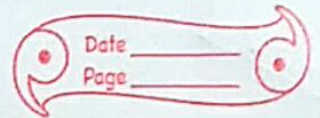


10/08/21

WOMEN AND REFORM

Q1. What was the status of women in India in the 18th century? [5]

Ans. i) The position of women in the society :-

- Women were treated as object.
- All major decision in woman's life were taken by her father, her husband and later by his son.
- Women did not have the right to inherit their father's property.

ii) Limited access to education :-

- Women were discouraged from attending school and colleges.

iii) Child marriage :-

- Girls married off at a very young age, ~~small~~ sometimes when they were just 5 or 6 years old.

- They became mother when were barely 15 or 16, when they were neither physically nor emotionally ready for read or motherhood.

iv) The plight of widow :-

- (Widows even child widows) in many Hindu families were not allowed remarry.
- Their heads were shaven
- They were forced to wear only white clothes, they were allowed to eat only bland vegetarians food.
- they were outcastes and often sent away to temple cities like Brindavan and Banaras to find for themselves.

v) Sati :-

- The practice of sati (burning alive of women on the funeral pyre of their husbands).

Q6. Which Act was Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar instrumental in getting passed?

Ans. Widow Remarriage Act of 1856 .