

Class:8

Subject: Social Science (History) Week-2

Chapter:1-How, When and Where

Name of the teacher :Linda soji

Summary of the chapter

**How important are dates:**

"History is certainly about changes that occur over time".

1. History is synonymous with dates.
2. We compare the past with present.
3. We continue to associate history with a string of dates.
4. We study dates to find out the sequence of events and significance of events.

**Which Dates:**

1. Selection of date depends on the story of past.
2. Focusing on a particular set of events is important.
3. By studying the dates reasons and consequences of events are understood in better way.

**How do we Periodise:**

1. James Mill divided the Indian history into three periods: Hindu, Muslim and British.
2. According to Mill, Only British rules, culture and laws could make Indians civilised.
3. There are significant sources to study the periods of events and by studying different historical evidences a string of time periods can be formed.

**What is colonial:**

1. When the subjugation of one country by another country leads to change in social, culture, economic and political sphere, it leads to colonisation.
2. British rule brought about changes in values and tastes, customs and practices.

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

1. One important source is the official records of the British administration.
2. The British felt all important documents and letters needed to be preserved.
3. Specialized institutions like archives and museums were established to preserve important records.
4. Administrative source only represents half of the picture as they all were written and maintained by British officials.
5. Several other sources studied together give a better picture of administration.

### **Sources of Information:**

1. official records, letters, memos, surveys, newspapers, magazines, autobiographies, reports, experiences of travellers, novels and poems are some important sources of information of British rule and atrocities.
2. The practice of surveying became common under colonial administration.'
3. Surveys like botanical zoological, archaeological, anthropological and forest surveys were in the list of British administration.
4. Sources kept and written by both Indians and British studied together represents several aspects of British rule and their efforts to modernise or subjugate Indian population.

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

1. The official records do not tell about the needs of people of India.
2. Many official records hide the truth and only show one aspect of the event.
3. The official records does not represent the fall outs of British administration and also do not represent the reactions and situation of indians of every sphere of society.

Key words:-

**Historian:** One who writes about the events of the past, i.e. how things were and how they changed.

**Debate:** Discussion on an important topic of public interest.

**Periodisation:** Pondering any event into periods.

**Ancient:** Very old.

**Medieval:** It refers to the period in which features of modern society did not exist.

**Subjugation:** Gaining control over a country.

**Calligrapher:** One who is specialised in the art of beautiful writing.

**Survey:** The act of examining and recording the measurements, features etc. of an area of land to prepare a map or plan for it.

**Archives:** A place where historical documents or records of a government, an organisation, etc, are stored.

Dateline

1773 – Warren Hastings became the first Governor-General of India.

1782 – First map produced by James Rennel.

1817 – James Mill published a massive three-volume work, A History of British India.

1920 – The National Archives of India came up.

Questions and Answer

[Very Short Answer Questions](#)

Q1. How historians have divided Indian history?

Ans1. Historians divided Indian history into three. They are (a) Hindu (b) Muslim and (c) British History

Q2. Who was James Mill?

**James mill** was a great philosopher and economist. He wanted to study the history of India. But as we all know studying such a elongated history wont be easy. So he divided the history or past into 3 periods- Hindu, Muslim and British

Q3. Why do many historians refer to modern period as colonial?

It is because, under British rule people did not have equality, freedom or liberty. Nor was the period one of economic growth and progress.

Q4. Who was the first Governor-General of India?

Warren Hastings was the first Governor General of India

Q5. Name the last Viceroy of India

Lord MountBatten was the last viceroy of India

[Short Answer Questions](#)

Q6. 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.

Q7. Why and how do we periodise a time in history?

Periodisation helps us understand the sequence in which various events occurred and their effects. It captures the significant features of a particular **period** and helps us **to** differentiate it from other periods.

Q8. What is colonisation?

The subjugation of one country by another, which leads to political, economic, cultural & social changes (in the country which is subjugated), this is called **colonisation**.

[Long Answer Questions](#)

Q9. What is the problem with the periodisation of Indian history that James Mill offers?

James Mill thought that all Asian societies were at a lower level of civilisation than Europe. In his prejudiced version of history, British rule represented all the forces of progress and civilisation while the period before British rule represents darkness, ignorance, despotism, religious intolerance, caste taboos, superstitious practices, etc. However, the periodisation of Indian history based only on religion is problematic for several reasons. A variety of faiths, apart from Hinduism and Islam, existed in the periods categorised as Hindu and Muslim by Mill. Also, it is not right to classify an age according to the religion of the rulers of that time. By doing so it suggests that the lives and practices of others did not matter. Another point to keep in mind is that all rulers in ancient India did not share the same faith.

Q10. How will the information historians get from old newspapers be different from that found in police reports?

The information printed in newspaper are usually affected by the views and opinions of the reporters, news editors etc. But what historians find in police reports are usually true and realistic