

Social Impact of Scientific Inventions (Scientists and Inventions)

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Objectives:

- Tracing the history of important inventions.
- Understanding role of inventions in ‘ Development’
- Understanding human relations in context of scientific inventions
- Differentiate among science, non-science, technology
- Relating social conditions and scientific development

Thrust Areas:

- What does Scientific Invention mean?
- Scientific as ‘Science and Technology’
- Invention as ‘low tech’ and ‘high tech’
- Types of scientific inventions happening due to
 1. Practice or experience
 2. Accident
 3. Research—
 - a) By need or demand, b) by force
- Relation between scientific development and contemporary social conditions, situations and practices –
 1. Economic
 2. War
 3. Class and Caste
 4. Superstitions
 5. Secrecy and Patents
- Important social / scientific inventions – Fire, Wheel, Locomotive, Electricity, Metals, Agriculture, Communication equipments, Transport, Satellites, Transistor, Weaving techniques, Home appliances (mixer, grinder), Cinema and television, Bicycle, Agriculture implements (pump, tractor), Medical Inventions (X-Ray).

• Inventions which either produce change or replace an entire system – Following are some inventions and brackets indicate the systems that are affected by them

Railways (caste system)

Electronic Communication (spread of Superstitions)

Mechanical Machines (religious Beliefs),

Measurement Instruments,

War and Scientific Inventions,

Printing Technology,

Almanac,

Cold Storage,

Food technology,

Steamers, Different Implements,

Authorities deciding child rights and labor laws,

Nature and ways of earning wages (increased functions of the state)