



CBSE • CLASS 10 • SOCIAL SCIENCE

HISTORY

CHAPTER 05

Print Culture and the Modern World



NCERT SOLUTIONS

WOODBLOCK PRINT REACHES EUROPE

Question: Write in brief 1(a)

Give reasons for the following: (a) Woodblock print only came to Europe after 1295.

Answer:

- According to the chapter, Marco Polo returned to Italy from China in 1295.
- China already used woodblock printing to produce books.
- Marco Polo brought knowledge of this technique back to Europe.
- Italians then began making books with woodblocks.
- The technique soon spread to other parts of Europe.
- Merchants and university students bought the cheaper printed books.
- Handwritten manuscripts were expensive and slow to produce.
- Growing demand for books encouraged the spread of woodblock printing.

WHY MARTIN LUTHER PRAISED PRINT

Question: Write in brief 1(b)

Give reasons for the following: (b) Martin Luther was in favour of print and spoke out in praise of it.

Answer:

- In 1517, Martin Luther wrote Ninety Five Theses criticising practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church.
- Print allowed his writings to be reproduced in large numbers.
- People in many places could read and discuss his ideas.
- His translation of the New Testament also became very popular.
- Print helped him challenge the Church and spread his call for religious reform.
- These debates contributed to the Protestant Reformation.
- Luther praised printing as a gift of God because it gave his ideas such a wide reach.

THE INDEX OF PROHIBITED BOOKS

Write in brief 1(c)

Question: Give reasons for the following: (c) The Roman Catholic Church began keeping an Index of Prohibited books from the mid-sixteenth century.

Answer:

- Printed books allowed people to develop their own interpretations of religious teachings.
- Some interpretations challenged the authority of the Roman Catholic Church.
- The Church feared the spread of rebellious and irreligious ideas.
- Menocchio, an Italian miller, read books and reinterpreted the Bible in a way the Church opposed.
- The Church punished those it considered heretics, or people with beliefs against its accepted teachings.
- It imposed strict controls on publishers and booksellers.
- From 1558, it maintained an Index of Prohibited Books.
- The aim was to restrict unwanted ideas and protect the Church's authority.

GANDHI: SWARAJ AND FREEDOM

Write in brief 1(d)

Question: Give reasons for the following: (d) Gandhi said the fight for Swaraj is a fight for liberty of speech, liberty of the press, and freedom of association.

Answer:

- Gandhi linked Swaraj, or self-rule, with the freedom to express and organise public opinion.
- In 1922, he said the government was trying to crush freedom of speech, the press and association.
- Freedom of speech allowed people to voice their views and criticise injustice.
- A free press could report colonial misrule and spread nationalist ideas.
- Freedom of association allowed people to organise and act together.
- These freedoms were powerful ways of developing public opinion.
- Restricting them weakened the struggle for self-rule.
- So Gandhi saw defending these freedoms as an essential part of the fight for Swaraj.



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