

Name: _____ Date: _____

Women, Caste and Reform

Q1. What was the contribution of the Christian missionaries in spreading education among the tribal group and the lower caste?

Ans. _____

Q2. What do you mean by 'sati'?

Ans. _____

Q3. What did Ambedkar want to achieve through the temple entry movement?

Ans. _____

Q4. How did the knowledge of ancient texts help the reformers promote new laws?

Ans. _____

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Q1. What was the contribution of the Christian missionaries in spreading education among the tribal group and the lower caste?

Ans. Christian missionaries set up schools for tribal groups and "lower"-caste children. These children were thus equipped with some resources to make their way into a changing world.

Q2. What do you mean by 'sati'?

Ans. In some parts of the country, widows were praised if they chose death by burning themselves on the funeral pyre of their husbands. Women who died in this manner, whether willingly or otherwise, were called "sati", meaning virtuous women.

Q3. What did Ambedkar want to achieve through the temple entry movement?

Ans. In 1927, Ambedkar started a temple entry movement, in which his Mahar caste followers participated. Brahman priests were outraged when the Dalits used water from the temple tank. Ambedkar led three such movements for temple entry between 1927 and 1935. His aim was to make everyone see the power of caste prejudices within society.

Q4. How did the knowledge of ancient texts help the reformers promote new laws?

Ans. Whenever reformers wished to challenge a practice that seemed harmful, they tried to find a verse or sentence in the ancient sacred texts that supported their point of view. They then suggested that the practice as it existed at present was against early tradition. Thus, the knowledge of ancient texts helped the reformers promote new laws.