

CLASS - XII HISTORY

1. What is Imperialism?

Ans. There are various opinions about the definition of imperialism initially the word referred to military control over a large area. But later, the meaning of the term changed to include the idea that imperialism meant the establishment of colonial control over a relatively weak area.

There are three stages of imperialism —

- a) Primary Stage - It lasted from the discovery of Columbus to seven years' war at 1763.
- b) Second Stage - It lasted from 1763 to 1870.
- c) Third Stage - It lasted from 1870 to the end of 1st world war at 1919.

There are three types of imperialism — military imperialism, economic imperialism and cultural imperialism.

2. What do you mean by Age of Imperialism?

Ans. The different country of Europe began to establish their colony from the discovery of Columbus. Later, England, Spain, Portugal, France and others established their authority on Asia, Africa and Latin America. This process lasted upto the end of first world war. So the whole time from Columbus to 1919 is called the 'Age of Imperialism'.

3. What is Neo-Imperialism?

Ans. The colonies of Asia, Africa and Latin America became independent after the second world war. But the newly independent countries depend upon the developed and powerful countries of the world due to economic, military and political causes. They have to take help from them. Thus Neo-Imperialism comes to exist.

4. What is Colonialism?

Ans. The word 'Colonialism' is derived from the Latin word 'Colonia'. The original meaning of the term colony is a group of people who settle in a different country, away from their place of origin. From the political angle, it has two connotations — a) a settlement of persons established outside the boundaries of their native state. (b) an area at a distance from the state, which owes allegiance to or accepts the control of the state. At present the second meaning is the accepted one for Colonialism.

Naval power, England, Spain, Portugal first tried to establish colony on Asia and Africa at fifteenth century.

5. What do you mean by "White man's burden"?

Ans. Some imperialist thinkers of Europe believed that 'White man' had a responsibility towards the backward people of Asia and Africa and that this responsibility was a mission to civilise them.

Jules Ferry, Rudyard Kipling were the forerunner of the idea.