

# CLASS NOTES

**Class: VIII**

**Topic: NOTES  
HISTORY**

**Subject: SOCIAL SCIENCE**

**CHAPTER-3  
RULING THE COUNTRYSIDE  
QUESTION-ANSWERS & worksheet**

## NCERT QUESTIONS

### 1. Describe the main features of Permanent Settlement.

ANS-I. permanent settlement was introduced during the regime of Lord Charles Cornwallis in 1793.

II. Rajas and taluqdars were recognized as Zamindars were responsible for collecting rent from the peasants and pay revenue to the company.

III. The amount paid by the zamindars to the company was fixed permanently.

IV. They also felt that this would motivate the zamindars to invest in improving the land. The zamindars would benefit from increased production because the revenue demand would not be increased in near future.

V. Zamindars lost their right over the lands whenever they fail to make payments to the company.

### 1. How was the mahalwari system different from the Permanent Settlement?

ANS-Difference between Mahalwari System and Permanent Settlement are given below:

<b>Mahalwari System</b>	<b>Permanent Settlement</b>
Holt Mackenzie devised it and it came into effect in 1822	Permanent Settlement was brought by Lord Cornwallis in 1793
The epicentre of the system was a village	There was no such epicentre
The estimated revenue of each plot within a village was recorded by the Collector and added up to calculate the total revenue that each village (mahal) had to pay	The revenue was fixed that each zamindar had to pay to the company
The revenue was to be revised periodically	Revenue was permanently fixed
The charge to collect the revenue was on the village headman	The charge to collect the revenue was on the village zamindar (rajas/taluqdars)

### 2. Give two problems which arose with the new Munro system of fixing revenue.

ANS-The new Munro system of fixing revenue posed two problems:

- The revenue demand was too high for peasants to pay
- Peasants were unable to pay high revenue and the villages were deserted.

3. Why were ryots reluctant to grow indigo?

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- Ans.1. The ryots were reluctant to grow indigo because the price they got for the indigo they produced was very low.  
 2.The planters insisted that indigo be cultivated on the best soils in which peasants preferred to cultivate rice.  
 3.As the Indigo plant had deep roots it exhausted the soil fertility and the land was unfit for rice cultivation.

4.What were the circumstances which led to the eventual collapse of indigo production in Bengal?

Ans.Indian farmers rebelled against being forced to grow indigo plants. The Blue Rebellion broke out in March 1859, which was the beginning of the collapse of indigo production in Bengal.  
 Farmers refused to pay rent to the planters and refused to grow indigo. They attacked the indigo factories with weapons and their womenfolk attacked with pots and pans. The agents of the planters were beaten and farmers who worked for the planters were socially segregated.

## Extra Questions-

What are the two system of indigo cultivation being followed?

Ans-

Nij System	Ryoti System
1. The planters produced indigo in the rented or controlled lands	1. The planters forced ryots to sign satta, else village headman signed
2. Needed fertile lands	2.Planters held 25% land. Gave low interest loan to produce indigo
3. Needed large areas to cultivate	3.Cultivated on areas used for rice. Planters gave seeds and drill.cultivators laboured hard
4. Needed huge labours, ploughs and bullocks	5. Deep roots of indigo weakend soil. New loans given post harvest. Loan given post harvest.loan cycle never ended.

Q. Why did the Bengal economy fall into a deep crisis?

Within five years the value of goods bought by the Company in Bengal doubled. Before 1865, the Company had purchased goods in India by importing gold and silver from Britain. Now **the revenue collected in Bengal was financing the purchase of goods for export**. Hence, the Bengal economy facing deep crisis.

Artisans deserted villagers as they were forced to sell their goods to the Company at low prices.Peasants were unable to pay dues.Production by artisans declined and farm production also declined.The 1770 famine killed 10 million people in Bengal.

## Worksheet:-

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## MCQ

1. Gandhiji visited Champaran
  - (a) to see the plight of Indigo planters in Champaran
  - (b) to see the progress of Indigo plantation
  - (c) to see the managing system of company
  - (d) none of the above
2. Who devised the new-system of revenue called Mahalwari?
  - (a) Queen Elizabeth
  - (b) Holt Mackenzie
  - (c) Queen Victoria
  - (d) Gandhiji
3. Who had developed the Munro system?
  - (a) Captain Alexander
  - (b) Holt Mackenzie
  - (c) Thomas Munro
  - (d) None of these
4. The Company tried many experiments to increase the land revenue. Name the Settlement system introduced in the Madras and Bombay presidencies ?
  - (a) Permanent Settlement System
  - (b) British Settlement System
  - (c) Ryotwari Settlement System
  - (d) Mahalwari Settlement System
5. A few statements with respect to the Bengal economy after the Company had become the Diwan are given. Pick out the one that is not applicable to the Bengal economy.
  - (a) The Bengal economy thrived and progressed.
  - (b) Artisanal production and agricultural cultivation showed signs of collapse
  - (c) The artisans started deserting villages as they were forced to sell their goods to the Company at low prices
  - (d) Peasants were unable to pay the dues that were being demanded from them
6. A set of statements on how the Permanent Settlement system was advantageous to the British are given below. Pick out the one that is not applicable
  - (a) The revenue amount was not a fixed one and the zamindars did not benefit from increased production from the land.
  - (b) The rajas and taluqdars were recognized as zamindars.
  - (c) The British could get a continuous flow of revenue .
  - (d) This system created a new class of landlords who were loyal to the British.
7. From among the regions mentioned below, which region introduced the Mahalwari Settlement System in 1822 ?
  - (a) Bombay
  - (b) Madras
  - (c) Bihar
  - (d) Uttar Pradesh

8. What do you mean by nij and ryoti?
- The two main trading centres of indigo
  - The two main areas where indigo was cultivated in India
  - The two important systems of indigo cultivation
  - The two main sets of zamindars
9. Why many Scotsmen and Englishmen came to India and became planters ?
- Many rich landlords lost their interest in cultivation, so the Scotsmen and Englishmen became planters to invoke interest among the landlords
  - The British relaxed rules for the private ownership of land to the Scotsmen and Englishmen, so they thought they could reap huge profits by cultivating crops.
  - Attracted by the prospect of high profits of indigo, they invested money in indigo cultivation and became planters.
  - Many Indian farmers auctioned their land because they could not pay the revenue , so the Scottish and Englishmen thought they could become planters and cultivate any crop.

Fill in the Blanks:-

- The weavers of ----- in India created Kalamkari print.
- The two main systems of indigo cultivation is ----- and -----.
- Ryotwari system was also known as-----
- Gomasthas were the agents of -----
- The company introduced the permanent settlement in -----

Match the following:-

Column A	Column B
A. Diwan	a) Village
B. Indigo	b) Cultivation of Planter's own land
C. Vat	c) A plant producing blue colour
D. Mahal	d) Storage vessel
E. Nij	e) Fixing revenue

**Read the below passage and answer the following questions:-.**

In many villages of Bengal, some of the powerful ryots did not cultivate their land, but instead gave out their lands to others (the under-tenants), taking from them very high rents.

In 1806, H. T. Colebrook described the conditions of these under-tenants in Bengal: "The under-tenants, depressed by an excessive rent in kind, and by usurious (lending money at a rate of interest that is too high) returns for the cattle, seed, and subsistence, advanced to them, can never extricate themselves from debt. In so abject a state, they cannot labour in spirit, while they earn a scanty subsistence without hope of bettering their situation."

- Do you think the under-tenants of Bengal were happy with their living conditions? Why?
- Were the dissatisfied and depressed under tenants able to work well? Why?

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(iii) Compared to the under-tenants of Bengal what are the improvements in the life of our present day farmers?

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