

ForumIAS

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# Prelims Marathon

3<sup>rd</sup> Week June, 2024

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

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FORUMIAS



## Prelims Marathon Compilation June [Third Week] 2024

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## Provincial Kingdoms of Medieval India (Deccan and Southern India)

**Q.1) The famous “Kakatiyas of Warangal” related to which of the following state?**

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

**ANS: A**

**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 Telengana) and the Pandyas of Madurai (southern Tamil Nadu).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) In 1336, the Vijayanagar kingdom was inaugurated by the Sangama brothers Harihara and Bukka at Vijayanagara on the south bank of?**

- a) Krishna
- b) Malprabha
- c) Ghatprabha
- d) Tungabhadra

**ANS: D**

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

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Which of the following was/were the bone of contentions between Bahamani and Vijayanagara kingdoms?**

- 1. Raichur doab
- 2. Sea ports of Goa
- 3. Honavar

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Zafar Khan who declared independence in 1345 at Devagiri shifted his capital to Gulbarga in northern Karnataka.

- He took the title, 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.

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- 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: NCERT**

**Q.4) Which of the following kings issued the gold coins with the fabulous “gandaberunda” images?**

- a) Yadavas
- b) Kakatiyas
- c) Vijayanagaras
- d) Bahamanis

**ANS: C**

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

- These gold coins have the images of various Hindu deities and animals like the bull, the elephant and the fabulous gandaberunda (a double eagle, sometimes holding an elephant in each beak and claw).
- The legend contains the king’s name either in Nagari or in Kannada script.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Which of the following is not a province of Bahamani kingdom?**

- a) Warangal
- b) Berar
- c) Bidar
- d) Gulbarga

**ANS: A**

**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: NCERT**

**Q.6) The famous “turquoise throne” was belongs to which of the following?**

- a) Golkonda
- b) Gulbarga
- c) Goa
- d) Gujarat

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Mohammed I succeeded Bahman Shah. There was a decade-long war with Vijayanagar, most of which related to control over the Raichur doab.

- Neither side gained lasting control over the region, in spite of the huge fatalities in battles. Two bitter wars with Vijayanagar gained him nothing.
- But his attack on Warangal in 1363 brought him a large indemnity, including the important fortress of Golkonda and the treasured turquoise throne, which thereafter became the throne of the Bahmani kings.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.7) The famous lieutenant “Mohammed Gawan” belongs to which of the following?**

- a) Yadavas
- b) Kakatiyas
- c) Vijayanagaras
- d) Bahamanis

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** A Persian by birth, Mohammed Gawan was well-versed in Islamic theology, Persian, and Mathematics. He was also a poet and a prose-writer.

- The Mohammed Gawan Madrasa in Bidar, with a large library, containing 3000 manuscripts, is illustrative of his scholarship.
- Gawan served with great distinction as prime minister under Mohammad III and contributed extensively to the dynamic development of the Bahmani Kingdom.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Which of the following kingdom was destroyed completely in the battle of Talikota or Rakshashi-Tangadi?**

- a) Vijayanagara
- b) Hoyasalas
- c) Yadavas
- d) Kakatiyas

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Vijayanagar was utterly routed in the battle of Talikota or Rakshashi-Tangadi in 1565.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Vijayanagara rulers adopted the emblem of the Chalukyas.
2. The Harihar and Bukka laid foundation for Vijayanagara kingdom in about 1336.

**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:** There are different traditions regarding the foundation of the Vijayanagar kingdom.

- It is now generally accepted, on the basis of contemporary inscriptions, that the two brothers Harihara and Bukka, the eldest sons of one Sangama, earlier serving the Hoysala rulers of Karnataka, asserted their independence and laid foundation for a new kingdom in about 1336.
- Vijayanagara rulers adopted the emblem of the Chalukyas, the boar, or varahaas their royal insignia.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.10) Who among the following was believed to have played an important role in the foundation of the Vijayanagara kingdom?**

- a) Vidyaranya
- b) Allasani Peddanna
- c) Tikkanna
- d) Nannayya

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** According to some later-day tradition, Vidyaranya (also called Madhava), a renowned Saiva saint and Sanskrit scholar, is said to have persuaded the brothers to abandon their service to the Tughluqs and also to renounce Islam that they had adopted when they were imprisoned by the Sultan in Delhi.

Vidyaranya is believed to have played an important role in the foundation of the Vijayanagara kingdom.

**Source: NCERT**

### Revision

**Q.1) Who among the following was called “Ulugh Khan” of Delhi Sultanate?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** After two decades of conflict amongst the Shamsi bandagan and successive Delhi Sultans, in 1254, Ulugh Khan, a junior, newly purchased slave in Iltutmish's reign and now the commander of the Shivalikh territories in the North West, seized Delhi.

He took the title of na'ib-i mulk, the Deputy of the Realm, seizing the throne as Sultan Ghiyas al Din Balban in 1266.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) With reference to Delhi Sultanates, the term “mafruzi” related to which of the following?**

- a) Temple lands
- b) Village lands
- c) Rent – free lands
- d) Forest lands

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Assertion of authority by Balban led to constant military campaigns against defiant governors and against their local allies.

- 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 (mafruzi) and brought under cultivation.
- New forts were constructed to protect trade routes and village markets.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.3) With reference to Delhi Sultanates, the term “Meos” related to which of the following?**

- a) Priests community
- b) Farming community
- c) Soldiers group
- d) Robbers

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** 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: NCERT**

**Q.4) The famous “Prataparudradeva” was related to which of the following?**

- a) Devagiri
- b) Warangal
- c) Madurai
- d) Hampi

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Ala-ud-din sent a large army commanded by Malik Kafur in 1307 to capture Devagiri fort.

- Following Devagiri, Prataparudradeva, the Kakatiya ruler of Warangal in the Telengana region, was defeated in 1309.
- In 1310 the Hoysala ruler Vira Ballala III surrendered all his treasures to the Delhi forces.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding nobles during Delhi Sultanate period:**

1. Iltutmish organized a Corps of Forty, all drawn from Turkish nobility.
2. Balban abolished the Corps of Forty.

**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.
- The nobles were organized into several factions and were constantly engaged in conspiracies.
- Balban therefore abolished the Corps of Forty and thereby put an end to the domination of “Turkish nobles”.
- Alauddin Khalji also took stern measures against the “Turkish nobles” by employing spies to report to him directly on their clandestine and perfidious activities.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding the internal reforms introduced by “Ala-ud-din Khalji”:**

1. Marriage alliances between families of noble men were permitted only with the consent of the Sultan.
2. The Sultan prohibited liquor and banned the use of intoxicating drugs.

**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 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.
- He curbed the powers of the traditional village officers by depriving them of their traditional privileges. Corrupt royal officials were dealt with sternly.
- The Sultan prohibited liquor and banned the use of intoxicating drugs.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Which of the following statements is/are correct?**

1. Ala-ud-din collected land taxes directly from the cultivators.
2. The tax pressure of Ala-ud-din was on the rich and not on the poor.
3. Ala-ud-din set up the postal system to keep in touch with all parts of his sprawling empire.

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

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

**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.
- Ala-ud-din set up the postal system to keep in touch with all parts of his sprawling empire.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) With reference to “Delhi Sultanate”, the “Khizr Khan” related to which of the following?**

- a) Slave dynasty
- b) Khilji dynasty
- c) Tughlaq dynasty
- d) Lodi dynasty

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Ala-ud-din nominated his eldest son Khizr Khan, as his successor. However, Ala-ud-din’s confidant at that time was Malik Kafur.



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- So Malik Kafur himself assumed the authority of the government. But Kafur's rule lasted only thirty-five days as he was assassinated by hostile nobles.
- Thereafter there were a series of murders which culminated in Ghazi Malik, a veteran of several campaigns against the Mongols, ascending the throne of Delhi in 1320 as Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) With reference to Delhi Sultanate, the "Jauna Khan" related to which of the following?**

- a) Balban
- b) Ala-ud-din Khalji
- c) Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq
- d) Muhammad Bin Tughlaq

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq followed a policy of reconciliation with the nobles. But in the fifth year of his reign (1325) Ghiyas-ud-din died. Three days later Jauna ascended the throne and took the title Muhammad bin Tughlaq.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding "Muhammad bin Tughlaq":**

1. He effectively repulsed the Mongol army that had marched up to Meerut near Delhi.
2. He established a separate department, Diwan-i-Amir Kohi to take care of agriculture.

**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:** 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.
- The Sultan established a separate department (Diwan-i-Amir Kohi) to take care of agriculture.

**Source: NCERT**

## Provincial Kingdoms of Medieval India (Northern, Western and Eastern India)

**Q.1) With respect to medieval India, the king Ballala III related to which of the following?**

- a) Hoyasala
- b) Kakatiyas
- c) Vijayanagaras
- d) Pallavas

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** There are different traditions regarding the foundation of the Vijayanagar kingdom.

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- It is now generally accepted, on the basis of contemporary inscriptions, that the two brothers Harihara and Bukka, the eldest sons of one Sangama, earlier serving the Hoysala rulers of Karnataka, asserted their independence and laid foundation for a new kingdom in about 1336.
- This happened soon after the death of the Hoysala king Ballala III at the hands of the Madurai Sultan.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) With reference to medieval India, Gujarat is famous for which of the following?**

1. Handicrafts
2. Fertile lands
3. Seaports

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Gujarat was one of the richest provinces of the Delhi Sultanate on account of its handicrafts, fertile lands, and flourishing seaports.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) With reference to medieval India, the “Sidhpur” related to which of the following?**

- a) Sea port
- b) Rock cut cave
- c) Pilgrimage centre
- d) Trade centre

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Ahmed Shah (c.1411–1441 CE): Grandson of Muzaffar Shah, who was the real founder of the kingdom of Gujarat as he not only controlled the nobility and settled the administration, but also expanded and consolidated the kingdom.

- He tried to extend his control over Rajput states in the Saurashtra region (Girnar), as well as those located on the Gujarat–Rajasthan border such as Jhalawar, Bundi, and Dungarpur.
- He also attacked Sidhpur, the famous Hindu pilgrimage centre, and destroyed many beautiful temples.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. He was captured two powerful forts or garhs, Girnar (Junagarh) in Saurashtra and the fort of Champaner from the Rajputs in south Gujarat.
2. He led an expedition against the Portuguese to break their trade monopoly.

**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:** Mahmud Begarha (c.1459–1511 CE): He was called ‘Begarha’ as he had captured two powerful forts or garhs, Girnar (Junagarh) in Saurashtra and the fort of Champaner from the Rajputs in south Gujarat.

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In c. 1507 CE, Mahmud led an expedition against the Portuguese (who had settled on the western coast) to break their trade monopoly, which was causing immense harm to the Muslim traders.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Who among the following wrote the book “Raja- Vinoda”?**

- a) Udayaraja
- b) Mahmud Begarha
- c) Muzaffar Shah
- d) Zafar Khan

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Many works were translated from Arabic to Persian during his reign. His court poet was the Sanskrit scholar, Udayaraja, who wrote a book called the Raja- Vinoda on Mahmud Begurha.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) With reference to medieval India, Shadiabad related to which of the following?**

- a) Dilawar Khan Ghori
- b) Mahmud Begurha
- c) Zafar Khan
- d) Sikander Lodi

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** After the invasion of Timur, in c.1401 CE, Dilawar Khan Ghori who belonged to the court of Firoz Shah Tughlaq, threw off his allegiance to Delhi, though he did not take the royal title of ‘Sultan’. Dilawar shifted the capital from Dhar to Mandu, renaming it Shadiabad, the city of joy, which was highly defensible and which had a great deal of natural beauty.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Hoshang Shah”:**

1. He was the first formally appointed Islamic king of Malwa.
2. He made mandu one of the most impregnable forts of India.

**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:** Hoshang Shah (c.1406–35 CE): Was the first formally appointed Islamic king of Malwa who was a bold and ambitious ruler.

- An interesting account of his boldness could be ascertained by his rather unconventional way of obtaining the finest elephants from Odisha in c. 1421 CE, when the King of Odisha had refused to send him the best elephants.
- He is also remembered for his wonderful taste in architecture. It was he who made Mandu one of the most impregnable forts of India.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.8) Who among the following was constructed the Jahaz Mahal for housing the women, numbering in thousands, of his harem?**

- a) Hoshang Shah
- b) Mahmud Khalji
- c) Ghiyas-ud-Din
- d) Mahmud Shah II

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Mahmud was succeeded by his eldest son Ghiyas-ud-Din, who was a pleasure seeker and devoted himself to women and music. He constructed the Jahaz Mahal for housing the women, numbering in thousands, of his harem.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) The famous "Rana Kumbha or Kumbhakarna Singh" belonged to?**

- a) Malwa
- b) Mewar
- c) Allahabad
- d) Bengal

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Rana Kumbha or Kumbhakarna Singh raised Mewar to the status of a power to be reckoned with and pulled it out of obscurity.

He was a talented military commander and ruler who made his mark in the political as well as cultural field.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) Which of the following fort/s was/were constructed by Rana Kumbha?**

- 1. Kumbhalgarh
- 2. Achalgarh
- 3. Kolana

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Rana Kumbha constructed the city of Basantpur. He built several inns, palaces, ponds, schools, and temples. For the defence of the kingdom, he built five forts of Kumbhalgarh, Achalgarh, Maddan, Kolana, and Vairat. He also gave patronage to many craftsmen and sculptors.

**Source: NCERT**

## **The Mughals**

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

1. The Mughals were descended from the Mongol Chengiz Khan and the Turk Timur.
2. Babur was the founder of the Mughal Empire.

**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:** India had been invaded from the west/ north-west several times over the centuries, beginning with Alexander.

- Various parts of north India had been ruled by foreigners like the Indo-Greeks, Sakas, Kushans and Afghans.
- The Mughals, descended from the Mongol Chengiz Khan and the Turk Timur, founded an empire in India which lasted for more than three centuries.
- Babur was the founder of the Mughal Empire which was established in 1526 after Babur defeated Ibrahim Lodi in the battle of Panipat.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Mughal rule created a uniform, centralized administration over the entire country.
2. Akbar created a polity integrating Hindus and Muslims into a unified nation.

**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:** At the height of its power the Mughal Empire stretched from Afghanistan to Bengal and from Kashmir down to the Tamil region in the south.

- Mughal rule created a uniform, centralized administration over the entire country.
- The Mughals, especially Akbar, created a polity integrating Hindus and Muslims into a unified nation, forging a composite national identity.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) With reference to medieval India, the Safavids related to which of the following?**

- a) Iran
- b) Turkey
- c) Mongolia
- d) China

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The race for political supremacy in Central Asia amongst the Uzbeks (Turkic ethnic group), the Safavids (the members of the dynasty that ruled Iran patronizing Shia Islam) and the Ottomans (Turkish people

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practicing Sunni Islam) forced Zahiruddin Muhammad Babur, the ruler of Samarkand, to seek his career prospects elsewhere.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Gun powder was first invented by the Chinese.
2. In India we have no instances of artillery being used in war before Babur.

**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:** Artillery is an army unit that uses large cannon-like weapons, transportable and usually operated by more than one person.

- Gun powder was first invented by the Chinese and found its way to Europe in the 13th century A.D. (CE).
- It was used in guns and cannons from the midfourteenth century onwards.
- In India we have no instances of artillery being used in war before Babur.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Which of the following was participated in the battle of Khanwa against Babur?**

1. Hasan Khan Mewati
2. Mahmud Lodi
3. Rana Sanga

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Babur decided to take on Rana Sanga of Chittor, who as ruler of Mewar, had a strong influence over Rajasthan and Malwa.

- Babur selected Khanwa, near Agra, as a favorable site for this inevitable encounter.
- The ferocious march of Rana Sanga with a formidable force strengthened by Afghan Muslims, Mahmud Lodi, brother of Ibrahim Lodi, and Hasan Khan Mewati, ruler of Mewar, confronted the forces of Babur.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.6) 'The chief excellence of Hindustan is that it is a large country and has abundance of gold and silver. Another convenience of Hindustan is that the workmen of every profession and trade are innumerable and without end' – views expressed by?**

- a) Babur
- b) Humayun
- c) Amir Khusrau
- d) Akbar

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** What Hindustan possessed, in Babur's view, is described as follows: 'The chief excellence of Hindustan is that it is a large country and has abundance of gold and silver.

Another convenience of Hindustan is that the workmen of every profession and trade are innumerable and without end.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) In which of the following place/s fort/s is/are found?**

- 1. Ranthambhor
- 2. Gwalior
- 3. Chanderi

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Babur's dominions were now secure from Kandahar to the borders of Bengal.

However, in the great area that marked the Rajput desert and the forts of Ranthambhor, Gwalior and Chanderi, there was no settled administration, as the Rajput chiefs were quarrelling among themselves.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) The famous and powerful "fort of Chunar" located at which of the following state?**

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Assam

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Defeating the Afghans at Daurah in 1532 Humayun besieged the powerful fort of Chunar (Uttar Pradesh).

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.9) Who among the following spent the succeeding years of his life in constructing a new city in Delhi, Dinpanah?**

- a) Babur
- b) Humayun
- c) Kamran
- d) Akbar

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Humayun spent the succeeding years of his life in constructing a new city in Delhi, Dinpanah.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) Who among the following called as “a prince without a kingdom”?**

- a) Babur
- b) Humayun
- c) Kamran
- d) Akbar

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Battle of Kanauj (1540): This battle was won by Sher Khan and Humayun’s army was completely routed, and he became a prince without a kingdom.

**Source: NCERT**

### The Mughals - II

**Q.1) Who among the following was associated with “Sur Dynasty”?**

- a) Sher Shah
- b) Humayun
- c) Kamran
- d) Bahadur Shah

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** From the time Humayun abandoned the throne in the Battle of Kanauj to his regaining of power in 1555 Delhi was ruled by Sher Shah of the Sur Dynasty.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Which of the following place was failed to capture by Sher Shah and died by accidental gunshot?**

- a) Malwa
- b) Mewar
- c) Kalinjar
- d) Rohtas

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Born in the family of a Jagirdar and named as Farid, he received the title of Sher Khan after killing a tiger (sher in Hindi). When he ascended the throne, he was called Sher Shah.

- Through his ability and efficiency, he emerged as the chief of Afghans in India.



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- His military capability and diplomacy made him victorious over Humayun and many other Rajput rulers.
- Malwa fell without a fight. Rana Uday Singh of Mewar surrendered without resistance.
- Sher Shah's next venture to capture Kalinjar failed as a gunshot caused his death in 1545.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Who among the following was believed that "When the peasant is ruined, the king is ruined"?**

- a) Sher Shah
- b) Humayun
- c) Kamran
- d) Bahadur Shah

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The welfare of the peasants was a prime concern. When the peasant is ruined, Sher Shah believed, the king is ruined.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding "Jagirdari":**

1. It is a land tenure system developed during the Delhi Sultanate.
2. Under the system the collection of the revenue of an estate and the power of governing it were bestowed upon an official of the state.

**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:** Jagirdari is a land tenure system developed during the Delhi Sultanate.

Under the system the collection of the revenue of an estate and the power of governing it were bestowed upon an official of the state.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding "Zamindari system":**

1. The word zamindar means landowner in Persian.
2. Zamindars collected revenue from the tenants and cultivators and remitted a fixed amount to the state.

**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:** Zamindari: The term refers to another land tenure system. The word zamindar means landowner in Persian.

- In Mughal times the zamindars were drawn from the class of nobles.
- Akbar granted land to the nobles as well as to the descendents of old ruling families and allowed them to enjoy it hereditarily.

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- Zamindars collected revenue from the tenants and cultivators and remitted a fixed amount to the state.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “administrative system” of Sher Shah:**

1. He followed a flexible revenue system.
2. Land was surveyed and revenue settled according to the fertility of the soil.

**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:** Sher Shah took great care that the movements of the army did not damage crops. He followed a flexible revenue system.

- Land was surveyed and revenue settled according to the fertility of the soil.
- In some areas, the jagirdari and zamindari systems were allowed to continue.
- In yet other places he arranged to collect only a portion of the gross produce.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements:**

1. Sher Shah collected the trade taxes only at the point of entry and the point of sale.
2. Sher Shah standardized the metal content of gold, silver and copper coins to facilitated trade.

**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:** Sher Shah showed the same concern while dealing with traders. In order to encourage trade, he simplified trade imposts, collecting taxes only at the point of entry and the point of sale.

- The standardization of the metal content of gold, silver and copper coins also facilitated trade.
- His currency system continued through the entire Mughal period and became the basis of the coinage under the British.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.8) Which of the following road/s were repaired and constructed by “Sher Shah”?**

1. He repaired the Grand trunk road.
2. He built a road connecting Gujarat’s seaports with Agra and Jodhpur.
3. He built a road connecting Lahore with Multan.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** For enhancement of trade and commerce Sher Shah maintained a robust highway system by repairing old roads and laying down new roads.

Apart from repairing the Grand Trunk road from the Indus in the west to Sonargaon in Bengal, he also built a road connecting Gujarat’s seaports with Agra and Jodhpur. A road was laid connecting Lahore with Multan.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) With reference to Mughal architecture, the term “sarais” related to?**

- a) Masjids
- b) Prayer halls
- c) Rest houses
- d) Meeting halls

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The highways were endowed with a large network of sarais, rest houses, where the traders were provided with food and accommodation, ensuring brisk commerce.

Some of the sarais constructed by Sher Shah still survive. These sarais also ensured the growth of towns in their vicinity.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Sher Shah practiced charity on a large scale.
2. Sher Shah was an orthodox and devout Sunni.

**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:** Sher Shah practiced charity on a large scale. He gave stipends from the treasury to destitute people.

Sher Shah was an orthodox and devout Sunni. He is said to have dispensed justice without bias, punishing the oppressors even if they were nobles or his relatives.

**Source: NCERT**

## The Mughals and the Marathas

**Q.1) Humayun, who had fled after his defeat at Kanauj, had taken asylum in?**

- a) Persia
- b) Afghanistan
- c) Mongolia
- d) Central Asia

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** After Sher Shah's death in 1545 his weak successors ruled for ten years. Humayun, who had fled after his defeat at Kanauj, had taken asylum in Persia.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Who among the following "stumbled out of his life, as he has stumbled through it"?**

- a) Babur
- b) Humayun
- c) Akbar
- d) Aurangzeb

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Afghan forces in Punjab, on the approach of Mughals, began to flee.

- Humayun became the Emperor once again. He died very soon after regaining Delhi when he slipped down the stairs of the library in the fort at Delhi.
- In the colourful words of Lane Poole, "Humayun stumbled out of his life, as he has stumbled through it."

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Which of the following statements is/are correct about "Akbar"?**

1. He was called as Jalaluddin.
2. He was crowned at the age of fourteen.
3. Bairam Khan was his guardian and protector.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** During Humayun's wanderings in the Rajputana desert, his wife gave birth to a son, Jalaluddin, known as Akbar, in 1542.

Akbar was crowned at the age of fourteen. At the time of Akbar's ascension, the Afghans and Rajputs were still powerful and posed a great challenge. Yet he had a guardian and protector in Bairam Khan.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.4) Who among the following has the title of “Khan-e-Khanan”?**

- a) Akbar
- b) Bairam Khan
- c) Abdur Rahim
- d) Hemu

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The first four years of Akbar’s rule saw the expansion of the Mughal Empire from Kabul to Jaunpur, including Gwalior and Ajmer, under his regent Bairam Khan.

- Soon Bairam Khan began to behave haughtily towards his fellow nobles. Akbar, enraged by his behaviour issued a farman dismissing Bairam Khan.
- Bairam Khan, finally agreeing to submit himself to Akbar, proceeded to Mecca. But on his way he was murdered by an Afghan.
- The family of Bairam Khan was brought to Delhi and his son Abdur Rahim became one of the luminaries of Akbar’s court with the title Khan-e-Khanan.

**Source: NCERT**

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

- 1. Malwa – Baz Bahadur
- 2. Gondwana – Rani Durgavati
- 3. Mewar – Rana Udai Singh

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Akbar laid the foundation for a great empire through his vast conquests.

- Malwa was conquered in 1562 from Baz Bahadur who was made a mansabdar in Akbar’s court.
- The Gondwana region of central India was annexed after a fierce battle with Rani Durgavati and her son Vir Narayan in 1564.
- The ruler of Mewar, Rana Udai Singh, put up a great fight before losing Chittor, which was conquered by Akbar after a siege of six months.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Which of the following measure/s is/are taken by “Akbar”?**

- 1. He abolished the jizya on non-Muslims and the tax on Hindu pilgrims.
- 2. He abolished the practice of Sati.
- 3. He discontinued the practice of making slaves of war prisoners.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Akbar took earnest efforts to win the goodwill of the Hindus. He abolished the jizya (poll tax) on non-Muslims and the tax on Hindu pilgrims.

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The practice of sati by Hindu widows was also abolished. The practice of making slaves of war prisoners was also discontinued.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements:**

1. Akbar introduced the Mansabdari system.
2. The nobles, civil and military officials combined into one single service with each officer receiving the title of Mansabdar.

**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:** Akbar provided a systematic and centralised system of administration which contributed to the success of the empire. He introduced the Mansabdari system.

The nobles, civil and military officials combined into one single service with each officer receiving the title of Mansabdar.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding "Mansabdari system":**

1. Promotions and demotions were made through additions or reductions of Mansabs.
2. The rank of Mansabdar was not hereditary.

**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:** Mansabdar rank was divided into Zat and Sawar. The former determined the number of soldiers each Mansabdar received ranging from 10 to 10,000.

- The latter determined the number of horses under a Mansabdar. Each officer could rise from the lowest to the highest ranks.
- Promotions and demotions were made through additions or reductions of Mansabs.
- The rank of Mansabdar was not hereditary and immediately after the death of a Mansabdar, the jagir was resumed by the state.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Who among the following did not like Akbar's inter-religious interests, accused him of forsaking Islam?**

- a) Bairam Khan
- b) Abdur Rahim
- c) Badauni
- d) Rana Udai Singh

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Badauni, a contemporary author, who did not like Akbar's inter-religious interests, accused him of forsaking Islam.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Akbar propagated a philosophy of Sulh-i-Kul.
2. Akbar established Ibadat Khana.

**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:** Akbar began his life as an orthodox Muslim but adopted an accommodative approach under the influence of Sufism.

- Akbar was interested to learn about the doctrines of all religions, and propagated a philosophy of Sulh-i-Kul (peace to all).
- Akbar had established an Ibadat Khana, a hall of worship in which initially Muslim clerics gathered to discuss spiritual issues.
- Later he invited Christians, Zoroastrians, Hindus, Jains and even atheists to discussions.

**Source: NCERT**

## Other Provincial Kingdoms

**Q.1) Which of the following was/were the reason/s for establishing the “Maratha Dynasty”?**

1. Physical environment.
2. Marathas held important positions in the administrative and military systems of Deccan Sultanates.
3. Spread of the Bhakti movement in Maharashtra

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Various factors contributed to the rise of the Marathas in the 16th and 17th centuries.

- The physical environment of the Maratha country, such as mountainous regions and dense forests, probably resulted in shaping certain peculiar qualities among the Marathas.
- For instance, this difficult terrain made the Maratha Soldiers expert in guerilla tactics.
- The Marathas held important positions in the administrative and military systems of Deccan Sultanates of Bijapur and Ahmadnagar, which offered them a firsthand experience of administration, further facilitating in the emergence and organization of the Maratha state.
- Also, the spread of the Bhakti movement in Maharashtra under the influence of spiritual leaders like Tukaram, Ramdas, Vaman Pandit, and Eknath fostered social unity among them and the much-required political unity was conferred by Shahji Bhonsle and his son Shivaji.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.2) Which of the following bhakti movement leader/s were from Maharashtra?**

1. Tukaram
2. Vaman Pandit
3. Eknath

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The spread of the Bhakti movement in Maharashtra under the influence of spiritual leaders like Tukaram, Ramdas, Vaman Pandit, and Eknath fostered social unity among them.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Which of the following personality/personalities influenced the "Shivaji"?**

1. Dadaji Kondev
2. Pir Shaikh Yacub
3. Tukaram

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Shivaji was greatly influenced by Jijabai (his mother), Dadaji Kondev (his teacher), Sufi saint Pir Shaikh Yacub, Guru Ramdas, Tukaram (Bhakti Saint), Hazrat Baba of Ratnagiri, the Ramayana, and the Mahabharata on the development of his personality.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Who among the following assisted the Saiyyad brothers in the execution of Farukkh Siyar?**

- a) Ramchandra Pant
- b) Rajaram
- c) Sambhaji
- d) Shahu

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** In c.1719 CE, Shahu, under the advice of Peshwa Balaji Vishwanath, assisted the Saiyyad brothers in the execution of Farukkh Siyar and got his mother released. Soon after, he declared Swaraja/ the Independence of Maratha land.

**Source: NCERT**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation June [Third Week] 2024

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

1. It is a Persian word introduced in Deccan by the Muslim rulers.
2. Duties of a Peshwa were equal to that of a Prime Minister.

**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 word ‘Peshwa’ probably originated in Persian, meaning ‘foremost’, and was introduced in Deccan by the Muslim rulers. Duties of a Peshwa were equal to that of a Prime Minister.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following peshwas called as “Thorale”?**

- a) Baji Rao I
- b) Balaji Vishwanath Bhatt
- c) Ramchandra Pant Amatya
- d) Moreshwar Pingale

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Baji Rao I (c.1720–1740 CE): Eldest Son of Balaji Vishwanath who succeeded him as Peshwa at the young age of twenty.

- He was the most famous of all nine Peshwas and also known as “Thorale”, meaning ‘Elder’ Baji Rao.
- He was the greatest exponent of guerrilla tactics after Shivaji.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Baji Rao I”:**

1. He captured Salsette and Bassein from the Portuguese.
2. He shifted the administrative capital from Satara to Pune.

**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:** Baji Rao I preached and popularized the idea of Hindu-pad padshahi (Hindu Empire) to secure the support of the Hindu chiefs against the common enemy, the Mughals.

In c.1722 CE, he captured Salsette and Bassein from the Portuguese. He shifted the administrative capital from Satara to Pune in c.1728 CE.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June [Third Week] 2024

**Q.8) Which of the following was not part of “Maratha Confederacy”?**

- a) Gaekwads at Baroda
- b) Bhonsles at Nagpur
- c) Scindias at Gwalior
- d) Kakatiyas at Warangal

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Baji Rao I initiated the system of confederacy among the Maratha chiefs. Under this system, each Maratha chief was assigned a territory that could be administered autonomously.

- As a result, many Maratha families became prominent and established their authority in different parts of India.
- They were the Gaekwads at Baroda, the Bhonsles at Nagpur, the Holkars at Indore, the Scindias at Gwalior, and the Peshwas at Poona.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Who among the following was occupied the post of “Accountant General” in Maratha Administration?**

- a) Peshwa
- b) Majumdar
- c) Waqenavis
- d) Sachiv

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The king was the pivot of the government, who was assisted by a council of ministers called the Ashtapradhan.

- Each one was directly responsible to Shivaji and headed a department.
- Under Shivaji, these offices were neither hereditary nor permanent and were also frequently transferred.
- Amatya/Majumdar – Accountant General.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) With reference to Maratha Empire, the term “Paga” related to which of the following?**

- a) Priests
- b) Spies
- c) Bodyguards
- d) Standing Army

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Shivaji was a military genius and his army was very well organised. The Marathas were pioneers of commando actions.

- The regular standing army known as Paga consisted of about 30,000 to 40,000 cavalry supervised by the havaladar, who were given fixed salaries.
- The lowest head of the cavalry was called Naik. In fact, all the war horses belonged to the state.

**Source: NCERT**