

## Short Answer Questions

### **Q. 1. How did James Mill view India?**

**Ans.** James Mill was not very positive towards India and considered Asian society as a whole at lower level of civilisation than Europe. He was well aware of religious intolerance, caste taboos and superstitious practices that dominated Indian social life. He suggested that the British should conquer all the territories of India to ensure the enlightenment and happiness of Indian people. For India was not capable of progress without the help of the British. He had a strong opinion that only British rule could civilise India.

### **Q. 2. How did the British conquer India and establish their rule?**

**Ans.** The British conquered India in the following ways:

- (a)** They conquered and overpowered local nawabs and rajas.
- (b)** They gained control over economy and society. The collected revenue helped them to meet all their expenses.
- (c)** They brought changes in rulers, tastes, customs and practices.

Thus, they moulded everything in their favour.

### **Q. 3. What do official records not tell? How do we come to know about them?**

**Ans.** These records do not always help us understand what other people in the country felt, and what lay behind their actions. We have diaries of people, accounts of pilgrims and travellers, autobiographies of important personalities, and popular booklets that were sold in the local bazaars. As printing spread, newspapers were published and issues were debated in public. Leaders and reformers wrote to spread their ideas, poets and novelists wrote to express their feelings.