



BAL BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL, PITAMPURA, DELHI-110034
CLASS V SUBJECT- SOCIAL SCIENCE TERM 2 (2020-21)
TOPIC - Towards Freedom
WEEK - 17/11/2020 to 27/11/2020

SUB TOPICS:

- Exploitation of farmers, traders, craftsmen and rulers of local kingdoms by the British.
- Factors that led to the First War of Independence.
- The reason why it was termed as the Sepoy Mutiny.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Each child will be able to-

- *state at least two ways by which the farmers, weavers and the traders were exploited by the British.*
- *List the reasons of discontent among Indians.*
- *Answer at least two questions related to the First War of Independence.*



In the last module, we learnt that many countries came to India for trade, but the British emerged as the most powerful among them. They traded through the East India Company. The company made huge profits as goods were bought cheaply from India and were sold abroad at high prices. Little by little, the English East India Company established control over the whole of India.



DISCONTENT AMONG INDIANS-

Once the British were firmly established in India, they started exploiting the people belonging to all the sections of the society for their selfish motives. This led to dissatisfaction and anger in the entire society.



a. **Farmers-**

- were made to pay very high taxes, even during floods and droughts.
- They were forced to grow indigo (a plant which is a source of indigo dye) and cotton.
- Goods were bought from them at very low rates and sold at high rates.

Thus, the farmers became poorer. Many died due to starvation.

b. **Weavers-**

- became jobless.
- Cheaper mill-made cloth was imported into India from England.
- Indian handloom industry suffered.

c. **Merchants-**

- were not allowed to open mills and factories.
- They were not even allowed to trade in items of their choice.

d. **Kings-**

- A law was passed by the British, called the Doctrine of Lapse which stated that if a ruler did not have a male child, then upon his death, his kingdom would be taken over by the British.

REVOLT AGAINST THE BRITISH:-

Thus, we found that all the Indians were dissatisfied with the British rule. People in different parts of India had been protesting against their unjust and unfair policies. However, there was no unity in their protests.

It was only in 1857 that a major revolt broke out. This was *the First War of Independence (also called the Sepoy Mutiny or the Great Revolt of 1857)*

The revolt was started by the Indian soldiers serving in the British Army in India. A new rifle, called the Enfield, had been introduced in India.



A rumour spread that the grease used in the bullets was made from the fat of cows and pigs. Soldiers had to bite off the greased wrapper of the bullet before loading it in the rifle. This was against the religious sentiments of both, the Hindus and the Muslims. They refused to use the rifles and revolted.

BRAINSTORMING

ACTIVITY 1. But, why do you think it happened?

The soldiers felt that it **was** a move by the British to defame their religion because no Hindu **would** touch beef and no Muslim **would** touch pork. As a result, the Indian **sepoys refused to use greased cartridges.**

On 29 March 1857 at Barrackpore in Meerut, Sepoy Mangal Pandey of the 34th Bengal attacked his officers. The Revolt started at Meerut and soon spread to large parts of northern and central India. Farmers, craftsmen and other sections of the society joined the revolt.



LEADERS OF THE REVOLT-

- The last Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah Zafar was declared their leader by the soldiers.
- The Revolt was led by Nana Sahib and Tantia Tope at Kanpur;
- Rani Lakshi Bai at Jhansi and
- Begum Hazrat Mahal at Aawdh.

Please Note:- Question 1, 2 & 3 are to be done in the notebook.

Q1. How did the British exploit the weavers?

Q2. Which incident led to the Sepoy Mutiny?

Q3. Fill in the blanks with suitable options:

- a. The farmers were forced to grow _____ and _____
- b. The Revolt was led by _____ at Awadh.
- c. _____ was the last Mughal Emperor.
- d. Rani Lakshmi Bai led the Revolt from _____.
- e. A new rifle, named _____ was introduced by the British.

YOUTUBE LINK 1: <https://youtu.be/t8g9LbGHIrO>

YOUTUBE LINK 2: <https://youtu.be/MV0fYMIvtyU>

YOUTUBE LINK 3: <https://youtu.be/ITNUkgr09wk>