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NATIONALISM IN INDIA

Q1. What was the main difference between the congress and muslim league?

Ans- The main points of difference between congress and the muslim league were over the question of representation in the future assemblies that were to be elected.

Q2. Name the writer of Novel Anandamath?

Ans- The writer of Novel Anandamath is Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay.

Q3. What did the spinning wheel in the swaraj flag represented?

Ans- The spinning wheel in the centre of the swaraj flag represented the Gandhian ideal of self-help.

Q4. How had a variety of cultural processes developed a sense of collective belongings in India during the 19th century? Explain.

Ans- ① Cultural processes like his history and fiction, folklore and songs, popular prints and symbols, all played a part in the making of nationalism.

Personification of Bharat Mata:-

② * The Identity of India came to be visually associated with the image of Bharat Mata 1st created by Bankim Chandra ~~Chattopadhyay~~ Chattopadhyay.

with the swadeshi movement enhancing the growth of Nationalism in India. Rabindranath Tagore also painted a famous image of Bharat Mata.

* Bharat Mata is portrayed as an ascetic figure; she is calm, composed, divine and spiritual. This personification of Bharat Mata can be seen as evidence of one's nationalism.

③ National song "Vande Mataram" was written by Bankimchandra Chattopadhyay as a hymn to the motherland.

Folklore:-

④ * Ideas of Nationalism also developed through a movement to revive Indian folklore where nationalists began recording folktales sung by bards and began touring villages to gather folk songs & legends.

* In Bengal, Rabindranath Tagore himself began collecting ballads, nursery rhymes and myths, and led

the movement for folk revival.

- * In Madras, Natesa Sastri published a massive four-volume collection of Tamil folk tales, "The Folklore of southern India".

Use of Icons and symbols :-

- (5) * The nationalist became ^{more and more} aware of such icons & symbols in unifying people and inspiring in them a feeling of nationalism.
- * During the Swadeshi movement in Bengal, a tricolour flag (red, green and yellow) was designed. It had eight lotuses representing eight provinces of British India, and a crescent moon, representing Hindus and Muslims.
- * By 1921, Gandhiji had designed the Swaraj flag. It was again a tricolour (red, green and white) flag with a spinning wheel at the centre representing Gandhian ideal of self-help.

Reinterpretation of history :-

- ⑥ * A feeling of nationalism was through reinterpretation of history.
- * The British saw Indians as backward and primitive, incapable of governing themselves. In response, Indians began looking into past to discover India's great achievements.
- * They wrote about the glorious developments in ancient times when art & architecture, science & maths, religion & culture, law & philosophy, crafts & trade had flourished.
- * Thus, cultural processes helped in creating a sense of collective belonging and oneness in India during 19th century.

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