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Constitutional Design Class 9 Extra Questions Short Answer Type Questions

Question 1.

What is meant by apartheid? How was it oppressive for the blacks?

Answer:

Apartheid was the name of a system of racial discrimination unique to South Africa. The white Europeans imposed this system on South Africa. The system of apartheid divided the people and labelled them according to their skin colour.

Many 'whites' had settled in South Africa and became the local rulers. The system of public toilets, were all separate for the whites and blacks. This, was called segregation. They could not even visit the churches where the whites worshipped. Blacks could not form associations or protest the terrible treatment.

Question 2.

What do you mean by 'Constitution'?

Answer:

The constitution of a country is a set of written rules that are accepted by all people living together in a country. Constitution is the supreme law that determines the relationship among people living in a territory (called citizens) and also the relationship between the people and government.

Question 3.

What were the steps involved in the framing of the Indian Constitution?

Answer:

The drafting of the document called the constitution was done by an assembly of elected representatives called the Constituent Assembly. Elections to the Constituent Assembly were held in July 1946. Its first meeting was held in December 1946. Soon after, the country was divided into India and Pakistan. The Constituent Assembly was also divided into the Constituent Assembly of India and that of Pakistan. The Constituent Assembly that wrote the Indian Constitution had 299 members. The Assembly adopted the Constitution on 26 November, 1949 and it came into force on 26 January, 1950.

Question 4.

What are the four main ideals enshrined in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution?

Answer:

The ideals written in the Preamble of the Constitution are as under :

- Justice: Every citizen of India will have social, economic and political justice.
- Liberty: Every citizen will have the liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship.
- Equality: Every citizen will be provided with the equality of status and opportunity.
- fraternity: All the citizens of India have been assured about the dignity of individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.

Question 5.

How did the Constituent Assembly work to prepare the Constitution for India?

Answer:

The Constituent Assembly worked in a systematic, open and consensual manner.

First, some basic principles were decided and agreed upon. Then, a Drafting Committee chaired by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar prepared a draft constitution for discussion. Several rounds of thorough discussion took place, clause by clause.

More than 2000 amendments were considered. The members deliberated for 114 days spread over 3 years. Every document presented and every word spoken in the Constituent Assembly was recorded and preserved. These are called 'Constituent Assembly Debates'.

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