

# CLASS Notes

Class: VIII

Topic: CIVILISING THE NATIVE; EDUCATING THE NATION

Subject: SOCIAL SCIENCE

To be written in notebook. Objectives to be discussed in class.

## 1. Answer the following questions.

Question 3.

Why did William Jones feel the need to study Indian history, philosophy and law? Answer:

He felt the need to study Indian history, philosophy and law because only these texts could reveal the ideas and laws of the Hindus and Muslims, and only a new study of these texts could form the basis of future development in India.

Question 4.

Why did James Mill and Thomas Macaulay think that European education was essential in India? Answer:

Both James Mill and Thomas Macaulay saw India as an uncivilised country that needed to be civilised.

- ✓ And for this purpose, European education was essential.
- ✓ They felt that knowledge of English would allow Indians to read some of the finest literature of the world, it would make them aware of the developments in Western science and philosophy.
- ✓ Teaching of English could thus be a way of civilising people, changing their tastes, values and culture.

Question 6.

Why did Mahatma Gandhi think that English education had enslaved Indians? Answer:

- ||
- Mahatma Gandhi was dead against English education.
- ✓ He argued that this type of education had created a sense of inferiority in the minds of Indians.
  - ✓ It had made them see Western civilisation as superior and had destroyed the pride they had in their own culture.
  - ✓ It had cast an evil spell on Indians. Education in English had crippled them, distanced them from their own surroundings and made them strangers in their own lands. What is more, it had enslaved them.

Extra questions:

Q.1) What were the recommendations of the 'Wood's Despatch'?

Ans. The recommendations of the 'Wood's Despatch' were:

- a) An education department was to be set in every province.
- b) Universities on the model of the London Universities be established in big cities like Bombay (Mumbai), Calcutta (Kolkata), and Madras (Chennai).
- c) At least one government school be opened in every district.

- d) Affiliated private schools be given grant in aid.
- e) The Indian natives should be given training in their mother tongue.

Questions to be done by the students.

- 1) What were the motives for the British to conquer India?
- 2) The British thought themselves to be superior to Indians. Why?
- 3) What can be done if a nation has to be civilized?
