

IAS Mains History 1991

Paper II

Section A

1. Comment any three of the following statements in about 200 words each:
 - a. 'This Anglo-Maratha War covering nearly nine years from the murder of Narayan Rao to the Treaty of Salbye emphatically discloses the vitality of the Maratha nation which had not been exhausted either by the disaster of Panipat or the death of their great Peshwa Madhavrao.'
 - b. 'The role of the East India Company proved disastrous to the handicraft industry in India for a number of reasons.'
 - c. 'The tragedy of Curzon lay in that, with such abundance of trained talent; he was denied the crowning qualities. He was never an administrator of the first rank.'
 - d. The relations of the Native States, however conducted are essentially relations with the British Crown and not with the Indian Government.
2. Identify the distinct stages of colonialism in India. How did these stages affect the Indian economy?
3. Discuss 'the safety valve' theory. Does it satisfactorily explain the foundation of the Indian National Congress?
4. Analyses the main contours of Non-Brahmin Movements in Western and South India in the nineteenth and first half of the twentieth centuries.

Section B

5. Comment on any three of the following statements in about 200 words each:
 - a. 'His (Martin Luther's) rebellion was essentially popular and national.'
 - b. 'French political writers of the eighteenth century were influenced by Locke and also by the curious contrast. Which they perceived between the government of his country and their own.'
 - c. 'The Heavenly Land system was significant in that it greatly expanded the idea of equalizing rich and poor and landowning which the peasant wars had put forward in the past.'
 - d. 'Comparison of the fascist regime in Italy with the National Socialist regime of Germany is almost inevitable. The similarities are obvious, but there is one point of difference which is worth mentioning.'
6. Discuss the view that Louis XIV of France was a great king- 'the grand monarch.'
7. Examine the issues involved in the American Civil War. Was it a contest between two separate nations?
8. Show how the Spanish Civil War a prelude to World War II.