

PRÉCIS

Central Superior Services Examination (CSS) 2000

Passage.

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. Above all they were examples of ideal behavior for the guidance of the lower orders. 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.

Final Draft

Transformation of Middle class

Beccant delineating the situation of middle class in 9th century. According to him, at the first they were not consider as part of society, core treated them abasely. Even they had no permission to joined any gathering. Nevertheless, they recognized their worth. First, they aware their needs: hard work, social norms and above them all - respect-. But everyone saw respect as their on point of view. However, Converging attribute were: heavy drinking, not believing in gods, open display of romantic relationship and excessive focused on personal desires seen as disrespectful behaviors.