

**New Era High School, Panchgani**

**Assignment 2**

**Class VIII**

Subject	History: Our Past III (Part 1)
Topic	<b>How, When, Where</b>
Time Line	1 Week, 4 <sup>th</sup> May to 9 <sup>th</sup> May, 2020
Concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How important are dates?</li> <li>• How do we periodize?</li> <li>• Administration produces records.</li> <li>• Surveys become important.</li> <li>• Official records do not tell us.</li> </ul>
Moral Value	To inculcate the value of harmony, relations and progress, be fair in all our dealings. Broaden the outlook and work for the betterment of mankind.
Assessment	<p><b>QI. Write the meaning of the following words and concepts.</b></p> <p>1. The National Archive, 2. Colonialism 3. Periodization 4. Calligraphist 5. Survey:</p> <p><b>QII. Fill in the blanks.</b></p> <p>1. As soon as we compare the past with the present we refer to ....., we talk of “before” and “after”.</p> <p>2. .... was the first Governor-General of British India.</p> <p>3. James Mill divided Indian History into ‘ancient’, ‘.....’ and ‘modern’.</p> <p>4. The British believed that.....period as colonial era.</p> <p>5. A History of British India was published by.....</p> <p><b>QIII. Multiple choice questions.</b></p> <p>1. The last Governor-General of India:</p> <p>(a) Warren Hastings      (b) Lord Canning      (c) Lord Wellesley      (d) Lord Mountbatten</p> <p>2. The first Governor –General of India:</p> <p>(a) Warren Hastings                      (b) Lord Curzon                      (c) Lord Irwin (d) Lord Bentinck</p>

3. Promotion of goods and commodities among the people to increase sales are known as;

- (a) Calligraphy                      (b) Advertisement                      (c) Encouragement                      (d) None of these

4. Which of these is a source of history of modern India?

- (a) Books                      (b) Historical monuments                      (c) Official documents                      (d) All of these

5. When was the first Botanical garden established in India?

- (a) 1770                                      (b) 1790                                      (c) 1765  
(d) 1745

**QIV. Match the following:**

Column 'A'	Column 'B'
1. National archives of India	a. Scottish Economist
2. Lipton	b. Fruit tree
3. James Mill	c. Tea
4. Custard apple	d. 1920s

**QV. Answer the following questions:**

- How are dates important in History? Briefly explain.
- The official records do not tell us what we want to know. Why?
- What is meant by ancient, medieval and modern ages?
- Why did the practice of surveying become common under the British rule?
- Name the European powers that came to India during the modern times?

Activity

Make a list of sources which help us to know the history.  
Prepare a chart with your family tree, take some photographs of your family-tree and post it to the following E-mail address.

Submission

Instructions for the students: Please note that students should scan the written assignment or click a picture of the assignment and send a clear image of the same by an email to [shubra.surendarababu@nehs.in](mailto:shubra.surendarababu@nehs.in). The assignment has to be sent on or before 9<sup>th</sup> of May, 2020.  
The hard copy is to be submitted as and when the student reports to the school. Please note that the above activities are a part of the Internal Assessment and is mandatory.

	Go through the notes of the chapter and write the summary of it.
Resources	NCERT Social Science Text Book ( NCERT site: <a href="http://ncert.nic.in/etext">ncert.nic.in/etext</a> )

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## Important points to remember:

### How important are dates

Anything which we see happening in our surrounding must have begun on someday. For example, we drink tea or coffee but how did it become part of our dietary habit and when it first came into use by man. Not only this, we all must have travelled by train so when did trains start in India. Such questions take us back to the notion of dates and time but time is not always precise. Sometimes, we even don't know about the exact date or time of that particular happening.

### Which Dates

A date doesn't become important if something big happened on that day in the past but it gains its significance on the basis of how much keen we are to study the events which happened during a particular time. If our focus changes, the importance of the dates also changes. Let's take an example the British historians began their history with the first governor general of Bengal Warren Hastings and it continues up to the last viceroy of India Lord Mountbatten. Their history mainly focuses on the activities, policies and the lifestyle of these men.

### How do we periodise?

In 1817 James Mill a Scottish economist and political philosopher wrote three volumes named 'A history of British India' following were the contents of his book:

- History was divided into three categories namely Hindu, Muslims, and British on the basis of the rulers of different period.
- According to Mill, all Asian societies were at a lower level than the European civilization.
- According to him Hindu and Muslim rulers had ruled India and there was huge intolerance against the religion of each other.
- Some Social evils were also present such as caste system, superstitious beliefs etc.
- According to him it was necessary to introduce European education and manners to them for their upliftment.

### What is Colonial?

British established their rule in India and took control over all the territories, revenue and resources of our country. They forced Indians to sell their goods at low prices and made them produce the crops they needed. The British also brought change in our culture, customs, economy and tastes. All these things refer to colonization of India.

### How do we know?

Historians rely on different sources for writing history such as:

### **Administration Records**

One of the important sources is the records of the British administration. The British were of a view that each and every policy and agreement should be recorded so that it could be studied and debated if needed. This led to an administrative culture of writing memos, reports etc.

Record rooms were maintained within the office of tahsildars, commissioner's office and law courts. Specialized institutions like archives and museums were made in order to preserve important records.

Calligraphists the one who writes beautifully were also appointed in order to copy the important documents.

The practice of survey became very important during the time of British. They wanted to know India in order to administer it properly. So, they conducted detailed survey for following reasons:

- To map out India
- To know the soil quality to check the suitability for different crops
- To know the flora and fauna
- To know the local histories

Some of the surveys conducted were as follows:

- Botanical Survey
- Archaeological Survey
- Forest Survey
- Zoological Survey

### **What official records do not tell?**

In order to know what other people of the country felt and the reasons behind their actions we need to look for other sources such as:

- Diaries of people
- Autobiographies
- Account of pilgrims and travelers
- Popular booklets
- Newspapers
- Ideas of leaders, poets and social reformers.

**Subject Teacher: Ms. Shubhra Surendra Babu**

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