

Social and Religious Reforms

Chapter 5: Social and Religious Reforms · Topic 1

Key Concept

Raja Ram Mohan Roy founded the Brahmo Samaj, advocating against practices like sati (widow burning) and promoting women's education and rights.

Jyotirao Phule worked to address caste discrimination and promote education for women and lower castes in Maharashtra.

Swami Dayananda Saraswati founded the Arya Samaj, promoting a return to Vedic principles while opposing practices like idol worship and caste discrimination.

These reform movements collectively challenged social injustices and laid groundwork for social change and modernisation in Indian society.

Quick Revision Notes

- Raja Ram Mohan Roy: founded Brahmo Samaj.
- Opposed sati, promoted women's education.
- Jyotirao Phule: addressed caste discrimination.
- Promoted education for women, lower castes.
- Swami Dayananda Saraswati: founded Arya Samaj.
- Promoted Vedic principles.
- Opposed idol worship, caste discrimination.
- These movements challenged social injustices.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research Raja Ram Mohan Roy's contributions.
- 2 Research Jyotirao Phule's work for education.
- 3 Research the Arya Samaj's principles.
- 4 Discuss why sati was opposed by reformers.
- 5 Discuss the impact of these reforms on modern India.
- 6 Explain one reform movement in your own words.