

British rule society

Few centuries of Muslim rule in India before the establishment of British rule did not contribute to close social relationships between the Hindus and the Muslims nor was the relation between these two major communities based on social give and take. There is no denying the fact that to the Hindus the Muslims were invaders, who came from outside and deprived them of their independence and this historical fact contributed largely to hinder the growth of social unity. Further the fact that most of the India Muslims were converts from the so called lower classes of the Hindu Society also stood in the way of social unity between the two communities.

As a result of living side by side there grew among the Hindus and the Muslims behavioural friendliness no doubt but during the first half of the 18th century there was very little of what we understand by social give and take. For the Hindus it was sacrilege to take food or drink at the hands of the Muslims.

In the Hindu Society the rigidity of caste system still persisted in the 18th century untouchability, lack of freedom on the part of the females, superstition etc. were the bane of the 18th century Hindu Society.

After the establishment of the British rule in India and the end of Muslim political authority the former attitude of the Muslims to look upon the Hindus with the arrogance of the ruling class and as inferior citizens gradually died out. The realization that both the Hindus and the Muslims were equally subject to the foreigner, the British, and their economic and political fate was similar indirectly helped to develop a feeling of good will and friendliness among the two communities although they continued to remain apart - there grew up a third community.

British rule Economy :

The Indian Economy under the British Raj is the economy of India during the years of the Raj from 1858 to 1947.

Mercantilism: Mercantilism was the basic imposed by Britain on its colonies. Mercantilism that the government and the merchants became partners with the goal of increasing political power and private wealth to the exclusion of other

Indian Economy During British Rule :

India was rich in economy culture and people. But it was due to advent of foreigners that is growth got pushed into backwardness. However most British scholars attribute economic stagnation during the British period to over population, religion, caste social attitude, value system and other social institutions. Their approach is called as colonial approach.

Apart from exploitative policy in agricultural sector British also ruined Indian Economy through its Industrial and Commercial policies which favoured the British at the cost of Indian Economy. After the Industrial Revolution in England the political influence of the upper business class increased in that country.

At the instance of this newly emerged class the British government levied protective tariffs on Indian manufactures making their imports in England difficult.

Commercial Revolution

Direct maritime trade between Europe and China started in the 16th century after the Portuguese established the settlement of Goa-India in December 1510 and thereafter that of Macau in southern China in 1557. Since the English came late to the Transatlantic trade their commercial trade their commercial revolution was late as well.

The Commercial Revolution

Inflation → too many gold coins

Capitalists: and entrepreneurs take advantage

Joint Stock Companies

Speculation

The C.R



Mercantilism

Colonies

Mother Country

Capitalism



Joint Stock Company

Unit - II

Stagnation of Agricultural sector during British

The major cause of this 'sorry state' of Indian agriculture was the various land settlement systems of the colonial government. The highlight of this was the Zamindari system which was practiced in the than Benar's Presidency.

① Land revenue system - This was due to prevalence of various systems of land settlement, particularly Zamindari system - Forceful Commercialisation - Lack of irrigation facilities and resources

Land revenue system - This system was introduced by Lord Cornwallis in Bengal in 1793 under this system the zamindars owners of land were required to pay very high revenue to the British government which they used to collect from the peasants (landless laborers who were actually cultivating). The zamindars were mainly concerned with extracting high revenues from the peasants but never took any steps to improve the productivity of the land. This resulted in low agricultural productivity and worsened the peasants economically.

Forceful Commercialisation: initially, before the British rule the farmers were practicing conventional subsistence farming. They used to grow crops like rice and wheat for their own consumption. But afterwards in order to feed British industries with cheap raw materials the Indian farmers were forced to grow commercial crops like Indigo required by British industries to dye textiles. Instead of food crops like rice and wheat. This led to the Commercialisation of Indian Agriculture.

Unit - II

This commercialisation of India Agriculture not only increased the burden of high revenues on the poor farmers. but also led India to face shortage of food grains, resources, technology and investment. Therefore, Indian agriculture remained backward and primitive.

Lack of irrigation facilities and Resources. Indian agricultural sector also faced lack of irrigation facilities, insignificant use of fertiliser, lack of investment, frequent famines and other natural calamities etc. that further exaggerated the agriculture performance and made it more vulnerable.