



মণিপুরৰ শাসনৰত্ন (সংস্কৃত)  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (S)

Government of Manipur

## Chapter 11

### Education and British Rule

#### NOTES:

##### Indigenous systems of education

- The history of education in Indian sub-continent began with teaching of traditional elements such as Indian religion, Indian mathematics, Indian logic at early Hindu and Buddhist centres of learning such as Taxila and Nalanda before the Common Era.
- Islamic education became ingrained with the establishment of the Islamic empires in the Indian sub-continent in the middle Ages, while the coming of the Europeans later brought Western education to colonial India.

##### Education in early period

- Early education in India commenced under the supervision of a guru where students were expected to follow strict monastic guidelines prescribed by the guru and stays in ashrams.
- The education was imparted on the basis of caste and the related duties that one had to perform as a member of a specific caste.
- As population increased under the Gupta Empire, cities such as Varanasi and the Buddhist centre like Nalanda became the centre of learning.

##### Curriculum in Ancient India

- At places like Taxila and Nalanda, grammar, medicine, philosophy, logic, metaphysics, arts and crafts etc. were taught.

### **Some of the curriculums imparted in education in early Manipur**

- The curriculum imparted in early Manipur includes instructions in administrative affairs, proper training in military warfare, states craft, diplomacy etc.

### **Education in late Middle Ages**

- The traditional methods of education increasingly came under Islamic influence with the Advent of Islam in India.
- Islamic institution of education in India included traditional madrassas and maktabas which taught grammar, philosophy, mathematics and law.

### **The new Education system and changes**

- In 1781, Warren Hasting set up the Calcutta Madrasa and in 1791, Jonathan Duncan started a Sanskrit College at Varanasi. Both of these institutions were designed to provide a regular supply of qualified Indians to help the administration of law in the courts of the Company.
- The Charter Act of 1813 incorporated the principle of encouraging learned Indians and promoting the knowledge of modern sciences in the country.
- In 1835, the Government of India decided to devote the resources to the teaching of Western sciences and literature through the medium of English alone.
- **Macaulay's Minute**  
On 7 March 1835, Macaulay gave his view on the Parliament Select Committee for adopting English as the official language in India. He said that from the end product of the new system would emerge a class who, though Indian in blood and the colour of their skins would be 'English in tastes, in opinions, in morals and intellect'.
- According to the Wood's Despatch of 1854, Departments of Education were instituted in all provinces and affiliating Universities were set up in 1857 at Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai.
- Some Indians were impressed with the developments in Europe and felt that western Education would help in modernizing India while others like Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore were against the system of Western education.

- Gandhi believed that the British system of education did not provide for the enrichment, preservation and promotion of Indian culture.
- To promote nationalism, patriotic outlook and abilities and skill to exploit the natural resources of India, Gandhi evolved the Nai Talim or Basic Education.

### **Nai Talim**

The Nai Talim or Basic education consists of craft- centred; free compulsory education, ideal citizenship, mother tongue, etc.

- On the other hand Rabindranath Tagore said that the present system of education is joyless as small children are burdened with tons of books.
- Tagore was one of the first in India to argue for a humane educational system that was in touch with the environment and aimed at overall development of the personality.
- Tagore founded Santiniketan for vernacular instruction and the development of Bengali textbooks.

### **Efforts of other Indians towards the development of education in India :**

- Jamshedji Tata visualized the need for scientific and technical manpower necessary for the development of independent capitalism. He established the Indian Institute of Wince in Bangalore in 1909.
- The leaders of the Swadeshi movement started the Jadavpur Engineering College in 1907.
- In 1906, the British turned down the proposal of the Madras Provincial Government for a Department of Industries.
- In 1911 a bill moved by Gokhale for free and compulsory education was rejected.

### **Aligarh Movement**

- The Aligarh Movement was a movement started by Sir Syed Ahmad during the later decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to establish a modern system of education for the Muslim population in India.