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Q8(a)**How has colonial rule transformed Indian society? If it (Indian society) had not undergone colonial rule, then what type of Indian society would have been there? Elaborate**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · Sociology GS 2 · 20 marks · Impact of colonial rule on Indian society

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Impact of colonial rule on Indian society: Social background of Indian nationalism; Modernization of Indian tradition; Protests and movements during the colonial period; Social reforms.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round.

Census of India

Decennial censuses initiated by the British from 1872 onwards systematically codified caste, religion, and race, hardening social divisions into administrative categories.

Drain of Wealth

Dadabhai Naoroji propounded the Drain Theory, highlighting how unrequited colonial transfer of wealth decapitalised the Indian economy.

Charter Act of 1813

Marked the official state push towards Western education and missionary activities, laying the groundwork for the English-educated elite.

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