

UPPCS

30 January, 2025

Q.1 Discuss the economic impact of British policies in India from 1757 to 1857. (200 Words)

Ans- Introduction

The economic impact of British policies on India between 1757 and 1857 was profound, as the colonial regime systematically **exploited India's resources**. The economic structure was reshaped to serve British interests, leading to severe consequences for various sectors.

- **Agrarian Exploitation:** The **Zamindari System** and the **Permanent Settlement (1793)** led to the concentration of land in a few hands. This caused **heavy taxation** on peasants and increased **agrarian distress**. Revenue extraction exceeded agricultural productivity, pushing farmers into **indebtedness** and exacerbating **landlessness**, thereby hindering agricultural growth.
- **Deindustrialization:** India's traditional industries, including **textiles, shipbuilding, and crafts**, suffered a sharp decline. British policies imposed **high tariffs** on Indian exports while flooding the market with **cheap British goods**, leading to the collapse of Indian industries, especially the **textile sector**, which had once been globally renowned.
- **Impact on Trade:** The British controlled **trade routes and ports**, favouring their own economic interests. India's exports of raw materials like **cotton, silk, and indigo** were met with the import of expensive British goods, creating a **trade imbalance** and draining India's wealth.
- **Infrastructure Development for Exploitation:** Railways, roads, and ports were built to extract resources and facilitate the movement of British goods, not for India's internal development.
- **Drain of Wealth:** The **Drain of Wealth** theory, articulated by **Dadabhai Naoroji**, highlighted the significant transfer of India's wealth to Britain, impoverishing the nation.

Conclusion:

British policies from 1757 to 1857 drastically transformed India's economic structure, focusing on **resource extraction** and ensuring long-term economic underdevelopment

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Q.2 Discuss the contributions of Subhas Chandra Bose in the Indian freedom struggle. Was his approach to independence different from that of Gandhi and the Congress?" (200 Words)

Ans- Introduction

Subhas Chandra Bose was a prominent leader in the Indian freedom struggle, known for his bold and dynamic approach. His contributions significantly shaped the direction of India's fight for independence, and his methods were in contrast to those of **Mahatma Gandhi** and the **Indian National**

Contributions of Subhas Chandra Bose in India's Freedom Struggle

- **Led INC (1938-39)**, advocating complete independence (Purna Swaraj).
- **Formed Forward Bloc (1939)** for radical struggle.
- **Revived INA (1943)** and led military campaigns.
- **Established Provisional Government of Free India** in Singapore.
- **Role in Rani Jhansi Regiment:** led by **Lakshmi Sehgal**, aimed at promoting women's participation in the armed struggle for independence.
- **Inspired nationalist movements** through INA trials and armed resistance.

Aspect	Subhas Chandra Bose	Mahatma Gandhi
Approach to Independence	Militant nationalism , sought armed struggle.	Non-violent resistance (Ahimsa) and civil disobedience .
Role in Indian National Army	Formed and led the Indian National Army (INA) .	Did not support armed rebellion; focused on non-violent methods.
Methods of Protest	Emphasized armed struggle , sought support from Axis powers during WWI.	Advocated for non-violence , satyagraha , and civil disobedience .
Relation with British Empire	Favoured direct confrontation and foreign alliances.	Sought to weaken British authority through peaceful means.
Leadership in Congress	Led Forward Bloc ; often in conflict with Congress leadership.	Led Indian National Congress (INC) ; focused on mass mobilization.
International Alliances	Sought international support , notably from Japan and Germany.	Focused on indigenous leadership , avoided foreign alliances.
Philosophical Differences	Radical approach, believed in violence when necessary.	Moderate approach, firmly committed to non-violence and moral resistance.
Impact on Freedom Struggle	Played a key role in militarizing the struggle for independence.	Led the mass movement and laid the ideological foundation for freedom.

Conclusion

Subhas Chandra Bose's contributions to the Indian freedom struggle were vital in creating a more militant dimension to the movement. His **leadership of INA** and his commitment to **armed resistance** set him apart from **Gandhi** and the **Congress** leadership, who favoured **non-violence**.

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Q.3 “Highlight the significance of tribal uprisings during India’s freedom struggle. (125 Words)”

Ans- Introduction

Tribal uprisings were significant in India’s freedom struggle, representing indigenous resistance against British exploitation. These revolts highlighted socio-economic grievances and contributed to the broader independence movement.

Economic Exploitation and Tribal Grievances:

British policies, including land revenue systems and forest laws, adversely affected tribal life. They faced land dispossession, poverty, and oppression, sparking revolts.

Significant Uprisings:

1. **Santhal Rebellion (1855-1856):** A revolt against landlords and British tax collectors, led by Sidhu and Kanhu.
2. **Munda Rebellion (1899-1900):** Led by Birsa Munda, it aimed to protect tribal lands from encroachment.
3. **Rampa Rebellion (1922-1924):** Sparked by oppressive forest laws, led by Alluri Sitarama Raju.
4. **Gond Rebellion (1858-1859):** Led by Rani Durgavati, protesting revenue collection and exploitation.
5. **Koli and Bhil Uprisings:** Revolted against oppressive policies and land dispossession.

Conclusion:

Tribal uprisings were crucial to India’s independence, resisting economic exploitation and promoting nationalist sentiments among the indigenous communities.

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Q.4 Analyse the challenges faced by India in integrating princely states after independence. (125 Words)

Ans- Introduction

After India gained independence in 1947, integrating over 500 **princely states** into the Indian Union was a significant challenge. These states were ruled by local monarchs who had considerable autonomy under British rule.

- **Political Challenges:** The **princely states** had the option to join India, Pakistan, or remain independent. Some rulers, like the **Nizam of Hyderabad** and **Maharaja Hari Singh of Jammu and Kashmir**, hesitated or initially refused to accede to India. This created uncertainty and posed a risk of disintegration.
- **Diplomatic Efforts:** **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel**, the **Home Minister**, played a crucial role in negotiations. The **Instrument of Accession** was signed by most rulers, which allowed them to join India under specific terms. However, some states, such as **Hyderabad** and **Junagadh**, required forceful intervention or persuasion.
- **Military Challenges:** To ensure smooth integration, India had to use military action in certain cases. The **Hyderabad Police Action** (1948) and the **Kashmir conflict** (1947) were examples where military intervention was necessary to enforce the integration of these regions.
- **Administrative Challenges:** Post-integration, restructuring governance and aligning the local systems with the new Indian administrative framework was a major challenge. Territorial disputes and the reorganization of states created further hurdles.

Conclusion

Despite these challenges, through diplomatic skill, military intervention, and political resolve, India successfully integrated the princely states, ensuring its **territorial integrity** and sovereignty.

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Q.5 Analyse the Treaty of Versailles (1919) and its role in causing World War II. (200 Words)

Ans- Introduction

The **Treaty of Versailles** (1919) officially ended **World War I** and imposed harsh conditions on **Germany**. The treaty's terms contributed significantly to the conditions that led to **World War II**.

Key Provisions of the Treaty

The treaty imposed severe penalties on Germany, including:

- **Loss of territory:** Germany had to surrender **Alsace-Lorraine** to France and cede colonies.
- **Military Restrictions:** The German military was limited to 100,000 troops, and conscription was banned.
- **Naval Restrictions:** Dismantle the fortification along the river Rhine, reduce the size of Navy.
- **International Access to the Kiel Canal:** Open the Kiel Canal to all the nations.
- **War Guilt Clause:** Article 231 placed full responsibility for the war on Germany, humiliating the nation and inflaming nationalist sentiment.
- **Reparations:** Germany was required to pay enormous reparations to the Allied powers, burdening the economy.

Impact on Germany and Europe

The treaty created widespread **resentment** in Germany, with many Germans viewing the terms as **unjust** and **humiliating**. This resentment was exploited by the **Nazi Party** under **Adolf Hitler**, who used the promise of overturning the treaty to gain popular support.

- **Economic Consequences**

The heavy reparations and territorial losses crippled the German economy, leading to **hyperinflation** and widespread social unrest. The economic instability contributed to the rise of extremist movements, particularly **fascism** in Germany and Italy.

Conclusion

The Treaty of Versailles laid the groundwork for **World War II** by fostering **resentment**, **economic instability**, and **political extremism** in Germany. Its failure to achieve lasting peace contributed to the outbreak of global conflict in 1939.