

Unit- 4: People's Revolt

Class: VIII

Subject: Social Science - History

I. Choose the correct answer

- The Palayakkarar system was instituted in -
(a) 1519 (b) 1520 (c) **1529** (d) 1530
- Which of the following Palayakkarar of Tamil Nadu was the pioneer against the English rule -
(a) **Pulitevan** (b) Yusuf Khan (c) Kattabomman (d) Marudhu brothers
- Colin Jackson was the collector of -
(a) Madurai (b) Tirunelveli (c) **Ramanathapuram** (d) Tuticorin
- Veera Pandiya Kattabomman was hanged at the fort of -
(a) Panchalamkurichi (b) Sivagangai (c) Tiruppathur (d) **Kayathar**
- Velu Nachiyar was a queen of -
(a) Nagalapuram (b) Sivagiri (c) **Sivagangai** (d) Virapachi
- Tiruchirapalli proclamation was issued by -
(a) **Marudhu Pandiyars** (b) Krishnappa Nayak
(c) Velu Nachiyar (d) Dheeran Chinnamalai
- Which of the following place was associated with Dheeran chinnamalai -
(a) Dindigul (b) Nagalapuram (c) Pudukottai (d) **Odanilai**
- Rani Lakshmi Bai led the revolt at -
(a) **Central India** (b) Kanpur (c) Delhi (d) Bareilly

II. Fill in the Blanks

- The Eastern Palayms were ruled under the control of Kattabomman
- Vishwanatha Nayakar instituted the Palayakarar system with the consultation of his minister Ariyanatha Mudaliyar
- The ancestors of Kattabomman belonged to Andhra
- Velu Nachiyar was known by Tamils as Veera mangai and Jhansi Rani of south india.
- Chinna Marudu was called as 'lion' of sivagangai.
- V.D Savarkar was described the revolt of 1857 as First War of India Independence.

VI. Answer the following in one or two sentences

1. What you know about the Palayakarars? Name some of them.

- Palayakkarar was the holder of a territory or a Palayam. These Palayams were held in military tenure and extended their full co-operation to be need of the Nayaks.
- The Palayakkarars collected taxes, of which one third was given to the Nayak of Madurai another one third for the expenditure of the army and rest was kept for themselves.
- Kattabomman, Pulithevan, Marudu Brothers, Dheeran Chinnamalai.

2. What was the part of Velu Nachiyar in the Palayakkarar revolt?

- Velu Nachiyar was a queen of Sivagangai. she was married to Muthu Vaduganathar, the Raja of Sivagangai. In 1772, the Nawab of Arcot and the British troops invaded Sivagangai.
- They killed Muthu Vaduganathar in Kalaiyar Koil battle. Velu Nachiyar escaped with her daughter and lived under the protection of Gopala Nayaker at Virupachi near Dindigul.
- During this period she organised an army and employed her intelligent agents to find where the British stored their ammunition.
- She arranged a suicide attack by a faithful follower Kuyili, a commander of Velu Nachiar. She recaptured Sivagangai and was again crowned as queen with the help of Marudu brothers.

3. Who were the leaders of Palayakkarar confederacy in the south Indian rebellion?

Marudu Pandiar of Sivaganga, Gopala Nayak of Dindugal, Kerala Varma of Malabar and Krishnappa Nayak and Dhoondaji of Mysore.

4. What was the importance of Tiruchirappalli proclamation?

- The Marudu Pandyas issued a proclamation of Independence called Tiruchirappalli Proclamation in June 1801.
- It was the first call to the Indians to unite against the British.
- A copy of the proclamation was pasted on the walls of the Nawab's palace in the fort of Tiruchi and another copy was placed on the walls of the Vaishnava temple at Srirangam. Thus Marudu brothers spread the spirit of opposition against the English everywhere.

- As a result many Palayakkarars of Tamil Nadu went on a rally to fight against the English.

5. Bring out the effects of the Vellore revolt.

Effects of the Vellore Revolt:

- The new methods and uniform regulations were withdrawn.
- The family of Tippu as a precautionary measure was sent to Calcutta.
- William Cavendish Bentinck was removed from his service.

6. What was the immediate cause of the Revolt of 1857?

- The immediate cause was the introduction of new Enfield Rifles in the army. The top of the cartridge of this rifle was to be removed by the mouth before loading it in the rifle. The cartridges were greased by the fat of pig and the cow.
- The Indian sepoys believed that the British were deliberately attempting to spoil the religion of both the Hindus and the Muslims because while the Hindus revered the cow, the Muslims hated the pig.
- The soldiers, therefore, determined to refuse their service and, ultimately revolted.
- Thus, the primary and the immediate cause of the revolt was the use of the greased cartridges

VII. Answer the following in detail

1. What do you know about the Pulithevar?

- Pulithevar was the pioneer in Tamil Nadu, to protest against the English rule in India. He was the Palayakkarar of the Nerkattumseval, near Tirunelveli.
- During his tenure he refused to pay the tribute neither to Mohammed Ali, the Nawab of Arcot nor to the English. Further he started opposing them. Hence, the forces of the Nawab of Arcot and the English attacked Pulithevar. But the combined forces were defeated by Pulithevar at Tirunelveli.
- Pulithevar was the first Indian king to have fought and defeated the British in India. After this victory Pulithevan attempted to form a league of the Palayakkars to oppose the British and the Nawab.

- In 1759, Nerkattumseval was attacked by the forces of Nawab of Arcot under the leadership of Yusuf Khan.
- Pulithevar was defeated at Anthanallur and the Nawabs forces captured Nerkattumseval in 1761.
- Pulithevar who lived in exile recaptured Nerkattumseval in 1764. Later, he was defeated by Captain Campell in 1767. Pulithevar escaped and died in exile without fulfilling his purpose, although his courageous trail of a struggle for independence in the history of South India.

2. Explain the events that led to conflict between Dheeran Chinnamalai and the British.

- Dheeran Chinnamalai was born at Melapalayam in Chennimalai near Erode. His original name was Theerthagiri. He was a palayakkarar of Kongu country who fought the British East India Company.
- The Kongu country comprising Salem, Coimbatore, Kamr and Dindigul formed a part of the Nayak kingdom of Madurai but had been annexed by the Wodayars of Mysore.
- After the fall of the Wodayars, these territories along with Mysore were controlled by the Mysore Sultans. After the third and fourth Mysore wars the entire Kongu region passed into the hands of the English.
- Dheeran Chinnamalai was trained by French military in modern warfare. He was along the side Tippu Sultan to fight against the British East India Company and got victories against the British.
- After Tippu Sultan's death Chinnamalai settled down at Odanilai and constructed a fort there to continue his struggle against the British. He sought the help of Marathas and Maruthu Pandiyar to attack the British at Coimbatore in 1800.
- British forces managed to stop the armies of the allies and hence Chinnamalai was forced to attack Coimbatore on his own. His army was defeated and he escaped from the British forces.
- Chinnamalai engaged in guerrilla warfare and defeated the British in battles at Cauvery, Odanilai and Arachalur. During the final battle, Chinnamalai was betrayed by his cook Nallapan and was hanged in Sankagiri Fort in 1805.

3. What were the causes for the Great revolt of 1857?

- The most important cause of revolt 1857 was a popular discontent of the British policy of economically exploiting India. This hurt all sections of society. The peasants suffered due to high revenue demands and the strict revenue collection policy.
- Policies of doctrine of lapse, subsidiary alliance and policy of Effective Control created discontentment among people. Annexation of Oudh proved that even the grovelling loyalty can't satisfy British greed for territories.
- The conversion activities of Christian missionaries were looked upon with suspicion and fear. The priests and the maulavis showed their discontent against the British rule.
- Abolition of practices like sati, female infanticide, support to widow remarriage and female education were seen by many as interference in their Indian culture by the Europeans.
- The Indian sepoy were looked upon as inferior beings and treated with contempt by their British officers. They were paid much less than the British soldiers. All avenues of the promotion were closed to them as all the higher army posts were reserved for the British.

4. What were the causes for the failure of the Revolt of 1857?

Various causes were responsible for the failure of the revolt:

- Lack of organisation, discipline, common plan of action, centralised leadership, modern weapons and techniques
- The rebel leaders were no match to the British Generals. Rani Lakshmi Bai, Tantia Tope and Nana Saheb were courageous but they were not good generals.
- Non - participation of Bengal, Bombay, Madras, western Punjab and Rajputana.
- The modern educated Indians did not support the Revolts as they believed that only British rule could reform Indian society and modernize it.
- The British managed to get the loyalty of the Sikhs, Afghans and the Gurkha regiments. The Gurkhas actually helped the British in suppressing the revolt.
- The British had better weapons, better generals, and good organisation.