

Weavers, Iron Smelters and Factory Owners

Q1. What kinds of cloth had a large market in Europe?

Answer. There was a large market for cotton and silk in Europe. Various varieties of Indian textiles sold European Market:

- (a) Chintz
- (b) Cossaes or Khasa
- (c) Bandanna
- (d) Jamdani

Indian printed cotton textiles were also famous in England for their exquisite floral designs, fine texture and cheapness.

Q2. What is jamdani?

Answer. Jamdani is a fine muslin on which decorative motifs are woven on looms, usually brown and white. A mixture of cotton and gold thread was often used, as in the fabric in this photo. The most important centers of jamdani weaving in the United Provinces were Dacca in Bengal and Lucknow.

Q3. What is bandanna?

Answer. 'Bandanna' refers to a brightly colored and printed scarf for the neck or head. Originally the Hindi word, "bandana" which means to tie, it is a type of cloth produced through the method of tying and dying.

Q4. Who are the Agaria?

Answer. A group of men and women forming a community of iron smelters. The Agaria people are an Indian community of iron smelters.

Q5. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) The word chintz comes from the word _____.
- (b) Tipu's sword was made of _____ steel.
- (c) India's textile exports declined in the _____ century.

Answer.

- (a) The word chintz comes from the word **chhint**.
- (b) Tipu's sword was made of **wootz** steel.
- (c) India's textile exports declined in the **nineteenth** century.

Q6. How do the names of different textiles tell us about their histories?

Answer. Various fabrics like the 'muslin', 'chintz', 'calico' and 'bandanna' have a history to their name:

- (a) **Muslin** - The cloth was named after European traders saw five types of cotton textiles Done by Arab traders in Mosul. They named all the woven garments thereafter muslin.
- (b) **Chintz** - The name is derived from a Hindi name called Chint, which is a small piece of cloth with floral designs.
- (c) **Calico** - Portuguese Calicut came first in search of spices. However, the cotton garment he took back from Calicut to Spain was called calico.
- (d) **Bandanna** - The word was derived from the Hindi word 'Bandhana'. It is scarf with print. It is designed for the head or neck.

Q7. Why did the wool and silk producers in England protest against the import of Indian textiles in the early eighteenth century?

Answer. In the early eighteenth century, concerned with the popularity of Indian textiles, wool and silk manufacturers in England began opposing the import of Indian cotton textiles. The English manufacturers wanted a safe market within the country by preventing the entry of Indian textiles. Calico was the first printing industry to develop under government patronage. Indian designs were copied in England on white muslin or plain unconventional Indian fabrics. Competition with Indian textiles also led to the invention of the spinning jenny and the use of steam engines for textile development, making wool and silk producers in England more independent.

Q8. How did the development of cotton industries in Britain affect textile producers in India?

Answer. There were several challenges to textile production in India:

- (a) They had to compete with English cotton industries in both England and India.
- (b) The expansion of British cotton industries led to the shrinkage of Indian textile producers.
- (c) Thousands of Indian textile manufacturers went out of employment as the British occupied the market with their industries.

Q9. Why did the Indian iron smelting industry decline in the nineteenth century?

Answer. The following are the reasons why the iron smelting industry declined in the nineteenth Century:

- (a) Indian smelters could not get charcoal, an essential ingredient in iron smelting. Process, due to the forest laws imposed on them. Forest laws banned their movement Reserved Forest.
- (b) Iron smelters were asked to pay higher taxes to forest officials.
- (c) After the 1950s, the British started importing iron from England to India. This discouraged Indian iron smelters from adopting the same profession.
- (d) In the late nineteenth century, many famines destroyed dry tracts for iron smelters.
- (e) The iron industries presented the greatest challenge to local iron smelters, who were not able compete with large industries.

Q10. What problems did the Indian textile industry face in the early years of its development?

Answer. The problems are given below:

- (a) **Competition** - They faced large British industries which were already in the market.
- (b) **Export** - It was a challenge for him to export to England due to high export prices.
- (c) **Failure** - English cotton textiles removed Indian textiles from their original markets like America, Africa and Europe.
- (d) **No Buyers** - The Europeans started avoiding the Bengal weavers and did not buy from them which affects Bengal's weavers the most.

Q11. What helped TISCO expand steel production during the First World War?

Answer. The following reasons led to TISCO expansion:

- (a) World War-I - The war demanded large quantities of iron and steel for production. Ammunition that Britain had to entertain.
- (b) British steel imports in India declined dramatically and Indian Railways turned to Tisco for rail supply.
- (c) TISCO made shells and cart wheels for World War I.
- (d) By 1919, the British government began purchasing 90 percent of the steel manufactured by Tisco.