

## **Chapter – 01 History** **How, When and Where**

### **1. How important are dates:**

- (i) History is synonymous with dates.
- (ii) We compare the past with present.
- (iii) We continue to associate history with a string of dates.

### **2. Which Dates:**

- (i) Selection of date depends on the story of past.
- (ii) Focusing on a particular set of events is important.

### **3. How do we Periodise:**

- (i) James Mill divided the Indian history into three periods: Hindu, Muslim and British.
- (ii) British rule represented all the forces of progress and civilization.

### **4. What is colonial:**

- (i) Colonial refers to the British rule.
- (ii) British rule brought about changes in values and tastes, customs and practices.

### **5. How do we know Administration:**

- (i) One important source is the official records of the British administration.
- (ii) The British felt all important documents and letters needed to be preserved.
- (iii) Specialized institutions like archives and museums were established to preserve important records.

### **6. Surveys become important:**

- (i) The practice of surveying became common under colonial administration.
- (ii) Surveys like botanical, zoological, archaeological, anthropological and forest surveys were in the list of British administration.

### **7. What do Official Records not Tell:**

- (i) The official records do not tell about the needs of people of India.
- (ii) Many official records hide the truth and only show one aspect of the event.

### **1. State whether true or false:**

- a) James Mill divided Indian History into three periods- Hindu, Muslim, and Christian. . **False**
- b) Official documents help us understand what the people of the country think. . **False**
- c) The British thought surveys were important for effective administration. . **True**

### **2. What is the problem with the periodisation of Indian History that James Mill offers?**

(See ans 10 also)

Answer James Mill divided his book into three periods, namely: Hindu, Muslims and British. According to his prejudiced version of Indian history, the British rule represents all the forces of progress and civilisation, while the period before British rule represents darkness, ignorance, despotism, religious intolerance, caste taboos, superstitious practices, etc. The view of Mill has several problems which is not acceptable due to reasons: A variety of faiths, apart from Hinduism and Islam, existed in the periods categorised as Hindu and Muslim by Mill. . All rulers

in ancient India did not share the same faith. . It is this country from where two other religions like- Buddhism and Jainism developed and spread to other parts of the world while Hindu religion also existed.

### **3. Why did the British preserve official documents? See answer 15 also.**

Answer The British preserved the important official documents because these served as records of what the officials thought, what they were interested in and what they wished for. According to the British, writing was more important than speaking as the documents in archives and museums

can be utilized for reference at a much later period whenever required for studying or debating. These can also serve as an information or proof of any decision or action taken earlier on some matter.

### **4. How will the information historians get from old newspapers be different from that found in police reports?**

Answer Information is essential for writing history of a time which can be gathered from various sources. Apart from official documents in the archives, historians gather information also from old newspapers, diaries of people, accounts of pilgrims, autobiographies of important personalities and booklets etc. Information found in newspapers is varied, based on incidents that have happened across the country whereas; the police reports are limited and localized. Because of this fact sometimes the information historians get from police reports is not as useful as it is from old newspapers. However for any incidence the newspaper may not quote all the reasons behind this and biased as per the thinking of reporter while in police records we could find some evidences for an incident and unbiased reports.

### **5. What is Social Science?**

Answer- The scientific study of human society and social relationships.

### **6. What is the difference between Pre-history and History?**

The main **difference between** history and **prehistory** is the existence **of** records; history is the recorded events **of** the past whereas **Prehistory** is the time before writing was introduced.

### **7. State the major Sources of History.**

a. Archaeological Sources- **Archaeology**, or **archeology**, is the study of the past by looking for the remains and objects left by the people who lived long ago. These remains can include old coins, tools, buildings, and inscriptions.

b. Literary sources.- **literary sources** are the **sources** you used to get some information to make and complete the work of **literature**. Example : a **history** book's **literary sources** are archaeological discoveries like monuments, coins ,manuscripts ,etc.

c. Radio carbon dating - Radiocarbon dating is a method used to date **materials** that once exchanged **carbon dioxide** with the atmosphere; in other words, things that were living. Carbon-14 is a radioactive isotope and is present in all living things in a constant amount.

d. Anthropology - The study of human societies and cultures and their development.

### **8. How dates are important in History?**

**Dates are important to history** because they help chronologically show cause and effect relationships between events. By knowing exactly when things occurred, historians can also more accurately compare different societies at specific points in time.

### **9. What is periodization? State its importance in History**

**Periodization** attempts to impart **significance** to the passage of time in **history** by identifying and ordering chronological sequences (periods). As practiced by historians, it has a long and varied **history**; as a subject of study, it commands neither a formal body of knowledge nor systematic instruction.

The **periodization** of world **history**, as imperfect and biased as it is, serves as a way to organize and systematize knowledge. Without it, **history** would be nothing more than scattered events without a framework designed to help us understand the past.

### **10. Why we cannot accept the periodization of James Mill?**

It was not **accepted** by Indian historians because it did not provide a complete view on everyone. **James Mill** divided Indian history into three parts: Hindu, Muslim and British. ... This **periodisation** is based on the religious line that there was a face for which the Hindu were the rulers and other work ruled.

### **11. Which is the most accepted periodization of Indian history?**

The **most** commonly **accepted** and less controversial **periodization of Indian history** is still based on the one proposed by James Mill in his **History of British India**. As everybody knows, such **periodization** sees **Indian history** as articulated in a **Hindu**, a Muslim and a British period.

### **12. What is the periodisation of Indian history?**

Moving away from British classification, historians have usually divided **Indian history** into 'ancient', 'medieval' and 'modern'. ... It is a **periodisation** that is borrowed from the West where the modern period was associated with the growth of all the forces of modernity – science, reason, democracy, liberty and equality.

### **13. List the features of modern history .**

- The following points may help you:
- a. Modern period is associated with scientific, rational views.
- b. It is associated with the spread of ideas related to modernity, with revolutions, with ideas of liberty, equality, rule of law
- c. It has been marked by significant developments in the field of science, literature, art, politics, warfare, technology etc.

d.It is known as an age of globalization and discovery.

e.It also saw the rise of European powers and their dominance over colonial powers.

#### **14. What were the things that official records did not tell ?discuss briefly**

Official records do not tell us what people of the country react for the laws that comprise officers opinion and activities. **Official records** do **not** tell about the feelings of people of a specific country. EXPLANATION: These **records** do **not** tell how the people felt about a particular law and how they reacted to these laws. This information can be obtained from diaries maintained by people

But these information can also be obtained from Ideas of prisoners, autobiographies of important people, book of travellers, activists , records of people etc....

#### **15. Why did the British preserve official documents?**

The **British** believed that by **preserving official documents**, it would be easier for them or any other persons to know about the decisions taken in the past. One can study the notes and reports that were prepared in the past. Their copies may be prepared and used in present time if needed so. They thought that the act of writing was **very** important to run and govern **a** country in **a** better way. they believed that it would help them to systemic the reports and **official document** and in this way they can be used further.

#### **16. Who is the father of History? And Modern History?**

**Herodotus** has been called the “father of history.”

Bishop William Stubbs has been called the '**Father of Modern History**'