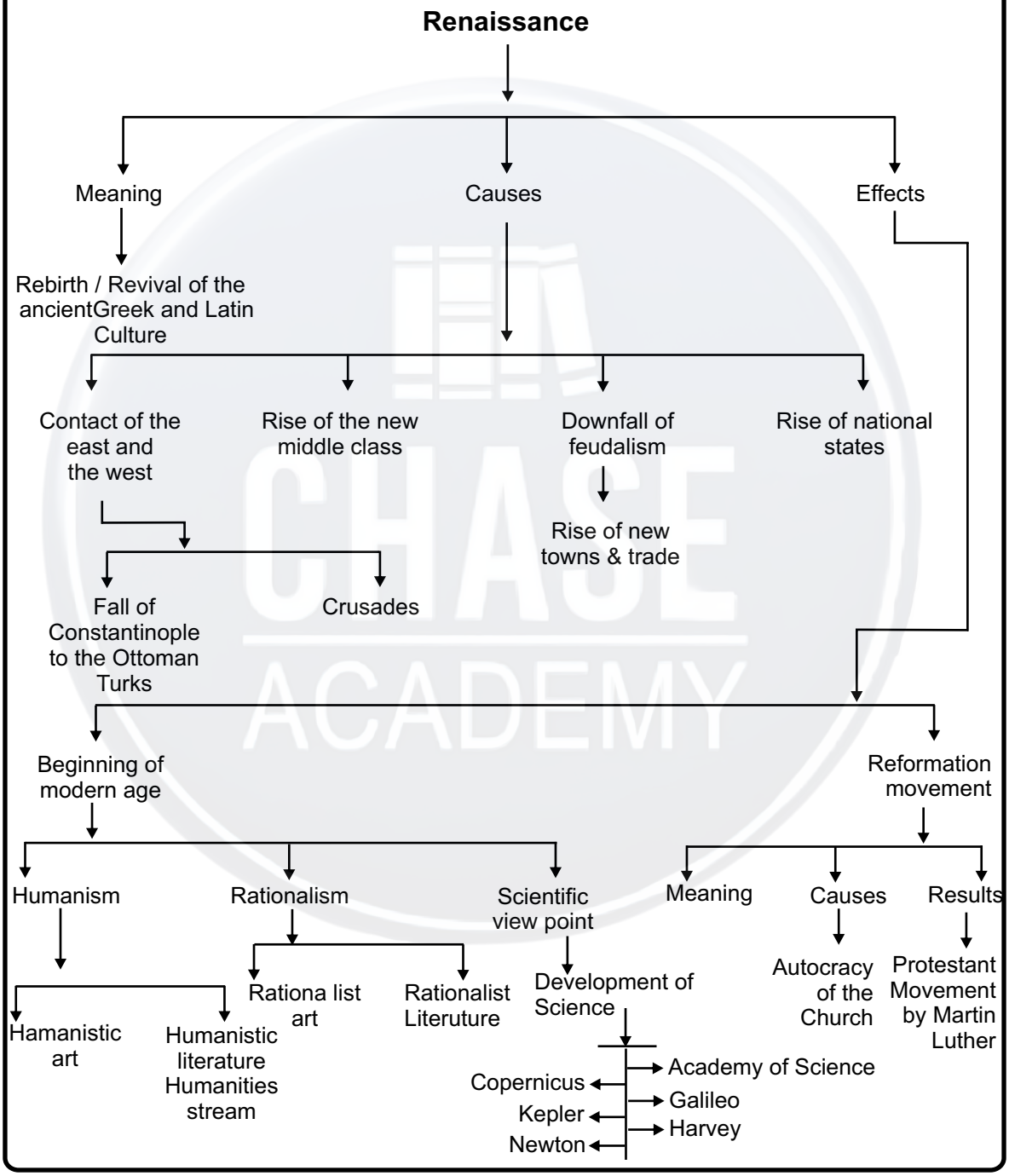
Theme - 7

Changing Cultural Traditions

The phenomenon that mark the change of cultural Traditions in Europe is



From the fourteenth to the end of the seventeenth century towns were growing in many countries of Europe. A distinct 'Urban Culture' also developed.

Florence, Venice and Rome became centers of art and learning. The invention of printing at the same time made books and prints available to many people. A sense of history also developed in Europe.

Religion came to be seen as something which each individual should choose for himself. The church's belief was overturned by Scientists.

The revival of Italian cities

Western Europe was being reshaped by feudal bonds and unified under the Latin Church and eastern Europe under the Byzantine Empire, and Islam was Creating a common civilisation further west, Italy was weak and fragmented. The ports on the Italian coast revived.

Independent City States - Florence and Venice

- Rich merchants and bankers actively participated in governing the city .

Univercities and Humanism

The universities of Padua and Bologna had been centers of legal studies.

Increased demand for lawyers and notaries

By the early fifteenth century, the term 'humanist' was used for masters who taught grammar, rhetoric, poetry, history and moral philosophy. The Latin word humanitas, from which 'humanities' was derived, had been used many centuries ago by the Roman lawyer and essayist Cicero. The term 'Renaissance Man' is often used to describe a person with many interests and skills.

Periodisation used by humanists

5th - 14th Century	-	The Middle Ages
5th - 9th Century	-	The Dark Ages
9th - 11th Century	-	The Early Middle Ages
11th - 14th Century	-	The Late Middle Ages
15th Century onwards	-	The Modern Age

Science and Philosophy :

The Arab's Contribution. In the fourteenth century, many scholars began to read translated works of greek writers Plato and Aristotle.

- These were works on Natural science, Mathematics, astronomy, medicine and chemistry. Muslim writers were regarded as men of wisdom in the Italian world, were Ibn Sina and al-Razi. Humanist Subjects began to be introduced in Schools.

Artists and Realism

Knowledge of geometry helped them understand perspective and that by noting the changing quality of light, their pictures acquired a three - dimensional quality.

Anatomy, Geometry, physics, as well as a strong sense of what was beautiful, gave a new quality to Italian art, which was to be called realism'

Aspirations of women -

The first printed book - A new concept of human beings the Copernican Revolution.

Sources :

Cathedral of Florence, Ptolemy's Almagest, The Pieta ' by Michelangelo, The Prince by Machiavell ; The Courtier by Bathasar Castiglione

Time Line

The Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries - Refer to page No. 155 of Text Book

The Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries - refer to page No. -165 of Text Book

Key Words

Humanism-

The Latin word humanists from which 'humanities' was derived, had been used many centuries ago by the Roman lawyer and essayist Cicero. It is not drawn from or connected with religion.

The New Testament -

The New Testament is the section of the Bible dealing with the life and teachings of Christ and his early followers.

The Renaissance Man -

The term ' Renaissance Man' is often used to describe a person with many interests and skills. They were scholar - diplomat - theologian - artist combined in one.

Model Questions

2 Marks questions :

1. What is 'humanism' ?
2. What do you mean by the Renaissance Man ?
3. Write the names of two muslim writers of this period ?
4. What do you understand by 'realism' ?
5. Who is Martin Luther ?

5 Marks Question

1. Write about the new concept of human beings ?
2. Describe about the architectural developments in this period.
3. What were the contribution of Arabs towards Science and Philosophy ?
4. How t he Italian cities were revived ?
5. Write about the City - States

10 Marks Question

1. Describe about the changes within Christinity during this period ?
2. Write about the Copernican Revolution ?
3. Was there a European 'Renaissance' in the Fourteenth Century' ?

Model Answer

2 Marks Questions :

Q. What do you mean by the Renaissance Man ?

Ans. The term 'Renaissance Man' is often used to describe a person with many interests and skills. They were scholar - diplomat - theologian - artist combined in one .

5 Marks Questions :

1 What were t he contribution of Arabs towards science and Philosophy ?

Ans. i) In the fourteenth century, many scholars began to read translated works of greek writers like Plato and Aristotle

ii) Translated works of Arabic and Persian Scholars for further transmission to other Europeans.

iii) These were works on natural science, mathematics, astronomy, medicine and chemistry.

iv) Muslim writers regarded as men of wisdom in the Italian world were Ibn Sina and al- Razi.

v) Humanist subject began to be introduced in schools.

10 Marks Questions :

1. Describe about the changes within Christianity during their period ?

Ans. i) Trade and travel, Military Conquest and diplomatic contacts linked Italian towns with the world beyond.

ii) Christian humanists like Thomas More and Erasmus felt that the church had become an institution marked by greed.

iii) Sell of 'indulgence'

iv) Peasants began to rebel against the taxes imposed by the Church.

v) Martin Luther launched a campaign against the Catholic Church.

vi) A person did not need priests to establish contact with God.

vii) The Protestant Reformation led to the Churches breaking their connection with the Pope and the Catholic Church.

viii) Luther's ideas were popularised by Ulrich Zwingli and Jean Calvin.

ix) German reformer Anabaptists blended the idea of salvation with the end of all forms of social oppression.

x) Luther did not support radicalism.

Passage based Question

The City - State

Cardinal Gasparo Contarini ..... right of government. (Page - 154) of text book

1. Write the name of the book written by Cardinal Gasparo Contarini ?

Ans. 'The commonwealth and government of Venice'. [2]

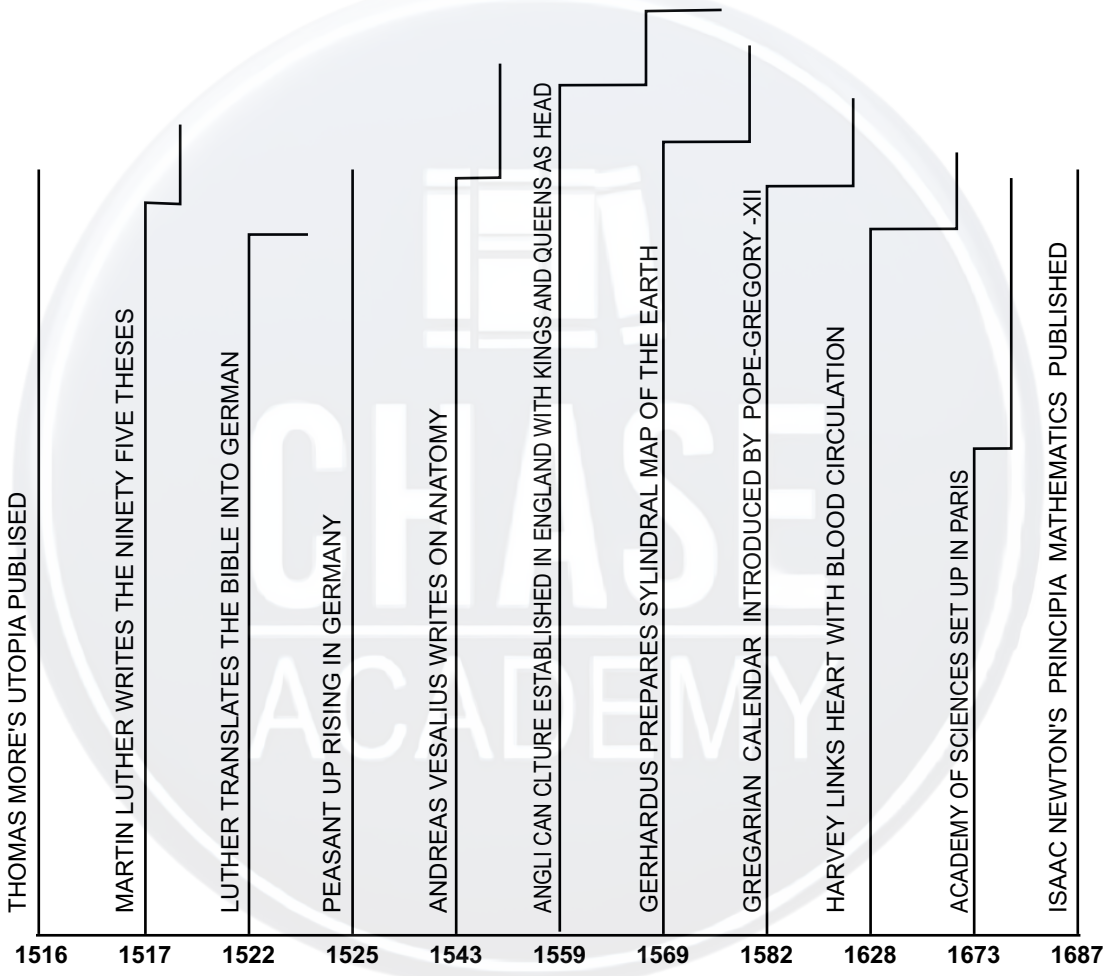
2. Contarini has written the book about which aspect of the City - State ?

Ans. About the democratic government of his city - state. [2]

3. Who are admitted into the Council ?

Ans. All the gentlemen of the city being once past the age of 25 years are admitted [2]

4. Who very often fell to poverty ?

Ans. The honest citizens and those that are liberally brought up, often fall to poverty [2]

Road Map of Cultural Change