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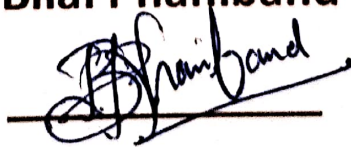
S.B.Arts & K.C.P Science College

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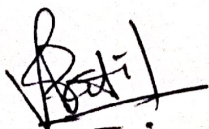
Department of English

ASSIGNMENT

For M.A. Ist Semester 2021-22

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Subject Code : 1.1
Subject : British Literature
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RANI CHENNAMMA UNIVERSITY,BELAGAVI



Socio-Cultural, Political and Religious background of the following Ages

- ① Age of Chaucer (1350-1450)
- ② The Renaissance (1550-1660)
characteristics of Renaissance
- ③ Reformation (16th century)
- ④ Elizabethan and Jacobean Age
(1450-1550)
- ⑤ Age of Dryden (1660-1700)
- ⑥ Age of Pope (1700-1745)
- ⑦ Age of Johnson (1745-1798)

I. Socio- Cultural and Religious background of Age of Chaucer.

Introduction : The 14th century England is a typical example of an age of in transition. 14th century is also known as the Age of Chaucer. This period holds a great significance in the history of English literature. It was the time of great turmoil and disturbance. First there was a outbreak of Black Death and labour unrest. Peasants revolt due to the hundred years war. Thus political, religious and social conditions are interrelated and dependent on each other. Chaucer age also witnessed many social, political and religious challenges.

- Politically England was under the divine right theory, the society was divided between the nobles and labourers.
- Economically England exhausted its wealth on the French war and to recover from this there was heavy taxation.
- The church was most corrupt and the religious disillusionment was at its

lowest ebb.

→ There was a strong dislike for the papal or church.

Religious Condition

As we find in 'The Canterbury Tales' people used to go on pilgrimage. that is in 'The Canterbury Tales'. The people go to the shrine of Thomas Becket. They belonged to all classes and ranks. This shows that people had strong belief in shrines and used to go there on foot. We also find out that these routes were tough and long.

The other aspect of religion which we find is the hollowness. The religious leaders and institutions seem to be corrupt. As the church used to exercise maximum power over commoners.

Not only the people, but also the rulers were also fed up with unnecessary involvement of church in state matters. Consequently, the power domination of church began to decline.

Political Background

The period covered by the present chapters is that of the middle and later stages of the 18th century. During this time, several relevant historical movements call for notice.

1) Decline of the Party Feud:

The contest between the whigs and Tories still continues, but it is hardly of the previous bitterness. The chief reason for this change is found in the weakness of the Tory party. The whigs had hardly any position; accession of George III in 1760, the Tories swiftly climbed into power & with the shadow of the French Revolution already looming up, party feeling soon acquired additional ferocity.

2) Commercial and Imperial Expansion

Under the pacific management of the great whig minister Walpole, and owing to the successful wars of his successors, the 18th century saw an immense growth in the wealth &

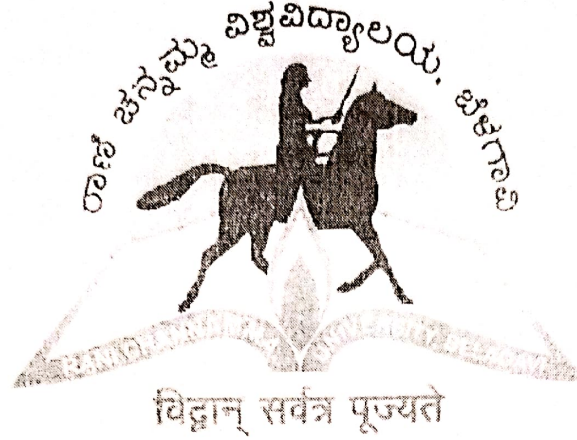
and importance of the British Empire. The possession of India and America in itself was an inspiration & when the new territories brought new burdens, like that of the American revolt

3) The French Revolution :

During the century, new ideas were germinating, new forces were gathering strength & the revolution, when it did come in 1789, was only the climax to a long and deeply diffused unrest.

conclusion : During the whole century new ideas were germinating, new forces gathering strength and the Revolution was but the climax of these growing forces. The New philosophy of the French philosophers of the 18th century had left their marks already on England.

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SB ARTS AND KCP SCIENCE
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MASTER OF ARTS

YEAR : 2022

ASSIGNMENT

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SUBJECT 1.3. Indian English Literature

: Hind Swaraj :

Gandhi took one of his first
into then inconceivable notion of Indian
independence. The idea of the British Raj coming
to an end in India was something that could not
have been seen in the early 1900s. Yet, Gandhi's
writing in Hind Swaraj allows the reader to fully
grasp that he envisioned a time when Indian
Independence was a reality that could be embraced.
Even in the earliest of stages.

In his book Gandhi discusses
the problems not only facing humanity in general
but also those directly impacting his home
country of India which is under British
colonization. He offers his opinion on the causes
of these problems and some remedies. The book
uses two characters, a reader [Indian countryman]
and an editor [Gandhi]. The reader states the
issues and beliefs surrounding the current colonial
situation while the editor offers explanations
and solutions to the issues.

Analysis:

The backlash to the Partition of Bengal is significant because it suggests that Indians agree with Gandhi's perception that they're a single nation who should govern themselves through a unified democratic system. The spread of nationalist sentiment also shows how protest movements for independence.

However, the Congress's divisions threaten to erode this growing momentum, and this is why Gandhi intervenes in the conversation to propose structuring the independence movement around passive resistance.

