

Note: Amara is believed to be derived from the Sanskrit word Samara, meaning battle or war. It also resembles the Persian term *Amir*, meaning a high noble.

10. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- After having occupied the hilly region between Garo and the Jaintia Hills, the East India Company wanted to build a road linking the Brahmaputra Valley with Sylhet. For this, a large number of outsiders, including Englishmen, Bengalis and the labourers from the plains were brought to these regions. The Khasis, Garos, Khamptis and the Singphos organised themselves under Tirath Singh to drive away the strangers from the plains. The uprising developed into a popular revolt against the British rule in the area. By 1833, the superior English military force had suppressed the revolt.
- The rebellion of the Singphos in Assam in early 1830 was immediately quelled, but they continued to organise revolts. An uprising in 1839 saw the death of the British political agent. **Chief Nirang Phidu led an uprising in 1843**, which involved an attack on the British garrison and the death of many soldiers.

11. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **A group of westerners, led by Madame H.P. Blavatsky (1831-1891) and Colonel M.S. Olcott, who were inspired by the Indian thought and culture, founded the Theosophical Society in New York City (United States), in 1875.** In 1882, they shifted their headquarters to Adyar, on the outskirts of Madras (at that time) in India. The Society believed that a special relationship could be established between a person's soul and

the God by contemplation, prayer, revelation, etc.

- It accepted the Hindu beliefs in reincarnation and Karma, and drew inspiration from the philosophy of the Upanishads and the Samkhya, Yoga and Vedanta schools of thought. It aimed to work for universal brotherhood of humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.
- The Society also sought to investigate the unexplained laws of the nature and the powers latent in man. The Theosophical Movement came to be allied with the Hindu renaissance. It opposed child marriage and advocated the abolition of caste discrimination, uplift of outcastes and improvement in the condition of the widows.

12. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- The revolutionaries considered, but did not find it practical at that stage to implement, the options of creating a violent mass revolution throughout the country, or of trying to subvert the loyalties of the Army. Instead, they opted to follow in the footsteps of the Russian nihilists or the Irish nationalists. This methodology involved individual heroic actions, such as organising assassinations of unpopular officials, and of traitors and informers among the revolutionaries themselves; conducting Swadeshi dacoities to raise funds for the revolutionary activities; and (during the First World War) organising military conspiracies with expectation of help from the enemies of Britain. The idea was to strike terror in the hearts of the rulers, arouse the people and remove the fear of authority from their minds. The revolutionaries intended to inspire the people by appealing to their patriotism, especially the idealistic youth, who would finally drive the British out.