

ForumIAS

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Prelims Marathon

1st to 7th May, 2023

*HISTORY
ECONOMICS
POLITY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

FORUMIAS



Kingdoms of Vijaya Nagar and Bhamini Sultanate

Q.1) Which of the following pair/s is/are correctly matched?

Kingdom	:	Capital
1. Yadavas	:	Devagiri
2. Hoysalas	:	Madurai
3. Pandyas	:	Dwarasamudra

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: A

Explanation: The Delhi Sultanate expanded as a result of the annexation of the states like Bengal, Bihar, Gujarat, Malwa, various states of Rajputana (like Ranthambor, Jalore, Nagore, Ajmer), the Deccan states of Warangal, Telengana, the Yadavas of Devagiri, the southern states of the Hoysalas of Dwarsamudra and the Pandyas of Madurai.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) The term “Pattanulkars” was associated with which of the following?

- a) Silk weavers
- b) Iron smiths
- c) Trade guilds
- d) Agriculture labor

ANS: A

Explanation: The Iqtadari system of the Delhi Sultanate influenced the administrative systems of the Vijayanagar and Bahmani kingdoms.

There were well-established trade and commerce networks, and regular migration of artisans occurred from one region to another, as evident in the migration of the silk weavers — Pattanulkars — from the Gujarat region to the Vijayanagar state in the 15th century.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. Amukthamalyada | : | Krishnadevaraya |
| 2. Maduravijayam | : | Gangadevi |
| 3. Allasani Peddanna | : | Manucharitam |

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: There are varied sources for the study of the Vijayanagar kingdom, such as literary and archaeological sources, as well as numismatics.

Krishnadevaraya's Amukthamalyada, Gangadevi's Maduravijayam, and Allasani Peddanna's Manucharitam are some of the indigenous literature of this period.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) Arrange the following dynasties of Vijayanagara Kingdom in chronological order:

- 1. Sangama
- 2. Aravidu
- 3. Saluva

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 – 2 – 3
- b) 1 – 3 – 2
- c) 2 – 1 – 3
- d) 2 – 3 – 1

ANS: B

Explanation: The Vijayanagar kingdom constituted four dynasties — Sangama (c.1336–1485 CE), Saluva (c.1485–1503 CE), Tuluva (c.1503–1570 CE) and Aravidu (till the end of the 17th century).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) Which of the following pair/s is/are correctly matched?

- | Foreign traveler | : | Country origin |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| 1. Ibn Batuta | : | Morocco |
| 2. Nicolo de Conti | : | Portuguese |
| 3. Domingo Paes | : | Venice |

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: A

Explanation: Many foreign travelers' valuable accounts on the socioeconomic conditions of the Vijayanagar kingdom are also available, since they visited the Vijayanagar kingdom.

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This includes the Moroccan Ibn Batuta, Venetian Nicolo de Conti, Persian Abdur Razzak, and the Portuguese Domingo Paes.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) Who among the following was the author of “Voyage to India”?

- a) Nicolo Conti
- b) Nikitin
- c) Abdur Razzak
- d) Ibn Batuta

ANS: B

Explanation: Italian traveller, Nicolo Conti (in c.1420), and Russian merchant Nikitin (author of Voyage to India), visited during Deva Raya I reign.

Nicolo Conti commented on Vijayanagara and Deva Raya I that “In this city, there are 90,000 men fit to bear arms... their king is more powerful than all the kings of India”.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) Who among the following was called as “Abhinava Bhoja” and “Andhra Pitamah”?

- a) Krishna Deva Raya
- b) Vira Narasimha Raya
- c) Deva Raya II
- d) Deva Raya I

ANS: A

Explanation: Krishna Deva Raya (c.1509–29 CE): The greatest of the Vijayanagar rulers, was also known as ‘Abhinava Bhoja’, ‘Andhra Pitamah’, ‘Andhra Bhoja’ (as he was great patron of literature and art).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.8) Which of the following activity/ activities is/ are form/s of amusement in Vijayanagara Kingdom?

- 1. Wrestling
- 2. Dancing
- 3. Cock – fighting

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: Allasani Peddanna in his Manucharitam refers to the existence of four castes — Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas, and Sudras — in the Vijayanagar society.

- Foreign travellers left vivid accounts on the splendour of buildings and luxurious social life in the city of Vijayanagar.
- Paes mentions the beautiful houses of the rich and the large number of their household servants.

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- Nicolo Conti refers to the prevalence of slavery. Silk and cotton clothes were mainly used for dress.
- Dancing, music, wrestling, gambling, and cock-fighting were some of the common forms of amusement.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) “Madhav National Park” is recently seen in news is located at?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

ANS: A

Explanation: The Park is situated near Shivpuri town and is a part of the upper Vindhyan hills. The Park was the hunting ground of Mughal emperors and Maharaja of Gwalior. It got the status of a National Park in 1958.

- There are two entry points for the park; one situated on NH-25 (Old Jhansi road) about 5 km from Shivpuri town while the other is on NH-3 (Agra-Mumbai road) at a distance of 7 km from Shivpuri towards Gwalior.
- The Park is gifted with a diverse ecosystem comprising of lakes, forests and grasslands. The forest is home to antelopes like Nilgai, Chinkara and Chowsinga and Deer including Chital, Sambar and Barking Deer.
- Animals like the Leopard, Wolf, Jackal, Fox, Wild Dog, Wild Pig, Porcupine, Python etc are also sighted in the park.

Source: <https://shivpuri.nic.in/en/tourist-place/madhav-national-park/>

Q.10) “Nagarhole National Park” is recently seen in news is located at?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Goa
- d) Kerala

ANS: A

Explanation: Nagarhole National Park, also known as Rajiv Gandhi National Park, is a wildlife reserve in the South Indian state of Karnataka.

- Part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, the park is backed by the Brahamagiri Mountains and filled with sandalwood and teak trees.
- The Kabini River winds through jungle landscapes, home to tigers, Asian elephants and a variety of birds. Nearby, the Irupu Falls cascade down tree-lined rocks.

Source: FORUMIAS

Kingdoms of Bahmani Sultanate & Mughal Rule

Q.1) The Deccan Sultanates was divided into which of the following state/s?

1. Qutb Shahis of Golconda
2. Imad Shahis of Berar
3. Nizam Shahis of Ahmadnagar

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: After c.1518 CE, the Sultanate broke up into five states: the Nizam Shahis of Ahmadnagar, the Adil Shahis of Bijapur, the Qutb Shahis of Golconda, and the Imad Shahis of Berar and the Barid Shahis of Bidar, which are collectively known as the “Deccan Sultanates”.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) With reference to Bahmani & Vijayanagar Kingdoms, which of the following is/are bone of contention between the two kingdoms?

1. The control of the Raichur doab.
2. The Krishna–Godavari basin.
3. The Marathwada region.

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: There were constant conflicts between the Vijayanagar kingdom and the Bahmani Sultanate as their interests clashed in three separate and distinct areas:

- Over the control of the Raichur doab (between rivers Krishna and Tungabhadra): This area was fertile and rich in mineral resources. The famous diamond mines of Golconda were located in the eastern part of the doab region.
- The Krishna–Godavari basin: Apart from being very fertile, this region had the additional advantage of control of foreign trade (as this stretch of land contained numerous important ports that held the priced key of foreign trade).
- Over the Marathwada region: In the Marathwada region, the main contention was for the control of the Konkan belt (a narrow strip of land between the Western Ghats and the sea) and the areas which gave access to it.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) The term “taraf” was associated with which of the following?

- a) Village
- b) Division
- c) Province
- d) District

ANS: C

Explanation: The Bahmani administrative system was well-organised. The Sultanate was divided into four (before Gawan; Gawan divided the Sultanate into eight units) administrative units called ‘taraf ’ or provinces. These provinces were Daultabad, Bidar, Berar, and Gulbarga.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) The famous “Rajatarangini” was associated with which of the following state/kingdom?

- a) Ahmednagar
- b) Gujarat
- c) Mewar
- d) Kashmir

ANS: D

Explanation: In Rajatarangini (a history of Kashmir written by Kalhana in the mid12th century) it is stated that the valley of Kashmir was formerly a lake.

- According to Hindu mythology, the lake was drained by the great rishi or sage, Kashyapa, son of Marichi (who in his turn was the son of Brahma), by cutting the gap in the hills at Baramulla (Varaha-mula).
- When Kashmir had been drained, Kashyapa asked Brahmans to settle there and thus Kashmir valley was settled by Hindus in the initial phases.
- The beautiful kingdom of Kashmir was for long a forbidden land for all outsiders.
- Alberuni, the famous Arab traveller remarked in his work Al-Hind that entry into Kashmir was not allowed even to the Hindus who were not known personally to the local nobles.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) With reference to mughal rule, the Rumi method is related to which of the following?

- a) Warfare
- b) Agriculture
- c) Trade posts
- d) Nobles

ANS: A

Explanation: The First Battle of Panipat (c.1526 CE): This was one of the decisive battles of Indian history, fought between Ibrahim Lodhi and Babur.

- Ibrahim Lodhi was defeated and Babur was not only able to take control of Delhi and Agra but also got the rich treasure of Lodhis. Some key aspects of this battle were:
- Babur’s soldiers were less in number (only 12,000 soldiers against Lodhi’s troops of 100,000 soldiers) but the organisation of his army was far superior.

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- Great achievement of Babur's military tactics. He effectively applied the Rumi (Ottoman) method of warfare, also known as Tulguma system of warfare, wherein he encircled Ibrahim Lodhi's army from both flanks.
- From the centre, his cavalry mounted attack with arrows and gun-fires under expert Ottoman gunners Ustad Ali and Mustafa, whereas the trenches and barricades provided adequate defence against the march of the enemy.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) With reference to Babur, which of the following battle/s is/are fought by Babur?

1. Battle of Khanwa
2. Battle of Chanderi
3. Battle of Ghagra

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: Battle of Khanwa (c.1527 CE, near Fatehpur Sikri): One of the most fiercely contested battles in Indian history, fought between Babur and Rana Sanga of Mewar and his allies.

- Battle of Chanderi (c.1528 CE): This battle was fought between Babur and Medini Rai, the Rajput ruler of Malwa. In spite of the great valour with which the Rajputs fought, Babur faced little difficulty in overcoming Medini Rai.
- Battle of Ghagra (near Bihar, c.1529 CE): This battle was fought between Babur and Mahmud Lodhi (brother of Ibrahim Lodhi, head of the Afghan chiefs, with the support of Nusrat Shah of Bengal).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) The term "Amils" was associated with which of the following?

- a) Revenue officers
- b) Military officer
- c) Treasurer
- d) Accountants

ANS: A

Explanation: The land revenue administration was very well organised and revenue officers were called Amils while Qanungo were the officials in charge of maintaining revenue records.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.8) With reference to Sher Shah, which of the following highway/s is/are built by him?

1. Sonargaon to Sind
2. Agra to Burhampur
3. Agra to Devagiri

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: Sher Shah also improved the communications by building roads, called arteries of the empire. He laid four important highways. They were:

- Sonargaon to Sind: He restored the old imperial road (the Grant Trunk road by Ashoka) and also restored the Uttarapatha which connected Tamralipti (Bengal) to Purushpur (Peshawar).
- Agra to Burhampur.
- Jodhpur to Chittor.
- Lahore to Multan.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) “Pabitora Wildlife Sanctuary” is recently seen in news is located at?

- a) Assam
- b) Nagaland
- c) Manipur
- d) Tripura

ANS: A

Explanation: Pabitora Wildlife Sanctuary is known for holding the highest density of Greater One Horned Rhinoceros in the country.

- Located in the sub-urbs of the capital city of Guwahati, it is considered a success story in terms of conservation and protection of the land of the Rhino.
- The Sanctuary consists of the Rajamayong Reserve Forest and Pabitora Reserve Forest. The Rajamayong hills harbor several species including Leopard, Capped Langur, Porcupine, Pangolin, etc.

Source: <https://www.pobitorasafari.in/>

Q.10) Deepar Beel Wildlife Sanctuary is often seen in news is located at?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Assam
- c) West Bengal
- d) Meghalaya

ANS: B

Explanation: Located in the western boundary of Guwahati city, Deepar Beel Sanctuary is the only Ramsar Site in the State. It is a picturesque wetland of 4.14 sq. kms.

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- It is barely 18 kms. away from the heart of Guwahati city and well known for its pristine beauty & exceptional avifaunal diversity.
- Fringed by the Rani-Garbhanga Reserved Forests with mixed deciduous to patches of semi evergreen forests on its southern edge, it offers a rare sight where one sees a fascinating convergence of both wetland and forest eco-system.

Source: <https://assam.gov.in/about-us/406#Deepar>



Mughal Rule

Q.1) With reference to Mughal Rule in India, which of the following is/are achievement/s of Babur?

1. Established an all-India Empire by breaking the power of the Rajput Confederacy.
2. He popularised the use of gun powder.
3. He was a devoted follower of Naqshbandiya Sufi Khwaja Ubaidullah Ahrar.

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: Significance of Babur's Advent into India: Security from External Invasions from North-West Frontier: For the first time after the downfall of the Kushana Empire, Kabul and Gandhar became integral parts of the Mughal Empire.

- Established an all-India Empire by breaking the power of the Rajput Confederacy. Introduced new mode of warfare and led to the popularisation of gun powder, cavalry, and artillery in India.
- He led by example and was always prepared to share the hardships of his soldiers.
- Though an orthodox Sunni, he was neither bigoted and nor led by religious divines. He was a devoted follower of Naqshbandiya Sufi Khwaja Ubaidullah Ahrar.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) Who among the following was written/authored the "Humayun-nama"?

- a) Bairam Khan
- b) Gulbadan Begum
- c) Haji Begum
- d) Hamida Banu Begum

ANS: B

Explanation: Humayun's half-sister, Gulbadan Begum, wrote Humayun-nama.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding Sher Shah Suri:

1. He was the founder of the Sur dynasty.
2. He defeated the Jahangir at battle of Chausa.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: A

Explanation: Sher Shah Suri (c.1486–1545 CE): Founder of the Sur dynasty and also the second Afghan Empire (after the Lodhis) whose original name was Farid. He was the son of Hasan Khan, a jagirdar of Sasaram in South Bihar (Jaunpur).

- He gradually increased his influence and defeated Sultan Mahmud Shah of Bengal (Battle of Surajgarh) and emerged as the most powerful Afghan military commander in the eastern provinces.
- As we have discussed earlier, this brought him in conflict with Mughal emperor Humayun and he adopted the title of Sher Shah after defeating Humayun in the Battle of Chausa, thus declaring himself as an independent king.
- He defeated Humayun again in the Battle of Kannauj and proclaimed himself as Emperor of Hindustan at the age of 54.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) Which of the following pair/s is/are correctly matched?

1. Diwan-i- Wizarat : War department
2. Diwan-i-Rasalat : Foreign Affairs
3. Diwan-i-Insha : Communications

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: C

Explanation: Sher Shah's Administration (c.1540–1545 CE): Although his rule lasted for only five years, he organised a brilliant administrative system which served as inspiration to not only the Mughal administration but to the British too.

The king was assisted by four important ministers:

- Diwan-i- Wizarat – Also called Wazir, in charge of Revenue and Finance.
- Diwan-i-Ariz – In charge of the Army.
- Diwan-i-Rasalat – Foreign Minister
- Diwan-i-Insha – Minister for Communications.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) With reference to Akbar rule in India, which of the following is/are built by him?

1. Fatehpur Sikri
2. Temple of Govindadeva at Vrindavan
3. Jahangiri Mahal in Agra fort

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: During the reign of Akbar, many indigenous art styles were encouraged leading to the common use of sandstone, the use of arches (mainly in a decorative form) and the decoration that comprised mainly of boldly carved or inlaid patterns complemented by brightly coloured patterns on the interiors. He built the Agra fort in red sandstone.

- He built Fatehpur Sikri (city of victory) near Agra, and a palace-cum-fort complex in it. Many buildings in Gujarati and Bengali styles are found in this complex.
- Built his own tomb at Sikandra (near Agra), which was completed by Jahangir. Built the temple of Govindadeva at Vrindavan.
- Built the Jahangiri Mahal in Agra fort, according to Hindu design based on Man Mandir.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) With reference to Mughal art, who among the following is/are painters in Akbar court?

1. Mir Sayyid Ali
2. Miskina
3. Jamshed Basawan

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: Akbar organised painting in imperial karkhanas and also introduced European style. Indian colours such as peacock blue, Indian red began to be used.

- He invited a large number of painters from different parts of the country to his court. Both Hindus and Muslims joined in this work.
- Mir Sayyid Ali, Abdal Samad, Farukh Beg, Bhusrau Kuli, Miskina, Jamshed Basawan, and Daswant (painted Razim Namah, the Persian Mahabharata) were the prominent painters.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) With reference to the Mughal rule in India, the term “Barids” was related to?

- a) Intelligence officers
- b) Revenue officers
- c) Agriculture labor
- d) Irrigation officials

ANS: A

Explanation: The Mir Bakshi was also the head of the intelligence and information agencies of the empire.

- Barids (intelligence officers) and Waqia-navis (news reporters) were posted to all the parts of the empire.
- Their reports were presented to the emperor at the court through Mir Bakshi.
- He kept a strict watch over proper maintenance of the sanctioned size of armed contingents and war equipage by the mansabdars.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.8) With reference to Mughal Administration, the term “Sarkar” is related to?

- a) Province
- b) District
- c) Division
- d) Village

ANS: B

Explanation: The Mughal Empire was divided into twelve subas or provinces by Akbar. The empire was divided into:

- *Suba* (province) → *Subedar* (Governor) " "
- ↓
- *Sarkar* (District) → *Faujdar* (Law and order) and *Amalguzar* (Assessment and collection of the land revenue)
- ↓
- *Parganas* (sub- districts) → *Shiqdar* (Executive officer).
- ↓
- *Village* → *Muqaddam* (village head man) " "

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) With reference to Mughal Administration, the term “Merwars” is related to?

- a) Postal runners
- b) Domestic labour
- c) Farming community
- d) Gold smiths

ANS: A

Explanation: There were some other officers also who were appointed at the provincial level. Darogai-i- Dak was responsible for maintaining the communication channel. He used to pass on letters to the court through the Merwars (postal runners).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.10) “Dudhwa National Park” is recently seen in news is related to?

- a) Assam
- b) West Bengal
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Uttar Pradesh

ANS: D

Explanation: The Dudhwa National Park is a national park in the Terai belt of marshy grasslands in northern Uttar Pradesh, India.

It stretches over an area of 490.3 km², with a buffer zone of 190 km². It is part of the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve in the Kheri and Lakhimpur districts.

Source: FORUMIAS

The Mughal Rule

Q.1) With reference to Mughal Administration, the empire was/were divided into different type/s of land?

1. Inam land
2. Khalisa land
3. Jagir land

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: The Mughals retained many features of the administrative system of the Sultanate and Sher Shah Suri's administration.

The administration was highly centralised and the territories of the empire were divided into Jagir, Khalisa (income went directly to the royal exchequer), and Inam (lands allowed to learned and religious men).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) Who among the following look after the maintenance of etiquette at the court, the control of the royal body guard?

- a) Mir Bakshi
- b) Wazir
- c) Mir Saman
- d) Sadr-us Sudur

ANS: C

Explanation: The Mir Saman was the officer in-charge of the royal household and royal karkhanas.

- He was responsible for all kinds of purchases, manufacturing of different articles for the use, and their storage for the royal household.
- Only nobles who enjoyed the complete confidence of the emperor were appointed to this office.
- The maintenance of etiquette at the court, the control of the royal body guard, etc., was all under his supervision.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) The term “Muhtasibs” was associated with which of the following?

- a) Censors of public morals
- b) Intelligence officers
- c) News reporters
- d) Irrigation officers

ANS: A

Explanation: Muhtasibs (censors of public morals) were also appointed to ensure the general observance of the rules of morality. He also used to examine weights and measures and enforce fair prices, etc.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) With respect to Inam grants given by Akbar, consider the following statements:

1. He granted inam lands to all persons, religions and faiths.
2. He made it a rule that half of the inam land should consist of cultivable wasteland.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: The promulgation of Mahzar in c.1580 CE severely restricted his authority as according to Mahzar, Akbar’s view was to prevail in case of conflicting views among religious scholars.

Later, several restrictions were placed on the authority of the Sadar for award of revenue free grants also.

Two striking features of Inam grants were:

- Akbar granted inam lands to all persons, irrespective of their religious faith and beliefs. As a matter of fact, Sanads of grant to various Hindu maths made by Akbar are still preserved.
- Akbar made it a rule that half of the inam land should consist of cultivable wasteland. Thus, the inam holders were encouraged to extend cultivation.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) The term “Mutasaddi” was associated with which of the following?

- a) Governor of port
- b) Revenue officials
- c) Royal guards
- d) Spies

ANS: A

Explanation: The port administration was independent of the provincial authority. The governor of the port was called Mutasaddi who was directly appointed by the Emperor.

The Mutasaddi collected taxes on merchandise and maintained a customs house. He also supervised the mint house at the port.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) With reference to mughal administration, the “Bandobast system” was related to?

- a) Spy system
- b) Land revenue system
- c) Farming types
- d) Army formation system

ANS: B

Explanation: The land revenue system adopted by Akbar was largely based on Sher Shah’s system but with slight modifications and was called Zabti or Bandobast system, which was further improved by Raja Todar Mal.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Dahsala System”:

1. It was introduced by Humayun.
2. Revenue was fixed on the average yield of land assessed on the basis of past ten years.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: In c.1580 CE, Akbar introduced the Dahsala System under which revenue was fixed on the average yield of land assessed on the basis of past ten years (dah years).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.8) With reference to land revenue system, which of the following is/are type/s of lands?

1. Polaj
2. Parati
3. Banjar

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: The land was divided into four categories –

- Polaj (cultivated every year)
- Parati (fallow, once in two years): Parati land paid at the full polaj rate when it was cultivated.
- Chachar (once in three or four years)
- Banjar (once in five or more years).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) The term “Khudkasht” was associated with which of the following?

- a) Land owned peasants
- b) Slave labours
- c) Domestic labours
- d) Agricultural labours

ANS: A

Explanation: The peasants who owned the land they tilled were called Khudkasht who paid land revenue at customary rates.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.10) “Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary” is recently seen in news is located at?

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Karnataka
- d) Goa

ANS: A

Explanation: Around 32 km from Thiruvananthapuram, one comes across 12,000 hectares of natural vegetation in the form of the Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary.

- It offers a rare chance to view flora and fauna alongside numerous trekking options. People love going up the 1868m high Agasthyamala Peak which is a famous picnic spot as well.
- The exotic view should not be missed at any cost as the fragile slopes and flat meadows make for an enchanting sight.

Source: FORUMIAS

The Mughal Rule – Art & Administration

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Mansabdari system”:

1. Under the system, every officer was assigned a rank.
2. The lowest rank was 10 and the highest was 10,000 for the nobles.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: A

Explanation: Akbar introduced the Mansabdari system in his administration. Under this system, every officer (Mansabdar) was assigned a rank (mansab).

- The lowest rank was 10 and the highest was 5,000 for the nobles. Princes of royal blood received even higher ranks.
- For instance, Raja Man Singh and Mirza Aziz Koka were honoured with the rank of 7,000 each.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following statement is NOT correct about Mansabdari System?

- a) The mansab rank was hereditary.
- b) All appointments and promotions as well as dismissals to Mansabdari system were directly made by the emperor.
- c) Zat means personal and apart from fixing the personal status of a person in the administration hierarchy, it also decided salary due to him.
- d) Sawar rank indicated the number of cavalymen (sawars) a person was required to maintain.

ANS: A

Explanation: The mansab rank was not hereditary. All appointments and promotions as well as dismissals were directly made by the emperor. The ranks were further divided into two – zat and sawar.

- Zat means personal and apart from fixing the personal status of a person in the administration hierarchy, it also decided salary due to him.
- Sawar rank indicated the number of cavalymen (sawars) a person was required to maintain.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) Which of the following pair/s is/are correct?

1. Tankha Jagirs : Land was given in lieu of salaries
2. Mashrut Jagirs : Land was given to fulfill certain conditions
3. Altamgha Jagirs : Land was given to Muslim nobles in their family towns

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: There were various types of jagirs:

- Tankha Jagirs: Which were given in lieu of salaries and they were transferable every three to four years.
- Mashrut Jagirs: Which were given on certain conditions
- Watan Jagirs: Which were assigned to zamindar or rajas in their local dominions. Watan Jagirs were hereditary and nontransferable. When a zamindar was made a Mansabdar, he was given Tankha Jagir apart from his Watan Jagir at another place, if the salary of his rank was more than the income from his Watan Jagir.
- Altamgha Jagirs: Which were given to Muslim nobles in their family towns or place of birth.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) Who among the following is NOT contemporary of Akbar?

- a) Pursottam Das
- b) Dastur Maharji Rana
- c) Monserrate
- d) Tikkanna

ANS: D

Explanation: In c.1575 CE, he constructed the Ibadat Khana (Hall of prayers) at his new capital Fatehpur Sikri wherein Akbar invited learned scholars from all religions like Hinduism, Jainism, Christianity, and Zoroastrianism and used to conduct religious discussions with them.

Some of the scholars were:

- Pursottam Das – Hindu
- Dastur Maharji Rana – Parsi (of Navsari)
- Hira Vijaya Suri – Jain saint of Kathiawar
- Aquaviva and Monserrate – Christian (sent by the Portuguese on Akbar's request)

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) The term “Ibadat Khana” was related to which of the following?

- a) Hall of prayers
- b) Political system of Mughals
- c) Farming method of Persians
- d) War policy of Mughals

ANS: A

Explanation: In c.1575 CE, he constructed the Ibadat Khana (Hall of prayers) at his new capital Fatehpur Sikri wherein Akbar invited learned scholars from all religions like Hinduism, Jainism, Christianity, and Zoroastrianism and used to conduct religious discussions with them.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) With reference to Akbar religious policy, which of the following event was taken place earliest?

- a) Abolishing Jiziya
- b) Issuing Infallibility Decree
- c) Construction of Ibadat Khana
- d) Promulgation of Din-i-Ilahi

ANS: A

Explanation: In the beginning of his life, Akbar was a pious Muslim. He regularly visited the shrine of Sheikh Muinuddin Chisti at Ajmer.

- Later, he became a sceptical Muslim. Soon after marrying Jodha Bai of Amber, he abolished the pilgrim tax and in c.1562 CE, he abolished jiziya.
- In c.1575 CE, he constructed the Ibadat Khana (Hall of prayers) at his new capital Fatehpur Sikri.
- In c.1579 CE, he issued the “Infallibility Decree” by which he asserted his religious powers.
- In c.1582 CE, he promulgated a new religion called Din-i-Ilahi/Tauhindi-Ilahi (Divine Monotheism), which believes in one God and in Sul-iKul/peace to all.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) Who among the following was written the Akbar Nama?

- a) Abul Fazl
- b) Abul Faizi
- c) Fakir Aziao Din
- d) Raja Todar Mal

ANS: A

Explanation: Abul Fazl wrote Ain-i-Akbari and Akbar Nama. Lead Mughal imperial army in its wars in Deccan.

He was murdered by Bir Singh Bundela, on the orders of Prince Salim.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.8) “He was a Great musician, Hindu of Gwalior, served as a court musician to King Ramachandra” – describes?

- a) Tansen
- b) Mahesh Das
- c) Raja Todarmal
- d) Raja Man Singh

ANS: A

Explanation: Tansen: Great musician, Hindu of Gwalior, served as a court musician to King Ramachandra.

- Accepted Islam at the hand of great Sufi mystic saint Muhammad Ghaus of Gwalior.
- It is believed that he could bring rain and fire through singing the ragas Megh Malhar and Deepak respectively.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) Who among the following was NOT part of Akbar’s Navaratnas?

- a) Nannayya
- b) Tansen
- c) Mahesh Das
- d) Fakir Aziao Din

ANS: A

Explanation: Nannaya Bhattaraka was a Telugu poet and the author of Andhra Mahabharatam, a Telugu retelling of the Sanskrit-language Mahabharata.

Nannaya is generally considered the first poet of Telugu language. He was patronized by Rajaraja Narendra of Rajamahendravaram.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.10) “Betla National Park” is recently seen in news is located at?

- a) Assam
- b) West Bengal
- c) Bihar
- d) Jharkhand

ANS: D

Explanation: Betla National Park is a national park located in the Chota Nagpur Plateau of the Latehar district of the Indian state of Jharkhand, in India.

The park boasts a wide variety of wild life. “Betla” is an acronym of the following words: bison, elephant, tiger, leopard, axis-axis(Chital).

Source: FORUMIAS

The Mughal Rule

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding architecture during Jahangir:

1. The practice of decorating the walls with floral designs made of semi-precious stones started during his reign.
2. He laid gardens such as the Shalimar and Nishant gardens in Kashmir.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: Art and Architecture during Jahangir's reign: The practice of putting up buildings in marble and decorating the walls with floral designs made of semi-precious stones (known as Pietra Durra) started during his reign.

- Noor Jahan built the tomb of her father Itmad-ud-dulah at Agra.
- Jahangir built Moti Masjid at Lahore and his own mausoleum at Lahore. He laid a number of gardens such as the Shalimar and Nishant gardens in Kashmir.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) Who among the following is/are the painters during Mughal rule?

1. Bishan das
2. Ustad Mansur
3. Abul Hasan

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: Mughal painting reached its zenith under Jahangir. He employed a number of painters like Abul Hasan, Bishan Das (regarded as master of portraits), Madhu, Anant, Manohar, Govardhan and Ustad Mansur (specialist in animal painting).

- The use of 'Halo' or 'Divine lights' behind king's head started under him.
- Apart from painting the scenes of hunting, battles and royal courts, progress was made in portrait painting and paintings of animals.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Dara Shikoh translated the Bhagavat Gita and Upanishads into the Persian language.
2. The Red Fort of Delhi was the creation of Jahangir.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: A

Explanation: The climax of fort-building reached during the reign of Shah Jahan. The famous Red Fort at Delhi with its Rang Mahal, Diwan-i-Am, and Diwan-i-Khas was his creation.

- He also built the Jama Masjid in Delhi, Shalimar Bagh in Lahore, and the city of Shahjahanabad.
- Shah Jahan also patronised many writers and historians like Inayat Khan, who wrote Shah Jahan Nama.
- His son Dara Shikoh translated the Bhagavat Gita and Upanishads into the Persian language.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) Who among the following was the French traveler?

- a) Peter Mundy
- b) Tavernier
- c) Manucci
- d) Abdur Razzak

ANS: B

Explanation: Shah Jahan's reign is described by: French travellers – Bernier and Tavernier. Italian traveller – Manucci and Peter Mundy described famine during Shah Jahan's time.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) Who among the following was called as "Darvesh/ Zindapir"?

- a) Shah Jhan
- b) Jahngir
- c) Dara Shikoh
- d) Aurangzeb

ANS: D

Explanation: Aurangzeb was highly devoted to his religion and conducted prayers five times a day, strictly observing the Ramzan fasting.

- In fact, he earned money for his personal expenses by copying the Quran and selling those copies.
- Due to all these qualities, he was called Darvesh/ Zindapir (a living saint).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) Which of the following is/are trading community/communities?

1. Bohra
2. Banjaras
3. Banik

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: The Indian trading classes were large in numbers, well-spread throughout the country and were well organised and highly professional.

- Seth, bohra traders specialised in long distance trade while local traders were called banik.
- Another class of traders known as banjaras, were specialised in carrying bulk goods and used to move to long distances with their goods on the back of oxen.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) Which of the following good/s is/are imported during Mughal rule in India?

1. War horses
2. Watches
3. Copper

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: India, during the Mughal period, witnessed further intensification of her foreign trade owing to the advent of the European trading companies and their direct participation in the Euro- Asian and Intra-Asian trade.

- India had trade relations with central Asia, Persia, and Europe. Her major export included textiles, saltpetre, sugar, opium and spices.
- In comparison to her export, her imports were limited to select commodities like war horses, luxury items such as ivory, silver, silk, porcelain, good quality wine, carpets, perfume, glass, watches, silver utensils, tin and copper, etc.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

PRELIMS MARATHON COMPILATION FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, [FIRST WEEK] 2023

Q.8) Consider the following statements:

1. Hundi is a paper document promising payment of money after a fixed period of time at a discount and certain place.
2. The sarrafs were specialised in dealing with hundis.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: The movement of goods was also facilitated by the growth of a financial system which permitted easy transmission of money from one part of the country to another.

- This was done through the use of hundis, a paper document promising payment of money after a fixed period of time at a discount and certain place.
- The hundis often included insurance which was charged at different rates on the basis of value of the goods, destination, means of transport (land, river, or sea), etc.
- The sarrafs (shroffs) who specialised in changing money, also specialised in dealing with hundis.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) “Simlipal Tiger Reserve” is often seen in news is located at?

- a) Odisha
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Karnataka

ANS: A

Explanation: Simlipal is a tiger reserve in the Mayurbhanj district in the Indian state of Odisha. It is part of the Mayurbhanj Elephant Reserve, which includes three protected areas—Similipal Tiger Reserve, Hadgarh Wildlife Sanctuary and Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary.

Source: FORUMIAS

Q.10) The “Rayala Elephant Reserve” is recently seen in news is located at?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Assam

ANS: A

Explanation:

List of Notified Elephant Reserves in India (As on November 2022)

S. No.	Elephant Reserve	State	Date Notification	Total Area (Sq. Km)
1	Rayala ER	Andhra Pradesh	09.12.2003	766
2	Kameng ER	Arunachal Pradesh	19.06.2002	1892
3	South Arunachal ER	Arunachal Pradesh	29.02.2008	1957.50
4	Sonitpur ER	Assam	06.03.2003	1420
5	Dihing-Patkai ER	Assam	17.04.2003	937
6	Kaziranga – Karbi Anglong ER	Assam	17.04.2003	3270
7	Dhansiri-Lungding ER	Assam	19.04.2003	2740
8	Chirang-Ripu ER	Assam	07.03.2003	2600

Source: http://www.wiienvis.nic.in/Database/ElephantReserves_8226.aspx

The Bhakthi and the Sufi Movement

Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Bhakti movement”:

1. It considered the austerities preached by the Jains and the Buddhists.
2. It is characterised by the writings of its poet-saints, the Shaivaite Nayannars and the Vaishnavaite Alvars.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: The Bhakti Movement had its genesis in southern India in the 7th and 12th century CE.

- It was in south India that Bhakti grew from a religious tradition to a popular movement, based on notions of religious equality and broad-based social participation.
- It is characterized by the writings of its poet-saints, the Shaivaite Nayannars and the Vaishnavaite Alvars, who preached the Bhakti cult under the Pallavas, Pandyas, and the Cholas.
- They disregarded the austerities preached by the Jains and the Buddhists and preached that personal devotion to god was the only means of salvation.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.2) Which of the following is/are idea/s of Bhakti movement?

1. Non-ritualistic
2. Taught in the local languages
3. open to all

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: The Bhakti saints usually emerged from lower castes, preached a religion which was non-ritualistic and open to all without any distinction of caste or creed, encouraged women to join in the gatherings, and taught in the local vernacular languages.

These ideas of Bhakti were carried to the north by scholars as well as by saints.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.3) Which of the following is/are characteristic/s of “Sufi Movement”?

1. Monotheism
2. Equality and brotherhood of man
3. Class divisions

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: B

Explanation: The distinctive characteristics of Islam such as Monotheism or belief in one God, equality and brotherhood of man, and rejection of rituals and class divisions certainly influenced the Bhakti Movement of this era.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.4) Who among the following was/were influenced by sufi teachings?

1. Kabir
2. Nanak
3. Ramananda

Choose the correct answer from below given codes:

- a) 1 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

ANS: D

Explanation: The preaching of Sufi teachers shaped the thinking of Bhakti reformers like Ramananda, Kabir, and Nanak, as the Bhakti Movement also initiated certain reforms in the society.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.5) Consider the following statements:

1. Saguna poet-saints who composed verses extolling a god with attributes or form.
2. Nirguna those extolling god without and beyond all attributes or form.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: The Bhakti movement is also divided into two different ideological streams of ‘Saguna’(those poet-saints who composed verses extolling a god with attributes or form) and ‘Nirguna’ (those extolling god without and beyond all attributes or form).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Sankaracharya”:

1. He was born in Andhra Desa.
2. He was propounded the Advaita philosophy and Nirgunabrahman.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: B

Explanation: Sankaracharya: Great thinker, distinguished philosopher, and leader of the Hindu revivalist movement of the 9th century, which gave a new orientation to Hinduism.

He was born in Kaladi (Kerala) and propounded the Advaita (Monism) philosophy and Nirgunabrahman (god without attributes).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.7) Considered the following statements regarding “Ramanuja”:

1. He opposed the mayavada of Shankara and advocated the philosophy of Vishista Advaitavada.
2. He founded the Shrivaisnava sect.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: Ramanuja: Born at Sriperumbudur near modern Chennai in the 12th century.

He opposed the mayavada of Shankara and advocated the philosophy of Vishista Advaitavada (qualified monism), and founded the Shrivaisnava sect. According to him, God is Saguna Brahman.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “Vallabhacharya”:

1. He lived at the court of Krishnadeva Raya.
2. He propounded the Shudhadvaita.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

Explanation: Vallabhacharya: Born in Benaras in the 15th century and lived at the court of Krishnadeva Raya. He propounded the Shudhadvaita (pure monism).

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.9) “Surdas” was the disciple of whom among the following?

- a) Vallabhacharya
- b) Ramanuja
- c) Madhavacharya
- d) Nimbraka

ANS: A

Explanation: Surdas was the disciple of Vallabhacharya who was blind but he was largely instrumental in popularising the Krishna cult in north India.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

Q.10) “Satpura Tiger Reserve” is recently seen in news is located at?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Manipur
- d) Meghalaya

ANS: B

Explanation: Satpura Tiger Reserve also known as Satpura National Park is located in the Narmadapuram District of Madhya Pradesh in India. Its name is derived from the Satpura range. It covers an area of 524 km².

Source: FORUMIAS