

ForumIAS

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# Prelims Marathon

1<sup>st</sup> Week Jan, 2024

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*HISTORY*  
*ECONOMICS*  
*POLITY*  
*SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY*  
*GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

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FORUMIAS



## Prelims Marathon Compilation for the Month of January [First Week] 2024

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## **Period from 850 to 1200 CE: Southern India**

**Q.1) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Rashtrakutas were the feudatories of the Western Chalukyas of Vatapi.
2. The greatest ruler of the Rashtrakuta dynasty was Dandidurga.

**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 Rashtrakutas were originally known to be the feudatories of the Western Chalukyas of Vatapi.

- Though Rashtrakutas were early rulers, the greatest ruler of the dynasty was Dandidurga.
- Ruling from a smaller part of Berar, Dandidurga built his career of territorial conquest after the death of Vikramaditya II (733–746 CE), the Chalukya ruler.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.2) Which of the following area earlier known as “Vengi kingdom”?**

- a) Andhra
- b) Kerala
- c) Goa
- d) Assam

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** During the reign of Dhruva (780–794 CE), the Rashtrakuta power reached its zenith.

- After humbling the western Ganga king, Dhruva defeated Dantivarman, the Pallava king.
- The ruler of Vengi (modern Andhra) also had to accept his suzerainty.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.3) He was a patron of literature and he patronised the famous Digambara acharya Jinasena, Sanskrit grammarian Sakatayana and the mathematician Mahaviracharya – describes which Rashtrakuta King?**

- a) Dhruva
- b) Govinda III
- c) Amoghavarsha
- d) Krishna III

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Govinda III was succeeded by his son Amoghavarsha (814–880 CE).

- Amoghavarsha ruled for 64 years and his first twenty years of the rule witnessed endless wars with the Western Gangas.
- Peace returned when Amoghavarsha gave his daughter in marriage to a Ganga prince.
- Amoghavarsha was a patron of literature and he patronised the famous Digambara acharya Jinasena, Sanskrit grammarian Sakatayana and the mathematician Mahaviracharya.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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**Q.4) Who among the following built the famous rock-cut Shiva temple at Ellora?**

- a) Dhruva
- b) Govinda III
- c) Amoghavarsha
- d) Krishna I

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The worship of Shiva and Vishnu was popular during the Rashtrakuta reign. The famous rock-cut Shiva temple at Ellora was built by Krishna I.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding architecture during Rashtrakuta period:**

1. The Ellora cave complex contains the features of Buddhist, Hindu and Jain monuments and art work.
2. Amoghavarsha I espoused Jainism and there are five Jain cave temples at Ellora ascribed to his period.

**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 Rashtrakutas made splendid contributions to Indian art.

- The rockcut shrines at Ellora and Elephanta located in present-day Maharashtra belong to their period.
- The Ellora cave complex contains the features of Buddhist, Hindu and Jain monuments and art work.
- Amoghavarsha I espoused Jainism and there are five Jain cave temples at Ellora ascribed to his period.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.6) The famous “Western Chalukyas” related to which of the following region?**

- a) Odisha
- b) Gujarat
- c) Karnataka
- d) Assam

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The political history of south India during the sixth century to ninth century CE was marked by conflicts between the Chalukyas of Badami, Karnataka (also known as Western Chalukyas), and the Pallavas of Kanchi.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.7) The famous “Aihole inscription” was composed in which of the following language?**

- a) Tamil
- b) Telugu
- c) Sanskrit
- d) Kannada

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Aihole inscription of Pulikesin II composed by his court poet Ravikirti in Sanskrit is among the most important of Chalukyan inscriptions.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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**Q.8) The famous “Vikramarjuna-vijayam” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Pampa
- b) Tikkanna
- c) Nannayya
- d) Ravikirti

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Kavirajamarga, a work on poetics in Kannada, Vikramarjuna-vijayam, also called Pampa-bharata, by Pampa in Kannada, which was all of a later period, and Nannaya's Mahabharatam in Telugu also provide useful historical data.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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

- a) Village guards
- b) Village revenue officials
- c) Agricultural labors
- d) Priests

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The traditional revenue officials of the villages were called the nala kavundas. The central figure in village administration was kamunda or pokigan who were appointed by the kings.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding village administration during Chalukya Administration:**

1. The village accountant was karana and he was otherwise called gramani.
2. Law and order of the village was in the hands of a group of people called mahajanam.

**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 village accountant was karana and he was otherwise called gramani.

- Law and order of the village was in the hands of a group of people called mahajanam.
- There was a special officer called mahapurush, in charge of maintaining order and peace of the village.
- Nagarapatis or Purapatis were the officials of the towns.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Period from 1000 to 1200 CE: Northern India**

**Q.1) Which of the following is/are characteristic features considered important by the Rajput clans?**

1. Attachment to land
2. Family
3. Honor

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Attachment to land, family, and 'honour' were the characteristic features considered important by the Rajput clans.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.2) Which of the following is/are Rajput clan/s?**

1. The Pratiharas
2. The Paramaras
3. The Chandellas

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The four Agnikula Rajput clans were:

- The Pratiharas
- The Chahamanas/Chauhans of Ajmer
- The Chandellas of Bundelkhand
- The Paramaras of Malwa

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.3) Who among the following was known as "Rai Pithora"?**

- a) Simharaja
- b) Vighraha raja IV
- c) Prithviraj Chauhan
- d) Yashovarman

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The most famous of all Chauhans, is popularly known as Prithviraj Chauhan or Rai Pithora in the folk legends.

He scored victories over all his neighbours, including the Chandella king Paramardi, Chalukya Bhima II and Gahadvala Jayachandra.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

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**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding Prithviraj Chauhan:**

1. He defeated Muhammad Ghori in the First Battle of Tarain in c.1191 CE.
2. Chandbardai and Jayanaka were court poets of Prithviraj Chauhan.

**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:** Prithviraj Chauhan led an expedition in Bundelkhand against the Chandella ruler and its capital Mahoba and it was in this struggle the famous Chandella warriors Alha and Udal lost their lives.

- Defeated Muhammad Ghori in the First Battle of Tarain in c.1191 CE.
- Two great poems, Prithviraj Raso and Prithviraj Vijaya, were written by his court poets Chandbardai and Jayanaka respectively.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.5) Which of the following temple/s is/are constructed by Chandella rulers?**

1. The Lakshmana Temple
2. The Vishvanatha Temple
3. The Kandariya Mahadeva Temple

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Lakshmana Temple (c. 930–950 CE), the Vishvanatha Temple (c. 999-1002 CE), and the Kandariya Mahadeva Temple (c. 1030 CE) were constructed during the reigns of Chandella rulers Yashovarman, Dhanga, and Vidyadhara respectively.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.6) Who among the following was the founder of the Chandella dynasty?**

- a) Nannuka
- b) Vakpati
- c) Vijayashakti
- d) Yashovarman

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** In the first quarter of the 9th century CE, the dynasty was founded by Nannuka, who was the ruler of a small kingdom and established his capital at Kharjjuravahaka (Khajuraho).

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

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**Q.7) The famous ruler “Bhoja” was associated with which of the following dynasty?**

- a) Chauhans
- b) Paramars
- c) Chandellas
- d) Solankis

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Sindhuraja’s son and Munja’s nephew Bhoja, who is the most celebrated ruler of the Paramara dynasty, and under whom the dynasty reached its zenith.

Under his reign, the Paramaras extended their kingdom from Chittor in the north to upper Konkan in the south, and from the Sabarmati River in the west to Vidisha in the east.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.8) Which Rajputs are also known as the Chalukya family of Gujarat?**

- a) Chauhans
- b) Paramars
- c) Chandellas
- d) Solankis

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Solanki Rajputs are also known as the Chalukya family of Gujarat, which was different from the earlier Chalukyan dynasty of Badami.

It ruled parts of Gujarat and Kathiawar between c.950 and 1300 CE.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.9) The famous Rajput clan “Tomaras” ruled which of the following region?**

- a) Gujarat
- b) Assam
- c) Haryana
- d) Madhya Pradesh

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Tomaras ruled the Hariyana (Haryana) country with their capital at Dhillika (Delhi) and they are believed to be a feudatory of the Pratiharas.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.10) Who among the following wrote “historical chronicle Rajatarangini”?**

- a) Kalidasa
- b) Ravikiriti
- c) Kalhana
- d) Bilhana

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Much of the history of Kashmir and North-west India is deduced from the legendary and historical chronicle Rajatarangini (which means ‘the river of kings’).

It was probably written in 12th century CE in Sanskrit by a Kashmiri Brahmana called Kalhana, though not much is known about him apart from what is written in the book.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**



## **Heterodox philosophy of India**

**Q.1) Consider the following statements:**

1. From the 7th century onwards, the cult of Bhakti began to dominate the religious life of the South Indians.
2. The word Bhakti comes from the root bhaj, which means to share or participate.

**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:** From the 7th century onwards, the cult of Bhakti began to dominate the religious life of the South Indians and these saints played a major role in propagating it.

The word Bhakti comes from the root bhaj, which means to share or participate.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.2) The famous “Lingayat or Vir Shaiva movement” was started from?**

- a) Andhra
- b) Karnataka
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Maharashtra

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Another popular movement which arose during the 12th century was the Lingayat or Vir Shaiva movement.

Its founder was Basava and his nephew Channabasava, who lived at the court of the Kalachuri kings of Karnataka.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.3) Which of the following activity/activities is/are opposed by the “Lingayats”?**

1. Caste system
2. Child marriage
3. Fasts

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Lingayats were worshippers of Shiva and established their faith after bitter disputes with the Jainas.

They strongly opposed the caste system and child marriage, and rejected feasts, fasts, pilgrimage and sacrifices. They supported widow remarriage.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

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**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Siddhas”:**

1. They believed in the oneness of the transcendental being in the world as well as in charity towards men.
2. A siddha obtains yogic powers called siddhi by constant practice of certain yogic disciplines and tapasya.

**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:** Siddhas attitude against idol worship and their stress on yoga and right conduct distinguished them from the Bhakti cults.

- They believed in the oneness of the transcendental being (monotheism) in the world as well as in charity towards men.
- The Siddha saints were mostly Shaiva, who professed and practised an unorthodox type of sadhana (spiritual practices) to attain liberation.
- A siddha obtains yogic powers called siddhi by constant practice of certain yogic disciplines and tapasya.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.5) The term “Varmam” associated with which of the following?**

- a) Martial arts
- b) Farming method
- c) Slavery
- d) Village priests

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Siddhas are also believed to be the founders of Varmam, a kind of martial art for self-defence and medical treatment simultaneously.

Varmam are specific points located in the human body, which, when pressed in different ways can give various results, such as disabling an attacker in self-defence, or balancing a physical condition as an easy first-aid medical treatment.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.6) Which of the following philosophy school has place for God in it?**

- a) Samkhya
- b) Nyaya
- c) Uttar Mimansa
- d) Yoga

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Hindu philosophy is generally classified into six orthodox or classical schools (astika) and three heterodox (nastika) schools.

- The basic difference between these two branches of philosophy schools is based on the recognition of the Vedas: the orthodox schools recognize the authority of the Vedas, while the heterodox schools do not believe in the authority of Vedas.
- Out of these nine systems, eight are atheistic as there is no place for God in them and only the Uttara Mimansa, which is also called Vedanta, has a place for God in it.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

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**Q.7) Which of the following was the oldest philosophy school?**

- a) Samkhya
- b) Nyaya
- c) Uttar Mimansa
- d) Yoga

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Samkhya: Literally means 'count'. Oldest school of philosophy, founded by Kapila.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Yoga school founded by Patanjali.
2. Practice of control over pleasure, senses and bodily organs is central theme of yoga school.

**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 Yoga school founded by Patanjali, which presents a practical path for the realisation of the self based on the method of physical and mental discipline by releasing Purusha from Prakriti. Practice of control over pleasure, senses and bodily organs is central theme of this school.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.9) Who among the following propounded the Vaisheshika philosophy?**

- a) Kapila
- b) Patanjali
- c) Kanada
- d) Kalidasa

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Vaisheshika: This school propounded by Kanada gives importance to discussion of dravya or material elements.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.10) Which of the following school signifies the art of reasoning and interpretation?**

- a) Samkhya
- b) Nyaya
- c) Yoga
- d) Mimansa

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Mimansa: Also called Purva Mimamsa which literally signifies the art of reasoning and interpretation.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

## Delhi Sultanate

**Q.1) The term “Mappillais” associated with which of the following?**

- a) Malabar
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra
- d) Bengal

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Arabs who married Malabar women and settled down on the West Coast were called Mappillais (sons-in-law).

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.2) Which dynasty of Delhi Sultanate has longest period of ruling in India?**

- a) Slave
- b) Tughlaq
- c) Sayyid
- d) Lodi

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Sultanate (1206–1526) itself was not homogenous. Its rulers belonged to five distinct categories: (a) Slave Dynasty (1206-1290) (b) Khalji Dynasty (1290-1320) (c) Tughlaq Dynasty (1320- 1414) (d) Sayyid Dynasty (1414-1451) and (e) Lodi Dynasty (1451-1526).

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.3) The famous “Tarikh-Al-Hind” was written by whom among the following?**

- a) Al-Beruni
- b) Minhaj us Siraj
- c) Ziauddin Barani
- d) Amir Khusrau

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Al-Beruni: Tarikh-Al-Hind (Indian Philosophy and Religion written in Arabic).

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.4) Who among the following wrote the famous “Kitab Ul Hind”?**

- a) Al-Beruni
- b) Minhaj us Siraj
- c) Ziauddin Barani
- d) Amir Khusrau

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Al-Beruni, mathematician, philosopher, astronomer, and historian, came to India along with Mahmud of Ghazni.

- He learned Sanskrit, studied religious and philosophical texts before composing his work Kitab Ul Hind.

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- He also translated the Greek work of Euclid into Sanskrit. He transmitted Aryabhata's magnum opus Aryabattiyam (the thesis that earth's rotation around its axis creates day and night) to the West.
- He was the inter-civilization connect between India and the rest of the world.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.5) The famous king "Jayachandra" belongs to which Rajput dynasty?**

- a) Tomaras
- b) Paramaras
- c) Gahadavalas
- d) Chandelas

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** By the beginning of the tenth century two powerful Rajput Kingdoms Gurjar Pratihara and Rashtrakutas had lost their power.

- Tomaras (Delhi), Chauhans (Rajasthan), Solankis (Gujarat), Paramaras (Malwa), Gahadavalas (Kanauj) and Chandelas (Bundelkhand) had become important ruling dynasties of Northern India.
- Vighraharaja and Prithviraj, two prominent Chauhan rulers, Bhoja of Paramara dynasty, Ghadavala king Jayachandra, Yasovarman, Kirti Varman of Chandelas were all strong in their own regions.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.6) Which of the following was/were belongs to "Slave Dynasty"?**

1. Qutb-ud-din Aibak
2. Iltutmish
3. Balban

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** After the death of Ghori there were many contenders for power. One was Qutb-ud-din Aibak, who ascended the throne in Delhi with his father-in-law Yildiz remaining a threat to him for the next ten years.

The three important rulers of slave dynasty are Qutb-ud-din Aibak, Iltutmish and Balban.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.7) Which of the following dynasty called as Mamluk dynasty?**

- a) Slave
- b) Tughlaq
- c) Sayyid
- d) Lodi

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Slave dynasty is also known as the Mamluk dynasty.

- Mamluk means property.
- It is also the term for the Arabic designation of a slave.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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**Q.8) Who among the following was died while playing the game of “chaugan”?**

- a) Qutb-ud-din Aibak
- b) Iltutmish
- c) Balban
- d) Raziya sultana

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Qutb-ud-din Aibak was enslaved as a boy and sold to Sultan Muhammad Ghori at Ghazni.

- Impressed with his ability and loyalty the Sultan elevated him to the rank of viceroy of the conquered provinces in India.
- Muhammad Bin Bhakthiyar Khalji, a Turkish general from Afghanistan assisted him in conquering Bihar and Bengal.
- Qutb-ud-din Aibak reigned for four years (1206 to 1210 CE) and died in 1210 in Lahore in an accident while playing chaugan.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.9) Who among the following was relied more on the “Bandagan” for his military campaigns?**

- a) Qutb-ud-din Aibak
- b) Iltutmish
- c) Balban
- d) Raziya sultana

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Iltutmish's reliance on his elite military slaves (Bandagan) and his practice of appointing them for the posts of governors and generals in far-off places did not change despite the migration into North India of experienced military commanders from distinguished lineages fleeing from the Mongols.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) Under whose reign the “Qutb Minar” was completed?**

- a) Qutb-ud-din Aibak
- b) Iltutmish
- c) Balban
- d) Raziya sultana

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Iltutmish reign was remarkable for the completion of Qutb Minar, a colossal victory tower of 243 feet at Delhi, and for the introduction of copper and silver tanka, the two basic coins of the Sultanate period.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

## **Delhi Sultanate – II**

**Q.1) The “province of Lakhnauti” was famous during medieval period related to?**

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Gujarat
- c) Bengal
- d) Malabar

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The slave governors located in the eastern province of Lakhnauti (modern Bengal) and the Punjab and Sind provinces in the west were the first to break free from Delhi.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.2) Consider the following statements regarding “Raziya Sultana “:**

- 1. She was daughter of Iltutmish.
- 2. She ruled for fifteen 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: A**

**Explanation:** Raziya was daughter of Iltutmish, who ascended the throne after a lot of hurdles put up by the Turkish nobles.

- According to Ibn Battuta, the Moroccan traveller, ‘Raziya rode on horseback as men ride, armed with a bow and quiver, and surrounded by courtiers. She did not veil her face.’
- Yet Raziya ruled for only three and half years.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.3) The term “mafuzi” was related to which of the following?**

- a) Slaves
- b) Labors
- c) Rent free lands
- d) Tax

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Barani mentions Balban’s campaigns in the regions surrounding Delhi and in the doab. During these campaigns forests were cleared, new roads and forts constructed, the newly deforested lands given to freshly recruited Afghans and others as rent-free lands (mafuzi) and brought under cultivation.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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**Q.4) “Meos, a Muslim community from north-western region, living in the heavily forested region around Mewat were plundering the area with impunity” – who among the following controlled the Meos?**

- a) Raziya Sultana
- b) Balban
- c) Nasir al-Din Mahmud II
- d) Iltutmish

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** When Balban took over the reins of power the law and order situation in the Ganga, Jamuna Doab regions had deteriorated badly.

- The Rajput zamindars had set up forts and defied the orders of the Sultan.
- Meos, a Muslim community from north-western region, living in the heavily forested region around Mewat was plundering the area with impunity.
- Balban took it as a challenge and personally undertook a campaign to destroy the Mewatis. Meos were pursued and slaughtered mercilessly

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.5) Ala-ud-din, a nephew and son in-law of Jalaluddin Khalji, who was appointed governor of Kara, invaded which of the following region and this campaign yielded a huge booty?**

- a) Mewat
- b) Ajmer
- c) Malwa
- d) Bengal

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Ala-ud-din, a nephew and son-in-law of Jalaluddin Khalji, who was appointed governor of Kara, invaded Malwa and this campaign yielded a huge booty.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding nobles during sultanate period:**

1. In the Delhi Sultanate, nobles were drawn from different tribes and nationalities.
2. Iltutmish organized a Corps of Forty, all drawn from Turkish nobility.

**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:** In the Delhi Sultanate, nobles were drawn from different tribes and nationalities like the Turkish, Persian, Arabic, Egyptian and Indian Muslims.

Iltutmish organized a Corps of Forty, all drawn from Turkish nobility and selected persons from this Forty for appointments in military and civil administration.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**



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**Q.7) Which of the following measure/s taken by Ala-ud-din khilji?**

1. Ala-ud-din's took decision to deprive the nobles of the wealth they had accumulated.
2. Marriage alliances between families of noble men were permitted only with the consent of the Sultan.
3. He ordered that villages held by proprietary right, as free gift, or as a religious endowment be brought back under the royal authority and control.

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The vast annexation of territories was followed by extensive administrative reforms aimed at stabilising the government.

- Ala-ud-din's first measure was to deprive the nobles of the wealth they had accumulated.
- It had provided them the leisure and means to hatch conspiracies against the Sultan.
- Marriage alliances between families of noble men were permitted only with the consent of the Sultan.
- The Sultan ordered that villages held by proprietary right, as free gift, or as a religious endowment be brought back under the royal authority and control.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding administrative measures of Ala-ud-din khilji:**

1. He collected land taxes directly from the cultivators.
2. The tax pressure of Ala-ud-din was on the rich and not on the poor.

**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:** Ala-ud-din collected land taxes directly from the cultivators.

- The village headman who traditionally enjoyed the right to collect them was now deprived of it.
- The tax pressure of Ala-ud-din was on the rich and not on the poor.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding market reforms of Ala-ud-din khilji:**

1. He was the first Sultan to pay his soldiers in cash.
2. He set up an elaborate intelligence network to collect information on black-marketing and hoarding.

**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:** Ala-ud-din was the first Sultan to pay his soldiers in cash rather than give them a share of booty.

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- As the soldiers were paid less, the prices had to be monitored and controlled. Moreover, Ala-ud-din had to maintain a huge standing army.
- In order to restrict prices of essential commodities, Ala-ud-din set up an elaborate intelligence network to collect information on black-marketing and hoarding.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) The “Dudhwa National Park” is often seen in news located at?**

- a) Himachal Pradesh
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Andhra Pradesh

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Dudhwa National Park is a protected area in the state of Uttar Pradesh, India, that was established in 1977.

- The park covers an area of 490 square kilometers and is located in the district of Lakhimpur Kheri, along the Indo-Nepal border.
- Today, Dudhwa National Park is home to a diverse range of wildlife, including tigers, leopards, elephants, sloth bears, and over 450 species of birds.
- The park is also known for its unique ecosystem, which includes grasslands, swamps, and dense forests.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Provincial Kingdoms of southern India

**Q.1) Which of the following state represents the “Kakatiyas of Warangal”?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Telangana
- c) Malabar
- d) Assam

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** At the beginning of the fourteenth century, when the Delhi Sultanate was preparing to extend southwards, the Deccan and south India were divided into four kingdoms: the Yadavas of Devagiri (Western Deccan or present Maharashtra), the Hoysalas of Dvarasamudra (Karnataka), the Kakatiyas of Warangal (eastern part of present Telangana) and the Pandyas of Madurai (southern Tamil Nadu).

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.2) The famous “Harihara and Bukka” were associated with which of the following?**

- a) Vijayanagara kingdom
- b) Kakatiya kingdom
- c) Hoyasala kingdom
- d) Chola kingdom

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** In 1336, the Vijayanagar kingdom was inaugurated by the Sangama brothers Harihara and Bukka at Vijayanagara (presentday Hampi) on the south bank of Tungabhadra.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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**Q.3) The famous “Hampi” was located on the banks of?**

- a) Godavari
- b) Pennar
- c) Krishna
- d) Tungabhadra

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** In 1336, the Vijayanagar kingdom was inaugurated by the Sangama brothers Harihara and Bukka at Vijayanagara (presentday Hampi) on the south bank of Tungabhadra.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.4) The famous “Raichur doab” was bone of contention between Bahamani kingdom and?**

- a) Vijayanagar kingdom
- b) Kakatiya kingdom
- c) Pandayan kingdom
- d) Chera kingdom

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Bahman Shah and the dynasty he inaugurated became known as the Bahmani dynasty (1347–1527).

- A few years earlier, in 1336, the Vijayanagar kingdom was inaugurated by the Sangama brothers Harihara and Bukka at Vijayanagara (presentday Hampi) on the south bank of Tungabhadra.
- During the next two centuries these two states fought continually and bitterly, to control the rich Raichur doab, and also the sea ports of Goa, Honavar, etc. on the west coast, which were the supply points of the horses needed for their army.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.5) The work Rayavachakamu gives interesting details about the Nayak system under Krishnadevaraya written in which language?**

- a) Telugu
- b) Tamil
- c) Kannada
- d) Malayalam

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Telugu work Rayavachakamu gives interesting details about the Nayak system under Krishnadevaraya.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.6) The famous “Ibn Battutah” was related to which of the following country?**

- a) Morocco
- b) Persia
- c) Russia
- d) Arabia

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Ibn Battutah a Moroccan traveller (1333-45).

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation for the Month of January [First Week] 2024

**Q.7) The term “Varaha” in vijayanagara kingdom related to?**

- a) Gold coins
- b) Temple lands
- c) Village grants
- d) Priests

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Vijayanagara kings issued a large number of gold coins called Varaha (also called Pon in Tamil and Honnu in Kannada).

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.8) The term “taraf” in bahamani kingdom related to?**

- a) Territorial division
- b) Villages
- c) King lands
- d) Slaves

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Bahman Shah had also to contend in the east with the rulers of Warangal and Orissa.

In order to facilitate smooth administration, as followed in the Delhi Sultanate, he divided the kingdom into four territorial divisions called tarafs, each under a governor.

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.9) Which of the following is/are province/s of bahamani kingdom?**

- 1. Gulbarga
- 2. Daulatabad
- 3. Berar

**How many of the statements given above are correct?**

- a) Only one
- b) Only two
- c) Only three
- d) None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** In order to facilitate smooth administration, as followed in the Delhi Sultanate, he divided the kingdom into four territorial divisions called tarafs, each under a governor.

Each governor commanded the army of his province (Gulbarga, Daulatabad, Bidar, and Berar) and was solely responsible for both its administration and the collection of revenue.

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

## Prelims Marathon Compilation for the Month of January [First Week] 2024

**Q.10) Consider the following statements:**

1. Turquoise is a semi-precious stone sky blue in colour.
2. Turquoise throne is one of the bejeweled royal seats of Persian kings described in Firdausi's Shah Nama.

**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:** Turquoise is a semi-precious stone sky blue in colour. Turquoise throne is one of the jewelled royal seats of Persian kings described in Firdausi's Shah Nama.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

## Revision

**Q.1) Consider the following statements:**

1. Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq followed a policy of reconciliation with the nobles.
2. Muhammad Tughlaq effectively repulsed the Mongol army that had marched up to Meerut near Delhi.

**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:** Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq followed a policy of reconciliation with the nobles. But in the fifth year of his reign (1325) Ghiyas-uddin died.

- Three days later Jauna ascended the throne and took the title Muhammad bin Tughlaq.
- Muhammad Tughlaq was a learned, cultured and talented prince but gained a reputation of being merciless, cruel and unjust.
- Muhammad Tughlaq effectively repulsed the Mongol army that had marched up to Meerut near Delhi.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.2) Consider the following statements:**

1. Alauddin khilji shifted the capital from Delhi to Devagiri.
2. Devagiri had the advantage of possessing a strong fort atop a rocky hill.

**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:** Muhammad Tughlaq's attempt to shift the capital from Delhi to Devagiri in Maharashtra, which he named Daulatabad, was a bold initiative.

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- This was after his realization that it was difficult to rule south India from Delhi.
- Centrally located, Devagiri also had the advantage of possessing a strong fort atop a rocky hill.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.3) The term “Diwan-i-Amir Kohi” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Agriculture
- b) Army
- c) Slaves
- d) Foreign trade

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Equally innovative was Muhammad Tughlaq's scheme to expand cultivation. But it also failed miserably.

- It coincided with a prolonged and severe famine in the Doab. The peasants who rebelled were harshly dealt with.
- The famine was linked to the oppressive and arbitrary collection of land revenue.
- The Sultan established a separate department (Diwan-i-Amir Kohi) to take care of agriculture.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.4) Consider the following statements:**

1. Firuz Tughlaq followed a conciliatory policy towards the nobles and theologians.
2. Firuz restored the property of the owners who had been deprived of it during the reign of Muhammad Tughlaq.

**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:** Firuz Tughlaq followed a conciliatory policy towards the nobles and theologians.

- Firuz restored the property of the owners who had been deprived of it during the reign of Muhammad Tughlaq.
- He reintroduced the system of hereditary appointments to offices, a practice which was not favoured by Ala-ud-din Khalji.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “slaves”:**

1. Firuz had a genuine concern for the slaves and established a separate government department.
2. They were trained in handicrafts and employed in the royal workshops.

**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:** Firuz had a genuine concern for the slaves and established a separate government department to attend to their welfare.

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- The slave department took care of the wellbeing of 180,000 slaves.
- They were trained in handicrafts and employed in the royal workshops.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Firuz shah Tughlaq”:**

1. He waged no wars of annexation.
2. Two Mongol incursions during his times and were successfully repulsed.

**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:** Firuz waged no wars of annexation, though he was not averse to putting down rebellions challenging his authority.

There were only two Mongol incursions during his times, and both of them were successfully repulsed.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Firuz shah Tughlaq”:**

1. He favored orthodox Islam proclaimed his state to be an Islamic state.
2. He imposed jizya, a head tax on non-Muslims.

**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:** Firuz favored orthodox Islam. He proclaimed his state to be an Islamic state largely to satisfy the theologians.

- Heretics were persecuted, and practices considered un-Islamic were banned.
- He imposed jizya, a head tax on non-Muslims, which even the Brahmins were compelled to pay.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.8) Who among the following was the first to impose “Jizya”?**

- a) Qutb-ud-din Aibak
- b) Balban
- c) Allauddin Khilji
- d) Firuz Shah Tughlaq

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Jizya is a tax levied and collected per head by Islamic states on non-Muslim subjects living in their land.

In India, Qutb-ud-din Aibak imposed jizya on non-Muslims for the first time.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation for the Month of January [First Week] 2024

**Q.9) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Sayyid dynasty established by Khizr Khan.
2. Sayyids rule is marked for the composing of Tarikh-i- Mubarak Shahi by Yahiya bin Ahmad Sirhindi.

**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:** Timur appointed Khizr Khan as his deputy to oversee Timurid interests in the Punjab marches.

- Khizr Khan (1414- 21) went on to seize Delhi and establish the Sayyid dynasty (1414–51).
- The Sayyid dynasty established by Khizr Khan had four sultans ruling up to 1451.
- The early Sayyid Sultans ruled paying tribute to Timur's son.
- Their rule is marked for the composing of Tarikh-i- Mubarak Shahi by Yahiya bin Ahmad Sirhindi.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) Consider the following statements:**

1. Sikander Lodi shifted the capital from Delhi to Agra in 1504.
2. The last Lodi ruler Ibrahim Lodi was defeated by Babur in the First Battle of Panipat.

**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 Lodi Dynasty was established by Bahlol Lodi (1451–1489) whose reign witnessed the conquest of Sharqi Kingdom (Bengal).

It was his son Sikander Lodi (1489–1517) who shifted the capital from Delhi to Agra in 1504.

The last Lodi ruler Ibrahim Lodi was defeated by Babur in the First Battle of Panipat, which resulted in the establishment of Mughal Dynasty.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**