

RAJA RAM MOHAN ROY: THE BEGINNING OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPER IN INDIA AND THE REFORMS



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Raja Ram Mohan Roy: The Beginning of Vernacular Newspaper in India and the Reforms

Abstract. Raja Ram Mohan Roy, commonly known as the “Father of Modern India” or the “Father of Indian Renaissance,” was a famous Indian reformist who brought reforms in various fields of social, religious, and education. He tried to convert India into a modern nation with his modern and scientific thoughts. His ideas and thoughts tried to merge the gap between traditional Indian high values and modern western rationalism. He promoted rationalism and asked the Indians to build a new modern India with rationalism and scientific thoughts. He presented several bold ideas and thoughts for various social, religious, and educational reforms and used newspapers and periodicals as a tool of communication. The article entitled “Raja Ram Mohan Roy: The Beginning of Vernacular Newspaper in India and the Reforms” depict how Raja Ram Mohan Roy uses vernacular and English newspapers and periodicals to bring social, religious, and educational reforms in India and to challenge the press restrictions imposed by the British colonial government.

Keywords: Cultural Changes, Newspaper, Nationalistic Press, Reforms, Vernacular Press.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy: începuturile presei în limbile vernaculare din India și reformele

Rezumat. Raja Ram Mohan Roy, cunoscut în mod obișnuit drept „Părintele Indiei moderne” sau „Părintele Renașterii indiene”, a fost un renumit reformator indian care a inițiat transformări în diverse domenii – social, religios și educațional. El a încercat să transforme India într-o națiune modernă prin ideile sale progresiste și științifice. Concepțiile sale au urmărit să reducă distanța dintre valorile tradiționale înalte ale Indiei și raționalismul occidental modern. A promovat raționalismul și i-a îndemnat pe indieni să construiască o nouă Indie modernă, întemeiată pe gândire științifică.

A formulat numeroase idei îndrăznețe pentru reforme sociale, religioase și educaționale, utilizând ziarele și periodicele ca instrumente de comunicare. Articolul intitulat „Raja Ram Mohan Roy: începuturile presei în limbile vernaculare din India și reformele” își propune să ilustreze modul în care Raja Ram Mohan Roy a folosit presa în limbile vernaculare și în limba engleză pentru a promova reforme sociale, religioase și educaționale în India, precum și pentru a contesta restricțiile asupra presei impuse de guvernul colonial britanic.

Cuvinte-cheie: schimbări culturale, ziar, presă naționalistă, reforme, presă vernaculară.

Introduction. In India, the colonial period put a mark on plunder, exploitation, social issues, and slavery under the British colonial government. However, within the colonial rule of the British government, an Indian arises with a glory and bold modern thoughts, whom the entire world recognises as Raja Ram Mohan Roy. He is also called the “father of modern India” or the “father of Indian renaissance”. In the prolegomena part of the book “Social, Political and Economic and Educational Ideas of Raja Rammohun Roy, the roles of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in Indian renaissance were portrayed as “Raja Rammohun Roy holds the key to our understanding of the origins of the nineteenth century renaissance in India and its far reaching consequences.” [1, p. 1] whereas in the introductory part of the article “Raja Ram Mohan Roy: Political and Social Reformist of India” the descriptions of Raja Ram Mohan Roy were given as “Raja Ram Mohan Roy is considered as the Father of Indian Renaissance. He was the creator of a mental climate which contributed to the birth of the Indian Renaissance. He was the pioneer of religious and social reform.” [2, p. 9].

Raja Ram Mohan Roy is a famous Indian reformer, writer, and a journalist who actively supported in various reform movements of India, related to social, religious, and education fields. Raja Ram Mohan Roy became famous for his social reforms and his bold writings against various social orthodox rituals and evil of his period. He gave a strong fight against sati system, child marriage, caste system, racism, polygamy and strongly supports widow marriage, women education, propagation of modern education, etc. Raja Ram Mohan Roy founded the Atmiya Sabha in 1815 in Calcutta to initiate socio-religious reforms. It was established to promote debate and discussions on theological subjects, rationalism, and to promote the concept of one god or monotheism. Later in 1828 he started Brahma Samaj in Calcutta to challenge the caste system, caste discrimination, and to avoid the orthodox social evils of Hinduism of his age. The Brahma Samaj was a significant religious

reform which helped to build rationalism and scientific thoughts within the Indian society.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy also made a significant contribution to the development of modern journalism and vernacular language press in India. The vernacular press was one of his main tools through which he propagated his social, liberal, and modern ideas and thoughts that helped to bring reforms in various fields and changed the Indian society from various dimensions. He was mainly associated with three newspapers or periodicals: “Sambad Kaumudi”, “Mirat-ul-Akhbar”, and “Brahmanical Magazine”. These newspapers or periodicals help to bring renaissance not only in Bengal province but also in the entire India. He uses these newspapers or periodicals to express his bold thoughts about reforms in various fields and to culminate various social evils and orthodox customs from society. The newspapers for him were a medium that could turn India into an advanced and modern nation. The contributions of his newspapers or vernacular language periodicals are significant not only for the development of Indian journalism but also for the development of the entire India.

Objectives. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a famous social reformer, writer and a journalist who was associated with mainly three newspapers or periodicals of his time – “Sambad Kaumudi”, “Mirat-ul-Akhbar” and “Brahmanical Magazine”. These newspapers or periodicals played significant roles in various social reform movements of India during the British colonial period. The article entitled “Raja Ram Mohan Roy: The Beginning of Vernacular Newspaper in India and the Reforms” tries to find out the answer to a few questions which are kept as objectives:

- ❖ Significance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy’s vernacular newspapers and periodicals in various social reforms.

- ❖ Significance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy’s vernacular newspapers and periodicals in the development of Indian Journalism.

❖ Significance of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's newspapers and periodicals in the development of modern education.

Methodology. The article entitled "Raja Ram Mohan Roy: The Beginning of Vernacular Newspaper and the Reforms" mainly used historical-based content analysis to extract data and information to develop the content of the article. It analysed several contents and data available in various books and journals related to Raja Ram Mohan Roy, his biography, and the newspapers and periodicals he used as a tool for information dissemination and to bring reforms in the field of social, religious, and education. The article focuses mainly on his three newspapers or periodicals – *Sambad Kaumudi*, *Mirat-ul- Akhbar* and *Brahmanical Magazine* and shows how they played significant roles in various reforms and social development of India.

Result. Raja Ram Mohan Roy is widely recognised as the father of Indian renaissance and is known for his pioneering reforms in the field of social, religious, and education. His modern reformist thought not only changed India but also forced the British colonial government to change their several policies towards India and the native Indians. His newspapers and periodicals played an active role in promoting his bold modern thoughts and bringing reform mainly in the fields of social, religious, and education. The newspaper *Sambad Kaumudi* has shown a significant role in a campaign to support in the abolishment of the sati system, which was formally banned in 1829 by the British colonial government. The newspaper also supported widow remarriage and women education for the welfare of Indian women. *Mirat-ul-Akhbar* was another important newspaper published by Raja Ram Mohan Roy for various political, social, and international discussions. The newspaper was highly recognised for the resistance to press censorship imposed by the British colonial government on Indian press. *Brahmanical Magazine* was mainly used by Raja Ram Mohan Roy to counter Serampore missionary

propaganda and to connect a bridge between the native Indians and the British colonial government. The articles and news of the newspapers or the periodicals of Raja Ram Mohan Roy are not only restricted within various reform movements but also have shown valour in fighting against censorship imposed by the British government. His newspaper remained highly successful in the development of a nationalistic press and capable of building nationalistic sentiment among the native Indians of the British colonial era.

Discussion. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was born in an Indian Brahmin family in the Hooghly district of West Bengal on 22nd May 1772. He was a self-educated genius and extraordinary man of his age who later became a famous social reformer and a bold writer of the British colonial period. He mastered on several languages and read several Sanskrit scripts of Upanishad and Veda. Later he worked with John Digby who was an East India company collector and earned properties and zamindari in various places of West Bengal. The Mughal emperor later conferred him the title "Raja" which means the "King" to elevate his social status as he was appointed as an envoy to the United Kingdom. In the article entitled "Raja Ram Mohan Roy: A Voice against Operation and Social Injustice in Hinduism" it was mentioned "He was given the title Raja by Akbar II, the Delhi based Mughal emperor, whose complaints he bring before the British King" – [3, p. 293]. His kingly aristocratic life style and bold independent thoughts bring him close to the elite British men of the British colonial period.

In his youth, his independent thoughts and bold conceptions about the society brought displeasure among his several close ones, but he remained firm with his bold thoughts and ideas. Later his independent thoughts and bold conceptions about the society, religion, education, and the political system turned him into a famous Indian social reformer. He engaged and gave birth to various social reform movements and culminated in various social issues and evils

present in the Indian society during his age. Among his social reform movements, the abolition of sati system, child marriage, polygamy, cast system, and zamindari system were prominent. He also actively supported widow remarriage, women's rights, and women education for the upliftment of Indian society. Along with these, to promote theological discussion he started the Atmiya Sabha in 1815 and to avoid cast discrimination he established "Brahmo Samaj" on August 20, 1828. In the article "Role of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in India Social Reformation Movement" it was opined that "Raja Ram Mohan Roy was against the practice of purdah, sati and restriction on women, child marriages and division of Hindu society into different castes; these bad practices have created a division in the society and driven a wedge among the different communities. Perhaps the greatest social reform with which Raja Ram Mohan Roy's name will be permanently associated is the abolition of cruel practice of sati. Roy used all the methods at his disposal to stop this inhuman practice, which forced the helpless widow to burn herself alive on the funeral pyre of her husband. He advocated the abolition of polygamy and wanted women to be educated and given the right to inherit property." [4, p. 760, 761] whereas the article "Raja Ram Mohan Roy as Great Reformer Towards Making of Modern India" mentioned about his visionary of caste system and Brahmo Samaj as "In context of equalisation, universalization and eradication of caste system, Raja Ram Mohan Roy's Brahmo Samaj movement is still significant today." [5, p. 3]

Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a famous Indian social reformer who also fought the freedom movement against the British colonial government in his own way through his journalism. In New India Samachar, it was highlighted that Raja Rammohan Roy, who gave a new direction to India's freedom movement through his journalism, is regarded as the father of modern India's Renaissance, having sacrificed his life for the sake of the nation" – [6, p. 77]. He was associated with several social reform movements but the success of his social reform movements

mainly depends on his three newspapers. *Sambad Kaumudi* was a Bengali weekly newspaper or periodical, *Mirat-ul-Akhbar* was a weekly Persian newspaper and *Brahmanical Magazine* was an English newspaper or periodical of the British colonial periods. His three newspapers help to make the people of Bengal as well as the people of western India understand the severe consequences of social orthodox customs and their impacts on the society. The newspaper proved highly valuable not only in raising several social reform movements, but also in putting a significant mark on the development of Indian journalism and vernacular language newspapers in India.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy and the Beginning of Indian Vernacular Press. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was one of the pioneers of Indian journalism who made a significant contribution to the development of an Indian vernacular newspaper. His contribution to the history of Indian Journalism and Indian Vernacular Press is well marked and remarkable. His ambition to launch newspapers in vernacular languages was directly linked with the activities of various reforms, Serampore mission press, and the activities of their periodical Samachar Darpan and Digidarshan. The Serampore mission press was led by William Carry, Joshua Marshman, and William Ward. In the year 1818, they launched India's first two Bengali weekly newspapers *Digidarshan* and *Samachar Darpan*. In the initial days they used the weeklies for the promotion of knowledge, dissemination of news and to shape up the public opinions but later the mission press, with the help of their periodicals, carried a strong attack on Hinduism and through several questions on Hinduism and Indian cultures. Raja Ram Mohan Roy took a bold step and launched his own newspaper to start various reform movements and to give a robust reply to the questions of the Serampore mission press. He launched three newspapers or periodicals: *Sambad Kaumudi*, a Bengali weekly newspaper, *Mirat-ul-Akhbar*, a Persian weekly, and *Brahmanical Magazine* in English. Along

with these, he was also associated with another English weekly periodical, Bengal Herald. In the article “Contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy’s to Literature and Journalism” it was highlighted “In May 1829 English weekly, Bengal Herald was started by R. M. Martin in collaboration with Ram Mohan and Dwarkanath Tagore. It was a liberal periodical with a progressive outlook” [7, p. 2614, 2615]. He launched newspapers under the British colonial rule and turned them into a weapon of various reform movements and to fight various hard policies imposed by the British colonial government upon the natives and their press. In *New India Samachar* it was mentioned “The forerunner of the Indian Renaissance; he not only founded the Brahmo Samaj but also gave the freedom and social reform movements a new direction through journalism.” [6, p. 77].

❖ ***Sambad Kaumudi***. In December, 1821, Raja Ram Mohan Roy started *Sambad Kaumudi*, a pioneering vernacular Bengali weekly newspaper in Kolkata. It was one of the first vernacular Indian language newspapers published by an Indian. On the initial day, the newspaper was published under the editorship of Bhabani Charan Bandyopadhyay, but the newspaper was supervised by Raja Ram Mohan Roy. Later Raja Ram Mohan Roy took the editorship and published the newspaper in his own way. The newspaper acts as a mouthpiece for Raja Ram Mohan Roy through which he defends Hinduism and replies to Serampore mission press. The newspaper not only played a significant role in religious matters, but also it shows its significance in various social reform movements of India. *Sambad Kaumudi* made a major contribution in the fight against the horrific custom of sati system. It played a pivotal role against sati system and strongly supported for the abolishment of such a horrific system. His bold writing not only changed the public perception but also brought the horrific sati system under the focus of the British colonial government. The newspaper highly condemned against the sati system and promoted women rights, women

education, widow remarriage, social awareness, etc. The newspaper was an instrument to disseminate reformist thought and ideas of Raja Ram Mohan Roy. In the book chapter entitled “Ram Mohan Roy: Social Reforms and Affirmation of the Modern” of Indra Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) it was mentioned that “The first Bengali newspaper written in native language for the natives, named *Sambad Kaumudi* was started in 1821 by Raja Rammohan Roy, which was also known as the Moon of Intelligence. It became an important vehicle for propagating his idea on sati.” – [8, p. 37]. The newspaper *Sambad Kaumudi* also shows a significant role in fighting against the authoritative nature of the British colonial government. It favours the native and highlights their problem in front of the British government while on the other hand it became an instrument to develop nationalistic sentiment among the native Indian during the period of British colonial rule.

❖ ***Mirat-ul-Akhbar***. *Mirat-ul-Akhbar* was another early and well-known vernacular newspaper owned and edited by Raja Ram Mohan Roy. It was the India’s first Persian language newspaper, which was first published in April 1822 from Kolkata on a weekly basis, especially on Friday. The newspaper mainly focused on Persian-speaking Indian communities of the colonial era. The newspaper is a wonderful example of Indian vernacular press in the early British colonial period, which published news in a fair and unbiased way. *Mirat-ul-Akhbar* was the newspaper through which Raja Ram Mohan Roy disseminated various news, information, and his views and opinions in Persian language. The newspaper acts as a tool of information propagation related to mainly social, political, and international affairs. The newspaper played a major role in social reform, public awareness, political issues, and nationalistic movement. The newspaper was highly capable and criticized British colonial administration. It challenge to British monopoly and tried to raise a nationalistic democratic sentiment among the native Indians of the British colonial period. The

newspaper also became popular for international news. Through the newspaper *Mirat-ul-Akhbar* Raja Ram Mohan Roy disseminated information and news about international events among its Indian readers. In the article “Role of Press as Campaign of Social reform by Raja Ram Mohan Roy” it was highlighted “*Mirat-ul-Akhbar*, the weekly in Persian, devoted much space to international affairs.” [9, p. 435].

❖ **Brahmanical Magazine.** Raja Ram Mohan Roy along with his several vernacular newspapers he also published an English weekly newspaper called Brahmanical Magazine. It was first launched in 1821 in Kolkata with ambition to counter missionary propaganda, promote social reforms and to fight British monopoly and authoritative views. The newspaper was a mouthpiece of Raja Ram Mohan Roy through which he boldly disseminated his views and opinions on several social and political issues. The magazine played a vital role in social reforms. Through Brahmanical Magazine Raja Ram Mohan Roy boldly protest against social evils of the Indian society of the colonial era and suggest several broader reformist views which help to bring changes in the Indian society and to bring renaissance throughout the enter India. Reformists thought of Raja Ram Mohan Roy through Brahmanical Magazine changes several orthodox conceptions and bring India to a new modern path. Brahminical Magazine was also acting as a bridge between the native Indians and the English people of the colonial era. It helped to exchange messages and information between the native and the British English people. It was the media through which Raja Ram Mohan Roy expressed how the native Indian feeling about the British colonial rules. However, the magazine did not run for a long period. It came to an end within a short period but its contribution to the history of Indian journalism was no less significant. The book “Handbook of Journalism and Mass Communication” also mentioned its short life as “Brahmanical Magazine ceased to exist after the publication of a few issues only.” [10, p. 97].

Newspapers of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Social Reforms and the Cultural Changes. The newspapers and periodicals of Raja Ram Mohan Roy played an active role in the progress of various social reforms and cultural changes in India. In India, the 18th century or the early British Era shows several orthodox and horrific Indian customs and rituals that spread across the entire India and most of the Indians were unknowingly got involved with those unscientific orthodox horrific customs. The orthodox customs engulfed the age-old bright cultures and glorious heritage of India and started to show the values of Indian customs as uncouth, unscientific and horrific in nature. Among those orthodox customs and social evils of 18th Century India was sati system, child marriage, polygamy, racism and caste discrimination were prominent.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a genius of his age who stood firm against the unscientific and horrific orthodox customs with his scientific modern outlook that helps to bring various social reforms within the Indian society. Raja Ram Mohan Roy propagated his bold thoughts and ideas about the social reforms through his newspapers. The newspapers act as a tool or weapon through which he propagated his bold ideas of social reforms. The contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy’s newspapers in the abolishment of sati system is significant. Through his newspapers, he started a wide campaign against the brutal and horrific customs called sati system and tried to provide a new life to the Indian women. Sambad Kaumudi randomly criticized the sati system and supported its abolishment from the society. In the article “Advocacy for Women’s Rights and Political Empowerment: Raja Ram Mohan Roy’s Contribution to Indian Polity”, it was mentioned, “He established surveillance organizations to safeguard women beginning around 1818, enlisted the aid of other Bengali categories, he wrote papers to demonstrate that the custom of widow combustion, or sati, was not authorized by any ancient Hindu shastras or writing. The Sati Regulation Act issued throughout 1829 under Lord William Bentinck, outlawed the custom of sati in India

and declared it to be unlawful or punished by law.” [11, p. 158].

Along with the campaign against the system, the newspapers and periodicals of Raja Ram Mohan Roy also provided a wide campaign against child marriage and polygamy, and strongly supported women’s education, women’s rights, and widow remarriage. In the article “Raja Ram Mohan Roy’s Contribution to Women’s Rights and Education: Its Current Relevance”, it was highlighted that “Raja Ram Mohan Roy has strongly protested against the injustice of women’s rights and unjust superstitions of society. He tried to liberate women from blind superstition. The Governor General Lord William Bentinck, in collaboration with, abolished Sati-Dah in protest of conservative society. He has also tried to stop child marriage and polygamy. He published various articles in the magazine, “Sangbad Kaumudi” to make people aware of the evil practices of society.” [12, p. 389]. Racism and the caste system were another social issue during the age of Raja Ram Mohan Roy. His pen also stands firm against racism and the caste system and supports Unitarianism and monotheism. He boldly criticized the caste system and raised his voice for commonness and equality for all.

Newspapers of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Growth of Nationalistic Press. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was the pioneer and developer of the Indian nationalistic press. He was the first Indian who used newspapers and periodicals as a weapon to expose various social issues of his age that ran across the nation and to fight against the authoritative British colonial government. His newspapers and journalistic writing revealed nationalistic sentiments from every dimension. In the article “Raja Ram Mohan Roy: The Pioneer of Indian Journalism and Social Reform, it was mentioned “Raja Ram Mohan Roy’s use of journalism as a tool for social change and political awareness set a precedent for future leaders in India. His model of fearless, reformist journalism directly influenced the rise of nationalist newspapers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.” [13, p. 954].

In India, the era of Raja Ram Mohan Roy was governed and dominated by the British colonial government, and they ruled the native Indians with an authoritative approach. The British colonial government imposed several unjustified rules and restrictions to control the native Indians and to suppress the power of the press. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was vindicated for a free and nationalistic press and he stands against the restrictions on press imposed by the British colonial government. He uses the newspapers and periodicals as an essential medium for information dissemination, building public awareness, education propagation, and to ventilate grievances against the authoritative approach of the British colonial government.

The newspapers of Raja Ram Mohan Roy have shown significant roles against the authoritative approach and atrocity of the British colonial government. The weekly newspaper *Sambad Kaumudi* shows patriotism on several occasions by disseminating several important national issues, which helps to foster a nationalistic approach and patriotism. The newspaper opposed British censorship and licencing of press and argues for press freedom. His newspapers *Mirat-ul-Akhbar* desperately protested against the licensing regulation of 1823 imposed by British colonial government which was commonly known as “John Adams Press Ordinance” or “Adams Gag”. His bold writing forced me to think about the British colonial government about licensing of press and press freedom. Along with these, he also used press to connect native Indians with the global affairs. Raja Ram Mohan Roy took the newspapers and periodicals as a medium of propagation of national and international news among the native Indians and to spread his nationalistic view not only across the nation but also across the globe. His newspaper *Mirat-ul-Akhbar* disseminated international news to make the native well informed about foreign international affairs. His dynamic thoughts presented through his newspapers and periodicals supported for national awakening and were derived as a challenge for the authoritative British colonial government.

Newspapers of Raja Ram Mohan Roy and the Modern Education System. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a self-taught genius who pioneered the modern education system in India. He supported an education system which is a combination of high-value ancient Indian knowledge with the modern western education system. In the article “Raja Ram Mohan Roy as a Pioneer of Modern Indian Education: An Evaluation, the conceptions of Raja Ram Mohan Roy about education were mentioned as “His life’s work was mostly focused on advancing Indians through an Eastern and Western education and culture together.” [14, p. 18]. He advocated for a scientific and systematic knowledge and strongly opposed superstitious beliefs and unscientific knowledge. He promoted critical thinking among the men and women of his age and supported a healthy education system for both men and women. In promoting his thoughts and ideas about education, his newspapers and periodicals played a significant role. They act as a tool or medium through which he promoted his high value thoughts and ideas about the education system. The newspapers helped to propagate his critical and scientific thinking about education among the Native Indians.

Through his newspapers, he advocated Western philosophy and education system, which he believed was modern and scientific in nature. His newspapers also advocated the promotion of women’s education and empowerment. He appealed through his newspapers that every woman should be empowered with a modern and scientific learning system for the development of a modern, scientific, and equal society. He suggests the development of women can be achieved through modern education and scientific knowledge. Along with these, his newspapers and periodicals also support English language education besides several other vernacular native languages for the development of India.

Conclusions. Raja Ram Mohan Roy, the pioneering figure of Indian renaissance, played an active role in various social reforms of India. He was the man who was responsible for various

social reforms of India and helped to transform India into a modern nation. His bold thoughts and reformist ideas changed the conceptions of the native Indian of his era and helped to develop a new modern India. He actively supported the abolishment of horrific sati system, child marriage, racism, zamindari system and glorifies widow remarriage, women education, women rights and modern education system. Raja Ram Mohan Roy used his newspapers and journalistic activities for the propagation of his reformist modern thoughts. His newspapers *Sambad Kaumudi*, *Mirat-ul-Akhbar*, and *Brahmanical Magazine* depict actively and in an unbiased way various social issues of Indian society of his era and ask for social reforms. His newspaper shows efficiency in the dissemination of nationalistic news and to fight against unlawful licensing and press restrictions imposed by the British colonial government. His bold writing helped to develop a free, fair, and an unbiased nationalistic press which mainly talked about India and Indian sentiments. His newspapers and periodicals also played an active role in educational reforms. His bold thoughts which he expressed through his newspapers and periodicals supported a modern scientific education system. His newspapers and periodicals highlight his ambition for women’s education and women’s rights, which glorify the welfare of Indian women. The contribution of Raja Ram Mohan Roy in various reform movements through his newspapers and periodicals is enormous and significant.

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