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CLASS-9TH

(BASED ON N C E R T PATTERN)

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HISTORY

FRANCE REVOLUTION

Question 1.

Describe the status of the nobles in France before the revolution.

Answer:

The clergy and the nobles led a life of luxury and enjoyed numerous privileges. On the other hand, the peasants and workers lived a wretched life. They groaned under heavy taxes and forced labour. The middle-class comprising of lawyers, doctors, teachers, etc also suffered humiliation at the hands of the clergy and the nobles. This state of social inequality was the chief cause of the French Revolution.

Question 2.

“The inequality that existed in the French Society in the Old Regime became the cause of French Revolution”. Justify the statement by giving three suitable examples.

Answer:

The examples are :

- French Society was divided into three Estates. The First Estate comprised of clergy, the Second Estate comprised of nobility and the Third Estate comprised of businessmen, traders, merchants, artisans, peasants and servants.
- The members of Church and nobility enjoyed certain privileges by birth, the most important being the exemption from paying taxes to the State.
- Feudal dues were extracted by nobles from peasants and one-tenth of the

- agricultural produce of peasants, in the form of Tithes came to the share of clergy. All members of the Third Estate including peasants paid taxes, thus, the burden of financing activities of the the state through taxes was borne by the Third Estate alone creating heavy discontentment.

Question 3.

How did philosophers influence the thinking of the people of France?

Answer:

Philosophers influence the thinking of the people of France as :

- Major changes were introduced in the Russian economy and agriculture after the revolution. Private property was abolished and land became a state property. Peasants had the freedom to cultivate on state " – controlled land.
- A proper system of centralized planning was introduced with the help of five year plans. It helped in bringing about technological improvements, economic growth and helped in removing the inequalities in the society.
- The revolution acknowledged right to work and identified dignity of labour. Socialist economy added a new dimension to democracy, by attributing it as a socio-economic system.

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