

IAS Mains History 1999

Paper-II

Candidates should attempt Question 1 and 5 which are compulsory, and any three of the remaining questions selecting at least one question from each Section. All questions carry equal marks.

Section A

1. Comment on any three of the following statements in about 200 words each:
 - a. After 1757 there grew up a State of Bengal which was a “sponsored state” as well as a “plundered state”
 - b. The British Indian State experienced the ‘wind of change’ with the arrival of Lord William Bentinck.
 - c. The Christian Missionary propaganda from 1813 onwards was “often insensitive and wounding”
 - d. The Indian Middle Class firmly believed that “Britain had imposed a colonial economy on India which had impoverished the country.”
2. Do you believe that the uprising in 1857 was nationalist in nature? If not, what was its character?
3. Trace the origin and growth of the Indian Muslim League.
4. “Gandhi's mystique consisted of a union of original ideas with a remarkable flair for tactics and an uncanny insight in the mass mind.” Elucidate.

Section B

5. Comment on any three of the following statements in about 200 words each:
 - a. Portugal and Spain, the pioneers in world exploration, were also first in the race to conquer overseas countries
 - b. To some extent, the American War of Independence inspired the French Revolution
 - c. The political unification of Germany was accomplished solely by Bismarck
 - d. With the proclamation in Nanking of a Chinese Republic with Sun-Yat-Sen as the President in 1911, “the old China wilted rapidly.”
6. Trace the rise and growth of the New European Society in the inter-war period.
7. “Stalinist Russia was a despotic regime.” Critically examine this view.
8. In the post-Second World War scenario friends in war did not remain friends in peace. Examine the truth of this view in the period of your study.