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Q34

Wellesley established the Fort William College at Calcutta because (a) he was asked by the Board of Directors at London to do so (b) he wanted to revive interest in oriental learning in India (c) he wanted to provide William Carey and his associates with employment (d) he wanted to train British civilians for administrative purpose in India Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2020 · General Studies · 2 marks · History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)

Ancient, medieval and modern Indian history - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

Asked by the Court of Directors. Wellesley founded it on his own initiative; London was cool.

(b)

Revive oriental learning as the main aim. A by-product (Carey, Colebrooke), not the stated purpose.

(c)

Provide a truncated other aim. Not the key.

(d) Official key

Train British civilians for Indian administration. Languages, law, revenue - the Fort William brief.

Summary

- **Official key is (d). Fort William College (1800) was Wellesley's school for Company writers:** Indian languages, law and administration. Haileybury later took over in Britain; oriental scholarship was a side-effect.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Fort William College

Calcutta, 1800; abolished teaching role by the 1830s.

Haileybury

1806; the Company's English college.

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