

SPREAD OF WESTERN EDUCATION IN BRITISH INDIA

Before the establishment of British East India Company's rule, a traditional mode of education was prevalent which was imparted through *Gurukulas* and *Pathshalas* for Hindus and Madrasahs and Maktab for Muslim Community.

But with establishment of the British Rule and the coming of the Missionaries the Steps were taken to spread Western Education and English language in India.

As part of their (East India Company) initiative, in the first step, few institutions were started such as

- Calcutta Madrasa, 1781
- Sanskrit College established in 1791 at Benaras.
- In 1800, Fort William College was established at Calcutta.

CHARTER ACT, 1813

The Charter Act of 1813 was the first ever step taken by the British East India Company to spread of Western Education in India. The most significant development through this Act was the grant of rupees one lakh for promotion of education in India.

LORD MACAULY'S CONTRIBUTION

In 1835, Lord Macaulay introduced a system of education for India, which was known as Macaulay's System of Education.

This system of education stated that Western education has to be promoted through the medium of English in India.

As per Macaulay's recommendation 42 schools were established by 1842.

Printing of English Books were made free and widely available in market thus promoting western education India.

WOOD'S DESPATCH, 1854

The **Wood's Despatch** acted as the model for the development of education in India. The Despatch emphasized to provide education to all and not to a selected few.

Graded schools were established in hierarchy such as Primary, Middle, High and Colleges and Universities.

Besides, Government initiative, the Christian Missionaries took major initiative for the promotion of Western education.

Along with the spread of Western education, measures were taken for the promotion of women education.

As per the above mentioned initiative, the Western Education slowly but gradually promoted Western mode of education in India that led to the emergence of a spirit of nationalism in the country.

POINTS TO BE REMEMBERED

FORT WILLIAM COLLEGE WAS ESTABLISHED BY LORD WELLESLY IN 1800 AT CALCUTTA.

THE HINDU COLLEGE WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE YEAR 1817 .

THE FIRST EVER ACT THAT GRANTED RUPEES 1 LAKH FOR THE PROMOTION OF EDUCATION IN INDIAN WAS THE CHARTER ACT OF 1813.