

EDUCATION AND COLONIALISM IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The study which is historical and descriptive in nature deals with investigating the answer to the four questions raised in connection with the development of Education System in the British India. The questions relate to the role of christian missionaries in introducing the English System of Deucation, causes of conflict between missionaries and East India Company, forces which led the British to adopt orientalist policy, and rupture of India Education System and infusion of a new system by Lord Macaulay and his associates. The data for the study were obtained from the survey of relevant literature. The paper highlights the four significant stages of colonial education in India viz-a- viz early efforts. of missionaries, Orientalism, Anglicism and Vernacularism.

INTRODUCTION

Between 1500 and 1900 most of the world was under the control of Europeans. Only a few societies such as China and Japan were able to resist colonization. Two kinds of traditional colonies emerged in this period. European settlements, where the immigrants conquered the natives, took their land, and developed the country for the enclave European community, and occupied and administered colonies, where a few European colonists, primarily traders and soldiers, controlled the colony for the home country. Initially, both kinds of the colonies served the mercantile needs of the imperialist powers. The United States was the first of the settlements to break away from Europe.

India was a European administered colony in the eighteenth century, before British Capitalists gained control of the Parliament and foreign policy. India was rich and her wealth was easily accessible. Agriculture and industry were well established when the Europeans arrived to trade. Whites could tolerate the climate