

Chapter 1

French Revolution

Multiple Choice Questions

1. The most important of the privileges enjoyed by the clergy and nobility
- (a) Right to collect dues (b) Ownership of land
(c) Participate in wars (d) Exemption from taxes to the state

Ans. Exemption from taxes to the state

2. On which of the following day did 'Storming of the Bastille' occur?
- (a) 14th July, 1789 (b) 14th July, 1798
(c) 14th June, 1789 (d) 14th June, 1798

Ans. 14th July, 1789

3. 18th century French society was divided in to
- (a) Castes (b) Four Estates
(c) Three Estates (d) Two Estates

Ans. Three Estates

4. Society based on freedom, equal laws and opportunities was advocated by
- (a) Middle class and people of the Third Estate
(b) Clergy and nobility
(c) Philosophers such as John Locke and Rousseau
(d) Englishmen Georges Danton and Arthur Young

Ans. Philosophers such as John Locke and Rousseau

5. What did Bastille symbolize?
- (a) Benevolence of the king (b) Despotic power of the king
(c) Armed might of France (d) Prestige and power

Ans. Despotic power of the king

6. Who advocated government based on Social Contract?
- (a) Darwin (b) Spencer
(c) Rousseau (d) Montesquieu

Ans. Rousseau

7. Which of the following constituted the privileged class?
- (a) Clergy and peasants (b) Peasants and nobility
(c) First and Third Estate (d) Clergy and nobility

Ans. Clergy and nobility

8. Who was the King of France at the time of the Revolution?
- (a) Louis XIV (b) Louis XVI
(c) Marie Antoinette (d) Nicholas II

Ans. Louis XVI

9. Which of the following believed social position must depend on merit?
- (a) Middle class (b) Nobility
(c) Workers (d) Peasants

Ans. Middle class

10. Political body of France
- (a) Duma (b) Reichstag
(c) Lok Sabha (d) Estates General

Ans. Estates General

11. Which of the following was a factor in the rise of Napoleon?

- (a) Fall of the Jacobin government
- (b) Robespierre's Reign of Terror
- (c) Political instability of the Directory
- (d) Nationalist forces

Ans. Political instability of the Directory

12. What did the Red Cap worn by Sans Culottes in France symbolize?

- (a) Liberty
- (b) Brotherhood
- (c) Love
- (d) Equality

Ans. Liberty

13. Which of the following refers to the political body representing the three estates of pre-revolutionary France?

- (a) Parliament of France
- (b) National Assembly
- (c) Estates General
- (d) Estates Committee

Ans. Estates General

14. The winged woman personified

- (a) National colours of France
- (b) Act of becoming free
- (c) Personification of Law
- (d) Rays of the Sun will drive away the clouds of ignorance

Ans. Personification of Law

15. A broken chain symbolized

- (a) Chains used to fetter slaves
- (b) Strength lies in unity
- (c) Royal power
- (d) Act of becoming free

Ans. Act of becoming free

16. Which of the following refuted the doctrine of divine and absolute right?

- (a) John Locke
- (b) Rousseau
- (c) Montesquieu
- (d) Voltaire

Ans. John Locke

17. Division of power within the government was put forth in

- (a) 'Two Treaties of Government'
- (b) 'The Spirit of the Laws'
- (c) 'Le Moniteur Universal'
- (d) 'The Social Contract'

Ans. 'The Spirit of the Laws'

18. Voting in the Estates General was conducted on the principle of

- (a) Each member one vote
- (b) Male adult franchise
- (c) Universal adult franchise
- (d) Estates General

Ans. Estates General

19. Bundle of rods or fasces symbolized

- (a) Royal power
- (b) Equality before law
- (c) Law is the same for all
- (d) Strength lies in unity

Ans. Strength lies in unity

20. The Estates General was last convened in

- (a) 1604
- (b) 1614
- (c) 1416
- (d) 1641

Ans. 1614

21. Which of the following symbolized Eternity?

- (a) Sceptre
- (b) Eye within a triangle radiating light
- (c) The Law Tablet
- (d) Snake biting its tail to form a ring

Ans. Snake biting its tail to form a ring

22. In the context of France the volunteers from Marseilles sang the Marseillaise, a patriotic song when they marched into Paris. Who composed this song?

- (a) Maximilian Robespierre (b) Marie Antoinette
(c) Roget de L'Isle (d) Mirabeau

Ans. Roget de L'Isle

23. The word 'Guillotine' during French Revolution era refers to

- (a) Beheading a person (b) Awarding a person
(c) Taxing a person (d) Threatening a person

Ans. Beheading a person

24. The greatest achievement of the National Assembly convened in France in 1879 was

- (a) Issuing Declaration of Rights.
(b) Law checking the power of the Monarch
(c) Establishment of new Judiciary
(d) Establishment of new Legislature

Ans. Issuing Declaration of Rights

25. Why was the subsistence crisis caused in France?

- (a) The wages of the people were low
(b) There was widespread unemployment
(c) Increase in population led to rapid increase in the demand of food grains
(d) The government imposed various taxes

Ans. Increase in population led to rapid increase in the demand of food grains

26. Members of the Third Estate were led by

- (a) Louis XVI and Marie Antionette (b) Lenin and Kerensky
(c) Mirabeau and Abbe Sieyes (d) Rousseau and Voltaire

Ans. Mirabeau and Abbe Sieyes

27. National Anthem of France

- (a) Vande Matram (b) Roget de L Isle
(c) Le Moniteur Universal (d) Marseilles

Ans. Marseilles

28. Members of the Jacobin Club were known as

- (a) Conservatives (b) Revolutionaries
(c) Terrorists (d) San-culottes

Ans. San-culottes

29. Where did the Third Estate form and announce the National Assembly?

- (a) Indoor Tennis Court (b) Hall of Mirrors
(c) Firoz Shah Ground (d) Winter Palace

Ans. Indoor Tennis Court

30. Which of the following theories was proposed by Montesquieu?

- (a) Social Contract Theory (b) Theory of Division of Powers
(c) Theory of Popular Sovereignty (d) Theory of Democracy

Ans. Theory of Division of Powers

31. The tax called tithe was collected from French Peasants by

- (a) The Church (b) The emperor
(c) The Nobles (d) Chief of the Army

Ans. The Church

32. What was the name of the direct tax paid by the third estate to the state?

- (a) Tithe (b) Taille (c) Livre (d) Revenue

Ans. Taille

33. Which of the following was the main objective of the Constitution of 1791?

- (a) To limit the powers of the king alone
- (b) Do away with feudal privileges
- (c) Give equal rights to women
- (d) Establish a constitutional monarchy

Ans. Establish a constitutional monarchy

34. French legacy to the world

- (a) Democracy
- (b) Socialism and nationalism
- (c) Republicanism
- (d) Liberty, Freedom and Equality

Ans. Liberty, Freedom and Equality

35. Which of the following were the national colours of France during the?

- (a) Blue-green-yellow
- (b) Red-green-blue
- (c) Blue-white-red
- (d) Yellow-red-white

Ans. Blue-white-red

36. Which of the following group was not benefitted by the French Revolution?

- (a) Peasants
- (b) Workers
- (c) Nobles
- (d) Agricultural labours

Ans. Nobles

37. France on 21st September, 1792 was declared a

- (a) Socialist State
- (b) Democracy
- (c) Communist State
- (d) Republic

Ans. Republic

38. The Bastille was hated by all in France because

- (a) It stood for the despotic power of the king
- (b) It was a fortress prison
- (c) Prison In charge tortured the inmates
- (d) It housed dreaded criminals

Ans. It stood for the despotic power of the king

39. On what charges was Louis XVI guillotined?

- (a) Cruelty
- (b) Treason
- (c) Absolute Role
- (d) Miss governance

Ans. Treason

40. Match the columns;

Column A	Column B
(a) Estates belongs to a king or nobleman	(i) Tithe
(b) An estate consisting of the Lord's land and his manor	(ii) Taille
(c) A tax directly paid to the state	(iii) Chateau
(d) A tax levied by the church equal to 1/10 th .of the Agricultural products	(iv) Manor

Ans. (a)- (iii), (b) – (iv), (c)- (ii), (d)- (i)

Short Answer Questions

1. **On which day was Paris on alarm?**

Ans: 14th July 1789

2. **Why was Bastille hated by all?**

Ans: Because it stood for the despotic power of the king.

3. **Who became the king of France in 1774?**

Ans: Louis XVI

4. **Whom did France help under Louis Xi to gain their independence?**

Ans: France helped the thirteen American colonies to gain independence.

5. **What do you mean by the term “tithes”?**

Ans: The tax taken by the churches from peasants was called tithes.

6. **Who were the members of the first two estates?**

Ans: Clergy and Nobility.

7. **What was the direct tax called? Ans: Taille**

8. **Who had the burden of taxes of the state?**

Ans: The third estate alone had the burden of taxes.

9. **What was the staple food of the people of France? Ans: Bread**

10. **What is Subsistence Crisis?**

Ans: An extreme situation where the basic means of livelihood are endangered is called subsistence crisis.

11. **What idea did the philosopher John Locke give?**

Ans: John Locke sought to refute the Doctrine of Divine and absolute right of the monarch.

12. **What idea did the philosopher Jean Jacques Rousseau give?**

Ans: He gave the idea that there should be a relation between people and their representatives.

13. **What idea did Montesquieu give?**

Ans: Montesquieu gave the idea of the division of power within the government between the legislature, the executive and the judiciary.

14. **Where were the ideas of the philosophers discussed?**

Ans: The ideas of the philosophers were discussed in salons and coffee houses.

15. **When was the last time meeting of the estates general called? Ans: In 1614**

16. **When did Louis XVI call the meeting of the Estates General?**

Ans: On 5th May 1789

17. **Where were the delegates hosted?**

Ans: A resplendent hall in Versailles was prepared to host the delegates.

18. **Who represented the third estate?**

Ans: The third estate was represented by its more prosperous and educated members.

19. **Who were denied entry to the assembly?**

Ans: Peasants, artisans and women were denied entry to the assembly.

20. **What did the third estate demand?**

Ans: The representatives of the third estate demanded that voting now be conducted by the assembly as a whole, where each member would have one vote.

21. **What did the newly declared National Assembly swear?**

Ans: The newly elected National Assembly swore that they would not disperse till they had drafted a constitution for France that would limit the powers of the monarch.

22. Who led them?

Ans: They were led by Mirabeau and Abbe Sieyes.

23. Who was Mirabeau?

Ans: Mirabeau was born in a noble family but was convinced of the need to do away with a society of feudal privilege.

24. Who was Abbe Sieyes?

Ans: Abbe Sieyes was a priest.

25. What was “What is the third estate”?

Ans: “What is the third estate” was an influential pamphlet written by Abbe Sieyes.

26. Where was the National Assembly Busy?

Ans: In drafting constitution at Versailles.

27. When and by whom was the fortress prison Bastille stormed?

Ans: Bastille was stormed by the agitated crowd on 14th July 1789.

28. When did the National Assembly complete the draft constitution?

Ans: The National Assembly completed the draft constitution in 1791.

29. What was the main purpose of the constitution?

Ans: The main object of the constitution was to limit the powers of the monarch.

30. Who were Active Citizens?

Ans: Only men above 25 years of age who paid taxes equal to at least 3 days of a labourers wage were given the status of Active Citizens, that is, they were entitled to vote.

31. Who were Passive Citizens?

Ans: The remaining men and all women who did not pay taxes equal to at least 3 days of a labourers wage were given the status of Passive Citizens.

32. With what did the constitution of France begin?

Ans: The constitution of France began with a Declaration of the Rights of Man & Citizen.

33. What were established as “Natural & Inalienable” rights?

Ans: Rights such the right to life, freedom of speech, freedom of opinion, equality before law, were established as “Natural & Inalienable” rights, that is, they belonged to each human being by birth and could not be taken away.

34. Who had to protect each citizen’s natural rights?

Ans: It was the duty of the state to protect each citizen’s natural rights.

35. What does the broken chain stand for?

Ans: The broken chain stands for the act of becoming free.

36. What does ‘The bundle of rods of fasces’ mean?

Ans: It means that one rod can be easily broken, but not an entire bundle. Strength lies in unity.

37. What do you mean by ‘The eye within a triangle radiating light’?

Ans: The all – Seeing Eye stands for knowledge. The rays of the sun will drive away the clouds of ignorance.

38. What is sceptre? Ans: Sceptre is a symbol of power.

39. What do you mean by “Snake biting its tail to form a ring”?

Ans: It is a symbol of Eternity. A ring has neither beginning nor end.

40. What do you mean by “Red Phrygian Cap”?

Ans: It was the cap worn by a slave upon becoming free.

41. What do you mean by “Law Tablet”?

Ans: It means that law is same for all, and all are equal before it.

42. Against whom did the National Assembly declare war?

Ans: The National Assembly declared war against Prussia & Austria.

43. Who composed the song “Marseillaise”?

Ans: The song “Marseillaise” was composed by the poet, Roget de L’isle.

44. Who sang Marseillaise for the first time?

Ans: The Volunteer who came to join the army sang Marseillaise for the first time while marching towards Paris from Marseilles.

45. What is the National Anthem of France?

Ans: “Marseillaise” is the National Anthem of France.

46. Which was the most successful political club?

Ans: Jacobin Club was the most successful political club.

47. Who were the members of the Jacobin Club?

Ans: The members of the Jacobin Club were belonged mainly to the less prosperous sections of society like small shopkeepers, artisans such as shoemakers, pastry cooks, watch-makers, printers, as well as servants and daily wage workers.

48. Who was the leader of the Jacobin Club?

Ans: Maximilian Robespierre was the leader of the Jacobin Club.

49. What were the Jacobins known as/called?

Ans: The Jacobins came to be known as the sans-culottes, literally meaning ‘those without knee breeches.

50. What did the sans-culottes men wear in addition?

Ans: Sans-culottes men wore in addition the red cap that symbolized liberty.

51. What was the newly elected assembly called?

Ans: The newly elected assembly was called the convention.

52. When was France declared a republic? Ans: On 21 September 1792

53. What do you mean by a republic?

Ans: A republic is a form of government where the people elect the government including the head of the government.

54. Whom did Robespierre see as being ‘enemies’ of the republic?

Ans: Robespierre saw ex-nobles and clergy, members of other political parties, even members of his own party who did not agree with his methods as being enemies of the republic.

55. What happened to those whom Robespierre saw as being enemies of the republic?

Ans: Those whom Robespierre saw as being enemies of the republic were arrested, imprisoned and then tried by a revolutionary tribunal. If the court found them guilty, they were guillotined.

56. What was guillotine?

Ans: Guillotine was a device consisting of two poles and a blade with which a person was beheaded.

57. Who invented guillotine? Ans: Dr. Guillotine

58. How did guillotine get its name?

Ans: The device got its name by Dr. Guillotine who invented it.

59. What was forbidden to eat?

Ans: The use of more expensive white flour was forbidden.

60. What was directory?

Ans: Directory was an executive made up of five directors (members).

61. How many woman’s clubs came up in different French cities?

Ans: About sixty women’s clubs came up in different French cities.

62. Which was the most famous women's club?

Ans: The Society of Revolutionary and Republican Woman was the most famous women's club.

63. What was the main demand of the women?

Ans: One of the main demands of the women was that women enjoy the same political rights as men.

64. What was the main objective of the draft constitution of 1791?

Ans. The main objective of the draft constitution of 1791 was to limit the powers of the monarch.

65. Why were the women disappointed by the Constitution of 1791?

Ans: Women were disappointed that the Constitution of 1791 reduced them to Passive Citizens.

66. What was compulsory for all girls?

Ans: Together with opening of the state schools, schooling was made compulsory for all girls.

67. Who tried to improve the lives of women?

Ans: In early years the revolutionary government introduced laws to improve the lives of women.

68. What could girls no longer be forced to do?

Ans: The girls could no longer be forced into a marriage against their will by their fathers.

69. In which year did the women of France win the right to vote? Ans: In 1946

70. Name any one most revolutionary social reform of the Jacobin Regime?

Ans: One of the most revolutionary social reforms of the Jacobin Regime was the abolition of slavery in French colonies.

71. What do you mean by the triangular slave trade?

Ans: The slave trade between Europe, Africa and the Americas is known as the triangular slave trade.

72. What was the importance of slave trade for port cities like Bordeaux and Nantes?

Ans: Port cities like Bordeaux and Nantes owed their economic prosperity to the flourishing slave trade.

73. Who reintroduced slavery in France?

Ans: Ten years later Napoleon reintroduced slavery in France.

74. When was slavery finally abolished in French colonies?

Ans: Slavery was finally abolished in French colonies in 1848.

75. What do you mean by the "Freedom of Press"?

Ans "Freedom of Press" means that opposing views of events can be expressed.

76. Name some laws introduced by Napoleon?

Ans: Napoleon introduced many laws such as the protection of private property and a uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system.

77. When and where was Napoleon defeated?

Ans: Napoleon was defeated in 1815 at Waterloo.

78. What were the most important legacy of the French Revolution?

Ans: The ideas of liberty and democratic rights were the most important legacy of the French Revolution.

79. Name the two individuals of India who responded to the ideas coming from revolutionary France?

Ans: Tipu Sultan and Raja Ram Mohan Roy

80. When and where was the formation for the National Assembly announced?

Ans: The National Assembly was announced on June 20, 1789, in the hall of an indoor tennis court, in Versailles.

Long Answer Questions

1. Describe the circumstances leading to the outbreak of revolutionary protest in France.

Ans.

Following are some of the causes which had a cumulative effect to result in revolution in France:

- (a) The war with Britain for an independent America: This war led to mounting debt on the French monarchy. This necessitated imposition of new taxes on the public.
- (b) Privilege based on birth: People got privileges and position based on their lineage and not on their merit. This led to resentment among common people.
- (c) Concentration of power among the privileged: People belonging to the first and second estate had all the power and money. Masses were at the mercy of this privileged class.
- (d) Subsistence Crisis:- Rising population and less grain production resulted in demand supply gap of bread, which was the staple diet. Wages did not keep pace with rising prices. It was becoming difficult for people.
- (e) Growing Middle Class: Because of increased overseas trade a new class emerged. This class was wealthy not because of birth but because of its ability to utilize opportunities. People of the middle class started raising their voice for an end to privileges based on lineage.

All of this led to a general sense of resentment among people. Certain thinkers of the period spread awareness through various media. Some from the privileged classes also advocated a switch to democracy. So, finally there was revolution in France.

2. What was the subsistence crisis? Why did it occur in France during the Old Regime?

Ans.

An extreme situation where the basic means of livelihood are endangered is called subsistence crisis.

- (a) The population of France was on the rise. It rose from 23 million in 1715 to 28 million in 1789. This led to increase in the demand for food grains.
- (b) The production of food grains could not keep pace with the demand and the price of bread which was the staple diet of the majority rose rapidly.
- (c) The wages also did not keep pace with the rise in prices. The gap between the Rich and the poor widened. This led to the subsistence crisis.

3. What was the system of voting in the Estates General? What change did the Third Estate want in this system?

Ans. Voting in the Estates General in the past had been conducted

- (a) According to the principle that each estate had one vote.
- (b) Members of the Third Estate demanded that voting must now be conducted by the assembly as a whole, where each member would have one vote.
- (c) This was according to the democratic principles put forward by philosophers like Rousseau in his book, *The Social Contract*.

4. Describe the incidents that led to the storming of the Bastille.

Ans.

- (a) National Assembly was busy at Versailles drafting a constitution; the rest of France was seething with turmoil.
- (a) A severe winter had meant a bad harvest, the price of bread rose. Often bakers exploited the situation and hoarded supplies.
- (b) After spending hours in long queues at the bakery, crowds of angry women stormed into the shops.
- (c) At the same time, the king ordered troops to move into Paris. On 14 July, the agitated crowd stormed and destroyed Bastille.

5. Name three famous writers and philosophers who influenced the French- Revolution. What were their ideas?

Ans.

- (a) Jean Jacques Rousseau – a French Swiss philosopher. His main idea was – man is naturally good and that society of civilisation makes man anxious and unhappy.
- (b) Mirabeau – he brought about a journal and delivered powerful speeches to the crowds at Versailles.
- (c) Voltaire – A famous French writer. He exposed the evils prevailing in the Church and administration. The numbers of the first two estates were the (i) Clergy and (ii) Nobility respectively.
- (d) The ideas of these philosophers were discussed intensively in salons and coffee houses and were spread among people through books and news papers.

6. What was the importance of the declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen under the constitution of 1791 of France?

Ans. The Rights of Man and Citizen established rights such as the right to life, freedom of speech, freedom of opinion, equality before law as natural and inalienable rights i.e. these rights belonged to each human being by birth and could not be taken away. It was the duty of the state to protect each citizen's natural rights.

7. What were the causes of empty treasury at the time of Louis XVI?

- Ans.*
- i) Long years of war had drained the financial resources of France.
 - ii) There was the cost of maintaining an extravagant court at the immense palace of Versailles.
 - iii) France's involvement in the American war of independence against Britain had added more than a billion *livres* to a debt which had already risen to 2 billion *livres*.

7. Describe the main features of the constitution of 1791 drafted by the National Assembly.

- Ans.*
- i) The constitution separated powers and assigned them to different institutions- legislature, executive and judiciary.
 - ii) It made France a constitutional monarchy.
 - iii) It vested the powers to make laws in the National Assembly which was indirectly elected.
 - iv) Active citizens chose a group of electors who in turn chose the Assembly. Passive citizens had no voting rights.

9. Write a short note on the slave trade.

- Ans.*
- i) The slave trade began in the 17th century between Europe, Africa and Americas.
 - ii) French merchants sailed from ports like Bordeaux or Nantes to the African coast where they bought slaves from the local chieftains.
 - iii) These slaves were transported across the Atlantic to Caribbean colonies like Martinique, Guadeloupe and San Domingo and sold to plantation owners.
 - iv) These were important suppliers of tobacco, sugar, coffee and indigo, but the reluctance of Europeans to go and work there caused shortage of labour on the plantations.
 - v) The slave trade fulfilled this demand for labour.
 - vi) The exploitation of these slaves made it possible to meet the growing demand in Europe for sugar, coffee and indigo.

10. Who was Robespierre? Why is his reign referred as “The Reign of Terror”?

Ans.

Maximilian Robespierre was the leader of the Jacobins Club or the 'sans-culottes'. His reign, 1793-1794, is referred to as the reign of terror because:

- (a) Robespierre followed a policy of severe control and punishment. All those whom he saw as being 'enemies' of the republic - ex-nobles and clergy, members of other political parties, even members of his own party who did not agree with his methods - were arrested, imprisoned and then tried by a revolutionary tribunal. If the court found them 'guilty' they were guillotined.
- (b) Robespierre pursued his policies so relentlessly that even his supporters began to demand moderation.
- (c) He issued laws placing a maximum ceiling on wages and prices.
- (d) Meat and bread were rationed.
- (e) Use of expensive white flour was forbidden.

Robespierre followed his policies so relentlessly that even his supporters began to demand moderation. Finally, he was convicted, arrested and guillotined in July 1794.

11. What were the changes introduced by Napoleon Bonaparte in France?

Ans.

He codified French Law which is known as the Napoleonic Code. Changes introduced by Napoleon were-

- (a) Laws ensuring protection of private property
- (b) Uniform system of weights and measures provided by the decimal system
- (c) Reintroduction of slavery
- (d) Removed all trade restrictions from the market.

12. Write short note on Jacobins?

Ans.

- a) They got their name from the former convent of St. Jacob in Paris.
- b) They belonged to the less prosperous sections of the society.
- c) They included small shopkeepers, artisans such as shoemakers, pastry cooks, watch-makers, printers, as well as servants and daily wage earners.
- d) Their leader was Maximilian Robespierre.
- e) A large group among the Jacobin decided to wear long striped trousers similar to those worn by dock workers.
- f) This was to set themselves apart from the fashionable sections of society especially the nobles who wore knee breeches.

13. Discuss the participation of women in political clubs, their activities and demands.

Ans.

From the very beginning, women were active participants in the events which brought about so many important changes in French society.

- a) They hoped that their involvement would pressurise the revolutionary government to introduce measures to improve their lives.
- b) Most women of the third estate had to work for a living. They worked as seamstresses or laundresses, sold flowers, fruits and vegetables at the market, or were employed as domestic servants in the houses of prosperous people.
- c) Most women did not have access to education or job training. Their wages were lower than those of men.
- d) One of their main demands was that women should be given the same political rights as men.
- e) Women were disappointed that the constitution of 1791 reduced them to passive citizens.

14. Describe the causes for the fall of Jacobin government in France.

Ans.

- a) The Jacobin government in France was based on extreme measures. The period from 1793-1794 is referred to as the reign of terror. Robespierre followed a policy of severe control and punishment.
- b) All those he saw as being 'enemies' of the republic nobles and clergy, members of other political parties, even members of his own party who did not agree with his methods—were arrested, imprisoned and guillotined. This led to chaos and resentment among the people.
- c) Robespierre's government ordered shutting down of churches and converting church buildings into barricades or offices. Thus the clergy turned against the Jacobin regime and hastened its fall.
- d) Robespierre pursued his policies so relentlessly that even his supporters turned against him. They began to demand moderation and a middle path. Finally, he himself was tried by a court in July 1794, arrested and guillotined.

15. Describe the importance of Declaration of the Right of Man in France.

Ans

- a) The Declaration of the Right of Man in France was a landmark decision in the history of France.
- b) The constitution began with a declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen. Rights such as the right to life, freedom of speech, freedom of opinion, equality before law, were established as 'natural and inalienable' rights. That is, they belonged to each human being by birth and could not be taken away
- c) It was the duty of the state to protect each citizen's natural rights. The declaration of the Right of Man and Citizens influenced revolutionary movements elsewhere too.

16. Discuss the participation of women in political clubs, their activities and demands.

Ans.

A-Women played important role regarding various activities. In order to discuss and voice their interests women started their own political clubs and newspapers. About sixty women's clubs came up in different French cities.

B-The Society of Revolutionary and Republican Women was the most famous of them, their main demands were that

- (a) Women should be given the same political rights as men.
- (b) They demanded the right to vote, to be elected to the Assembly and to hold political office.

C- In the early years, the revolutionary government did introduce laws that helped improve the lives of women. Together with the creation of state schools, schooling was made compulsory for all girls. Their fathers could no longer force them into marriage against their will. Marriage was made into a contract entered into freely and registered under civil law. Divorce was made legal, and could be applied for by both women and men. Women could now train for jobs, could become artists or run small businesses.

D- Women's struggle for equal political rights, however, continued. During the Reign of Terror, the new government issued laws ordering closure of women's clubs, and banning their political activities. Women's movements for voting rights and equal wages continued through the next two hundred years in many countries of the world. It was finally in 1946 that women in France won the right to vote.

17. Describe the legacy of the French Revolution for the peoples of the world during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Ans.

The ideas of liberty and democratic rights were the most important legacy of the French Revolution. These spread from France to the rest of Europe during the nineteenth century, where feudal systems were abolished. Further these ideas spread to different colonies of the European nations. Colonised people interpreted and moulded these ideas according to respective needs. This was probably like seed for an end of colonization in many countries. By the mid of 20th century major part of the world adopted democracy as the preferred mode of rule and the French Revolution can be termed as the initiation point for this development.

18. Draw up a list of democratic rights we enjoy today whose origins could be traced to the French Revolution.

Ans. The following fundamental rights, given in the Indian constitution can be traced to the French Revolution:

- a. The right to equality
- b. The right to freedom of speech and expression
- c. The right to freedom from exploitation
- d. The right to constitutional remedies

19. Would you agree with the view that the message of universal rights was beset with contradictions? Explain.

Ans. The major contradiction in the message of universal rights as per the French Constitution of 1791 was the total ignorance of women. All rights were given to men. Apart from that the presence of huge number of people as passive citizens, without voting rights, was like not putting into practice what you preach. In other words it can be said that although the declaration of universal rights was a good starting point but it left much to be desired.

20. Explain the features of the constitution of France drafted in 1791

It is popularly known as “The Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen”.

- a) The constitution of 1791 was the first written constitution in France, created after the collapse of the absolute rule.
- b) Its main aim was to limit the powers of the Monarch
- c) Powers were then divided/ separated and assigned to different institutions like Legislative, Executive and Judiciary.
- d) According to this, active citizens of France elected electors who in turn voted to elect the National Assembly.
- e) Not all citizens had the right to vote. Only men of 25 years of age who paid taxes equal to at least three days of a labour’s wage. They were called active citizens.
- f) The remaining men and all women were called the passive citizen.
- g) The National Assembly controlled the King. France became constitutional monarchy.