



# पुना International School

Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul, Zundal

## ❖ CLASS VIII SOCIAL SCIENCE SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER STUDY MATERIAL

### HISTORY – CHAPTER – 5 “WHEN PEOPLE REBEL 1857 AND AFTER”

#### Policies and the People

##### **Nawabs lose their power**

Nawabs and rajas lost their authority and power since the mid-eighteenth century. In order to protect their interests, many ruling families tried to negotiate with the Company. Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi wanted the Company to recognise her adopted son as the heir to the kingdom after the death of her husband. But, the Company turned down these pleas.

Awadh was one of the last territories to be annexed. In 1801, a subsidiary alliance was imposed on Awadh, and in 1856 it was taken over. The Company planned to bring down the Mughal dynasty to an end. In 1849, Governor-General Dalhousie announced that after the death of Bahadur Shah Zafar, his family would be shifted out of the Red Fort and given another place in Delhi to reside in. After Bahadur Shah Zafar, the last Mughal King, none of his descendants would be recognised as kings – they would just be called princes.

##### **The peasants and the sepoys**

Peasants and zamindars from the countryside resented the high taxes and the rigid methods of revenue collection. Many lost their lands as they failed to pay back their loans to the moneylenders.

The Indian sepoys who were employees of the Company were unhappy about their pay, allowances and conditions of service. When sepoys were told to go to Burma to fight for the Company via sea route, they refused to go but agreed to go via land route. The Company passed a law in 1856, which stated that every new person who took up employment in the Company's army had to agree to serve overseas, if required.

##### **Responses to reforms**

The British reformed Indian society by passing laws to stop the practice of Sati and to encourage the remarriage of widows. English education was widely promoted. After 1830, Christian missionaries were allowed to function freely in its domain and own land and property. A new law was passed in 1850, to convert into Christianity easier. The law allowed Indian Christians to inherit the property of their ancestors.

#### A Mutiny Becomes a Popular Rebellion

A large number of people believed that they have a common enemy and rose up against the enemy at the same time. For such a situation to develop people have to organise, communicate, take initiative and display the confidence to turn the situation around.

In May 1857, English East India Company faced a massive rebellion. In several places, sepoys mutinied beginning from Meerut and a large number of people from different sections of society rose up in rebellion. It is considered as the biggest armed resistance to colonialism in the nineteenth century.

## **From Meerut to Delhi**

On 29 March 1857, Mangal Pandey, was hanged to death for attacking officers in Barrackpore. Some sepoys of the regiment Meerut refused to do army drill using the new cartridges, suspected of being coated with the fat of cows and pigs. On 9th May 1857, eighty-five sepoys were dismissed from service and sentenced to ten years in jail for disobeying their officers.

The soldiers released the imprisoned sepoys from the Meerut jail on 10 May. The soldiers were determined to bring an end to their rule in the country. The sepoys rode all night of 10 May and reached Delhi in the early hours next morning. Triumphant soldiers gathered in the Red Fort demanding to meet Badshah.

Bahadur Shah Zafar accepted the demand and wrote letters to all the chiefs and rulers of the country to come forward and organise a confederacy of Indian states to fight the British. The Mughal dynasty had ruled over a very large part of the country. Small rulers and chieftains controlled different territories were threatened by the expansion of British rule.

The British thought that the disturbance caused by the issue of the cartridges would die down. But the entire situation changed dramatically by the decision of Bahadur Shah Zafar.

## **The rebellion spreads**

The British were routed from Delhi, and for almost a week there was no uprising. Regiments mutinied and troops joined nodal points like Delhi, Kanpur and Lucknow. Nana Saheb, the adopted son of the late Peshwa Baji Rao proclaimed himself Peshwa, gathered armed forces and expelled the British garrison from the city. In Lucknow, Birjis Qadr proclaimed the new Nawab. In Jhansi, Rani Lakshmibai joined the rebel sepoys and fought the British along with Tantia Tope, the general of Nana Saheb. In the Mandla region of Madhya Pradesh, Rani Avantibai Lodhi of Ramgarh raised and led an army against the British who had taken over the administration of her state.

The British were defeated in a number of battles. A situation of widespread popular rebellion developed in the region of Awadh in particular. Emergence of many new leaders. For example, Ahmadullah Shah, from Faizabad, Bakht Khan in Delhi, Kunwar Singh in Bihar.

## **The Company Fights Back**

The Company brought reinforcements from England, passed new laws to easily convict the rebels. In September 1857, Delhi was recaptured and the last Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar was sentenced to life imprisonment.

In March 1858, Lucknow was taken and Rani Lakshmibai was defeated and killed in June 1858. Rani Avantibai chose to embrace death when surrounded by the British on all sides. Tantia Tope was captured, tried and killed in April 1859.

The defeat of rebel forces encouraged desertions. To win people loyalty, the British announced rewards for loyal landholders, who will continue to enjoy traditional rights over their lands. If anyone who rebelled against the British surrendered themselves and if they had not killed any white people, they would remain safe and their rights and claims to land would not be denied.

### **Fill in the blanks.**

- 1) In 1850, a new law was passed to make conversion to Christianity easier.
- 2) The revolt of 1857 started from Meerut.
- 3) Bahadur Shah Zafar died in the Rangoon jail in November 1862.
- 4) The British had regained control of the country by the end of 1859.
- 5) Laws were passed to stop the practice of sati and to encourage the remarriage of widows.
- 6) Tantia Tope fought a guerrilla war against British with the support of many tribal and peasant leaders.
- 7) Tantia Tope was the general of Nana Saheb.

### **Q2. True/False**

- 1) In the countryside peasants and zamindars resented the high taxes and the rigid methods of revenue collection. True
- 2) Nana Saheb, the adopted son of the late Peshwa Baji Rao, gathered armed forces and expelled the British garrison from the city. True
- 3) Sitaram Pande served the English for 8 years and retired in 1860. False
- 4) Ahmadullah Shah came to Lucknow to fight the British. True
- 5) Hong Xiuquan was the follower of Christianity. True
- 6) Zinat Mahal was the wife of Nana Saheb. False

### **Q3. Answer the following questions:**

- 1) **Who was the last Peshwa?**

Ans. Peshwa Baji Rao II

- 2) **Who led the revolt in Kanpur?**

Ans. Nana Saheb

- 3) **Who was the mother of Birjis Qadr?**

Ans. Begum Hazrat Mahal

- 4) **Who was the leader of the mutiny as proclaimed by the sepoys?**

Ans. Bahadur Shah Zafar

- 5) **Who translated the memoirs of Sitaram Pande into English?**

Ans. Norgate translated it into English.

6) **Who was the son of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah?**

Ans. Birjis Qadr was the son of the Nawab Wajid Ali Shah.

7) **Name the country where the Indian Sepoys were asked to go through the sea route.**

Ans. Burma

8) **Under what pretext did the British annex Awadh?**

Ans. In 1801, a subsidiary alliance was imposed on Awadh, and in 1856 it was taken over.

9) **Who wrote the book Majha Pravaas?**

Ans. The book Majha Pravaas was written by Vishnubhatt Godse, a Brahman from a village in Maharashtra.

10) **When was Mangal Pandey hanged to death and why?**

Ans. On 29 March 1857, a young soldier, Mangal Pandey, was hanged to death for attacking his officers in Barrackpore.

11) **What was the first step taken by the company towards ending the Mughal dynasty?**

Ans. The name of the Mughal king was removed from the coins minted by the Company.

12) **Q14. What rumour spread among the sepoys of the Meerut regiment about the new cartridges?**

Ans. The rumour spread that the new cartridges were greased with the fat of cows and pigs.

13) **Who took charge of a large force of fighters who came to Delhi?**

Ans. Bakht Khan, a soldier from Bareilly, took charge of a large force of fighters who came to Delhi.

14) **What is mutiny?**

Ans. When soldiers as a group disobey their officers in the army then it is called mutiny.

15) **Who was 'Viceroy'?**

Ans. The Governor-General of India was given the title of Viceroy, that is, a personal representative of the Crown.

## GEOGRAPHY CHAPTER – 4 “AGRICULTURE”

### AGRICULTURE

The transformation from a plant to a finished product involves three types of economic activities- primary, secondary and tertiary. Primary activities include the extraction and production of natural resources. Examples- Agriculture, fishing and gathering. Secondary activities- the processing of these resources. Examples- Manufacturing of steel, baking of bread and weaving of cloth. Tertiary activities-provide support to the primary and secondary sectors through services. Examples- Transport, trade, banking, insurance and advertising.

Agriculture is a primary activity. Favourable topography of soil and climate are vital for agricultural activity

### Farm System

Agriculture or farming can be looked at as a system. Important inputs-seeds, fertilisers, machinery and labour. Operations involved-ploughing, sowing, irrigation, weeding and harvesting. The outputs from the system-crops, wool, dairy and poultry products.

### Types of Farming

**Subsistence farming and Commercial farming**– main types of farming depending upon the geographical conditions, demand of produce, labour and level of technology.

**Subsistence farming**- classified as intensive subsistence and primitive subsistence farming.

<b>Subsistence farming</b>	<b>Intensive subsistence agriculture</b>	<b>Primitive subsistence agriculture</b>
The type of farming is practised to meet the needs of the farmer's family.	The farmer cultivates a small plot of land using simple tools and more labour. Climate with a large number of days with sunshine and fertile soils permit growing of more than one crop annually on the same plot.	Includes shifting cultivation and nomadic herding.  <b>Shifting Cultivation</b> – a plot of land is cleared by felling the trees and burning them. The ashes are then mixed with the soil and crops are grown. After the soil loses its fertility, the land is abandoned and the cultivator moves to a new plot. Shifting cultivation is also known as 'slash and burn' agriculture.  <b>Nomadic Herding</b> -herdsmen move from place to place with their animals for fodder and water, along defined routes. This type of movement arises in response to climatic constraints and terrain.
<b>Main Crop</b>	Rice	<b>Shifting Cultivation</b> – maize, yam, potatoes and cassava
<b>Other Crops</b>	Wheat, maize, pulses and oilseeds	

		<b>Nomadic Herding</b> -Sheep, camel, yak and goats are most commonly reared. They provide milk, meat, wool, hides and other products to the herders and their families.
<b>Areas</b>	Prevalent in the thickly populated areas of the monsoon regions of the south, southeast and east Asia.	<b>Shifting Cultivation</b> -practised in the thickly forested areas of Amazon basin, tropical Africa, parts of Southeast Asia and Northeast India.  <b>Nomadic Herding</b> – practised in the semi-arid and arid regions of Sahara, Central Asia and some parts of India, like Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir.

**Commercial Farming**– Commercial grain farming, mixed farming and plantation agriculture

<b>Commercial Farming</b>	<b>Commercial grain farming</b>	<b>Mixed Farming</b>	<b>Plantation Agriculture</b>
Crops are grown and animals reared-sale in market. The large area is cultivated and a large amount of capital is used. Work done by machines.	Crops are grown for commercial purposes.  These areas are sparsely populated with large farms spreading over hundreds of hectares. Severe winters restrict the growing season and only a single crop can be grown.	The land is used for growing food and fodder crops and rearing livestock	A type of commercial farming where a single crop is grown. Large amount of labour and capital are required. The produce may be processed on the farm itself or in nearby factories. The development of a transport network is thus essential for such farming.
<b>Crops</b>	Wheat and maize		Tea, coffee, sugarcane, cashew, rubber, banana or cotton
<b>Areas</b>	Temperate grasslands of North America, Europe and Asia	Practised in Europe, eastern USA, Argentina, southeast Australia, New Zealand and South Africa	Major plantations found in the tropical regions of the world. Rubber in Malaysia, coffee in Brazil, tea in India and Sri Lanka

## Major Crops

- **Major food crops**– wheat, rice, maize and millets.
- **Fibre crops**-jute and cotton
- **Important beverage crops**-tea and coffee

**Rice**- the staple diet of the tropical and sub-tropical regions-needs high temperature, high humidity and rainfall-grows best in alluvial clayey soil, which can retain water-Leading producers of rice are China, followed by India, Japan, Sri Lanka and Egypt-In favourable climatic conditions like West Bengal and Bangladesh 2 to 3 crops are grown in a year.

**Wheat**– requires moderate temperature and rainfall during the growing season- bright sunshine at the time of harvest- thrives best in well-drained loamy soil-grown extensively in USA, Canada, Argentina, Russia, Ukraine, Australia and India- grown in winter in India.

**Millets**– known as coarse grains-can be grown on less fertile and sandy soils-a hardy crop that needs low rainfall and high to moderate temperature and adequate rainfall- Jowar, bajra and ragi are grown in India-also in Nigeria, China and Niger.

**Maize**-requires moderate temperature, rainfall and lots of sunshine-needs well-drained fertile soils-grown in North America, Brazil, China, Russia, Canada, India, and Mexico.

**Cotton**– requires high temperature, light rainfall, 210 frost-free days and bright sunshine to grow-grows best on black and alluvial soils-Leading producers of cotton are China, USA, India, Pakistan, Brazil and Egypt-main raw materials for the cotton textile industry.

**Jute**-known as the 'Golden Fibre'-grows well on alluvial soil- requires high temperature, heavy rainfall and humid climate- grown in the tropical areas-Leading producers of Jute are India and Bangladesh.

**Coffee**– requires a warm and wet climate and well-drained loamy soil-Hill slopes are more suitable for the growth of crop-Leading producers are Brazil followed by Columbia and India.

**Tea**– a beverage crop grown on plantations-requires cool climate and well-distributed high rainfall throughout the year for the growth of its tender leaves-needs well-drained loamy soils and gentle slopes-Kenya, India, China, Sri Lanka produce the best quality tea in the world.

## Agricultural Development

Efforts made to increase farm production in order to meet the growing demand of the increasing population-achieved in many ways such as increasing the cropped area, the number of crops grown, improving irrigation facilities, use of fertilisers and high yielding variety of seeds-ultimate aim of agricultural development is to increase food security.

Developing countries with large populations practice intensive agriculture where crops are grown on small holdings mostly for subsistence-larger holdings are popular for commercial agriculture.

### Q1. Fill in the blanks.

1. In the world, **50** per cent of persons are engaged in agricultural activity.
2. **Intensive subsistence** agriculture is prevalent in the thickly populated areas of the monsoon regions of south, southeast and east Asia.
3. **Wheat** thrives best in well drained loamy soil.
4. A typical farm size in the **USA** is about 250 hectares.
5. Major plantations are found in the **tropical** regions of the world.

**Q2. True/False**

1. Selling of grocery is a tertiary activity. True
2. The farmer generally resides in the farm. True
3. Smaller holdings are more suitable for commercial agriculture. False
4. Maize is also known as corn. True
5. Less labour is required to pick the tea leaves. False

**Q3. Which crop is known as golden fibre?**

Ans. Jute is known as the 'Golden Fibre'.

**Q4. What do you mean by viticulture?**

Ans. Viticulture is the cultivation of grapes.

**Q5. In what season is wheat grown in India?**

Ans. In India it is grown in winter.

**Q6. What are fibre crops?**

Ans. Jute and cotton are fibre crops.

**Q7. Which two countries lead in the production of jute?**

Ans. India and Bangladesh are the leading producers of jute.

**Q8. Name the staple diet of the tropical and sub-tropical regions.**

Ans. Rice is the staple diet of the tropical and sub-tropical regions.

**Q9. What is sericulture?**

Ans. Sericulture is the commercial rearing of silk worms.

**Q10. What is the main characteristic of plantation agriculture?**

Ans. In plantation agriculture only a single crop is grown.

**Q11. What is arable land?**

Ans. The land on which the crops are grown is known as arable land.

**Q12. Which country is the leading producer of coffee?**

Ans. Brazil is the leading producer followed by Columbia and India.



**Q13. What is pisciculture?**

Ans. Pisciculture involves breeding of fish in specially constructed tanks and ponds.

**Q14. What is the aim of agricultural development?**

Ans. The ultimate aim of agricultural development is to increase food security.

**Q15. Which country produces the best quality tea in the world?**

Ans. Kenya, India, China, Sri Lanka produce the best quality tea in the world.

**Q16. Name the factors influencing agriculture.**

Ans. Factors influencing agriculture include favourable topography of soil and climate.

**Q17. What are 3 types of economic activities?**

Ans. The 3 types of economic activities are primary, secondary and tertiary activities.

**Q18. Who are the leading producers of cotton?**

Ans. China, USA, India, Pakistan, Brazil and Egypt are the leading producers of cotton.

**Q19. Which country leads the world in production of rice?**

Ans. China leads in the production of rice followed by India, Japan, Sri Lanka and Egypt.

**Q20. What is horticulture?**

Ans. Horticulture is the growing vegetables, flowers and fruits for commercial use.

**Q21. What are the two main types of farming?**

Ans. Farming can be classified into two main types: subsistence farming and commercial farming.

**Q22. How is subsistence farming classified?**

Ans. Subsistence farming can be further classified as intensive subsistence and primitive subsistence farming.

**Q23. Name some animals reared by nomadic herders.**

Ans. Sheep, camel, yak and goats are most commonly reared animals by nomadic herders.

**Q24. What is mixed farming?**

Ans. In mixed farming the land is used for growing food and fodder crops and rearing livestock.

**Q25. What type of climate is required for growing rice?**

Ans. Rice needs high temperature, high humidity and rainfall. It grows best in alluvial clayey soil, which can retain water.

**Q26. Why is mixed farming called so?**

Ans. Mixed farming is called so because the land is used for growing food and fodder crops and rearing livestock.

**Q27. What is agriculture?**

Ans. Agriculture is a primary activity. It includes growing crops, fruits, vegetables, flowers and rearing of livestock.

**Q28. Where is commercial grain farming practised?**

Ans. Major areas where commercial grain farming is practised are temperate grasslands of North America, Europe and Asia.

**Q29. Where is mixed farming practised?**

Ans. It is practised in Europe, eastern USA, Argentina, southeast Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

**Q30. Where is wheat grown extensively?**

Ans. Wheat is grown extensively in USA, Canada, Argentina, Russia, Ukraine, Australia and India.

## CIVICS CHAPTER – 5 “JUDICIARY”

### What is the Role of the Judiciary?

Work of the judiciary can be divided into the following:

**Dispute Resolution:** The judicial system provides a mechanism for resolving disputes between citizens, between citizens and the government, between two state governments and between the centre and state governments.

**Judicial Review:** Judiciary has the power to strike down particular laws passed by the Parliament, if it believes that these are a violation of the basic structure of the Constitution. This is called judicial review.

**Upholding the Law and Enforcing Fundamental Rights:** Every citizen of India can approach the Supreme Court or the High Court if they believe that their Fundamental Rights have been violated.

### What is an Independent Judiciary?

The Independence of Judiciary means:

1. Other branches of government – the legislature and the executive – cannot interfere in the work of the judiciary. The courts are not under the government and do not act on their behalf.
2. Independence of the judiciary allows the courts to play a central role in ensuring that there is no misuse of power by the legislature and the executive.
3. Independence of the judiciary also plays a crucial role in protecting the Fundamental Rights of citizens.

### What is the Structure of Courts in India?

There are three different levels of courts in India.

1. **District Court:** The courts that most people interact with are called subordinate or district courts or Tehsil level court.
2. **High Court:** Each state has a High Court which is the highest court of that state.
3. **Supreme Court** is at the top-level. The decisions made by the Supreme Court are binding on all other courts in India. It is located in New Delhi.

In India, we have an integrated judicial system, which means that the decisions made by higher courts are binding on the lower courts. The **appellate system** exists in India which means that a person can appeal to a higher court if they believe that the judgment passed by the lower court is not just.

### What are the Different Branches of the Legal System?

Go through the following table to understand the significant differences between criminal and civil law.

<b>Criminal Law</b>	<b>Civil Law</b>
Deals with conduct or acts that the law defines as offences. Eg: Theft, harassing a woman, dowry, murder	Deals with any harm or injury to the rights of individuals. Eg: Disputes relating to sale of land, purchase of goods, rent matters, divorce cases.
It usually begins with the lodging of a First Information Report (FIR) with the police who investigate the crime after which a case is filed in the court.	A petition has to be filed before the relevant court by the affected party only.
If found guilty, the accused can be sent to jail and also fined.	The court gives the specific relief asked for.

### Does Everyone Have Access to the Courts?

All citizens of India can access the courts in this country. This means that every citizen has a right to justice through the courts. The courts are available for all but in reality, access to courts has always been difficult for a vast majority of the poor in India. Legal procedures involve a lot of money and paperwork as well as take up a great deal of time. In response to this, the Supreme Court in the early 1980s devised a mechanism of Public Interest Litigation or PIL to increase access to justice. It allowed any individual or organisation to file a PIL in the High Court or the Supreme Court on behalf of those whose rights were being violated.

The phrase ‘justice delayed is justice denied’ is often used to characterise extended time period that courts take. However, in spite of this there is no denying that the judiciary has played a crucial role in democratic India, serving as a check on the powers of the executive and the legislature as well as in protecting the Fundamental Rights of citizens.

#### ❖ Answer the following questions:

##### Question 1

What do you understand by the word ‘law’?

Solution:

Law is a system of rules, usually imposed through a Government or Institution and is applied to govern a group people. It shapes politics, economics and society in numerous ways.

##### Question 2

What does judiciary mean?

Solution:

In law, the judiciary or judicial system is the system of courts which administers justice in the name of the state. It is the mechanism for the resolution of disputes and pronouncement of punishment. As an organ of the State, the judiciary plays a crucial role in the functioning of India’s democracy.

### Question 3

How is the work of the judiciary categorised?

Solution:

The Judiciary comprises of courts that take decisions on a very large number of issues. The work of the judiciary can be divided into 3 categories, namely Dispute Resolution, Judicial Review and upholding the Law and Enforcing Fundamental Rights.

### Question 4

Write a brief note on the independence of the judiciary.

Solution:

The Judiciary of India is an independent body. It is separate from the Executive and Legislative bodies of the Indian Government. The Executive and Legislature, that is the Central and State Governments, cannot interfere in the work of the judiciary.

The courts are not under the government and do not act on their behalf.

Judges in the High Court as well as the Supreme Court are appointed by the President with very little interference from the other branches of the government. It is also very difficult to remove a judge from his post.

### Question 5

What is the structure of the judicial system of India?

Solution:

The judicial system of India is stratified into various levels. At the apex is the Supreme Court, which is followed by High Courts at the state level, District Courts at the district level and Lok Adalats at the Village and Panchayat Level.

The structure of the courts from the lower to the highest level resembles a pyramid.

### Question 6

What is the 'appellate system'?

Solution:

An appellate court, commonly called an appeals court or court of second instance is any court of law that is empowered to hear an appeal of a trial court or other lower tribunal. In most jurisdictions, the court system is divided into at least three levels: the trial court, which initially hears cases and reviews evidence and testimony to determine the facts of the case; at least one intermediate appellate court; and a supreme court which primarily reviews the decisions of the intermediate courts. A jurisdiction's supreme court is that jurisdiction's highest appellate court. Appellate courts nationwide can operate by varying rules.

The authority of appellate courts to review decisions of lower courts varies widely from one jurisdiction to another. In some places, the appellate court has limited powers of review.

“Generally speaking, an appellate court’s judgment provides ‘the final directive of the appeals courts as to the matter appealed, setting out with specificity the court’s determination that the action appealed from should be affirmed, reversed, remanded or modified’”.

### Question 7

Mention the branches of the Legal system.

Solution:

The Legal system can be divided into 2 branches, criminal law and civil law.

Question-8

What is “Public interest Litigation”?

Solution:

“Public interest Litigation” or PIL is a litigation filed in a court of law, for the protection of “Public Interest”, such as pollution, terrorism, road safety, constructional hazards etc.

PIL can be filed for the following reasons:

1. Violation of basic human rights of the poor
  2. Content or conduct of government policy
  3. Compel municipal authorities to perform a public duty
  4. Violation of religious rights or other basic fundamental rights
  5. Any individual or organisation can file a PIL in the High Court or the Supreme
  6. Court on behalf of those whose rights are being violated. It is not necessary, that the person filing a case should have a direct interest in the case.
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