

MODULE-1

HISTORY (CLASS 8TH)

CHAPTER -1

HOW ,WHEN AND WHERE (Historical Incidents in India)

How Important are Dates?

- History is certainly about changes that occur over time. It is about finding out how things were in the past and how things have changed. As soon as we compare the past with the present we refer to time, we talk of “before” and “after”.
- History is synonymous with dates.
- We compare the past with the present
- We continue to associate history with a string of dates.

Which Dates?

- By what criteria do we chose a set of dates as important?
- The dates we select, the dates around which we compose our story of the past, are not important on their own.
- They become vital because we focus on a particular set of events as important.
- If our focus of study changes, if we begin to look at new issues a new set of dates will appear significant.

- Selection of date depends on the story of past.

How do we periodise?

- In 1817, a Scottish economist and political philosopher, James Mill published a massive three-volume work, "A HISTORY OF BRITISH INDIA".
- James Mill divided the Indian history into three periods.

I. Hindu

II. Muslim

III. British

- British rule represented all the forces of progress and civilization.
 - ❖ Warren Hastings became the first Governor General of India in 1773.

What is colonial?

- Colonial refers to the British rule.
- British rule brought about changes in values and tastes, customs and practices.

How do we know administration?

- One important source is the official records of the British administration.
- The British felt all important documents and letters needed to be preserved carefully.
- Specialized institutions like archives and museums were established to preserve important records.

- This conviction produced an administrative culture of memos, nothings and reports.
- ❖ The National Archives of India came up in the 1920s.

Surveys become important:

- The practice of surveying became common under colonial administration.
- Surveys like botanical, zoological, archaeological, anthropological and forest surveys were in the list of British administrations

What do official records not tell?

- The official records do not tell about the needs of people of India.
- Many official records hide the truth and only show one aspect of the event.

Useful links:-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FHCz2WdfWKY&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=awwNp92bEgg&feature=youtu.be>

SELF ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS:

1. Who was the first Governor General of India?
2. In how many periods James Mill divided Indian history? Name them.
3. What is colonial?
4. Where is the National Archives of India located?
5. Why did the British preserve official documents?
6. Write the name of James Mill's work?
7. Why did the surveys become important?