



# Vidya Bhawna balika Vidyapeeth. shakti utthan aashram Lakhisarai

Class-8<sup>th</sup>

(Based on N C E R T pattern)

Date:- 26.11.XX.

History

Women and reforms

Question 1.

What did Raja Rammohun Roy do to end the practice of sati?

Answer:

Raja Rammohun Roy was a great social reformer. He moved to see the tyranny of old practices that were deeply rooted in Indian society. Burning of widows on the funeral pyre of their husbands was one such old practice which, Rammohun Roy felt, needed to be rooted out immediately. He began a campaign against this.

As he had a deep knowledge of Sanskrit, Persian, and several other Indian and European languages, die tried to show through his writings that the practice of sati had no sanction in ancient texts. He got support from the British officials who had also begun to criticise Indian traditions and customs by the early 19th century. Finally, in 1829, the practice of Sati was banned.

Question 2.

Give an account of the movement that spread in different parts of the country in favour of widow remarriage. Did the movement get success?

Answer:

The movement in favour of widow remarriage spread in different parts of the country by the second half of the 19th century. Veerasalingam Pantulu formed an association for widow remarriage in the Telugu-speaking areas of the Madras Presidency. Around the same time young intellectuals and reformers in Bombay pledged themselves to work for the same cause.

In the north the founder of the Arya Samaj Swami Dayanand Saraswati also supported widow remarriage. However, the movement did not get much success. The number of widows who actually remarried remained low. Those who remarried were not easily accepted in the society. The conservative people never approved the new law.

Question 3.

What do you know about Tarabai Shinde and Pandita Ramabai? What did they do for improving the condition of women?

Answer:

Tarabai Shinde was a woman who got an education at home at Poona. She is better known for publishing a book named *Stripurushtulna* meaning a comparison between women and men. She, in this book, criticises the social differences between men and women. Pandita Ramabai was a great scholar of Sanskrit.

She found Hinduism very oppressive towards women and wrote a book about the pathetic condition of Hindu women belonging to the upper caste.

**Mr Anant kumar**