

7. The Revolt of 1857

Worksheet 1

(A) Tick those points which are considered to be the causes of the Revolt of 1857:

1. Taty Tope wanted to take over the Mughal throne.
2. Indian goods were subjected to heavy duty.
3. The rulers resented the policy of Doctrine of Lapse.
4. The temple lands were taxed.
5. The British treated people very kindly.
6. Craftsmen and artisans liked machine-made goods.
7. Discrimination was practised in civil and military jobs.
8. Christian missionaries who converted people were distrusted.

(B) Briefly state the events that occurred during the Revolt at:

1. Jhansi: _____

2. Awadh: _____

3. Delhi: _____

(C) What changes were brought in by the British after the Revolt of 1857?

ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET I



- A. 1. (X) 2. (✓) 3. (✓) 4. (✓) 5. (X) 6. (X) 7. (✓) 8. (✓)
- B. 1. Jhansi: Rani Lakshmi Bai revolted because her adopted son was not considered her heir according to the Doctrine of Lapse. She joined Tatyá Tope and they captured Gwalior. The British killed her in battle in 1858.
2. Awadh: Begum Hazrat Mahal made her minor son the Nawab and she was helped by sepoys, peasants and talukdars. The British army took refuge in a building near Gomti river, but the sepoys set fire to it, killing many, including Henry Lawrence. They looted the treasury and burnt the military barracks. Lord Canning, then Governor General, mobilised his forces and sent Colin Campbell, who captured Awadh and the rebels, who were suppressed brutally.
3. Delhi: Bahadur Shah Zafar, the Mughal Emperor, was made leader of the sepoy's revolt from Meerut. A contingent under Sir John Lawrence attacked Delhi, captured Bahadur Shah and deported him to Rangoon. His sons were shot dead, and thus ended the Mughal empire.
- C. The East India Company's rule in India ended and Queen Victoria took over the administration in 1858, appointing a Secretary of State to replace the Board of Control. The Governor General was made Viceroy and subordinate to Secretary of State. The army was reorganised. In 1858 Queen Victoria's Proclamation was passed, by which Indian princes were assured there would be no further annexation by the British. The Queen also promised that there would be no interference in social and religious practices and gave a general pardon to all rebels, including those who had killed British personnel.

Worksheet 2

- (A) On a map of India, mark the following places: Jhansi, Meerut, Barrackpore, Kanpur, Awadh, Gwalior and Delhi.



- (B) What were the capitals of the following kings and princes?

1. The Mughals _____
2. Holkars _____
3. Scindhias _____
4. Peshwas _____
5. Bhonsles _____
6. Gaekwads _____
7. Nizams _____
8. Wodeyars _____

ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET 2

- A. Refer to your atlas and mark the places.
B. 1. Delhi 2. Indore 3. Gwalior 4. Poona 5. Nagpur
6. Baroda 7. Hyderabad 8. Mysore