

ForumIAS

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# Prelims Marathon

4<sup>th</sup> Week October, 2024

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*HISTORY  
ECONOMICS  
POLITY  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT*

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FORUMIAS



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## Early Historical Period of South India: from Megalithic to state polities of Cheras, Cholas and Pandyas

**Q.1) The famous “Gatha Saptasati” text composed by the Satavahana king Hala in?**

- Pali
- Prakrit
- Sanskrit
- Ardha – Magadhi

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Gatha Saptasati, a Prakrit text composed by the Satavahana king Hala.

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.2) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?**

- Pliny the Elder’s : Natural History
- Vienna Papyrus G 40822 : Roman Map
- Peutingarian Table : Greek document

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

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- None

**ANS: A**

**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
- Vienna Papyrus G 40822, a Greek document datable to the second century CE.
- A Roman Map called Peutingarian Table

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.3) With reference to Ashokan edict II, which of the following was/were Tamil ruling houses?**

- Cholas
- Pandayas
- Satiyaputra

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

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- None

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Asokan edicts (c. 270-30 BCE) present for the first time a picture of the political condition in south India.

- Rock Edict II lists the Tamil ruling houses Cholas, Pandyas, Keralaputras and Satiyaputra as neighbour rulers, lying beyond his domain, where he is said to have made provision for two types of medical treatment: medical treatment for both humans and animals.

- But the Satiyaputra (same as Athiyaman) found in the Asokan inscription along with the above three houses is a Velir chief in the Sangam poems.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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

1. The Thirukkural and Naladiyar texts deal with the cultural and religious history.
2. The Silappathikaram and Manimekalai texts deal with the ethics and moral codes.

**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: D**

**Explanation:** Patinen Kilkanakku texts, which are post-Sangam works, include eighteen texts, which mostly deal with ethics and moral codes. The most important of them are Thirukkural, and Naladiyar. Silappathikaram and Manimekalai are the two important epics useful for insights into cultural and religious history.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.5) Which of the following statements were correct about "Satavahanas"?**

1. Vasishthiputra Pulumavi defeated the Shaka ruler Nahapana.
2. Yagnashri Satakarni issued coins with a ship motif, indicating the importance of the overseas trade during his reign.
3. Offering land grants was an important development of the Satavahana times.

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

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

**ANS: B**

**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.
- The coins issued by him are found scattered in many parts of south India.
- Yagnashri Satakarni was another famous ruler who issued coins with a ship motif, indicating the importance of the overseas trade during his reign.
- Offering land grants was an important development of the Satavahana times.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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

1. Their capital was Uraiyur.
2. Fish was their emblem.

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

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The 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 Thiruchirapalli 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.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.7) Which of the following is not a port city?**

- Karur
- Musiri
- Tondi
- Puhar

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Cholas capital was Uraiyur (near Thiruchirapalli town) and Puhar or Kaviripattinam was an alternative royal residence and chief port town.

- Kaviripattinam attracted merchants from various regions of the Indian Ocean.
- 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.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.8) Who among the following mostly ruled from Madurai?**

- Cholas
- Cheras
- Pandyas
- Velirs

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Pandyas ruled from Madurai. According to tradition, they patronized the Tamil Sangams and facilitated the compilation of the Sangam poems.

The Sangam poems mention the names of several kings, but their succession and regnal years are not clear.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding "Pandyas":**

- Korkai was the port city of pandyans.
- Bow and Arrow was the emblem of the Pandyas.

**Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Pandyas ruled from Madurai. Korkai was their main port, located near the confluence of Thampraparani with the Bay of Bengal.

- It was famous for pearl fishery and chank diving. Korkai is referred to in the Periplus as Kolkoi.
- Fish was the emblem of the Pandyas.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) Who were the heads of the villages or a small territory, later known as nadu?**

- a) Kizhar
- b) Velir
- c) Vendar
- d) Kurinji

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** In a way this thinai classification is said to reflect the uneven socio-economic developments of the different localities. That is seen in the political forms too.

- Three levels of rulers are found: 1) Kizhar, 2) Velir, 3) Vendar.
- Kizhar were the heads of the villages or a small territory, later known as nadu. They were the chiefs of tribal communities living in specific areas.
- The Vendar were kings controlling larger, fertile territories.
- The Velir, who were many in number, controlled the territories of varied geographical nature, mainly hilly and forest areas, that were in between the muvendar's fertile territories.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

## The Guptas

**Q.1) Which of the following features was/were associated with "Guptas"?**

- 1. Anti - Feudalism
- 2. Effective guild system
- 3. Decentralized government

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

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

**ANS: A**

**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: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.2) Which of the following works is/are related to "Vishakadutta"?**

- 1. Devichandraguptam
- 2. Mudrarakshasam
- 3. Nitisara

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Devichandraguptam and Mudrarakshasam by Vishakadutta provide details about the rise of the Guptas.

Kamandaka's Nitisara, a work on polity addressed to the king (400 CE).

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.3) According to puranas, which of the following was/were dominions of Guptas?**

1. Allahabad
2. Magadha
3. Oudh

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** According to Allahabad pillar inscription Samudragupta, the illustrious son of Chandragupta I, had conquered the whole fertile plains west of Prayag to Mathura and launched a spectacular raid through Kalinga into the south as far as Kanchipuram, the Pallava capital.

The Puranas mention Magadha, Allahabad and Oudh as the Gupta dominions.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.4) Arrange the following rulers of Guptas in chronological order:**

1. Sri Gupta
2. Ghatotkacha
3. Chandra Gupta I

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

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

- 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: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.5) Under whose rule, Lanka ruler Meghavarman sent presents and requested permission to build a Buddhist monastery at Gaya?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** With regard to Lanka, its ruler Meghavarman sent presents and requested permission from Samudragupta to build a Buddhist monastery at Gaya.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.6) Who among the following was given the title of “Kaviraja”?**

- a) Sri Gupta
- b) Chandra Gupta I
- c) Chandra Gupta II
- d) Samudragupta

**ANS: D**

**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”. His coins bear the insignia of him playing the vina (lute).

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.7) Who among the following was known as “Vikramaditya”?**

- a) Sri Gupta
- b) Chandra Gupta I
- c) Chandra Gupta II
- d) Samudragupta

**ANS: C**

**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: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.8) Fahien, the Buddhist scholar from China, visited India during who’s reign?**

- a) Samudragupta
- b) Chandra Gupta II
- c) Chandra Gupta I
- d) Rama Gupta

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Fahien, the Buddhist scholar from China, visited India during Chandra Gupta II Reign.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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

1. Samudragupta was the first Gupta ruler to issue silver coins.
2. Chandra Gupta II court had nine jewels or navaratnas, that is, nine eminent people in various fields of art, literature and science.

**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:** Chandra Gupta II was a great conqueror and an able administrator as well.



- His other names (as mentioned in coins) include Vikrama, Devagupta, Devaraja, Simhavikrama, Vikramaditya and Sakari.
- His court had nine jewels or navaratnas, that is, nine eminent people in various fields of art, literature and science.
- Chandragupta II was the first Gupta ruler to issue silver coins. His rule thus formed the peak period of Gupta's territorial expansion.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) Who among the following founded the "Nalanda University"?**

- a) Kumara Gupta I
- b) Samudragupta
- c) Chandra Gupta II
- d) Sri Gupta

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Chandragupta II was succeeded by his son Kumara Gupta I, who founded the Nalanda University.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

## Buddhism and their contributions

**Q.1) The great philosophical teacher "Parmenides" related to which of the following?**

- a) Greece
- b) Persia
- c) China
- d) Mongolia

**ANS: A**

**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) Which of the following is/are comes under "non - canonical texts"?**

1. Quotes
2. Grammars
3. Definitions

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Early Buddhist literature is generally divided into canonical and non canonical texts. Canonical texts are those texts that are directly linked to Gautama Buddha in one way or another.

Non-canonical texts or semi canonical texts are texts that are not the sayings of the Buddha, but commentaries and observations on canonical texts, treatise on the Dharma/Dhammapada, historical information, quotes, definitions, grammars, and other writings in Pali, Tibetan, Chinese, and other East Asian languages.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.3) Which of the following is the book of guidance, which gives a connected account of the Buddha's teachings?**

- a) Visuddhimagga
- b) Nettipakarana
- c) Nidanakatha
- d) Milindapanho

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** Nettipakarana: The Book of Guidance, which gives a connected account of the Buddha's teachings.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.4) Which of the following contains the Buddha's discourses on various doctrinal issues in dialogue form?**

- a) Vinaya Pitaka
- b) Sutta Pitaka
- c) Abhidhamma Pitaka
- d) Mahavastu

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Sutta Pitaka (Sutra/Basket of Discourses): This contains the Buddha's discourses on various doctrinal issues in dialogue form.

These texts are also known as 'Buddhavacana' or 'the word of the Buddha', as it refers to texts that are supposed to contain what the Buddha himself said.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

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

- 1. Jatakas : stories of the previous births of the Buddha
- 2. Niddesa : verses dealing with ethical sayings
- 3. Dhammapada : expositions

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

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Khuddaka Nikaya is further subdivided into fifteen books, the prominent among them being the Jatakas (stories of the previous births of the Buddha), Dhammapada (verses dealing with ethical sayings), Niddesa (expositions), Buddhavamsa (the history of Buddha), Patisambhida (analytical knowledge), the Theragatha and Therigatha (songs of Buddhist monks and nuns).

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.6) Which of the following is not a representation form of Buddha?**

- a) Bull
- b) Horse
- c) Footsteps
- d) Lion

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Buddha is represented in five forms:

1. Lotus and Bull – Birth
2. Horse – Renunciation
3. Bodhi Tree – Mahabodhi
4. Dharmachakra Pravartana – First Sermon
5. Footprints – Nirvana

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.7) Who among the following is not a disciple of Buddha?**

- a) Kissanji
- b) Kondanna
- c) Bhaddiya
- d) Assaji

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Buddha accompanied by five wandering ascetics – Kondanna, Bhaddiya, Vappa, Mahanama, and Assaji – he practiced severe austerities until his body was almost emaciated.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.8) Which of the following rulers supported the Buddhists?**

1. Pushyamitra Shunga
2. Mihirakula
3. Shashank of Gauda

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

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Some Brahmana rulers, such as Pushyamitra Shunga, the Huna King Mihirakula (worshipper of Shiva), and Shaivite Shashank of Gauda, persecuted the Buddhists on a large scale.

- The liberal donations to the monasteries gradually declined.
- Also, some rich monasteries were specially targeted by the Turkish and other invaders.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.9) Who among the following had known as the founder of the Buddhist logic?**

- a) Buddhaghosa
- b) Asanga
- c) Vasubandhu
- d) Dinnaga

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Dinnaga: The last mighty intellectual of the fifth century, also well known as the founder of the Buddhist logic.

**Source:** Poonam Dahiya

**Q.10) Which Buddhist sect used the “Twilight Language”?**

- a) Hinayana
- b) Mahayana
- c) Vajrayana
- d) Sarvastivada

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Most of the terms originated in the Sanskrit language of tantric Indian Buddhism, but since it deals with inner experiences, the Vajrayana texts use a highly symbolic language ‘samdhya-bhasa’ or ‘Twilight Language’, that aims at helping the followers of its disciplines to evoke within themselves experiences considered to be the most valuable available to human beings.

**Source:** Poonam Dahiya

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

**Q.1) With reference to early medieval India, Maithriyas had organized a powerful state in?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Gujarat
- d) Bengal

**ANS: C**

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

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.2) Despite political rivalry and conflict among different states, Thaneswar, lying north of Delhi between Sutlej and Yamuna, was formed into an independent state by?**

- a) Pushyabhutis
- b) Vakatakas
- c) Maukharis
- d) Maithriyas

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Despite political rivalry and conflict among different 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.

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

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

1. The founder of the Vardhana dynasty was Harsha Vardhana.
2. Harsha Vardhan shifted his capital from Thanesar to Kanauj.

**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 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.
- As Thanesar was too close to the threats from the northwest, Harsha shifted his capital from Thanesar to Kanauj.
- Kanauj was located in the rich agricultural region of the western Ganges Plain.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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

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

**ANS: D**

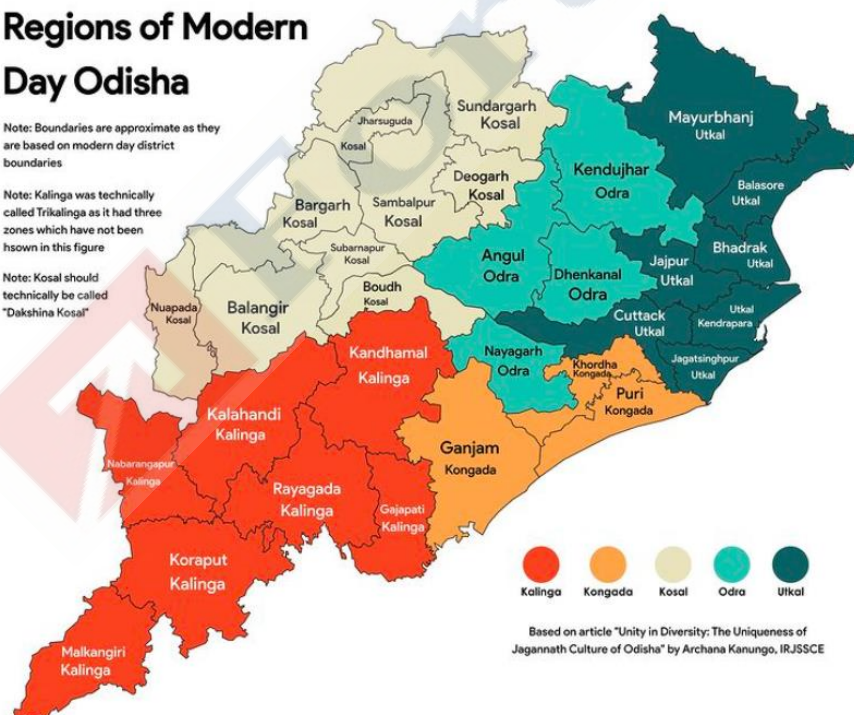
**Explanation:** Kongoda (another geographical unit in ancient Odisha).

### Names of Historical Regions of Modern Day Odisha

Note: Boundaries are approximate as they are based on modern day district boundaries

Note: Kalinga was technically called Triakalinga as it had three zones which have not been shown in this figure

Note: Kosal should technically be called "Dakshina Kosal"



**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.5) Which of the following statements is/are correct about Harsha Vardhana rule?**

1. Harsha had a friendly and mutual relation between Sasanka of Gauda.
2. Harsha had a hostile relationship with king of Kamarupa (Pragiyatisha).
3. Harsha had cordial relations with China.

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

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

**ANS: A**

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

- Sasanka of Bengal remained hostile to him.
- Harsha entered into an alliance with the king of Kamarupa (Pragiyatisha), which is today the modern Assam.
- Harsha had cordial relations with China. The contemporary T'ang emperor, Tai Tsung, sent an embassy to his court in 643 and again in 647 CE.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.6) Which of the following is/are correctly matched?**

1. Avanti : Minister for Foreign Relations and War
2. Kuntala : Chief Cavalry Officer
3. Banu : Keeper of Records

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

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

**ANS: C**

**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.
- The council played an important role in the selection of the king as well as framing the foreign policy of the empire.

The prime minister was of the most important position in the council of ministers.

- Avanti - Minister for Foreign Relations and War
- Simhananda - Commander-in Chief
- Kuntala - Chief Cavalry Officer
- Banu - Keeper of Records

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.7) The terms "Bhaga, Hiranya and Bali" were related to which of the following?**

- a) Taxes
- b) Bonded labors
- c) Priests
- d) Token lands

**ANS: A**

**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. The crown land was divided into four parts.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “administration of justice” during Harsha period:**

1. Criminal law was less severe than that of the Gupta age.
2. The punishments of banishment and the cutting of limbs of the body were banned.

**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: 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. Trial by ordeal was in practice.
- Life imprisonment was the punishment for the violations of the laws and for plotting against the king.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.9) Consider the following statements regarding “Hieun Tsang”:**

1. He was known as the prince of pilgrims.
2. His Si-Yu-Ki provides detailed information about the social, economic, religious and cultural conditions during the reign of Harsha.

**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, 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.
- His Si-Yu-Ki provides detailed information about the social, economic, religious and cultural conditions during the reign of Harsha.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) Which of the following is not written by “Harsha”?**

- a) Priyadarsika
- b) Rathnavali
- c) Nagananda
- d) Kadambari

**ANS: D**

**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: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

## Revision

**Q.1) Which of the following languages was/were used in pala kingdom?**

1. Sanskrit
2. Pali
3. Prakrit

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Palas ruled eastern India from Pataliputra between the ninth and the early twelfth centuries.

Sanskrit, Prakrit and Pali were the languages in use in their kingdom. Palas followed Mahayana Buddhism.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.2) Who among the following established the "Vikramasila monastery"?**

- a) Dharmapala
- b) Gopala I
- c) Devapala
- d) Balaputradeva

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Dharmapala proved to be a great patron of Buddhism. He founded the Vikramasila monastery in Bhagalpur district in Bihar, which developed into a great centre of Buddhist learning and culture.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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

1. Agama Shastra : Sridhar Bhatta
2. Nyaya Kundali : Gaudapada
3. Ramacharitam : Sandhyakar Nandi

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

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The prominent Buddhist scholars of Vikramashila and Nalanda universities were Atisha, Saraha, Tilopa, Dansheel, Dansree, Jinamitra, Muktimitra, Padmanava, Virachan and Silabhadra.

- The notable Pala texts on philosophy include Agama Shastra by Gaudapada, and Nyaya Kundali by Sridhar Bhatta.



- Sandhyakar Nandi's epic Ramacharitam, a biography of a later Pala ruler Ramapala, describes how forest chiefs were brought into their alliance through lavish gifts.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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

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

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

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

**ANS: A**

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

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

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.5) The geographical area "Vengi" related to which of the following?**

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Vengi or Venginadu is an Indian region in modern-day Andhra Pradesh spread over the Godavari and Krishna river deltas.

- The capital city of Vengi is located at Pedavegi near Eluru.
- Vengi was the most prominent city in Ancient Andhra for nearly seven centuries.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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

1. The rock cut shrines at Ellora and Elephanta located in present-day Maharashtra belong to Rashtrakuta period.
2. The famous Monolithic Kailasanath Temple was hewn out of a single rock.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** The Rashtrakutas made splendid contributions to Indian art. The rock cut shrines at Ellora and Elephanta located in present-day Maharashtra belong to their period.

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

- The most striking structure at Ellora is the creation of the Monolithic Kailasanath Temple. The temple was hewn out of a single rock during the time of Krishna I in the 8th century.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.7) The temple complexes of “Pattadakal” are located at?**

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Lokeshvara temple at Pattadakal, in Karnataka, built by Chalukya king Vikramaditya II to commemorate his victory over the Pallavas.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.8) Who among the following authored the famous “Brihat Samhita”?**

- a) Varahamihira
- b) Aryabhata
- c) Brahmagupta
- d) Budhagupta

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Varahamihira’s Brihat Samhita (sixth century CE) is an encyclopaedia of astronomy, physical geography, botany and natural history. His other works are Panch Siddhantika and Brihat Jataka.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.9) 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: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) In which of the following place/s Jainism followers found?**

1. Madhya Pradesh
2. Odisha
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).
- 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: Tamil Nadu NCERT

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

**Q.1) Which of the following languages were used by Chalukyas on inscriptions?**

1. Telugu
2. Tamil
3. Sanskrit

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: C

**Explanation:** Inscriptions on copperplates, on temple walls and pillars form a major source of historical information for this period.

Inscriptions issued by Chalukyas in Kannada, Telugu, Tamil and Sanskrit languages, and Pallavas in Tamil and Sanskrit, recording land grants to Brahmins, as well as the royal and the non-royal gifts made to religious establishment are equally important sources.

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.2) The Aihole inscription of Pulikesin II composed by who among the following?**

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

ANS: A

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

Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.3) Which of the following was/were correctly matched with respect to Chalukya Administration?**

1. Vishayapatis : exercises the power at the behest of the kings
2. Grampohis : prominent village men
3. Mahatras : village officials

Select the correct answer from below given codes:

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

ANS: A

**Explanation:** Chalukyas divided the state into political divisions for the sake of administration: 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:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.4) With reference to Chalukyan administration, the term “nala kavundas” related to?**

- a) village accountant
- b) revenue officials
- c) town officials
- d) officials of law & order

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The traditional revenue officials of the villages were called the nala kavundas.

- The central figure in village administration was kamunda or pokigan who were appointed by the kings. The village accountant was karana and he was otherwise called gramani.
- Law and order of the village was in the hands of a group of people called mahajanam.
- There was a special officer called mahapurush, in charge of maintaining order and peace of the village.
- Nagarapatis or Purapatis were the officials of the towns.

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

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

1. Land ownership was with the king, who could make revenue grants to his officers and land-grants to Brahmins.
2. The brahmadeya villages were donated to a single Brahman or a group of Brahmins.

**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:** Land ownership was with the king, who could make revenue grants to his officers and land-grants to Brahmins, or else continue to have land cultivated by smallscale cultivators and landlords.

- The latter was the most common practice. Crown lands were leased out to tenants-at-will.
- The status of the village varied according to the tenures prevailing.
- The village with an inter-caste population paid land revenue.
- The brahmadeya villages were donated to a single Brahman or a group of Brahmins.

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.6) With respect to pallava administration at village, which of the follow matters is/are settled at village level?**

1. Census
2. Endowments
3. Irrigation

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** In the village, the basic assembly was the sabha, which was concerned with all matters relating to the village, including endowments, land, irrigation, cultivated, punishment of crime, the keeping of a census and other necessary records.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.7) With respect to pallava administration, the term “eripatti” related to which of the following?**

- a) Tank lands
- b) Uncultivable lands
- c) Tax free lands
- d) Gift lands

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** A special category of land, eripatti or tank land, was known only in south India. This land was donated by individuals, the revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.8) With respect to pallava administration, the term “manigramam” related to?**

- a) Temple administration
- b) Temple complexes
- c) Merchant organizations
- d) Women soldiers

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Kanchipuram was an important trading centre in the Pallava period. The merchants had to obtain license to market their goods.

- Barter system generally prevailed but later the Pallavas issued gold and silver coins.
- Merchants had their own organizations such as Manigramam.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.9) With respect to pallava administration, the terms “sudesi, nanadesi, ainurruvar” were related to?**

- a) Priests
- b) Advisors to kings
- c) Spies
- d) Trade guilds

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Traders founded guilds and called themselves as sudesi, nanadesi, ainurruvar and others. Their main guild functioned at Aihole.

- Foreign merchants were known as Nanadesi.
- It had a separate flag with the figure of bull at the centre, and they enjoyed the right of issuing virasanas.
- The jurisdiction of this guild stretched over entire south-east Asia.
- The chief of this guild is registered in the inscriptions as pattanswamy, pattnakilar, and dandanayaka. Its members were known as ayyavole-parameswariyar.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) Which of the following are correctly matched with respect to South East Asia kingdoms?**

1. Kambuja : Cambodia
2. Champa : Sumatra
3. Srivijaya : Annam

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

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

**ANS: B**

**Explanation:** The Pallavas had maritime trade with south-east Asia, where by now there were three major kingdoms: Kambuja (Cambodia), Champa (Annam), and Srivijaya (the southern Malaya peninsula and Sumatra).

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

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

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

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

**ANS: B**

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

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.2) The “Paramars” related to which of the following region?**

- a) Bundelkhand
- b) Ajmer
- c) Malwa
- d) Oudh

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** In northern India, the disintegration of the Pratihara empire brought to the forefront various Rajput states under the control of different Rajput dynasties, such as the Chahamanas (Chauhans), Chandellas, the Paramaras of Malwa, and so on.

Source: Poonam Dahiya

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

1. Gahadavalas : Delhi
2. Tomars : Kannauj
3. Chalukyas : Gujarat

**Select the correct option from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: A**

**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: Poonam Dahiya

**Q.4) The term “Sapadalaksa country” was associated with which of the following state?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Uttar Pradesh

**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. They were the most prominent ruling family of the Chahamana clan.

The Chahamanas originally had their capital at Shakambhari, which is identical to modern Sambhar near Jaipur in the Sapadalaksa country (part of present-day Rajasthan).

Source: Poonam Dahiya

**Q.5) Who among the following was called as “Rai Pithora”?**

- a) Simharaja
- b) Vighararaja II
- c) Ajayaraja II
- d) Prithviraja Chauhan

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** The most famous of all Chauhans, is popularly known as Prithviraj Chauhan or Rai Pithora in the folk legends. He scored victories over all his neighbours, including the Chandella king Paramardi, Chalukya Bhima II and Gahadvala Jayachandra.

Source: Poonam Dahiya

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

- a) Simharaja
- b) Vighararaja II
- c) Vighararaja IV
- d) Ajayaraja II

**ANS: C**

**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.
- Moved the capital from Shakambhari (Sambhar) to Ajmer. Also came in conflict with the Paramars of Malwa, which was probably ruled by their famous ruler Bhoja.
- Patronised literature and authored a famous play, Harikeli Nataka.

**Source:** Poonam Dahiya

**Q.7) Which of the following temple/s was/were constructed by Chandella rulers?**

1. The Lakshamana temple
2. The Visvanatha temple
3. The Kandriya Mahadev temple

**Select the correct option from below given codes:**

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

**ANS: C**

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

**Source:** Poonam Dahiya

**Q.8) Who among the following founded the “Chandella Dynasty”?**

- a) Nannuka
- b) Yashovarman
- c) Dhanga
- d) Vidyadhara

**ANS: A**

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

**Source:** Poonam Dahiya

**Q.9) The famous ruler “Bhoja” related to which of the following?**

- a) Solankis
- b) Chalukyas
- c) Paramars
- d) Tomars

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Sindhuraja’s son and Munja’s nephew Bhoja, who is the most celebrated ruler of the Paramara dynasty, and under whom the dynasty reached its zenith. Under his reign, the Paramaras extended their kingdom from Chittor in the north to upper Konkan in the south, and from the Sabarmati River in the west to Vidisha in the east.

**Source:** Poonam Dahiya

**Q.10) The famous chronicle “Rajatarangini” was written by?**



- a) Kalidasa
- b) Kabirdas
- c) Kalhana
- d) Kumaradasa

**ANS: C**

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

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

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

## Heterodox Schools of Indian Philosophy

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

1. Heterodox schools of Indian philosophy accept the authority of the Vedas.
2. The founder of Charvaka school insists on joyful living and is opposed to the quest for spiritual salvation.

**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:** Heterodox schools or unorthodox (nastika) schools of Indian philosophy do not accept the authority of the Vedas.

- Lokayata refers to ideas derived from common people and it underlines the importance of intimate contact with the world (loka), while showing a lack of belief in the other world.
- It accepts direct perception as the surest method to prove the truth of anything. It thus recognises earth, water, fire, and air, but not ether, as it cannot be known by perception.
- Charvaka insists on joyful living and is opposed to the quest for spiritual salvation.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.2) The famous "Dilwara temple complex" is located in which of the following state?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Gujarat
- d) Andhra Pradesh

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Jainism continued to be popular, especially among the trading communities.

The Chalukyan rulers of Gujarat patronised Jainism and it was during this time that the famous and magnificent Dilwara temples of Mount Abu were built.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.3) The “Lingayat or Vir Shaiva movement” is related to which of the following?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Gujarat
- d) Andhra Pradesh

**ANS: B**

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

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

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.4) The Siddhas or Sittars who held contrasting views with the Bhakti tradition related to?**

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Karnataka
- c) Gujarat
- d) Andhra Pradesh

**ANS: A**

**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.

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

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.5) With respect to ancient India, the term “varmam” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Agriculture
- b) Warfare
- c) Martial arts
- d) External trade

**ANS: C**

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

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

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

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

- a) Samkhya
- b) Yoga
- c) Nyaya
- d) Uttara mimansa

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** Many schools of philosophy came into existence in this period. Moksha (salvation) became the main subject of the darshana schools.

- 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: Poonam Dahiya**

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

- Samkhya
- Yoga
- Nyaya
- Uttara mimansa

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Samkhya: Literally means count. 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.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.8) Consider the following statements regarding “yoga school of thought”:**

1. Hatha Yoga is about creating a body which is not a hurdle in one’s life.
2. Astanga yoga is a form of meditation which enriches the mind, wherein it is trained to stay focused at one point.

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

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

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Yoga: The Yoga school founded by Patanjali, which presents a practical path for the realisation of the self-based on the method of physical and mental discipline by releasing Purusha from Prakriti.

- Hatha Yoga: Hatha Yoga is about creating a body which is not a hurdle in one’s life. The body becomes a stepping stone—not a hurdle, not a roadblock—in one’s progress.
- Raja Yoga: Classical yoga and Astanga yoga are a form of meditation which enriches the mind, wherein it is trained to stay focused at one point.
- It aims at the calming of the mind using a succession of steps, ultimately culminating in samadhi.

**Source: Poonam Dahiya**

**Q.9) Who among the following founded the “Nyaya school of thought”?**

- Kapila
- Gautama
- Patanjali
- Kannada

**ANS: B**

**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:** Poonam Dahiya

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

- a) Samkhya
- b) Yoga
- c) Vaisheshika
- d) Uttara mimansa

**ANS: C**

**Explanation:** Vaisheshika: This school propounded by Kanada 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.

**Source:** Poonam Dahiya

## The Delhi Sultanate

**Q.1) Which of the following details about "Indian Philosophy and Religion"?**

- a) Tarikh-Al-Hind
- b) Tabaqat-i-Nasiri
- c) Tarikh-i-Firoz
- d) Mifta Ul Futuh

**ANS: A**

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

**Source:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.2) Who among the following is not part of slave dynasty?**

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

**ANS: D**

**Explanation:** After the death of Ghori there were many contenders for power. 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:** Tamil Nadu NCERT

**Q.3) Which of the following dynasty known as “Mamluk dynasty”?**

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

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** The Slave dynasty is also known as the Mamluk dynasty. Mamluk means property. It is also the term for the Arabic designation of a slave.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.4) Consider the following statements regarding “Qutb-ud-din Aibak”:**

1. Muhammad Bin Bhakthiyar Khalji, a Turkish general from Afghanistan assisted him in conquering Bihar and Bengal.
2. He died in 1210 in Lahore in an accident while playing chaugan.

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

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

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.5) Who among the following is charged with destroying the glorious Buddhist University of Nalanda in Bihar, who is said to have mistaken it for a military camp?**

- a) Mahmud Ghori
- b) Mahmud Ghazini
- c) Qutb-ud-din Aibak
- d) 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: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.6) 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) Muhammad Bin Bhakthiyar Khalji
- c) Aram Shah
- d) Shams-ud-din Iltutmish

**ANS: D**

**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: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.7) The term “Lakhnauti” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Gujarat
- b) Oudh
- c) Allahabad
- d) Bengal

**ANS: D**

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

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.8) With reference to Delhi Sultanate, the term “mafuzi” was associated with which of the following?**

- a) Nobles
- b) Spies
- c) Rent free lands
- d) Granaries

**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: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.9) With reference to Delhi Sultanate, the term “Meos” were associated with which of the following?**

- a) Bengal
- b) Gujarat
- c) North Western India
- d) Bihar

**ANS: C**

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

- The Rajput zamindars had set up forts and defied the orders of the Sultan.
- Meos, a Muslim community from north-western region, living in the heavily forested region around Mewat were plundering the area with impunity.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**

**Q.10) The “Tughril Khan”, favourite slave of Balban related to which of the following region?**

- a) Bengal
- b) Gujarat
- c) North Western India
- d) Bihar

**ANS: A**

**Explanation:** Balban was ruthless in dealing with rebellions. He appointed one of his favourite slaves, Tughril Khan, as the Governor of Bengal. But Tughril Khan soon became rebellious.

**Source: Tamil Nadu NCERT**