

Class 8
Civics chapter 4
Understanding Laws

Q.1 Write in your own words what you understand by the term the rule of law in your response include a fix years or real example of a violation of the rule of law.

Ans. The rule of law means that law is supreme and not the arbitrary will of any individual. Nobody is above the law. As long as an individual obeys law and does not violate it, he cannot be punished. The rule of law also means that everybody is equal before the law. All individuals are equal in the eyes of the law. Rich-poor, educated and illiterate, powerful and weak all are equal before the law. Any person who violates the law is punished according to the law. R.K. Sharma I.G. Haryana was involved in a murder case and he was punished by the court.

Q.2 State two reasons why historians refute the claim that the British introduced the rule of law in India.

Ans. The rule of law is the distinctive features of the Indian constitution. Generally, it is believed that it was the British government that introduced the rule of law in India. But it is not true. Historians have rejected this claim on several grounds.

- (1) British colonial rule was arbitrary.
- (2) Seditious Act of 1870 was a part of the British law.
- (3) Indian nationalist played a very important role in the development of the rule of law during the British government.
- (4) The Indian nationalist strongly criticized the arbitrary use of authority by the British official.
- (5) They demanded equality with the British.
- (6) By the end of the 19th century many Indians entered legal profession and they demanded respect for the rule of law and justice.

Q.4 Write in your own words what do you understand by the following sentence on pages 44-45. They also began fighting for greater equality and wanted to change the idea of law from a set of rules that they were forced to obey to law as including ideas of justice.

Ans. No doubt the Rule of Law was a unique feature of British constitution. But in India during the British rule colonial rule was arbitrary and there was no equality before law. During the end of the 19th century, Indian Nationalist started the protest against the arbitrariness of British officials and demanded supremacy of law. They demanded that Indian should be treated equally with the Britishers and same law should be applied to both. They demanded not only equality but justice also. Indian lawyers started using law to defend the legal rights to the Indians.

Additional Questions :

Q.1 What is rule of law?

Ans. Rule of Law means law is supreme and not the arbitrary will of any individual.

Q.2 When the protection of women from domestic violence act came into effect?

Ans. This Act came into effect in 2006.

Q.3 What do you know about Hindu Succession Amendment Act, 2005?

Ans. According to Hindu Succession Amendment Act 2005, sons, daughters and their mothers are entitled to equal share of family property.

Q.4 What do you understand by the Civil Rights Act, 1964 (USA)?

Ans. This Act prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, religion or national origin in USA.

Q.5 List the three forms of protest.

Ans. (1) Hunger strike.

(2) Dharna or Rally

(3) Jail Bharo Andolan
