

TIME ALLOWED: 3 HOURS.....MAXIMUM MARKS: 100

Q1. MAKE A PRÉCIS OF THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE IN ABOUT ONE THIRD OF ITS LENGTH. Suggest a suitable title also. (20)

Besant describing the middle class of the 9th century wrote " In the first place it was for more a class apart. "In no sense did it belong to society. Men in professions of any kind (except in the Army and Navy) could only belong to society by right of birth and family connections; men in trade—bankers were still accounted tradesmen—could not possibly belong to society. That is to say, if they went to live in the country they were not called upon by the county families and in the town they were not admitted by the men into their clubs, or by ladies into their houses... The middle class knew its own place, respected itself, made its own society for itself, and cheerfully accorded to rank the deference due."

Since then, however, the life of the middle classes had undergone great changes as their numbers had swelled and their influence had increased.

Their already well –developed consciousness of their own importance had deepened. More critical than they had been in the past of certain aspects of aristocratic life, they were also more concerned with the plight of the poor and the importance of their own values of society, thrift, hand work, piety and respectability. Thrift, hand work, piety and respectability as examples of ideal behavior for the guidance of the lower orders. Above all they were respectable. There were divergences of opinion as to what exactly was respectable and what was not. There were, nevertheless, certain conventions, which were universally recognized: wild and drunker behaviors were certainly not respectable, nor were godlessness or avert promiscuity, not an ill-ordered home life, unconventional manners, self-indulgence or flamboyant clothes and personal adornments.

I

2080

Original 282 words (94)

Rough Draft

- ① Besant described middle class of 9th century as a class which was outcasted from the society. All other professions (except Army and Navy) were considered as middle class professions and middle class people were neglected by royal families. Through dignity & respect, middle class made its own place in society. Despite the changes, the influence of middle class continued to spread.
- ② They criticized certain aspects of elite life, thought more about poor, applauded their own ideals of society for the betterment of the whole.
- ③ Although there is a difference of opinion, but the conventional ideals; good behaviour and manners, ordered homelife, remain respectable and same.

'The Growth of Middle Class'

Besant described middle class as a class which was outcasted from the society, middle class people weren't invited by the royal families and were mostly neglected. Through dignity and respect, middle class made its own place in society. Despite the changes, it continued to grow and influence. They criticized certain ideals of elite life, thought more about poor class, and applauded their own virtues; piety and hardwork, as ideal and respectable behaviour. Although, the difference of opinion existed but the conventional ideals: good behaviour and manners, ordered home life, remain universally respectable and same.

94 words

Page #