

When People Rebel 1857 And After (The Great Uprising)

Graphic Novel

Class – VIII

Social Sciences

Subodh Public School
(Affiliated to C.B.S.E.)
Airport, Jaipur



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Acknowledgement

It is a matter of immense pleasure to acknowledge that this Graphic Novel is the outcome of co-ordination and team work of teachers from different subjects and classes of Subodh Public School, Near Airport Terminal 1, Jaipur.

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Disclaimer

This book is published as a learning material to enable the students to have a better understanding of **When People Rebel 1857 and After**.

Printed & Published by :
Subodh Public School
Near Airport Terminal 1, Jaipur.

Preface

The **Revolt of 1857** is also known as First War of Independence. It holds an important position in the history of India. It tells us about the sacrifices that our Freedom fighters did for India.

Keeping all these things in mind, this Graphic Novel is prepared for students, so that they can also feel the challenges faced by our freedom fighters. This novel throws light on the reasons for the Revolt of 1857. It also depicts how the Revolt spread to the different parts of India, the reaction of British Empire towards it and what were the outcomes after the Revolt.

The Novel is enriched with curiosity, adventure and patriotism that will stimulate the knowledge and will cultivate spirit of nationalism in present generation.

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Learning Outcomes

Through this lesson students will be able to:

1. Identify the causes of revolt of 1857.
2. Understand how the Revolt originate and spread to different parts of North India.
3. Demonstrate how the revolt was suppressed by the Britishers.
4. Analyze the changes during the colonial rule after the revolt of 1857.

Story Board

Causes of uprising

Economic Causes

Political Causes

Social Causes

Religious Causes

Military Causes

Immediate Cause



After the Uprising

Nature of the Uprising

Failure of the uprising

Beginning of the Uprising

Suppression of the Uprising

Spread of the Uprising

Characters



Grandparent Dada ji
(Retired Lecturer)



Veer – 13 years old boy
(Student of Class VIII)



Veera- 9 years girl
(Veer's Sister)



Mr. Rohit
(Father of Veer and Veera)



Ms. Vasudatta
(Social Sciences Teacher)



Aman – Veer's Friend



Vihan- Veer's Friend



Anchors 1



Anchors 2



Mangal Pandey



Rani Laxmi Bai –
Queen of Jhansi



Tantya Tope –
Led Revolt at Kanpur



Begum Hazrat Mahal –
Wife of Wajid Ali Shah
(Nawab of Awadh)



Birjis Qadr –
Son of Wajid Ali Shah
(Nawab of Awadh)



Bahadur Shah Zafar –
The Last Mughal Ruler



Nana Saheb –
Adopted son of
Peshwa Baji Rao



Sepoys



Artisan



Indian Sepoys



Indian Peasants

Veer's family is sitting and watching a movie on the television. The name of the movie is 'The Legend of Bhagat Singh'.



Inquilab
Jindabaad



Papa. What is Inquilab?

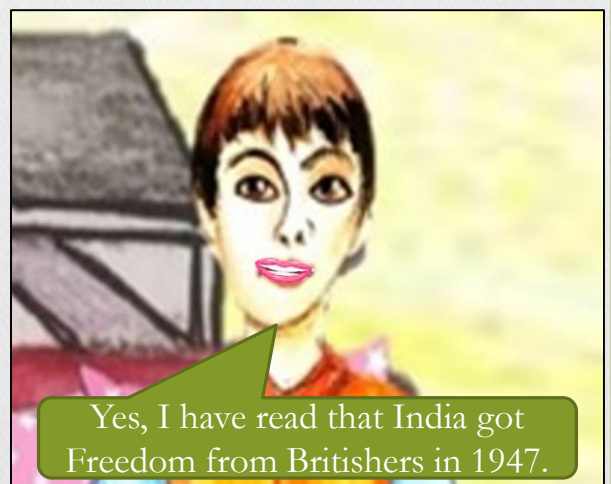
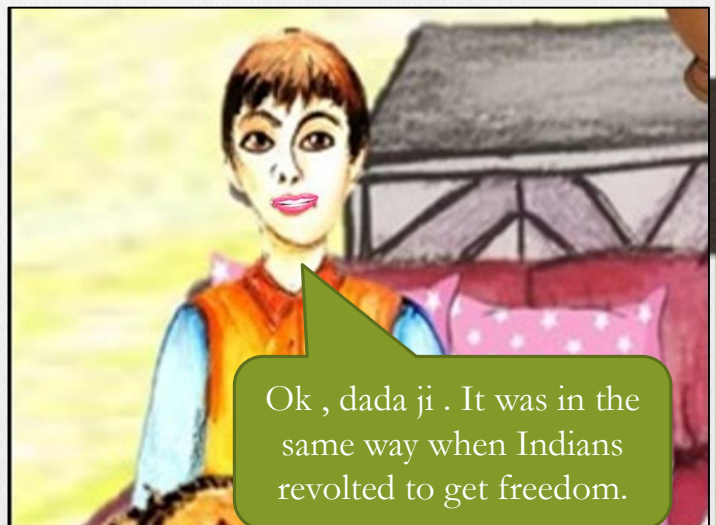
Inquilab means Revolution or uprising.

Ahhh! Again so heavy words, will you please explain to me in a simple way.

I want to understand

Ok , I will tell you about the Revolution.

After the movie, Dadaji, Veer and Veera moved to Dadaji's room and Dadaji explains to them about Revolution.



How did it start?
Dadaji please tell us.

Yes my dear. We got freedom in
1947, but the struggle started
long before that.

Britishers came to India in 16th century as
traders but soon became the rulers.

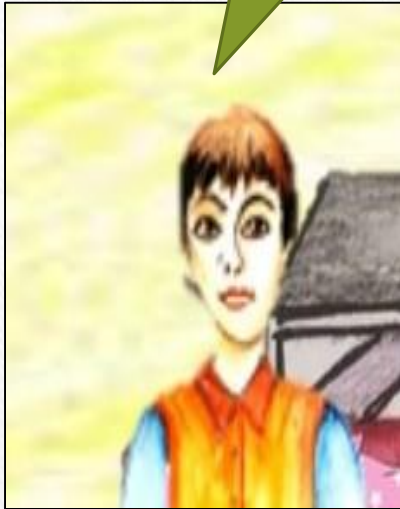
Yes dadaji, I read
it in my 7th grade.

Britishers exploited India
for their benefit only.

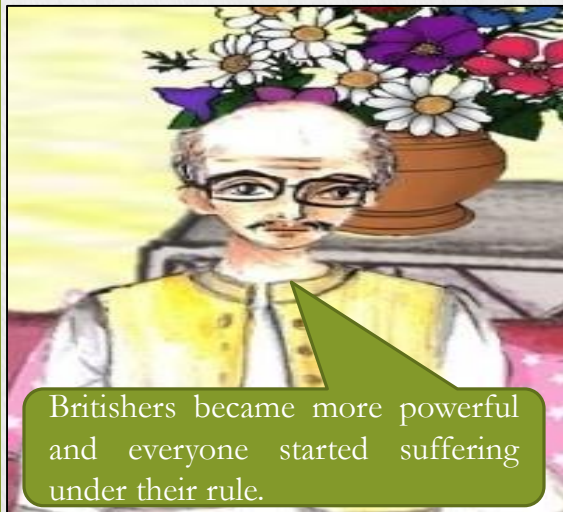
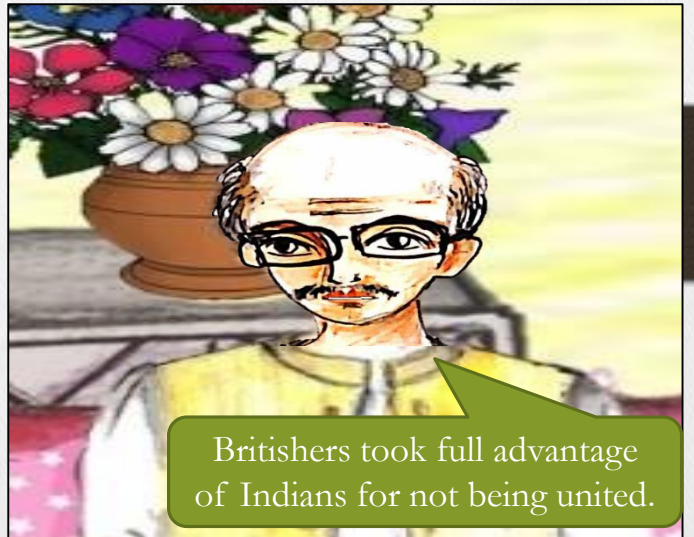
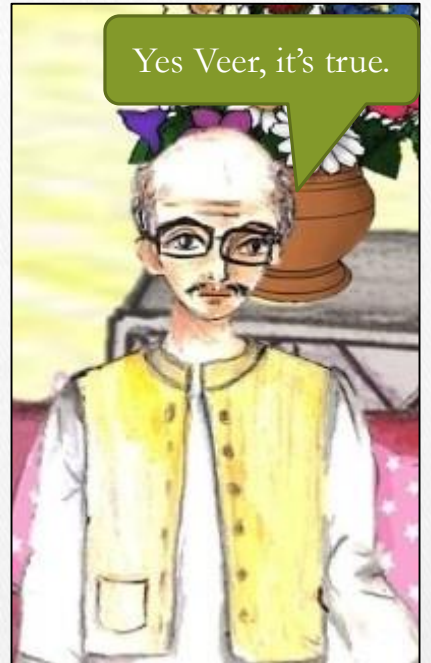
It's wrong and bad. Did people
not raise their voice against them?



Do you mean that they were not united?



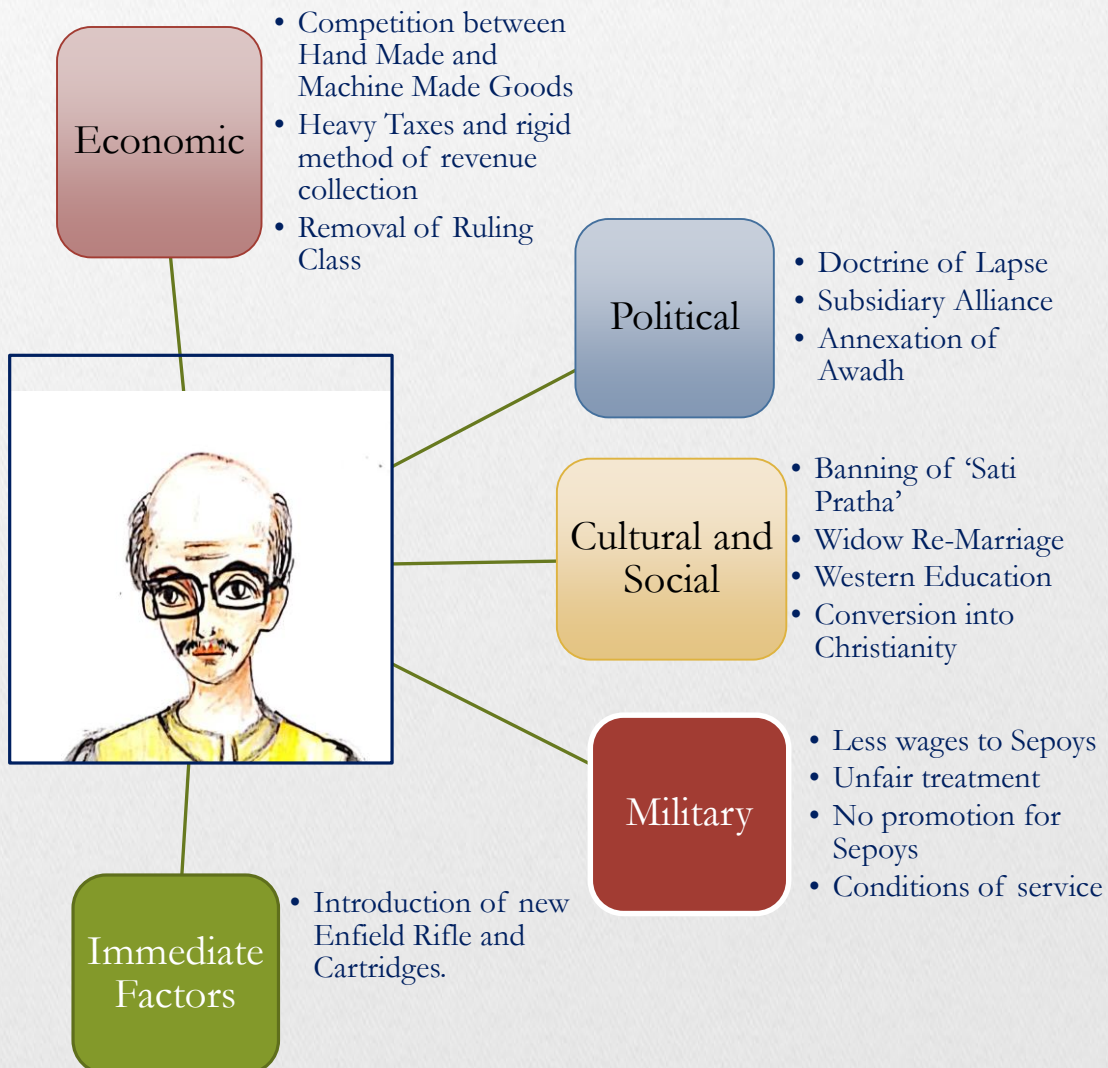
Yes Veer, it's true.



They reached the library where Dadaji took out a book on the Revolt of 1857.



On one page of the book the causes for the revolt was mentioned. Kings, Queens, Peasants, Landlords, Tribals, Soldiers were affected in different ways.



Dadaji opens the book and shows a page to both the children.



Dadaji continues - On the other hand, peasants faced problem of high revenue and worried about their future.





Poor peasants, it must be very hard for them.



Peasants were forced to take money from the moneylenders to pay taxes.



Britishers were so bad.

Dadaji turns the page and continues :

Due to Industrial Revolution in England, goods were manufactured in the industries.



In India, Textile and other craft items were still made by hand. An unfair competition started between machine made goods and Indian artisans and craftsmen.



We are still making textile by hands. How can we compete with machine made textile/fabric?

Dadaji turns the page and continues : Textile Material

We are produced on machines, it feels so good.

Ahhh...we are less expensive, fine and less time consuming.

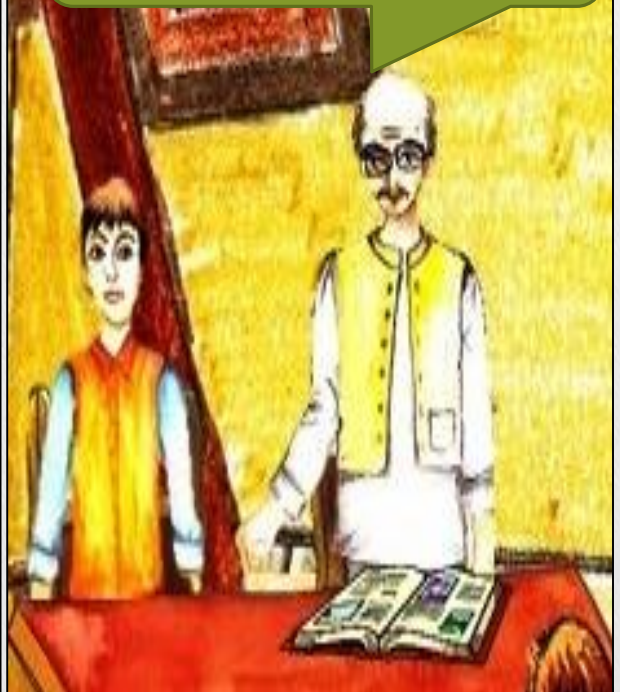


Everyone wants to purchase me.

Dadaji, why are the handmade goods and textile still costly as compared to machine made textiles.

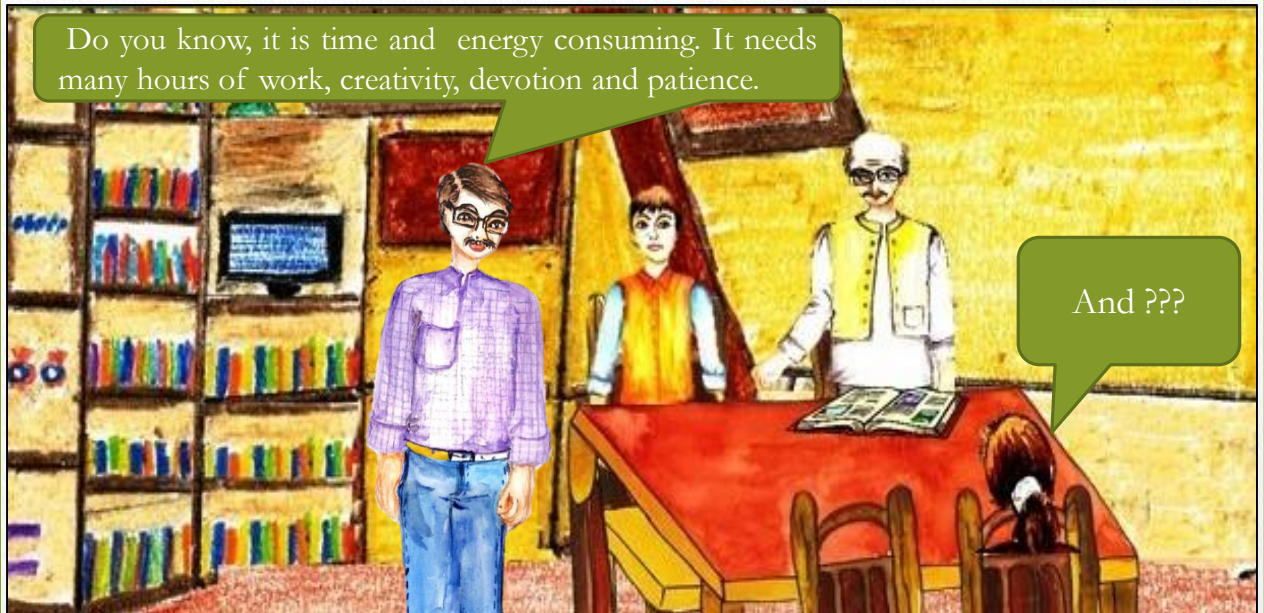


Veera, these are expensive because these are unique and made by the experts using the best material.



Entry of Mr. Rohit (Father of Veer and Veera) in the Room..

Do you know, it is time and energy consuming. It needs many hours of work, creativity, devotion and patience.



The most important thing is ... "Skill"



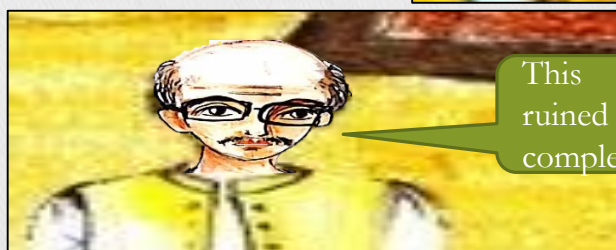
Now I understand why handmade goods are so fine.



What Papa?



Before Industrial Revolution, cotton cloth was in huge demand in the European market.

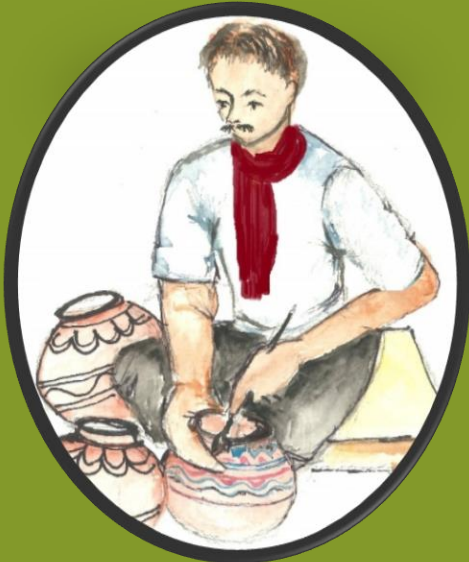


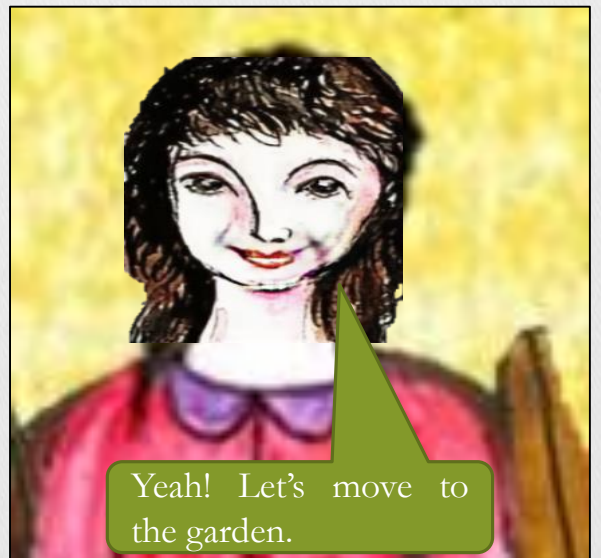
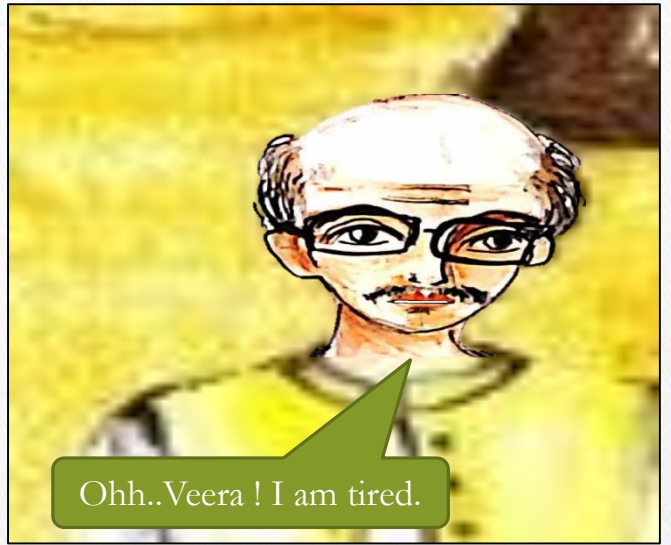
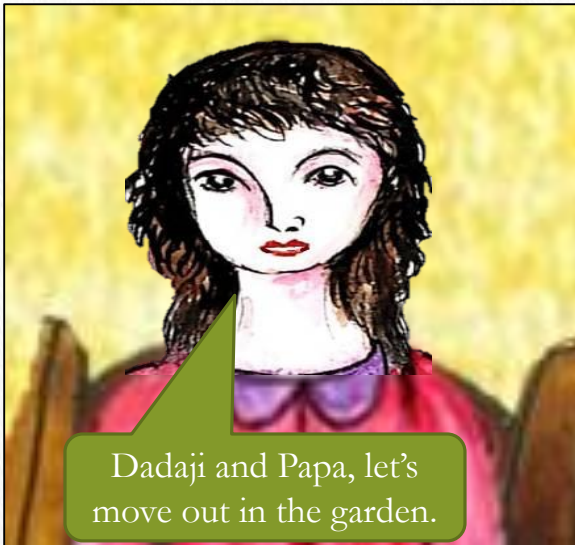
This unfair competition ruined Indian textile industry completely.

Dadaji turns the page and continues : “Due to annexation of the provinces by the British, the Indian Rulers were removed. Due to the removal of Ruling Class those who were depended on them like :



Artisans, Musicians, Craftsmen and Priests lost their source of livelihood.





Papa, what did the Britishers do after Annexation?

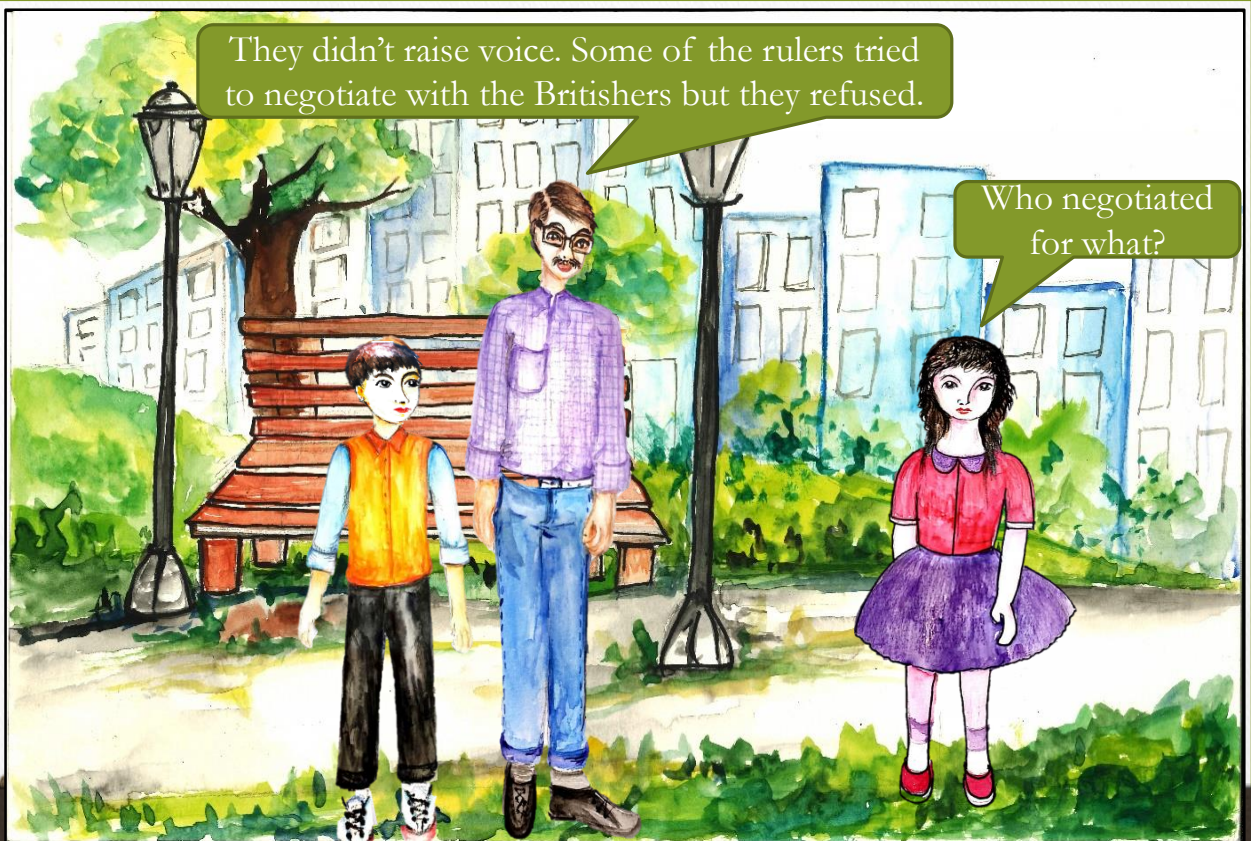
Rajas, Maharajas and Nawabs lost their powers and freedom due to the presence of a *Resident* in their court.



Their armed forces were banned.
No right to collect Revenue and
territories were annexed.

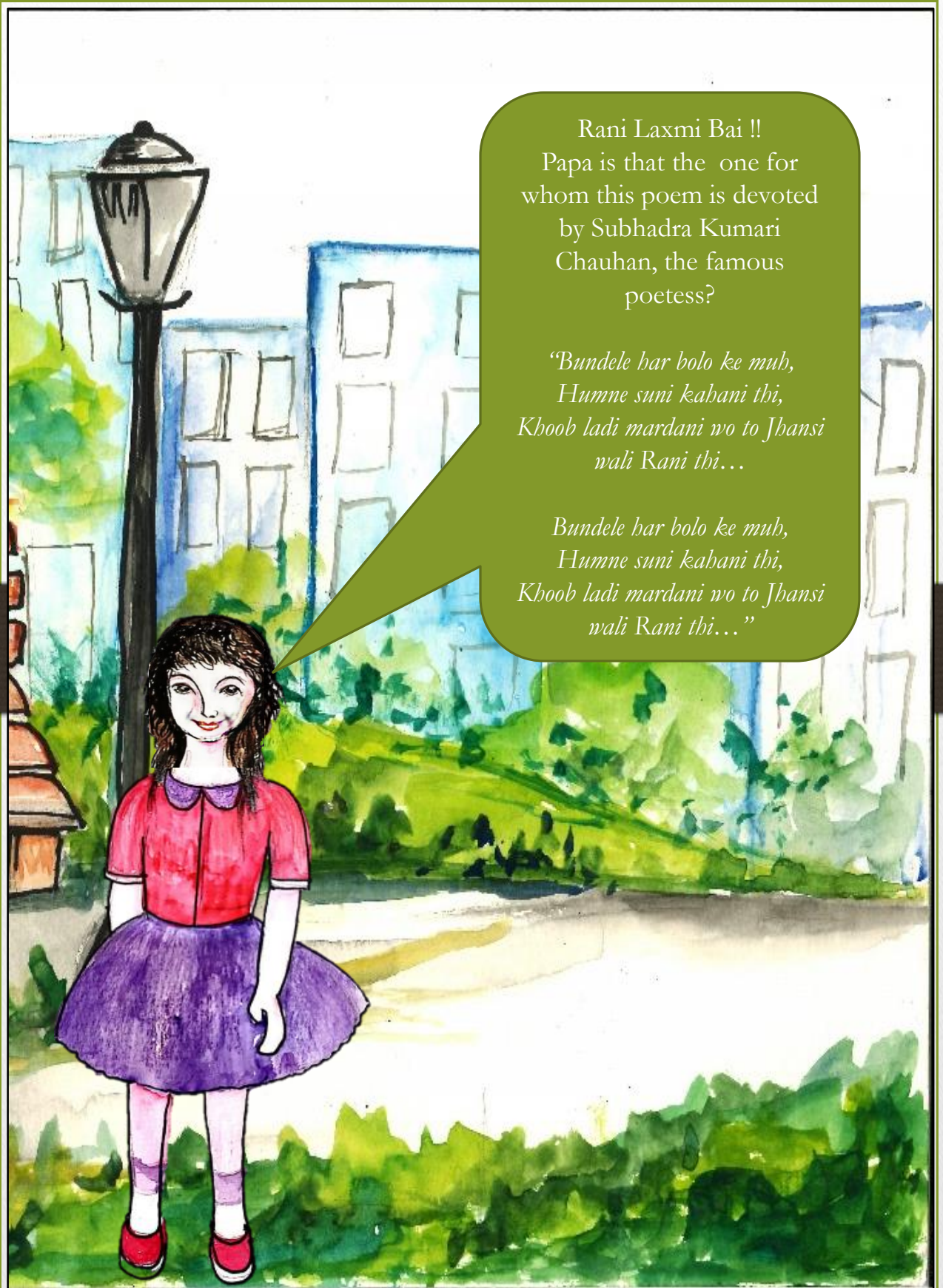
Did the Nawabs not raise
their voice against this?





Mr. Rohit explained :





Rani Laxmi Bai !!
Papa is that the one for
whom this poem is devoted
by Subhadra Kumari
Chauhan, the famous
poetess?

*"Bundele har bolo ke mub,
Humne suni kabani thi,
Khoob ladi mardani wo to Jhansi
wali Rani thi..."*

*Bundele har bolo ke mub,
Humne suni kabani thi,
Khoob ladi mardani wo to Jhansi
wali Rani thi..."*

Yes Veera, Rani Laxmi Bai fought very bravely against the Britishers.

Did Rani Laxmi Bai negotiate?



Yes Veer, after the death of Raja Gangadhar Rao, his wife Rani Laxmi Bai wanted her adopted son Damodar Rao to be recognized as the King of Jhansi.



Ok, but why their demands were refused by the Britishers?



They were refused as they had signed a *Subsidiary Alliance*.

Sub! Sub!
Subsi ! What?

It's Subsidiary
Alliance Veera.



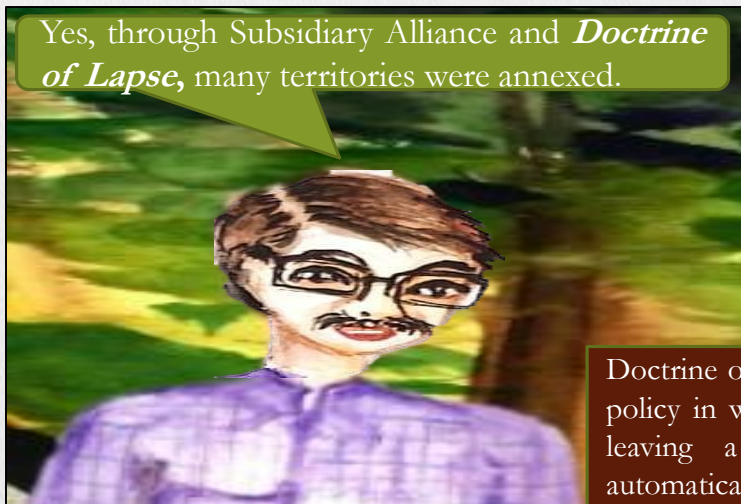
The Rulers who signed it, lost all their powers and became dependent on the Britishers.



Ohh! That is why Rulers'/Nawabs' demands were not accepted



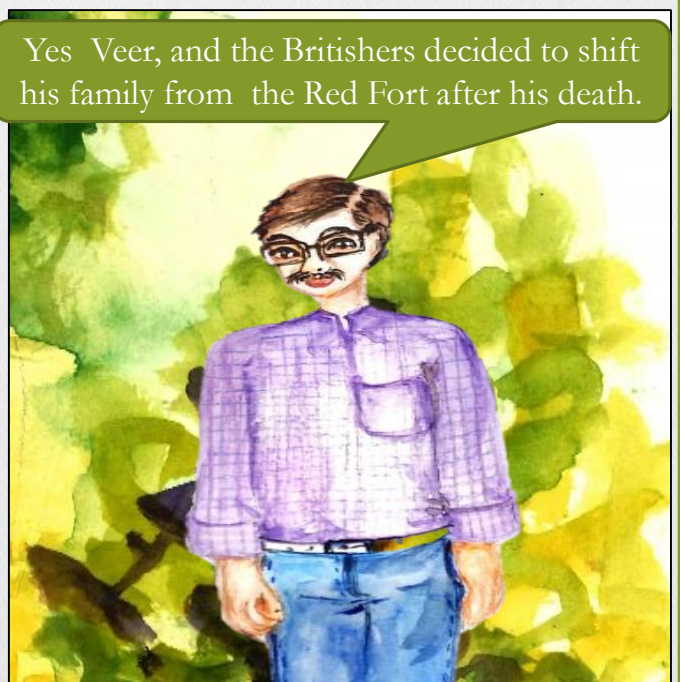
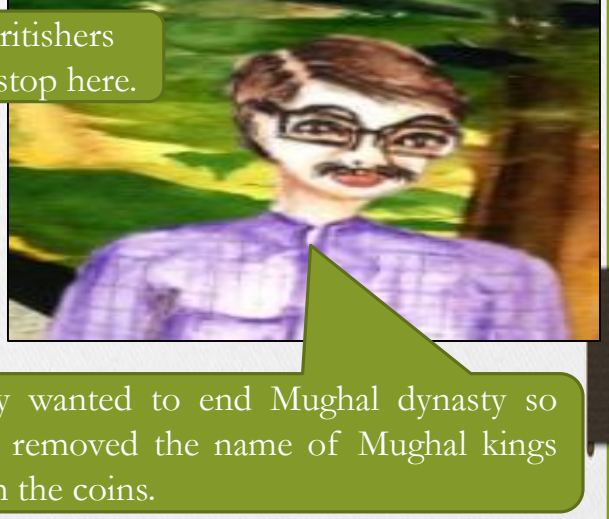
Yes, through Subsidiary Alliance and *Doctrine of Lapse*, many territories were annexed.



Very clever act.



Doctrine of Lapse (Year 1848) – An Annexation policy in which if any Indian ruler dies without leaving a male heir, his kingdom would automatically pass over to the British.

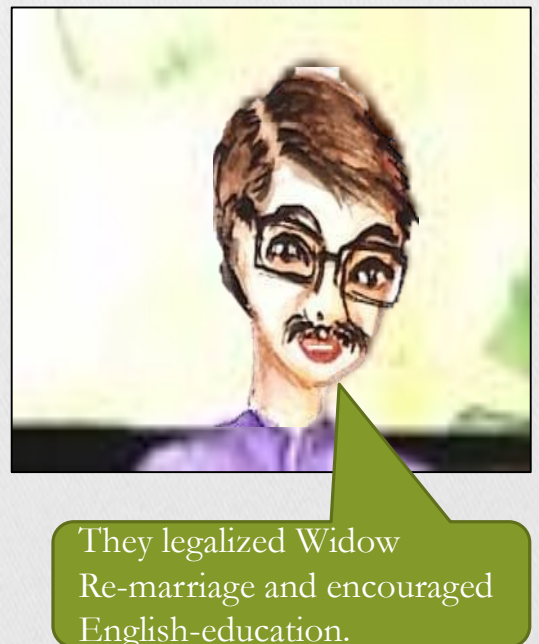
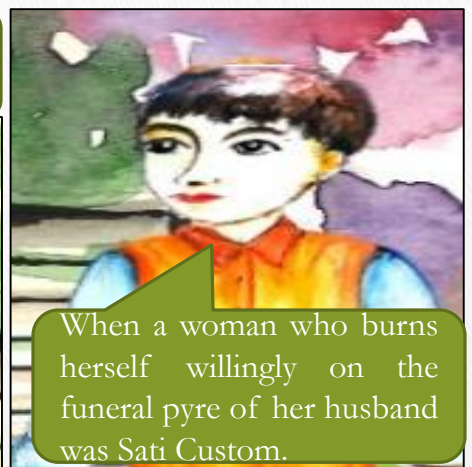
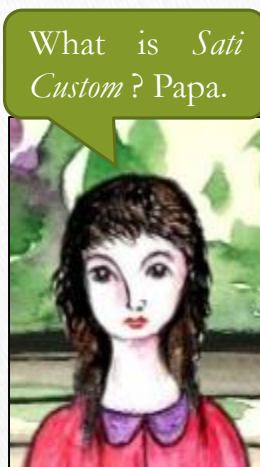


Mr. Rohit (Papa) continues :



Children, do you think that the Britishers could ever do something good for the Indians?





They started walking...

But all these reforms were not liked by many sections of the Indian Society.

I think orthodox people would have opposed it.



Yes, you are correct.

Papa, what are the other reasons that created anger against the Britishers?



Fear among the people, as many Indians began to feel that the British were destroying their religion.

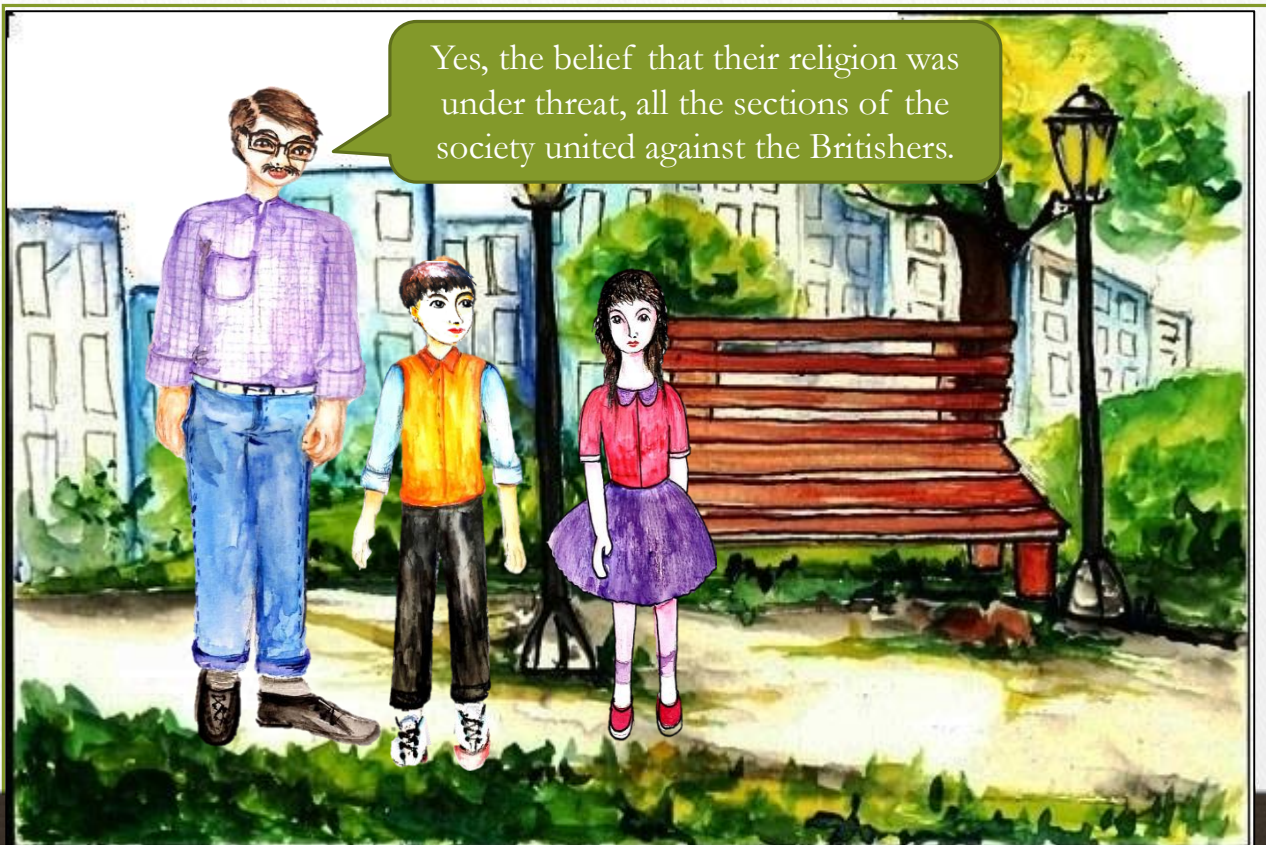
On what basis was this fear created?



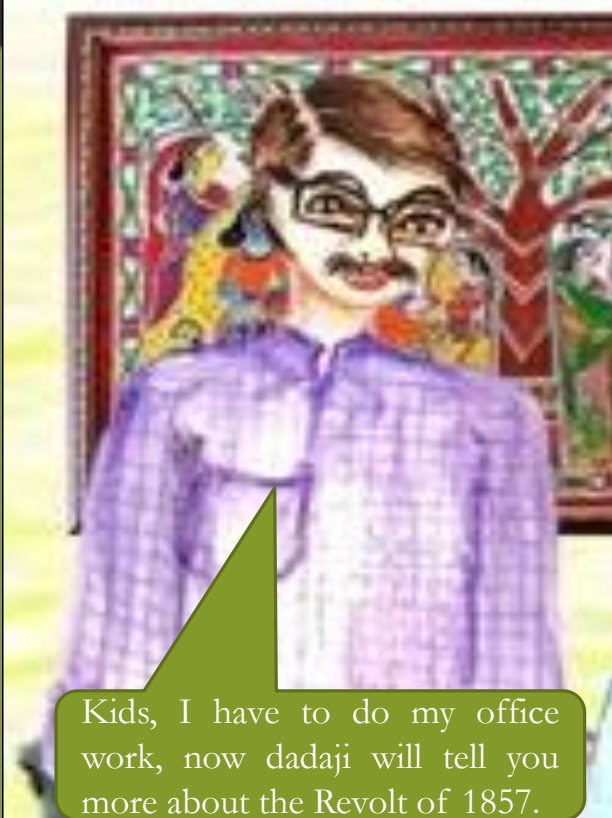
A law passed in 1850 which allowed a Christian convert to inherit his ancestral property.

Hmm! Indians had always been particular for their religion.





At home all of them went to Dadaji's Room.





He explained the reason of anger of the Indians due to the policies of Britishers.

Nawabs, Rulers, Local Public all were against the Britishers.

I agree, but Sepoys too contributed to the unrest, the most.

Sepoys ! How come?

Yes Veer, they were also unhappy with the Britishers.

Why Dadaji?



Veera, bring the book from the library "The Revolt of 1857"..

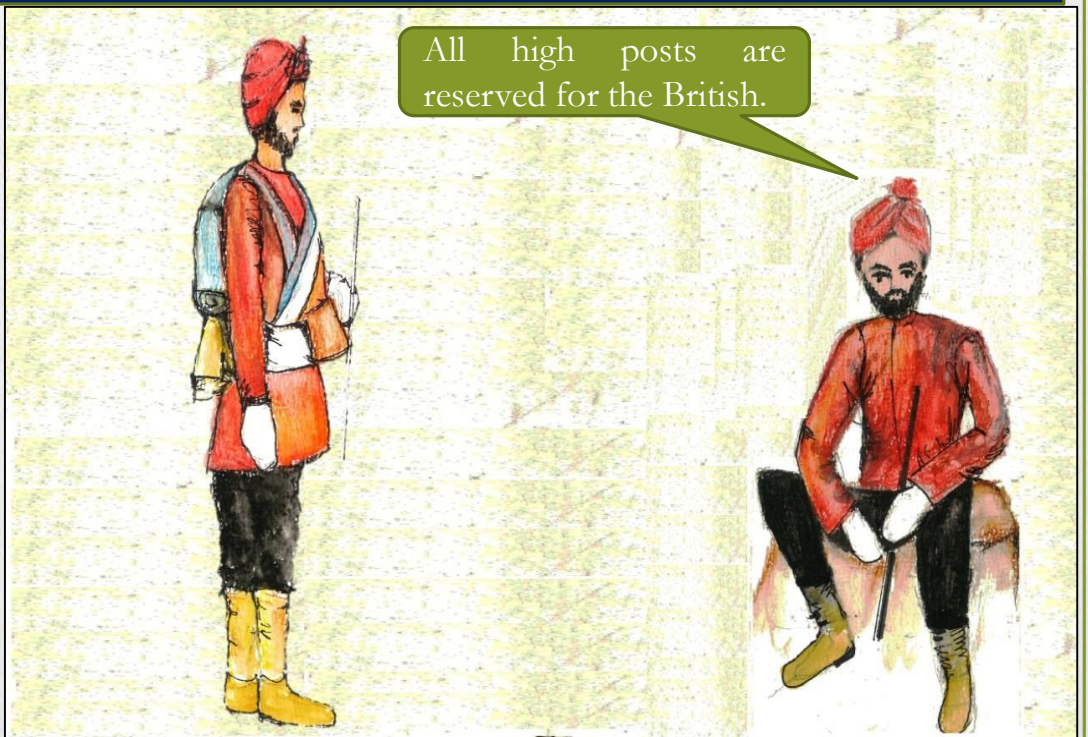


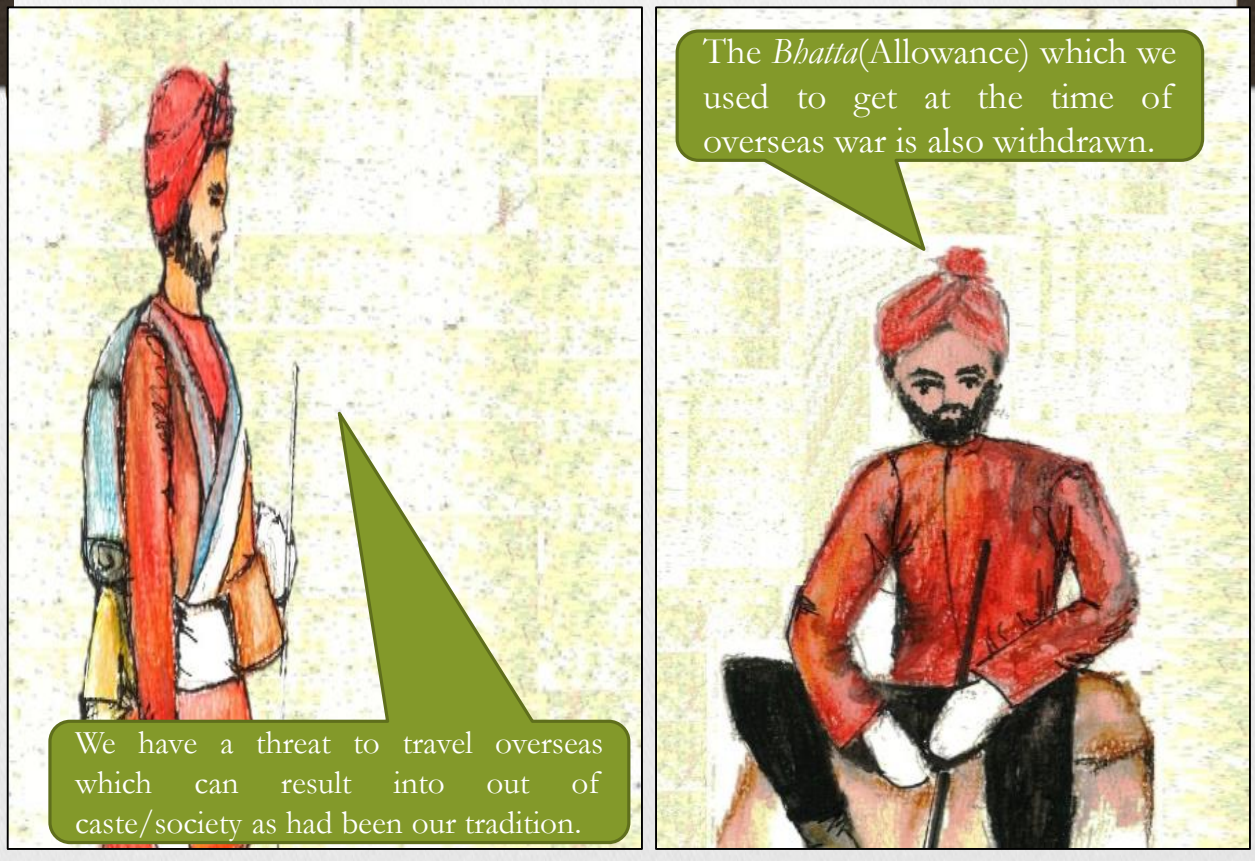
Sure Dadaji.

Veera took the book from the library and went back to Dadaji's room.



Dadaji opens the book to show the reasons for anger of Sepoys against Britishers.





How can travelling overseas be a reason to make someone 'out of caste'?



It was a popular belief that is why Sepoys refused to travel Burma to fight in 1824. (First Anglo-Burmese War)

Did the British accept?



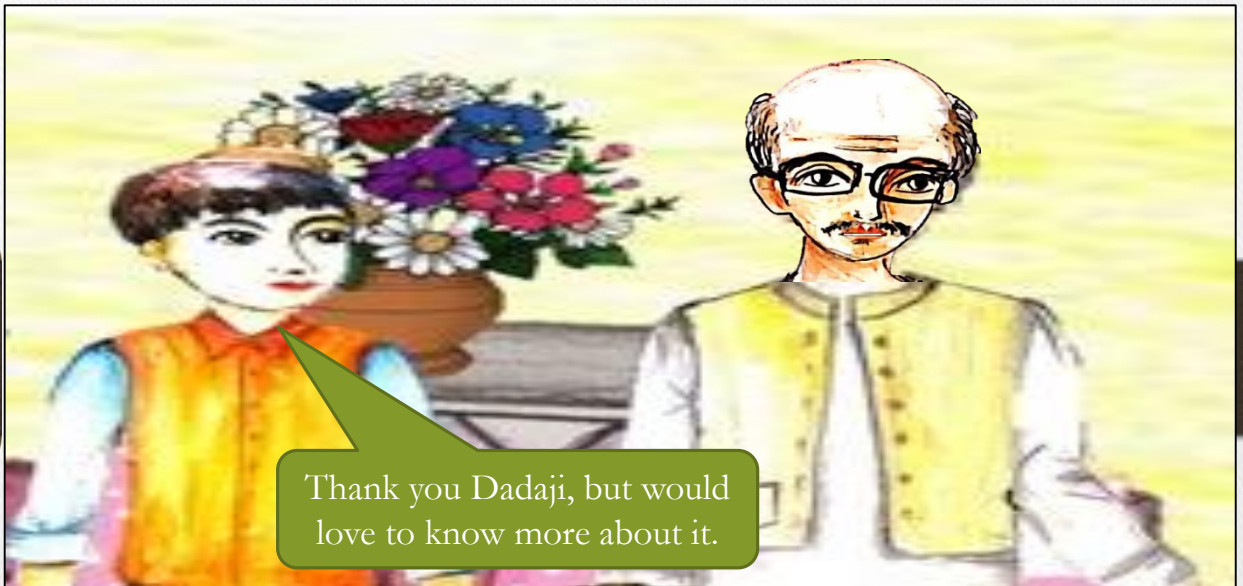
No, those Sepoys who refused were severely punished.



A new law was passed in 1856 which stated the new recruits could not refuse to travel overseas.



Children's mother calls them.



Good Night
Dadaji



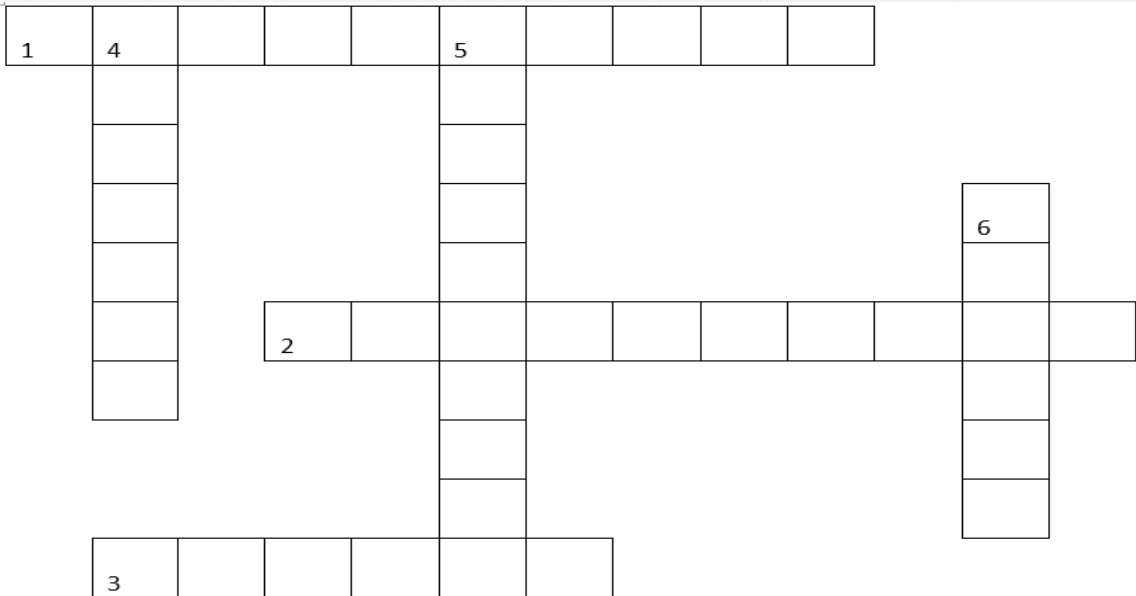
Ya, it's too late.
Good Night children



Check your knowledge...

- : CROSSWORD :-

Across	Down
1. They came as traders but soon became the rulers.	4. Peasants suffered due to high_____ collection.
2. This Revolution was responsible for throwing Indian textile out of the market.	5. By signing this alliance, all rulers lost their power and became dependent on the British.
3. They contributed to the unrest the most.	6. Given at the time of overseas war to Sepoys was withdrawn.



Next day in school. Veer and his friends standing in group. Veer shared what he learned the previous day from his Dadaji and Father.



I have watched Mangal Pandey Movie, it shows the immediate reason for the Revolt of 1857.



What was the immediate reason to Revolt?





How come a cartridge was responsible for a Revolt?



A new rifle, Enfield-Rifle, was introduced in the Army. The soldiers had to bite off the greased wrapper of the cartridge by mouth before loading it, which was refused by the Sepoys.



But that is normal and that one cannot fire a rifle without cartridge..

Yes, but the grease of the wrapper of the cartridges was made of cow and pig fats.



Oh! Cow and Pig fat? We worship a cow and Hussain told me that a pig is considered dirty and they don't eat pork.



Yes Veer, that is why Sepoys refused to use it.

The bell rings.

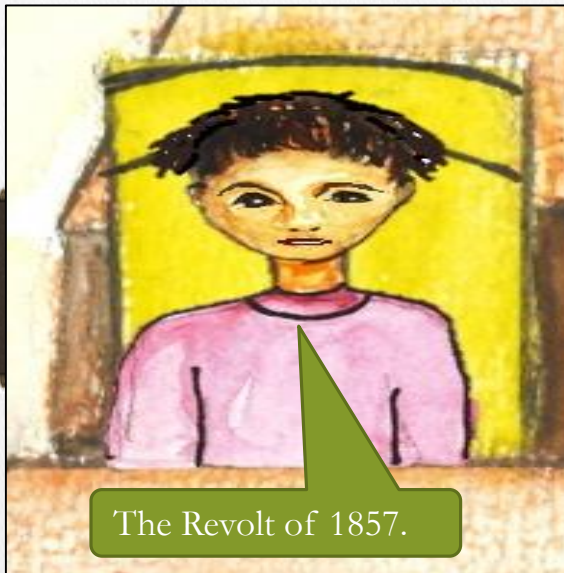
After assembly, students reach the class. Students and teacher wish each other.



History Club students are going to present a play.



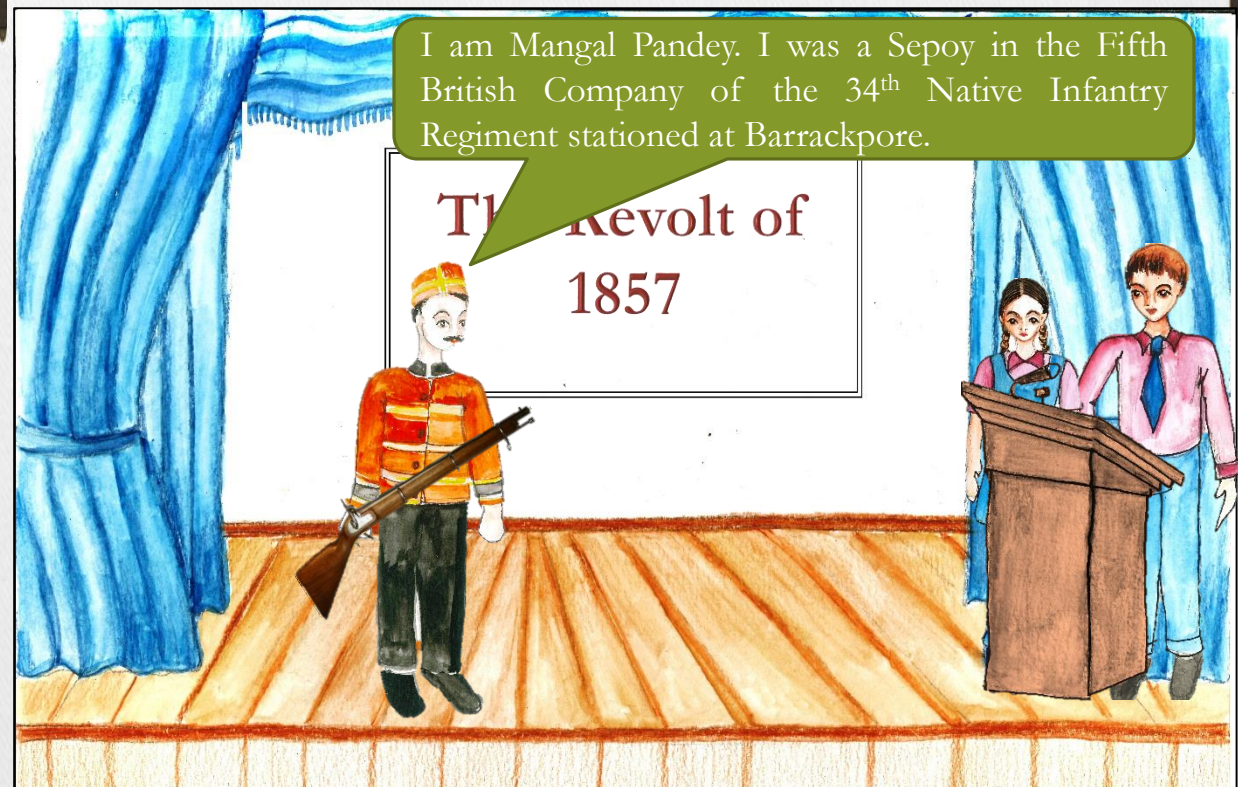
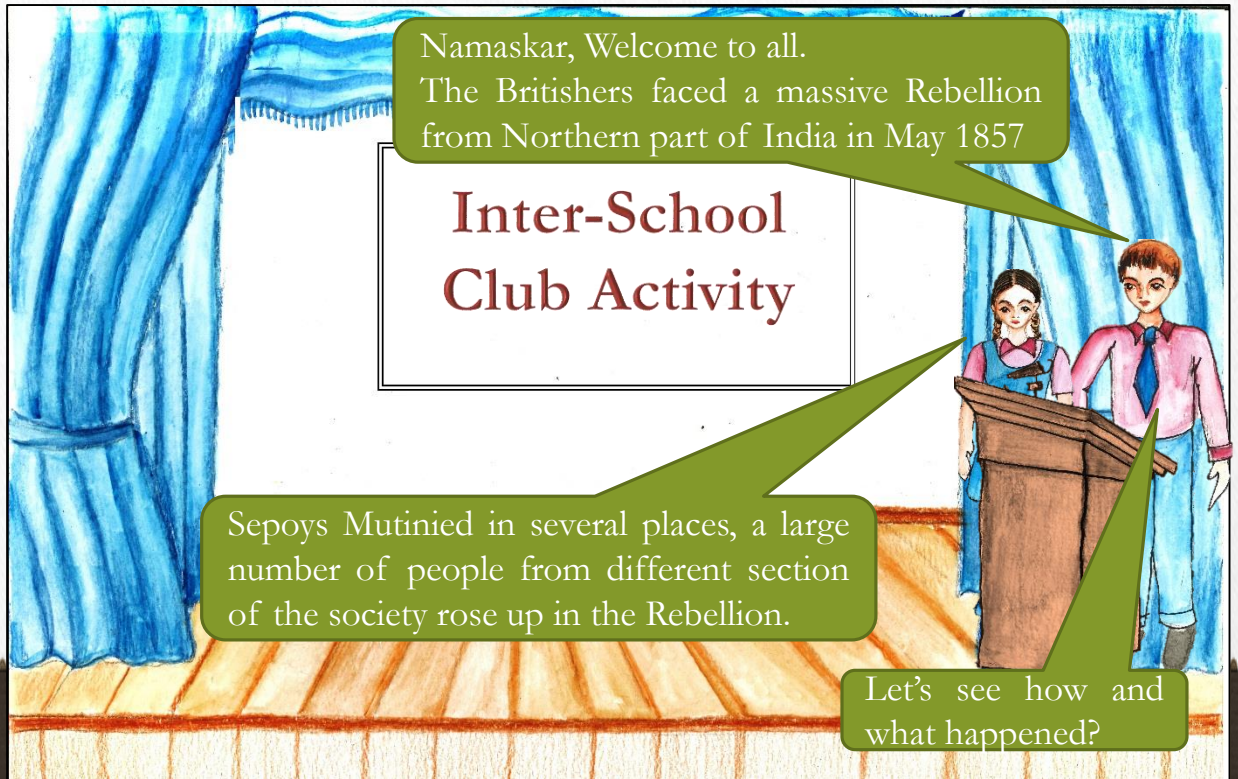
Tell me the topic which you want to enact?

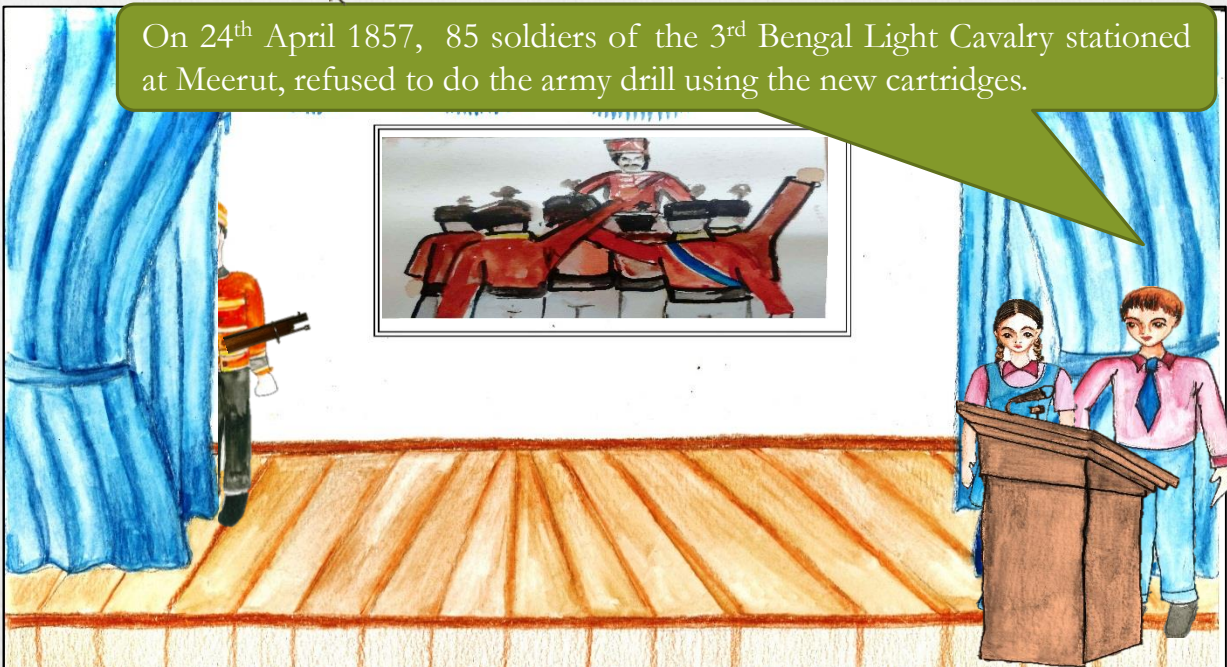
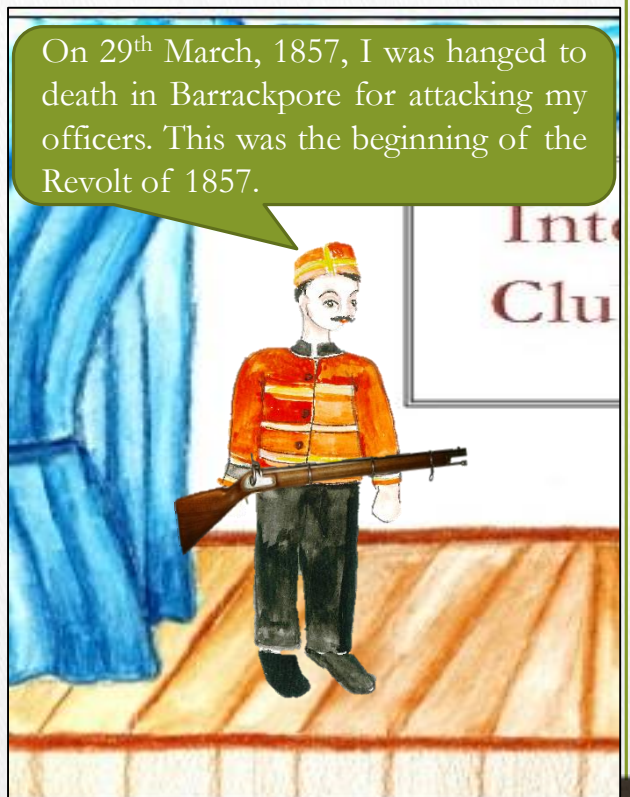


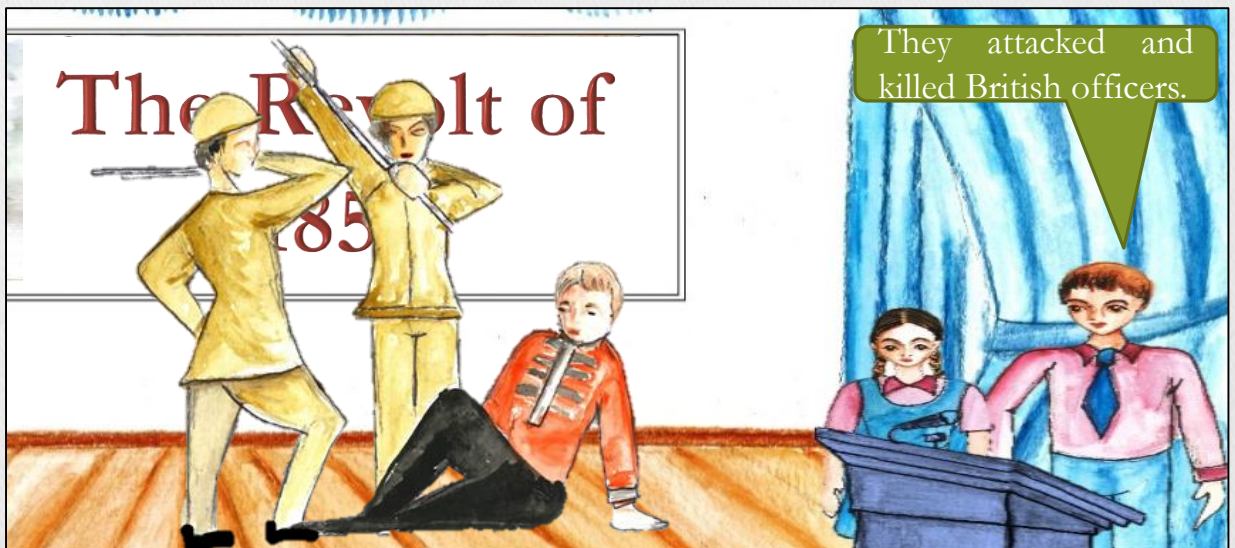
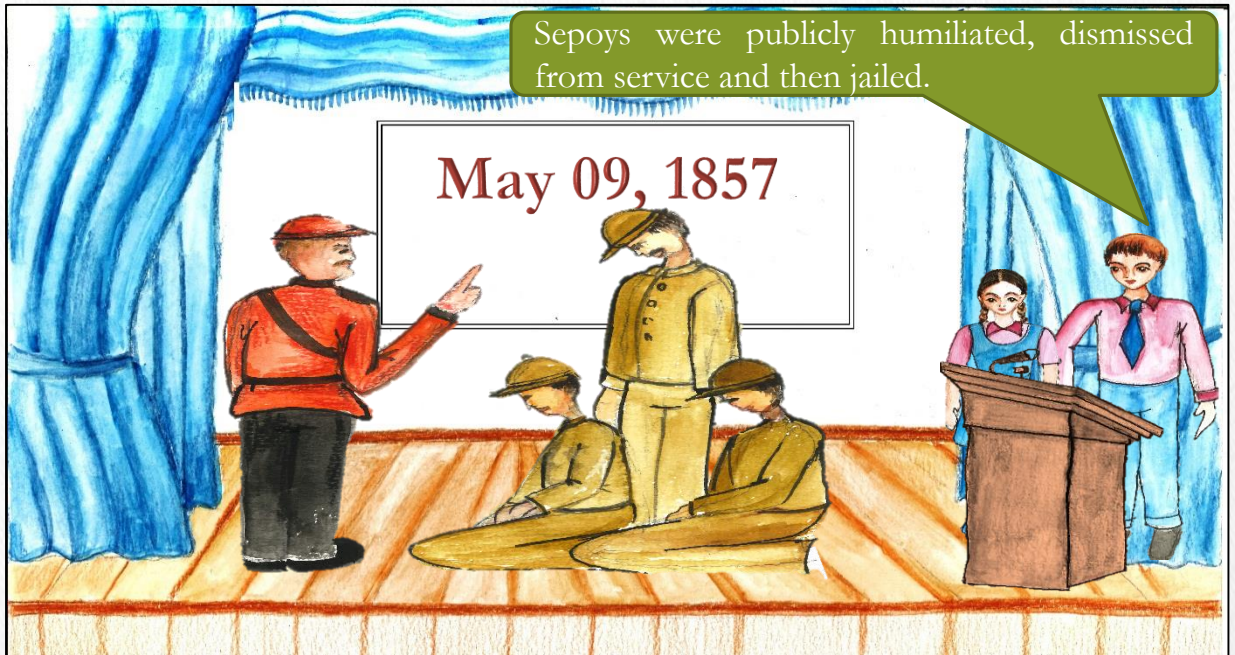
The teacher advised the students to collect the information about the Revolt of 1857 from books, internet, articles and magazines.

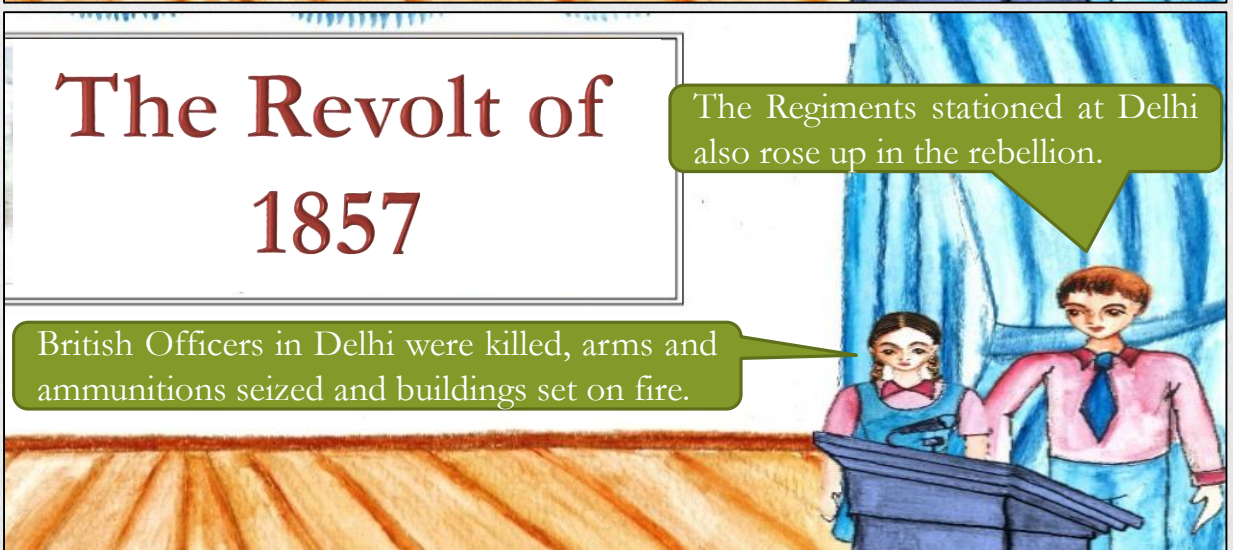
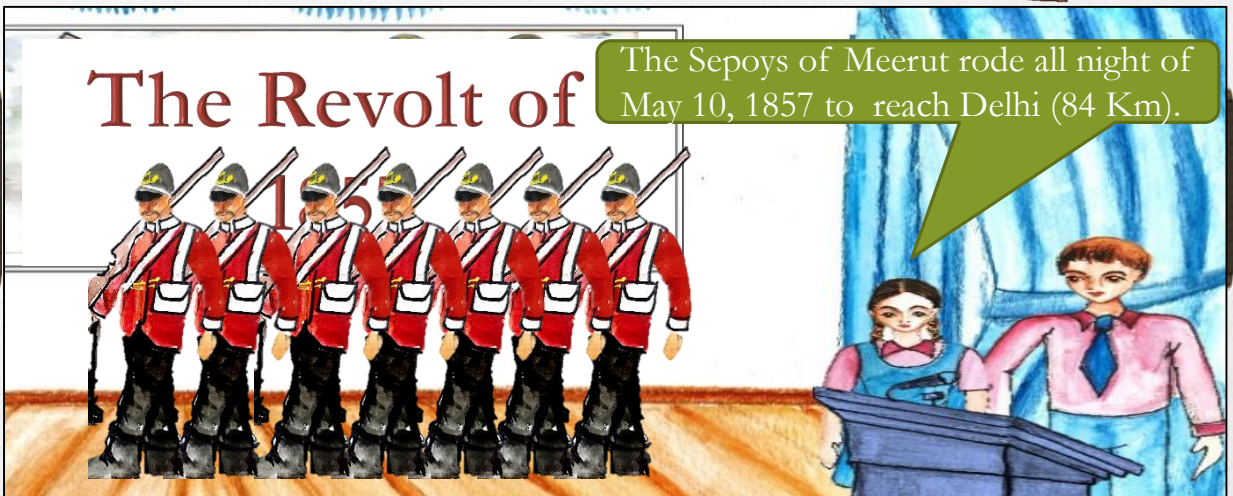
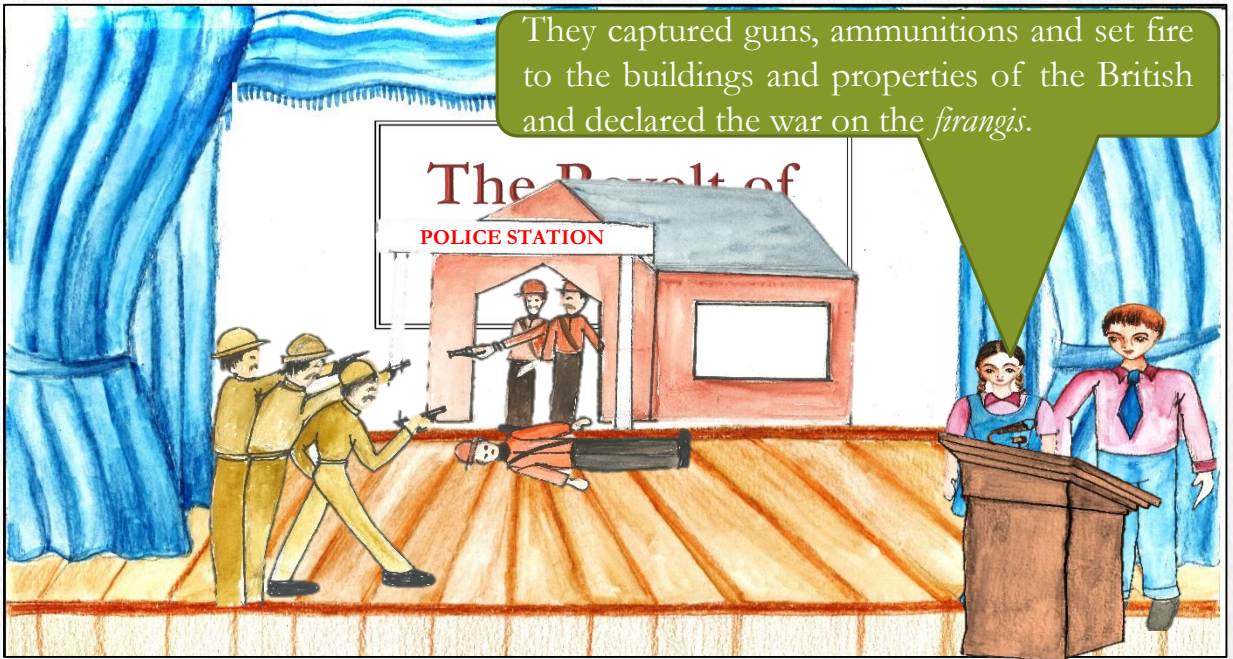


In continuation of the Inter-School Club Activity, History Club students will present a play on 'The Revolt of 1857'.









Triumphant soldiers gathered around the walls of the Red Fort where Bahadur Shah Zafar, the last Mughal ruler (1837-1857) lived.



The soldiers persisted. The ageing Emperor had to accept the demand to lead.

Bahadur Shah wrote letters to all the chiefs and rulers to unite and organize a confederacy of Indian states to fight the British.



Most small rulers and chieftains controlled different territories on behalf of the Mughal ruler.

Many of them felt that if the Mughal Emperor could rule again, they too would be able to rule once more, under Mughal Authorities not the Britishers.



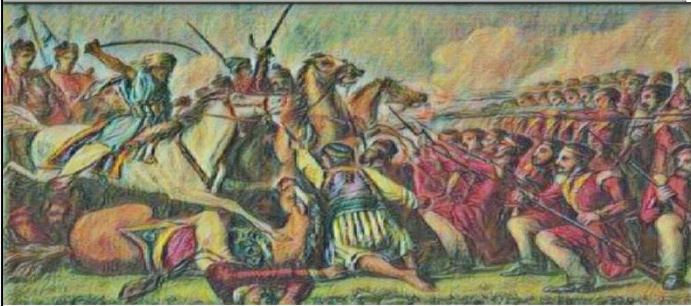


The British had not expected such a big Revolt.

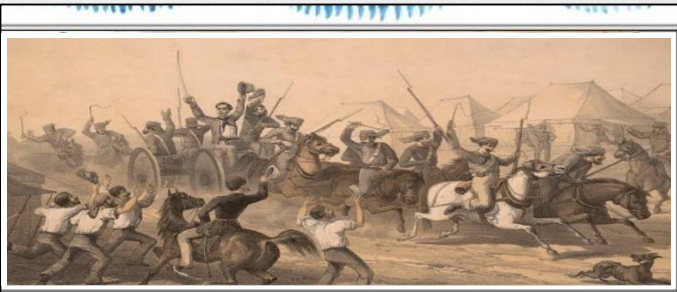


They thought the disturbance caused by the issue of the cartridges would die down.

The Rebellion Spread.



Regiment after regiment mutinied and took off to join other troops at nodal points like Delhi, Kanpur and Lucknow.



The people of the towns and villages, local leaders, Zamindars and Chiefs rose up in rebellion and fought against the British.



Nana Saheb, the adopted son of the Late Peshwa Baji Rao declared himself as Governor under Emperor Bahadur Shah



Call all my armed forces, let's throw out the British from India and expel the British garrison from the city.

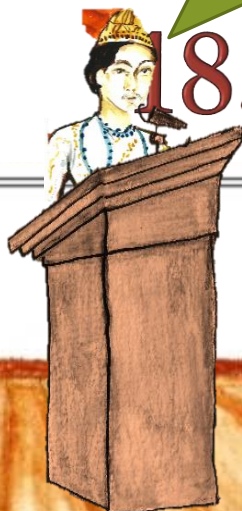
Garrison – A groups of troops stationed in a town to defend it.

In Lucknow, Birjis Qadr, the son of the deposed Nawab Wajid Ali Shah, acknowledged the suzerainty of Bahadur Shah Zafar and proclaimed himself as the new Nawab of Awadh.

The

I declare myself as the Nawab.

1857



Suzerainty – Overlord.

Begam Hazrat Mahal (Wife of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah) took an active part in organizing the uprising against the British.

The Revolt of 1857

We all must be together to fight against Britishers.



In Jhansi, Rani Laxmi Bai joined the rebel Sepoys and fought against the British along with Tantia Tope the General of Nana Saheb.

We together fight against the Britishers.



I will not surrender my Jhansi to them.



The British were greatly outnumbered by the Rebel forces.



This convinced the people that the rule of British had collapsed for good and gave them confidence to join the rebellion.

They were defeated in number of battles.



Many leaders from different areas joined the Rebellion. Some of them were..



Ahmadullah Shah, a *maulvi* from Faizabad, prophesied that the rule of the British would come to an end soon.

Prophesied–Prediction/say that what will happen in the future.

He raised a huge force of supporters.



Bakht Khan, A soldier from Bareilly, took charge of a large force of fighters who came to Delhi.

He became a key military leader of the Rebellion.





In Bihar, an old zamindar, Kunwar Singh, joined the rebel Sepoys and battled with the British for many months.

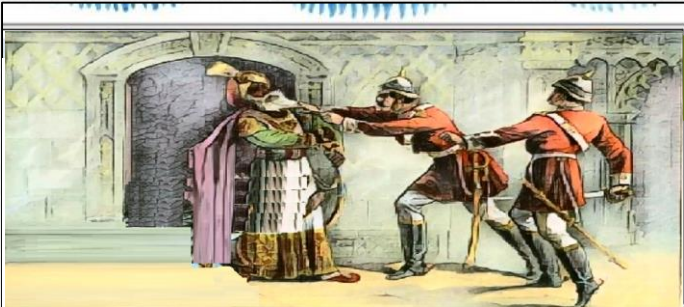


The Company fights back.



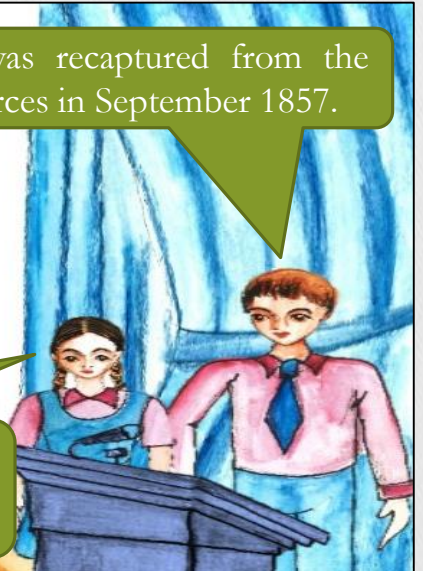
The company decided to repress the Revolt with all its might.

It brought reinforcement from England, passed new laws so that the rebels could be convicted with ease.



Delhi was recaptured from the rebel forces in September 1857.

The last Mughal emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar was tried in the court and sentenced life imprisonment. He died in November 1862 in Rangoon jail.





Lucknow was also taken from Birjis Qadr in March 1858.

Rani Laxmi Bai was martyred defending Jhansi in June 1858.



Tantia Tope escaped to the jungles of central India.

He continued to fight a *Guerrilla War* with the support of many tribal and peasant leaders.



He was captured, tried and killed in April 1859.



The British also tried their best to win back the loyalty of Rulers and Nawabs.

The Rulers and Nawabs who were loyal towards the British, continued to rule and practiced *Divani* rights in their areas.

The Revolt of 1857

The British had regained the control of the country by the end of 1858.

They could not carry on ruling the land with the same policies any more.

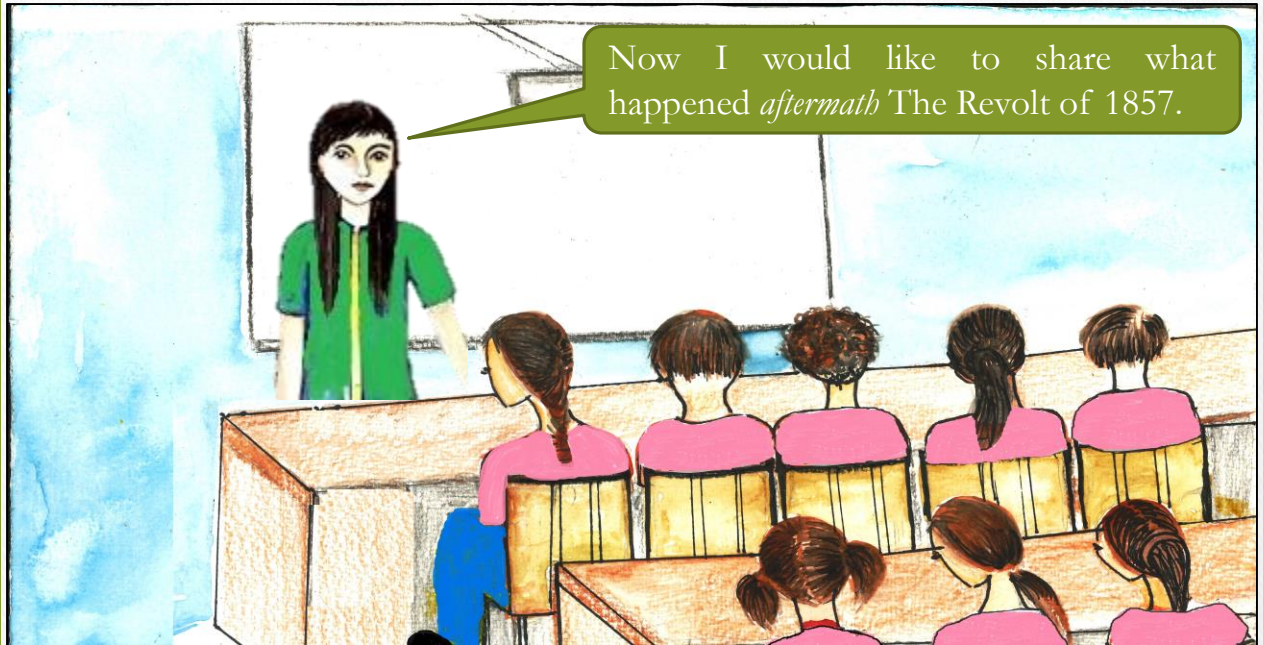
The Revolt of 1857

Thank You!!!

Fun time... Match the Column

Column-A	Column-B
1. 	(a) She fought for Jhansi
2. 	(b) Hanged to death on 29th March 1857 in Barrackpore.
3. 	(c) Last Mughal Ruler.
4. 	(d) Fought from Lucknow against the Britishers.
5. 	(e) Expel the Garrison from the city.

Next Day in Class – The teacher praised students for their efforts and performance for the play.



The British Parliament passed an Act in 1858 and transferred the powers of East India Company to the British Crown for Indian affairs.



A member of the British Cabinet was appointed the Secretary of State for India.



Why Ma'am?



He was made responsible for all matters related to the Governance of India.

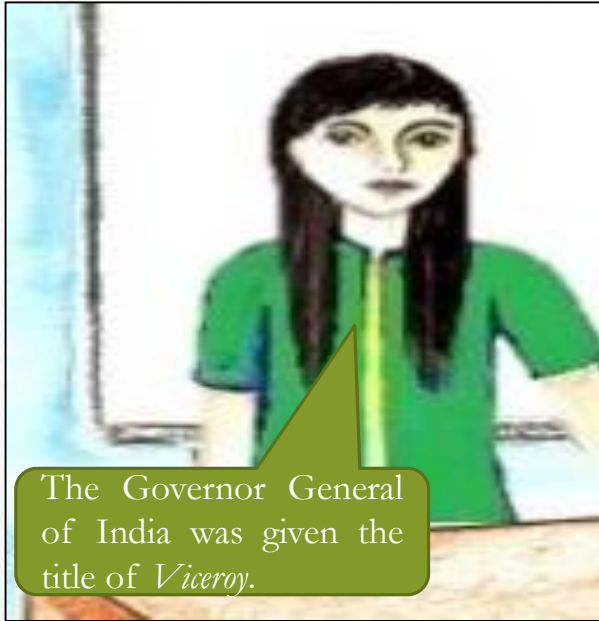


Ma'am, was there any council to advise him?

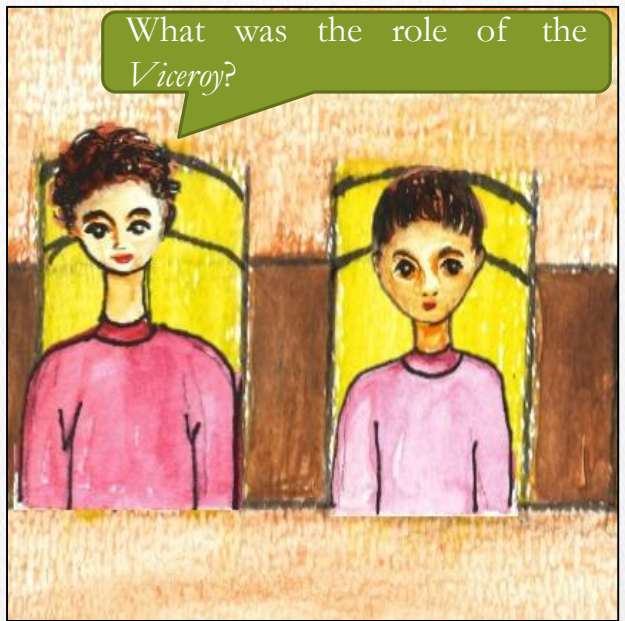


Yes, it was the Indian Council.

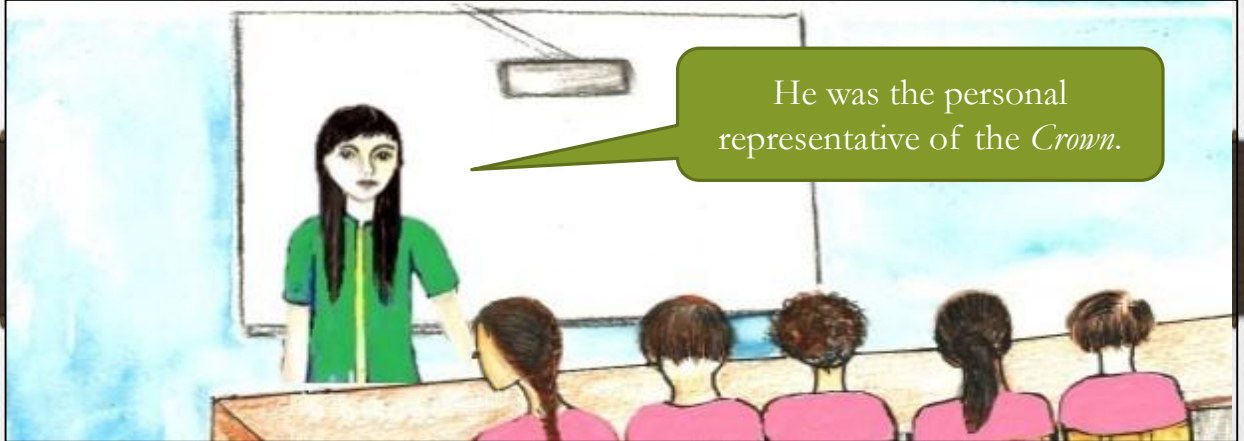




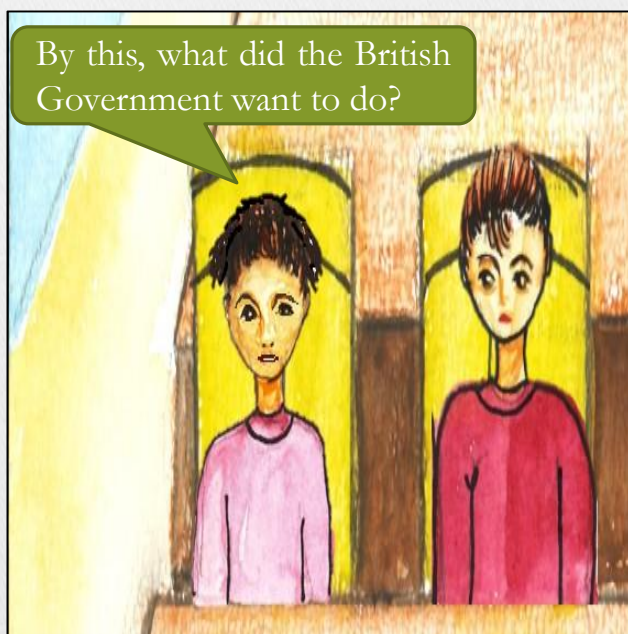
The Governor General of India was given the title of *Viceroy*.



What was the role of the *Viceroy*?



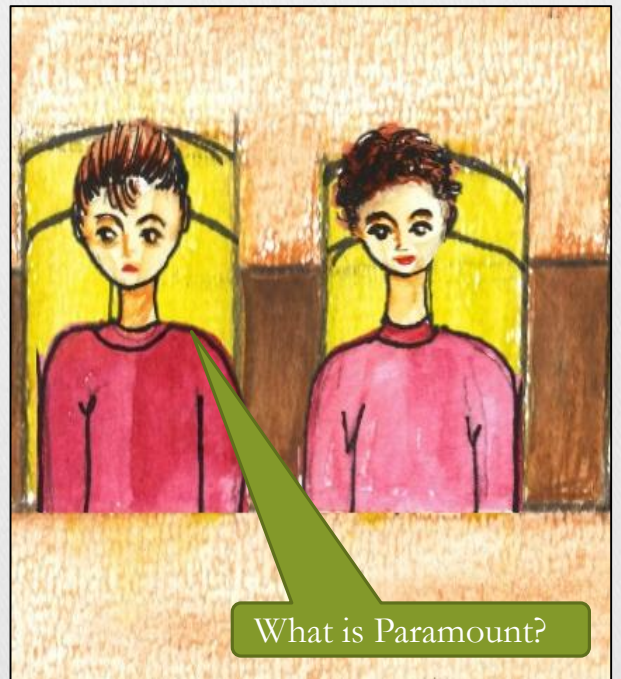
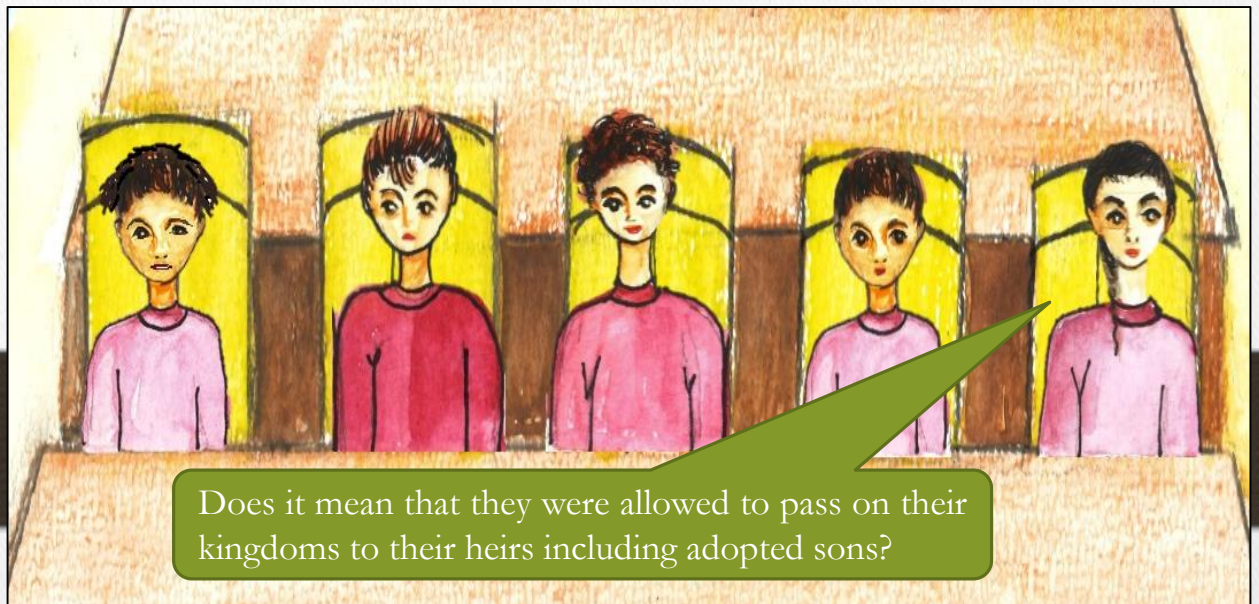
He was the personal representative of the *Crown*.

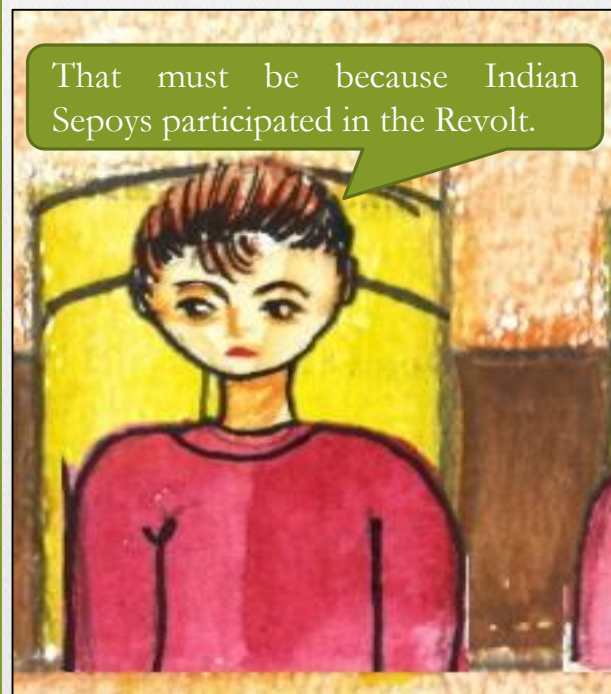
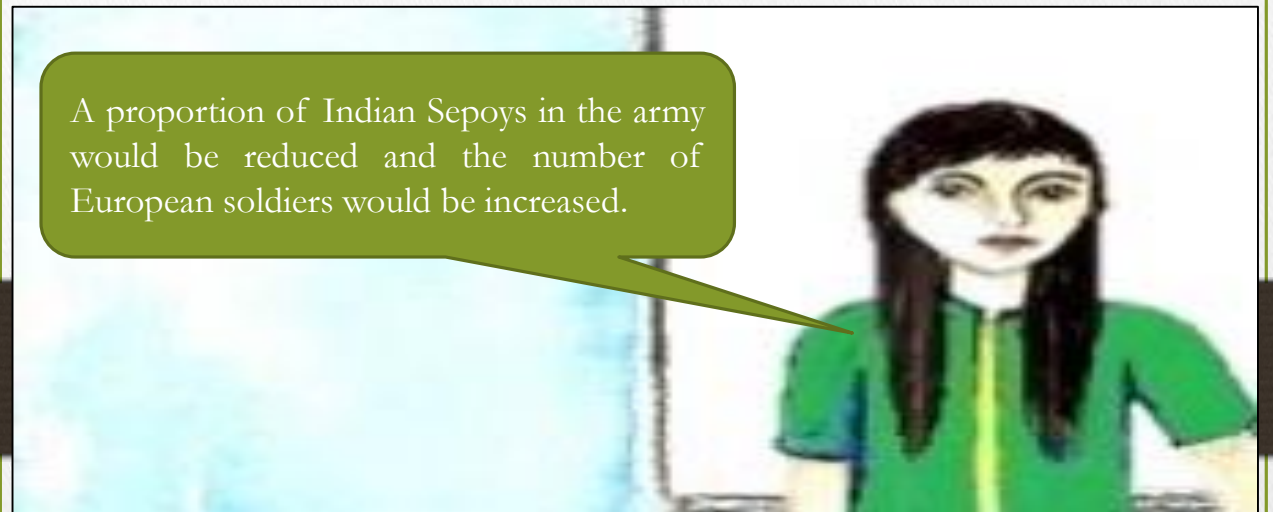
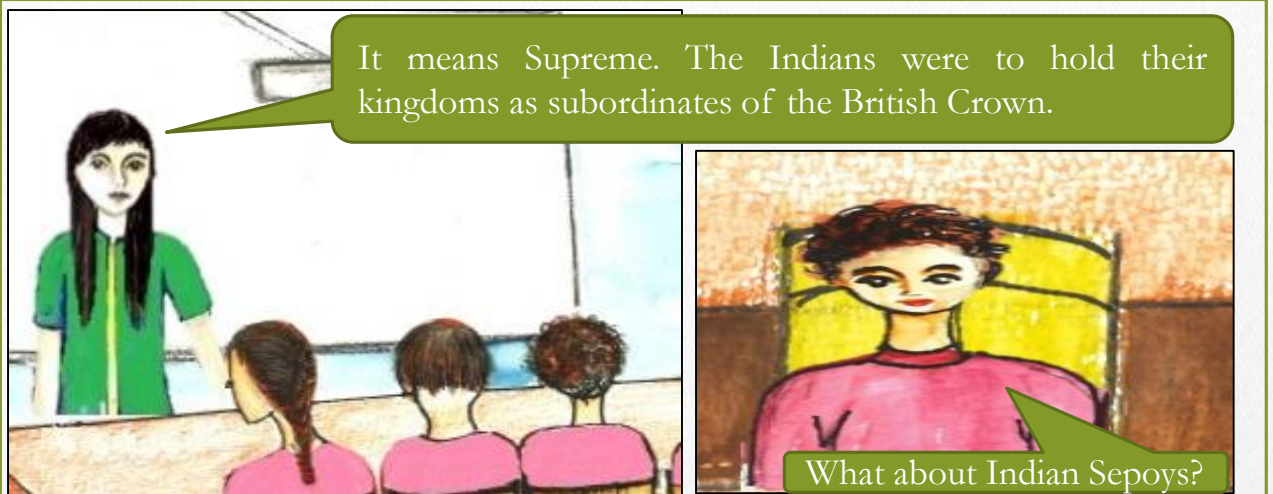


By this, what did the British Government want to do?



British Government accepted the direct responsibility for ruling India.





Why did they recruit Sepoys from these three groups only?



As they helped the Britishers to suppress the Revolt.

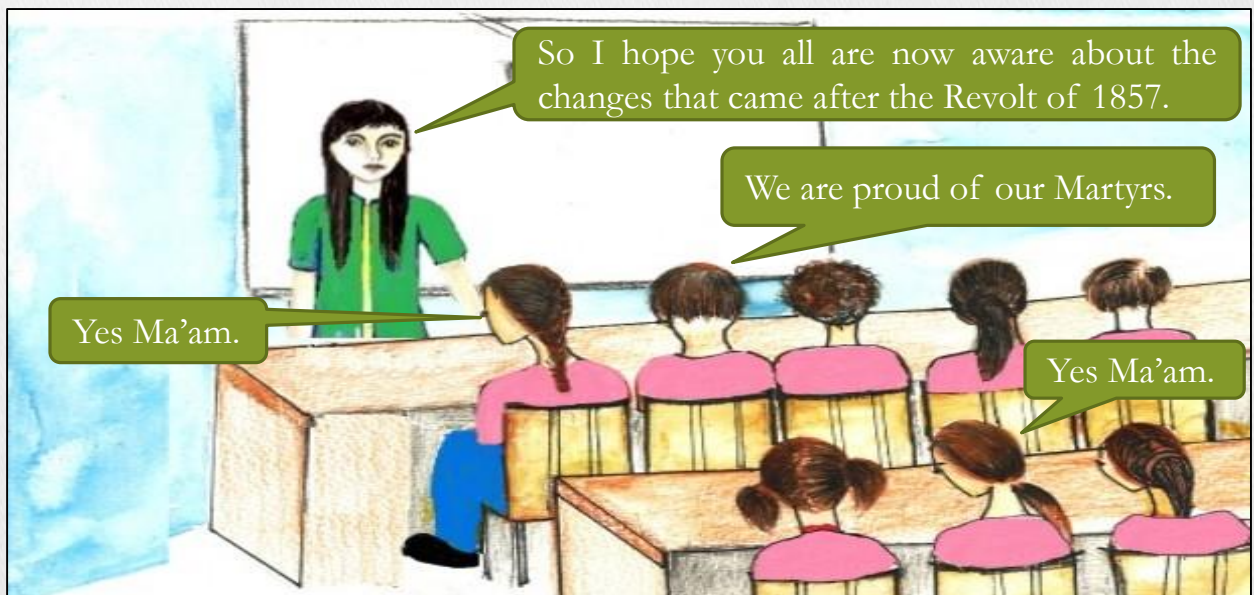
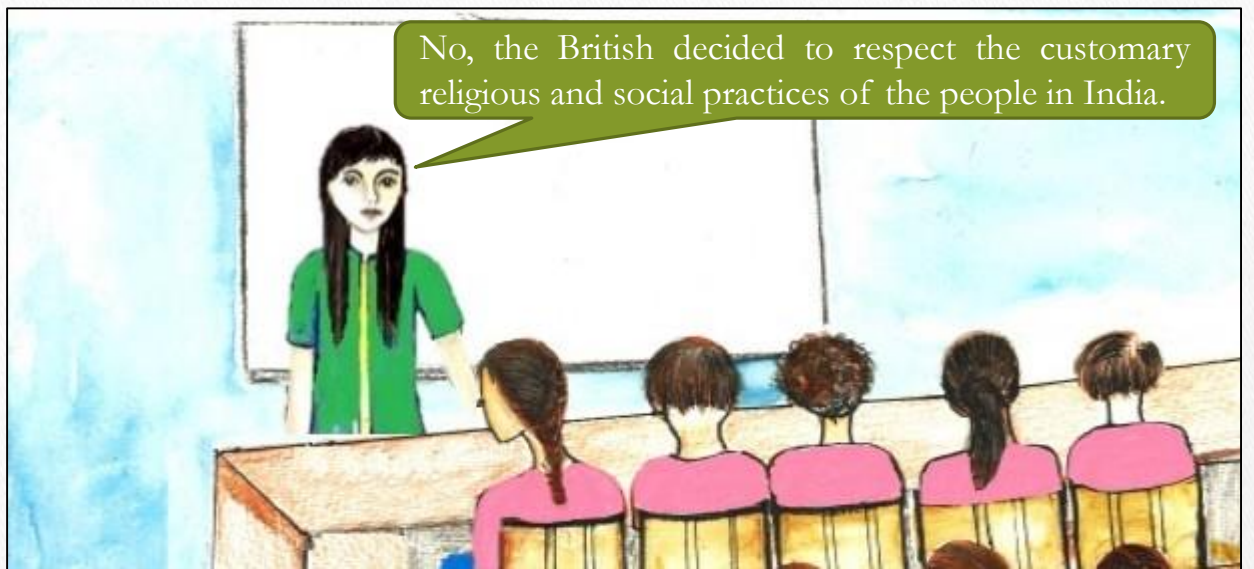


The land and property of Muslims was confiscated on a large scale and they were treated with suspicion and hostility.



Did the reforms done by Britishers continue?

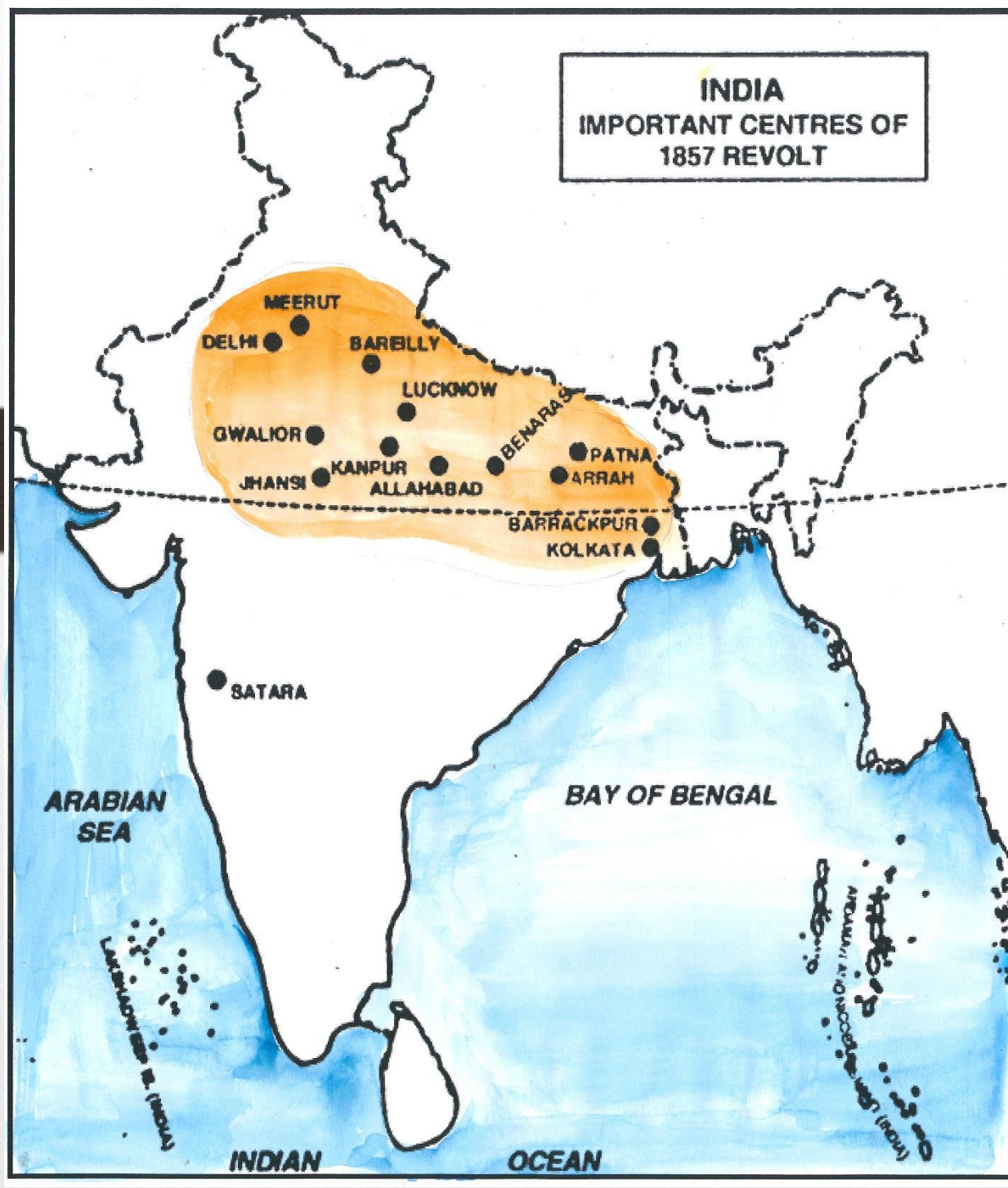




Thus, a new phase of History began after 'The Revolt of 1857'

Quick View

Major Centers of the Revolt



Let's Revise...

A. Tick the correct option for the given statements :

1. A law which allowed a Christian convert to inherit ancestral property was passed in _____

i) 1851

ii) 1850

iii) 1852

2. He fought against British Empire from Faizabad.

i) Ahmadullah

ii) Bakht Khan

iii) Kunwar Singh

3. He used *Guerrilla Warfare* to fight against the British.

i) Rani Laxmi Bai

ii) Tantia Tope

iii) Nana Saheb

4. 85 soldiers stationed at Merrut, refused to use the cartridges on -

i) March 29, 1857

ii) April 24, 1857

iii) May 10, 1857

B. TRUE OR FALSE :

1. Annexation of Awadh is a Social cause for the Revolt of 1857.
2. Introduction of new Enfield Rifle and Cartridges were the immediate factor for the Revolt of 1857.
3. Hand made goods / textile are less time consuming and cheaper.
4. Nana Saheb was the adopted son of Baji Rao II.

C. Give one word for the following sentences :

1. The Indian soldiers in the British army.
2. An Annexation policy in which if any Indian ruler dies without leaving a male heir , his kingdom would automatically pass over to the British.
3. Burning of women in the funeral pyre of her husband.
4. The first sepoy who refused to use the greased cartridges.

Answer Key

Crossword

Across: 1. BRITISHERS

2. INDUSTRIAL

3. SEPOYS

Down : 4. REVENUE

5. SUBSIDIARY

6. BHATTA

Match the following :

1. (c)

2. (a)

3. (d)

4. (e)

5. (b)

Let's Revise

MCQ :

1. ii- 1850

2. i-Ahmadullah Shah

3. ii-Tantiya Tope

4. ii- April 24, 1857

B. True and False :

1. False

2. True

3. False

4. True

C. One word :

1. Sepoys

2. Doctrine of Lapse

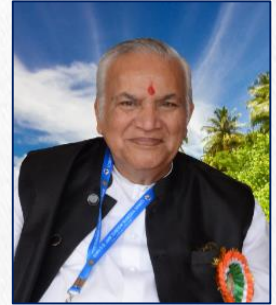
3. Sati Custom

4. Mangal Pandey

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“Be willing to be a beginner... but grow through what you go through...” Life is about accepting the challenges along the way, choosing to keep moving forward, and savouring the journey. Only difficult roads lead to the best places, when things do not go easy, let's remember that every challenge - every adversity - contains within it the seeds of opportunity and growth.



It was a great opportunity for the teachers to showcase their creativity through this Graphic Novel and the teachers did an excellent job. I am sure that this Graphic Novel will surely explain the difficult concepts to the learners in an interesting way.

I wish the publication very best.

N. R. KOTHARI

PRESIDENT

SHRI. S. S. JAIN SUBODH SHIKSHA SAMITI, JAIPUR.

Continuous effort - not strength or intelligence - is the key to unlocking our potential. Satisfaction lies in the effort. If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself. Resolution to succeed is more important than anything.



Teachers, your ability has taken you to the new height of success. This Graphic Novel is a great job and this is the result of your dedication and hard work and yes...confidence too in the tough time of the pandemic.

Many congratulations to the mentor and team Subodh.

S. S. BOTHRA

HONY. SECRETARY

SHRI. S. S. JAIN SUBODH SHIKSHA SAMITI, JAIPUR.

“The Law of Universe neither blesses us nor punishes us, it only responds to the vibrations of our Attitude...” Happiness in life depends on how we perceive it, but it's a simple fact that without efforts we cannot gain anything. As we grow in years more efforts and work need to be done. When we do something selflessly for the society, it makes us more humane and teaches to respect humanity.

The dedication, enthusiasm and insight of the team of teachers in designing the Graphic Novel is really inspiring.



VINOD LODHA
JOINT SECRETARY
SHRI. S. S. JAIN SUBODH SHIKSHA SAMITI, JAIPUR.

Knowledge becomes invaluable when put into practice... hence students should understand the values of practice. We may need book...we may need internet...but the best cure for curiosity is creativity.

Graphic Novel is the creativity of the team of teachers. Their perseverance has helped them to accomplish this task. Congratulations for their accomplishment and to utilise this challenging time into creativity.



ANIL KUMAR GOKHROO
CONVENER
SUBODH PUBLIC SCHOOL, AIPRORT, JAIPUR

From the Principal's Desk



“Creativity is what drive innovation and progress...”

The work done in this pursuit was a journey of self-exploration of creativity, ideas, thoughts, team spirit, collaboration, co-ordination and much more than all this. Initially when the idea of graphic novel was shared the response of some teachers was a kind of ‘Wishful thinking for some doubt’ for self etc. It took some time for the teachers to decide of the topic and class, to start putting the text in the form of graphic novel. After a few days of processing thoughts, discussions, there was a need of orientation and exchange of ideas. It was significant to convey complex ideas and theories in a creative manner. After the orientation sessions teachers felt more confident but when the things were put on the paper, they were to adopt different roles e.g. story-teller, sketcher to draw the characters, more imagination to select names from the context, expressions with cultural diversity, authenticity with aesthetics etc.

The effort to make a graphic novel to create interest and understanding of the reader had been a challenging task. We hope that readers will acquire the same. It had been a time exhausting exercise and simultaneously carries an attribute to a new hope, enthusiasm, innovation and confidence in team members. The Information Technology Teachers and Fine Arts Teachers too contributed a lot, since the context was to be put in different blocks without losing the context and the attempt to make learning interesting and meaningful. The objective of graphic novel is to encourage critical thinking in the learners, eliminate the learning gap and to promote experiential learning. It was observed that during the process teachers’ acceptability of ideas creativity, co-operation, adaptability was a marvelous example of team spirit. Each teacher is feeling more cognizant, confident, energetic, enriched and motivated. We wish the journey of happy and joyful learning will continue...

KAMALJEET YADAV

PRINCIPAL

SUBODH PUBLIC SCHOOL, AIRPORT, JAIPUR



Summary of the Novel

- A family in which a boy named Veer asked questions regarding the revolution when he watched a movie ‘The Legend of Bhagat Singh’ on the TV. His grandfather explained to him the meaning of revolution which took him to The Story of the Revolt of 1857.
- Grandfather explained the reasons why the revolt took place which was further carried by Mr. Rohit.
- Next day in the school, his Social Science teacher wanted the History club students to do a project for which she took the topic ‘When People Rebel 1857 and After’.
- History Club students performed a skit to present the spread and suppression of The Revolt of 1857.
- This led to the development of the chapter.
- Next day in the class teacher praised students for their efforts and discussed the aftermath of The Revolt of 1857.



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