism on colonized countries, focusing on both positive and negative outcomes. [3]
44. Discuss the long-term impact of colonial economic practices on post-independence India's economic landscape. [3]
45. Identify and discuss the primary motivations that drove European countries to launch expeditions and establish colonies around the world during the age of colonialism. [3]
46. What were the main causes of the catastrophic famine in Bengal during 1770-1772 under British rule? [3]
47. Describe the response of the British forces following the initial outbreaks of the Great Rebellion of 1857 and their tactics to suppress it. [3]
48. Describe how colonialism affected the traditional ways of life in colonized societies and its long-term cultural impact. [3]
49. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]

Colonial rule transformed India's economy, governance, and education. Indigenous industries, particularly textiles, declined under British policies favouring imports, leaving artisans impoverished. Traditional village councils and customary laws were dismantled and replaced with centralised bureaucracy. Education promoted English knowledge, creating a class "Indian in blood but English in intellect." Railways and telegraphs integrated markets and moved armies, yet primarily served British commercial and strategic interests, funded by Indian taxes rather than public welfare.

Questions:

- a. How did British policies affect India's traditional industries? (1)
- b. What was the objective of the British education system in India? (1)
- c. Explain how British colonial rule reshaped India's governance and economy. (2)

50. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]

After the Battle of Plassey, the East India Company extracted maximum revenue from Bengal, Bihar, and Odisha, causing devastating famines, such as in 1770-1772, which killed nearly 10 million people. Exports continued despite hunger, and free-market policies worsened the crisis. Economic exploitation drained India's wealth, funding Britain's Industrial Revolution. Scholars like Dadabhai Naoroji and Utsa Patnaik calculated that billions of pounds were extracted, leaving India impoverished and underdeveloped.

Questions:

- a. What caused the famine in Bengal between 1770 and 1772? (1)
- b. How did the British drain India's wealth during colonial rule? (1)
- c. Explain the role of British economic policies in worsening famines in India. (2)

51. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]

Resistance against British rule began almost immediately in India. The Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion arose after the 1770 Bengal famine, with ascetics attacking British treasuries and tax collectors. Tribal uprisings like the Kol and Santhal Rebellions resisted land policies and exploitation, while peasants revolted against forced cultivation, exemplified by the Indigo Revolt. These uprisings challenged colonial authority and inspired future generations, laying the groundwork for the larger movements of the 19th century.

Questions:

- a. What triggered the Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion in Bengal? (1)
- b. Who led the Santhal Rebellion and why? (1)
- c. Explain the causes and impact of the Indigo Revolt. (2)

52. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]

European colonial rule in India involved systematic exploitation, repression, and economic control. Heroes like Rani Lakshmibai and Begum Hazrat Mahal resisted British annexation. Colonisers documented India's geography, culture, and languages, stole cultural artefacts, and introduced administrative, legal, and educational systems. While British policies caused famines and deindustrialisation, Sanskrit studies and Indian texts influenced Europe. Portuguese and French efforts created cultural and religious divisions, while uprisings like the 1857 rebellion challenged colonial domination.

Questions:

- a. How did Rani Lakshmibai and Begum Hazrat Mahal resist British colonial rule? (1)
- b. What were some cultural consequences of European colonialism in India? (1)
- c. Explain the impact of European colonialism on India's society and economy. (2)

53. **Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow:** [4]

Colonialism is the practice of one country controlling another, imposing its political, economic, and cultural systems. From the 15th century, European powers like Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, and the Netherlands expanded globally for resources, trade, religion, and knowledge. While claimed as a civilising mission, colonisation caused loss of independence, exploitation, and

destruction of traditional life. Resistance arose, and colonialism declined after World War II, with most countries eventually gaining independence.

Questions:

- a. What motivated European countries to engage in colonialism during the Age of Colonialism? **(1)**
- b. How did colonisation impact the lives of the colonised people? **(1)**
- c. Explain the main features and consequences of European colonialism. **(2)**

54. **State whether the given statement is True or False:** **[5]**
- (a) The Goan Inquisition was abolished in 1812. **[1]**
 - (b) The term 'Sepoy Mutiny' was proposed by Indian historians after Independence. **[1]**
 - (c) The Revolt of 1857 was also known as India's First War of Independence. **[1]**
 - (d) The Battle of Plassey was won with the help of Mir Jafar's betrayal of Nawab Siraj-ud-daulah. **[1]**
 - (e) Colonialism has been a common practice since the 1st millennium BCE. **[1]**
55. What were the methods used by the British administration that worsened the Great Famine of 1876-1878? **[5]**
56. Explain the concept of colonialism and its historical origins. **[5]**
57. Explain how the famines during the British rule in India were linked to colonial economic policies. **[5]**
58. Identify the European nations that played key roles in the Age of Colonialism. **[5]**
59. How did the dismantling of traditional governance systems affect local Indian communities under British colonial rule? **[5]**
60. I. Two places **A** and **B** have been marked on the given outline map of India. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them. **[5]**
- A. The port where Vasco da Gama first landed in India in 1498, marking the beginning of European colonial interest in India.
 - B. The region where the British achieved victory in 1757 that laid the foundation of their rule in India.
- II. On the same outline map of India, locate and label the following with suitable symbols:
- i. Goa – Portuguese colony captured in 1510
 - ii. Pondicherry (Puducherry) – French settlement established in 1674
 - iii. Surat – Early British and Dutch trading centre



61. I. Two places A and B have been marked on the given outline map of India. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them. [5]
- A. The port city captured by the Portuguese in 1510, which later became the capital of their colony in India.
- B. The region where the British achieved victory in 1757 that laid the foundation of their rule in India.
- II. On the same outline map of India, locate and label the following with suitable symbols:
- i. Madras (Chennai) – British settlement captured by the French in 1746
 - ii. Kolkata (Calcutta) – Early British capital and site near the Battle of Plassey
 - iii. Jhansi - Centre of Rani Lakshmbai's resistance in 1857



62. **Fill in the blanks:** [10]

- (a) Vasco da Gama arrived at _____ in 1498, marking the beginning of European colonisation in India. [1]
- (b) The Battle of Plassey was fought in the year _____. [1]
- (c) Dadabhai Naoroji authored the book Poverty and _____ Rule in India highlighting the drain of wealth from India. [1]
- (d) The earliest organised resistance against the British after the 1770 famine was the _____. [1]
- (e) Under the _____ system, Indian rulers had to maintain British troops and conduct foreign relations through the British. [1]
- (f) The Travancore kingdom defeated the Dutch in 1741 at the _____. [1]
- (g) The British East India Company was granted a royal _____ by Queen Elizabeth I. [1]
- (h) The Age of Colonialism mainly refers to European expansion from the _____ century onward. [1]
- (i) The East India Company was _____ established in 1600. [1]
- (j) Colonisers often justified their actions as a _____ mission to bring progress to the colonised. [1]

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Solution
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1.
(c) Bahadur Shah Zafar
Explanation:
The sepoys proclaimed Bahadur Shah Zafar, the Mughal emperor, as their leader.
2.
(c) Proclamation by Queen Victoria in 1858
Explanation:
Queen Victoria's proclamation in 1858 marked the end of the East India Company's rule.
3.
(b) His execution ignited further discontent among sepoys
Explanation:
Mangal Pandey's attack and subsequent execution fueled dissatisfaction among sepoys.
4.
(d) 1560
Explanation:
The Inquisition began in 1560 to enforce religious conversions and suppress original faiths.
5.
(c) Centralized bureaucracy to facilitate tax collection
Explanation:
Centralized bureaucracy replaced local systems to focus on British interests.
6.
(d) British East India Company
Explanation:
The British East India Company was formed in 1600 to trade with the East. It later became a powerful force in India and gradually took control over large parts of the country.
7.
(b) Vasco da Gama
Explanation:
Vasco da Gama was the first Portuguese explorer to reach India. He arrived at Calicut in 1498 and opened the sea route from Europe to India.
8.
(d) Imposition of heavy duties on Indian textiles by Britain
Explanation:
Heavy duties imposed by Britain made Indian textile imports expensive.
9.
(d) Restrictions on travel and new taxation policies by the British
Explanation:
The rebellion began due to British restrictions on traditional movements and new policies.

10. **(d)** Goa
Explanation:
Goa was made the capital of Portuguese holdings in India.
11. **(b)** a-iii, b-iv, c-ii, d-i
Explanation:
- Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion inspired Anandamath, which contained "Vande Mātaram" → iii
 - Kol Uprising was a tribal revolt in Chota Nagpur → iv
 - Sidhu and Kanhu Murmu were leaders of the Santhal Rebellion → ii
 - Indigo Revolt protested against forced indigo cultivation → i
12. **(a)** a-iv, b-iii, c-i, d-ii
Explanation:
- Bengal Famine (1770–1772) killed nearly one-third of Bengal's population → iv
 - Lord Lytton organised a lavish Delhi durbar during famine → iii
 - Free market policy prevented control of food prices → i
 - Famine relief camps were opened with inadequate supplies → ii
13. **(d)** a-ii, b-iv, c-iii, d-i
Explanation:
- Colonialism refers to controlling another region and imposing systems → ii
 - European powers expanded colonies across Asia and Africa → iv
 - Christianity motivated conversion of indigenous populations → iii
 - Colonialism declined worldwide in the mid-20th century → i
14. **(b)** Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
The Portuguese colonization began with Vasco da Gama's arrival, but the Inquisition was a separate policy implemented later.
15. **(d)** A is false but R is true.
Explanation:
The Revolt of 1857 did not succeed in ending British rule, but many Indians did take up arms together under shared leadership.
16. **(c)** A is true but R is false.
Explanation:
The British maintained high taxes to maximize revenue, not necessarily to promote productivity.
17. **(c)** A is true but R is false.
Explanation:
Instead of outfitting artisans with modern machinery, the British promoted British-made textiles, which undermined the Indian handloom industry.

18. **(a)** Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
Explanation:
 The assertion highlights the importance of economic motivations, which the reason directly explains as incentives for European expansion.
19. The British viewed India as an immense source of wealth, referring to it as 'the jewel in the crown of the British Empire,' emphasizing its pivotal role in their global dominion.
20. The Portuguese were motivated by India's considerable wealth to engage in colonial activities within the region.
21. The Santhal people faced land seizures by moneylenders and landlords, backed by the British. Their rebellion was a response to losing ancestral lands and the resulting economic devastation.
22. Village councils managed community affairs, disputes, and public works, serving as little republics in India; they provided organization and preserved continuity despite political upheavals.
23. The British called the 'Great Rebellion of 1857' the 'Sepoy Mutiny.'
24. British revenue policies, such as maintaining high land taxes, worsened the impact of famines by pressuring farmers to pay cash taxes regardless of poor harvests, leading to extreme poverty and death.
25. The British justified tribal movement restrictions by labeling them as 'primitive' and claimed they required civilizing efforts, while aiming to impose their economic and legal systems on tribal lands.
26. The 'Vellore Mutiny' of 1806 was an early sign of severe discontent among the sepoys.
27. The East India Company's victory at Plassey allowed them to collect revenue in Bengal, extracting maximum wealth with minimal governance investment, leading to economic hardship for the local population.
28. India traded sandalwood, teakwood, wootz steel, cotton, spices, ivory, and gems with the Greeks and Romans over two millennia ago.
29. India's indigenous industries faced a significant decline during the colonial era due to British economic policies. Heavy duties on Indian textiles imported into Britain, coupled with minimal tariffs on British goods in India, devastated local industries. Indian traders struggled to export goods, resulting in widespread poverty. Skilled artisans were forced into subsistence agriculture. Ultimately, India's share of the world GDP plummeted.
30. The Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion emerged due to oppressive British policies following the 1770 famine in Bengal. The British East India Company's land and taxation policies restricted the free movement of sannyasis and fakirs, who traditionally traveled for pilgrimage and charity. This led to their attacks on British treasuries and tax collectors as a form of resistance against colonial dominance.
31. The Marathas engaged in a series of military campaigns that considerably weakened the Mughal Empire, creating a power vacuum in India. This weakening facilitated the British in taking control over the region, expanding their influence and paving the way for India to become a significant colony under British rule in the 19th century.
32.
 - European nations were attracted to India mainly because of its vast **wealth, important trade routes**, and economic success.
 - Before the **16th century**, India was a leading global economic force, contributing around one-fourth of the world's GDP, according to economist Angus Maddison.
 - Its thriving trade networks exported precious items such as spices, cotton, ivory, gems, sandalwood, teakwood, and wootz steel, which were in high demand in Europe and the Mediterranean.
 - The spice trade, in particular, was very profitable.
 - This prompted the Portuguese, under the leadership of Vasco da Gama in 1498, to find a sea route to India.
 - India's varied agriculture, robust manufacturing (especially in textiles), and strategic location along Indian Ocean trade routes made it an attractive target for European powers.
 - Additionally, these powers were eager to gain political influence and compete for control over India's resources and markets.
 - Ultimately, the **British** emerged as the dominant force through the **East India Company**.
33. The Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion played a significant role in inspiring Indian nationalism by highlighting resistance to British colonial power. It later inspired the novel "Anandamath" by Bankim Chandra

- Chattopadhyay, which popularized the song 'Vande Mataram.' This became a symbolic anthem for freedom fighters in the early 20th-century struggle for independence, fostering unity and national pride.
34. The British replaced India's local governance structures with a centralized bureaucracy. Village and regional administrative systems that managed community affairs and public works were dismantled to facilitate tax collection. British laws disregarded customary laws, alienating Indians from the judicial system. Courts became expensive and were conducted in a foreign language, undermining the effectiveness of traditional governance.
 35. Vasco da Gama was a Portuguese explorer whose arrival in India in 1498 marked the beginning of European colonization. He played a crucial role in establishing Portuguese footholds in India through strategic ports and a naval presence. His aggressive tactics included seizing ships, monopolizing trade, and laying the groundwork for future European domination in the region.
 36. Colonial expansion was driven by competition among European nations for global influence and territorial acquisition. Economically, new colonies offered access to natural resources, lucrative markets, and innovative trade routes. Such expansion often served as a direct avenue for wealth through resource exploitation and strategic advantage in global politics.
 37. The British Empire employed an economic strategy of high taxation and minimal investment, focusing on revenue extraction rather than development. This amassed wealth for Britain while impoverishing India. The 'free market' policy allowed commodity prices to rise unchecked, exacerbating famines. The British also continued exporting rice during famines. This approach prioritized British economic interests over the welfare of Indians, leading to recurring famines.
 38. Before the 16th century, India was a major player in Mediterranean trade. Indian goods like spices, cotton, and gems were highly valued, boosting India's economy. Historical estimates suggest that India contributed significantly to the global GDP, being among the top two largest economies alongside China. This prosperity set the stage for European interest and eventual colonization efforts.
 39. **Colonialism: A Historical Overview**
 - **Definition:** Colonialism refers to the process where one country takes control over another region, establishing settlements and imposing its political, economic, and cultural systems.
 - **Exploitation:** It often involves exploiting the resources, labour, and wealth of the colonised region for the benefit of the colonising power, usually at the expense of native populations and their traditions.
 - **Early Colonialism in India:** Colonialism in India began with European powers like the Portuguese, Dutch, French, and British establishing trading posts in the 15th to 17th centuries.
 - **British Domination:** Over time, these trading posts evolved into political domination, particularly by the British, who ruled India for nearly two centuries through the East India Company and later the British Crown.
 - **Impact of Colonialism:** Colonialism in India led to economic exploitation, cultural disruption, and significant social changes. It also sparked resistance movements among the native population, ultimately leading to India's independence.
 40. William Digby and W.W. Hunter both contributed importantly to the understanding of famines during British rule. Digby, cited at the beginning of the chapter, was a public intellectual who criticized British policy and highlighted the inhumanity in Indian famines. Hunter, a British official, wrote starkly about the neglect and disaster following harsh land-tax demands, contrasting government demands with people's plight. Both underscored the negligence of British administration, focusing public discourse on colonial exploitation and its devastating consequences.
 41. European powers were driven by several economic incentives to embark on colonial enterprises. Firstly, they sought access to vast reserves of natural resources such as spices, gold, and timber, essential for fueling their growing economies. Additionally, new colonies offered vast markets for European manufactured goods, stimulating trade and commerce. The establishment of new trade routes reduced dependency on traditional land routes, which were often costly and risky. Collectively, these economic benefits made colonization highly attractive to European nations.
 42. The Great Rebellion of 1857 marked an important turning point in Indian colonial history. Though the uprising failed, it demonstrated the widespread discontent among Indian sepoys and civilians against British rule. It also planted the idea that foreign domination was unacceptable, paving the way for future

- struggles for independence. In response, the British Crown took direct control over India, initiating the British Raj, which marked a shift from aggressive territorial expansion to control consolidation. The rebellion highlighted the need for organized resistance and inspired future freedom movements.
43. Colonialism had profound long-term socio-economic impacts on colonized nations. Economically, while it did catalyze the growth of infrastructure and global trade entries, the benefits primarily favored the colonizers. Colonized nations often faced exploitation of resources and labor, leaving behind economic underdevelopment and poverty. Socially, colonial rule imposed foreign cultural values and systems, eroding traditional lifestyles and identities. However, colonialism also brought technological advancements and education systems that facilitated modern administrative systems in post-colonial societies.
 44. Colonial economic practices left deep scars on India's economic landscape post-independence. The wealth extracted by the British, estimated to be trillions in today's value, deprived India of crucial capital for development. Infrastructure was built primarily for British benefit, neglecting broader socio-economic growth. Consequently, India faced severe poverty, marked by land revenue mismanagement, recurrent famines, and industry stagnation. Despite rich resources, the legacy of economic depletion hindered India's growth trajectory post-independence, perpetuating economic challenges.
 45. European countries were driven by several motivations during the age of colonialism. Primarily, the race for political supremacy pushed them to expand their territories, seeking to outdo rival nations. Economic incentives, such as the exploitation of natural resources, discovery of new markets, and accessing new trade routes, were significant factors. Many colonizers also aimed to convert indigenous populations to Christianity. Additionally, a spirit of scientific inquiry encouraged the exploration of unexplored regions to enhance their knowledge of global geography and history.
 46. The catastrophic famine in Bengal during 1770-1772 was mainly caused by a combination of two years of crop failure and the harsh revenue collection policies of the East India Company. Farmers were required to pay high cash taxes, regardless of harvest conditions. The famine was further exacerbated by the Company's insistence on maintaining and even increasing land-tax during this period, which resulted in the deaths of nearly one-third of the population.
 47. Following the initial outbreaks of the Great Rebellion of 1857, the British forces responded with systematic and extreme brutality. Their primary approach was to instill terror among the populace. In September 1857, they recaptured Delhi through house-to-house massacres. At Kanpur, mass executions were carried out to intimidate the population. The British army engaged in a punitive campaign, burning villages and destroying crops, which resulted in numerous deaths far exceeding those caused by the rebels. This brutal strategy aimed to suppress the rebellion effectively.
 48. Colonialism profoundly disrupted traditional ways of life in colonized societies. Colonizers imposed foreign administrative systems, replacing local governance structures. Traditional economies were often dismantled to facilitate resource extraction and export-driven industries. Culturally, colonial powers enforced their languages, education systems and religious beliefs, weakening indigenous cultural practices and identities. This imposition often resulted in a cultural amalgamation, leading to the long-term loss of local traditions and indigenous knowledge, with lasting impacts on national identities and cultural heritage.
 49.
 - a. British policies imposed heavy duties on Indian goods while promoting British imports. Indian artisans lost livelihoods, and traditional industries like cotton textiles, iron, and paper declined. Many artisans were forced into poverty or subsistence agriculture.
 - b. British education aimed to create a class of Indians "Indian in blood but English in intellect," to serve colonial administration, while sidelining traditional Indian knowledge and schools, replacing them with English language and European ideas.
 - c. The British dismantled village councils and traditional governance, replacing them with centralised bureaucracy for tax collection. They transformed India's economy to supply raw materials and buy British goods. Railways and telegraphs connected markets and moved troops, but primarily served colonial commercial and strategic goals, funded by Indian taxpayers rather than public welfare.
 50.
 - a. The famine was caused by crop failures, harsh revenue collection, and high cash taxes imposed by the East India Company. These policies forced farmers to sell everything, including seed-grain, leading to widespread starvation and deaths of nearly 10 million people.

- b. The British extracted wealth through taxes, charging for railways, telegraph networks, and wars. This drain funded Britain's Industrial Revolution, leaving India impoverished and underdeveloped while the extracted wealth amounted to trillions of U.S. dollars.
- c. British policies, such as strict revenue collection, free-market pricing, and grain exports, aggravated famines. Relief efforts were minimal, and officials sometimes deliberately kept aid low. These actions, combined with natural calamities, caused millions of deaths, prolonged starvation, and deepened rural poverty, leaving a lasting negative impact on India's economy and society.
51. a. The Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion was triggered by the 1770 Bengal famine and the British East India Company's restrictive land and taxation policies, which limited the movement of sannyasis and fakirs and affected local livelihoods.
- b. The Santhal Rebellion of 1855-1856 was led by Sidhu and Kanhu Murmu. It arose due to exploitation by landlords and moneylenders supported by the British, who were seizing tribal ancestral lands, prompting the Santhals to resist fiercely.
- c. The Indigo Revolt (1859-1862) occurred when European planters forced Bengal peasants to grow indigo instead of food crops. Poor pay and debt traps led to peasant suffering. The revolt targeted planters, gained support from educated Bengalis and the press, and compelled the British to restrict abuses, inspiring further anti-colonial resistance.
52. a. Rani Lakshmbai defended Jhansi and captured Gwalior fort, while Begum Hazrat Mahal led the defence of Lucknow. Both rejected British offers of surrender, demonstrating courage and leadership in resisting annexation and oppression during the 1857 uprising.
- b. Europeans documented India's geography, ethnic groups, art, and architecture, restoring some monuments while stealing cultural artefacts. Sanskrit texts were translated into European languages, influencing philosophy, literature, and arts in Europe and even the United States.
- c. European colonialism imposed heavy taxation, disrupted traditional industries, caused famines, and enforced legal, administrative, and educational systems serving colonial control. Portuguese and French created cultural and religious divisions, while uprisings were brutally suppressed. Despite exploitation, Indian texts influenced Europe, showing that cultural exchange sometimes flowed opposite to political domination.
53. a. European countries were motivated by political competition, economic advantages like resources and trade, religious conversion, and scientific exploration. They aimed to expand territory, increase global influence, and acquire knowledge of new lands.
- b. Colonisation caused loss of independence, exploitation of resources, destruction of traditional practices, and imposition of foreign cultural values. The benefits of economic growth and technology mainly served the colonisers, not the colonised populations.
- c. European colonialism involved conquest, settlement, and imposition of political, economic, and cultural systems. Colonisers exploited natural resources, enslaved populations, and sought to convert locals to Christianity. While it facilitated technological and economic growth for Europeans, it caused immense hardships, disrupted traditional societies, and led to loss of sovereignty for the colonised regions.
54. State whether the given statement is True or False:
- (a) **(a) True**
Explanation:
 The Goa Inquisition, which began in 1560, was abolished in 1812.
- (b) **(b) False**
Explanation:
 Indian historians rejected the term 'Sepoy Mutiny' after Independence.
- (c) **(a) True**
Explanation:
 The statement is true because the Revolt of 1857 is also known as India's First War of Independence as it was the first large-scale uprising against British rule involving soldiers, rulers, and civilians.

(d) (a) True

Explanation:

Mir Jafar's mutiny enabled the British victory.

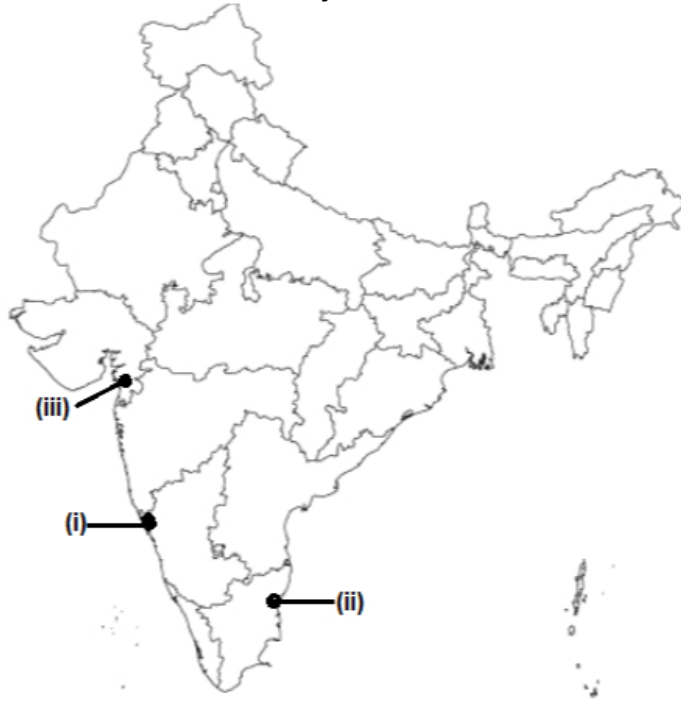
(e) (a) True

Explanation:

Colonialism originated in the 1st millennium BCE with the expansion of great empires.

55. During the Great Famine of 1876-1878, British policies significantly worsened conditions. The administration's adherence to 'free market' policies allowed grain prices to escalate unchecked, leading to food inaccessibility. Despite the crisis, large quantities of grain were exported to Britain. Additionally, the administration's opposition to governmental intervention to reduce food prices further aggravated the situation. Extravagances, such as Lord Lytton's durbar, seemed insensitive during severe scarcity. The relief camps established were drastically inadequate, with supplies insufficient to meet the needs of those affected by the famine, reflecting a major administrative failure to address this humanitarian crisis.
56. Colonialism is defined as the practice where one country exerts control over another region, establishing colonies, and imposing its political, economic, and cultural systems. Historically, colonialism dates back to the 1st millennium BCE, during the rise of great empires. This phenomenon continued into the 1st millennium CE with the spread of Christianity and Islam, where territories were colonized along spiritual lines. The 'Age of Colonialism' is most notably recognized during Europe's expansion starting in the 15th century, when European powers such as Spain, Portugal, Britain, France, and the Netherlands established colonies around the world through military conquests, leading to significant cultural and economic changes.
57. The famines during British rule in India were exacerbated by colonial economic policies emphasizing revenue collections and market liberalization. The East India Company's high taxation demands in Bengal disregarded the agricultural conditions, leading to the 1770-1772 famine. Additionally, the British administration prioritized export of food grains even amidst local scarcities. The "free market" policy allowed prices to soar without intervention, intensifying food shortages. The lack of governmental intervention and relief, compounded by occasional celebrations of extravagance by British officials, showcased systemic neglect, prioritizing colonial profits over Indian welfare and exacerbating already severe famine conditions.
58. During the Age of Colonialism, key European nations that played pivotal roles were **Spain, Portugal, Britain, France, and the Netherlands**. These countries undertook extensive exploration and conquest, establishing colonies across numerous regions, including **Africa, Asia, the Americas, Australia, and many Pacific islands**. Their colonial endeavors were driven by **political competition, the desire for economic gains through access to valuable resources and new markets, and the aim of spreading Christianity**. In addition, technological advancements in **navigation, shipbuilding, and military weaponry** enabled them to expand their influence globally. These colonial powers left a lasting impact on the regions they colonized, influencing their cultures, economies, and societies.
59. The British dismantled India's well-organized local governance systems, replacing them with a centralized bureaucracy centered on tax collection and order maintenance. Traditional village councils, which handled community disputes and public works, were largely eliminated. This eradication of indigenous governance structures severed the mechanisms that had been central to community decision-making for centuries. Consequently, Indian communities lost their autonomy and the ability to address localized needs effectively. The British introduction of foreign legal norms, administered in an alien language, further disconnected Indians from judicial processes. These changes promoted a layer of governance ill-suited to local contexts, alienating people from systems that had previously served them well.
60. I. A. Calicut (Kozhikode), Kerala
B. Plassey (Palashi), West Bengal
II. (i) **Goa** – Western coast of India (Arabian Sea), in present-day Goa
(ii) **Pondicherry (Puducherry)** – Eastern coast, near Tamil Nadu

(iii) Surat – Southern Gujarat, western India



61. i. A. Calicut (Kozhikode), Kerala
B. Plassey (Palashi), West Bengal



62. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) Kappad
- (b) 1757
- (c) Un-British
- (d) Sannyasi-Fakir Rebellion
- (e) subsidiary alliance
- (f) Battle of Colachel
- (g) charter
- (h) 15th
- (i) British
- (j) civilising

