

Name: _____ Date: _____

India After Independence

Q1. After Independence, why was there a reluctance to divide the country on linguistic lines?

Ans. _____

Q2. What special privileges were offered to the poorest and most disadvantaged Indians by the constitutions?

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Q1. After Independence, why was there a reluctance to divide the country on linguistic lines?

Ans. Back in the 1920s, the Indian National Congress had promised that once the country won independence, each major linguistic group would have its own province. However, after independence the Congress did not take any steps to honour this promise. There was a reason for this. India had been divided on the basis of religion. As a result of the partition of India, more than a million people had been killed in riots between Hindus and Muslims. Country could not afford further divisions on the basis of language. □ Both Prime Minister Nehru and Deputy Prime Minister Vallabhbhai Patel were against the creation of linguistic states.

Q2. What special privileges were offered to the poorest and most disadvantaged Indians by the constitutions?

Ans. It offered special privileges for the poorest and most disadvantaged Indians.

- i. The practice of untouchability was abolished.
- ii. Hindu temples, previously open to only the higher castes, were thrown open to all, including the former untouchables.
- iii. A certain percentage of seats in legislatures as well as jobs in government be reserved for members of the lowest castes.
- iv. Along with the former Untouchables, the adivasis or Scheduled Tribes were also granted reservation in seats and jobs.