Section 1: Answer each question in about 500 words each.

1. Discuss the rise of national consciousness in 19th-century India.

Ans: The British ruled India to promote their own interests. In doing so they often subordinate Indian welfare to British gain. The Indians realized gradually that their interests were being sacrificed to those of British interests. This clash of interests was the root cause of the rise of the nationalist movement. Eventually the peasants, the artisans and the workers discovered that they had no political rights and virtually nothing was being done for their intellectual and cultural development. The educated Indians discovered that economic exploitation by Britain was only increasing India’s poverty. Thus the anti-imperialist movement gradually arose and developed in India.

Nationalist sentiments grew up among the general people on account of the following major factors. And it did not take even much time. The factors were as follows.

The British Imperialist Policy

After the Revolt of 1857 the British Government followed a policy of Divide and Rule.

First, it seeks the support of the Zamindars, rulers of Princely states and other conservative sections of Indian society. The English educated class considered itself the true representative of the Indian people. It, therefore, wanted more representation in the Legislative Councils and the same rights in public that the British nationals enjoyed in public services. The British rulers regarded India as a British colony. They wished to reserve the right of administration for themselves. Ripon wanted the educated class to support British rule in India while Lytton sought the support of the conservative elements in society. Thus the imperialist policy of the government based on the principle of ‘Divide and Rule’ of Indians led to the rise of anti-imperialist feelings in India.

English Education

Educated young men who know English were informed about the struggle of the people of Italy, and Greece against foreign domination in their countries. They got inspiration from the revolutions in France and America. When a uniform system of education was introduced in India it helped to evolve a common goal and uniform approach to the political leaders of the different regions.

Although the English educated class was a minority of the whole population of India but its influence and leadership could mould public opinion as the newspapers, educational institutions and the advocates of the legal courts were all greatly influenced by the opinion of this group. English education up to the end of the 19th century was confined to the upper and middle classes of society.

The Press

The newspapers contributed a good deal to the awakening of national consciousness in India. After the Revolt of 1857 the government tried to control the newspapers. The government prepared a ‘Report on Native Newspapers’. But the number of newspapers continued to increase and they became a very good medium of spreading ideas about political rights among the common people. Both in Bengal and Maharashatra these newspapers criticized the government policies. The government tried to put restrictions on these newspapers as they brought various problems such as injustice of the administration, racial discrimination, economic exploitation of Indians, etc. to the notice of the people. They expressed the opinion that the British rule in India was resulting in the moral, economic and intellectual degeneration of Indians. In 1878 Lytton got

Literature

Nationalist literature in the form of novels, essays and patriotic poetry also played an important role in arousing national consciousness. For example, the novel Ananda math by Bankim Chandra Chatterji was a source of great inspiration to all the nationalist leaders. The national song ‘Vandematram’ was a great awakening for the society. Other prominent nationalist writers of the period were Rabindranath Tagore in Bengali, Vishnu Shastri Chipulkar in Marathi, Subramanya Bharati in Tamil, and Baratendu Harish Chandra in Hindi.

Political Associations

As early as 1830 the Zamindars of Bengal organized themselves into a Landholder’s Society. They protested against the Act that empowered government to take in its possession all rent-free lands. Soon after, three political associations namely British Indian Association in Calcutta (1851) Madras Native Association in Madras (1852) and Of Indian artisans and craftsmen.

or

Discuss the role of the Indian state in promoting industrialisation after 1947.

Ans: The model aimed towards an economy with two sectors each producing capital and consumer goods. The focus was on heavy goods sector and by “heavy goods” I mean machine-building complexes.

Mahalanobis strategy of development was resting on the idea of import substitution.

A lot of people think that Nehru didn’t do much for this country and his policies failed, but the Nehru era witnessed the recovery of India and the ignition of a growth process that has remained undimmed for over 5 decades, during which time the economy has been hastening slowly. It is worth noting that under the leadership of Jawahararl Nehru the Indian economy was starting to become more self reliant. A surge in public investment as well as saving had been achieved in Nehru era.

Post Independence, Jawaharlal Nehru was aiming towards a long term growth plan. His main aim was to build a self-reliant economy and that’s when Indian planners started to give priority to industrialization. This was the reason why “Nehru-Mahalanobis” model was adopted. The post colonial economic policy was aimed towards making a break from the immediate past and to bring public and economic growth in alignment.

During the second year plan (1956–1961), a higher priority was given to Industrialization. The 2nd year five year plan functioned on the basis of Mahalanobis model. The planning committee of the congress which was chaired by Nehru at the request of Subhash