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CHAPTER

Print Culture and the Modern World

Level - 1

CORE SUBJECTIVE QUESTIONS

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQs)

1. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Raja Rammohan Roy published 'SamvadKaumudi' in 1821. It was a Bengali newspaper that promoted social reforms, including the abolition of Sati, women's rights, and freedom of the press.

2. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Johannes Gutenberg, the inventor of the printing press, said, "Printing is the ultimate gift of God and the greatest one." His invention revolutionised the spread of knowledge and literacy across the world.

3. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: Rashundari Devi, a woman from a very orthodox household, wrote 'Amar Jiban', which is considered the first autobiography written by an Indian woman in the 19th century. It describes her struggles for education and self-expression in a patriarchal society.

4. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: The Vernacular Press Act was passed in 1878 by Lord Lytton to curb the freedom of the Indian vernacular press. It was modelled on the Irish Press Act and aimed to suppress publications that criticised British colonial rule.

5. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Lakshminath Bezbaruah (1864–1938) was a renowned Assamese writer, poet, playwright, and social reformer. He is considered one of the pioneers of modern Assamese literature and played a significant role in the cultural revival of Assam.

6. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Jyotiba Phule wrote 'Gulamgiri' (Slavery) in 1873. It was a powerful critique of the caste system and Brahmanical dominance in India. Phule dedicated the book to African-American abolitionists, drawing parallels between caste oppression in India and slavery in America.

7. Option (B) is correct

Explanation: Kailashbhashini Devi, Tarabai Shinde, and Pandita Ramabai were pioneering women writers who focused on the challenges

and struggles faced by women in Indian society. Kailashbhashini Devi wrote about social injustices against women, such as child marriage and lack of education. Tarabai Shinde authored "StriPurushTulana", which criticised gender discrimination and patriarchal norms. Pandita Ramabai highlighted the oppression of widows and advocated for women's education and social reform. Their writings played a crucial role in the women's reform movement in India.

8. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Johannes Gutenberg printed the first book, the Gutenberg Bible, around 1455 using his newly invented printing press with movable type. This invention revolutionised the spread of knowledge and made books more accessible to people.

9. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: Bengal Gazette, also known as Calcutta General Advertiser, was started in 1816 by Gangadhar Bhattacharya. It was the first Indian-owned newspaper published in the country.

10. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Rashundari Devi wrote 'Amar Jiban', which is considered the first autobiography written by an Indian woman in the 19th century. In this book, she described her struggles as a woman in a conservative society and her journey towards self-education.

11. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: In 1780, James Augustus Hickey started publishing the Bengal Gazette, also known as Hickey's Bengal Gazette. It was the first newspaper in India and described itself as "a commercial paper open to all, but influenced by none."

Hickey often criticised and exposed the corruption of the British East India Company's officials in India. His newspaper was known for publishing gossip and scandals about Company officers, which led to conflicts with the British administration. Eventually, his newspaper was banned, and he was imprisoned.

MATCH THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS

1. Option (B) and (D) is correct.

Explanation: Sudarshan Chakra wrote “Sachhi Kavitayen”, which contains poems on social issues and reform movements.

Kashi Baba authored “Chotte aur Bade Sawaal”, a book that focused on caste discrimination and social justice.

2. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: (a) Rassundari Devi wrote her autobiography, Amar Jiban, which was published in 1876.

(b) The poems of Sudarshan Chakra, a Kanpur millworker who wrote between 1935 and 1955, were compiled and published in a collection titled ‘Sacchi Kavitayen’.

(c) Kashibaba, a millworker from Kanpur, authored and published ‘Chhote Aur Bade Ka Sawal’ in 1938, highlighting the connections between caste and class exploitation.

(d) In 1907, when Punjab revolutionaries were deported, Bal Gangadhar Tilak expressed great sympathy for them in his newspaper, Kesari.

3. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: (i) In 1517, Martin Luther, a religious reformer, wrote the Ninety-Five Theses, criticising numerous practices and rituals of the Roman Catholic Church.

(ii) Amar Jiban published in 1876 is the autobiography of Rassundari Devi.

(iii) The Buddhist Diamond Sutra, printed in AD 868, is the oldest Japanese book.

(iv) Jyotiba Phule, the Maratha pioneer of ‘low caste’ protest movements, addressed the injustices of the caste system in his work ‘Gulamgiri’ (1871).

4. Option (C) is correct

Explanation: (i) By the late eighteenth century, Indians began publishing newspapers, with the first being the weekly Bengal Gazette by Gangadhar Bhattacharya.

(ii) 1822 saw the debut of the Bombay Samachar, a Gujarati newspaper.

(iii) In 1822, two Persian newspapers, Jam-i-Jahan Nama and Shamsul Akhbar, were also published.

(iv) Bal Gangadhar Tilak published a Marathi newspaper, Kesari.

ASSERTION-REASON QUESTIONS

1. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: The invention of the printing press by Johannes Gutenberg revolutionised the distribution, application, and preservation of knowledge. It allowed books and manuscripts to be reproduced quickly and in large numbers, making knowledge more accessible.

Printing empowered intellectuals to write, critique, and share ideas more widely. This led to the spread of new thoughts, debates, and discoveries across Europe, influencing major movements like the Renaissance, Reformation, and Scientific Revolution.

Both assertion and reason are true and the reason correctly explains the assertion.

2. Option (D) is correct

Explanation: It is not easy to imagine a world without printed matter because printing has become an essential part of modern society. Books, newspapers, advertisements, and digital media all rely on print culture for communication and knowledge-sharing.

The history of print culture dates back to ancient times, with early forms of printing such as woodblock printing in China and Gutenberg’s movable type printing press in Europe. Print culture has evolved over centuries, shaping education, politics, and social reforms.

Thus, assertion is false and reason is true.

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. (i) Lives and feelings of women began to be written in particularly vivid and intense ways. Women wrote books highlighting their experience, e.g. –(Eg Rash Sundari, Tarabai Shinde and Pandita Ramabai). They wrote their autobiographies.
- (ii) Many journals explained why women should be educated. Syllabus and suitable reading matter were added in journals which could be used for home-based schooling. Journals edited by women discussed issues like

women’s education, widowhood, widow remarriage and the national movement.

2. (i) Very cheap small books were brought to markets and sold at crossroads, allowing poor people travelling to markets to buy them.
- (ii) Public libraries were set up expanding the access to books. These libraries were located mostly in cities and towns. For rich local patrons, setting up a library was a way of acquiring prestige.

- (iii) Issues of caste discrimination began to be written about in many printed tracts and essays. Examples like-Jyotiba Phule, B.R. Ambedkar and E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker were read by people all over India.
 - (iv) Local protest movements and sects also created a lot of popular journals and tracts envisioning a new and just future.
 - (v) Workers in factories were too overworked and lacked the education to write much about their experiences. Like- "Chhote Aur Bade Ka sawal" "Sacchi Kavitayan", etc.. Bangalore cotton millworkers set up libraries to educate themselves, following the example of Bombay workers. These were sponsored by social reformers who tried to restrict excessive drinking among them, to bring literacy and, sometimes, to propagate the message of nationalism. (Any two)
3. The knowledge of woodblock printing was brought to Italy by Marco Polo during the 13th century. Marco Polo, a Venetian traveller, visited

China in the late 13th century. During his travels, he observed the woodblock printing technique used in China for printing books, textiles, and religious texts. When he returned to Europe, he shared knowledge about this advanced printing method, which later influenced the development of printing techniques in Italy and other parts of Europe. Thus, Marco Polo played a key role in introducing woodblock printing to Italy.

4. The Grimm Brothers, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, published a collection of German folktales called "Grimm's Fairy Tales" in the early 19th century.

Contribution to Society:

- (i) **Preserved German Culture and Identity:** Their stories helped revive and promote German traditions, folklore, and language, fostering a sense of national unity during a time of political fragmentation.
- (ii) **Inspired Nationalism and Social Change:** Their work encouraged people's pride in their cultural heritage, contributing to the unification of Germany and influencing social reforms.

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. (i) Print was no longer used just by scholar officials. Merchants used print in their everyday life, as they collected trade information.
 - (ii) Reading increasingly became a leisure activity. The new readership preferred fictional narratives, poetry, autobiographies, anthologies of literary masterpieces, and romantic plays.
 - (iii) Rich women began to read, and many women began publishing their poetry and plays. Wives of scholar-officials published their works and courtesans wrote about their lives.
2. (i) Printing led to intense debate around religious issues of that time. Different groups confronted the changes happening within colonial society in different ways, and offered a variety of new interpretations of the beliefs of different religions. Some criticised existing practices and campaigned for reform, while others countered the arguments of reformers. These debates were carried out in public and in print. In Bengal, as the debate developed, tracts and newspapers proliferated, circulating a variety of arguments.
- (ii) Printed tracts and newspapers not only spread the new ideas, but they shaped the nature of the debate. To reach a wider audience, the ideas were printed. Ram Mohan Roy published the SambadKaumudi from 1821 and the Hindu orthodoxy commissioned

the Samachar Chandrika. In 1822, two Persian newspapers were published, Jam-i-JahanNuma and Shamsul Akhbar.

- (iii) Intense controversies between social and religious reformers and the Hindu orthodoxy over matters like widow immolation, monotheism, Brahmanical priesthood and idolatry.
3. (i) Hand printing technology was introduced in Japan.
 - (ii) Buddhist Diamond Sutra contained six sheets of texts and wooden illustrations.
 - (iii) Pictures were printed on textile, playing cards and paper money.
 - (iv) Poets and prose writers were regularly published and books were cheap and abundant.
 - (v) In the Tokyo (Edo) illustrated collection of paintings depicted urban culture, court practices and tea house gathering.
 - (vi) Libraries and bookstores were packed with hand printed materials.
 - (vii) Books were written on women, musical instruments, calculations, flower arrangement, cooking etc. (Any three)
4. (i) With the new technology borders were illuminated, new designs and painting schools illustrated their creativity in the books.
- (ii) In the hundred years (between 1450 and 1550) printing presses were set up in most countries of Europe.

- (iii) Printers from Germany travelled to other countries, seeking work and helping start new presses.
 - (iv) As the number of printing presses grew, book production boomed.
 - (v) The second half of the fifteenth century saw 20 million copies of printed books flooding the markets in Europe.
 - (vi) The number went up in the sixteenth century to about 200 million copies.
 - (vii) This shift from hand printing to mechanical printing led to the print revolution. (Any three)
5. (i) Earlier reading was restricted to the elites. Common people lived in a world of oral culture. They heard sacred texts read out, ballads recited, and folk tales narrated.
- (ii) With the printing press, a new reading public emerged.
- (iii) Printing reduced the cost of books. Multiple copies were produced with greater ease.
- (iv) Books flooded the market, reaching out to an ever-growing readership.
- (v) Now books could reach out to wider sections of people.
- (vi) People started writing and publishing popular ballads and folk tales and were illustrated with pictures. (Any three)
6. (i) Print popularised the ideas of the enlightened thinkers. Their writings provided a critical commentary on tradition, superstition, and despotism. They argued for the rule of reason rather than custom, and demanded that everything be judged through the application of reason and rationality.
- (ii) Third Estate attacked the sacred authority of the Church and the despotic power of the State.
- (iii) Print culture eroded the legitimacy of a social order based on tradition. The writings of Voltaire and Rousseau were read widely and saw the world through a critical and rational way. All values, norms and institutions were re-evaluated and discussed. New ideas of social revolution came into existence.
- (iv) By the 1780s there was an outpouring of literature that mocked the royalty and criticised their morality. Cartoons and caricatures typically suggested that the monarchy remained absorbed only in sensual pleasures while the common people suffered immense hardships. This literature circulated underground and led to the growth of hostile sentiments against the monarchy. (Any three)
7. (i) The printing press first came to Goa with Portuguese missionaries in the mid-sixteenth century.
- (ii) Jesuit Priests learnt Konkani and printed several tracts.
- (iii) By 1674 about many books had been printed in Konkani and in Kanara languages.
- (iv) Catholic priests printed the first Tamil book in 1579 at Cochin.
- (v) In 1713, the first Malayalam book was printed.
- (vi) By 1710, Dutch Protestant missionaries had printed 32 Tamil texts. Many of them translation of older work.
8. (i) With the setting up of an increasing number of printing presses, the visual images could be easily produced in multiple copies.
- (ii) Painters like Raja Ravi Varma produced images for mass circulation.
- (iii) Poor wood engravers who made woodblocks setup shop near the letter presses and were employed by print shops.
- (iv) Cheap prints and calendars could be bought to decorate the walls of their homes or place of works.
- (v) These prints began shaping popular ideas about modernity and tradition, religion and politics and society and culture.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Impact of the Print Revolution in Europe during the 15th and 16th century:
- (i) Printing reduced the cost of books.
 - (ii) The time and labour required to produce each of the books came down, multiple copies could be produced with greater ease.
 - (iii) Books flooded the market, reaching out to an over-growing readership.
 - (iv) Publishers started publishing popular ballad folk tales with beautiful picture and illustrations.
 - (v) Knowledge was transferred orally.
 - (vi) Print created the possibility of the wide circulation of ideas and introduced a new world of debate and discussion.
 - (vii) Even those who disagreed with established authorities could now print and circulate their ideas. For example, Martin Luther was a German monk, priest, professor and Church reformer. He challenged the Church to debate his ideas.
 - (viii) This led to division within the Church and beginning of the Protestant Reformation.
 - (ix) Print and popular religious literature stimulated many distinctive individual interpretations of faith even among less-educated working people. (Any five)

2. (i) Religious texts, reached a wide circle of people encouraging discussions, debates and controversies within and among different religions.
- (ii) Newspapers conveyed news from one place to other creating pan-Indian identities.
- (iii) Spread of ideas through printed texts and newspapers led to widespread participation of Indians.
- (iv) Print propagated against social evils like Sati, child marriage and the purdah system.
- (v) Emergence of many social reforms and reform movements.
- (vi) New ideas emerged through the clashes of opinions. (Any five)

Level - 2 ADVANCED COMPETENCY FOCUSED QUESTIONS

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS (MCQs)

1. Option (C) is correct
Explanation: This statement reflects how the printing revolution in 15th–16th century Europe helped in the wider dissemination of ideas, promoted intellectual discussions, enabled the Reformation, and laid the foundation for modern thinking and social change.
2. Option (B) is correct
Explanation: The statement highlights that the spread of print culture led to an increase in literacy, as books became more affordable and accessible to people beyond elite or scholarly classes, contributing to social and educational transformation.
3. Option (C) is correct
Explanation: This statement reflects how print culture empowered common people, spread reformist and revolutionary ideas, and challenged traditional power structures, especially during events like the Reformation, the French Revolution, and various social reform movements.
4. Option (C) is correct
Explanation: Printed material in 18th-century Europe played a crucial role in spreading Enlightenment thinking, which emphasised reason, individual rights, liberty, and questioning of traditional authority. This period saw a surge in books, pamphlets, and journals that challenged monarchy and church dominance and laid the groundwork for modern democratic ideals.
5. Option (B) is correct
Explanation: This reflects how print culture in colonial India played a powerful role in spreading nationalist ideas, mobilising masses, and creating political awareness through newspapers, pamphlets, and books in vernacular languages, making the freedom movement more inclusive and widespread.
6. Option (C) is correct
Explanation: This implies that print culture in colonial India was a tool of empowerment, allowing women, social reformers, regional communities, and marginalised groups to express their concerns, challenge injustice, and shape a collective identity through vernacular print media.
7. Option (B) is correct
Explanation: This development shows that the growth of print culture in the 19th century led to increased female literacy, encouraged women to write and publish, and enabled their active involvement in social reform movements and public discourse, helping challenge traditional gender roles.

ASSERTION-REASON QUESTIONS

1. Option (A) is correct
Explanation: Assertion is true because the invention of the printing press in the 15th century played a significant role in spreading revolutionary and reformist ideas across Europe, contributing to movements like the Reformation and the Enlightenment.
Reason is also true because printed books allowed faster and broader circulation of ideas, reaching a larger and more diverse audience, which was crucial for shaping public opinion and challenging established authorities.
Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.
2. Option (D) is correct
Explanation: Assertion (A) is false because print culture in colonial India was not dominated entirely by English-language publications. In fact, vernacular language printing flourished, with a wide range of newspapers, journals, pamphlets, and books being published in Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Tamil, and other regional languages.
Reason is true because the British colonial government did at times suppress vernacular printing, especially when it was used to criticize colonial rule or spread nationalist ideas — for example, through the Vernacular Press Act of 1878. However, this did not fully prevent the growth of vernacular print culture.

3. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true because print culture was a powerful tool in spreading the ideas of social reformers during the 19th and early 20th centuries in India.

Reason is also true because reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, and Jyotiba Phule used newspapers, journals, and books to raise awareness about issues like child marriage, caste discrimination, and women's education, thereby influencing public opinion and promoting social change.

Both assertion and reason are true and reason is the correct explanation of assertion.

4. Option (A) is correct

Explanation: Assertion is true because the British colonial government imposed strict censorship laws, such as the Vernacular Press Act of 1878, to control the growing influence of print media.

Reason (R) is also true. The British feared that newspapers, pamphlets, and books — especially in vernacular languages — could spread nationalist ideas, provoke dissent, and mobilise people against colonial rule, threatening their control over India.

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Print created a platform for people to read, question, and debate religious and social ideas. It helped spread reformist views during the Protestant Reformation and weakened the Church's control by making the Bible accessible in vernacular languages. Socially, it encouraged literacy and critical thinking, leading to greater awareness and discussion on important issues.
2. In colonial India, print helped social reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar spread awareness about social evils such as sati, child marriage, and caste discrimination. They used newspapers, pamphlets, and journals in both English and vernacular languages to educate the public, promote rational thinking, and mobilise support for reform movements, thus creating pressure for social change.
3. The rise of vernacular print in India enabled people from different regions to access ideas in their own languages, which helped spread nationalist ideas more widely. Newspapers and journals in Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Urdu, and other regional

languages helped mobilise public opinion, create awareness about colonial injustices, and unify people across diverse communities by connecting local issues with the national freedom movement.

4. (i) The British feared that printed material, especially in vernacular languages, could spread nationalist ideas and provoke public unrest against colonial rule.
(ii) Newspapers and pamphlets were increasingly used to criticise British policies, so laws like the Vernacular Press Act (1878) were introduced to curb dissent and control public opinion.
5. (i) Social reform movements in the 19th century promoted women's education, leading to increased literacy among women.
(ii) As a result, more women began to read and write, and their issues were reflected in print through women's magazines, autobiographies, and articles that discussed education, rights, and social reforms.

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Print culture deeply influenced European society in the following ways:
 - (i) **Spread of New Ideas:** The printing press enabled the rapid spread of Renaissance, Reformation, and Enlightenment ideas, promoting reason, science, and individual thought.
 - (ii) **Rise in Literacy:** Books became cheaper and more accessible, leading to higher literacy rates among the middle and lower classes.
 - (iii) **Growth of Public Debate:** Printed pamphlets and newspapers encouraged public discussion, allowing more people to participate in religious and political debates, weakening traditional authorities like the Church.

2. Print culture in colonial India enabled marginalised communities to share their experiences, challenge discrimination, and assert their identity:
 - (i) Dalit writings and publications like Jyotiba Phule's writings or later Ambedkar's journals gave voice to caste-based oppression and demanded social justice.
 - (ii) Women's magazines and autobiographies, such as those by Pandita Ramabai, highlighted issues like child marriage, lack of education, and gender inequality, empowering women to speak up.
 - (iii) Regional and vernacular newspapers allowed tribal groups and lower castes to discuss their concerns in local languages, spreading awareness among their own communities and beyond.

3. The vernacular press was instrumental in promoting Indian nationalism in the following ways:
 - (i) **Spreading Awareness:** Newspapers in regional languages like Kesari (Marathi) and Amrita Bazar Patrika (initially Bengali) informed people about colonial injustices, taxes, and laws, helping even the illiterate masses become politically aware.
 - (ii) **Mobilising Public Opinion:** They encouraged debates on colonial policies and supported Swadeshi and boycott movements, helping to build mass support for the freedom struggle.
 - (iii) **Connecting Regional Movements:** Vernacular newspapers linked local issues with the broader national movement, creating a sense of shared identity and unity among Indians from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds.
4. Reformers in 19th-century India used print as a tool to challenge regressive traditions and promote progressive ideas in the following ways:
 - (i) **Raising Awareness:** Reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy used journals such as Sambad Kaumudi to criticise practices like sati, child marriage, and promote widow remarriage.
 - (ii) **Encouraging Debate:** Print allowed open discussion of social and religious customs, giving space to both supporters and critics of reform, which helped evolve public opinion.
 - (iii) **Reaching Wider Audiences:** Through vernacular pamphlets and newspapers, reformers could spread reformist ideas to a larger and more diverse audience, including rural and lower-caste readers.
5. Colonial authorities feared the growth of print culture in India for the following reasons:
 - (i) **Spread of Nationalist Ideas:** Printed materials such as newspapers and pamphlets spread anti-colonial sentiments, uniting people against British rule.
 - (ii) **Rise in Political Consciousness:** The print medium enabled widespread criticism of British policies, encouraging public debates and protests.
 - (iii) **Mobilisation of the Masses:** Print helped reach diverse social groups in multiple languages, making it easier to organise mass movements and boycotts, which threatened colonial control.

CASE BASED QUESTIONS

1. (i) Reading was like, thrust of fresh pure water. External distractions did not bother him. Pale light even did not affects his attention. Mercier's description of being carried effortlessly from one page to the next by the eloquence of the text highlights the engrossing nature of his reading experience.
- (ii) Mercier became deeply engaged with the text. He was immersed to the creation point. He was connected to the process of writing so intimately that he was reading it and was absorbing new ideas.
- (iii) (1) Mercier is so deeply immersed in reading that he loses track of time and running out of oil for his lamp.
- (2) He mentions new ideas rushing into his brain and his intelligence adopting them. New concepts fuelled his ideas and sparked his intellectual ability. Receptiveness towards knowledge was reflected. He showed willingness to integrate his ideas into the understanding of world.
2. (i) Colonial Government passed Vernacular Press Act and other rules to control the press. The penalties were imposed. Government kept regular track of the vernacular newspapers and censoring of reports of war related topics.
- (ii) During the First World War, under the Defence of India Rules, 22 newspapers had to furnish securities and 18 of these shut down. There were strong protest by Indians. Liberty of Press was lost. Many people were imprisoned when they broke these laws.
- (iii) When a report was judged as seditious, the newspaper was warned. If the warning was ignored, the press was liable to be seized and the printing machinery to be confiscated.
3. (i) (1) Providing useful information on topics of local interest.
- (2) Allowing free discussion on subjects of general utilities.
- (3) Scientific investigation.
- (4) Speculations related to antiquities and etc. (Any one)
- (ii) (1) Providing valuable information on a wide range of subjects.
- (2) Encouraging open discussion on important topics.
- (3) Seeking patronage and support from individual's interest in spreading knowledge and promoting the welfare of the people. (Any one)
- (iii) (1) Studying specific issues in depth.
- (2) Gathering diverse and relevant information about the nation and potential improvements.
- (3) Utilising their influence to advocate for positive changes in government policies. (Any two)

4. (i) Irish Press Law
(ii) Because vernacular newspapers became assertively nationalists.
(iii) (1) It provided the government with extensive rights to censor reports.
(2) The government kept regular track of the vernacular newspapers published in different provinces.
5. (i) English language.
(ii) He published a lot of gossip about the Company's senior officials.
(iii) They encouraged the publication of officially sanctioned papers.
They were encouraged to counter the flow of information that damaged the image of the colonial government.
6. (i) The Jikji of Korea is among the world's oldest existing book printed with movable metal type.
(ii) This work marked an important technical change in the print culture. That is why it was inscribed on the UNESCO Memory of the World Register in 2001.
(iii) Jikji contains the essential features of Zen Buddhism. About 150 monks of India, China and Korea are mentioned in the book.
7. (i) (1) For useful information on every topic of local interest.
(2) Subjects of general utility, scientific investigation and the speculations connected with the antiquities, statistics, curiosities, history, and geography of the country were to be discussed.
(Any one)
(ii) (1) The role of newspapers was to critically examine the government policies to suggest improvement. The newspapers were to ensure speedy implementation of the suggested policies.
(2) The political association to seek to study the particular issue and to gather diverse relevant information on the nation as well.
(3) They also assessed the possible and desirable improvement which will surely earn it considerable influence.
(Any one)
(iii) Newspaper not only shaped and spread new idea but it also shaped the nature of the debate. New ideas of reforming the society spread out in public. It became the medium of gathering diverse knowledge and suggest improvements. Different interpretation of faith was also discussed in the paper. Government policies were critically examined through newspaper.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. (a) **The spread of religious reform in Europe:** Print enabled the rapid circulation of Martin Luther's 95 Theses and other reformist texts, challenging the authority of the Catholic Church and fueling the Protestant Reformation. It allowed religious ideas to spread widely and quickly, reaching even ordinary people.
(b) **Literacy and education:** With books becoming cheaper and more accessible, literacy rates improved. The availability of texts in vernacular languages allowed people from different social backgrounds to learn to read, which promoted universal education.
(c) **Social reforms and public debates:** In both Europe and India, reformers used print to question traditions and promote progressive ideas. Issues like caste discrimination, women's rights, and child marriage were debated through pamphlets, journals, and newspapers, creating a more informed and critical public.
(d) **The emergence of nationalism:** Print helped build a sense of collective identity by spreading common ideas, songs, folklore, and historical narratives. In India, newspapers and books in regional languages united diverse communities under the idea of the nation.
(e) **The formation of new reading publics:** The print revolution created new classes of readers—including the middle class, women, and the lower castes—who gained access to books, magazines, and newspapers. This democratisation of knowledge empowered many previously excluded groups.
2. The statement "In colonial India, print culture played a dual role – it empowered people and also created anxieties for the colonial state" reflects the transformative yet contentious nature of print in British-ruled India. Let's explore this through the following aspects:
(a) **Growth of Vernacular Print**
Empowerment: The introduction of print in vernacular languages (like Bengali, Hindi, Tamil, Urdu, Marathi, etc.) allowed a much wider section of the Indian population to access religious texts, literature, political ideas, and news. It fostered literacy and regional consciousness, helping people articulate their own identities and histories.
Colonial Anxieties: The spread of local-

language newspapers and pamphlets made it harder for the colonial government to monitor and control public opinion. Vernacular print was often critical of British policies, which made it a tool for mobilizing dissent and nationalist sentiment.

(b) Role of Print in Reform Movements

Empowerment: Print was a crucial platform for social reformers such as Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, and Jyotiba Phule. They used journals and pamphlets to campaign against social evils like sati, child marriage, caste discrimination, and to advocate for education and women's rights.

Colonial Anxieties: These reform debates often led to intense social conflicts, particularly when they challenged orthodox religious practices or stirred communal sentiments. The colonial government feared such discussions could destabilize their control and disrupt social order.

(c) Print as a Medium of Resistance

Empowerment: Print became a powerful weapon for nationalists. Leaders like Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Mahatma Gandhi, and Subhas Chandra Bose used newspapers like Kesari, Young India, and Forward Bloc to spread anti-colonial ideas, mobilize people, and create political awareness.

Colonial Anxieties: The British saw this as a threat to law and order. The ability of print to spread rapidly and reach the masses made it a dangerous tool in the eyes of the Raj, especially during periods of unrest like the Swadeshi Movement or Non-Cooperation Movement.

(d) British Response through Censorship

Reactionary Measures: The British government introduced various laws to restrict freedom of the press, such as the Vernacular Press Act (1878), which specifically targeted Indian-language publications suspected of inciting rebellion or criticism of the state.

Suppression vs. Control: These laws allowed for pre-censorship, bans, and prosecution of editors and writers. But they also highlighted the British nervousness about Indian public opinion, especially as the national movement gained momentum.

(e) The Overall Effect on Indian Society

Empowerment: Print culture stimulated intellectual awakening, political consciousness, and cultural revival. It played a key role in the formation of a modern

Indian identity and enabled democratic discussions among diverse groups.

Polarisation and Conflict: At the same time, print sometimes deepened religious and caste divides, with communal and provocative literature also finding space. This fragmentation worried the colonial authorities, but it also highlighted the vibrancy and contestation of public discourse in India.

Print culture in colonial India was a double-edged sword: it empowered Indians to challenge oppression, demand rights, and push for reform, while simultaneously causing fear and instability for the colonial regime that sought to control the flow of ideas. It was both a tool of emancipation and a perceived threat to imperial power.

3. The statement "Print was not merely a carrier of information; it was a medium of transformation" captures the profound impact that print culture had in reshaping society, thinking, and identities — both in India and Europe. Print didn't just inform people; it transformed how they read, thought, interacted, and imagined the world around them.

(a) Changed Reading Habits

From Oral to Silent Reading: In pre-print cultures, knowledge was often transmitted orally or through handwritten manuscripts. Print encouraged private, silent, and individual reading, especially among the middle class.

Mass Readership: Cheap printed books, newspapers, and journals created a mass reading public. Literacy efforts and serialized publications (like novels and essays in parts) made reading a daily habit, not just a scholarly pursuit.

Shift in Content: People began reading not only religious texts but also fiction, political tracts, biographies, science, and self-help books.

(b) Influenced Political and Social Consciousness

In Europe: Print played a crucial role in the Protestant Reformation, French Revolution, and Enlightenment. Thinkers like Voltaire and Rousseau spread ideas of liberty, equality, rationality, and democracy through printed texts.

In India: Newspapers and pamphlets were central to building nationalist sentiment and social awareness. The Indian press challenged colonial policies, supported

reform movements, and politicized the public.

Public Sphere Formation: Print enabled the rise of a “public sphere” where people could discuss, debate, and engage with contemporary issues — often across class, caste, and regional boundaries.

(c) **Gave Rise to New Genres of Literature**

Modern Prose and Fiction: The printing press encouraged the growth of novels, essays, short stories, and autobiographies. Writers like Charles Dickens in Europe or Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in India wrote for large audiences.

Serialized Literature: Many novels were published in installments in magazines or newspapers, creating anticipation and a loyal readership.

Political Satire and Social Commentary: Journals often carried satirical pieces, editorials, and letters, which reflected and shaped public opinion.

(d) **Empowered Women and Marginalised Communities**

Women Readers and Writers: Print allowed women to learn, express, and participate in public discourse. Women like Pandita Ramabai in India and Mary Wollstonecraft in Europe used print to advocate for education, equality, and reform.

Literacy Campaigns: Missionaries and reformers used print to promote female literacy. Women’s magazines in vernacular languages emerged, discussing health, motherhood, and rights.

Voice for the Oppressed: Marginalised groups like Dalits, lower castes, and minorities began publishing their own journals and autobiographies (e.g., Jyotiba Phule’s “Gulamgiri”, later B.R. Ambedkar’s works), challenging Brahmanical dominance and colonial narratives.

(e) **Facilitated Modern Ideas in India and Europe**

Spread of Enlightenment Thinking: In Europe, print was central to spreading rationalism, secularism, and scientific thinking, laying the foundation for modern liberal democracies.

Western Ideas in India: Through English-language and vernacular prints, Indians accessed ideas of modern education, rights, nationalism, industrialization, and secular reform.

Cultural Exchange: Print enabled the translation of texts across languages and regions — for example, Indian epics into European languages and Western science/philosophy into Indian languages, thus fostering intellectual cross-pollination.

Print was a catalyst for transformation, not merely a tool of communication. It reshaped thought, democratised knowledge, empowered the unheard, and stirred revolutions — social, political, and cultural. From individual habits to collective consciousness, print culture revolutionized how people saw themselves and the world.

