

Chapter

Status of Women in India through the Ages

I. Choose the correct Answer.

1. Society is constantly changing with additions, assimilations and omissions from within and outside.

- a) Human
- b) Animal
- c) Forest
- d) Nature

Answer:

- a) Human

2. The First women doctor in India was

- a) Dharmambal
- b) Muthulakshmi Ammaiyar
- c) Moovalur Ramamirdham
- d) Panditha Ramabai

Answer:

- b) Muthulakshmi Ammaiyar

3. The practice of sati was abolished in.

- a) 1827
- b) 1828
- c) 1829
- d) 1830

Answer:

- c) 1829

4. B.M Malabari was a

- a) teacher
- b) doctor
- c) lawyer
- d) journalist

Answer:

- d) journalist

5. Which of the following was/were the reform movement(s)?

- a) Brahma Samaj
- b) Prarthana Samaj E
- c) Arya Sama
- d) all the above

Answer:

d) all the above

6. The Bethune school was founded in by J.E.D. Bethune.

a) 1848

b) 1849

c) 1850

d) 1851

Answer:

b) 1849

7. Which commission recommended to start primary schools for girls in 1882 ?

a) Wood's

b) Welby

c) Hunter

d) Muddiman

Answer:

c) Hunter

8. Sarada's child Marriage Bill fixing the minimum marriageable age for girls at.

a) 11

b) 12

c) 13

d) 14

Answer:

d) 14

II. Fill in the blanks.

1. society was set up by the Christian missionaries in 1819.

Answer:

Alath Pernal Juvenile

2. of Sivaganga fought bravely against the British.

Ans: Velu nachiyar

3. Servants of India Society was started by

Answer:

Gopal Krishna Gokhale

4. was one of the greatest social reformers of Tamil Nadu.

Answer:

Periyar

5. Kandukuri Veeresalingam published a journal called

Answer:

Vivekavardhini

III. Match the following.

1 Theosophical society	a) Italian traveler
2. Sarada Sadan	b) Social evil
3. Wood's Despatch	c) Annie Besant
4. Niccolo Conti	d) Pandita Rama Bhai
5. Dowry	e) 1854

Answer:

1. Theosophical society	c) Annie Besant
2. Sarada Sadan	d) Pandita Rama Bhai
3. Wood's Despatch	e) 1854
4. Niccolo Conti	a) Italian traveler
5. Dowry	b) Social evil

IV. State True or False.

1. Women were honoured in Rig Vedic period.

Answer:

True

2. Devadasi system was a social evil.

Answer:

True

3. Raja Rammohan Roy, was the pioneer of the Indian social reform movement.

Answer:

True

4. Reservation of 23 percent to women envisaged an improvement in the socio-political status of women.

Answer:

False

5. The age of marriage was raised for boys and girls by the Sharda Act of 1930.

Answer:

True

V. Choose the correct statement.

1. Find out the correct pair.

- a) Women's University – Prof. D.K. Karve
- b) Justice Ranade – Arya Samaj
- c) Widow Remarriage Act – 1855
- d) Rani Lakshmi Bai – Delhi

Answer:

- a) Women's University – Prof. D.K. Karve

2. Find the odd one out.

- a) Child marriage
- b) Sati
- c) Devadasi system
- d) widow remarriage

Answer:

- d) widow remarriage

3. Consider the following Statements

i) Begum Hazrat Mahal, Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi led an armed revolt against the British

ii) Velunachiyar of Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu fought bravely against the British

Which of the statement (s) given above is/or correct?

- a) i only
- b) ii only
- c) i and ii
- d) neither i nor ii

Answer:

- c) i and ii

4. Assertion: Raja Rammohan Roy is most remembered by all Indians

Reason: He wiped out the evil practice of Sati from the Indian Society

- i) A and R are wrong
- ii) A is correct and R is Wrong
- iii) A is correct and R explains A
- iv) A is correct and R does not explain A

Answer:

- iii) A is correct and R explains A

VI. Answer the following in one or two sentences.

1. Name the prominent leaders who fought for the upliftment of women.

Answer:

During the British Raj, many socio-religious reformers like Raja Rammohan Roy, Dayananda Saraswathi, Keshab Chandra Sen, Iswara Chandra Vidya Sagar, Pandita Ramabai, Dr. Muthulakshmi, Jyoti Rao Phule, Periyar E.V.R, Dr. Dharmambal were the prominent leaders who fought for the upliftment of women.

2. List out some social evils?

Answer:

Female infanticide, female foeticide, Child marriage, Sati, and Devadasi system.

3 Who were the notable women during the medieval period?

Answer:

Some of the notable women during the medieval period were Razia sultana, Queen Durgavati, Chand bibi, Nurjahan, Jahan nara, Jijabai, and Mira bai.

4. Mention the important women freedom fighters of India?

Answer:

Vellunachiyar of Sivaganga, Begum Hazarat Mahal, Rani Lakshmi Bhai of Jhansi.

5. Give a note on Sati.

Answer:

1. Sati was a social evil that prevailed in Indian Society especially among the Rajputs.
2. The feudal society of the time encouraged "sati" which meant self-immolation of the widow on the funeral pyre of her husband.
3. Earlier it was a voluntary act but later by the relatives forced the widow to sit on the funeral pyre.

VII. Answer the following.

1. Trace the role of women in the freedom struggle.

Answer:

- The spread of female education led to several other social reforms of great consequences, such as the abolition of the purdah system, participation of women in the freedom struggle.
- In the early anti-colonial Struggle women played major roles in various capacities,
- Velunachiyar of Sivaganga fought violently against the British and restored her rule in Sivaganga.
- Begum Hazrat Mahal, Rani Lakshmi Bhai of Jhansi led an armed revolt of 1857* against the British.
- In the freedom struggle, thousands of women came out of their homes, boycotted foreign goods, marched in processions, defied laws, received lathi charges, and Courtted jails.

2. Explain the contribution of Social reformers to the eradication of social evils.

Answer:

- The Social reformers have contributed more for the eradication of social evils.
- Raja RamMohan Roy with the help of William Bentinck abolished Sati in 1829. Sati was declared illegal and punishable by law.

- Ishwar Chandra Vidhyasagar founded several girl's schools and promoted widow remarriage and polygamy was abolished.
- Kandukuri Veeresalingam opened his first girl's schools in 1874.
- M. G Ranade promoted widow remarriage and B.M Malabari abolished Child marriage.
- Gopal Krishna Gokhale worked for the spread of female education.
- Periyar E.V.R advocated women education and widow remarriage.
- Many women reformers also contributed to eradicate social evils.

3. Give a detailed account of the Impact of the reform movement?

Answer:

- Significant advances were made in the field of emancipation of women.
- It created of national awakening among the masses.
- It created the feeling of sacrifice, service and rationalism.
- The practice of sati and infanticide were made illegal.
- It permitted widow remarriage.
- The following legislations have enhanced the status of women in matters of marriage adoption and inheritance.

Legislation Provisions:

- Bengal regulation of XXI, 1804 – Female infanticide was declared illegal
- Regulation of XVII, 1829 – Practice of sat was declared illegal
- Hindus Widow's Remarriage Act, 1856 – It permitted widow remarriage
- The Native Marriage Act, 1872 – The Child Marriage was prohibited
- The Sharda Act, 1930 – The age of marriage was raised for boys and girls
- Devadasi Abolition Act, 1947 – It abolished the Devadasi system