

ForumIAS

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# Prelims Marathon

June, 2024

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

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## Buddhism (Origin, Doctrine, Schools) Jainism and Ajivika sect

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

1. Confucius – Japan
2. Zoroaster – Greece
3. Parmenides – Iran

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

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Sixth century BCE was a period of great religious upheaval. Great teachers like Confucius in China, Zoroaster in Iran, and Parmenides in Greece questioned the established socio-religious norms and focused more on ethical and moral values.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.2) The “Buddhism and Jainism” religions was/were emphasized on which of the following?**

1. Violence
2. Charity
3. Frugality

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** India witnessed the growth of two great alternative religions: Buddhism and Jainism. These religions emphasized that true happiness does not lie in material prosperity or performance of rituals, but in nonviolence, charity, frugality, and good social conduct.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.3) Which of the following was/were the reason/s for Intellectual Awakening in sixth century B.C?**

1. State formation
2. Rigidity of Vedic religion
3. Organized Vedic religion

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Sixth century BCE was a period of intense intellectual ferment. There are several reasons for the emergence of this ferment.

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- State formation and the rigidity of the Vedic religion constrained the liberty of thought and action. A revolt against religious practice of following dogmas found its articulation in heterodox sects.
- The emergence of territorial identities accelerated the process of sociopolitical and economic changes. The elite class, disillusioned with the system in place, began to move in protest towards the heterodox religions blossoming in Magadha or middle Ganges plains.
- As the Vedic religion was not fully organized, its reach did not permeate into the society and hence people did not find it difficult to follow the newly emerging religious sects.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) With reference to ancient India, the term “Samannaphala Sutta” was related to?**

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Ajivika
- d) Hinduism

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** A Buddhist text, Samannaphala Sutta, while making a reference to Ajatashatru of Magadha meeting Gautama Buddha, mentions that before his meeting, the former had a philosophical discourse with the leaders of the various sects such as Purana Kassapa, Makkhali Gosala, Ajita Kesakambalin, Pakudha Kachchayana, Sanjaya Belatthiputta and Nigantha Nataputta (Mahavira).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Who among the following was the founder of the Ajivika sect?**

- a) Nanda Vaccha
- b) Kisa Samkicca
- c) Makkhali Gosala
- d) Nilakesi

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Ajivikas are believed to have evolved from one of the many ascetic groups of the times. According to Buddhist records, Nanda Vaccha was considered the founder of the Ajivika sect.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. They were naked ascetics.
2. Sravasti was the headquarters of the Ajivika 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:** Gosala met Mahavira for the first time in Nalanda and their friendship lasted for six years. They separated due to doctrinal differences.

- Gosala then went to Sravasti, where he was patronised by a rich potter woman called Halahala.

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- He believed in the doctrine of reanimation, and criticised and ridiculed the severe austerities of the Vedic ascetics.
- Being rival sects, both the Buddhist and Jaina accounts portray Gosala as a person of vicious character.
- Sravasti was the headquarters of the Ajivika sect. The Ajivikas were naked ascetics.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) “Humans cannot change anything by action as everything is predetermined” – view held by?**

- a) Purana Kassapa
- b) Ajita Kesakambalin
- c) Makkhali Gosala
- d) Mahavira

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Purana Kassapa held the view that actions did not have any merit or demerit. No evil is caused by torture, hurting and killing others.

- Similarly, no merit is acquired by generosity, self-control and truthful speech.
- Humans cannot change anything by action as everything is predetermined. According to him, non action is the way out of life.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) The “Bhagavatisutra” text was related to which of the following?**

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Ajivika
- d) Hinduism

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** There was intense rivalry among the various heterodox sects.

- This is evident from the various religious accounts of the period.
- Buddhist and Jaina texts not only mention other heterodox sects but also belittle them.
- For example, Bhagavatisutra, a Jaina text, provides a poor account of Makkhali Gosala.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Which of the following was also called as “Nirgranthas”?**

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Ajivika
- d) Hinduism

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Among the various sects, the sect led by Vardhamana Mahavira (referred to as Nigantha Nataputta by Buddhist texts) bloomed into a religion called Jainism. It was earlier known as Nirgranthas (free from bonds).

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.10) The “Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary” is recently seen in news related to?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary is the largest wildlife sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh. The sanctuary covers nearly 1197 km<sup>2</sup> area across three districts i.e. Sagar, Damoh and Narsinghpur, of Madhya Pradesh. The entire Sanctuary is situated on a plateau, forming part of upper Vindhyan range and has a connecting forest patch with Veerangana Durgawati Sanctuary in Damoh district towards east which extends up to Bandhavgarh National Park.

**Source: FORUMIAS**

## Revision

**Q.1) With reference to ancient India, who among the following was known “maker of fords”?**

- a) Buddha
- b) Mahavira
- c) Makkali Gosala
- d) Nagarjuna

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** According to Jain tradition, Mahavira was not the founder of Jainism, but the last of the 24 Tirthankaras or ‘maker of fords’ (ford means a shallow place in river or stream to allow one to walk across).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Who among the following tirthankaras were mentioned in the “Yajur Veda”?**

1. Risabha
2. Ajitanatha
3. Mahavira

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** According to Jain tradition, Risabha was the founder of the sect.

- He is considered the first Tirthankara.
- Yajur Veda mentions three of the Tirthankaras, viz., Risabha, Ajitanatha and Aristanemi.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.3) The famous “Digambaras and Svetambaras” were belongs to which of the following?**

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Ajivika
- d) Hinduism

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** About 500 years after Mahavira’s death, in about 79 or 82 CE, a schism occurred in Jainism.

- Magadha was affected by severe famine and some of the Jaina monks under Bhadrabahu went south to maintain their strict discipline.
- They remained without garments and were known as Digambaras (space-clad or naked).
- Others stayed back under the leadership of Sthulabhadra and adopted a white garment and were known as Svetambaras (white-clad).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) The ancient text “Kalpasutra” related to which of the following?**

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Ajivika
- d) Hinduism

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Jaina monks not only wrote religious treatises but also promoted secular literature. Acharrangasutra, Sutrakritanga, and Kalpasutra are the earliest Jaina texts.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Who among the following was the follower of Buddhism?**

- a) M K Gandhi
- b) B R Ambedkar
- c) Jawaharlal Nehru
- d) Sardar Vallabhai Patel

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Among the heterodox sects, Buddhism was the most popular. It went on to emerge as a powerful religion patronised by various rulers.

- It was so influential that its ideas were adopted by Asoka as a state policy.
- Though it virtually disappeared from India for nearly a millennium, it spread far and wide and is widely followed even today in the South-east and East Asian countries.
- In the mid-twentieth century it was revived in India by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.6) Which of the following events were related to Buddhism?**

1. Mahabhiraskramana
2. Dharmachakra-parivartana
3. Parinirvana

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Buddha cut his hair and sent it along with his discarded garments and jewellery to his father. This is known as Mahabhiraskramana or the Great Going Forth.

- After 49 days of meditation, he attained enlightenment, at the age of 35. Thereafter, he came to be called Buddha or the Enlightened. He then delivered his first sermon in a deer park in Sarnath near Varanasi. This event is described as Dharmachakra-parivartana or 'wheel of the great law'.
- At the age of 80, he passed away in Kusinagara. This is known as Parinirvana.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. First Buddhist council was headed by Buddha himself.
2. In second council, Buddhism was divided into two sects.

**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:** After the death of Buddha, the tenets and other aspects of Buddhism were decided upon in the councils of Buddhist monks.

- Over a period of time, four Buddhist councils were held. The First Buddhist Council was held at Rajgriha after Buddha's death. It was headed by Upali.
- In this council, Upali recited the Vinaya Pitaka. Ananda recited Sutta Pitaka.
- The Second Buddhist Council met at Vaishali a century after Buddha's death. The Buddhist Order split into two later.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) With reference to ancient India, the term "Kathavatthu" was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Ajivika
- d) Hinduism

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Second Buddhist Council met at Vaishali a century after Buddha's death. The Buddhist Order split into two later.



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- One was called the Sthaviravadins or 'Believers in the Teachings of the Elders' and the other known as Mahasanghikas or 'Members of the Great Community'.
- The Third Buddhist Council was held at Pataliputra. It was convened by Asoka.
- The Sthaviravadins established themselves strongly and expelled the heretics.
- The last section called "Kathavatthu" was added to Abhidhamma Pitaka.

Source: NCERT

**Q.9) The famous "The Starving Tigress - tale" related to which of the following?**

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Ajivika
- d) Hinduism

ANS: A

**Explanation:** Born in a family renowned for purity of conduct and great spiritual devotion, the Bodhisattva became a great scholar and teacher.

- With no desire for wealth, he went to a forest and led a life of an ascetic.
- It was in this forest he encountered a starving tigress, which after giving birth to cubs was about to eat her own new born cubs for survival.
- With no food in sight, the Bodhisattva offered his body as food to the tigress out of compassion.

Source: NCERT

**Q.10) The famous Mesolithic site "Langhnaj" located in which of the following state?**

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Karnataka
- d) Gujarat

ANS: D

**Explanation:** Mesolithic sites in India are found in Paisra (Bihar), Langhnaj (Gujarat), Baghor II, Chopani Mando, Sarai Nahar Rai, Mahadaha and Damdama (all in Uttar Pradesh), Sankanakallu and Kibbanahalli (Karnataka).

Source: NCERT

## The Mauryan Empire

**Q.1) Who among the following was not related to "Mauryan Empire"?**

- a) Chandragupta
- b) Bimbisara
- c) Bindusara
- d) Ashoka

ANS: B

**Explanation:** The first three Mauryan emperors, Chandragupta, Bindusara and Ashoka, were the best known.

Source: NCERT

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**Q.2) The Mahavamsa, the comprehensive historical chronicle was written in?**

- a) Pali
- b) Prakrit
- c) Sanskrit
- d) Magadhi

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** There are hardly any comprehensive contemporary accounts or literary works which refer to the Mauryan emperors though they are mentioned in various Buddhist and Jain texts as well as in some Hindu works like the brahmanas.

The Mahavamsa, the comprehensive historical chronicle in Pali from Sri Lanka, is an important additional source.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Who among the following was deciphered the inscriptions of Brahmi script at Sanchi?**

- a) James Prinsep
- b) Mortimer wheeler
- c) Alexander Cunningham
- d) Bruce Foote

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The reconstruction of the Mauryan period to a great extent became possible only after the Brahmi script of the inscriptions at Sanchi was deciphered by James Prinsep in 1837.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) The play “mudrarakshasa by visakhadatta” was written during the period of?**

- a) Gupta period
- b) Mauryan period
- c) Shungas period
- d) Satavahana Period

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The play Mudrarakshasa by Visakhadatta was written during the Gupta period, sometime after the 4th century CE.

It narrates Chandragupta's accession to the throne of the Magadha Empire and the exploits of his chief advisor Chanakya or Kautilya by listing the strategies he used to counter an invasion against Chandragupta.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) The Taxila city was brought to light by the excavation carried out by?**

- a) Sir John Marshall
- b) Mortimer Wheeler
- c) Alexander Cunningham
- d) Friedrich Oscar Oertel

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Takshashila or Taxila is situated in presentday Pakistan. Between the fifth century and fourth century BCE, it was part of the Achaemenid Empire of Persia.

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- Because of its strategic location on the trade route between the East and the West, it emerged as an important centre of learning and culture.
- Students came from far and wide to Taxila in search of knowledge. The city was brought to light by the excavation carried out in the 1940s by Sir John Marshall.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) With reference to mahajanapadas period, the term “karsa” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Coins
- b) War materials
- c) Spies
- d) Traders

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The earliest coins in India are traced to the period of the mahajanapadas. The Indian word for coin karsa is of Persian origin.

The coins might have been inspired by the Persian coins. The existence of coins in that period suggests trade links between India and Persia.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) With reference to mauryan period, the term “satrap” was associated with?**

- a) Emperor
- b) King
- c) Governor
- d) Village head

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** A governor of an ancient Persian province was called a satrap. These areas ruled by satraps were called "satrapies".

- The Persian emperor Cyrus the Great first chose satraps to rule individual provinces, around 530 BCE.
- Each satrap controlled a specific amount of land, collecting taxes and maintaining law and order.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Who among the following king of mauryan kingdom defeated the Alexander’s general Seleucus?**

- a) Chandragupta
- b) Bindusara
- c) Ashoka
- d) Kala asoka

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** After the death of Alexander, Seleucus had established his kingdom extending up to Punjab.

- Chandragupta defeated him in a battle some time before 301 BCE and drove him out of the Punjab region.
- The final agreement between the two was probably not too acrimonious, since Chandragupta gave Seleucus 500 war elephants.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.9) The “Ashokan edicts and inscriptions” were written in which of the following scripts?**

1. Brahmi script
2. Kharosthi script
3. Devnagri script

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The edicts of Ashoka thus constitute the most concrete source of information about the Mauryan Empire.

- There are 33 edicts comprising 14 Major Rock Edicts, 2 known as Kalinga edicts, 7 Pillar Edicts, some Minor Rock Edicts and a few Minor Pillar Inscriptions.
- The edicts were written mostly in the Brahmi script and in Magadhi and Prakrit.
- The Kandahar inscriptions are in Greek and Aramaic, while the two inscriptions in north-west Pakistan are in Kharosthi script.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. The second Buddhist council held during the period of Ashoka.
2. An important outcome of third Buddhist council was the decision to expand the reach of Buddhism to other parts of the region and to send missions to convert people to the religion.

**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:** One of the major events of Ashoka’s reign was the convening of the Third Buddhist sangha (council) in 250 BCE in the capital Pataliputra.

- Ashoka’s deepening commitment to Buddhism meant that royal patronage was extended to the Buddhist establishment.
- An important outcome of this sangha was the decision to expand the reach of Buddhism to other parts of the region and to send missions to convert people to the religion.

**Source: NCERT**

## Political & Cultural Developments in 200BCE to 300 BCE

**Q.1) How many of the following given statements was/were associated with king “Kanishka”?**

1. His kingdom has two capitals.
2. He started the Shaka era.
3. He held the third Buddhist Council.

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

- a) Only one statement
- b) Only two statements
- c) All three statements
- d) None of the above given statements

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Kanishka had two capitals: Purushapura (present day Peshawar) and Mathura: He built a giant stupa to house the Buddha’s relics in the city of Purushapura.

- The building was still intact with all its magnificence when the Chinese pilgrim Fa-Hien visited the area later in the early fifth century CE.
- Started the Shaka era (78 CE), which is accepted as the beginning of his reign, and which is now used by the Government of India for its calendar.
- Held the fourth Buddhist council at Kundalavana (near Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir) under the presidency of Vasumitra.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.2) How many of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?**

**Author : Work**

1. Ashvagoshā : Buddhacharita
2. Charaka : Sasruta
3. Vasumitra : Mahavibhasa

**Choose the correct answer from below given codes:**

- a) Only one pair
- b) Only two pairs
- c) All three pairs
- d) None of the above given pairs

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Kanishka patronised great scholars and eminent personalities of that era such as:

- Ashvagoshā: A Buddhist scholar who wrote the hagiographic Buddhacharita (the sacred biography of the Buddha) and composed the Saundarananda (a Sanskrit kavya).
- Charaka: He is known as the father of Ayurveda who wrote a book on medicine called Charaksamhita and also wrote the Sasruta.
- Vasumitra: An eminent philosopher who authored the encyclopaedia of Buddhist philosophy called Mahavibhasa.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

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**Q.3) Who among the following propounded the philosophy of “Madhyamaka”?**

- a) Nagarjuna
- b) Vasumitra
- c) Charaka
- d) Ashvagoshha

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Nagarjuna is often termed an Indian Einstein who proposed the Theory of Relativity in his time in the form of a Sutra, the Prajna Parimata Sutra. He was also a great exponent of the Mahayana doctrine and propounded the Madhyamaka (also known as Sunyavada School) which focuses on sunyata or emptiness.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.4) Sudarshan Lake from Chandragupta Maurya’s reign was located at?**

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Gujarat
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Punjab

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Rudradaman I is famous in history because of the repairs he undertook to improve the Sudarshan Lake from Chandragupta Maurya’s reign, located in the semi-arid zone of Kathiawar, and this task is described in the famous Junagarh or Girnar Inscription (dated in the Shaka year 72, i.e., 150– 151 CE).

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.5) Zoroastrianism was developed in which of the following Ancient Areas?**

- a) Nile Civilization Area
- b) Indus Valley Civilization Area
- c) Mayan Civilization Area
- d) Persian Civilization Area

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Zoroastrianism refers to the religion developed from the teachings of the Persian prophet Zoroaster or Zarathushtra. Zoroastrianism was influential on the history, culture, and art of Persia, as well as on the development of other religions. According to scholars, Zoroastrianism was the first religion to believe in angels, a day of judgment, a Demonic figure, and a battle between forces of good and evil.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.6) Who among the following is known as “Father of cosmetic Surgery”?**

- a) Maharishi Sushruta
- b) Kapil Mani
- c) Charak Rishi
- d) Acharya Kanad

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** During the 6th century BCE, an Indian physician named Sushruta - widely regarded as the 'Father of Indian Medicine' and 'Father of Plastic Surgery' - wrote one of the world's earliest works on medicine and surgery. Sushruta lived in the ancient city of Kashi, now known as Varanasi or Banaras in the northern part of India.

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Sushruta Samhita:

Sushruta is known for his pioneering operations and techniques and for his influential treatise 'Sushruta Samhita' or Compendium of Sushruta, the main source of knowledge about surgery in ancient India. Written in Sanskrit, the Sushruta Samhita dates back to the times before Christ and is one of the earliest works in the field of medicine. It forms the foundations of the ancient Hindu form of medicine known as Ayurveda and is highly regarded as one of the 'Great Trilogy of Ayurvedic Medicine.'

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.7) Consider the given below pairs:**

<b>Author</b>	<b>Book</b>
1. Kautilya	Arthashastra
2. Kalidasa	Mudrarakshasa
3. Vishakhadatta	Malvikagnimitram

**Which of the above given pairs is/are correctly matched?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Dharmasutras and the Smritis, are rules and regulations for the general public and the rulers. It can be termed in the modern concept as the constitution and the law books for the ancient Indian polity and society. These are also called Dharmashastras. These were compiled between 600 and 200 B.C. Manusmriti is prominent among the Kautilya's Arthashastra, a book on statecraft was written in the Maurya period. The text is divided into 15 chapters known as books. Different books deal with different subject matter concerning polity, economy and society. It appears that even before the final version of Arthashastra was written in the fourth century B.C. by Kautilya, there appeared a tradition of writing on and teaching of statecrafts because Kautilya acknowledges his debt to his predecessors in the field. Mudrarakshasa, a play written by Vishakhadatta, also gives a glimpse of society and culture. Kalidasa's Malavikagnimitram is based on some events of the reign of Pusyamitra Sunga, a dynasty which followed the Mauryas.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.8) Stories of Pushyamitra's brutality and hostility against Buddhism are described in which of the following text?**

- a) Divyavadana
- b) Manusmriti
- c) Jataka stories
- d) Mahabhasya

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Religion and society during the post-Mauryan period witnessed the following changes.

- Rise of Brahmanism: People in the post-Mauryan period practised Vedic religion, Buddhism, and Jainism. However, Brahmanism experienced a resurgence under Shunga's rule. There was an increase in rituals such as Ashwamedha and Rajasuya. Stories of Pushyamitra's brutality and hostility against Buddhism are described in the Divyavadana.
- Varna system: During the post-Mauryan period, the four-fold varna system was also revived. Thus, the social structure became rigid as the fourfold varna system was strengthened. The dominance of priests and the ruling class was strengthened, while the conditions of Shudras remained unchanged.

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- Position of women: Women's position in society was generally limited to domestic roles, and they were expected to follow strict codes of conduct as mentioned in the Manusmriti.
- Cultural expanse: It was the period of the emergence of various mixed castes and the integration of foreigners into Indian society.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.9) Which one of the following books of Ancient India has the love story of the son of the founder of the Sunga Dynasty?**

- Swapnavasavadatta
- Malvikagnimitra
- Meghadoota
- Ratnavali

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** "Malvikagnimitra", a Sanskrit drama written by Kalidasa, is related to him and is based on the love between Vidharbha princess Malvika and Sunga king Agnimitra.

**Source: UPSC PYQ**

**Q.10) Which of the following dynasty was called "moon tribe"?**

- Shakas
- Indo Greeks
- Kushans
- Satavahanas

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Kushanas were also referred to as Yueh-Chis (Moon tribe) or Tocharians, who were one of the five clans (Kuei-shang) into which the Yue-chi tribe was divided.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

## Early Historical Period of South India

**Q.1) With reference to ancient India, the term "Cheras" is associated with which of the following?**

- Kerala
- Andhra Pradesh
- West Bengal
- Assam

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Chera dynasty was an ancient Sangam age dynasty. It played a significant role in forming the land of Kerala by unifying diverse regions along the western coast and Western Ghats.

- The Cheras, specifically from the Kongu region, controlled eastern Kerala and a small portion of present-day western Tamil Nadu during the early medieval period.
- During the early medieval period, the Chera dynasty, one of the ancient Dravidian dynasties, governed the regions of present-day Kerala and parts of Tamil Nadu.

**Source: NCERT**



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**Q.2) In which of the following place/s stupas and chaityas located?**

1. Amaravati
2. Nagarjunakonda
3. Tirupati

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Buddhist sites with stupas and chaityas located in Andhra and Karnataka regions (Amaravati, Nagarjunakonda, etc.).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements:**

1. Buddhist stupas evolved out of the burial of the ashes of the mortal remains of the Buddha.
2. Buddhist sacred architecture originated with the eight stupas where the ashes were divided.

**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 stupa is a heap of clay that evolved out of earthen funerary mounds, in which the ashes of the dead were buried.

- Buddhist stupas evolved out of the burial of the ashes of the mortal remains of the Buddha.
- Buddhist sacred architecture originated with the eight stupas where the ashes were divided.
- Hemispherical shape, the stupa symbolizes the universe; and the Buddha represents the emperor of the spiritual universe.
- The stupa has a path around it for devotional circumambulation.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Which of the following is/are part of Sangam Literature?**

1. Tholkappiyam
2. Ettuththokai
3. Paththuppattu

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Classical Sangam corpus consists of Tholkappiyam, the eight anthologies (Ettuththokai), Paththuppattu.

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Tholkappiyam, attributed to Tholkappiyar, is the earliest extant Tamil grammatical text dealing not only with poetry but also the society and culture of the times.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Periplus of Erythrean Sea - Herodotus
2. Natural History - Pliny the Elder's
3. Geography - Ptolemy

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The following Greek and Latin sources inform us about the long distance cultural and commercial connections.

- The Periplus of Erythrean Sea, an ancient Greek text of the first century CE.
- Pliny the Elder's Natural History, first century CE
- Ptolemy's Geography, second century CE

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Which of the following was/were associated with "Satavahana Kingdom"?**

1. Gautamiputra Satakarni
2. Vasishthiputra Pulumavi
3. Hala

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Gautamiputra Satakarni was the greatest of the Satavahana kings. He defeated the Shaka ruler Nahapana and reissued the coins of Nahapana with his own royal insignia.

- Vasishthiputra Pulumavi, the successor of Gautamiputra Satakarni, expanded the frontiers of the Satavahana Empire.
- King Hala is credited with the writing of Gatha Sattasai, a collection of 700 love poems.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. The Satavahana Empire declined around the 3rd century CE and was replaced by the Rashtrakutas.
2. The Naneghat inscription refers to tax exemptions given to the lands granted to Buddhist monks.

**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 Satavahana Empire declined around the 3rd century CE and was replaced by the Ikshvakus, followed by the Pallavas, in Andhra and the Kadambas in northern Karnataka.

The Naneghat inscription refers to tax exemptions given to the lands granted to Buddhist monks. Thus we notice the beginning of priestly groups attaining higher status.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Which of the following is not part of “muvendar”?**

- a) Cheras
- b) Cholas
- c) Satiyaputra
- d) Pandians

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Though the three Tamil ruling families were known to Asoka in the third century BCE itself, some individual names are known only from the Sangam poems of the first century and later.

Known as muvendar, ‘the three crowned kings’, the Cheras, Cholas and Pandians controlled major agrarian territories, trade routes and towns.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Tiger was their emblem.
2. Pattinappalai offers elaborate descriptions of the bustling trading activity here during the rule of Karikalan.

**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 Cholas controlled the central and northern parts of Tamil Nadu. Their core area of rule was the Kaveri delta, later known as Cholamandalam.

- Their capital was Uraiyur (near Thiruchirappalli town) and Puhar or Kaviripattinam was an alternative royal residence and chief port town.
- Tiger was their emblem. Kaviripattinam attracted merchants from various regions of the Indian Ocean.
- Pattinappalai, composed by the poet Kattiyalur Uruttirankannanar, offers elaborate descriptions of the bustling trading activity here during the rule of Karikalan.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) Vanji was the capital of which of the following kingdom?**

- a) Satavahana
- b) Cholas
- c) Cheras
- d) Pandyans

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Cheras controlled the central and northern parts of Kerala and the Kongu region of Tamil Nadu.

- Vanji was their capital and the ports of the west coast, Musiri and Tondi, were under their control.
- Vanji is identified with Karur, while some scholars identify it with Tiruvanchaikalam in Kerala.

**Source: NCERT**

## The Guptas and the Vakatakas

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

1. Feudalism as an institution began to take root during the Gupta period.
2. Due to effective guild system and overseas trade, the Gupta economy boomed.

**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:** After the Mauryan Empire, many small kingdoms rose and fell. In the period from c. 300 to 700 CE, a classical pattern of an imperial rule evolved, paving the way for state formation in many regions.

- During this period, the Gupta kingdom emerged as a great power and achieved the political unification of a large part of the Indian subcontinent.
- It featured a strong central government, bringing many kingdoms under its hegemony.
- Feudalism as an institution began to take root during this period.
- With an effective guild system and overseas trade, the Gupta economy boomed.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) With reference to the Gupta period, arrange the following rulers chronologically:**

1. Sri Gupta
2. Ghatotkacha
3. Chandragupta I

**Which of the following code is correct?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The first ruler of the Gupta Empire was Sri Gupta (240–280 CE) who was succeeded by his son Ghatotkacha (280–319 CE).

- Both Sri Gupta and Ghatotkacha are mentioned as Maharajas in inscriptions.

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- Chandragupta I, the son of Ghatotkacha, ruled from 319 to 335 CE and is considered to be the first great king of the Gupta Empire.
- Chandragupta held the title of maharaja-adhiraja (great king over other kings).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Who among the following was called “Kaviraja”?**

- a) Sri Gupta
- b) Ghatotkacha
- c) Samudragupta
- d) Chandragupta I

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Samudragupta patronised scholars and poets like Harisena and thus promoted Sanskrit literature.

- Though an ardent follower of Vaishnavism, he also patronised the great Buddhist scholar Vasubandhu.
- As a lover of poetry and music, he was given the title “Kaviraja”.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Who among the following was called “Vikramaditya”?**

- a) Sri Gupta
- b) Ghatotkacha
- c) Chandragupta I
- d) Chandragupta II

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Named after his grandfather, Chandragupta II was a capable ruler, who ruled for 40 years from c. 375 to 415 CE.

He came to power after a succession struggle with his brother Rama Gupta. He is also known as Vikramaditya.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Who among the following is not part of navaratnas of Chandragupta II?**

- a) Kalidasa
- b) Harisena
- c) Amarasimha
- d) Shukra

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Chandra Gupta II court had nine jewels or navaratnas, that is, nine eminent people in various fields of art, literature and science.

This included the great Sanskrit poet Kalidasa, the Sanskrit scholar Harisena, the lexicographer Amarasimha, and the physician Dhanvantari.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Chandragupta II”:**

1. Fahien, the Buddhist scholar from China, visited India during his reign.
2. He was the first Gupta ruler to issue silver coins.

**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:** Fahien, the Buddhist scholar from China, visited India during Chandragupta II reign. He records the prosperity of the Gupta Empire.

Chandragupta II was the first Gupta ruler to issue silver coins. His rule thus formed the peak period of Gupta’s territorial expansion.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Which of the following role/s was/were played by “Harisena” of Chandragupta II?**

1. Sanskrit scholar
2. Kumaramatyā
3. Mahadandanayaka

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Individuals holding the ranks of kumaramatyā sometimes had additional designations as well, and such ranks were hereditary.

For example, Harisena, composer of the Allahabad prashasti (inscriptions of praise), was a kumaramatyā, sandhivigrahika and mahadandanayaka, and was the son of Dhruvabhuti, a mahadandanayaka.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) With reference to the administration of Guptas, the term “uparikas” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Emperor
- b) Council of Minister
- c) Governor
- d) Noble Priests

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Gupta Empire was divided into provinces known as deshas or bhuktis. They were administered by governors who were usually designated as uparikas.

- The uparika was directly appointed by the king and he, in turn, frequently appointed the head of the district administration and the district board.
- Uparika carried on the administration “with the enjoyment of the rule consisting of elephants, horses and soldiers”, indicating his control over the military machinery as well.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.9) With reference to the administration of Guptas, the term “visayas” was associated with which of the following?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The provinces of the Gupta Empire were divided into districts known as visayas, which were controlled by officers known as vishyapatis.

- The vishyapatis seems to have been generally appointed by the provincial governor.
- Sometimes, even the kings directly appointed the vishyapatis.
- Prominent members of the town assisted the vishyapati in administrative duties.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) The famous “Betla National Park” is often seen in news related to?**

- a) Jharkhand
- b) Chhattisgarh
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Andhra Pradesh

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Betla National Park is a national park located on the Chota Nagpur Plateau in the Latehar and Palamu district of Jharkhand, India. The park hosts a wide variety of wildlife.

**Source:FORUMIAS**

## Buddhism and Jainism and their contributions to Indian culture

**Q.1) Who among the following was patronized by a rich potter woman called Halahala?**

- a) Mahavira
- b) Buddha
- c) Makkhali Gosala
- d) Nanda Vaccha

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Gosala, who was the third and the greatest of the Ajivikas.

- Gosala met Mahavira for the first time in Nalanda and their friendship lasted for six years. They separated due to doctrinal differences.
- Gosala then went to Sravasti, where he was patronised by a rich potter woman called Halahala.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Mahavira was known as Jina of the soul and hence his sect came to be known as Jainism.
2. According to Jaina tradition, Risabha was the founder of the Jaina 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:** Mahavira was known as Jina (conqueror) of the soul and hence his sect came to be known as Jainism.

- According to Jain tradition, Mahavira was not the founder of Jainism, but the last of the 24 Tirthankaras or 'maker of fords' (ford means a shallow place in river or stream to allow one to walk across).
- According to Jaina tradition, Risabha was the founder of the sect. He is considered the first Tirthankara.

**Source: NCERT**

### Q.3) Consider the following statements:

1. Vardhamana was born in Kundagrama.
2. He belongs to Jnatrika clan.

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:** Vardhamana was born around 540 BCE in Kundagrama, a suburb of Vaishali.

- He was a member of the ruling family of a gana-sangha and his father Siddhartha was the chief of the Jnatrika clan.
- His mother Trishala was a Lichchavi princess and sister of its chief Chetaka.

**Source: NCERT**

### Q.4) In which of the following place/s Jainism followers found?

1. Karnataka
2. Gujarat
3. Rajasthan

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Magadha was affected by severe famine and some of the Jaina monks under Bhadrabahu went south to maintain their strict discipline.

- They remained without garments and were known as Digambaras (space-clad or naked).



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- Others stayed back under the leadership of Sthulabhadra and adopted a white garment and were known as Svetambaras (white-clad).
- The schism weakened Jainism in Magadha, but it found ardent followers in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Karnataka.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

1. Valabhi council added 12 upangas to Jaina texts.
2. Most of the early Jaina texts were written in Ardha-Magadhi.

**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:** On the death of Bhadrabahu, Shulabhadra held a Great Council at Pataliputra, which compiled the Jaina canon.

- It consisted of 12 angas (limbs). Another council was held in Valabhi, Gujarat, in the 5th century CE.
- It added 12 upangas (minor sections). The Jaina monks not only wrote religious treatises but also promoted secular literature.
- Acharrangasutra, Sutrakritanga, and Kalpasutra are the earliest Jaina texts.
- Most of the early Jaina texts were written in Ardha-Magadhi, the language of the common people.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding Jainism?**

1. It criticizes human emotions.
2. It denies the existence of God.
3. It emphasizes that salvation cannot be attained by worshipping god or by sacrifices.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The central tenet of Jainism is non-violence. No other religion lays as much emphasis on non-violence as does Jainism.

- It also criticizes human emotions. Jainism denies the existence of God.
- In its early stages, deity was not worshipped in Jainism.
- It emphasizes that salvation cannot be attained by worshipping god or by sacrifices.
- It stipulates that one can escape misery only by performing austerities.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.7) Which of the following is/are great vows of Jainism?**

1. Not to kill or injure
2. Not to steal
3. Not to lie

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Jain monks have to undertake the five great vows (pancha-mahavrata): (1) Not to kill or injure (ahimsa); (2) Not to steal (asteya); (3) Not to lie (satya); (4) Celibacy (brahmacharya); (5) Not to possess property (aparigraha).

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

1. Buddhism ideas were adopted by Asoka as a state policy.
2. Gautama Buddha was born as Siddhartha in the Sakya clan.

**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:** Among the heterodox sects, Buddhism was the most popular. It went on to emerge as a powerful religion patronised by various rulers.

- It was so influential that its ideas were adopted by Asoka as a state policy.
- Gautama Buddha was born as Siddhartha in the Sakya clan to its king Sudhodhana and his chief queen Mahamaya.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) The “Alara Kalama” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Mahavira
- b) Buddha
- c) Gosala
- d) Ajita Kesakambalin

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Siddhartha (Gautama Buddha) wandered about and joined Alara Kalama as a disciple for a brief period. He also sought guidance from a hermit Uddaka Ramaputta.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) The Fourth Buddhist Council was held at Kashmir during the reign of?**

- a) Chandragupta I
- b) Kanishka
- c) Gautamiputra Satakarni
- d) Ashoka

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Fourth Buddhist Council was held at Kashmir during the reign of Kanishka.

**Source: NCERT**

## Early Medieval India: The Age of regional configurations (600 - 1200 CE)

**Q.1) Which of the following area/s was/were under the patronage of "huns"?**

1. Punjab
2. Rajasthan
3. Malwa region

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** North India splintered into several warrior kingdoms after the downfall of the Gupta Empire. Excepting in the areas that were subdued by the Huns (modern Punjab, Rajasthan and Malwa), regional identity became pronounced with the emergence of many small states.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) The "Maithriyas" had organized a powerful state in?**

- a) Andhra
- b) Oudh
- c) Sourashtra
- d) Malabar

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Maithriyas had organized a powerful state in Sourashtra (Gujarat), with Valabhi as their capital.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Which of the following area/s was/were under the influence of "Maukharis"?**

1. Agra
2. Oudh
3. Bengal

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Agra and Oudh were organized into an independent and sovereign state by the Maukharis.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.4) Thaneswar, lying north of Delhi between Sutlej and Yamuna, was formed into an independent state by?**

- a) Vakatakas
- b) Pushyabhutis
- c) Shungas
- d) Utpalas

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Thaneswar, lying north of Delhi between Sutlej and Yamuna, was formed into an independent state by Pushyabhutis. It rose to prominence under Harsha.

Harsha ruled the kingdom as large as that of the Guptas from 606 to 647 CE.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. Harshacharita was the first formal biography of a king.
- 2. Harshacharita was written by Bana.

**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:** Bana's Harshacharita was the first formal biography of a king. It inaugurated a new literary genre in India.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Which of the following provide/s the epigraphical sources about Harsha's reign?**

- 1. Madhuban copper plate inscription
- 2. Sonpat inscription on copper seal
- 3. Banskhera copper plate inscription

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Despite political rivalry and conflict among the states, Thaneswar, lying north of Delhi between Sutlej and Yamuna, was formed into an independent state by Pushyabhutis.

It rose to prominence under Harsha. Harsha ruled the kingdom as large as that of the Guptas from 606 to 647 CE.

Epigraphical sources:

- Madhuban copper plate inscription
- Sonpat inscription on copper seal
- Banskhera copper plate inscription
- Nalanda inscription on clay seals

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

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

1. He was the founder of the Vardhana dynasty.
2. He served as a military general under the imperial Guptas.

**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 founder of the Vardhana dynasty was Pushyabhuti who ruled from Thanesar. He served as a military general under the imperial Guptas and rose to power after the fall of the Guptas.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Who among the following was treacherously murdered by Sasanka, the Gauda ruler of Bengal?**

- a) Pushyabhuti
- b) Prabakara Vardhana
- c) Rajavardhana
- d) Harsha-varadhana

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Rajavardhana (605-606 CE), the eldest son of Prabhakaravardhana, ascended the throne after his father's death.

- He was treacherously murdered by Sasanka, the Gauda ruler of Bengal.
- This resulted in his younger brother Harsha-varadhana becoming the king of Thanesar.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) The term "Pragiyatisha kingdom" is related to which of the following?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Warangal
- c) Assam
- d) Vidarbha

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Harsha entered into an alliance with the king of Kamarupa (Pragiyatisha), which is today the modern Assam.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) Which of the following is/are come/s under the "Gauda Empire"?**

1. Magatha
2. Gouda
3. Odra

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Harsha have successfully subjugated the Gauda Empire, which included Magatha, Gouda, Odra and Kongoda only after the death of Sasanka.

**Source: NCERT**

## Revision

**Q.1) Which of the following was/were the feudatories of “Harsha”?**

1. Jalandhar
2. Kashmir
3. Nepal

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Harsha ruled for 41 years. His feudatories included those of Jalandhar (in the Punjab), Kashmir, Nepal and Valabhi.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Which of the following is NOT correctly matched with regarding to Harsha’s Administration?**

- a) Avanti – Minister for Foreign Relations and War
- b) Simhananda – Commander-in-Chief
- c) Skandagupta – Chief Commandant of Elephant Force
- d) Dirghadhvajjas – Chief Cavalry Officer

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** It appears that the ministerial administration during the reign of Harsha was the same as that of the imperial Guptas.

- The emperor was assisted by a council of ministers (Mantri Parishad) in his duties.
- Dirghadhvajjas - Royal Messengers
- Kuntala - Chief Cavalry Officer

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Which of the following tax/taxes was/were collected during Harsha’s Reign?**

1. Bhaga
2. Hiranya
3. Bali

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Bhaga, Hiranya and Bali were the three kinds of tax collected during Harsha’s reign.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Harsha’s Administration”:**

1. Bhaga was the land tax paid in kind.
2. Hiranya was the tax paid by farmers and merchants in cash.

**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:** Bhaga, Hiranya and Bali were the three kinds of tax collected during Harsha’s reign.

- Bhaga was the land tax paid in kind.
- One-sixth of the produce was collected as land revenue.
- Hiranya was the tax paid by farmers and merchants in cash.
- There is no reference to the tax Bali.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) With reference to the administration of Harsha, the term “Mimamsakas” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Spies
- b) Priests
- c) Traders
- d) Justice

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Criminal law was more severe than that of the Gupta age. Mimamsakas were appointed to dispense justice. Banishment and the cutting of limbs of the body were the usual punishments.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following was called as “prince of pilgrims”?**

- a) Nikitin
- b) Al-beruni
- c) Hieun Tsang
- d) Menander

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Hieun Tsang, the Chinese pilgrim, spent nearly 13 years in India (630–643 CE), collecting sacred texts and relics which he took back to China.

He was known as the “prince of pilgrims” because he visited important pilgrim centres associated with the life of Buddha.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) With reference to the administration of Harsha, the term “Vishayas” related to which of the following?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Empire was divided into several provinces. The actual number of such provinces is not known.

- Each province was divided into Bhuktis. And each Bhukti was divided into several Vishayas.

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- They were like the districts. Each vishaya was further divided into Pathakas.
- Each such area was divided into several villages for the sake of administrative convenience.

Source: NCERT

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding society during Harsha's reign:**

1. Women wore purdah.
2. Both men and women adorned themselves with gold and silver ornaments.

**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:** Hieun Tsang's account also provides us information on the position of women and the marriage system of the times. Women wore purdah.

- The life pattern of the people of India during the rule of Harsha is known from the accounts of Hieun Tsang. People lived a simple life. They dressed in colorful cotton and silk clothes.
- The art of wearing fine cloth had reached perfection. Both men and women adorned themselves with gold and silver ornaments.

Source: NCERT

**Q.9) Which of the following was/were written by "Harshavardhan"?**

1. Kadambari
2. Priyadarsika
3. Rathnavali

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Harsha patronised literary and cultural activities. It is said the state spent a quarter of its revenue for such activities.

- Bana, the author of Harshacharita and Kadambari, was a court poet of Harsha.
- The emperor himself was a renowned litterateur, which is evident from the plays he wrote such as Priyadarsika, Rathnavali and Nagananda.

Source: NCERT



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**Q.10) Consider the following statements regarding “Nalanda University” during Harsha reign:**

1. Shilabhadra was the head of the University during the visit of Hieun Tsang.
2. Students and scholars from Buddhist countries were stayed and studied in the university.

**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:** Hieun Tsang recorded the fame of the Nalanda University. Students and scholars from the Buddhist countries like China, Japan, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Tibet and some other countries of Central and Southeast Asia stayed and studied in the university.

Shilabhadra, a reputed Buddhist scholar, who probably hailed from Assam, was the head of the University during the visit of Hieun Tsang.

**Source: NCERT**

## Period from c. 850-1200ce: Southern India

**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Aihole inscription”:**

1. It was made during Pulikesin II reign.
2. It was composed by poet Ravikirti in Sanskrit.

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

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) The “Nalayira Divya Prabhandam” was related to which of the following?**

- a) Poems of the Vaishnavite
- b) Poems of the Shaivite
- c) Poems of the Durga
- d) Poems of the Karthikeya

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Bhakti movement which originated in South India found its greatest expression in the songs composed by the Azhwars and Nayanmars.

The poems of the Vaishnavite Azhwars were later compiled as the Nalayira Divya Prabhandam.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.3) Which of the following was/were correctly matched?**

1. Thevaram – Appar
2. Thiruvavasagam – Manickavasagar
3. Periyapuram – Sundarar

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Saiva literature was canonized as the Panniru Tirumurai. The Thevaram, composed by Appar (Thirunavukkarasar), Sambandar (Thirugnanasambandar) and Sundarar; and Thiruvavasagam by Manickavasagar are prominent texts which are read as sacred literature to this day.

Periyapuram written by Sekizhar, in a later period, also provides much historical information.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Hiuen Tsang and Itsing give us details about the socio-religious and cultural conditions of the Pallava times.
2. Coins help us to understand the economic condition of the 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:** Many inscriptional sources including the Allahabad Pillar inscription of Samudragupta and the Aihole inscription of the Chalukya king Pulakesin II provide details of Pallava - Chalukya conflict.

- The Kuram copper plates of Parameshwaravarman and the Velurpalayam copper plates of Nandivarman III record their military achievements.
- Coins help us to understand the economic condition of the period.
- Buddhist sources such as Deepavamsa and Mahavamsa, written in Pali, the accounts of Chinese travellers Hiuen Tsang and Itsing give us details about the socio-religious and cultural conditions of the Pallava times.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) With reference to the ancient India, the “Gangas of Talakad” related to which of the following?**

- a) Mysore
- b) Assam
- c) Bengal
- d) Warangal

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Chalukya dynasty emerged as a strong power with its founder Pulikesin I (c. 535- 566 CE) fortifying a hill near Badami.

- One of the most outstanding victories of Pulikesin II was the defeat of Harshavardhana’s army on the banks of the Narmada.

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- The kings of Malwa, Kalinga, and eastern Deccan accepted his suzerainty.
- His victories over Kadambas of Banvasi, and Gangas of Talakad (Mysore) are also worthy of note.

Source: NCERT

**Q.6) The famous “Megudi temple” is located at which of the following state?**

- Andhra Pradesh
- Tamil Nadu
- Karnataka
- Bengal

ANS: C

**Explanation:** The Megudi temple at Aihole (in Karnataka) stands on top of a hill. On the eastern wall of this Jaina temple is a 19-line Sanskrit inscription (dated to 556 Saka era: 634-635). The composer is a poet named Ravikriti.

Source: NCERT

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding “Chalukya Administration”:**

1. The king was the head of the administration.
2. The wild boar was the royal insignia of the Chalukyas.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

ANS: C

**Explanation:** The king was the head of the administration. In dynastic succession primogeniture was not strictly followed.

- Generally, the elder was to be appointed as yuvaraja while the king was in the office.
- The wild boar was the royal insignia of the Chalukyas.
- It was claimed that it represented the varaha avatar of Vishnu in which he is said to have rescued the Goddess of the Earth.

Source: NCERT

**Q.8) With reference to the “Chalukya Administration”, the term “Samaharta” was associated with?**

- Head minister
- Minister of foreign affairs
- Revenue minister
- Minister of exchequer

ANS: D

**Explanation:** All powers were vested in the king. Inscriptions do not specifically speak of a council of ministers, but they do refer to an official called maha-sandhi-vigrahika.

Four other categories of ministers are also referred to in the epigraphs: Pradhana (head minister), Mahasandhi-vigrahika (minister of foreign affairs), Amatya (revenue minister), and Samaharta (minister of exchequer).

Source: NCERT

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**Q.9) With reference to the “Chalukya Administration”, the term “Mahatras” was associated with?**

- a) Prominent village men
- b) Village officials
- c) Feudal lords
- d) Governor

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Vishayam, Rastram, Nadu and Grama. Epigraphs speak of the officials like vishayapatis, samantas, gramapohis and mahatras.

- Vishayapatis exercised the power at the behest of the kings.
- Samantas were feudal lords functioning under the control of the state.
- Grampohis and gramkudas were village officials.
- Mahatras were the prominent village men.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. The Chalukyas patronised both Saivism and Vaishnavism.
2. Chalukyas gave prominent place to Kartikeyan, the war god.

**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 Chalukyas patronised both Saivism and Vaishnavism. They built temples for Siva and Vishnu.

- Brahmin groups were invited from the Gangetic regions and settled to perform regular pujas and conduct festivals and ceremonies in the temples.
- Notable Chalukya rulers like Kirtivarman (566-597), Mangalesa (597-609), and Pulikesin II (609-642) performed yagnas.
- They bore titles such as parama-vaishana and parama-maheswara. Chalukyas gave prominent place to Kartikeyan, the war god.

**Source: NCERT**

## Period from c. 1000 to 1200 CE: Northern India

**Q.1) Which of the following is not a Rajput clan?**

- a) Pratiharas
- b) Paramaras
- c) Chahamanas
- d) Maukharis

**ANS: D**

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

- The Pratiharas.
- The Chahamanas/Chauhans of Ajmer.
- The Chandellas of Bundelkhand.

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- The Paramaras of Malwa.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Which of the following was/were rajput clan/s of northern India?**

1. Gahadavalas
2. Tomaras
3. Chalukyas

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** According to medieval bardic traditions, there were about 36 Rajput clans which included Gahadavalas of Kannauj, the Tomaras of Delhi, the Solankis, the Chalukyas of Gujarat, and so on.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “social organization” among rajput clans:**

1. The sense of brotherhood and egalitarianism which prevailed among them.
2. They treated war as a sport.

**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:** Rajput social organization had its advantages as well as disadvantages.

- The sense of brotherhood and egalitarianism which prevailed among the Rajputs was both an advantage and a disadvantage as it also made it difficult to maintain discipline among the different clans.
- They treated war as a sport, which led to continuous warfare among them over struggle for land and cattle.
- Most of the Rajput rulers were staunch Hindus, though some of them patronized Jainism too.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Which of the following was/were king/s of Chahamanas dynasty?**

1. Simharaja
2. Vighararaja II
3. Ajayaraja II

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Chahamanas of Shakambhari, colloquially known as the Chauhans of Sambhar, ruled in parts of the present-day Rajasthan and its neighbouring areas between 7th and 11th centuries CE.

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They were originally feudatories of the Pratiharas and assumed independence during the reign of King Simharaja.

- Simharaja (c. 944–971 CE): Founded the Chahamanas/Chauhan dynasty around 10th century CE and adopted the title of Maharajadhiraja.
- Vigraharaja II (c. 971–998 CE): Defeated Mulraj I and overran Gujarat. Captured the Chittor.
- Ajayaraja II (c. 1110–1135 CE): Next important ruler, who carried on the aggressive policy, defeated the Paramaras and captured their capital Ujjaini.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Who among the following founded the city of Ajmer?**

- a) Simharaja
- b) Vigraharaja II
- c) Ajayaraja II
- d) Vighraha raja IV

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Ajayaraja II (c. 1110–1135 CE): who carried on the aggressive policy, defeated the Paramaras and captured their capital Ujjaini.

He founded the city of Ajayameru (Ajmer).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following authored the famous play “Harikeli Nataka”?**

- a) Simharaja
- b) Vigraharaja II
- c) Ajayaraja II
- d) Vighraha raja IV

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Vighraha raja IV (c. 1150–1164 CE): Also known as Visaldev, who captured Delhi from the Tomars in c.1151 CE but allowed them to rule as feudatories.

- He also took possession of Eastern Punjab, sacked and plundered Gujarat.
- The records of his reign states that his kingdom extended in the north up to the Siwalik Hills and in the south up to Udaipur.
- He Patronized literature and authored a famous play, Harikeli Nataka.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Who among the following called as “Rai Pithora”?**

- a) Simharaja
- b) Vigraharaja II
- c) Ajayaraja II
- d) Prithviraj III

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Prithviraj III (c.1177–1192 CE): 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 neighbors, including the Chandella king Paramardi, Chalukya Bhima II and Gahadvala Jayachandra.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.8) Which of the following rajput rulers built the Lakshmana Temple, Vishvanatha Temple and Kandariya Mahadeva Temple?**

- a) Pratiharas
- b) Paramaras
- c) Chahamanas
- d) Chandellas

**ANS: D**

**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: NCERT**

**Q.9) Who among the following was founder of Chandella dynasty?**

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

**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: NCERT**

**Q.10) The famous king “Dhanga-Deva” was related to which of the following dynasty?**

- a) Pratiharas
- b) Paramaras
- c) Chahamanas
- d) Chandellas

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Dhanga-Deva (c. 950–999 CE): The first independent Chandella king who took the title of Maharajadhiraja and under whose reign the Chandellas had become a sovereign power as unlike the earlier Chandella inscriptions, the records of Dhanga do not mention any Pratihara overlord.

**Source: NCERT**

## Heterodox Schools of Indian Philosophy

**Q.1) The “Basava and Channabasava” was related to which of the following?**

- a) Buddhism
- b) Jainism
- c) Vir Shaiva movement
- d) Alvars movement

**ANS: C**

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

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- Its founder was Basava and his nephew Channabasava, who lived at the court of the Kalachuri kings of Karnataka.
- The Lingayats were worshippers of Shiva and established their faith after bitter disputes with the Jainas.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Which of the following was/were trait/s of Lingayat or Vir Shaiva movement?**

1. Opposed caste system
2. Rejected pilgrimage
3. Supported widow remarriage

**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: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding "Varmam":**

1. It was founded by Sittars of Tamil Nadu.
2. It is a kind of martial art for self-defense and medical treatment simultaneously.

**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:** It is also pertinent to mention the Siddhas (or Sittars) of Tamil Nadu, who held contrasting views with the Bhakti tradition, although some of their ideologies are considered to have originated during the first Sangam Age.

- 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: NCERT**



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**Q.4) The famous “Nath Panthis” were the followers of?**

- a) Kabirdas
- b) Goraknath
- c) Tulsiram
- d) Shankara

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** In the period that the Bhakti movement was gaining popularity in south India, Tantra was gaining traction in northern India.

- They too denounced the caste system and the privileges claimed by the Brahmanas. Tantra, like Bhakti, was open to all.
- The most famous Hindu Yogi who adopted these practices was Goraknath and his followers came to be called Nath Panthis.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

1. The orthodox schools and heterodox schools recognize the authority of the Vedas.
2. The Vedanta school of philosophy has a place for God in it.

**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:** 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 recognise 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: NCERT**

**Q.6) Which of the following is/are part of shatdarshan?**

1. Samkhya
2. Purva Mimansa
3. Uttar Mimansa

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** By the beginning of Christian era, six prominent schools of philosophy (shatdarshan) developed which are Samkhya, Yoga, Nyaya, Vaisheshik, Purva Mimansa and Uttar Mimansa (Vedanta).

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Samkhya is dualist philosophy.
2. It emphasizes more on self knowledge.

**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:** Samkhya: Literally means 'count'. It is the oldest school of philosophy, founded by Kapila.

- Samkhya is strongly dualist as its philosophy regards the universe as consisting of two realities, Purusha (consciousness) and Prakriti (matter), which is further composed of three basic gunas (elements), namely, Tamas, Rajas, and Sattva.
- Emphasises that it is self-knowledge that leads to liberation and not any exterior influence or agent.
- Self-knowledge can be attained by the means of concentration and meditation.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding "Yoga philosophy":**

1. It was founded by Patanjali.
2. Practice of control over pleasure, senses and bodily organs is central theme of this 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 realization 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: NCERT**

**Q.9) Which of the following philosophy also called as "School of Analysis"?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Nyaya: Also known as School of Analysis, which developed as a system of logic by Gautama. Its principles are mentioned in Nyaya Sutras.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.10) Which of the following was propounded by Kannada gives importance to discussion of dravya or material elements?**

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

**ANS: D**

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

- This school propounded the atomic theory and can be marked as the beginning of the physics in ancient India.
- Earth, water, fire, air, and ether (sky) are the aggregates, which combined give rise to new objects.
- It signifies a realistic and objective way of looking at the universe.

**Source: NCERT**

## The Delhi Sultanate

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

1. The geographical location of Arabia facilitated trade contact between India and Arabia.
2. The pre-Islamic Arabs had maritime contacts with the western and eastern coasts 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:** The geographical location of Arabia facilitated trade contact between India and Arabia. As sea-faring traders the pre-Islamic Arabs had maritime contacts with the western and eastern coasts of India.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) With reference to medieval India, the term "Mappillais" associated with?**

- a) Coromandel Coast
- b) Malabar area
- c) Bengal area
- d) Gulf of Kutch

**ANS: B**

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

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.3) Which of the following was the last dynasty of Delhi Sultanate to rule India?**

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

**ANS: D**

**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: NCERT**

**Q.4) The famous “Tarikh-Al-Hind – Indian Philosophy and Religion written in Arabic by who among the following?**

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

**ANS: A**

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

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

1. Alaptigin, a Turkic slave seized the city of Ghazni in eastern Afghanistan and established an independent kingdom.
2. Sabuktigin initiated the process of southward expansion into the Indian subcontinent.

**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 963 Alaptigin, a Turkic slave who had served Samanids as their governor in Khurasan, seized the city of Ghazni in eastern Afghanistan and established an independent kingdom.

- Alaptigin died soon after. After the failure of three of his successors, the nobles enthroned Sabuktigin.
- Sabuktigin initiated the process of southward expansion into the Indian subcontinent.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “Mahmud’s Military Raids”:**

1. He targeted Hindu temples that were depositories of vast treasures.
2. The Ghaznavid soldiers viewed demolishing temples and smashing idols as a demonstration of the invincible power of their god.

**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 ruled for thirty-two years. During this period, he conducted as many as seventeen military campaigns into India.

- He targeted Hindu temples that were depositories of vast treasures.
- Though the motive was to loot, there was also a military advantage in demolishing temples and smashing idols.
- The Ghaznavid soldiers viewed it also as a demonstration of the invincible power of their god.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Who among the following wrote the famous book “Kitab Ul Hind”?**

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

**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.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) In which of the following place/s was/were garrisons established by Muhammad Ghori?**

1. Sind
2. Punjab
3. Haryana

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** If Ghaznavid invasions were intended for loot, the Ghurids enlarged their scope to establish garrison towns to ensure the regular flow of plunder and tribute.

- Muizzuddin Muhammad of the Ghori dynasty, known generally as Muhammad Ghori, invested in territories he seized.
- Through the 1180s and 1190s Ghori established garrisons in the modern provinces of Punjab, Sind, and Haryana.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

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

1. In 1175 Muhammad Ghori seized for the city of Multan.
2. The Chalukyas of Gujarat inflicted a crushing defeat on Muhammad Ghori at Mt. Abu (1179).

**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 1175 Ghori headed for the city of Multan which he seized from its Ismaili ruler. The fort of Uchch fell without a fight.

- The Chalukyas of Gujarat inflicted a crushing defeat on Muhammad Ghori at Mt. Abu (1179).
- After this defeat Ghori changed the course of his expedition, consolidating his position in Sind and the Punjab.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Muhammad Ghori attacked the fortress of Tabarhinda, a strategic point for the Chauhans of Ajmer.
2. The ruler of Ajmer Prithviraj Chauhan marched to Tabarhinda and faced the invader in the First Battle of Tarain (1191).

**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:** Ghori attacked the fortress of Tabarhinda (Bhatinda), a strategic point for the Chauhans of Ajmer.

- The ruler of Ajmer Prithviraj Chauhan marched to Tabarhinda and faced the invader in the First Battle of Tarain (1191).
- Prithviraj scored a brilliant victory in this battle but failed to consolidate his position believing this battle to be a frontier fight, and did not expect the Ghurids to make regular attacks.

**Source: NCERT**

## The Delhi Sultanate – II

**Q.1) The chronicles of “Mifta Ul Futuh and Khazain Ul Futuh” was written by?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Amir Khusrau: Mifta Ul Futuh (Victories of Jalal-ud-din Khalji); Khazain Ul Futuh (Victories of Allauddin Khalji - Texts in Persian).

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.2) Which of the following is not correctly matched?**

- a) Tomaras – Allahabad
- b) Chauhans – Rajasthan
- c) Solankis – Gujarat
- d) Paramaras – Malwa

**ANS: A**

**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.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding military skills of Turks and Rajputs:**

1. The Rajput forces depended more on war elephants.
2. The Turkish horsemen had greater mobility and were skilled in mounted archery.

**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 Rajputs had a long tradition of martial spirit, courage and bravery. There was little difference between the weapons used by the Turks and the Rajputs. But in regimental discipline and training the Rajputs were lax.

- In planning their tactics to suit the conditions, the Turks excelled. Moreover, the Turkish cavalry was superior to the Indian cavalry.
- The Rajput forces depended more on war elephants, which were spectacular but slow moving compared to the Turkish cavalry.
- The Turkish horsemen had greater mobility and were skilled in mounted archery. This was a definite military advantage which the Turks used well against their enemies and emerged triumphant in the battles.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Which of the following was/were related 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.

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- One was Qutb-uddin 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 this dynasty are Qutb-ud-din Aibak, Iltutmish and Balban.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Who among the following was died in an accident while playing chaugan?**

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

**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: NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following is charged with destroying the glorious Buddhist University of Nalanda in Bihar?**

- a) Qutb-ud-din Aibak
- b) Iltutmish
- c) Balban
- d) Muhammad Bin Bhakthiyar Khalji

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Bhakthiyar Khalji is charged with destroying the glorious Buddhist University of Nalanda in Bihar, who is said to have mistaken it for a military camp! Detailed descriptions of Nalanda are found in the travel accounts of Chinese pilgrim Hieun Tsang.

The manuscripts and texts in the hundreds of thousands in the Nalanda library on subjects such as grammar, logic, literature, astronomy and medicine were lost in the Turkish depredations.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) The Bukhara, Samarqand and Baghdad were mainly associated with?**

- a) Trade centres
- b) Mining zones
- c) Pilgrimage centres
- d) Paleolithic sites

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Shams-ud-din Iltutmish (1210-36) of Turkish extraction was a slave of Qutbud-din Aibak. Many of his elite slaves were also of Turkish and Mongol ancestry.

They were brought to Delhi by merchants from trade centres like Bukhara, Samarqand and Baghdad.

**Source: NCERT**



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**Q.8) Who among the following diplomatically saved India by refusing to support the Khwarizmi Shah Jalaluddin of Central Asia against the Mongol ruler Chengiz Khan?**

- a) Qutb-ud-din Aibak
- b) Iltutmish
- c) Balban
- d) Muhammad Bin Bhakthiyar Khalji

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Shams-ud-din Iltutmish, the slave and son-in-law of Qutb-ud-din Aibak, ascended the throne of Delhi setting aside the claim of Aram Shah, the son of Qutb-ud-din Aibak.

- During his tenure he put down the internal rebellions of Rajputs at Gwalior, Ranthambor, Ajmer and Jalore.
- He overcame the challenge of Nasiruddin Qabacha in Lahore and Multan, and frustrated the conspiracy of Alivardan, the Governor of Bengal.
- He diplomatically saved India by refusing to support the Khwarizmi Shah Jalaluddin of Central Asia against the Mongol ruler Chengiz Khan.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Shams-ud-din Iltutmish”:**

1. He completed the Qutb Minar.
2. He introduced the copper and silver tankas.

**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:** Shams-ud-din 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: NCERT**

**Q.10) With reference to medieval India, the term “nisba” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Priests
- b) Spies
- c) Slaves
- d) Farmers

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Bandagan is the plural of banda, literally military slaves. They were graded according to the years of service, proximity and trustworthiness.

- This trust led to their appointment as governors and military commanders. The Ghurid bandagan in North India were the slaves of Muiz-ud Din Ghuri.
- Since these slaves were without a social identity of their own they were given new names by their masters, which included the nisba, which indicated their social or regional identity.

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- Slaves carried the nisba of their master: hence Mu'izz alDin's slave carried the nisba Mu'izzi and later Sultan Shams-ud-Din Iltutmish's slave were called the Shamsi bandagan.

Source: NCERT

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

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

- Telangana
- Karnataka
- Kerala
- 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?**

- Krishna
- Malprabha
- Ghatprabha
- 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?**

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- None

**ANS: C**

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

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- 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.
- 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.

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- 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**

**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 varaha as 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 “mafuzi” 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 (mafuzi) and brought under cultivation.
- New forts were constructed to protect trade routes and village markets.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**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.

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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**

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**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**



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**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**

## The Bhakthi and Sufi Movement

**Q.10) Which of the following connotation/s is/are covered under the “Bhakti”?**

1. Service
2. Piety
3. Worship

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The term Bhakti has different connotations. It includes service, piety, faith and worship. But it also has an extended meaning.

It is an enactment of emotion, aesthetics and sensitivity.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Who among the following not “Azhwars”?**

- a) Nadamuni
- b) Periyalvar
- c) Andal
- d) Sundarar

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Azhwars composed moving hymns addressed to Vishnu. They were compiled in the Nalayira Divviyaprabandham by Nadamuni, at the end of the ninth century.

- Periyalvar lived in Srivilliputtur during the reign of Pandyan king Maravarman Srivallabha in the ninth century.
- The themes are mostly Krishna’s childhood. Krishna is the hero in Andal’s hymns.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements regarding “Adi Sankara”:**

1. Sankara’s non-dualism had its roots in Upanishadic philosophy.
2. He looked upon Saiva and Vaishnava worship as two equally important aspects of the Vedic religion.

**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:** Against the background of the emerging pan-Indian need for an ideology to evolve statehood, a new doctrine was expounded by Sankara from Kaladi, Kerala.

- With his new doctrine of Maya (illusion) he held debates with his counterparts from different sects of religions and won over them.
- Fundamentally, Sankara’s Advaita or non-dualism had its roots in Vedanta or Upanishadic philosophy.

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- Sankara looked upon Saiva and Vaishnava worship as two equally important aspects of the Vedic religion.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. He accepted the monist ideology of Adi Sankara.
2. He took interest in propagating the doctrine of Bhakti to social groups outside the varnashrama system.

**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:** Ramanuja was a teacher-reformer and a great organiser. He challenged the monist ideology of Adi Sankara and in his effort to widen the social base to include social groups other than Brahmins.

- Ramanuja took interest in propagating the doctrine of Bhakti to social groups outside the varnashrama system.
- He influenced some temple authorities to permit the social groups outside the varnashrama system to enter into temple at least once a year.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

1. Bhakti means devotional surrender to a supreme god for attaining salvation.
2. Bhagavad Gita talks about the path of bhakti.

**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:** Bhakti as a religious concept means devotional surrender to a supreme god for attaining salvation.

Even though texts such as the Bhagavad Gita talk about the path of bhakti, or bhakti-marga, the movement gained force only in this period.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements:**

1. Buddhism and Jainism were predominantly patronized by the merchant class.
2. The Bhakti movement originated among the landholding castes, and it was critical of Buddhists and Jains.

**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:** Buddhism and Jainism were predominantly patronized by the merchant class and they were also supported by the state.

The Bhakti movement originated among the landholding castes, and it was critical of Buddhists and Jains. This also led to a fight for royal patronage.

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**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Who among the following not part of “Thevaram”?**

- a) Appar
- b) Sambandar
- c) Sundarar
- d) Maravarman Arikesari

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The bhakti literature, mostly puranas and hagiographical texts, provide information about the religious conflicts in Tamilnadu.

Thevaram consists of the hymns by the three Nayanmars: Appar (Thirunavukkarasar), Sambandar (Thirugnanasambandar) and Sundarar

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Which of the following is/are trait/s of “non-conformist movements”?**

- 1. Pro – caste
- 2. Anti – vedic
- 3. Anti – puranic

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The new political and social situation created conditions for the growth of non-conformist movements with anti-caste, anti-vedic and anti-puranic traditions.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) The terms “Wali and Darvesh” are related to which of the following?**

- a) Spies
- b) Soldiers
- c) Bodyguards
- d) Saints

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** In parallel with the Bhakti movement in Hinduism, Sufism played a similar role in Islam.

The terms Sufi, Wali, Darvesh and Fakir are used for Muslim saints who attempted to develop their intuitive faculties through ascetic exercises, contemplation, renunciation and self denial.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) Which of the following is/are sufi order/s?**

1. Chistis
2. Suhrawardis
3. Qadiriya

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Sufism crystallized into various 'Silsilahs' or orders. The most popular Sufi orders were Chistis, Suhrawardis, Qadiriya and Naqshbandis.

**Source: NCERT**

## Revision

**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding "Sufism":**

1. Its presence is in only urban areas.
2. It rebelled against all forms of religious formalism.

**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:** Sufism took root in both rural and urban areas, and exercised a deep social, political and cultural influence on the masses.

It rebelled against all forms of religious formalism, orthodoxy, falsehood and hypocrisy, and endeavored to create a new world order in which spiritual bliss was the ultimate goal.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Which of the following was/were feature/s of "Bhakti movement"?**

1. The bhakti reformers preached the principles of monotheism.
2. Bhakti reformers believed in freedom from the cycle of life and death.
3. Bhakti reformers advocated that the salvation could be attained only by deep devotion and faith in God.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Salient Features of Bhakti Movement:

1. The bhakti reformers preached the principles of monotheism (oneness of God)

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2. They believed in freedom from the cycle of life and death. They advocated that the salvation could be attained only by deep devotion and faith in God.
3. They emphasized the self-surrender for obtaining the bliss and grace of God.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements:**

1. Kabir was probably a weaver.
2. Kabir was a disciple of Ramananda.

**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:** Kabir is probably the most important cultural figure of medieval India.

- His iconoclastic poetry which ridiculed ostentatiousness and ritual, and emphasized the universality of god won many adherents.
- Little concrete historical evidence is available on his life. He was probably a weaver.
- Said to be a disciple of Ramananda, he learnt Vedanta philosophy from him.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. He was one of the disciples of the bhakti saint-poet Ramananda.
2. His devotional songs were included in the Sikh Scriptures.

**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:** Ravidas was a poet saint of the bhakti movement during the 15th to 16th century.

- The life details of Ravidas are uncertain and contested. Most scholars believe he was born in a family of tanners.
- Ravidas was one of the disciples of the bhakti saint-poet Ramananda.
- **Ravidas' devotional songs were included in the Sikh Scriptures.**

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

1. Guru Nanak founded the Sikh religion.
2. Guru Govind Singh was the last guru of Sikhs.

**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 saint with the biggest institutional influence was Guru Nanak (1469–1539) who founded the Sikh religion which shows undoubted syncretic influence.

- The politics of the times created conflicts with the Mughal Empire leading to persecution which resulted in the martyrdom of its gurus.
- Guru Govind Singh was the last guru. After him the Granth Sahib was considered the guru.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) The famous saint “Chaitanya” belonged to which of the following region?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Goa
- d) West Bengal

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Chaitanya of Bengal represents an aspect of the bhakti movement that is very different from that seen in the lives and teachings of Kabir and his successors.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. He belonged to satara district of Maharashtra.
2. He was a devotee of Vitthala of Pandarpur.

**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:** Namadeva, a son of a tailor and an inhabitant of the village of Naras Vamani in Satara district of Maharashtra, under the influence of Saint Janadeva, was converted to the path of bhakti.

A staunch devotee of Vitthala of Pandarpur, Namdeva spent much of his time in worship along with his followers, chanting mostly in his own verses.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Chaitanya of Bengal belonged to the philosophical school of Madhavacharya.
2. Ramananda belonged to the philosophical school of Ramanuja.

**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:** While Chaitanya of Bengal belonged to the philosophical school of Madhavacharya (a chief advocate of Dvaita school of vedhanta), Ramananda was of Ramanuja's philosophical thought.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?**

1. Meherji Rana – Hinduism
2. Monserrate – Christianity
3. Hira Vijaya Suri – Zoroastrianism

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

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Akbar discussed personally with the leading lights of different religions like Purushotam and Devi (Hinduism), Meherji Rana (Zoroastrianism), the Portugese Aquaviva and Monserrate (Christianity) and Hira Vijaya Suri (Jainism) to ascertain the Truth.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) The term "Tauhid-i-Ilahi" related to which of the following?**

- a) Akbar's philosophy
- b) Village council
- c) Secret agents
- d) Revenue agents

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The exact word used by Akbar and Badauni to illustrate the philosophy of Akbar is Tauhid-i-Ilahi namely Din Ilahi. Tauhid-i-Ilahi literally meant divine monotheism.

**Source: NCERT**



## Coming of Europeans

**Q.1) With reference to coming of Europeans to India, which of the following spices were imported to Europe?**

1. Cinnamon
2. Cloves
3. Pepper

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The beginning of British rule in India is conventionally ascribed to 1757, after the Battle of Plassey was won by the English East India Company against the Nawab of Bengal.

- But the Europeans had arrived in India by the beginning of the sixteenth century.
- Their original intention was to procure pepper, cinnamon, cloves and other spices for the European markets and participate in the trade of the Indian Ocean.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Albuquerque discovered the direct sea route to India from Europe.
2. Portuguese conquered Goa on the west coast in 1510.

**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 Portuguese were the first Europeans to establish themselves in India.

- Vasco da Gama discovered the direct sea route to India from Europe around the Cape of Good Hope at the end of the fifteenth century.
- Subsequently, the Portuguese conquered Goa on the west coast in 1510.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) The famous "Zamorin" was the ruler of which of the following region?**

- a) Calicut
- b) Mysore
- c) Ratnagiri
- d) Pondicherry

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** During his first voyage Vasco da Gama came with 170 men in three vessels. The cordiality of Zamorin, the ruler of Calicut, made him comfortable.

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He journeyed back on 29 August 1498 with only fifty five surviving men and of the three ships, two were laden with Indian goods.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Vasco da Gama”:**

1. On his second visit to India, he moved from Calicut to Cochin.
2. He established a factory in Cochin and a prison at Kannur.

**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:** On 29 October 1502 Gama visited Calicut for the second time with a fleet of 20 vessels. Gama moved from Calicut to Cochin as its harbour was better.

Before he returned to Portugal he established a factory [warehouse] in Cochin and a prison at Kannur.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “Portuguese in India”:**

1. The first Viceroy was Francisco d’ Almeida.
2. Francisco d’ Almeida followed the Blue Water Policy.

**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 Portuguese stopped yearly expeditions and instead decided to appoint a Viceroy.

The first Viceroy was Francisco d’ Almeida who followed what is known as ‘Blue Water Policy,’ and accordingly, he added more ships to strengthen the navy rather than adding more settlements.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following defeated Yusuf Adil Khan, the ruler of Bijapur in 1510 and captured Goa?**

- a) Vasco da Gama
- b) Francisco d’ Almeida
- c) Albuquerque
- d) Nino da Cunha

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Albuquerque (1509-1515), the successor of Almeida, was the real founder of the Portuguese empire in India.

- He defeated Yusuf Adil Khan, the ruler of Bijapur in 1510 and captured Goa.
- He developed Goa into a centre of commerce by making all the ships sail on that route.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.7) In Pulicat, located 60 kilometers north of Chennai, who among the following built the Castle Geldria?**

- a) Portuguese
- b) Dutch
- c) French
- d) British

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Portuguese who established a control over Pulicat since 1502 were overthrown by the Dutch. In Pulicat, located 60 kilometers north of Chennai, the Dutch built the Castle Geldria.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “Dutch East India Company in India”:**

- 1. Pulicat served as the Coromandel headquarters of the Dutch East India Company.
- 2. A gun powder factory was also set up by the Dutch to augment their military power.

**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:** Pulicat served as the Coromandel headquarters of the Dutch East India Company. Diamonds were exported from Pulicat to the western countries.

Nutmeg, cloves, and mace too were sent from here to Europe. A gun powder factory was also set up by the Dutch to augment their military power.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “French East India Company”:**

- 1. The first French factory was established at Surat in December 1668.
- 2. Francis Martin made Pondicherry the strategic centre of French settlements in 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:** The French traders arrived in Madagascar (in Africa) in 1602. Though the French colonized Madagascar, they had to abandon it in 1674, excepting a small coastal trading post.

- Berber, a French agent in India obtained a firman [a royal command or authorization] on September 4, 1666 from Aurangzeb and the first French factory was established at Surat in December 1668, much against the opposition of the Dutch.
- Pondicherry in 1673 was a small fishing village. Francis Martin who became the Governor of Pondicherry later had spent four years in Madagascar before arriving Surat. He made Pondicherry the strategic centre of French settlements in India.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.10) Which of the following is/are settlements of Danes in India?**

1. Tranquebar
2. Serampore
3. Lakshadweep Islands

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Danes: Denmark and Norway (together till 1813) possessed colonial settlements in India and Tamil Nadu. Tarangambadi or Tranquebar in Tamil Nadu, Serampore in West Bengal and Nicobar Islands were their possessions in India.

**Source: NCERT**

## Important Battles and Treaties

**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding East India Company:**

1. William Hawkins obtained trade permission from Jahangir.
2. Prince Khurram granted trading privileges in Gujarat.

**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:** A group of wealthy merchants of Leadenhall Street in London secured a royal charter from Queen Elizabeth I to have a share in the lucrative spice trade with the East.

- The Company, headed by a governor, was managed by a court of 24 Directors. In 1611, King James I obtained from Mughal Emperor Jahangir through William Hawkins, permission for regular trade.
- The Viceroy of Gujarat, Prince Khurram granted trading privileges, but the British could not operate freely because the Portuguese exercised a powerful influence in the region.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Madras was ceded to East India Company in 1639 by the Raja of Chandragiri.
2. Fort St. George was the first landholding recorded by the Company on Indian 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:** Madras was ceded to East India Company in 1639 by the Raja of Chandragiri with permission to build a fortified factory which was named Fort St. George. This was the first landholding recorded by the Company on Indian soil.

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**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements:**

1. The Charter of 1683 empowered the Company to raise military forces and the right to declare war or make peace with the powers in America, Africa and Asia.
2. In 1688 Madras had a municipal government with a Mayor.

**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 Charter of 1683 empowered the Company to raise military forces and the right to declare war or make peace with the powers in America, Africa and Asia.

In 1688 Madras had a municipal government with a Mayor. In 1693 the Company obtained another grant of three villages surrounding Madras and in 1702 five more villages were granted.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) With reference to British India, the area "Sultanuti" belongs to which of the following?**

- a) Madras
- b) Masulipatinam
- c) Calcutta
- d) Surat

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The trading rights for the British in Bengal were obtained only in 1680.

- Local officials interfered with the trading rights of the British and this resulted in the Company declaring war with the ruler representing the Mughals.
- Peace was restored in 1690 and the Company established its first settlement at Sultanuti, a site which became the future Calcutta.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Consider the following statements:**

1. British had fought three Carnatic wars
2. The Carnatic is a region in South India lying between the Eastern Ghats and the Coromandel Coast.

**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 British had to fight three wars (1746- 1763) with the French to establish their supremacy, which in history are called the Carnatic wars.

The Carnatic is a region in South India lying between the Eastern Ghats and the Coromandel Coast.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.6) Consider the following statements:**

1. France and the English signed the Treaty of Aix La Chapelle in 1748.
2. Under this treaty the British and the French ceased their hostilities in 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:** In 1748, France and the English had signed the Treaty of Aix La Chapelle. Under this treaty the British and the French ceased their hostilities in India.

It was agreed that the French would hand over Madras to the British in return for Louisburg in North America.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Consider the following statements regarding "Battle of Plassey"?**

1. It recognized the Company's sovereignty over Calcutta.
2. Mir Jaffar also agreed for a Company's resident in the court.

**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 battle of Plassey (1757) changed the position of the British from being a commercial power to that of a territorial power.

- It confirmed the privileges obtained by the Company and replaced Siraj-ud-daula with the betrayer Mir Jaffar.
- The Company's sovereignty over Calcutta was recognized and it was given sufficient land to maintain a military force. Mir Jaffar also agreed for a Company's resident in the court.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding "Battle of Buxar":**

1. It was fought in 1757.
2. The victory of the British led to the signing of the Treaty of Allahabad (1765).

**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:** After fleeing from Bengal Mir Qasim aligned with the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II and the Nawab of Oudh, Shuja-ud-daulah, who were equally aggrieved by the interference of the Company in their internal affairs. They declared war against the British.

- The battle was fought at Buxar (1764). By virtue of its superior armed the Company forces won the battle.

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- The victory of the British led to the signing of the Treaty of Allahabad (1765) by Robert Clive with Shah Alam II.

Source: NCERT

**Q.9) The famous “battle of Wandiwash” was fought between French and?**

- a) British
- b) Danes
- c) Portuguese
- d) Spanish

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Battle of Wandiwash was a battle in India between the French and the British in 1760. The battle was part of the Third Carnatic War fought between the French and British colonial empires, which itself were a part of the global Seven Years' War. It took place at Vandavasi in Tamil Nadu.

Source: NCERT

**Q.10) The “Kuno National Park” is often seen in news related to?**

- a) Karnataka
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Kerala

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Kuno National Park is a national park and Wildlife Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh, India. It derives its name from Kuno River.

It was established in 1981 as a wildlife sanctuary with an initial area of 344.686 km<sup>2</sup> in the Sheopur and Morena districts. In 2018, it was given the status of a national park.

Source: FORUMIAS

## India under the Company's rule

**Q.1) Which of the following was/were outcome of treaty of Allahabad made by Robert Clive?**

1. The emperor granted the Diwani of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the Company.
2. The emperor Shah Alam II gets the districts of Allahabad and Kora, and an annual allowance of 26 lakhs of rupees from the revenues of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.
3. The province of Oudh was restored to Shuja-ud-daula on the payment of war indemnity.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Under the pretext of corruption in Bengal administration Clive was appointed Governor of Fort William. Clive did not like his predecessor Vansittart's decision restoring Oudh to Shah Alam.

- So he called for fresh negotiation with Shuja-ud-daulah. As a result of this, two treaties of Allahabad were signed.

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- The emperor granted the Diwani (revenue administration) of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the Company.
- The emperor Shah Alam II was to get the districts of Allahabad and Kora, besides an annual allowance of 26 lakhs of rupees from the revenues of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.
- The province of Oudh was restored to Shuja-ud-daula on the payment of war indemnity. The treaties held the Nawab of Bengal responsible for the governance of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. The Regulating Act of 1773 imposed on the court of Directors the legal obligation of informing all revenue transactions of the Company servants to the British Treasury.
2. The Governor and Council consisting of the Commander-in-Chief and two counselors sat as a Board of Revenue discussed revenue matters.

**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 Regulating Act of 1773 imposed on the court of Directors the legal obligation of informing all revenue transactions of the Company servants to the British Treasury.

The Governor and Council consisting of the Commander-in-Chief and two counselors sat as a Board of Revenue which discussed revenue matters.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Which of the following act separated the civil and military establishments in India?**

- a) Regulating Act of 1773
- b) Settlement act of 1781
- c) Pitt India Act of 1784
- d) Regulating act of 1793

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Pitt India Act of 1784 separated the civil and military establishments in India.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) In which of the following area/s, the "permanent settlement system" was implemented by East India Company?**

1. Bengal
2. Bihar
3. Orissa

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Governor-General Cornwallis, himself a big landlord, wanted to create landlords after the British model in India. Cornwallis came to a settlement with the revenue farmers.



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- This resulted in the creation of a new type of middlemen, called zamindars, reducing the cultivators to the position of mere tenants.
- This settlement that Cornwallis made with the zamindars of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in 1793, in pursuance of the instruction from the Directors, is called the Permanent Settlement.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Which of the following was/were reason/s of failure of “Village Lease System (Mirasdari)”?**

1. Bad monsoons
2. Low price of grains
3. Long period of lease

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Under the Village Lease system the assessment of each village was to be fixed for a period of three years based on the actual collections over a series of past years.

- In districts where mirasi rights existed, the mirasdar was made responsible for the rent collections.
- In districts where the mirasi rights did not exist, an arrangement was made with the village headman.
- This system failed due to various reasons such as bad monsoons, low price of grains and the short period of lease.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Consider the following statements regarding “ryotwari system”:**

1. It was formulated by Governor Thomas Munro.
2. The peasant was entitled to possession of land so long as he paid the land revenue.

**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:** By 1814 the Court of Directors had decided to introduce the ryotwari system.

- This was a system formulated by Governor Thomas Munro. Under this system the ryot, an Anglicization by the British in India of the Arabic word ra'iyah, meaning a peasant or cultivator, was the proprietor and tax payer of the land.
- The government dealt with him directly without the intervention of any middlemen. The peasant was entitled to possession of land so long as he paid the land revenue.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.7) Which of the following state/s was/were annexed under “Subsidiary Alliance system”?**

1. Hyderabad
2. Mysore
3. Lucknow

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Before Wellesley, the Company concluded alliances with Indian princes. The Nizam and the Nawab of Oudh received subsidies for the maintenance of British contingents.

- Such forces were generally stationed outside the State concerned. Payment was made in cash. Difficulties arose when the payments were not promptly paid.
- Wellesley broadened the scope of this arrangement by his Subsidiary Alliance System, bringing under it Hyderabad, Mysore, Lucknow, the Maratha Peshwa, the Bhonsle (Kolhapur) and Sindhia (Gwalior).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Which of the following state was first to fall to the policy of “Doctrine of Lapse”?**

- a) Nagpur
- b) Satara
- c) Lucknow
- d) Gwalior

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Traditionally Hindu custom allowed the adoption of a son in the absence of male heirs. The adopted son had the right to inherit property.

- Before Dalhousie’s arrival, the custom was to obtain the sanction of the Company government before or after adoption.
- Governor General Dalhousie held that the paramount power could legally refuse to sanction adoption in the case of rulers of States dependent on it.
- This meant that dependent States could be regarded as lapsed to the paramount power, by its refusal to sanction the succession of adopted sons.
- By applying this policy known as Doctrine of Lapse, the first state to fall was Satara.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.9) Which of the following reform/s was/were introduced by the Lord Cornwallis?**

1. The collection of revenue was separated from administration and justice.
2. He deprived the collectors of their judicial function and confined them to revenue collection.
3. Civil and criminal courts were thoroughly reorganized.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Cornwallis organized company administration securing the services of William Jones, a judge and an Orientalist.

- He set up machinery for the detection and punishment of crime, thereby ending the dual system of government established by Clive. The collection of revenue was separated from administration and justice.
- He deprived the collectors of their judicial function and confined them to revenue collection. Civil and criminal courts were thoroughly reorganized.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) The famous “Galathea Bay National Park” is recently seen in news located at?**

- a) Andaman
- b) Chennai
- c) Vellore
- d) Mysore

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Galathea National Park is a national park located in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India.

It is located on the island of Great Nicobar in the Nicobar Islands, which lie in the eastern Indian Ocean.

**Source: NCERT**

## The revolts of 1858 and its aftermath (Administrative Changes)

**Q.1) The famous “Wodeyars dynasty” related to which of the following?**

- a) Goa
- b) Mysore
- c) Warangal
- d) Madurai

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Mysore was a small feudatory kingdom under the Vijayanagar Empire. After Vijayanagar fell in 1565, the ruling dynasty of Wodeyars asserted their independence and the Raja Wodeyar ascended the throne in 1578.

The capital moved from Mysore to Srirangapatnam in 1610. Wodeyar dynasty continued to reign until 1760, when the real power changed hands to Haider Ali who was appointed Dalwai or prime minister.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) Which of the following districts is/are part of Northern Sarkars?**

1. Guntur
2. Ganjam
3. Godavari

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** In the third Carnatic War Colonel Forde while conducting the forces from Bengal captured Masulipatnam in 1759.

This led to a treaty with Salabad Jung, who ceded the Northern Sarkars to the British (districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatnam, Godavari, Krishna and Guntur).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements:**

1. A Palayakkarar was bound to pay a fixed annual tribute or supply troops to the king and to keep order and peace over a particular area.
2. Palayakkarars had judicial powers and dispensed justice over civil and criminal cases.

**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:** A Palayakkarar was bound to pay a fixed annual tribute or supply troops to the king and to keep order and peace over a particular area.

- In order to enable him to perform these duties and attend to other services, a certain number of villages were granted for revenue collection.
- In addition he was presented with several titles and privileges. Palayakkarars had judicial powers and dispensed justice over civil and criminal cases.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) The terms "janmi and kanamdar" related to which of the following?**

- a) Agriculture
- b) Spies
- c) Traders
- d) Money lenders

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The British took over Malabar in 1792, they sought to revamp the land relations by creating individual ownership in land.

- The traditional system provided for an equal sharing of the net produce of the land by the janmi (holder of janmam tenure), the kanamdar (holder of kanam tenure), and the cultivator.

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- The British system upset this arrangement by recognising the janmi as absolute owners of land, with right to evict tenants, which did not exist earlier.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. The immediate cause of uprising was the action of the Raja of Chotanagpur in leasing several villages to the non tribals.
2. The forms of rebellion consisted of attacks on the properties of the outsiders.

**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:** Kols as tribals inhabited in Chotanagpur and Singbhum region of Bihar and Orissa.

- The immediate cause of their uprising was the action of the Raja of Chotanagpur in leasing several villages to the non-tribals.
- The Kols of Sonapur and Tamar took the initiative in organizing a revolt against the thikadars (tax collectors).
- The forms of rebellion consisted of attacks on the properties of the outsiders, but not their lives. Plunder and arson, were the chief modes of peasant protest.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following published the book “The War of Indian Independence”?**

- a) Bhagat Singh
- b) Chandrasekhar Azad
- c) V.D. Savarkar
- d) Fazal Khan

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** V.D. Savarkar, in his The War of Indian Independence, published in 1909, argued that what the British had till then described as merely mutiny was, in fact, a war of independence, much like the American War of Independence.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Which presidency or province appointed the “Inam Commission” in 1852?**

- a) Madras presidency
- b) Bengal province
- c) Bombay presidency
- d) United province

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** In the wake of the Inam Commission (1852) appointed by Bombay government to enquire into the cases of “land held rent-free without authority,” more than 21,000 estates were confiscated.

**Source: NCERT**

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**Q.8) Which of the following was/were reasons for outbreak of 1857 revolt?**

1. Abolition of sati
2. Legalization of remarriage of Hindu widows
3. Prohibition of infanticide

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Act of 1856 providing for enrolment of high caste men as sepoy in the Bengal army stipulated that future recruits give up martial careers or their caste scruples.

This apart, acts such as the abolition of sati, legalization of remarriage of Hindu widows, prohibition of infanticide were viewed as interference in religious beliefs.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) The famous "Lex Loci Act" related to which of the following?**

- a) Caste
- b) Education
- c) Agriculture
- d) Railways

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** In 1850, to the repugnance of orthodox Hindus, the Lex Loci Act was passed permitting converts to Christianity to retain their patrimony (right to inherit property from parents or ancestors).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.10) The Bahadur Shah II captured in September 1857 and he was exiled to?**

- a) Myanmar
- b) Tibet
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Nepal

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Bahadur Shah II, captured in September 1857, was tried and declared guilty. He was exiled to Rangoon (Myanmar), where he died in November 1862 at the age of 87. With his death the Mughal dynasty came to an end.

**Source: NCERT**

## Socio - Religious movement in the first half of 19th Century

**Q.1) Which of the following trait/s were affected the traditional knowledge of Indian Sub - continent?**

1. British administration
2. English education
3. European literature

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** By the first quarter of the nineteenth century, India had produced a small English-educated intelligentsia, closely associated with British administration or British trade.

- The ideas and the work of the Christian missionaries had already begun to have its impact.
- Bengal was the first province to be affected by the British influence and so it was here that several ideas of reform originated.
- British administration, English education, and European literature brought to India a new wave of thoughts that challenged traditional knowledge.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.2) "Our position is not that truths are to be in all religions, but that all established religions of the World are true" - said by?**

- a) Raja Rammohun Roy
- b) Syed Ahmed Khan
- c) Keshab Chandra Sen
- d) M K Gandhi

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** As Keshab Chandra Sen said, 'Our position is not that truths are to be in all religions, but that all established religions of the World are true.'

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Which of the following was/were given impetus to social reform movements?**

1. Social Conference
2. Servants of India
3. Christian missionaries

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The organizations such as the Social Conference, Servants of India and the Christian missionaries were instrumental in giving an impetus to the social reform movements.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

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

1. Raja Rammohun Roy established the Brahmo Samaj in August, 1828.
2. Raja Rammohun Roy long term agenda was to purify Hinduism and to preach monotheism for which he drew authority from the Vedas.

### 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:** Raja Rammohun Roy, was a man of versatile genius. He established the Brahmo Samaj in August, 1828.

- The Brahmo Samaj was committed to “the worship and adoration of the eternal, unsearchable, immutable Being who is the Author and Preserver of the Universe”.
- His long term agenda was to purify Hinduism and to preach monotheism for which he drew authority from the Vedas.

**Source: NCERT**

### Q.5 Which of the following was/were contributions of “Brahmo Samaj”?

1. It denounced polytheism.
2. It condemned the caste system.
3. It wanted the abolition of child marriage.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The overall contribution of Brahmo Samaj can be summed up as follows:

1. It denounced polytheism, idol worship, and the faith in divine avatars (incarnations)
2. It condemned the caste system, dogmas and superstitions.
3. It wanted the abolition of child marriage, purdah system and the practice of sati
4. It supported widow remarriage

**Source: NCERT**

### Q.6) Who among the following wrote the play “Brahmo Samaja Natakam”?

- a) Devendranath Tagore
- b) Keshub Chandra Sen
- c) Kasi Viswanatha Mudaliar
- d) Sarojini Naidu

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** In Tamilnadu, Kasi Viswanatha Mudaliar was an adherent of the Samaj and he wrote a play titled Brahmo Samaja Natakam to expound the ideas of the Samaj.

Source: NCERT



## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.7) Which of the following was/were member/s of Prarthana Samaj?**

1. M. G. Ranade
2. R. G. Bhandarkar
3. K.T. Telang

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** An off-shoot of the Brahmo Samaj, the Prarthana Samaj, was founded in 1867 in Bombay by Atmaram Pandurang (1823– 98).

The Prarthana Samaj as an organization never had any great influence but its members, like M. G. Ranade (1852-1901), R. G. Bhandarkar, and K.T. Telang, were among the great leaders of nineteenth century Maharashtra and they became the founders of the social reform movement in later years.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “Prarthana Samaj”:**

1. It is consciously linked with the bhakti tradition of the Maharashtrian saints.
2. It continued its work mainly through educational work directed at women and workers at the lower level.

**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:** Prarthana Samaj was similar to Brahmo Samaj, but it was consciously linked with the bhakti tradition of the Maharashtrian saints.

- The Prarthana Samaj continued its work mainly through educational work directed at women and workers at the lower level.
- It concentrated on social reforms like inter-dining, inter-marriage, remarriage of widows, and uplift of women and depressed classes.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Who among the following was mainly associated with National Social Conference?**

- a) M G Ranade
- b) Raja Rammohun Roy
- c) Keshub Chandra Sen
- d) Kasi Viswanatha Mudaliar

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The National Social Conference organized at the initiative of M.G. Ranade met each year immediately after the Indian National Congress (1885) annual sessions.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.10) Which of the following organization/s was/were involved by “M.G. Ranade”?**

1. Prarthana Samaj
2. Widow Marriage Association
3. Deccan Education Society

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Justice Ranade was an erudite scholar with a keen intellect and under his able guidance the Prarthana Samaj became the active centre of a new social reformation in western India.

He was one of the founders of the Widow Marriage Association and was an ardent promoter of the famous Deccan Education Society.

**Source: NCERT**

## Political organizations prior to 1885 and Freedom Struggle under Moderate Phase

**Q.1) Consider the following statements regarding “Madras Native Association”:**

1. It is an association of landed and business classes of the Madras Presidency.
2. It was founded by Gajula Lakshminarasu.

**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:** One of the first attempts to organize and vent the grievances against the British came through the formation of the Madras Native Association (MNA) on 26 February 1852.

- An association of landed and business classes of the Madras Presidency, they expressed their grievances against the Company’s administration in the revenue, education and judicial spheres.
- Gajula Lakshminarasu, who inspired the foundation of MNA, was a prominent businessman in Madras city.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.2) Which of the following was/were associated with “Madras Mahajana Sabha (MMS)”?**

1. Viraraghavachari
2. Ananda Charlu
3. Balaji Rao

**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 Madras Native Association became defunct there was no such public organization in the Madras Presidency.

- As many educated Indians viewed this situation with dismay, the necessity for a political organisation was felt and in May 1884 the Madras Mahajana Sabha was organised.
- In the inaugural meeting held on 16 May 1884 the prominent participants were: G. Subramaniam, Viraraghavachari, Ananda Charlu, Rangiah, Balaji Rao and Salem Ramaswamy.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Who among the following associated with “Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha”?**

- a) Raja Rammohan Roy
- b) Max Mueller
- c) Monier Williams
- d) R.G. Bhandarkar

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Bangabhasha Prakasika Sabha was formed in 1836 by associates of Raja Rammohan Roy.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.4) Which of the following issue/s raised by “British Indian Association”?**

1. Establishment of a separate legislature of a popular character.
2. Separation of executive from judicial functions.
3. Reduction in salaries of higher officers.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** In 1851, both the Landholders’ Society and the Bengal British India Society merged into the British Indian Association.

It sent a petition to the British Parliament demanding inclusion of some of its suggestions in the renewed Charter of the Company, such as

- (i) establishment of a separate legislature of a popular character;
- (ii) separation of executive from judicial functions
- (iii) reduction in salaries of higher officers; and
- (iv) Abolition of salt duty, abkari and stamp duties.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.5) Consider the following statements regarding “East India Association”:**

1. It was organized by Raja Rammohan Roy.
2. Its aim is to discuss the Indian question and influence public men in England to promote Indian welfare.

**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 East India Association was organised by Dadabhai Naoroji in 1866 in London to discuss the Indian question and influence public men in England to promote Indian welfare. Later, branches of the association were started in prominent Indian cities.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following started the “Indian League”?**

- a) Raja Rammohan Roy
- b) Dadabhai Naoroji
- c) R.G. Bhandarkar
- d) Sisir Kumar Ghosh

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Indian League was started in 1875 by Sisir Kumar Ghosh with the object of “stimulating the sense of nationalism amongst the people” and of encouraging political education.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.7) Who among the following started the “Poona Sarvajanik Sabha”?**

- a) Surendranath Banerjea
- b) Ananda Mohan Bose
- c) Sisir Kumar Ghosh
- d) Mahadeo Govind Ranade

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The Poona Sarvajanik Sabha was founded in 1867 by Mahadeo Govind Ranade and others, with the object of serving as a bridge between the government and the people.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.8) Which of the following was/were associated with “Bombay Presidency Association”?**

1. Badruddin Tyabji
2. Pherozshah Mehta
3. K.T. Telang

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Bombay Presidency Association was started by Badruddin Tyabji, Pherozshah Mehta and K.T. Telang in 1885.

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

Source: NCERT

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Landholders’ Society”:**

1. It marked the beginning of an organized political activity and use of methods of constitutional agitation for the redressal of grievances.
2. Later it merged into the British Indian Association.

**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 Zamindari Association, more popularly known as the ‘Landholders’ Society’, was founded to safeguard the interests of the landlords.

- Although limited in its objectives, the Landholders’ Society marked the beginning of an organised political activity and use of methods of constitutional agitation for the redressal of grievances.
- In 1851, both the Landholders’ Society and the Bengal British India Society merged into the British Indian Association.

Source: NCERT

**Q.10) Which of the following was/were associated with “The Rahnumai Madayansan Sabha (Religious Reform Association)”?**

1. Naoroji Furdonji
2. Dadabhai Naoroji
3. K. R. Cama

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Rahnumai Madayansan Sabha (Religious Reform Association) was founded in 1851 by a group of English educated Parsis for the “regeneration of the social conditions of the Parsis and the restoration of the Zoroastrian religion to its pristine purity”.

The movement had Naoroji Furdonji, Dadabhai Naoroji, K. R. Cama and S.S. Bengalee as its leaders.

Source: NCERT

## Revision

**Q.1) Who among the following was the founder of the “Arya Samaj”?**

- a) M.G. Ranade
- b) Atmaram Pandurang
- c) R. G. Bhandarkar
- d) Dayananda Saraswati

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The founder of the Arya Samaj was Dayananda Saraswati (1824–83). Dayananda, a Gujarati, left home in his youth to become an ascetic.

**Source: NCERT**

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

- 1. Dayananda Saraswati published the Satyarth Prakash.
- 2. Dayananda Saraswati made a call to “Back to the Vedas”.

**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 1875 Dayananda Saraswati founded the Arya Samaj and published his major work the Satyarth Prakash. In his view, contemporary Hinduism had become degenerate.

- Therefore he rejected puranas, polytheism, and idolatry, the role of Brahmin priests, pilgrimages, many rituals and the prohibition on widow marriage.
- As a good Sanskrit scholar, he made a call to “Back to the Vedas”.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.3) Consider the following statements:**

- 1. Arya Samaj is a revivalist movement.
- 2. Swami Dayananda’s sphere of influence was largely in the Punjab region.

**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:** Swami Dayananda’s sphere of influence was largely in the Punjab region where the trading community of Khatri experienced great mobility in colonial times.

Arya Samaj is considered to be a revivalist movement.

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

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

1. He had a deep faith in the inherent truth of all religions.
2. He expounded his views in short stories and admirable parables.

**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:** As we saw above, the early reform movements in Bengal were radical, questioning and criticising tradition very strongly.

- In response to this emerged the Ramakrishna Mission as an important religious movement.
- Ramakrishna Paramahansa (1836–1886), a poor priest in a temple at Dakshineswar near Kolkata, had no formal education but led an intense spiritual life.
- He had a deep faith in the inherent truth of all religions and tested its belief by performing religious service in accordance with the practices of different religions.
- He expounded his views in short stories and admirable parables which were compiled by an admirer as Ramakrishna Kathamrita (The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna).

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.5) Who among the following considered “all the religious views are but different ways to lead to the same goal”?**

- a) Ramakrishna Paramahansa
- b) Swami Vivekananda
- c) Dayananda Saraswati
- d) Chandavarkar

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Ramakrishna Paramahansa (1836–1886), a poor priest in a temple at Dakshineswar near Kolkata, had no formal education but led an intense spiritual life.

- He had a deep faith in the inherent truth of all religions and tested its belief by performing religious service in accordance with the practices of different religions.
- According to him ‘all the religious views are but different ways to lead to the same goal.’

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following called as “Narendranath Dutta”?**

- a) Ramakrishna Paramahansa
- b) Swami Vivekananda
- c) Dayananda Saraswati
- d) Chandavarkar

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The most famous among Ramakrishna Paramahansa disciples was a young graduate of the Calcutta University named Narendranath Dutta, afterwards famously called Swami Vivekananda (1863–1902).

**Source: NCERT**

## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.7) Who among the following attended in 1893 the famous, 'Parliament of Religions' at Chicago, and made a deep impact on those congregated there?**

- a) Ramakrishna Paramahansa
- b) Swami Vivekananda
- c) Dayananda Saraswati
- d) Chandavarkar

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Swami Vivekananda attended in 1893 the famous, 'Parliament of Religions' at Chicago, and made a deep impact on those congregated there.

**Source: NCERT**

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

1. Theosophical Society, founded by Madam H.P. Blavatsky and Colonel H.S. Olcott in the United States of America in 1875.
2. They came to India in 1879 and established their headquarters at Adyar in 1886.

**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:** Even as Indian intellectuals felt challenged by western Enlightenment and rationalistic movements, there was a strain of thinking in the West which looked to the East for spiritual salvation.

- From this idea emerged the Theosophical Society, founded by Madam H.P. Blavatsky and Colonel H.S. Olcott in the United States of America in 1875.
- They came to India in 1879 and established their headquarters at Adyar in 1886.

**Source: NCERT**

**Q.9) Who among the following founded the "Satya Shodak Samaj (Society for Seeking Truth)"?**

- a) Ramakrishna Paramahansa
- b) Swami Vivekananda
- c) Dayananda Saraswati
- d) Jyotiba Phule

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Phule held radical views on social, religious, political and economic issues. He considered the caste system as an antithesis of the principle of human equality.

- He sought to raise the morale of the non-Brahmins and united them to revolt against the centuries old inequality and social degradation.
- Towards this end Phule founded the Satya Shodak Samaj (Society for Seeking Truth) in 1875.

**Source: NCERT**



## Prelims Marathon Compilation June 2024

**Q.10) Who among the following wrote the “Gulamgiri”?**

- a) Ramakrishna Paramahansa
- b) B R Ambedkar
- c) Pandita Ramabai
- d) Jyotiba Phule

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Jyotiba Phule sought to raise the morale of the non-Brahmins and united them to revolt against the century's old inequality and social degradation.

Towards this end Phule founded the Satya Shodak Samaj (Society for Seeking Truth) in 1875. His most important book is Gulamgiri (Slavery).

**Source: NCERT**