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Central Asian Contacts and Their Results

1. With reference to building activities and pottery during the Saka-Kushan phase, consider the following statements:

1. The use of burnt bricks for flooring and tiles for both flooring and roofing became a distinct advance in building construction.
2. The typical red ware pottery of this period, characterized by sprinklers and spouted channels, shows similarities with artifacts found in Soviet Central Asia.
3. The introduction of brick-wells as a construction feature is also a characteristic of this period.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. The Saka-Kushan phase registered a distinct advance in building activities, including the use of burnt bricks for flooring and tiles for both flooring and roofing.

Statement 2: Correct. The typical pottery is red ware, both plain and polished, and the distinctive pots are sprinklers and spouted channels. These remind scholars of red pottery found in Kushan layers in Soviet Central Asia.

Statement 3: Correct. The period is also marked by the construction of brick-wells.

2. With reference to irrigation facilities during the period of Central Asian contacts, consider the following statements:

1. The most famous Saka ruler, Rudradaman I, is known for undertaking major repairs to the Sudarshana Lake in Kathiawar, which was used for irrigation.
2. Archaeological evidence confirming the construction and use of irrigation facilities by the Kushan rulers is primarily found in the Gangetic basin.

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Rudradaman I (Saka ruler) is famous for the repairs he undertook to improve the Sudarshana lake in Kathiawar, which was in use for irrigation since the time of the Mauryas.

Statement 2: Incorrect. The document mentions that archaeological traces of irrigation facilities by Kushans have been discovered in parts of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Western Central Asia, not primarily in the Gangetic basin.

3. Which of the following elements of military technology and attire were introduced in India as a result of the contacts with the Sakas and Kushans?

1. The widespread use of reins and saddles for horses.
2. The use of heavy armour, spears, and lances by foreign horsemen.

3. New attire, including trousers, turbans, and long coats.
4. The introduction of a toe stirrup made of rope.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

The Sakas and Kushans introduced:

1. **Better cavalry and the use of the riding horse on a large scale.** They made common the use of **reins and saddles**.
2. Foreign horsemen were **heavily armoured**, and fought with **spears and lances**.
3. They introduced **turban, tunic, trousers, and heavy long coat**.
4. They **possibly used some kind of a toe stirrup** made of rope.

4. With respect to the assimilation of foreign rulers into Indian society, consider the following statements:

1. The lawgiver Manu assigned the Sakas and Parthians to the rank of **Vratya Kshatriyas** (Kshatriyas who had fallen from their duties), facilitating their absorption.
2. The absorption of foreigners into Indian society on a large scale in the post-Maurya period led to the abolition of the Upanayana ceremony for women.

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. The foreigners were absorbed as the warrior class, Kshatriyas. The lawgiver Manu stated that the Sakas and Parthians were the Kshatriyas who had fallen from their duties, which is why they are sometimes termed Vratya Kshatriyas.

Statement 2: Correct. The document's notes mention that one impact on Indian society during this time was the Abolition of Upanayana to female.

5. With reference to trade and economy during the Kushan rule, consider the following statements:

1. Kushans were the first rulers in India to issue gold coins, though in limited quantity.
2. The Kushan Empire controlled a vital part of the Silk Route, which served as a major source of revenue through tolls levied from traders.
3. Besides the revenue from the Silk Route, a significant source of gold for India during this period was the Altai mountains in Central Asia.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Incorrect. The Indo-Greeks were the first to issue gold coins in India. However, the Kushans were the first to issue gold coins on a wide scale.

Statement 2: Correct. The Kushans controlled the Silk Route, which passed through their empire, and the tolls levied were a source of great income.

Statement 3: Correct. India received a good deal of gold from the Altai mountains in Central Asia, as well as through trade with the Roman empire.

6. With reference to the polity and administration introduced by the Central Asian rulers, consider the following pairs:

System/Practice	Associated Group
1. 'King of Kings' Title	Kushans
2. Satrap System	Indo-Greeks
3. Military Governorship (Strategos)	Sakas
4. Hereditary Dual Rule (Father and Son ruling jointly)	Kushans

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Pair 1: **Correct.** The Kushans adopted the pompous title of **king of kings**.
- Pair 2: **Incorrect.** The **satrap system** of government was introduced by the Kushans and Sakas (the empire was divided into numerous satrapies under a satrap).
- Pair 3: **Incorrect.** The practice of **military governorship** (governors called **strategos**) was introduced by the **Greeks**.
- Pair 4: **Correct.** Curious practices such as **hereditary dual rule** (two kings ruling simultaneously, like father and son) were introduced by these foreign rulers, suggesting less centralization.

7. With reference to the impact of Central Asian contacts on Science and Technology, consider the following statements:

1. Indian astronomy and astrology were influenced by the Greeks, from whom the term horasastra (used for astrology) was derived.
2. The process of glass making saw an unparalleled growth during this period.
3. The ancient Indian practice of naming medicine aushadhi was adopted by Indian physicians from Greek terminology.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. Indian astronomy and astrology profited from contact with the Greeks, and the term horasastra (for astrology in Sanskrit) was derived from the Greek term horoscope.

Statement 2: Correct. The document states that the glass making process made an unparalleled growth in this period.

Statement 3: Incorrect. Ancient Indian physicians relied mainly on plants, which were called oshadi in Sanskrit, and the resulting medicine came to be known as aushadhi. The document explicitly states that Indian medicine did not owe much to the Greeks.

8. With reference to the Gandhara and Mathura schools of art during the period of Central Asian contacts, consider the following statements:

1. The Gandhara art was purely indigenous, whereas the Mathura art showed strong Hellenistic influence.
2. The Mathura school is famous for producing the headless erect statue of Kanishka and images of Vardhamana Mahavira using red sandstone.
3. A key feature of the Gandhara school was the fashioning of the Buddha's hair in the Graeco-Roman style.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Incorrect. The Greek rule introduced Hellenistic art features in the north-west, giving rise to the Gandhara art. The Mathura school was primarily a centre of indigenous art.

Statement 2: Correct. Mathura is famous for the headless erect statue of Kanishka and produced several stone images of Vardhamana Mahavira. Its products were made of red sandstone.

Statement 3: Correct. Gandhara art produced images of the Buddha in the Graeco-Roman style, and the hair of the Buddha was fashioned in the Graeco-Roman style.

9. Which of the following pairs is/are correctly matched?

Term/Work	Description/Author
1. Buddhacharita	Biography of the Buddha written by Asvaghosha.
2. Yavanika	A Sanskritized form of the Ionian people.
3. Inscription of Rudradaman	Earliest specimen of kavya style in chaste Sanskrit.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Pair 1: Correct. Asvaghosha wrote the Buddhacharita, which is a biography of the Buddha.

Pair 2: Incorrect. The word yavanika referred to the curtain introduced in Indian theatre, which was borrowed from the Greeks. Yavana was the Sanskritized form of Ionian.

Pair 3: Correct. The earliest specimen of kavya style is found in the inscription of Rudradaman (Saka ruler) in Kathiawar (c. A.D. 150), which was the first long inscription composed in chaste Sanskrit.

10. With respect to the religious history of India during the period of Central Asian contacts, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The Greek ambassador Heliodorus set up a pillar near Vidisa in honour of Vishnu.
2. The Mahayana form of Buddhism arose primarily because the foreign converts found the existing philosophical doctrines of Buddhism too puritanical and abstract.
3. Kushan coins frequently bear the images of both Siva and the Buddha.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Statement 1: Correct. The Greek ambassador Heliodorus set up a pillar in honour of Vishnu near Vidisa.

Statement 2: Correct. The foreigners wanted something concrete and intelligible, finding the original form of Buddhism too puritanical and abstract. This led to the development of the Mahayana (Great Wheel) form, which included the worship of the Buddha's image.

Statement 3: Correct. The Kushan rulers worshipped both Siva and the Buddha, and the images of these two gods appeared on the Kushan coins.

Gupta Empire

1. With reference to the early rulers of the Gupta dynasty, consider the following titles and their bearers:

1. **Maharaja** : Srigupta
2. **Maharajadhiraja** : Ghatotkacha
3. **Vikramaditya**: Samudragupta
4. **Mahendraditya** : Kumaragupta I

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Srigupta, the founder, took the title of **Maharaja**.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** Ghatotkacha also took the title of **Maharaja**. The title **Maharajadhiraja** was taken by **Chandragupta I**.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The title **Vikramaditya** was taken by **Chandragupta II** and later by Skandagupta. Samudragupta's titles included Kaviraja and Napoleon of India.
- **Pair 4: Correct.** Kumaragupta I took the title **Mahendraditya** (and Shaktaditya).

2. With reference to Chandragupta I, consider the following statements:

1. He is considered the founder of the Gupta Era, beginning in 3-3 CE.
2. He was the first Gupta king to adopt the policy of war and conquest, expanding the empire into the Deccan.
3. He issued coins in the joint names of his queen, Kumaradevi, and himself.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Chandragupta I is considered the founder of the **Gupta Era (3 - 3 CE)**.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** **Samudragupta**, his son and successor, **followed the policy of war and conquest**, including the campaign into the Deccan (Group D rulers). Chandragupta I's empire was limited to UP, Bengal, and parts of modern Bihar.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** He issued coins in the joint names of his queen, **Kumaradevi (Licchavi's Princess)**, and himself.

3. Which of the following descriptions or titles is correctly associated with Samudragupta?

1. His court poet Harisena wrote the Prayag Prashasti in Sanskrit as Champu Kavya (Prose + Poetry).
2. He adopted the policy of political conciliation (grahanamokshanugraha) during his southern campaign.
3. Chinese sources mention that he granted permission to Meghavarman (Sri Lanka) to build a Buddhist temple at Bodh Gaya.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The **Prayag Prashasti** on the Allahabad Pillar was written by his court poet **Harisena** in Sanskrit as **Champu Kavya**.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The policy of political conciliation during the southern campaign was adopted by his commander **Virasena**, not Samudragupta himself.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Chinese sources confirm that **Meghavarman (Sri Lanka)** sought permission from Samudragupta to build a Buddhist temple at Bodh Gaya.

4. With reference to Chandragupta II, consider the following:

1. He used a marriage alliance with the Vakataka kingdom, controlling it indirectly, which helped him eliminate the Western Shakas.
2. The Chinese traveler Fa-Hien visited his court and wrote Fo-Khow-Ki (Records of Buddhist Countries).
3. The famous Iron Pillar inscription in Delhi is believed to have been originally erected by him at Udaygiri (Vidisa).

How many of the above statements are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

- (c) All three
- (d) None

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** He married his daughter, **Prabhavati**, to the Vakataka prince, Rudrasena II. After Rudrasena's death, Prabhavati ruled, allowing Chandragupta II to indirectly control the Vakataka kingdom, which aided him in defeating the Western Shakas (Sakari).
- **Statement 2: Correct.** **Fa-Hien** visited the empire during his reign and wrote Fo-Khow-Ki.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The **Iron Pillar inscription (Delhi)** is believed to have been erected by him at Udaygiri (Vidisa) and later transferred to Mehrauli.

5. With reference to the reign of Kumaragupta I (4 CE - 5 CE), which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. He was the founder of the famous Nalanda University.
2. The Mandsor (Dashpur) inscription records the migration of silk weavers from Lata (Gujarat) to Dasapura.
3. The first attack of the Huns from Central Asia was successfully repelled by him.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** He is credited with the **foundation of Nalanda University**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Mandsor inscription, written by Vatsabhatta, refers to the **migration of silk weavers from Lata (Gujarat) to Dasapura**.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The Huns' attack during Kumaragupta I's reign was made unsuccessful by **prince Skandagupta**, not Kumaragupta I himself.

6. Consider the following statements regarding Skandagupta:

1. He took the title of Vikramaditya after defeating the Huna leader Toramana.
2. The Bhitari Pillar inscription provides a clear genealogy of the Gupta dynasty.
3. His governor, Parnadatta, was responsible for repairing the Sudarshan Lake.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** He took the title of **Vikramaditya** after defeating Toramana (probably Huna).
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The **Bhitari Pillar inscription** (Ghazipur, UP) refers to the **Gupta Genealogy**.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The **Girnar inscription** mentions that his governor **Parnadatta repaired the Sudarshan Lake**.

7. With reference to the Gupta economy, consider the following pairs:

Term	Description
1. Kulyavapa	A system for land measurement
2. Ghati-yantra	A type of large reservoir or tank
3. Pattavastra	A variety of silk cloth

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Kulyavapa was a system of **land measurement**, along with Nivartana and Dronavapa.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** Ghati-yantra (or Arghatta) was a **Water Wheel** used for irrigation. Tadaga was the term for a reservoir.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Pattavastra was a variety of **silk cloth** (along with Kshauma).

8. With reference to the Gupta administration, consider the following statements:

1. The village landholders were called Gramapati, Kutumbis, and Mahattaras.
2. The Sandhi-Vigrahika was the officer-in-charge for the supply of offensive and defensive weapons.
3. The King's right to demand forced labour was known as Visthi.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Gramapati was the **Village's headman**. Kutumbis and Mahattaras were village landholders. The statement incorrectly groups the 'headman' with 'landholders'.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The Sandhi-Vigrahika was the **Minister in charge of peace and war**. The officer in charge of weapon supply was the Ranabhandagarika.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The tax or right of the King to demand forced labour was called **Visthi**.

9. Which of the following books is/are correctly matched with its author from the Gupta period?

1. Mrichchhakatika: Shudraka
2. Kamasutra: Vatsyayana
3. Amara Kosha: Vararuchi
4. Pancha Siddhantika: Varahamihira

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** *Mrichchhakatika* was written by **Shudraka**.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** *Kamasutra* was written by **Vatsyayana**.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** *Namalinganushasanam*, also known as **Amara Kosha**, was written by **Amarasimha**, who was a lexicographer. **Vararuchi** was a Grammarian who wrote *Prakrit Prakasha*.
- **Pair 4: Correct.** *Pancha Siddhantika* was written by the astronomer **Varahamihira**.

10. With respect to the society of the Gupta Empire, as per the observations of Fa-Hien and epigraphic evidence, consider the following statements:

1. Fa-Hien noted the prevalence of the Devadasi system and that the remarriage of widows was unfavorable.
2. The first epigraphic evidence of Sati practice is found in the Eran Inscription of Bhanugupta.
3. The emergence of Vratya Kshatriyas was due to the inter-marriage between the different Varnas, known as Varna-Samkara.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Fa-Hien's observations include the prevalence of the **Devadasi system** and that the **remarriage of widows was unfavorable**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The **Eran Inscription of Bhanugupta** provides the **1st Epigraphic evidence of Sati Practice**.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The emergence of Jatis (castes) was due to **Varna-Samkara** (inter-marriage between varnas). The **Vratya Kshatriyas** were families of Greek and Scythian origin, effectively semi-Kshatriyas.

Gupta and Post-Gupta Dynasties

1. Consider the following statements regarding the Vakataka kingdom:

1. The dynasty was referred to as Vindhyakas in the Puranas.
2. Though primarily a Brahmin ruling family, they provided patronage to other religions, as evidenced by the later phases of the Ajanta Caves.
3. The *Vaidharbhariti* style, a sophisticated form of Sanskrit literary composition, flourished in their courts.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Vakataka kingdom (250 AD-500 AD) was known as **Vindhyakas** in the **Puranas**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Vakatakas were **Brahmin Rulers** but supported other religions, including the extensive patronage of the Buddhist **Ajanta Caves**.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The **Vaidharbhariti** style, known for its smooth and easy composition, was patronized in the Vakataka court.

2. Which of the following statements correctly describes a ruler from the Pravarapura-Nandivardhana Branch of the Vakatakas?

- (a) Rudrasena II married Prabhavatigupta and adopted Vaishnavism, which marked the peak of Gupta influence over the branch.
- (b) Prithvisena II was the last known ruler and successfully secured the northern boundary against the invading Hunas.
- (c) Pravarasena II is credited with composing the *Setubandha* (*Ravanavaha*), a work in **Maharashtri Prakrit**.
- (d) Rudrasena I was compared to Yudhister for his ethical conduct and was the first to adopt the title of Dharma-Maharaja.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** Rudrasena II adopted Vaishnavism, but his wife, **Prabhavatigupta**, ruled as the **regent** after his death, during which time Gupta influence was strong.
- **(b) Incorrect.** Prithvisena II faced invasions from the **Nala** dynasty and the **Vatsagulma** branch.
- **(c) Correct.** **Pravarasena II** composed the *Setubandha* (*Ravanavaha*) in **Maharashtri Prakrit** and has the largest number of Vakataka inscriptions belonging to his reign.
- **(d) Incorrect.** The title **Dharma-Maharaja** was adopted by **Sarvasena** of the Vatsagulma branch.

3. Consider the following statements about the Vatsagulma Branch of the Vakatakas:

1. Its founder, Sarvasena, adopted the title Dharma-Maharaja and authored the text *Harivijaya*.
2. Harisena, the last great ruler of this branch, is historically significant for commissioning the famous at Ajanta.

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** **Sarvasena** was the founder of the Vatsagulma Branch, authored **Harivijaya**, and adopted the title **Dharma-Maharaja**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** **Harisena** was the last great ruler and is credited with providing patronage for the later Vakataka phase of the **Ajanta Caves**, including Cave No. 16.

4. With reference to the Ikshvakus (c. 225 AD), who succeeded the Satavahanas in the Andhra region, consider the following statements:

1. They were originally subordinate rulers of the Satavahanas, bearing the administrative title Mahatalavara.
2. The religious life of their court was characterized by a distinct division: rulers practiced Brahmanism, while royal women significantly patronized Buddhist stupas and monuments at Nagarjunakonda.

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Ikshvakus were originally **feudatories** of the Satavahanas and held the title **Mahatalavara**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The rulers adhered to **Brahmanism**, but their consorts, like Princess **Chamtisiri**, were patrons of Buddhism and erected **Buddhist buildings** at **Nagarjunakonda**.

5. Consider the following statements regarding the Early Kalachuris (or Chedis):

1. The era that later became known as the Kalachuri-Chedi era was started by the Abhira king Ishwarsena.
2. The earliest coin found at the Ellora Caves was issued by their king Krishnaraja.
3. Their rule was confined to the western part of the Deccan, particularly the region of Mahishmati.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The **Kalachuri-Chedi era** was started by the **Abhira king Ishwarsena**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The earliest coin found at **Ellora**, in front of Cave No. 21, was issued by **Krishnaraja**.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Their association with **Mahishmati** and the **Elephanta** and **Ellora Caves** suggests their rule covered a vast area in the Western Deccan.

6. With reference to the Western Ganga Dynasty (of Talakad, Karnataka), consider the following pairs of administrative and tax terms:

Term	Function/Meaning
1. Sarvadhikari	Prime Minister
2. Mahapradhan	Chief Minister
3. Sulika	Duties on import

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Sarvadhikari** was the **Prime Minister**.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Mahapradhan** was the **Chief Minister**.

- **Pair 3: Correct.** **Sulika** was the term for **Duties on import** (customs duties).

7. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Kadamba Dynasty (of Banwasi)?

1. The Talagunda inscription belongs to the reign of crown prince Santivarman and attests to the founder Mayurasharma's martial beginnings.
2. Ravivarman is credited with extending the Kadamba Kingdom to the Narmada River in the north after military conquest.
3. Their architecture is distinguished by the Stepped Pyramid structure known as Kadamba Shikara.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The **Talagunda inscription** of crown prince Santivarman mentions **Mayurasharma's** martial origins as a Brahmin.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** **Ravivarman** is credited with extending his Kingdom to the **Narmada River**.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The **Kadamba Shikara**, a **Stepped Pyramid** with a *Stupika*, was their unique architectural style.

8. With reference to the Kalabhras and their rule in South India, consider the following statements:

1. The period of their rule is referred to as a Dark Age because they completely suppressed all religious patronage, especially to Jainism and Buddhism.
2. The Tamil grammar work Yapperunkalam mentions a Kalabhra king named Achutha Kalappalan.
3. They were ultimately overthrown by the combined forces of the Pallava ruler Simhavishnu and the Pandya ruler Kadungon.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** They are called the Dark Age rulers due to a **lack of sources**, but they **extended patronage to Buddhism** and **Buddhist monasteries**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The **Tamil grammar Yapperunkalam** refers to a Kalabhra king, namely Achutha Kalappalan.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** They were overthrown by the combined efforts of the Pallavas (Simhavishnu) and the Pandyas (Kadungon).

9. With respect to the Maukharis of Kannauj, consider the following statements:

1. The Asirgarh Copper seal provides the complete genealogy of the Maukhari rulers starting from Maharaja Hari-varman.
2. Isanavarman was the first Maukhari king to adopt the title Maharajadhiraja following victories over the Andhras and the Gaudas.

3. The dynasty's independent existence ended when Grahavarman was killed by the Malawa king Devagupta.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The **Asirgarh Copper seal** gives the names of rulers starting from **Maharaja Hari-varman**.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** **Isanavarman** was the first to adopt the title **Maharajadhiraja** after defeating the **Andhras** and the **Gaudas**.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** **Grahavarman** (last Maukhari king) was killed by the Malawa king **Devagupta**.

10. Consider the following pairs related to the post-Gupta era dynasties:

Dynasty	Association/Contribution
1. Maitrakas of Valabhi	The founder, Bhattarka, was a military general who constructed the Valabhi University, a major centre for Hinayana Buddhism.
2. Kamarupa (Varman)	King Pushyavarma assumed the title Maharajadiraja and is mentioned in the Nalanda seal as a contemporary of Samudragupta.
3. Later Guptas of Magadha	The rule began after the decline of the main Gupta line and culminated in the conquest of Kannauj by Adityasena.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Maitrakas** were founded by **Bhattarka**, and **Valabhi University** was a renowned **Hinayana** centre.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **King Pushyavarma** is the founder and is mentioned in the Nalanda seal with the title **Maharajadiraja** under **Samudragupta's** suzerainty.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The **Later Guptas** were a regional power. **Adityasena** was a powerful ruler who performed the **Ashwamedha** sacrifice and conquered **Kannauj**.

Pushyabhuti/Vardhana Dynasty and the Early Medieval South Indian Dynasties

1. Which of the following titles were adopted by Prabhakarvardhana, the first notable ruler of the Pushyabhuti dynasty?

- 1. **Maharajadhiraja**
- 2. **Hunaharina-kesari**
- 3. **Parama-bhattaraka**

How many of the titles given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

- (c) All three
(d) None

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Title 1: Correct.** Prabhakarvardhana adopted the title Maharajadhiraja and was the first to use titles of sovereign status, signifying the end of the Gupta-era subordinate relationship.
- **Title 2: Correct.** Hunaharina-kesari (Lion to the Huna deer) is a title attributed to him by Banabhatta in Harshacharita, recognizing his military successes against the Hunas and Gurjaras.
- **Title 3: Incorrect.** Parama-bhattaraka was a title adopted by his son, **Harshavardhana**.

2. With reference to the military career and political consolidation under Harshavardhana, consider the following statements:

1. He successfully avenged the death of his brother, Rajyavardhana, by defeating the Gauda king Shashanka and capturing his capital, Karnasuvarna.
2. He adopted the title Sakala Uttara Pathanatha (Lord of the whole North) but was decisively defeated by the Chalukya king Pulakesin II on the banks of the River Narmada.
3. He adopted the Mahayana form of Buddhism and founded the great religious assembly known as the Mahamoksha Parishad at Prayag.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** While Harsha succeeded his brother Rajyavardhana, who was killed by Shashanka, Harsha was unable to achieve a decisive victory over Shashanka during the latter's lifetime.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Harsha's campaign south was halted by Pulakesin II at the River Narmada. The title Sakala Uttara Pathanatha is associated with his pan-Indian claims.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Harsha became a follower of Mahayana Buddhism and is known for holding the quinquennial Mahamoksha Parishad assembly at Prayag (Allahabad).

3. Consider the following administrative terms from Harshavardhana's reign:

Term	Meaning/Position
1. Bhukti	Provincial Governor
2. Uparika	A Province
3. Mahasamanta	Feudatory ruler

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** Bhukti refers to a **Province** (territorial division). The Provincial Governor was the Uparika or Rājasthaniya.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** Uparika refers to the **Provincial Governor**.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Mahasamanta refers to a Feudatory ruler, indicating the rise of a decentralized structure post-Gupta.

4. Which of the following is the most accurate description of the social and penal conditions during Harsha's reign, as observed by the Chinese traveler Hiuen-Tsang (Xuanzang)?

- (a) The caste system was largely non-existent, and the Brahmins served as agricultural labourers.
- (b) The punishment system was characterized by extreme severity, with frequent use of physical mutilation and the death penalty.
- (c) The people were generally honest, and the death penalty was generally abolished, often replaced by banishment or a life sentence.
- (d) Sati was a prominent custom among all social classes, and the state derived its main revenue from trade taxes.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Hiuen-Tsang's accounts** note that the **people were generally honest** and the penal system was lenient. The death penalty was generally abolished and replaced by banishment or life imprisonment.
- (a) Incorrect. The **four Varnas** (caste system) were prevalent.
- (b) Incorrect. The penal system was lenient, not severe.
- (d) Incorrect. Sati was prevalent, but the main source of state revenue was land revenue (1/6th of the produce).

5. Consider the following literary works and their authors:

1. Nagananda: Harshavardhana
2. Harshacharita: Banabhatta
3. Mattavilasa Prahasana: Pulakesin II

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Harshavardhana is credited with writing three plays: Nagananda, Ratnavali, and Priyadarshika.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Harshacharita, a biography of Harsha, was written by his court poet, Banabhatta.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** Mattavilasa Prahasana (A Farce of Drunken Sport) was written by the Pallava king Mahendravarman I.

6. The Chalukya king Pulakesin II, who adopted the title Dakshinapatheshvara (Lord of the South), successfully halted Harsha's expansionist march. Which of the following sources confirms this victory?

- (a) The Mandasor Inscription of Yashodharman
- (b) The Aihole Inscription of Pulakesin II
- (c) The Talgunda Pillar Inscription of the Kadambas
- (d) The Prayag Prashasti of Samudragupta

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The Aihole Inscription (634 CE) was composed by the court poet **Ravikirti** for Pulakesin II. It explicitly details the defeat of Harsha (Harsha was no longer 'harsh' - harshe natmane na ratihi) near the River Narmada.

7. Which of the following statements correctly describes the contribution of the Chalukyas of Badami to Indian architecture?

- (a) They primarily built rock-cut cave temples, eschewing structural temples entirely.
- (b) They were responsible for establishing the Dravidian style of architecture, particularly the vimanas and gopurams.
- (c) They evolved the Vesara style, characterized by a hybrid blend of Nagara (North Indian) and Dravida (South Indian) features.
- (d) Their architectural legacy is confined to monolithic rock-cut Rathas at Badami and Aihole.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(c) Correct.** The Chalukyas (along with the Rashtrakutas) are credited with evolving the Vesara (or Central Indian) style, which is a blend of Northern and Southern architectural elements, notably seen in the Pattadakal complex.
- **(a) Incorrect.** They built both rock-cut and structural temples (e.g., Ladh Khan Temple).
- **(b) Incorrect.** The Dravida style was established by the Pallavas.
- **(d) Incorrect.** They built structural temples as well.

8. With reference to the Pallava Dynasty of Kanchipuram, consider the following statements:

1. The famous monolithic rock-cut Rathas at Mahabalipuram were constructed during the reign of Mahendravarman I.
2. Narasimhavarman I defeated the Chalukyas, captured their capital Vatapi, and adopted the title Vatapikonda (Conqueror of Vatapi).
3. The Dravidian style of temple architecture, which later became dominant in the South, essentially began during the Pallava reign.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Mahendravarman I started the **rock-cut** cave temple phase. The Rathas (monolithic temples) at Mahabalipuram were constructed under his son, **Narasimhavarman I** (Mamalla).

- **Statement 2: Correct.** Narasimhavarman I is one of the greatest Pallava kings and is famous for conquering the Chalukya capital Vatapi and adopting the title Vatapikonda.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Pallava period is considered the foundation and evolutionary phase of the Dravidian style, moving from rock-cut caves to monolithic rathas and finally to structural temples.

9. With reference to the local administration during the Imperial Chola period, consider the following statements:

1. The Ur was a general assembly of adult males in non-Brahmadeya (non-Brahmin) villages.
2. The Sabha was a specialized assembly in Brahmadeya villages and included highly educated members from Vellala (agricultural) groups.
3. The Nagaram assembly was dominated by members from Valangai (right-hand faction) groups, who were primarily agriculturalists.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Ur was the general village assembly, primarily in villages with peasant proprietors (non-Brahmadeya).
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Sabha was an exclusive assembly of Brahmins in Brahmadeya villages, known for its powerful committees. The Vellalas (agricultural groups) did participate in the Sabha or its committees in some areas, as confirmed by Chola inscriptions.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Nagaram was the assembly of **merchants and traders**. Valangai (Right-Hand Faction) and Idangai (Left-Hand Faction) were social divisions, with Valangai mainly comprising agricultural groups and Idangai mainly artisan/trading class.

10. Consider the following pairs of cultural contributions associated with the Imperial Chola period:

Cultural Contribution	Associated Patron/Compiler
1. Nataraja Bronze Sculpture	Chola Sthapati (Artists)
2. Ramayana by Kampan	Rajendra I (Chola King)
3. Divya Prabandham compilation	Nathmuni (Alvar-Vaishnav Saint)

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The famous four-handed Nataraja Bronze Sculpture is a distinctive feature of Chola art.

- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** Ramayana was composed by Kamban during the Chola period, but not directly under the patronage of Rajendra I. It is believed to have been composed during the reign of Kulothunga III.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The Divya Prabandham (collection of Alvar hymns) was compiled by the saint Nathmuni during the Chola period.

Early Medieval Dynasties-II

1. Which of the following statements correctly describes the Rashtrakuta dynasty's involvement in the Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj?

- (a) Amoghavarsha I allied with the Pratiharas against the Palas and was the first Rashtrakuta ruler to successfully capture Kannauj.
- (b) Dantidurga was the first Rashtrakuta king to achieve a major victory against the Pratiharas in the North, though the capital remained Kannauj.
- (c) Govinda III and Indra III both successfully defeated and intimidated the Pratihara rulers, thereby making the Rashtrakutas the single dominant power in the Deccan.
- (d) Krishna III briefly captured Kannauj but was immediately forced to retreat south due to the rise of the Later Cholas.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** Amoghavarsha I focused mainly on consolidating his empire and was not actively involved in the struggle. Govinda III first captured Kannauj.
- **(b) Incorrect.** Dantidurga's early victories were primarily against the Chalukyas and Kalinga.
- **(c) Correct.** The Rashtrakutas did not settle in Kannauj, but Govinda III defeated the Pratiharas, and Indra III captured Kannauj and defeated the Pratihara king Mahipala, cementing Rashtrakuta power in the Deccan and its ability to influence the North.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Krishna III's main military focus was against the Cholas in the South.

2. With reference to the Yadavas of Devagiri (c. 1187–1317 AD), consider the following statements:

1. The Yadavas rose to power by serving as feudatories of the Western Chalukyas (of Kalyani) before declaring independence.
2. Mahadeva was the last Yadava ruler, who was defeated by the invading armies of Alauddin Khilji.
3. The Hemadpanti style of architecture, developed by their minister Hemadri, is characterized by its distinct use of mortarless stone construction.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Bhillama V, the founder, was a powerful feudatory of the Western Chalukyas before establishing the independent Yadava kingdom.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** Ramachandra (or Ramadeva) was the king defeated by Malik Kafur (under Alauddin Khilji). His son and grandson were the last rulers.

- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Hemadpanti style (associated with the Yadava minister Hemadri) is known for its unique construction using dry stones (without mortar).

3. Which of the following is the most accurate statement regarding the Kakatiya dynasty's contribution to agriculture and architecture?

- (a) They primarily built rock-cut temples, imitating the Rashtrakuta style, to demonstrate their religious zeal.
- (b) Their architectural style, characterized by four colossal gateways (toranas), is best represented by the Ramappa Temple.
- (c) They were pioneers in water management, constructing numerous tanks and reservoirs like the Pakkal and Ramappa tanks, which supported the regional economy.
- (d) They introduced Telugu as the official administrative language, entirely replacing Sanskrit in their royal inscriptions.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** They built structural temples.
- **(b) Incorrect.** Toranas (gateways) are characteristic of the Warangal Fort, not the Ramappa Temple.
- **(c) Correct.** The Kakatiya kings are historically renowned for their tank construction activities (like Pakkal and Ramappa tanks), which were central to sustaining the agricultural base of the Telangana region.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Sanskrit remained important, and their most famous inscription, the Motupalli Pillar inscription, is bilingual.

4. Which of the following titles and achievements are correctly associated with the Hoysala king Vishnuvardhana?

1. Maleparol Ganda (Lord of the Great Mountains)
2. Defeat of the Cholas and establishment of an independent Hoysala kingdom
3. Patronage of Jainism throughout his entire reign

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Vishnuvardhana adopted the title Maleparol Ganda after subduing the local tribal chiefs (Malepas).
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Vishnuvardhana defeated the Cholas at Talakad (1116 AD), captured Gangavadi, and formally established the independent Hoysala state, though the kingdom's foundations were laid by his predecessors.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Vishnuvardhana was a Jain initially but was converted to Vaishnavism by Ramanujacharya, leading to the construction of Vaishnava temples like Chennakesava at Belur.

5. With reference to the judicial and military administration of the Hoysala kingdom, consider the following:

Term	Role/Function
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1. Sandhivigrahin	Minister of War and Peace
2. Dandanayaka	Chief Commander and head of Justice
3. Perggade	Village accountant or headman

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Sandhivigrahin (or Maha Sandhivigrahi) was the minister for Foreign Affairs, War, and Peace.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Dandanayaka was a highly powerful and flexible title, often denoting a Chief Commander or a senior judicial officer (head of Justice).
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** Perggade was a Supervising officer or chief official at the village or provincial level, often managing revenue. The village headman was typically the Gaunda or Gramani.

6. Which of the following statements most accurately reflects the religious and economic developments during the Rashtrakuta period?

- (a) Jainism declined significantly as the Rashtrakuta rulers were exclusive followers of Brahmanism.
- (b) Arab traders enjoyed religious freedom and exemption from trade taxes, boosting the kingdom's maritime income.
- (c) The Rashtrakuta period marked a decline in the Temple Economy, with royal patronage shifting entirely to Jain Basadis.
- (d) The capital Manyakheta became a major center for the Digambara sect of Jainism, a reflection of royal patronage.

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** Amoghavarsha I was a devoted Jain, and Jainism flourished under Rashtrakuta patronage.
- **(b) Incorrect.** Arab traders did enjoy religious freedom and settled on the western coast, but they were generally not exempted from taxes; they simply paid duties.
- **(c) Incorrect.** Temple construction and the Temple Economy remained robust, as evidenced by Ellora and Elephanta.
- **(d) Correct.** Amoghavarsha I was a Jain, and under his reign and his successors, the capital Manyakheta became a strong center for the Digambara sect of Jainism.

7. With reference to the later Chola period (post-Rajendra I), consider the following pairs of literary works and their language:

Work	Language
1. Periya Puranam	Sanskrit

2. Kamban's Ramayana	Tamil
3. Kavirajamarga	Kannada

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** Periya Puranam (a historical account of the Shaiva saints) was composed by Sekkilhar in Tamil, during the reign of Kulottunga II.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Kamban's Ramayana (Ramavataram) is considered a classic of Tamil literature from the Later Chola period.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Kavirajamarga is the first poetic work in Kannada literature, written by Amoghavarsha I of the Rashtrakuta dynasty, which falls under the Early Medieval Deccan history.

8. Which of the following is the most significant literary development associated with the Yadava and Hoysala courts?

- (a) The flourishing of Sanskrit classical drama, which replaced the regional Bhakti literature.
- (b) The rise of the Vachana literature in Kannada, patronized by Hoysala rulers like Vishnuvardhana.
- (c) The development of early Marathi literature, especially Bhakti poetry, under the Yadavas.
- (d) The decline of Jain literary activity due to strong Vaishnava and Shaiva influence in both kingdoms.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** Bhakti literature was dominant.
- **(b) Incorrect.** Vachana literature is associated with the Virashaiva movement under Basavanna during the Later Chalukya period, not primarily Hoysala royal patronage.
- **(c) Correct.** The Yadava dynasty is historically crucial for the beginning of Marathi literature. Saints and poets like Dnyaneshwar (author of Dnyaneshwari) and Namdev flourished under Yadava rule, making Marathi the main cultural language of the region.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Jainism continued to receive patronage, especially from the Hoysalas before Vishnuvardhana's conversion.

9. The Hoysaleswara Temple at Halebid (Dwarasamudra) is best known for which of the following architectural features?

- (a) Its massive pyramidal Vimana (tower) covered with stucco figures, towering over the entrance.
- (b) The Hoysala's emblem depicting Sala fighting a tiger displayed prominently on the temple.
- (c) The construction from granite rock with plain, undecorated walls and minimal carvings.
- (d) The presence of two shrines (dvikuta) on a single star-shaped jagati (platform) with continuous narrative friezes.

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** Hoysala Vimanas were detailed, but not primarily characterized by pyramidal stucco figures (which is Dravida).
- **(b) Incorrect.** The Hoysala emblem is Sala fighting a **lion** or man-lion, not a tiger.
- **(c) Incorrect.** Hoysala temples are made of soapstone and are known for excessive, minute carving.
- **(d) Correct.** The Hoysaleswara Temple is a Dvikuta (two shrines) structure, built on a star-shaped platform (jagati), and its exterior is covered with horizontal bands of intricate sculptures known as friezes.

10. The Kulottunga I Chola administration (1070–1122 CE) is historically significant for its economic policy due to which of the following actions?

- (a) He conquered Sri Lanka and imposed heavy taxes on its trade, increasing the Chola kingdom's revenue by 50%.
- (b) He abolished several minor and vexatious taxes, earning him the title Sungam Tavirtta Cholan (Chola who abolished tolls).
- (c) He appointed a special Revenue Committee dominated by Brahmins to double the land tax in the Kavery Delta region.
- (d) He shifted the primary source of revenue from land taxes to taxes on temple donations and guild profits.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** He adopted a conciliatory approach toward Sri Lanka, granting them complete freedom.
- **(b) Correct.** Kulottunga I is famous for his revenue reforms, particularly abolishing tolls or transit duties (Sungam), and earned the title Sungam Tavirtta Cholan.
- **(c) Incorrect.** His policy was one of tax abolition, not increasing land tax.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Land tax remained the primary source of Chola revenue.

Early Medieval Dynasties in North India

1. With reference to Yashovarman of Kannauj (c. 700–740 AD), consider the following statements:

1. He established a temporary alliance with Lalitaditya Muktapida of Kashmir to counter the growing threat from Tibet.
2. The Prakrit poem Gaudavahoby Vakpati is an important historical source, detailing his victory over the Gaudaking Jivita Gupta II.
3. The playwright Bhavabhuti, known for Uttara-Rama-Charitra, was patronized at his court.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The alliance was forged to defeat the Tibetans, though the alliance later broke, leading to Yashovarman's defeat by Lalitaditya.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Gaudavaho is the primary source of information about Yashovarman's conquest of Gauda (Bengal).

- **Statement 3: Correct.** The famous playwright Bhavabhuti(also known as Srikantha) was one of the many scholars patronized by Yashovarmana.

2. With reference to the Karakotadynasty of Kashmir(625 AD-855 AD), consider the following statements:

1. The founder, Durlabhavardhana, extended his empire to include territories in the Punjaband parts of Gandhara.
2. Lalitaditya Muktapida's reign is considered the peak of the Karakotadynasty, marked by the construction of the colossal Martand Sun Temple.
3. The Nilamata Purana, which details the history and culture of Kashmir, is believed to have been commissioned during this dynasty.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** While Durlabhavardhanawas the founder, the major territorial expansion, especially of Punjaband Kashmir, was achieved by the subsequent powerful rulers, particularly Lalitaditya.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Lalitaditya(c. 724–760 AD) was the most powerful ruler, known for conquering Yashovarmanaand his military might. The Martand Sun Templeis his most famous construction.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Nilamata Purana, an important text on Kashmiritrade traditions, is generally associated with the Karakotaperiod.

3. The decline of the Utpaladynasty (855 AD-939 AD) in Kashmir, which succeeded the Karakotas, was primarily due to:

- (a) A concerted invasion by the Eastern Gangaruler Anantavarman Chodaganga.
- (b) The outbreak of a major Buddhist-Hinducivil conflict over control of Shankaracharya Hill.
- (c) The rise of a powerful local feudatoryclass known as the Damarasand the succession of weak rulers.
- (d) The assassination of the last ruler, Partha, by the Arabinvaders from Sindh.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- The Utpaladynasty, which followed the Karakotas, saw a period of political instability. The two major factors leading to their decline and the transition to the Loharadynasty were:
 1. The rise of powerful local feudal chiefs known as the **Damaras**, who wielded significant military and political power.
 2. A series of weak rulersand internal strife.
- (a), (b), and (d) are incorrect historical events for Kashmirat that time.

4. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Gurjara-Pratiharadynasty?

1. They successfully repelled the Arabincursions from Sindhinto North Indiaduring the 8th century AD.
2. Mihira Bhoja(Bhoja I) was the greatest ruler, whose reign was confirmed by the accounts of the Arab traveler Sulaiman.

3. Their empire disintegrated into several smaller Rajput states, including the Chandelas and Kalachuris, in the 10th and 11th centuries.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Pratiharas (Nagabhata I and Nagabhata II) were instrumental in checking the expansion of Arab power eastward from Sindh.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Mihira Bhoja (836–885 AD) was the most powerful ruler. Sulaiman (an Arab traveler) confirms the stability and power of his kingdom.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** As the Pratihara Empire declined, its feudatories, such as the Chandelas of Bundelkhand, Kalachuris of Tripuri, Paramaras of Malwa, and Chauhans of Shakambhari, asserted independence.

5. With reference to the Pal dynasty of Bengal, consider the following statements:

1. The dynasty was established after the local notables elected Gopala as king, ending a period of anarchy known as Matsyanyaya.
2. Dharmapala and Devapala were active participants in the Tripartite Struggle for control over Kannauj.
3. The Pal rulers were fervent patrons of Jainism and sponsored the construction of several Basadis in their capital Pataliputra.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Pal dynasty emerged following a period of chaos (Matsyanyaya or the law of the fish) in Bengal, when Gopala was elected by the people.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Dharmapala and his son Devapala were crucial rivals of the Pratiharas and Rashtrakutas in the long struggle for the strategic city of Kannauj.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The Pal rulers were staunch patrons of **Buddhism** (especially Mahayana and Tantric forms) and Shaivism. They established great Buddhist centers like Vikramashila and Odantapuri.

6. Which of the following correctly describes the Pala and Sena dynasties' contribution to art and literature in Bengal?

- (a) The Pala school of art was characterized by Bronze casting, while the Sena school focused on Mural paintings.
(b) Jayadeva (author of Gita Govinda) was a prominent court poet of the Pal king Gopala.
(c) The Sena dynasty rulers revived Sanskrit learning and literature, leading to a decline in vernacular Buddhist literature.
(d) Pala sculpture, marked by black basalt stone and stylized forms, was primarily secular in nature.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** Both Pala and Sena schools are famous for Bronze and Stone sculptures, and the Pala school is famous for miniature paintings on palm leaves.
- **(b) Incorrect.** Jayadeva was patronized by the Sena ruler **Lakshmana Sena**, not Gopala (Pala).
- **(c) Correct.** The Sena rulers were ardent Hindu patrons (especially Shaiva and Vaishnava) and shifted the emphasis back to classical Sanskrit literature, including works like Haladitya's *Danasagara* and *Adbhutasagara*. This shift coincided with the decline of Buddhist scholarship in Bengal.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Pala sculptures were primarily Buddhist and Hindu religious figures.

7. With reference to the Sena dynasty (c. 1095–1250 AD) of Bengal, consider the following statements:

1. They replaced the Pala dynasty and established their rule in Bengal and Bihar.
2. Ballala Sena authored the *Danasagara* and introduced the practice of Kulinism to regulate the social status of Brahmins and Kshatriyas.
3. The dynasty was finally overthrown by the invasion of Muhammad bin Bakhtiyar Khalji.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Sena dynasty replaced the Palas but ruled only Bengal and parts of Bihar for a time. Their control of Bihar was limited compared to the Palas.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Ballala Sena (1160–1178 AD) is known for his literary contributions (*Danasagara* and *Adbhutasagara*) and for establishing Kulinism (a rigid stratification of Brahmins and Kayasthas) in Bengal.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Lakshmana Sena was the last major ruler, and his capital Nadia (or Lakhnauti) was captured by Bakhtiyar Khalji in 1202 AD, marking the end of organized Sena power.

8. Which of the following is the most accurate statement regarding the Kalchuris (Chedis) of Tripuri (c. 8th–13th century AD)?

- (a) Their rule was confined to the Malwa region and they were the perpetual feudatories of the Gurjara-Pratiharas.
- (b) Their ruler Gangadeva was renowned for his patronage of Jainism and the construction of numerous Jain temples.
- (c) They emerged as a major independent power under Gangadeva and Karna, claiming paramountcy in Central India by defeating Chandela and Chalukyas.
- (d) Their greatest architectural contribution was the Khajuraho group of temples, which they built in alliance with the Chandelas.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** Their core region was Dahala (Jabalpur region) with capital at Tripuri.
- **(b) Incorrect.** They were primarily Shaivite patrons.

- **(c) Correct.** The Kalchuris gained great power, especially under Gangeyadeva (c. 1015–1041 AD) and his son Karna (c. 1041–1073 AD), who defeated several neighbors, including the Chandelas and Chalukyas, and were briefly the most powerful kingdom in Central India.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Khajuraho was built by the **Chandelas**.

9. With reference to the Chandela dynasty of Jejakabhukti (Bundelkhand), consider the following statements:

1. They initially served as feudatories of the Gurjara-Pratihara before declaring independence under Yashovarman.
2. The famous Khajuraho group of temples, known for the Kandariya Mahadeva Temple, was built during their peak period.
3. Vidyadhar was the last powerful Chandela ruler who offered strong resistance to Mahmud of Ghazni.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Nanuka (founder) was a Pratihara feudatory, but Yashovarman (c. 925–950 AD) became the first independent sovereign ruler.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Chandelas are globally famous for the magnificent Khajuraho temples, primarily constructed between 950 and 1050 AD. The Kandariya Mahadeva Temple is the largest among them.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Vidyadhar (c. 1003–1035 AD) was the most powerful Chandela king and was the only North Indian ruler to successfully defy the armies of Mahmud of Ghazni.

10. The Eastern Gangadynasty of Kalinga (Orissa) is primarily remembered for its architectural contribution under the king Anantavarman Chodaganga. Which of the following monuments did he commission?

- (a) The Sun Temple at Konark.
- (b) The Jagannath Temple at Puri.
- (c) The Lingaraja Temple at Bhubaneswar.
- (d) The Rajarani Temple at Bhubaneswar.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** The Konark Sun Temple was built much later by Narasimhadeva I of the Eastern Gangadynasty.
- **(b) Correct.** Anantavarman Chodaganga (c. 1077–1147 AD) was the founder of the imperial phase of the Eastern Gangadynasty and is credited with initiating the construction of the famous Jagannath Temple at Puri.
- **(c) Incorrect.** The Lingaraja Temple was primarily built by the Somavamsi dynasty.
- **(d) Incorrect.** The Rajarani Temple was built by the Somavamsis.

Early Medieval North India-IV

1. With reference to the Paramara ruler Bhoja (c. 1010–1055 CE), who ruled from Dhar, consider the following statements:

1. He was a formidable scholar and writer, known for works on Poetics (Saraswati Kanthabharana) and Architecture (Samarangana Sutradhara).
2. He established a college for Sanskrit studies, the Bhoj Shala, which was dedicated to the Goddess Saraswati.
3. His kingdom was simultaneously threatened by the Kalachuris of Tripuri and the Solankis of Gujarat, resulting in a tripartite war.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Bhoja was a polymath. His works like Saraswati Kanthabharana (Poetics) and Samarangana Sutradhara (Architecture/Engineering) attest to his vast knowledge.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** He founded the Bhojpur city and the Bhoj Shala, a major center for Sanskrit learning and temple dedicated to Saraswati (later converted).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Towards the end of his reign, Bhoja faced a severe challenge from an alliance of the Kalachuri king Karna and the Solanki king Bhima I, which led to his death and the temporary collapse of the Paramara power.

2. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the Solanki (or Chalukya) dynasty of Gujarat?

1. The Modhera Sun Temple was built during the reign of Bhima I to commemorate his victory over Mahmud of Ghazni at Somnath.
2. The Solankis were devoted patrons of Jainism, and the scholar Hemachandra was patronized by Siddharaja Jayasimha.
3. Mularaja was the founder of the dynasty and established his capital at Anhilwara.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Modhera Sun Temple was built by Bhima I, but it was built after Mahmud of Ghazni's attack on Somnath (1026 CE), and the attack was a defeat for Bhima I, not a victory.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Jainism greatly flourished under the Solankis. Hemachandra was the most influential Jain scholar of the time, patronized by Siddharaja Jayasimha and Kumarpala.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Mularaja is the widely accepted founder of the Solanki dynasty in the mid-10th century CE, with Anhilwara as the capital.

3. The historical narrative regarding the Tomaras of Delhi and Haryana is primarily known through which of the following accounts?

- (a) Kalhana's Rajatarangini, which mentions the Tomara control over Indraprastha.
- (b) Prithviraj Raso by Chand Bardai, which describes the Tomaras as the original founders of Dhillika (Delhi) and its transfer to the Chauhans.
- (c) Alberuni's Kitab-ul-Hind, which details the Tomara administration and revenue system.
- (d) Merutunga's Prabandha-Chintamani, which chronicles the Tomara-Solanki rivalry over the Gurjara region.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(b) Correct.** The most famous literary source for the Tomaras is Chand Bardai's Prithviraj Raso. It specifically details how the Tomaras founded the city of Delhi (Dhillika) and were later subjugated by the Chauhans (Chahamanas), who then controlled Delhi before the Ghurid invasions.
- **(a), (c), and (d) Incorrect.** Rajatarangini focuses on Kashmir. Alberuni's work mentions Kannauj and Pratihars. Merutunga focuses on Gujarat.

4. With reference to the Gahadavala dynasty of Kannauj (c. 1089–1194 CE), consider the following statements:

1. The founder, Chandradeva, capitalized on the decline of the Pratihars and established the capital at Kanyakubja.
2. The Gahadavala rulers were the only North Indian dynasty to impose a special tax called Turushka Danda to fund defense against Islamic invaders.
3. The dynasty was finally defeated and ended by Muhammad Ghori in the Battle of Chandawar against the ruler Jayachandra.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Chandradeva established the dynasty following the collapse of Pratihara and Kalachuri power, making Kannauj his capital.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Inscriptions confirm the levy of the Turushka Danda (or Turushka Toll), a special tax likely collected to meet the expenses of warfare against Turushka (Turkish) invaders.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Jayachandra (Gahadavala) was defeated and killed by Muhammad Ghori in the Battle of Chandawar (1194 CE), leading to the fall of Kannauj.

5. Which of the following statements correctly describe the Hindu Shahi dynasty of Ohind (Waihand)?

- (a) They were the first major dynasty to move their capital from Peshawar to Waihand due to pressure from the Ghaznavids.
- (b) They were originally a Buddhist dynasty but converted to Shaivism under Jayapala to unite the Kabul region against the Turkish invaders.
- (c) The most determined resistance to Subuktigin and Mahmud of Ghazni was offered by the kings Jayapala and Anandapala.
- (d) Their greatest victory was at the Battle of Waihand (1001 CE), where they decisively defeated Mahmud of Ghazni.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** Their capital was moved from Waihand to Bhimnagar and then to Lahore due to Turkish pressure.
- **(b) Incorrect.** They were a Hindu dynasty (likely Brahmana) who succeeded the Kabul Shahi (Turkish Shahi).
- **(c) Correct.** Jayapala and his son Anandapala led a long and determined, though ultimately unsuccessful, struggle against the invasions of Subuktigin and Mahmud of Ghazni.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Jayapala was decisively defeated by Mahmud at the Battle of Waihand (1001 CE).

6. The decline of the Pala Empire after the reign of Devapala led to a temporary revival under which ruler, often regarded as the last great Pala king, and what was his primary achievement?

- (a) Mahipala I: Re-established authority over Bengal and Bihar and successfully resisted the Chola invasion under Rajendra I.
- (b) Vigrahapala III: Signed a crucial peace treaty with the Kalachuris and restored Nalanda university.
- (c) Ramapala: Suppressed the internal Kaivarta revolt and brought the Pala kingdom to its last period of military strength.
- (d) Gopala: United the Pala feudatories to defeat the Sena king Vijaya Sena and restore Buddhist rule.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(c) Correct.** Ramapala (c. 1077–1120 CE) is considered the last major Pala ruler. He successfully suppressed the Kaivarta revolt (Varendra rebellion) in North Bengal, restoring Pala glory before the final decline.
- **(a) Incorrect.** Mahipala I was defeated by Rajendra I.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Gopala was the founder. The Senas eventually defeated the Palas.

7. With reference to the development of Science and Technology in Ancient and Early Medieval India, consider the following pairs:

Field	Scholar	Major Contribution/Work
1. Astronomy	Brahmagupta	Calculation of the length of the Solar Year at 365.258 days (Brahma Sphuta Siddhanta).
2. Mathematics	Bhaskaracharya	Postulated the concept of differential calculus in Siddhanta Shiromani.
3. Medicine	Vagbhata	Authored the Ashtanga Hridaya Samhita, summarizing Ayurvedic principles.

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** While Brahmagupta (Brahma Sphuta Siddhanta) was a major figure in Astronomy, Aryabhata (who calculated the solar year at 365.258 days) and Varahamihira were also key figures. Brahmagupta's work mainly focuses on Mathematics (Zero properties) and Astronomy.

- **Pair 2: Correct.** Bhaskaracharya (Bhaskara II) wrote Siddhanta Shiromani (12th century), which contains the Lilavati (Maths) and Bijaganita (Algebra) and famously touched upon the concept of differential calculus (known as Tatkalika Gati).
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Vagbhata (c. 6th–7th century AD) is considered one of the three great authorities of Ayurveda (Trinath), and his work, Ashtanga Hridaya Samhita, is a crucial compendium.

8. With reference to the two main Schools of Hindu Law (Mitakshara and Dayabhaga) that governed property rights during the Early Medieval period, the fundamental difference lies in the concept of Coparcenary. This is best summarized as:

- (a) Mitakshara recognized daughter's right to property by birth, while Dayabhaga denied this right.
- (b) Mitakshara applies the rule of Survivorship, where a son acquires an interest in the Ancestral property by birth, whereas Dayabhaga requires partition upon the father's death.
- (c) Dayabhaga permitted the alienation (sale/gift) of joint property by the coparcener during the father's lifetime, which Mitakshara strictly prohibited.
- (d) Mitakshara allowed for the partition of property only when the widow consented, while Dayabhaga allowed it unilaterally.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(b) Correct.** The core difference: Mitakshara (prevalent in most of India) grants the son a right in the Ancestral Property by birth (Rule of Survivorship). Dayabhaga (prevalent in Bengal and Assam) holds that the son acquires interest only after the father's death, until which the father remains the sole owner.
- **(a) Incorrect.** Both schools originally denied the daughter a birthright in coparcenary property.
- **(c) Incorrect.** Mitakshara restricts alienation of property without the consent of all coparceners. Dayabhaga allows the son to dispose of his share even while the father is alive, as the property is deemed separate until partition.

9. Consider the following differences between the Mitakshara and Dayabhaga schools:

Feature	Mitakshara School	Dayabhaga School
1. Widow's Inheritance	Inherits the property in default of a close heir but cannot alienate it.	Does not inherit property but gets maintenance.
2. Basis of Succession	Based on Propinquity (nearness of blood).	Based on the right to offer Pinda (funeral cakes) to the deceased.
3. Geographical Area	Prevalent in Bihar and Orissa (except Assam).	Prevalent in Bengal and Assam.

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Mitakshara's rule is that the widow inherits in default of a close heir but cannot alienate the property. Dayabhaga is more liberal, allowing the widow to inherit the property and giving her powers of alienation.

- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** This is **reversed**. Mitakshara succession is based on **Propinquity** (nearness of blood), while Dayabhaga succession is based on the **Pinda** (religious efficacy).
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** Mitakshara is prevalent across India **except** Bengal and Assam. Dayabhaga is prevalent only in Bengal and Assam.

10. The Khajuraho group of temples, built by the Chandelas, is a unique example of Central Indian temple architecture. Which of the following statements correctly highlights its specific architectural distinction?

- (a) The temples are built of sandstone and stand on a massive, flat Jagati (platform), providing a functional Pradakshinapatha (circumambulatory path).
- (b) The temples are characterized by single-towered Shikhara (Nagara style) and lack the mandapas found in Western Indian temples.
- (c) The complex features a rare blend of Hindu (Shaiva and Vaishnava), Jain, and Buddhist shrines built by the same rulers.
- (d) The main Shikhara is surrounded by several smaller replica towers (Urusingas), giving the effect of a mountain range, such as in the Kandariya Mahadeva temple.

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** While the temples use sandstone and a platform, the Jagati in Khajuraho does **not** provide the main Pradakshinapatha. The circumambulatory path is **inside** the temple.
- **(b) Incorrect.** Khajuraho temples have multiple mandapas (e.g., ardha, maha, garbha) on a common axis.
- **(c) Incorrect.** The complex features Hindu and Jain temples but **not** Buddhist shrines.
- **(d) Correct.** This feature, where the central Shikhara (tower) is buttressed and multiplied by a cluster of smaller towers (Urusingas), is a definitive characteristic of the Khajuraho architecture, best exemplified by the majestic Kandariya Mahadeva temple.

Early incursions and the Slave Dynasty

1. With reference to the Arab conquest of Sindh in the 8th century CE, consider the following statements:

1. The primary motive of the Umayyad Caliphate's expedition was solely religious conversion and the establishment of a permanent Islamic state.
2. The administration established in Sindh was relatively tolerant, granting the local Hindu and Buddhist populations the status of *Zimmis* (protected people).
3. The invasion led directly to the annexation of the entire Indus Valley region and its inclusion as a centrally administered province under the Umayyad Caliphate.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Incursions were "both a pursuit of riches and a part of the broader imperial strategy." It was not *solely* religious.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Historical sources confirm that Muhammad bin Qasim adopted a policy of relative tolerance, granting the status of *Zimmis* to Hindus and Buddhists, allowing them to practice their religion in exchange for the *Jizya* tax.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The Arab rule was largely confined to Sindh and Multan, with little effort to expand beyond this frontier province into the rest of the Indian subcontinent.

2. Which of the following statements correctly describes the impact of the Abbasid Caliphate on the political and cultural history of the Indian subcontinent?

1. The second Abbasid Caliph, Al-Mansur, established the capital, Baghdad, strategically, partly to facilitate direct and profitable trade with India.
2. It was during the peak of the Abbasid period that Indian intellectual works on mathematics and medicine were widely translated and incorporated into the intellectual ferment of the Islamic Golden Age.
3. The later Ghaznavid dynasty, which effectively controlled the areas of Punjab and Multan, often sought political legitimacy by maintaining nominal ties with the weakening Abbasid Caliph.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The foundation of Baghdad in the ancient Persian heartland was strategic for trade with India and the Far East.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Abbasid period (especially the time of Harun al-Rashid) saw massive translation movements, including texts from India (like the *Siddhanta* by Brahmagupta).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Mahmud of Ghazni received titles like *Yamin al-Dawla* from the Abbasid Caliph, which was crucial for legitimizing his independent rule (Sultanate) in the eyes of the wider Muslim world, despite the Caliph's diminished real power.

3. Which of the following represents the most significant and lasting impact of Mahmud of Ghazni's repeated invasions on the future political landscape of North India?

- (a) The successful spread of Islam as the dominant religion across the Gangetic plains.
- (b) The permanent unification of the fragmented Rajput states under a single leader for collective resistance.
- (c) The weakening of India's economic and military frontiers, inadvertently paving the way for deeper, more permanent Turkish conquests.
- (d) The complete destruction of all Hindu religious sites, leading to an immediate cultural vacuum across the subcontinent.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Mahmud's 17 raids were driven primarily by the desire for wealth and were largely confined to the Northwest. He did not aim to establish a permanent empire in the same way Ghori did.
- The **most significant impact** was the continuous draining of resources and the annexation of regions like Punjab and Multan into the Ghaznavid territory, which permanently compromised the Indian border and made subsequent invasions by the Ghurids significantly easier.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the campaigns of Muhammad Ghori in India:

1. Unlike Mahmud of Ghazni, Ghori's primary ambition was to establish a permanent Islamic empire, not just to plunder wealth.
2. The First Battle of Tarain (1191 CE) was decisive, resulting in the establishment of the Ghurid capital at Delhi.
3. The Battle of Chandawar (1194 CE) was fought between Ghori and Jaichandra of the Gahadavala dynasty, leading to the collapse of the Kannauj kingdom.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Ghori's primary goal was to establish a "permanent Islamic empire" in India.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The **Second** Battle of Tarain (1192 CE) was decisive, not the first, where Ghori was defeated by Prithviraj Chauhan. The capital was established later by Aibak.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** This battle, following the Second Battle of Tarain, broke the power of the Gahadavalas and was crucial in extending Turkish control into the Gangetic Doab.

5. Which of the following reasons for the defeat of the Rajput kingdoms in the face of Turkish invasions are explicitly supported by historical accounts of the medieval period?

1. The widespread adoption of the Bhakti Movement, which led to a general decline in the martial spirit among the rulers.
2. Over-reliance on static defenses and war elephants, which proved ineffective against the swift, mobile Turkish cavalry utilizing advanced technologies like the iron stirrup.
3. A rigid feudal structure that hampered the formation of a large, professionally trained, and centrally paid standing army.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Bhakti movement gained prominence much later, and linking it to a decline in martial spirit is a contested and simplistic historical generalization.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Key factors like "reliance on static defense (fortifications)" and the "technological edge of the Turkish forces (e.g., use of iron stirrups and horse shoes)."
- **Statement 3: Correct.** A "rigid feudal system" which meant military resources were tied to vassals rather than a powerful central state, contrasting sharply with the Sultanate's centrally-managed forces.

6. Balban enforced a policy of 'Blood and Iron' during his reign as Sultan of Delhi. This policy was primarily aimed at achieving which of the following?

- (a) Expanding the Sultanate's territory deep into the Deccan and South India.

- (b) Suppressing the power of the Mongol invaders through a series of preemptive strikes.
- (c) Strengthening the power and prestige of the monarchy and consolidating the state against internal challenges.
- (d) Introducing comprehensive agrarian reforms to improve the collection of land revenue.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- Balban's 'Blood and Iron' policy was intended to "strengthen the monarchy." This policy involved enhancing the Sultan's dignity through practices like *Sijda* (prostration) and ruthlessly crushing internal rebellions and challenges from the nobility, notably the *Chahalgani*.

7. Which of the following pairs of actions were the most critical in transforming the Delhi Sultanate from a loose collection of Ghurid conquests into a consolidated and stable political entity?

- (a) Qutb-ud-din Aibak's assumption of the title 'Sultan' and the construction of the Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque.
- (b) Balban's crushing of the Mewati rebellion and his emphasis on maintaining a powerful spy network.
- (c) Iltutmish's securing of an investiture from the Abbasid Caliph and the introduction of the Tanka and Jital standard coinage.
- (d) Raziya Sultan's attempt to establish a multi-ethnic nobility and her command of the army in battle.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Iltutmish** is rightly regarded as the true consolidator of the Delhi Sultanate.
 - Securing the investiture (**Mansur**) from the Caliph gave his rule and the Sultanate **legitimacy** in the Islamic world.
 - The introduction of the pure silver **Tanka** and the copper **Jital** gave the state a stable and common **currency** and facilitated trade, which was fundamental to a sound administration.

8. With reference to the architecture under the early Delhi Sultanate (Slave Dynasty), consider the following statements:

1. The structures are characterized by an Indo-Islamic style, notably incorporating the use of true arches and domes for the first time in Indian construction.
2. The primary material used for construction was local red and yellow sandstone, often embellished with Arabic inscriptions and geometrical patterns.
3. The construction of the Qutub Minar was initiated by Qutb-ud-din Aibak but fully completed during the reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The "blend of Islamic and indigenous styles, as seen in the iconic Qutub Minar and the use of arches and domes." The use of the true arch (not corbelled) was a distinctive Islamic import.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The use of "red/yellow sandstones and Arabic script for decoration."

- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The construction was initiated by Aibak and largely completed by **Iltutmish**. Firoz Shah Tughlaq later repaired the top storeys after they were damaged by lightning.

9. With reference to the administration of the Delhi Sultanate, what was the primary purpose of the Iqta system during the Slave Dynasty period?

- (a) To maintain an advisory council of the most loyal Turkish nobles to limit the power of the Sultan.
- (b) To establish a revenue assignment system for military commanders, who were required to maintain law, order, and a military contingent from the assigned area.
- (c) To implement a system of land categorization based on fertility to ensure fair tax assessment across the entire empire.
- (d) To institute a centralized marketing system with fixed prices for commodities to keep the army's expenditure low.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- The empire was divided into **Iqtas** and managed by **Muqtis**. The *Iqta* system was essentially a land-based payment and decentralized administrative system. The *Muqti* (or *Wali*) was granted the revenue of the *Iqta* in exchange for providing military service and maintaining local administration.

10. With reference to the administration of the early Delhi Sultanate (Slave Dynasty), consider the following pairs:

	Term	Function/Meaning
1.	Diwan-i-Wizarat	Chief department overseeing the Military
2.	Muqtis	Provincial governors holding land assignments
3.	Gazz-i-Sikandari	A new unit of land measurement
4.	Chehra	Detailed description system for soldiers

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** *Diwan-i-Wizarat* was the Department of **Finance and Revenue**, headed by the Wazir. The military department was the *Diwan-i-Arz*.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Muqtis** (or *Walis*) were the governors of the *Iqtas* (land assignments), responsible for maintaining law, order, and a military contingent.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** *Gazz-i-Sikandari* was a new unit of land measurement, but it was introduced by **Sikander Lodhi** of the Lodhi Dynasty, not the Slave Dynasty.
- **Pair 4: Correct.** **Chehra** (or *Huliya*) was a system involving the detailed description of each soldier. Although associated with **Alauddin Khalji** of the Khalji Dynasty, the system itself was part of the administrative and military practices of the broader Sultanate era, aimed at preventing corruption and ensuring efficiency in the military, which began consolidation under the Slave Dynasty.

Khalji, Tughlaq, and Sayyid Dynasties

1. The Khalji Dynasty's rule (c. 1290-1320 CE) is historically considered a period of 'Revolution' in the context of the Delhi Sultanate. This transition is characterized by which of the following changes?

1. The complete secularization of the state and the abolition of the Jizya tax.
2. The establishment of a large, centrally paid standing army, independent of the Iqta system.
3. A shift in power from the Turkish nobility (Ilbari) to a new class of Turko-Afghan and indigenous officials.
4. The first successful extension of the Sultanate's military and administrative control into the Deccan region.

Select the correct code:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (c) 1 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Jizya tax was not abolished during the Khalji rule; it continued to be levied. The state was not fully secularized.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Alauddin Khalji established a massive **permanent standing army** paid in cash (naqd), which was a departure from the earlier dependence on the feudal Iqta holders for troops.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Khalji revolution, starting with Jalaluddin Khalji, broke the monopoly of the old Ilbari Turkish nobility, opening the gates for new factions, including Indian-born converts (Hindus or Khalkas) and Afghans.
- **Statement 4: Correct.** Through the campaigns of Malik Kafur, Alauddin Khalji's forces successfully raided and annexed wealth from the Deccan states (Yadavas, Kakatiyas, Hoysalas) for the first time.

2. With reference to the reign of Sultan Jalaluddin Khalji, consider the following statements:

1. He was the first Sultan of Delhi who believed that the state should be based on the willing support of the governed and adopted a relatively tolerant attitude toward the Hindus.
2. He successfully thwarted the major Mongol invasion led by Abdullah, securing the north-western frontier.
3. He strictly implemented a policy of 'Blood and Iron' against the old Turkish nobility and internal rebels, similar to Balban.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Jalaluddin Khalji was known for adopting a "benevolent and relatively tolerant attitude towards Hindus," reflecting his belief that a Muslim state in India could not be run solely on the basis of a strictly Islamic state.

- **Statement 2: Correct.** Jalaluddin successfully repulsed a major Mongol invasion and even allowed a group of Mongols (New Muslims) to settle near Delhi after they converted to Islam.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Jalaluddin was known for his **mildness** and reluctance to shed Muslim blood, which was in stark contrast to the repressive 'Blood and Iron' policy of his predecessor, Balban. His kindness was often seen as weakness.

3. Which of the following statements correctly describe the military administration and conquests of Alauddin Khalji?

1. His Deccan campaign, led by Malik Kafur, was primarily aimed at annexing the Deccan states and imposing direct rule, converting them into Iqtas.
2. He was the first Delhi Sultan to introduce **Dagh** (branding of horses) and **Chehra/Huliya** (detailed description of soldiers) to prevent corruption and maintain military efficiency.
3. He undertook the construction of the **Alai Darwaza** as the southern gateway to the Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Alauddin Khalji's Deccan policy was brilliant: he defeated the Deccan rulers (like the Yadavas and Kakatiyas) but allowed them to rule as subordinates in exchange for vast wealth and annual tribute. He annexed the wealth but not the territory, recognizing the difficulty of administering the distant South.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Alauddin Khalji "Introduced the **Dagh** (branding of horses) and **Chehra/Huliya** (detailed description of soldiers) systems for military efficiency."
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Alai Darwaza is a masterpiece of early Indo-Islamic architecture and was constructed under Alauddin Khalji.

4. Alauddin Khalji's Market Control Policy and Land Revenue Administration were intended to achieve which of the following objectives?

1. To sustain a very large, professional standing army by fixing the prices of essential commodities.
2. To eliminate the power of the local chieftains and hereditary revenue officials (Khuts and Muqaddams).
3. To collect the land revenue directly from the cultivator based on measurement of the land, known as Masahat.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** He implemented "stringent market regulations and price controls... to sustain his large army." Lower prices meant the army could be paid a fixed, lower salary in cash without causing financial strain to the soldiers.

- **Statement 2: Correct.** Alauddin systematically curtailed the privileges and power of local landed intermediaries (Khuts and Muqaddams) to prevent them from becoming rebellious.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Alauddin introduced the **Masahat** system, where land was measured and the revenue demand was fixed based on the estimated yield per unit of land. This shifted the burden of assessment to the state and ensured a fixed share for the Sultan.

5. Which of the following policies initiated by Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq, the founder of the Tughlaq Dynasty, marked a deviation from the stringent administrative measures of Alauddin Khalji?

1. Promotion of public works, including the construction of the Tughlaqabad Fort.
2. Encouraging a moderate approach to tax collection, ordering officials not to increase the land revenue demand by more than one-tenth or one-eleventh in a year.
3. Reorganizing the postal system using both horse and foot runners (dawk).

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq founded the city of Tughlaqabad, reflecting an emphasis on public works and architecture.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Ghiyasuddin reversed Alauddin's policy of extreme demand and encouraged a policy of **moderation** (Rasm-i-Mi'yan), ensuring that prosperity returned to the peasantry and tax collection remained sustainable.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** While Ghiyasuddin improved the postal service, the most famous description and utilization of the elaborate postal system (especially the use of foot-runners for faster communication) comes from the reign of **Muhammad bin Tughlaq**, as noted by Ibn Battuta.

6. Muhammad bin Tughlaq's reign is characterized by several audacious and ultimately disastrous policy experiments. Which of the following ambitious projects were initiated by him?

1. Shifting the capital from Delhi to Devagiri (renamed Daulatabad).
2. Introduction of the token currency system.
3. Launching a military expedition to the distant Qarachil region.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The shift of the capital to Daulatabad (Devagiri) in the Deccan was intended to secure the newly acquired South and establish a central administration for the whole Sultanate.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** He introduced bronze and copper coinage as token currency, expecting it to be exchanged at the value of silver, but this failed due to widespread counterfeiting.

- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Qarachil expedition was a disastrous military campaign launched in the Himalayas (possibly against Chinese incursions or local rebels), which ended with heavy losses. All three were major, controversial policy decisions of MBT.

7. With reference to the reign of Muhammad Bin Tughlaq (MBT), consider the following statements:

1. He maintained diplomatic ties with the Chinese emperor, sending an envoy to seek permission to reconstruct damaged Buddhist temples in the Himalayas.
2. He established the Diwan-i-Kohi, a separate government department dedicated to the improvement of agriculture and extension of cultivation.
3. His administrative style successfully centralized control, leading to the complete suppression of regional revolts and the peak territorial extent of the Delhi Sultanate.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** MBT did maintain diplomatic contact with the Mongol/Yuan emperor of China (Toghon Temür) for this specific religious purpose, highlighting his broader engagement beyond the Islamic world.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Diwan-i-Kohi was a crucial agricultural department established by MBT, tasked with bringing fallow land under cultivation and providing loans (sondhar) to peasants.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** MBT's later reign was plagued by numerous revolts, largely due to his controversial policies. This fragmentation led to the rise of independent kingdoms like the **Vijayanagara** and **Bahmani** kingdoms, directly challenging the Sultanate's territorial integrity.

8. Firoz Shah Tughlaq's policies are often described as being guided by religious orthodoxy and benevolent public welfare. Consider the following pairs related to his administrative and economic reforms:

	Scheme/Term	Purpose
1.	Diwan-i-Khairat	Department of Public Works (Irrigation)
2.	Sharb	A new tax levied on water used for irrigation
3.	Diwan-i-Bandagan	Department for managing the massive slave establishment

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** Diwan-i-Khairat was the Department of **Charity**, created to provide for the marriage of poor Muslim girls. The Department of Public Works was indeed active in his reign (building canals, cities, etc.) but was not called Diwan-i-Khairat.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Sharb** (or Haqq-i-Sharb) was an irrigation tax levied at 1/10th of the produce on lands that utilized water from the state-constructed canals. This was a new tax sanctioned by the Ulema.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Firoz Shah Tughlaq was famous for accumulating a massive number of slaves and created a separate department, **Diwan-i-Bandagan**, to administer this large and complex establishment.

9. Sayyid Dynasty: Policies and Kings (Part 1)

Question 9: Which of the following factors primarily characterized the political state of the Delhi Sultanate during the rule of the Sayyid Dynasty (1414-1451 CE)?

1. The Sultanate's borders were permanently shrunk, limited largely to Delhi and the Doab region.
2. The rulers claimed to be descendants of the Prophet Muhammad, using this lineage as a source of legitimacy.
3. The constant threat of invasion by the Timurids and the fragmentation of the nobility into powerful regional entities.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Following Timur's invasion in 1398, the Sultanate was reduced to a pale shadow of its former self, with control barely extending beyond Delhi, often necessitating annual military campaigns to collect tribute from the nearby Doab chiefs.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Sayyid rulers, starting with Khizr Khan, based their legitimacy on being the descendants of Prophet Muhammad (Sayyids), hence the dynasty's name.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Sayyids ruled under the nominal authority of Timur's son and were constantly preoccupied with controlling powerful Amirs (nobles) who often challenged the central authority, leading to extreme political instability.

10. Consider the following statements regarding the Sayyid rulers and their relationship with the Timurid Empire:

1. Khizr Khan, the founder of the dynasty, never assumed the title of Sultan, preferring to use the title of Rayat-i-Ala (Exalted Standard) and ruling in the name of the Timurids.
2. The dynasty maintained a stable and continuous tradition of coinage, minting gold and silver currency under the full sovereign title of Sultan of Delhi.
3. The reign of Mubarak Shah was marked by the peaceful assimilation of Afghan nobles, which strengthened the Sultanate's central control.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Khizr Khan formally accepted the overlordship of the Timurid ruler Shah Rukh (Timur's son) and chose the lesser title of Rayat-i-Ala, ruling as a Timurid deputy rather than an independent Sultan.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** Due to the weak economic and political state, the Sayyids issued few coins, and the currency often bore the names of the previous Tughlaq rulers or the Sayyid ruler in his capacity as a Timurid vassal, reflecting a lack of full sovereignty.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Mubarak Shah's reign was marked by significant internal conflicts with various nobles and the rising power of Afghan factions (like the Lodis), which eventually led to the Sayyids' downfall.

Lodi Dynasty and administration, economy, art, and literature of the Delhi Sultanate

1. With reference to the nature of the monarchy and administration under the Lodi Dynasty, consider the following statements:

1. Sultan Bahlul Lodi fostered a concept of the Sultan as 'first among equals' by refusing to sit on the throne in the presence of his Afghan nobles, thereby maintaining a tribal confederacy structure.
2. Sikandar Lodi attempted to centralize the monarchy, compelling the nobles to submit statements of their accounts for state audit and enforcing formal respect for the Sultan's Farmans (decrees).
3. The reign of Ibrahim Lodi witnessed the peak of Afghan tribal decentralization, as he never attempted to assert the Sultan's absolute authority over the powerful regional chiefs.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Bahlul Lodi deliberately promoted an idea of equality among the Afghan peers, sitting on a carpet with them and avoiding the centralized absolutism of the earlier Turkish Sultans. This was a political necessity to secure the loyalty of the Afghan chiefs.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Sikandar Lodi sought to consolidate power. He rigorously enforced auditing of jagirdars and muqtas and demanded ceremonial respect for the Sultan's authority to curb the independent tendencies of the Afghan nobles.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Ibrahim Lodi's major error, which led to his downfall, was his attempt to reverse the decentralization by asserting the Sultan's absolute power and treating the Afghan nobles as servants, which alienated the powerful chiefs (like Daulat Khan Lodi), leading them to invite Babur.

2. Which of the following statements correctly reflect the administrative and cultural achievements of Sultan Sikandar Lodi?

1. He founded the city of Agra and subsequently shifted the Sultanate's capital there from Delhi to better control the strategic route to the eastern and southern domains.

2. He introduced the Gazz-i-Sikandari, a standardized unit of land measurement equivalent to 32 digits, which was used for land revenue assessment for nearly two centuries.
3. Under his patronage, the Sanskrit work on music, Rag Darpan, was translated into Persian, and he himself wrote Persian verses under the pen name Gul Rukhi.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Sikandar Lodi founded Agra in 1504 and shifted his capital there in 1505 to establish a new base closer to the strategic centers of Gwalior and Dholpur.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Gazz-i-Sikandari (or Sikandari Yard) was a significant standardization of land measurement, replacing the earlier Gazz-i-Firoz Shahi, and remained in use until Akbar's time.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Sikandar Lodi was a major patron of literature and culture. He was a poet (Gul Rukhi) and encouraged translations. The search results confirm that the Indian classical work **Rag Darpan** (a compendium on music) was translated into Persian during his reign.

3. With reference to the office of the Sultan and the Central Administration of the Delhi Sultanate, consider the following statements:

1. The Sultan was theoretically bound to rule according to the principles of **Sharia** (Islamic Law), but the most powerful Sultans often interpreted the law or relied on Zawabit (state laws) for secular governance.
2. The position of the **Naib** (Deputy Sultan) was initially subordinate to the Wazir but rose to prominence under Sultans like Balban, representing a check on the Sultan's absolute authority.
3. The Sultan was considered a completely independent sovereign, entirely disconnected from the authority of the Abbasid Caliphate in Baghdad after the latter's destruction by the Mongols.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** While all Sultans acknowledged Sharia, many powerful Sultans (like Alauddin Khalji and Muhammad bin Tughlaq) often asserted state interest (Zawabit) over religious law, especially in fiscal and criminal matters.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The **Naib** (Deputy Sultan) was effectively the Sultan's deputy and exercised vast power, especially when the Sultan was weak or a minor (like under the Turkish aristocracy). The Wazir (Chief Minister) was nominally head of finance, but the **Naib** often held military and judicial powers, and was a challenge to the Sultan's authority, not a check on it from a functional bureaucratic standpoint.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Even after the Caliphate's fall in 1258 CE, the Sultans of Delhi (like Iltutmish, Firoz Shah Tughlaq) continued to seek or use the Caliph's nominal investiture (a Manshur or Khilat) for legitimacy, particularly from the Caliphate established in Egypt.

4. Match the following Central Administrative Officials of the Delhi Sultanate with their principal function:

	Official	Function
I.	Ariz-i-Mamalik	1. Head of the Military Department
II.	Mustaufi-i-Mamalik	2. Auditor General (Central Accountant)
III.	Amir-i-Akhur	3. Officer-in-Charge of the Royal Stables
IV.	Dabir-i-Khas	4. Head of the Department of Royal Correspondence

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only two
- (b) Only three
- (c) Only four
- (d) Only one

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **I. Ariz-i-Mamalik: Correct.** The head of the Diwan-i-Arz, the Military Department, responsible for recruitment, review, and supplies.
- **II. Mustaufi-i-Mamalik: Correct.** The Auditor General, tasked with auditing the expenses and accounts of the state. (The Mushrif-i-Mamalik was the Accountant General, recording income and expenditure).
- **III. Amir-i-Akhur: Correct.** An important court position, the officer commanding the Royal Horses/Stables. (The position of Amir-i-Hajib was Head of Royal Court Protocol).
- **IV. Dabir-i-Khas: Correct.** The head of the Diwan-i-Insha, the Department of Royal Correspondence, ensuring proper drafting and dispatch of royal orders.

5. Arrange the following administrative units of the Delhi Sultanate in the correct descending order of their size (from largest to smallest):

1. Shiq
2. Iqta / Suba
3. Pargana
4. Village (Gram)

Select the correct code:

- (a) 2 - 1 - 3 - 4
- (b) 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
- (c) 2 - 3 - 1 - 4
- (d) 1 - 3 - 2 - 4

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

The Delhi Sultanate's territorial administration hierarchy was structured as follows:

1. **Iqta / Suba:** The largest unit, essentially a province or governorship. (Managed by the Muqti or Wali).
2. **Shiq:** A division within the Iqta, created primarily during the Tughlaq period. (Managed by the Shiqdar).
3. **Pargana:** A group of villages, similar to a modern district/sub-division. (Managed by officials like Amil and Chaudhary).
4. **Village (Gram):** The smallest unit of local self-administration. (Managed by the Muqaddam or Khut).

Therefore, the correct descending order is 2 - 1 - 3 - 4.

6. With reference to the economy and technology of the Delhi Sultanate, consider the following pairs:

	Term	Context / Meaning
1.	Kharaj	Land tax on non-Muslims, generally 1/5th to 1/2 of the produce.
2.	Rehant	A new technological device used primarily for spinning cotton fibers.
3.	Tanka	Standard copper coin issued by Iltutmish, replaced by the billon coin under later Sultans.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** **Kharaj** was the primary land tax (tribute) levied on non-Muslims, which varied between 1/5th to 1/2 of the produce (Alauddin Khalji fixed it at 1/2 or 50%).
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** **Rehant** (Persian wheel/Saqiya) was a new technological advancement, but it was used for **lifting water** (irrigation), not for spinning cotton. The spinning wheel (Charkha) was introduced for cotton.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The **Tanka** was the standard **silver** coin introduced by Iltutmish, while the copper coin was the **Jital**. Gold coins were known as the Tola or Dinar.

7. Which of the following features are characteristic of the Lodhi style of architecture (a subset of Indo-Islamic architecture)?

1. The introduction of the double dome system to provide strength to the structure and reduce the internal ceiling height.
2. The use of the True Arch (voussoir technique) as the primary method for constructing entrances and interior vaulting.
3. The use of buildings with an external appearance of two storeys but containing a single large hall inside, such as the Bara Gumbad.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The **double dome** (two shells: an outer shell for height and an inner shell for the ceiling) was perfected under the Lodis and is seen in the Tomb of Sikandar Lodi. It solved both aesthetic and structural problems.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The **True Arch** was introduced much earlier by the first Sultans (Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque and Alai Darwaza), marking the start of Indo-Islamic architecture. It was not an innovation of the Lodis.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** A key feature of Lodi tombs and monumental structures (like the Bara Gumbad) is the visual staging of two stories on the exterior, concealing a single, grand interior chamber.

8. With reference to the development of music during the Delhi Sultanate period, consider the following statements:

1. Amir Khusrau is credited with evolving the light musical style of Qawwali by synthesizing the Persian and Indian musical traditions.
2. New musical instruments such as the Sitar and Tabla were invented and popularized by the efforts of Amir Khusrau.
3. The Sanskrit treatise on music, Man Kautuhal, was composed during this period under the patronage of Raja Man Singh Tomar of Gwalior.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Amir Khusrau (Tuti-i-Hind) successfully blended Iranian and Indian musical forms, leading to the creation of the Qawwali style and new Ragas.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The creation of the **Sitar** (blending the Indian Veena and the Persian Tanpura) and the **Tabla** (splitting the Indian Pakhawaj drum) is popularly attributed to Amir Khusrau, showcasing the fusion of cultures.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The **Man Kautuhal** was indeed a major work on Indian classical music compiled under the patronage of the Hindu ruler Raja Man Singh Tomar of Gwalior, showcasing the continued flourishing of indigenous music alongside the new Indo-Persian styles.

9. Consider the following works of history that flourished under the patronage of the Delhi Sultans:

1. Tabaqat-i-Nasiri: A detailed general history written by Minhaj-us-Siraj, dedicated to Sultan Nasiruddin Mahmud.
2. Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi: Written by Ziauddin Barani, chronicling the history from the time of Balban up to the early years of Firoz Shah Tughlaq's reign.
3. Tughlaq Nama: A historical mathnavi (epic poem) by Amir Khusrau, detailing the rise of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq.

How many of the above statements are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Tabaqat-i-Nasiri is a primary source for the early Sultanate, covering Muslim dynasties up to 1260 CE and dedicated to Nasiruddin Mahmud.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Barani's Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi is a vital source for the Khalji and Tughlaq periods.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Amir Khusrau's Tughlaq Nama documents the events leading to the Tughlaq dynasty's foundation. All three are significant historical works from the Delhi Sultanate period.

10. With reference to the literary and linguistic developments during the Sultanate period, consider the following:

1. The translation of Sanskrit works into Persian was actively patronized, most notably Tutinama (Tales of a Parrot), which was a Persian translation of a Sanskrit text by Zia Nakshabi.
2. Persian was the official language of the court and administration, prompting a significant number of Hindus to learn it and be inducted into the revenue administration.
3. The growth of regional languages, such as Bengali and Marathi, declined rapidly due to the overwhelming patronage given solely to Persian and Arabic literature by the Sultanate rulers.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The translation movement was active. Tutinama (The Book of the Parrot) is a famous example of Sanskrit stories translated into Persian by Zia Nakshabi.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Persian became the language of official record, governance, and culture, leading to many Hindus mastering the language and securing administrative posts, a trend that continued into the Mughal era.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** This statement is false. The Sultanate period actually saw a great flourishing of regional languages (vernaculars) and literature, often under the patronage of provincial kingdoms (like Bengali under the Ilyas Shahis and Marathi/Telugu literature in the Deccan) or due to the Bhakti and Sufi movements.

Vijayanagar Kingdom

1. With reference to the rulers of the Vijayanagar Empire and the foreign travellers who visited their courts, consider the following pairs:

Historical King	Visited by Foreign Traveller
1. Deva Raya I	Niccolò de' Conti
2. Deva Raya II	Abdur Razzak
3. Krishna Deva Raya	Domingo Paes
4. Achyuta Deva Raya	Fernao Nuniz

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Italian traveller **Niccolò de' Conti** visited Vijayanagar during the reign of **Deva Raya I (Sangama Dynasty)** in the early 15th century and recorded the city's massive size and fortification.

- **Pair 2: Correct.** Persian envoy **Abdur Razzak** visited during the reign of **Deva Raya II (Sangama Dynasty)** and described the wealth and military strength of the empire.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Portuguese traveller **Domingo Paes** visited during the peak of the empire under **Krishna Deva Raya (Tuluva Dynasty)**, providing detailed accounts of his administration and the Mahanavami festival.
- **Pair 4: Correct.** Portuguese chronicler **Fernao Nuniz** visited during the reign of **Achyuta Deva Raya (Tuluva Dynasty)**, focusing on the history of the kings and the importance of horses in the military.

2. With reference to the early rulers of the Sangama Dynasty, Harihara I and Bukka I, which of the following titles or concepts correctly reflect their political achievements?

1. **Purvapaschima-samudradhishvara:** A title adopted by Bukka I, signifying control over the eastern and western seas, demonstrating early imperial ambition.
2. **Gandaroda-ganda:** A title meaning 'The Vanquisher of Foreign Kings', often associated with the early rulers' success against the Bahamani Sultanate.
3. **Chatuḥ Samudrādhipati:** A term used for Harihara I, implying sovereignty over all four directions and establishing the initial territorial limits.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** **Bukka I** assumed the title **Purvapaschima-samudradhishvara** (Master of the Eastern and Western Seas) after extending the empire's control over the Konkan coast and parts of the Coromandel coast.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The title **Gandaroda-ganda** (Hero over the Heroes) was a common epithet but not strictly defined as 'The Vanquisher of Foreign Kings'. It was used by various kings, including Deva Raya II.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** **Chatuḥ Samudrādhipati** (Master of the Four Seas) was a grand imperial title but is specifically associated with **Harihara II**, who expanded the empire significantly and assumed high imperial titles.

3. Consider the following pairs regarding the contributions during the reign of Krishna Deva Raya:

Literary Work/Structure	Associated Fact/Type
1. Manucharitam	A Telugu work authored by Allasani Peddanna.
2. Nagalapuram	A suburban township established in honor of his mother.
3. Parijataparadhana	A Sanskrit work on Krishna's celestial heist.
4. Vittalaswamy Temple	Temple dedicated to a form of Vishnu worshipped in Maharashtra.

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All four

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- 1. Manucharitam: **Correct**. It is one of the key works of **Allasani Peddanna**, who was revered as Andhrakavita Pitamaha.
- 2. Nagalapuram: **Correct**. He established **Nagalapuram**, a suburban township near Vijayanagar, **in honor of his mother**.
- 3. Parijataparohana: **Incorrect**. This work, famed for "Krishna's celestial heist," was authored by **Nandi Timmana**. It is a Telugu work (as Timmana was a Telugu scholar and part of the Ashta diggajas), not a Sanskrit work.
- 4. Vittalaswamy Temple: **Correct**. He commissioned the construction of this temple. The principal deity was **Vitthala, a form of Vishnu generally worshipped in Maharashtra**.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the reign of Deva Raya I (c. 1406–1422 CE):

1. He undertook a massive project to build a dam across the Tungabhadra river to construct a channel supplying water to the capital city, Hampi.
2. He strengthened the Vijayanagar army by recruiting a large number of Turkish archers and providing them with land grants (jagirs).
3. The Persian traveller Abdur Razzak praised his policy of religious tolerance and the peace prevailing in the capital.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct**. Deva Raya I initiated key hydraulic works, including a major dam and aqueduct system on the Tungabhadra to ensure a steady water supply to Vijayanagar.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect**. The policy of strengthening the army by recruiting Muslim archers (to counter the Bahamani military) and integrating them into the forces was a key military reform introduced by his son, **Deva Raya II** (who was known as Gajabetekara).
- **Statement 3: Incorrect**. The Persian traveller **Abdur Razzak** visited the court of **Deva Raya II**, not Deva Raya I. The traveller who visited Deva Raya I was Niccolò de' Conti.

5. Which of the following is the most distinguishing feature of the reign of Deva Raya II (c. 1423–1446 CE)?

- (a) He was the first Vijayanagar king to establish diplomatic relations with the Portuguese, securing a monopoly on the import of horses.
- (b) He earned the title 'Gajabetekara' (Elephant Hunter) and was the first king to incorporate a large contingent of Muslim cavalry into the Vijayanagar army.
- (c) He founded the city of Penukonda after shifting the capital due to continuous raids by the Bahamani Sultanate.
- (d) He was a great builder, famous for the construction of the Vithalaswami Temple at Hampi, which is known for its musical pillars.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Option (b): Correct.** Deva Raya II is renowned for his military reforms. He realised the superiority of the Bahamani cavalry and thus recruited many **Muslim archers and cavalymen**, treating them with honour and assigning them jagirs. He also had the title **Gajabetekara**.
- **Option (a): Incorrect.** Diplomatic relations with the Portuguese (for horses) intensified during the Tuluva Dynasty, especially under **Krishna Deva Raya**.
- **Option (c): Incorrect.** Penukonda became the capital much later during the Aravidu Dynasty, after the Battle of Talikota (1565).
- **Option (d): Incorrect.** The Vithalaswami Temple was primarily built and enhanced by **Krishna Deva Raya**.

6. With reference to the Saluva Dynasty and the political upheaval that brought it to power, consider the following statements:

1. The rise of the Saluvas is described as the 'First Usurpation' because the founder, Saluva Narasimha, was a regional governor (Mahanayakacharya) who seized the throne from a weak Sangama king.
2. The primary political goal of Saluva Narasimha was to re-establish stability and recover lost territories, particularly the Udayagiri fort, which was crucial for controlling the eastern coastal trade.
3. The Saluva period saw the first formal deployment of the Kavalgar system, a local police and watchman network responsible for village security.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Saluva Dynasty's ascension (1485 CE) is the **First Usurpation** (Saluva Usurpation). **Saluva Narasimha**, the powerful Mahanayakacharya (chief provincial governor), seized power from the last weak Sangama ruler, Praudha Raya, to protect the empire from internal anarchy and external threats.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Saluva Narasimha spent his reign consolidating power, recovering lost regions like the Konkan and the coastal strip. His successor, Immadi Narasimha, lost the crucial **Udayagiri fort** to the Gajapatis, and its recovery became a priority for the later Tuluva Dynasty.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The **Kavalgar** (watchman) system was an ancient local policing practice in South India. While it was highly formalised under the Vijayanagar Empire, it was not specifically 'first deployed' during the Saluva period but was an existing part of the overall administration system.

7. With reference to the land and revenue administration of the Vijayanagar Empire under Krishna Deva Raya, consider the following pairs:

Administrative Term	Meaning / Function
1. Amaram	Territory/revenue granted to a military chief in exchange for maintaining troops.
2. Aya-siddhaya	A category of tax which was fixed and paid regularly to the central treasury.
3. Athavane	The central revenue or finance department of the empire.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair

- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) All three pairs
- (d) None of the pairs

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct. Amaram** (or Amara Nayankara) refers to the territory or revenue assignment given to the **Nayakas** (military chiefs) in return for military service and financial contribution to the state. This system is similar to the Delhi Sultanate's Iqta system.
- **Pair 2: Correct. Aya-siddhaya** (or Siddhaya) was a type of fixed, regular revenue demand, often from land, contrasted with variable taxes (Sulka).
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The **Athavane** was the central office dealing with finance and revenue records, acting as the main treasury and record-keeper for the income of the empire.

8. Match the following contributions of Krishna Deva Raya with their correct context:

Contribution	Context
I. Rayagopuram	1. A Sanskrit work detailing the political philosophy and duties of a king.
II. Amuktamalyada	2. The massive ornate gateway (gopuram) attached to the temples, representing imperial power.
III. Hazara Rama Temple	3. An architectural feature of the Vijayanagar style, known for its carved basalt pillars depicting scenes from the Ramayana.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **I. Rayagopuram - 2: Correct.** The **Rayagopuram** is the massive, highly decorated gateway that dominates the entrances of South Indian temples. Its construction reached its zenith under Krishna Deva Raya, symbolizing the empire's wealth and imperial authority (Raya).
- **II. Amuktamalyada - 1: Incorrect.** **Amuktamalyada** (The Giver of Worn Garlands) is a famous epic poem written by Krishna Deva Raya himself, but it is written in **Telugu**, not Sanskrit. It is considered a masterpiece of Telugu literature and details the story of the poet-saint Andal.
- **III. Hazara Rama Temple - 3: Correct.** The **Hazara Rama Temple** in Hampi is renowned for its walls and pillars carved with numerous miniature basalt relief panels depicting the entire story of the Ramayana.

9. With reference to Achyuta Deva Raya (c. 1529–1542 CE), the successor to Krishna Deva Raya, consider the following statements:

1. He successfully secured the throne by defeating a strong challenge from his prime minister, Saluva Narasimha Raya, who sought to install a puppet ruler.
2. The Portuguese traveller **Fernao Nuniz** was present at his coronation and described the city's prosperity and the practice of temple dancing.
3. He codified the land revenue system, reducing the tax burden on the common peasantry by abolishing several Peshkash (tribute) payments.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Achyuta Deva Raya's succession was contested by the powerful prime minister **Saluva Narasimha Raya** (not to be confused with the dynasty founder), who was defeated and subsequently imprisoned.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** **Fernao Nuniz** was indeed a contemporary Portuguese chronicler, but he recorded the history and administration of the kingdom under Achyuta Deva Raya, however, the traveller **Domingo Paes** recorded the coronation of his predecessor, Krishna Deva Raya. Nuniz's account is a secondary source focusing on the empire's history and the condition of the kingdom.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** While Achyuta Deva Raya was concerned with administration, the major land revenue reforms and codification were chiefly the work of his predecessor, Krishna Deva Raya. His reign was marked by struggles against the Bahamani successors and internal dissent, which limited major fiscal reform.

10. Which of the following statements correctly describes the nature of the administration of the Vijayanagar Empire?

1. The **Nayankara System** made the military chiefs (Nayakas) the supreme authority over the judiciary within their assigned territory, overriding the traditional Mahanayakacharya.
2. The state did not levy any tax on marriages, but a special tax known as **Jiziya** was imposed on the urban non-agricultural population for public works maintenance.
3. The term **Rayasam** was used to denote the royal secretary or the writer who assisted the King in drafting royal orders and maintaining records.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The **Nayakas** were military-administrative chiefs with extensive power, but they were still accountable to the **Mahanayakacharya** (chief of all Nayakas/provincial governors) and the King. Furthermore, the **Mahanayakacharya** was the central administrative officer responsible for provincial supervision, not a traditional judicial authority that could be "overridden" in the judiciary by a Nayaka.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** Vijayanagar rulers, being Hindu kings, did **not** levy the **Jiziya** tax (a poll tax on non-Muslims in a Muslim-ruled state). While they did levy marriage taxes (sometimes abolished for lower castes), the Jiziya was not part of their system.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** **Rayasam** was the term for the royal secretary or record keeper who was crucial in the communication and administrative machinery of the central government, responsible for drafting and dispatching royal **Farmans** (Shasanas).

Vijayanagar Kingdom & Bahamani Sultanate

1. With reference to the military and administrative systems of the Vijayanagar Empire, consider the following statements:

1. The Nayankara system was a military-fiscal arrangement where Nayakas were granted Amaram land grants in exchange for maintaining a fixed contingent of troops, horses, and elephants.
2. The recruitment of Turkish archers and the adoption of superior Bahamani cavalry techniques were significant military reforms initiated by Deva Raya II (Gajabetekara).
3. The decisive Battle of Talikota (1565 CE) involved the Vijayanagar forces fighting against the combined armies of all five successor states of the Bahamani Sultanate.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Nayankara system was the defining political and military structure, where Nayakas (military chiefs) received revenue assignments (Amaram) for military service.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Deva Raya II realized the superiority of the Muslim cavalry and artillery and actively recruited Muslim soldiers and skilled archers, a major military reform.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The alliance that defeated Vijayanagar at the Battle of Talikota (or Rakshasa-Tangadi) consisted of four Sultanates: Bijapur, Golkonda, Ahmednagar, and Bidar. **Berar** did not join the alliance.

2. The accounts of foreign travellers like Domingo Paes and Niccolò de' Conti provide insight into the social structure of Vijayanagar. In this context, consider the following aspects of social life:

1. The system of Devadasis was prevalent, where women dedicated to temple service were often well-versed in arts and held a relatively high social status.
2. The practice of Sati (widow immolation) was explicitly observed by several foreign visitors, particularly among the nobility.
3. Women generally enjoyed high status and were formally appointed to administrative positions, including accounting, wrestling, and royal security guard duty.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Devadasi system was well-established, and these women contributed significantly to the cultural life of the empire.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Foreign accounts, especially those of Nuniz, mention the practice of Sati, though primarily restricted to the elite and royal families.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Paes mentions women holding high administrative posts, including being employed in the royal palace for record-keeping and serving as bodyguards.

3. With reference to the economic terminologies and practices of the Vijayanagar Empire, consider the following pairs:

Terminology	Meaning / Context
1. Varaha	The main gold currency, also known as the Huna by the Bahamani Sultanate.
2. Kadamai	The fundamental form of land revenue collected from the cultivators.
3. Ulagai	A form of forced labour or corvée exacted from the peasantry for public works.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The Varaha (or Pagoda) was the standard gold coin of Vijayanagar and was indeed referred to as the **Huna** in other Deccan kingdoms, confirming its widespread acceptance.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Kadamai** was the most common and significant term used for the land tax, which was the backbone of the state's revenue.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** **Ulagai** was a term used for the land grant given to service-tenure holders (like temple servants or artisans), often hereditary. The term for forced labour/corvée was typically **Vetti**.

4. Consider the following characteristics of the Vijayanagar period temple architecture:

Architectural Feature	Significance
1. Kalyanamandapam	A separate pillared hall used for the symbolic marriage ceremony of the deity.
2. Rayagopuram	The massive, ornate tower built directly over the Garbhagriha (sanctum sanctorum).
3. Horse Motif	Sculptural elements symbolizing the importance of the cavalry and the flourishing horse trade in the empire.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Kalyanamandapam** (marriage pavilion) is a distinctive addition and hallmark of the Vijayanagar style.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** The **Rayagopuram** is the massive, decorated tower built over the **entrance gateway** of the temple complex. The tower over the Garbhagriha is called the **Vimana**.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The frequent and intricate depiction of the horse motif on temple pillars (especially in the Kalyanamandapams) reflects the state's dependence on cavalry and its commercial relationship with the Portuguese for horse imports.

5. With reference to the Bahamani Sultans and their policies, consider the following pairs:

Sultan	Policy/Achievement
1. Alauddin Bahman Shah	Successfully suppressed the revolt of the Sada Amirs to establish the independent Sultanate.
2. Muhammad Shah I	Systematized the administration by establishing four key ministerial departments (Diwans).
3. Firoz Shah Bahmani	Shifted the capital from Gulbarga to Bidar to be closer to the rich coastal territories.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Hasan Gangu (Alauddin Bahman Shah) led the revolt of the Sada Amirs (administrative heads of 100 villages) against Muhammad bin Tughlaq and then had to suppress a final faction to consolidate the new state.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Muhammad Shah I (1358-1375 CE) created the formal centralized administration with four key departments, defining the roles of the Peshwa, Amir-i-Jumla, etc.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The shift of the capital from Gulbarga to Bidar (Muhammadabad) was carried out by **Ahmad Shah I**, not Firoz Shah Bahmani.

6. With reference to the policies and reign of Firoz Shah Bahmani (c. 1397–1422 CE), consider the following:

1. He pursued a policy of religious pluralism by actively recruiting local **Brahmins** into the revenue administration to leverage their knowledge of local language and customs.
2. He secured a strategic alliance with the Vijayanagar ruler Deva Raya I by marrying his daughter after a military confrontation.
3. He founded the city of Firozabad on the Bhima River, which was designed as his personal residence and a center for Persian and Arab learning.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Firoz Shah Bahmani was known for his policy of recruiting Hindus, particularly Brahmins, a significant move in the Sultanate's administration.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Following a war, Firoz Shah defeated Deva Raya I and married his daughter, a politically significant event of his reign that temporarily brought peace.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Firoz Shah founded Firozabad on the banks of the Bhima River and sought to make it a great cultural and administrative center.

7. Consider the following administrative reforms introduced by the statesman Mahmud Gawan in the Bahamani Sultanate during the reign of Muhammad Shah III:

1. He restructured the provinces (Tarafs) by decreasing their size and number to curb the power of the provincial governors (Tarafdars).
2. He reserved substantial tracts of land (Khalisa) for the central government to ensure direct income for royal expenses, reducing the king's dependence on the nobles.
3. He introduced detailed land surveys and measurement, moving towards a standardized and rational assessment of land revenue.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Gawan restructured the provinces, but he **increased** their number from four to eight, making them smaller and thus **reducing** the power of any single Tarafdar.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Expanding the Khalisa was a central tenet of his reforms, vital for the financial health of the central government.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Gawan's introduction of scientific land measurement and classification marked a significant improvement in the revenue administration, similar to early reforms in Delhi.

8. With reference to the later period of the Bahamani Sultanate, consider the following statements:

1. The execution of Mahmud Gawan in 1481 CE is widely regarded as the point of no return for the centralized authority of the Sultanate.
2. The subsequent Panch Sultanate of the Deccan were founded by five former provincial governors or court ministers who seized independent control.
3. The Imad Shahi dynasty of Berar, one of the successor states, was the only Sultanate that did not join the final alliance against the Vijayanagar Empire at Talikota (1565 CE).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Gawan's execution, driven by the Deccani faction's jealousy, destabilized the court and led to the rapid loss of central control over the Tarafdars.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The five successor states—Bijapur, Golkonda, Ahmednagar, Berar, and Bidar—were carved out by the powerful provincial governors (Tarafdars) and ministers after Gawan's death.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Berar (Imad Shahi) maintained a neutral stance and was the only Deccan Sultanate not part of the grand alliance that led to the defeat of Vijayanagar.

9. Consider the following pairs of Bahamani Central Administrative Officials and their respective roles:

Official	Role
1. Peshwa	The Chief Minister, responsible for general administration and reporting directly to the Sultan.
2. Amir-i-Jumla	The Minister of Finance, responsible for the Khalisa land management and revenue collection.
3. Sadr-i-Jahan	The Minister in charge of the Army, responsible for recruitment and maintaining the military registry.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Peshwa** was the second most important official after the Vakil-us-Sultanate (Regent) or the equivalent of the Chief Minister.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Amir-i-Jumla** was the equivalent of the Finance Minister (Wazir or Diwan-i-Wizarat), managing income.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The **Sadr-i-Jahan** was the **Chief Judicial Officer** and head of the Ecclesiastical and Charity Department. The Minister in charge of the Army was the **Amir-ul-Umara** or **Ariz-i-Mamalik**.

10. With reference to the provincial and socio-political structure of the Bahamani Sultanate, consider the following pairs:

Terminology	Meaning / Context
1. Afaqis	Foreigners and immigrants who settled in the Deccan, often controlling key military and trade positions.
2. Tarafdar	A provincial governor responsible for both civil and military administration in a Taraf.
3. Jagir	Land reserved for meeting the expenses of the King and the royal household.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** **Afaqis** (or Pardesis) were the "newcomers" from outside India (Persia, Central Asia, etc.), who often clashed with the locally settled **Deccanis**.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Tarafdar** (or Subedar) was the military-administrative head of a **Taraf** (province).
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** **Jagir** was land granted to a noble (Tarafdar or Amir) in lieu of salary and maintenance of troops. The land reserved for the King's household expenses was the **Khalisa**.

Deccan Sultanates and Provincial Kingdoms of Medieval India

1. Arrange the following successor states of the Bahmani Sultanate in the correct chronological order of their declaration of independence:

1. Qutb Shahis of Golconda
2. Imad Shahis of Berar
3. Barid Shahis of Bidar
4. Adil Shahis of Bijapur
5. Nizam Shahis of Ahmadnagar

Select the correct chronological sequence (earliest to latest):

- (a) 2 - 4 - 5 - 1 - 3
- (b) 4 - 2 - 5 - 1 - 3
- (c) 5 - 4 - 2 - 3 - 1
- (d) 2 - 5 - 4 - 1 - 3

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

The disintegration of the Bahmani Sultanate was a gradual process following the death of Mahmud Gawan (1481 CE). The chronological order of the five Deccan Sultanates' declaration of independence is:

1. **Imad Shahis of Berar** (1484 CE)
2. **Adil Shahis of Bijapur** (1489 CE)
3. **Nizam Shahis of Ahmadnagar** (1490 CE)
4. **Qutb Shahis of Golconda** (1518 CE)
5. **Barid Shahis of Bidar** (1528 CE)

2. With reference to the Nizam Shahis of Ahmadnagar, consider the following statements:

1. The Sultanate heavily relied on the military support of Maratha and Koli chieftains, which significantly influenced its military organization.
2. The architecture of Ahmadnagar is famous for its independent artistic style, with structures like the Firoz Shah Palace at Bidar being key examples.
3. The city was an important centre for the development of Dakhini Urdu, which was widely patronized in the royal court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Nizam Shahis, especially under Malik Ambar, extensively used Maratha and Koli cavalry and infantry, making them key components of their military strength against the Mughals.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The **Firoz Shah Palace** is an architectural legacy of the **Bahmani** Sultanate at their old capital, **Gulbarga**, not Ahmadnagar. The Nizam Shahis are known for monuments like the **Bagh-e-Rauza** (tomb of Ahmad Shah I).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Dakhini Urdu flourished across all Deccan Sultanates, including Ahmadnagar, serving as a language of administration and literature.

3. Match the following Nizam Shahi rulers/figures with their contribution or historical association:

King/Figure	Contribution/Association
1. Malik Ahmad	Established the dynasty and founded the city of Ahmadnagar.
2. Chand Bibi	Successfully led the defence of the city against the Mughal siege by Akbar.
3. Murtaza Nizam Shah I	Defeated the Vijayanagar forces decisively at the Battle of Talikota.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Malik Ahmad (son of the Bahmani minister Nizam-ul-Mulk) founded the Nizam Shahi dynasty and the city of Ahmadnagar in 1490 CE.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Chand Bibi, the daughter of the Nizam Shah, famously defended the Ahmadnagar fort against the Mughals in 1595-96 CE.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** Murtaza Nizam Shah I was not present at the **Battle of Talikota (1565 CE)**; the Sultan who led the Ahmadnagar forces was **Hussain Nizam Shah I**.

4. Consider the following pairs related to the Adil Shahis of Bijapur:

King/Monument	Contribution/Feature
1. Yusuf Adil Shah	Founder of the dynasty and promoter of Persian art and literature.
2. Gol Gumbaz	Known for its massive dome and the remarkable Whispering Gallery acoustic feature.
3. Ibrahim Adil Shah II	Introduced the use of Deccani and Sanskrit words in administrative documents and coinage.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Yusuf Adil Shah (1489 CE) was the founder and a great patron of the arts, attracting scholars and artists from Persia and Turkey.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Gol Gumbaz, built by Muhammad Adil Shah, has the second-largest unsupported dome in the world and is famed for its acoustically perfect Whispering Gallery.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Ibrahim Adil Shah II (Jagadguru Badshah) was known for his religious tolerance and patronizing local Deccani culture and language, which he incorporated into administration and numismatics.

5. Match the following dynasties with their cultural contribution or defining feature:

Dynasty	Contribution/Feature
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1. Imad Shahis of Berar	The first successor state to secede from the Bahmani Sultanate.
2. Qutb Shahis of Golconda	Built the city of Hyderabad and the famous Charminar.
3. Imad Shahis of Berar	Annexed by the Nizam Shahis of Ahmadnagar.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Fathullah Imad Shah was the first governor to declare independence from the Bahmanis (1484 CE).
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah (1580–1612 CE) founded the city of **Hyderabad** near Golconda and built the **Charminar** (1591 CE) to commemorate the eradication of plague.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The Berar Sultanate (Imad Shahi) was militarily weak and was eventually annexed by the neighbouring **Ahmadnagar Sultanate** in 1574 CE.

6. With reference to the Barid Shahis of Bidar, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. They were the last of the five successor states to declare independence and were founded by Qasim Barid.
2. Bidar architecture is characterized by elaborate funerary monuments, such as the tomb of Ali Barid, which features brilliant Persian tile work.
3. The Barid Shahis were crucial in forming the alliance of Deccan Sultanates that decisively defeated the Vijayanagar Empire in 1565 CE.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Barid Shahis, founded by **Qasim Barid**, declared independence in 1528 CE, making them the last of the Panch Sultanates.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The tombs of the Barid Shahis at Bidar, particularly Ali Barid's tomb, are renowned for their extensive use of colourful **Persian tile mosaics** and architectural innovation.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Barid Shahis of Bidar (led by Ali Barid Shah I) played a pivotal role in organizing the alliance that led to the **Battle of Talikota** (1565 CE).

7. Consider the following pairs of Provincial Kingdoms and their associated architectural contributions:

Kingdom	Architectural Contribution
1. Gujarat	Jama Masjid at Ahmedabad, showing the finest fusion of Islamic and indigenous post-and-lintel techniques.
2. Malwa	The city of Mandu , famous for its elaborate use of coloured marble and the construction of artificial lakes and canals.

3. Malwa	Rani Rupmati's Pavilion, an example of Afghan-style architecture with extensive use of the arch and dome.
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How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The Gujarat Sultanate architecture, exemplified by the **Jama Masjid** (built by Ahmad Shah I), is famous for its harmonious blend of local Hindu/Jain styles (e.g., carved minarets and pillars) with Islamic forms.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The capital city of **Mandu** (Malwa) is celebrated for its impressive structures like the **Jahaz Mahal** and **Hindola Mahal**, making extensive use of local coloured stones and advanced water management systems.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** **Rani Rupmati's Pavilion** and the **Hindola Mahal** are examples of the **Mandu style**, but it is generally regarded as an indigenous style influenced by the **Afghan/Ghurid** traditions, known for massiveness and simplicity, rather than extensive use of the arch and dome, which was a Delhi Sultanate characteristic.

8. Match the following rulers of the Provincial Kingdoms with their contribution or historical association:

Ruler	Contribution/Association
1. Mahmud Begarha (Gujarat)	Established control over the ports of Diu and Daman and successfully repelled Portuguese influence.
2. Hushang Shah (Malwa)	Built the grand Hoshang Shah's Tomb at Mandu, considered one of the earliest Indian marble structures.
3. Ghiyasuddin Khalji (Malwa)	Known for his military genius and establishment of a powerful navy.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** **Mahmud Begarha** (c. 1459–1511 CE) was the most powerful Sultan of Gujarat, who captured the forts of Junagarh and Champaner (hence his title Begarha, meaning two forts) and was successful in checking the early Portuguese expansion.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Hushang Shah's Tomb** is a prominent example of Mandu architecture and is historically significant for being made entirely of white marble.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** **Ghiyasuddin Khalji** (c. 1469–1500 CE) was known for his love of pleasure, maintaining a large harem, and building the **Jahaz Mahal** at Mandu, but he was **not** known for his military prowess or establishing a powerful navy. The powerful naval ruler was Mahmud Begarha of Gujarat.

9. With reference to the Provincial Kingdoms of Mewar and Kashmir, consider the following:

Kingdom	Key Ruler/Figure
1. Mewar	Rana Kumbha, famous for constructing the Kirti Stambha (Tower of Fame) at Chittor.
2. Kashmir	Sikandar Shah (Butshikan), known for his policy of religious tolerance and patronage of Hindu scholars.
3. Mewar	Rana Sanga, who united the Rajput states against the Mughal forces led by Babur at the Battle of Khanwa.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Rana Kumbha (c. 1433–1468 CE) was the most famous ruler of Mewar, known for the construction of forts and the **Kirti Stambha** after his victory over the Malwa Sultanate.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** Sikandar Shah (Butshikan, or iconoclast) was known for his **religious intolerance**, destroying temples and persecuting Hindus. The ruler known for religious tolerance and integration was his son, **Zainul Abidin**.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Rana Sanga (c. 1509–1527 CE) was the last great Rajput ruler who fought against Babur in the decisive **Battle of Khanwa** (1527 CE).

10. Match the following contributions with their associated Provincial Kingdom:

Contribution	Associated Kingdom
1. Zainul Abidin's Policies	Kashmir
2. Vijay Stambha	Mewar
3. Rajatarangini Continuation	Mewar

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Zainul Abidin (c. 1420–1470 CE) of **Kashmir** was known for his liberal policies, abolition of Jiziya, and encouraging religious freedom, earning him the title 'Akbar of Kashmir'.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Vijay Stambha (Tower of Victory) is another name for the **Kirti Stambha** built by Rana Kumbha in **Mewar**.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The continuation of **Kalhana's Rajatarangini** (a history of Kashmir) was commissioned and carried out by scholars like **Jona Raja** and **Srivara** under **Zainul Abidin** of **Kashmir**, not Mewar.

Provincial Kingdoms & Early Mughals (Babur)

1. With reference to the Architectural Legacy of the Sharqi Kingdom of Jaunpur, consider the following statements:

1. The architecture is characterized by its own distinct Sharqi style, notably featuring massive sloping walls and the complete absence of minarets.
2. The unique design element of a huge Propylon (screen or gateway) masking the main dome is a hallmark of the Jaunpur mosques, such as the Atala Masjid.
3. The architectural style of Jaunpur is considered a derivative of the Tughlaq architecture, maintaining the Tughlaq emphasis on simplicity and massiveness.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Sharqi style is marked by its imposing size, strong emphasis on a closed screen, and the deliberate omission of minarets.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The use of a grand **Propylon**—a massive ornamental pylon/screen covering the facade of the prayer hall—is the most distinctive feature of the Sharqi style, seen in the Atala Masjid.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Sharqi architectural style evolved from the late **Tughlaq** style of Delhi, inheriting its features of massiveness and austerity, before developing its own regional character.

2. Consider the following pairs of Sharqi rulers of Jaunpur and their contributions:

Ruler	Contribution/Association
1. Malik Sarwar	Took the title Sultanu-Sharq (Master of the East) and established the independent kingdom.
2. Ibrahim Shah Sharqi	The golden age of Jaunpur, known as the 'Shiraz of the East' for its patronage of arts and learning.
3. Hussain Shah Sharqi	The ruler who was defeated and whose kingdom was annexed by Sikandar Lodi.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** **Malik Sarwar** was the founder and first independent ruler, originally a noble under Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The reign of **Ibrahim Shah Sharqi** is widely considered the peak of Jaunpur's cultural and architectural achievement, earning it the epithet 'Shiraz of the East'.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** **Hussain Shah Sharqi** was the last independent ruler. He was defeated by **Sikandar Lodi**, who annexed Jaunpur back into the Delhi Sultanate in 1479 CE.

3. Consider the following rulers of the Bengal Sultanate and their historical associations:

Ruler	Contribution/Association
1. Ilyas Shah	Successfully resisted the invasion of Firoz Shah Tughlaq and was the first ruler of the independent dynasty.
2. Ghiyasuddin Azam Shah	Known for establishing direct diplomatic and commercial relations with the Chinese Empire.
3. Allauddin Hussain Shah	Initiated a policy of promoting Bengali language and literature, leading to a cultural renaissance.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Shamsuddin Ilyas Shah (c. 1342 CE) consolidated the independent Bengal Sultanate and his successful resistance against Firoz Shah Tughlaq was crucial for its survival.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Ghiyasuddin Azam Shah was noted for his diplomatic exchange with the Yongle Emperor of China and also for his judicial fairness.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Allauddin Hussain Shah (c. 1493–1519 CE) is considered the greatest ruler of the dynasty, known for his cultural tolerance and immense patronage of Bengali literature.

4. Match the following dynasties/rulers of the Provincial Kingdom of Orissa (Gajapati Empire) with their contribution:

Dynasty/Ruler	Contribution/Association
1. Eastern Ganga Dynasty	Built the famous Sun Temple at Konark.
2. Kapilendra Deva	Founder of the Gajapati Dynasty and significantly expanded the kingdom up to the Krishna River.
3. Purushottama Deva	Successfully recovered territories lost to the Vijayanagar Empire and the Bahmani Sultanate.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The Konark Temple was built by Narasimha Deva I of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty (13th Century).
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Kapilendra Deva (c. 1435 CE) founded the Gajapati Dynasty and was responsible for its greatest territorial expansion.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Purushottama Deva, Kapilendra's son, faced setbacks but eventually managed to recover significant territory, especially the Telugu region, from the Vijayanagar and Bahmani states.

5. Consider the following rulers associated with the Ahom Kingdom of Assam and their historical significance:

Ruler	Significance/Contribution
1. Sukapha	Founder of the Ahom Kingdom in the Brahmaputra Valley in the 13th century.
2. Rudra Singha	The king who constructed the iconic Kamakhya Temple.
3. Gadadhar Singha	Introduced revenue reforms based on systematic land measurement and survey.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Sukapha was the founder of the Ahom Kingdom, migrating from the Shan kingdom in the 13th century.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** The iconic **Kamakhya Temple** was rebuilt by **Nara Narayana**, the ruler of the **Koch Dynasty**, not by Rudra Singha of the Ahom Dynasty. Rudra Singha is famous for building the **Shiva Dol** at Sivasagar.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** **Gadadhar Singha** (c. 1681–1696 CE) initiated comprehensive land surveys and revenue settlements based on measurement, a key administrative reform.

6. Match the following figures/regions with their role in the early life and struggles of Zahiruddin Muhammad Babur:

Figure/Region	Role in Babur's Early Career
1. Shaybani Khan	The Uzbek chief who repeatedly defeated Babur and drove him out of Transoxiana.
2. Farghana	Babur's original homeland, which he lost and regained multiple times in his youth.
3. Shah Ismail Safavi	The Persian ruler whose aid Babur temporarily secured to regain Samarqand.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** **Shaybani Khan** was the powerful Uzbek leader of the Shaibanids who was Babur's chief adversary in Central Asia, leading to Babur's ultimate abandonment of Samarqand and Transoxiana.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Farghana** (a small principality near Samarqand) was Babur's ancestral patrimony and the first territory he struggled to secure after his father's death.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Babur formed a crucial but short-lived alliance with **Shah Ismail Safavi** of Persia (Iran) to recapture Samarqand, but the alliance alienated his Sunni subjects and soon collapsed.

7. Which of the following statements about the timeline of Babur's career is/are correct?

1. Babur first acquired the kingdom of Kabul after his final unsuccessful attempt to capture Samarqand.
2. Babur began his systematic raids into India from his base in Kabul only after the final defeat of the Lodis in 1526 CE.
3. Babur adopted the title Padshah (Emperor) upon his occupation of Kabul, years before his conquest of Delhi.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** After being driven out of his ancestral home, Babur moved south and conquered **Kabul in 1504 CE**, which became his base for operations in India.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** Babur carried out several preliminary raids into India, notably in **1519-1524 CE**, targeting the border regions like Bhira and Punjab, long before the Battle of Panipat (1526 CE).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Babur assumed the title **Padshah** in 1507 CE, shortly after consolidating his position in Kabul, establishing a claim to imperial status independent of Central Asian traditions.

8. Arrange the following battles fought by Babur in the Indian subcontinent in the correct chronological order (earliest to latest):

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

Select the correct chronological sequence:

- (a) 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
- (b) 1 - 3 - 2 - 4
- (c) 2 - 1 - 3 - 4
- (d) 1 - 2 - 4 - 3

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation: The famous four battles of Babur's Indian campaign:

1. **Battle of Panipat (1526 CE):** Against Ibrahim Lodi.
2. **Battle of Khanwa (1527 CE):** Against Rana Sanga of Mewar.
3. **Battle of Chanderi (1528 CE):** Against Medini Rai (Rajputs).
4. **Battle of Ghagra (1529 CE):** Against the combined Afghans (Lodis and others).

9. Which of the following statements correctly reflect the significance of Babur's advent into India?

1. It permanently ended the Lodis' rule and brought an end to the Delhi Sultanate era, fundamentally altering the political landscape.
2. It introduced the use of gunpowder, artillery, and the effective **Tulguma** military tactic into North Indian warfare for the first time.
3. It led to the political unification of North India under a powerful centralized administration, quickly stabilizing the region.

4. It broke the balance of power in the region, which forced the regional kingdoms of Rajasthan and Malwa to ally against the new foreign threat.

Select the correct code:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Babur's victory at Panipat (1526 CE) established the Mughal Empire, ending the Delhi Sultanate's lineage.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Babur's use of **gunpowder artillery** and the encircling **Tulguma** tactic (learnt from the Uzbeks) provided a crucial military edge.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Political unification and stable centralized administration were achieved later, mainly under **Akbar**. Babur's reign was largely spent fighting and was politically fragile.
- **Statement 4: Correct.** The advent of a new, powerful foreign dynasty did disturb the regional balance of power, leading to the formation of a broad alliance of Rajputs under Rana Sanga at the Battle of Khanwa.

10. With reference to Babur's cultural and religious contribution, consider the following statements:

1. Babur was a committed Sunni Muslim but strictly followed a policy of religious tolerance towards his non-Muslim subjects in India.
2. His autobiography, Tuzuk-i-Baburi, was written in Persian, and it serves as a valuable source of information on Indian flora and fauna.
3. He introduced the Charbagh style of gardening to India, characterized by four symmetric sections divided by walkways or flowing water.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** While Babur was generally a cultured and observant Muslim, he did not maintain strict religious tolerance. He declared the **Battle of Khanwa** against Rana Sanga a Jihad and assumed the title of Ghazi.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** His autobiography, **Tuzuk-i-Baburi** (or Baburnama), was written in his native **Chagatai Turkish** language, not Persian. It was later translated into Persian by Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khana.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Babur is credited with introducing the Persian-style **Charbagh** (Four Gardens) layout, characterized by symmetry and geometrical division, to India, setting a precedent for Mughal garden architecture.

Provincial Kingdoms & Early Mughals (Babur)

1. With reference to the Architectural Legacy of the Sharqi Kingdom of Jaunpur, consider the following statements:

1. The architecture is characterized by its own distinct Sharqi style, notably featuring massive sloping walls and the complete absence of minarets.
2. The unique design element of a huge Propylon (screen or gateway) masking the main dome is a hallmark of the Jaunpur mosques, such as the Atala Masjid.
3. The architectural style of Jaunpur is considered a derivative of the Tughlaq architecture, maintaining the Tughlaq emphasis on simplicity and massiveness.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
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Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Sharqi style is marked by its imposing size, strong emphasis on a closed screen, and the deliberate omission of minarets.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The use of a grand **Propylon**—a massive ornamental pylon/screen covering the facade of the prayer hall—is the most distinctive feature of the Sharqi style, seen in the Atala Masjid.
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2. Consider the following pairs of Sharqi rulers of Jaunpur and their contributions:

Ruler	Contribution/Association
1. Malik Sarwar	Took the title Sultānu-Sharq (Master of the East) and established the independent kingdom.
2. Ibrahim Shah Sharqi	The golden age of Jaunpur, known as the 'Shiraz of the East' for its patronage of arts and learning.
3. Hussain Shah Sharqi	The ruler who was defeated and whose kingdom was annexed by Sikandar Lodi.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Malik Sarwar was the founder and first independent ruler, originally a noble under Firoz Shah Tughlaq.
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3. Consider the following rulers of the Bengal Sultanate and their historical associations:

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1. Ilyas Shah	Successfully resisted the invasion of Firoz Shah Tughlaq and was the first ruler of the independent dynasty.
2. Ghiyasuddin Azam Shah	Known for establishing direct diplomatic and commercial relations with the Chinese Empire.
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Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Shamsuddin Ilyas Shah (c. 1342 CE) consolidated the independent Bengal Sultanate and his successful resistance against Firoz Shah Tughlaq was crucial for its survival.
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Explanation:

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2. Rudra Singha	The king who constructed the iconic Kamakhya Temple.
3. Gadadhar Singha	Introduced revenue reforms based on systematic land measurement and survey.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Sukapha was the founder of the Ahom Kingdom, migrating from the Shan kingdom in the 13th century.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** The iconic **Kamakhya Temple** was rebuilt by **Nara Narayana**, the ruler of the **Koch Dynasty**, not by Rudra Singha of the Ahom Dynasty. Rudra Singha is famous for building the **Shiva Dol** at Sivasagar.
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6. Match the following figures/regions with their role in the early life and struggles of Zahiruddin Muhammad Babur:

Figure/Region	Role in Babur's Early Career
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2. Farghana	Babur's original homeland, which he lost and regained multiple times in his youth.
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Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** **Shaybani Khan** was the powerful Uzbek leader of the Shaibanids who was Babur's chief adversary in Central Asia, leading to Babur's ultimate abandonment of Samarqand and Transoxiana.
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1. Babur first acquired the kingdom of Kabul after his final unsuccessful attempt to capture Samarqand.
2. Babur began his systematic raids into India from his base in Kabul only after the final defeat of the Lodis in 1526 CE.
3. Babur adopted the title Padshah (Emperor) upon his occupation of Kabul, years before his conquest of Delhi.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** After being driven out of his ancestral home, Babur moved south and conquered **Kabul in 1504 CE**, which became his base for operations in India.
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1. Battle of Panipat
2. Battle of Khanwa
3. Battle of Chanderi
4. Battle of Ghagra

Select the correct chronological sequence:

- (a) 1 - 2 - 3 - 4
- (b) 1 - 3 - 2 - 4
- (c) 2 - 1 - 3 - 4
- (d) 1 - 2 - 4 - 3

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation: The famous four battles of Babur's Indian campaign:

1. **Battle of Panipat (1526 CE):** Against Ibrahim Lodi.
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9. Which of the following statements correctly reflect the significance of Babur's advent into India?

1. It permanently ended the Lodis' rule and brought an end to the Delhi Sultanate era, fundamentally altering the political landscape.
2. It introduced the use of gunpowder, artillery, and the effective **Tulguma** military tactic into North Indian warfare for the first time.
3. It led to the political unification of North India under a powerful centralized administration, quickly stabilizing the region.

4. It broke the balance of power in the region, which forced the regional kingdoms of Rajasthan and Malwa to ally against the new foreign threat.

Select the correct code:

- (a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1, 2 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Babur's victory at Panipat (1526 CE) established the Mughal Empire, ending the Delhi Sultanate's lineage.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Babur's use of **gunpowder artillery** and the encircling **Tulguma** tactic (learnt from the Uzbeks) provided a crucial military edge.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Political unification and stable centralized administration were achieved later, mainly under **Akbar**. Babur's reign was largely spent fighting and was politically fragile.
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10. With reference to Babur's cultural and religious contribution, consider the following statements:

1. Babur was a committed Sunni Muslim but strictly followed a policy of religious tolerance towards his non-Muslim subjects in India.
2. His autobiography, Tuzuk-i-Baburi, was written in Persian, and it serves as a valuable source of information on Indian flora and fauna.
3. He introduced the Charbagh style of gardening to India, characterized by four symmetric sections divided by walkways or flowing water.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** While Babur was generally a cultured and observant Muslim, he did not maintain strict religious tolerance. He declared the **Battle of Khanwa** against Rana Sanga a Jihad and assumed the title of Ghazi.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** His autobiography, **Tuzuk-i-Baburi** (or Baburnama), was written in his native **Chagatai Turkish** language, not Persian. It was later translated into Persian by Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khana.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Babur is credited with introducing the Persian-style **Charbagh** (Four Gardens) layout, characterized by symmetry and geometrical division, to India, setting a precedent for Mughal garden architecture.

Humayun and Sher Shah Suri

1. With reference to the challenges faced by Humayun after his accession, consider the following statements:

1. Humayun's policy of granting large Jagirs to his younger brothers weakened the central administration from the outset by partitioning the empire.
2. The Afghan threat, particularly under Sher Khan Suri in Bihar and Bengal, was the primary external military challenge Humayun failed to address adequately.
3. The rise of Bahadur Shah of Gujarat, who maintained friendly relations with the Portuguese and posed a threat to Malwa, was a significant problem for Humayun.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** While Humayun's brothers were a major problem, the problem was his father **Babur's legacy** of dividing the empire among his sons, leading to the brothers' disloyalty and subsequent lack of cooperation, rather than Humayun's grant of "large Jagirs." He granted them provinces like Kabul and Kandahar (**Kambaran**) and Sambhal (**Askari**), which was a much more serious partitioning than mere jagirs.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Sher Khan Suri's consolidation of power in the east proved to be the most devastating long-term threat to Humayun.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Bahadur Shah of Gujarat was a formidable rival who threatened the Mughal hold over Malwa and even besieged Chittor, forcing Humayun to intervene personally.

2. With reference to the Battle of Chausa (1539 CE), which led to Sher Khan's ascendancy, consider the following statements:

1. The battle was precipitated by Humayun's prolonged but strategically hollow occupation of Gaur (Bengal), leaving his lines of communication vulnerable.
2. Sher Khan utilized the beginning of the monsoon season and a sudden attack to defeat the complacent Mughal army, forcing Humayun to flee across the Ganga river.
3. Following the victory, Sher Khan adopted the imperial title Sher Shah and issued coins in his own name, marking the formal end of the Mughal rule in the East.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Humayun's overextended campaign in Bengal without securing his rear (Bihar) allowed Sher Khan to cut off his supply lines.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The timing of the attack (the monsoon rains) and the ensuing chaos in the Mughal camp led to Humayun's humiliating retreat, where he nearly drowned in the Ganga.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The victory at Chausa was so decisive that Sher Khan immediately assumed the imperial title **Sher Shah**, solidifying his claim over the erstwhile Mughal territory.

3. Which of the following statements about Humayun's life after the loss of India is/are correct?

1. The Battle of Bilgram (1540 CE) resulted in Humayun's complete defeat, making him a fugitive and leading to the beginning of the Afghan Interregnum.
2. During his fifteen-year exile, Humayun sought refuge with the Safavid Shah of Persia, who provided him with military aid to recapture Kandahar and Kabul.
3. Humayun recaptured Delhi in 1555 CE following the decisive defeat of the Sur claimant Sikandar Shah Suri at the Battle of Machhiwara.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Battle of Bilgram (or Kannauj) was the final nail in the coffin, forcing Humayun out of India.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Shah Tahmasp I of the Safavid Empire provided Humayun with military support in exchange for a promise to convert to the Shia faith and cede Kandahar to Persia.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** While Sikandar Shah Suri was the Sur claimant defeated by Humayun's forces in 1555 CE, the **Battle of Machhiwara** was fought earlier against **Nasib Khan**, while the **Battle of Sirhind** was the decisive battle in 1555 CE where Humayun's forces, led by Bairam Khan, defeated Sikandar Shah Suri.

4. Consider the following pairs related to the architectural contributions of the early Mughal period (Humayun and Sher Shah):

Structure	Ruler / Architectural Feature
1. Din-i-Panah	The city of refuge founded by Humayun, which served as his second capital.
2. Sher Shah Suri's Tomb	Built in an octagonal plan on a high platform amidst a lake, blending Persian and indigenous styles.
3. Qila-i-Kuhna Masjid	Built by Sher Shah, known for its recessed arch and the earliest example of the true double-dome in India.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** **Din-i-Panah** ('Refuge of the Faith') was the citadel/city founded by Humayun on the banks of the Yamuna (now forming part of Purana Qila).
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Sher Shah's Tomb** at Sasaram is a masterpiece of Afghan architecture, built in a lake using the octagonal plan and three-tiered design.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The **Qila-i-Kuhna Masjid** is known for its exquisite decorations and recessed arch, but the earliest large-scale example of the true **double-dome** is generally attributed to the **Tomb of Humayun** (built later) or earlier structures like the Tomb of Sikandar Lodi. The Qila-i-Kuhna Masjid does not use a true double-dome.

5. With reference to Sher Shah Suri, consider the following statements:

- Before his imperial accession, he gained vast administrative experience as the Jagirdar of Sasaram in Bihar.
- He initially served under **Bahadur Shah of Gujarat**, where he learned the use of artillery and military tactics before turning against Humayun.
- He was a great patron of learning and established the practice of paying stipends to learned men and setting up Madrassas.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- 1 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- Statement 1: Correct.** Sher Shah (Farid Khan) began his career managing his father's Jagir at Sasaram and Khawaspur-Tanda, where he perfected his revenue and administrative skills.
- Statement 2: Incorrect.** Sher Shah initially served under the **Lodis** and later under the **Mughals (Babur)**, and was instrumental in the collapse of the Lodi rule. His main rivals were the Mughals and the Bengal Sultan. He did not serve under Bahadur Shah of Gujarat.
- Statement 3: Correct.** Sher Shah promoted Islamic learning and established institutions like Madrassas and patronized scholars.

6. Consider the following terms associated with Sher Shah's administrative reforms:

Term	Meaning / Role
1. Diwan-i-Wizarat	Central Department responsible for revenue and finance.
2. Diwan-i-Arz	Central Department responsible for the upkeep and muster of the army.
3. Diwan-i-Rasalat	Central Department responsible for foreign affairs and diplomatic correspondence.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- Only one pair
- Only two pairs
- All three pairs
- None of the pairs

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation: Sher Shah Suri meticulously revived and improved the Delhi Sultanate's central administrative structure:

- Pair 1: Correct. Diwan-i-Wizarat** was headed by the Wazir (Prime Minister), dealing with revenue.
- Pair 2: Correct. Diwan-i-Arz** was headed by the Ariz-i-Mamalik, responsible for the military establishment.
- Pair 3: Correct. Diwan-i-Rasalat** was headed by the Sadr-us-Sudur (or sometimes a Foreign Minister), dealing with foreign correspondence and religious grants.

7. Match the following administrative units established by Sher Shah with their correct meaning or official:

Unit/Official	Meaning / Jurisdiction
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1. Pargana	The smallest administrative unit, comprising several villages.
2. Shiqdar-i-Shiqdaran	The Chief Executive and Judicial Officer at the Sarkar (District) level.
3. Shiqdar	The main Revenue Collector at the Pargana level.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation: Sher Shah's administration was highly centralized and well-structured:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Pargana** was the basic intermediate administrative unit.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Shiqdar-i-Shiqdaran** was the chief Shiqdar or the head military/judicial officer of the **Sarkar** (district).
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The **Shiqdar** was the executive officer (law and order) at the Pargana level. The main **Revenue Collector** at the Pargana level was the **Amil** (or Amalguzar).

8. Consider the following reforms introduced by Sher Shah Suri:

Reform	Feature / Characteristic
1. Land Revenue System	Introduction of the Patta (title deed) and Qabuliyat (agreement), formally defining the area and tax liability.
2. Currency Reform	Issuance of a standardized silver coin called the Rupiya, which remained the standard currency for centuries.
3. Land Classification	Classification of cultivable land into three categories: good, middling, and bad, to ensure fair assessment of revenue.

How many of the above reforms are correctly described?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The use of **Patta** and **Qabuliyat** (system of Peshgi) was a key reform that established a direct link between the state and the cultivator, eliminating intermediaries.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Sher Shah standardized the currency by issuing a uniform silver coin, the **Rupiya** (178 grains), which became the basis of the modern Indian currency system.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Sher Shah introduced systematic land measurement (**Zabti** or Jarib system) and classified land into three categories based on fertility to ensure a fair and equitable tax assessment.

9. With reference to Sher Shah's infrastructure and justice reforms, consider the following:

Reform/Term	Feature / Function
1. Sarai	State-maintained rest houses constructed along the major highways for the use of traders, pilgrims, and officials.
2. Waqai-Nawis	The official responsible for ensuring law and order in the villages, often held accountable for local crimes.

3. Grand Trunk Road	The famous highway connecting Sonargaon (Bengal) to the Indus River, built to facilitate trade and rapid military movement.
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How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Sarais (rest houses/inns) were established every 8 km along the roads, serving as trade networks and administrative centers.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** The **Waqai-Nawis** was a news writer or reporter, whose role was intelligence and documentation. The village headman (Muqaddam or Chaudhari) was held accountable for local crimes ("Principle of Local Responsibility").
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The **Grand Trunk Road** (rebuilt and expanded by Sher Shah) connected the Bengal border to the Indus, and it was crucial for integrating his empire.

10. Match the following aspects of Sher Shah Suri's governance with their key feature:

Aspect	Key Feature
1. Trade Reforms	Abolition of all transit duties except for two levies, one at the point of entry and one at the point of sale.
2. Military Reorganisation	Introduction of the system of Dagh (branding of horses) and Chehra (descriptive roll of soldiers) to prevent corruption.
3. Judicial Emphasis	The Sultan himself was the highest court of appeal, embodying the principle of Leniency and Clemency in dispensing justice.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Sher Shah abolished numerous local tolls, simplifying the customs system to encourage commerce by levying duty only at the border and at the final sales point.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Sher Shah revived the rigorous military systems of branding (Dagh) and descriptive rolls (Chehra) first introduced by Alauddin Khalji.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** While the Sultan was the highest court of appeal, Sher Shah was known for his **strictness and impartiality** in dispensing justice, not necessarily **leniency and clemency**. His policy of "justice knows no kinship" meant severe punishment regardless of status.

Akbar

1. With reference to the regency of Bairam Khan (1556–1560 CE) and the subsequent court turmoil, consider the following statements:

1. Bairam Khan, who held the title Khan Baba, was a loyal Shi'a Muslim whose policies of promoting his co-religionists led to alienation within the predominantly Sunni Turani nobility.

2. The period immediately following Bairam Khan's removal is historically referred to as the 'Petticoat Government' due to the undue political influence of Maham Anga and Adham Khan.
3. Akbar demonstrated magnanimity by allowing Bairam Khan to proceed on a pilgrimage to Mecca, where the former regent passed away peacefully.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Bairam Khan was a Shi'a, and his favor shown toward Shi'a and Irani nobles caused resentment among the powerful Sunni Turani (Central Asian) faction, contributing to his downfall.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The years 1560-1562 CE saw the rise of Maham Anga (Akbar's wet nurse) and her son Adham Khan, who wielded unofficial power, giving the period the historical name 'Pardah' or 'Petticoat' Government (Petticoat Rule).
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Bairam Khan was **assassinated** in Patan, Gujarat, by a group of Afghans (associated with an old enemy, Hemu) while he was preparing for his pilgrimage to Mecca, not peacefully passing away.

2. Arrange the following early expansionist campaigns undertaken during Akbar's reign in the correct chronological order (earliest to latest):

1. Conquest of Malwa, leading to the defeat of Baz Bahadur.
2. Submission of the Rajput fortress of Chittor.
3. Annexation of the Gondwana kingdom following the resistance of Rani Durgavati.
4. Capture of the Gwalior fort from the Sur claimant.

Select the correct chronological sequence:

- (a) 4 - 1 - 3 - 2
- (b) 1 - 4 - 2 - 3
- (c) 4 - 3 - 1 - 2
- (d) 1 - 2 - 4 - 3

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation: The correct chronological sequence of these key early campaigns is:

1. **Gwalior** (1559 CE): Captured from the Sur Governor, securing a vital fortress in Central India. (4)
2. **Malwa** (1561 CE): Defeat of Baz Bahadur by Adham Khan. (1)
3. **Gondwana** (1564 CE): Campaign led by Asaf Khan against Rani Durgavati. (3)
4. **Chittor** (1567-68 CE): Siege and capture of the capital of Mewar, one of the most significant Rajput strongholds. (2)

3. Which of the following statements correctly describe the features of Akbar's Rajput Policy?

1. Akbar's policy relied solely on offering high Mansabs and marriage alliances, without requiring the surrender of sovereignty by Rajput rulers.
2. The abolition of the Pilgrim Tax on Hindus (1563 CE) and the Jizya Tax (1564 CE) were key steps to cement the political alliance with the Rajput houses.

3. The Battle of Haldighati (1576 CE), a military confrontation between Rana Pratap and the Mughals, was led on the Mughal side primarily by a Mughal prince.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** While Rajput rulers were allowed to retain internal autonomy, their acceptance of Mughal service and sovereignty was mandatory. This acceptance often included the obligation to provide military service when required.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** These two reforms were crucial in integrating the Hindu population and the Rajput nobility into the Mughal framework, showing respect for Hindu sensibilities.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** The Mughal army at Haldighati was commanded by the Rajput general **Raja Man Singh of Amber** (Kachwaha), alongside Asaf Khan, not a Mughal prince.

4. With respect to the integration and legacy of Akbar's Rajput policy, consider the following statements:

1. The induction of Rajput nobles into the Mughal administration helped overcome the early phase of turmoil by diversifying the nobility away from the dominant Turani faction.
2. Akbar's policy was completely successful in Rajasthan, resulting in the submission of all major Rajput states, including the final annexation of Mewar.
3. The policy ensured that Rajput rulers maintained internal autonomy and control over their hereditary territories (Watan Jagirs), which were not transferable.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Rajputs formed a powerful counterpoise to the Turani and Irani factions, lending stability and an indigenous base to the Mughal Empire.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** **Mewar** (under Rana Pratap and his successor Amar Singh) never fully submitted to Akbar. Although defeated in battle, Rana Pratap continued his resistance until his death, and a formal peace treaty was only signed later, during Jahangir's reign.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The maintenance of **Watan Jagirs** (hereditary lands) as non-transferable grants was the cornerstone of the Mughal-Rajput alliance, assuring the Rajputs of their ancestral land rights.

5. Consider the following pairs of famous architectural structures:

Monument	Location / Builder
1. Buland Darwaza	Fatehpur Sikri / Commemorates Akbar's victory over Gujarat.
2. Bara Imambara	Lucknow / Built by Asaf-ud-Daula in the late 18th century.

3. Rumi Darwaza	Delhi / Built by Akbar as the grand entrance to the city of Din-i-Panah.
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How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Buland Darwaza (The Lofty Gate) was built by Akbar at Fatehpur Sikri to commemorate his swift and decisive victory in the Gujarat campaign.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Bara Imambara is a magnificent non-Mughal structure in Lucknow, built by Nawab Asaf-ud-Daula of Awadh.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The Rumi Darwaza (Turkish Gate) is also located in Lucknow, and was built by Asaf-ud-Daula as part of a famine relief project, modeled after a gate in Constantinople.

6. Match the following campaigns of Akbar with their specific historical significance:

Campaign	Significance/Outcome
1. Conquest of Gujarat	Provided the Mughal Empire with access to the sea and control over major foreign trade ports like Surat.
2. Conquest of Bihar & Bengal	Marked the final defeat of the last effective remnants of the Afghan Sur dynasty.
3. Annexation of Khandesh	Gave the Mughals a strategic foothold on the Deccan plateau and control over the gateway to the South.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Gujarat (1572 CE) was vital for its thriving maritime trade and control over the pilgrimage routes to Mecca.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The defeat of Daud Khan Karrani (the last independent Sultan of Bengal) and the subsequent formal annexation of Bengal (1576 CE) signaled the end of the powerful Afghan challenge to Mughal authority.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Khandesh (annexed in 1601 CE) was strategically crucial, particularly its capital, the strong fort of Asirgarh, which was called the 'Key to the Deccan'.

7. Consider the following pairs related to the North West frontier under Akbar:

Region/Figure	Significance / Association
1. Mirza Muhammad Hakim	Akbar's half-brother who continually challenged Mughal rule from his base in Kabul.

2. Yusufzai Tribe	The fierce tribe whose rebellion led to the death of Akbar's close associate, Raja Birbal.
3. Annexation of Kashmir	Completed peacefully through diplomacy without any significant military confrontation.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Mirza Muhammad Hakim (ruler of Kabul) constantly exploited rebellions in North India to invade Punjab, forcing Akbar to address the threat directly.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The Yusufzai tribe in the Swat and Bajaur regions launched a fierce rebellion (1586 CE), and the Mughal forces sent to subdue them suffered a severe defeat, resulting in the death of Raja Birbal.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The Annexation of Kashmir (1586 CE) was achieved through military pressure and a campaign led by Raja Bhagwan Das and Qasim Khan, after the ruler, Yusuf Shah Chak, failed to submit. It was not a purely diplomatic acquisition.

8. Match the following figures and places with their role in the conquest of Sindh and Multan by Akbar:

Figure/Place	Role / Association
1. Abdul Rahim Khan-i-Khana	The Mughal general tasked with the final and successful conquest of Sindh.
2. Thatta	The capital city of the region ruled by the Tarkhan dynasty before its annexation.
3. Strategic Importance	The region was crucial for securing the western land route to Persia and centralizing trade.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Khan-i-Khana (Akbar's close confidant and son of Bairam Khan) successfully led the campaign that defeated the Tarkhan dynasty of Sindh and annexed the region (1591 CE).
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Thatta (or Thatha) was the capital of the Tarkhan rulers of Sindh.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The conquest of Sindh and Multan was strategically important for controlling the mouth of the Indus River and securing the trade route towards Kandahar and Persia, which was essential for economic and military stability.

9. Match the following artists and architectural features with their association during Akbar's reign:

Artist/Feature	Association
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1. Basawan and Daswanth	Prominent Persian masters credited with founding the Mughal School of miniature painting.
2. Panch Mahal	A five-storeyed pillared structure in Fatehpur Sikri, inspired by a Buddhist Vihara model.
3. Akbar's Tomb at Sikandra	The first Mughal tomb to be enclosed in a Persian-style Charbagh (four-quartered garden).

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** While **Basawan and Daswanth** were highly prominent and innovative court painters during Akbar's reign, the foundation of the Mughal school is generally credited to the Persian masters **Mir Sayyid Ali** and **Abdus Samad**, who Humayun brought from Persia.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Panch Mahal** (Wind Tower) in Fatehpur Sikri is a unique structure designed to resemble a tiered Buddhist Vihara, incorporating elements of temple and palace architecture.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The **Tomb of Humayun** in Delhi (built by his wife Hamida Banu Begum) was the first Mughal tomb to be enclosed in a **Charbagh**. Akbar's Tomb at Sikandra is also set in a Charbagh, but it was not the first.

10. Match the following literary works/figures with their correct feature or contribution during Akbar's time:

Work/Figure	Contribution/Feature
1. Tulsidas	Author of Ramcharitmanas, who wrote independently of the Mughal court's patronage.
2. Tarikh-i-Alfi	A compilation of world history, commissioned by Akbar, covering a thousand years of Islam.
3. Abul Fazl	Author of the Akbarnama, which includes the Ain-i-Akbari as its third volume.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** **Tulsidas** (c. 1532–1623 CE), a contemporary of Akbar, wrote the Ramcharitmanas in Awadhi dialect of Hindi, achieving great popularity outside the court circles.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Tarikh-i-Alfi** (History of a Thousand) was commissioned by Akbar to chronologically document the history of Islam, marking a major state literary project.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** **Abul Fazl** was the official court historian. The Akbarnama (History of Akbar) is divided into three parts, with the third part being the statistical and administrative manual, Ain-i-Akbari.

Administrative System Under Akbar

1. With reference to the organization of the Mughal Government under Akbar, consider the following statements:

1. The Mughals established a clear separation between the military and civil departments at the central level, with the Mir Bakhshi heading both military recruitment and revenue collection.
2. Akbar reformed the office of the Wazir, deliberately creating the separate office of the Diwan-i-Kul to centralize all financial affairs and prevent the Wazir from accumulating absolute 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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Mughal system separated finance/revenue (headed by the Diwan/Wazir) from the military (headed by the **Mir Bakhshi**). The Mir Bakhshi was responsible for military recruitment and muster but had no direct responsibility for revenue collection.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Akbar consciously reduced the all-encompassing power of the old Wazir (Vakil) by establishing the **Diwan-i-Kul** (Chief Diwan) as the head of the revenue department. This separation of powers was a major characteristic of Akbar's central administration.

2. Consider the following pairs of central administrative officials during Akbar's reign:

Official	Responsibility
1. Diwan-i-Kul	Chief royal store and factory administrator.
2. Mir Bakhshi	Head of the intelligence network and military recruitment.
3. Sadr-us-Sudur	Censor of Public Morals and regulator of markets.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** The **Diwan-i-Kul** was the Chief Finance and Revenue Minister. The administrator of royal factories and stores was the **Mir Saman** (or Khan-i-Saman).
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Mir Bakhshi** was the head of the military department, overseeing recruitment, mustering, and was also responsible for organizing the imperial intelligence and news writers (Waqai-Nawis).
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The **Sadr-us-Sudur** was the head of religious endowments and grants (Sadr) and the Chief Justice (Qazi). The official responsible for enforcing religious laws and regulating markets/morals was the **Muhtasib**.

3. With reference to the evolution of the Provincial Administration under Akbar, consider the following statements:

1. The formal division of the Mughal Empire into twelve administrative provinces, or **Subas**, was completed after the conquest of the Deccan, totaling fifteen Subas by the end of his reign.
2. Akbar introduced the system of dual control in the provinces by appointing a **Subahdar** (Governor) for military and administrative matters and a separate **Diwan** for revenue and financial control.
3. The structure of the **Suba** administration was a direct replication of the centralized administration, with key officials mirroring those at the imperial court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Akbar established 12 Subas around 1580 CE. By the end of his reign (1605 CE), after the conquest of the Deccan, three more Subas (Berar, Khandesh, and Ahmadnagar/Daulatabad) were added, making the total 15.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** This dual control system ensured the provincial Diwan (reporting to the central Diwan) checked the power of the Subahdar (reporting to the Emperor), preventing governors from becoming too independent.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The provincial administration mirrored the central government: Subahdar (Emperor's representative), Provincial Diwan (central Diwan), Provincial Bakhshi (Mir Bakhshi), and Provincial Sadr (Sadr-us-Sudur).

4. Consider the following administrative units and their corresponding chief Executive/Military official during Akbar's time:

Administrative Unit	Chief Official (Executive/Military)
1. Suba	Subahdar (or Sipah Salar)
2. Sarkar (District)	Faujdar
3. Pargana (Sub-district)	Shiqdar

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Suba** (Province) was headed by the **Subahdar** (Governor), also known as the Sipah Salar.

- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Sarkar** (District) was the jurisdiction of the **Faujdar**, who was responsible for maintaining law and order and leading the military contingent.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The **Pargana** (Sub-district) was the jurisdiction of the **Shiqdar**, who was the chief administrative and law-and-order official at that level.

5. Consider the following terms related to the local administration and land systems in medieval India:

Term	Region / Meaning
1. Mahattara	Village headman or representative in the Gangetic plains.
2. Pattakila	Hereditary owner of land/village chief in the Deccan region.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Neither one nor two
- (d) Cannot be determined under Akbar's administration

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** **Mahattara** is an ancient term (Sanskrit origin) for a village chief, primarily associated with the **Deccan** (Maratha/Chalukya/Rashtrakuta) and Western India, similar to the Patil. The corresponding headman in the Gangetic plains under the Mughals was the Muqaddam or Chaudhari.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Pattakila** (or **Patil**), derived from pattakila in Sanskrit, was indeed the hereditary village headman or landholder/chief, especially prominent in the Deccan region, wielding significant local power.

6. Match the following regional land revenue assessment systems used during Akbar's reign with their characteristic features:

System	Region / Feature
1. Kankut	Used in regions where survey was difficult; involved revenue based on a calculated estimate of the standing crop.
2. Batai (Ghallabakshi)	Prevalent in frontier regions like Sindh; involved payment based on the division of the actual harvested crop in kind.
3. Zabti (Bandobast)	Implemented in the core areas of the empire (Delhi, Agra, Lahore); involved a fixed demand in cash based on a 10-year average.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct. Kankut** (Kut = Estimate) was a system of appraisal based on a sight survey of the standing crop when detailed measurement was impractical.
- **Pair 2: Correct. Batai** (or Ghallabakshi) literally means division of the produce and was paid in kind, often used in newly conquered or less centralized frontier areas due to its simplicity.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The **Zabti** or **Dahsala** system (introduced by Todar Mal in 1580 CE) was the standard system in the most important Subas and was based on measured land, classified soil, and an average cash demand calculated over ten years.

7. With reference to the Zabti/Dahsala system of Land Revenue under Akbar, consider the following statements:

1. The revenue classification depended on both the continuity of cultivation and the fertility of the soil, with separate averages calculated for different crops.
2. The state's share of the average produce (one-third) was converted into cash by using the average prices of the preceding ten years, which was a core feature distinguishing it from the simple Kankut method.

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Land was classified into four categories based on the continuity of cultivation (Polaj, Parauti, Chachar, Banjar). Within these, the land was further graded (good, middling, bad) for crop yield estimation, and averages were calculated crop-wise.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The use of the ten-year average of both yield and price was the defining, sophisticated feature of the Dahsala system, allowing the demand to be fixed in cash and providing stability.

8. Match the following categories of land classification used in the Mughal revenue system with their precise description:

Land Category	Description
1. Polaj	Land that was cultivated regularly and never allowed to lie fallow.
2. Parauti	Land that was allowed to lie fallow for a short period (1 or 2 years) to recover fertility.
3. Banjar	Land that was uncultivated for five or more years, often due to lack of effort.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Polaj was continuously cultivated land (annually).
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Parauti was land temporarily left fallow (1-2 years) to restore its potential.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Banjar was the least fertile/most neglected land, uncultivated for five or more years, and subject to the lowest tax rate (or none initially). (The fourth category, Chachar, was land fallow for 3-4 years).

9. With respect to the agricultural initiatives and land revenue innovations during Akbar's time, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. The state introduced the practice of providing agricultural loans, known as Taccavi, to farmers, particularly during periods of crop failure.
2. To maintain accurate records, a new class of village officials called Karoris was established, responsible for maintaining land records and tax collection for over a crore of Dams.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The system of Taccavi (loans) was formalized and implemented by Akbar to aid cultivators, showing the state's paternalistic approach to agriculture.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Karori system was introduced in 1573-74 CE. The Karori was an official appointed to a tract of land theoretically yielding a crore (ten million) of Dams. Their primary job was revenue assessment and collection, alongside maintaining land records.

10. With reference to the Mansabdari System introduced by Akbar, consider the following statements:

1. The Zat rank determined the Mansabdar's personal pay and position in the administrative hierarchy, while the Sawar rank stipulated the actual cavalry contingent to be maintained.
2. The number of cavalry soldiers a Mansabdar was required to maintain was subject to reduction based on regional assignment, such as whether the troops were stationed in Hindustan or in distant provinces like Kabul or the Deccan.
3. The system was entirely non-hereditary, and upon the death of a Mansabdar, the principle of Escheat (or Zabti) was applied, whereby all personal assets were legally confiscated by the crown.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Zat (personal) fixed the Mansabdar's status and personal salary. Sawar (cavalry) fixed the military obligation and the salary meant to pay for that contingent.

- **Statement 2: Correct.** The standard scales were not universally applied. A Mansabdar's Sawar rank often had a fractional requirement (e.g., 1/2 or 1/3) of the stated number if serving in difficult frontier regions like the Deccan or Kabul.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Mansab (rank) was never hereditary, ensuring the Mansabdars remained dependent on the Emperor. The practice of **Escheat** (State appropriation of the deceased noble's wealth to settle any debts to the State) was established, ensuring that vast wealth could not pass down freely, limiting the establishment of independent hereditary power bases.

Akbar, Jahangir, and Shah Jahan

1. With reference to the Jagirdari System during the Mughal Empire, consider the following statements:

1. The Tankhwa Jagir was an assignment of land given to a Mansabdar to cover his salary, which was inherently transferable and not hereditary.
2. The practice of reserving centrally administered land as Paibaqi meant that these were reserved Khalisa lands set aside temporarily before being formally assigned as Jagirs.
3. The later crisis of the Jagirdari system was characterized by a massive gap between the officially assessed revenue (Jama) and the actual revenue collected (Hasil).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Tankhwa Jagirs were granted in lieu of salary (Tankhwa) and were regularly transferred to prevent the development of local vested interests. Watan Jagirs (ancestral lands granted to Rajputs) were hereditary and non-transferable.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Paibaqi referred to land whose revenue records were complete and ready for assignment as Jagirs but were temporarily held in the Khalisa (state-owned land) fund until a suitable Mansabdar was found.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The crisis stemmed from the severe mismatch between the theoretical Jama (inflated estimate) and the true Hasil (actual collection), leading to Mansabdars being unable to maintain their required contingents and growing corruption.

2. With reference to the development of Akbar's religious policy, consider the following statements:

1. The concept of Sulh-i-Kul (peace to all) was conceived by Akbar after the debates held in the Ibadat Khana, which was open to all religious scholars from its inception.
2. Akbar issued the Mahzar (Infallibility Decree) in 1579 CE, granting him the authority to choose between conflicting interpretations of Islamic law, which preceded the abolition of the Jizya.

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The **Ibadat Khana** (House of Worship), established in 1575 CE, was initially open only to Sunnis, then to all Muslim sects, and only later (1578 CE onwards) to scholars of other religions (Hindus, Jains, Christians, Zoroastrians). The concept of Sulh-i-Kul was a result of these later broad-based discussions.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The **Mahzar** was issued in 1579 CE, allowing Akbar to act as the ultimate interpreter of Islamic law (Imam-i-Adil) in certain religious disputes. The **Jizya** was abolished earlier, in 1564 CE.

3. Consider the following pairs of Akbar's "Navratnas" (Nine Jewels) and their principal domain/contribution:

Name	Domain/Contribution
1. Todar Mal	Chief Minister and Administrator of Justice (Vakil).
2. Faizi	Court Poet and Sanskrit scholar who translated the Mahabharata into Persian.
3. Abul Fazl	Author of the official history, Akbarnama, and a key political theorist.
4. Tansen	Court musician whose compositions are primarily known for their influence on Sufi music.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** **Todar Mal** was the **Revenue and Finance Minister** (Diwan-i-Kul) and the architect of the Dahsala system. The Vakil was generally the Prime Minister.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Faizi** (brother of Abul Fazl) was the poet laureate who headed the translation department (Maktab Khana) and translated works like the Mahabharata and Panchatantra into Persian.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** **Abul Fazl** was the chronicler of Akbar's life, documenting the history of the reign in the Akbarnama.
- **Pair 4: Incorrect.** **Tansen** was renowned for his contribution to **Hindustani Classical Music**, especially the creation of new Ragas, not primarily Sufi music.

4. Which one of the following was NOT a policy or social reform initiated by Emperor Akbar?

- (a) Prohibition of forced Sati and allowing the remarriage of widows.
- (b) Legalization of the use of interest-bearing loans (Riba) to promote trade and commerce.
- (c) Introduction of the practice of Jharokha Darshan as a means of connecting with the common populace.
- (d) Implementation of the Dahsala system, which was based on the average prices of crops over a ten-year period.

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **(a), (b), and (c) are all examples of Akbar's social, religious, or political innovations.** Akbar actively legislated against forced Sati and child marriage, and introduced Jharokha Darshan (c) to appear before the people daily. Akbar also made religious interpretations (b) flexible to promote trade.
- **(d) is Incorrect.** The Dahsala system was a **land revenue administration reform**, not a state religion or social reform. While important, it falls under the administrative domain, distinguishing it from the others.

5. Consider the following statements regarding the reign of Jahangir:

1. The growing influence of the Nur Jahan Junta (which included her father Itmad-ud-daula and brother Asaf Khan) was the direct cause of the rebellion of Prince Khurram (Shah Jahan).
2. The execution of Guru Arjan Dev, the fifth Sikh Guru, resulted from his open political and material support for the rebellion of Prince Khusrau, Jahangir's eldest son.

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The powerful Junta initially supported Khurram but later shifted allegiance to his younger half-brother, Shahryar, whose marriage to Nur Jahan's daughter, Ladli Begum, made him a pawn for the group's influence. This threat to Khurram's succession prompted his rebellion.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** When Prince Khusrau rebelled in 1606 CE, Guru Arjan Dev provided him with financial and spiritual support, which Jahangir viewed as an act of treason. This led to the Guru's execution and marked the beginning of Mughal-Sikh conflict.

6. Consider the following pairs related to the expansionist policy of Jahangir:

Event/Figure	Association/Outcome
1. Submission of Mewar	Resulted in the award of the title Shah Jahan to Prince Khurram.
2. Malik Ambar	Abyssinian general and Wazir of the Ahmadnagar Sultanate who defeated Mughal forces multiple times.
3. Loss of Kandahar	Severely weakened Mughal prestige in Central Asia and was a major failure of Jahangir's foreign policy.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** Prince Khurram was awarded the title **Shah Jahan** (King of the World) after his successful campaign that compelled the **Deccan Sultanates (Bijapur/Ahmadnagar)** to submit (c. 1617 CE), not for the Mewar campaign.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Malik Ambar** was the brilliant regent/Wazir of the Ahmadnagar Sultanate who employed Guerilla warfare (Bargi-Giri) and continually reclaimed territory lost to the Mughals.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** **Kandahar** was captured by the Persian Shah Abbas I in 1622 CE. Jahangir's failure to recapture it due to Shah Jahan's simultaneous rebellion was a major setback that permanently compromised Mughal prestige in the North-West.

7. With reference to early European presence at the Mughal Court, consider the following statements:

1. Captain William Hawkins was the first representative from the East India Company to visit the court of Jahangir, who secured an imperial farman to establish a factory in Surat.
2. Jean-Baptiste Tavernier, a renowned French traveler and diamond merchant, visited India during the reign of Shah Jahan and provided valuable accounts of the Mughal court and infrastructure.

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Captain Hawkins (1609-1611 CE) failed to obtain the farman (imperial decree) for permanent settlement due to Portuguese opposition. It was **Sir Thomas Roe** (1615-1619 CE) who later succeeded in securing the imperial patronage from Jahangir.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Tavernier made six voyages to the East, covering the reigns of **Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb**. His account, *Travels in India*, is a key source on the period, particularly regarding the diamond mines (like Golconda) and the Peacock Throne.

8. Match the following terms related to the life and reign of Jahangir:

Term/Figure	Association/Feature
1. Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri	Jahangir's official autobiography, originally written in Persian.
2. Zanjir-i-Adl	A golden chain connected to a bell installed at the Agra Fort for petitioners seeking justice.
3. Ustad Mansur	Famous court artist who excelled in the realistic depiction of portraits and historical scenes.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri** (or Jahangirnama) is indeed the autobiography of Jahangir, and it was written in the court language, **Persian**.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Zanjir-i-Adl** (Chain of Justice) was Jahangir's famous system of direct appeal, installed outside the **Agra Fort**, symbolizing his commitment to swift justice.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** **Ustad Mansur** was renowned for his mastery in painting **animals and birds**, achieving a level of realism that surpassed his contemporaries, not primarily portraits or historical scenes (which were done by artists like Abul Hasan).

9. With reference to Shah Jahan's successful Deccan policy, consider the following statements:

1. Shah Jahan's primary achievement was the decisive annexation of the Ahmadnagar Sultanate in 1633 CE, eliminating the buffer state between the Mughals and the southern sultanates.
2. The submission of Ahmadnagar was significantly aided by the Mughal's diplomatic success in convincing Shahji Bhonsle, father of Shivaji, to join Mughal service as a 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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The elimination of the Nizam Shahi dynasty and the formal annexation of Ahmadnagar in 1633 CE (after a long campaign) marked a major success for Shah Jahan's Deccan policy.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** **Shahji Bhonsle** fought on the side of the Nizam Shahis and, following the fall of Ahmadnagar, refused to join the Mughals. He later transferred his service and loyalty to the **Adil Shahis of Bijapur**, continuing to challenge Mughal authority.

10. With reference to the Treaties of 1636 signed by Shah Jahan with the Deccan Sultanates, consider the following:

1. The treaty with Bijapur formally settled the boundaries of the respective empires, leading to a long period of peace between the Adil Shahis and the Mughals.
2. The treaty with Golconda (Qutb Shahis) included the key term that the Sultan must cease mentioning the name of the Persian Shah in the Friday Khutba (sermon) and accept the Mughal Emperor as his political overlord.

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The 1636 treaty with Bijapur was a landmark agreement that stabilized the Deccan. It fixed the boundaries of Bijapur, assigned it a large portion of the defunct Ahmadnagar kingdom, and created a period of non-aggression that lasted until 1657 CE.

- **Statement 2: Correct.** The symbolic terms of both 1636 treaties (with Golconda and Bijapur) were crucial. The demand that the Qutb Shah, being a Shi'a ruler, drop the Safavid Shah's name and replace it with the Mughal Emperor's name was a powerful assertion of Mughal suzerainty in the region.

Jahangir, Shah Jahan, and Aurangzeb

1. With reference to the impact of the Treaties of 1636 CE signed by Shah Jahan with the Deccan Sultanates (Bijapur and Golconda), consider the following statements:

1. The treaties temporarily stabilized the Deccan, allowing Shah Jahan to refocus significant imperial resources on the permanent annexation of the volatile North-West frontier province of Qandahar.
2. Bijapur was compelled to accept a new boundary that included a large portion of the defunct Ahmadnagar Sultanate, and was specifically restricted from interfering in the affairs of the Marathas.

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The 1636 peace allowed Shah Jahan to turn his attention to the North-West (Central Asian/Qandahar campaigns), as the Deccan was, for the moment, stable and its rulers had formally submitted to Mughal suzerainty.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** Bijapur did receive a large portion of the Ahmadnagar territory, but the treaty did not impose a specific restriction regarding interference in **Maratha** affairs. In fact, Bijapur's subsequent inability to control powerful Maratha nobles who previously served Ahmadnagar (like Shahji Bhonsle) became an indirect cause of future Mughal-Maratha conflict.

2. Regarding the military campaigns and the status of Qandahar during the mid-17th century, consider the following statements:

1. Qandahar was permanently lost to the Persians during the reign of Jahangir, and Shah Jahan was subsequently unable to recapture it despite multiple large-scale military sieges.
2. Shah Jahan's disastrous Central Asian campaign (Balkh and Badakhshan) was the immediate precursor to the final Persian reconquest of Qandahar in 1649 CE.

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Qandahar was lost to Persia once under Jahangir (1622 CE), but the Mughals **recaptured** it in 1638 CE during Shah Jahan's reign (by Ali Mardan Khan). It was permanently lost again to Shah Abbas II of Persia in 1649 CE, from which point Shah Jahan (and later Aurangzeb) failed to recover it.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The expensive and poorly executed Balkh and Badakhshan campaign (1646-47 CE) thoroughly exhausted the Mughal treasury and demoralized the army, leaving it vulnerable. The Persians exploited this weakness to successfully seize Qandahar in 1649 CE.

3. Consider the following pairs related to the architectural achievements of the reign of Shah Jahan:

Structure/Feature	Location / Architectural Element
1. Moti Masjid	Located within the Agra Fort, constructed entirely in white marble.
2. Pietra Dura	The decorative technique prominently used on the Taj Mahal and the Peacock Throne.
3. Diwan-i-Khas	The Hall of Private Audience in the Red Fort, Delhi, known for its unique arched roof design.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Moti Masjid** (Pearl Mosque) in the Agra Fort was built by Shah Jahan entirely of pure white marble, often cited as an architectural gem.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Pietra Dura** (or Parchin Kari in Persian) is the mosaic technique of inlaying hard and rare stones into marble, famously used for the intricate floral patterns on the Taj Mahal and the description of the Peacock Throne (Takht-i-Taus).
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The **Diwan-i-Khas** in the Delhi Red Fort is known for its beautiful marble and gilded decoration, but its roof design is flat and supported by columns, not a **unique arched roof** design.

4. Match the following figures/events of Jahangir's reign with their principal association:

Figure/Event	Association
1. Prince Khusrau	Executed for supporting the rebellion of Mahabat Khan against the Emperor.
2. Itmad-ud-daula	Nur Jahan's father, who held the post of Chief Diwan, symbolizing the rise of the Junta.
3. Mahabat Khan	Successfully led a coup that briefly imprisoned the Emperor and the Empress.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** Prince Khusrau rebelled immediately after Jahangir's accession (1606 CE) and was subsequently executed (1622 CE) after being imprisoned, but he was **not** executed for supporting

Mahabat Khan. He was executed due to his continued threat to the throne and was likely killed at Shah Jahan's (Prince Khurram's) instance.

- **Pair 2: Correct. Itmad-ud-daula** (Mirza Ghiyas Beg) was Nur Jahan's father and a powerful member of the ruling clique (Junta) until his death in 1622 CE.
- **Pair 3: Correct. Mahabat Khan** led a military coup in 1626 CE in response to the Junta's attempts to curb his power, resulting in the temporary capture of both Jahangir and Nur Jahan.

5. Which one of the following statements about the War of Succession (1657-1659 CE) among Shah Jahan's sons is correct?

- (a) Dara Shikoh was defeated decisively at the Battle of Samugarh, which was the final engagement that led to Aurangzeb's undisputed claim to the throne.
- (b) Prince Shuja was the first of the brothers to declare himself Emperor, but he was soon defeated by Aurangzeb's forces at the Battle of Khajwa.
- (c) Prince Murad Bakhsh was an active military ally of Aurangzeb, who received the governorship of Gujarat and agreed to a partition of the Empire after the victory.
- (d) Shah Jahan was deposed and imprisoned in the Red Fort, Delhi, where he spent his final years being cared for by his eldest daughter, Jahanara.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** While Samugarh was decisive, the final defeat of Dara Shikoh occurred later at the **Battle of Deorai** (1659 CE).
- **(b) Correct. Shuja** (Governor of Bengal) crowned himself first and marched toward Agra but was defeated by Aurangzeb at Khajwa (near Fatehpur, 1659 CE), forcing him to retreat.
- **(c) Incorrect.** Murad Bakhsh was an ally but was soon imprisoned and later executed by Aurangzeb after the initial victories, as Aurangzeb had no intention of partitioning the Empire.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Shah Jahan was imprisoned in the **Agra Fort**, not the Delhi Red Fort (Shahjahanabad).

6. With reference to Aurangzeb's Deccan campaigns, which led to the annexation of Bijapur and Golconda, consider the following statements:

1. The primary political justification for the annexation of the two Deccan Sultanates was their alleged secret collusion with the rising Maratha power led by Shambhaji.
2. The conquest led to a catastrophic financial strain, famously known as the 'Deccan Ulcer', resulting in a deepening of the Jagirdari Crisis across the entire Mughal Empire.
3. The final annexation of the region proved counter-productive, as it removed the protective buffer states and exposed the Mughal administration directly to the vast, dispersed, and decentralized Maratha guerrilla forces.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Bijapur and Golconda often aided the Marathas against the Mughals. This alliance was the stated political justification for the annexations (Bijapur 1686, Golconda 1687).

- **Statement 2: Correct.** The endless, expensive wars in the Deccan drained the imperial treasury and strained the Mansabdari system, intensifying the **Jagirdari Crisis** (shortage of available Jagirs relative to the number of Mansabdars).
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Sultanates acted as a buffer. Their removal meant the Mughals had to deal directly with the highly mobile and resilient Maratha armies across the vast, difficult terrain, which the Mughal forces were ill-equipped to handle, thus accelerating the empire's decay.

7. Which of the following statements correctly reflects the impact of Aurangzeb's religious policy on political stability?

1. The re-imposition of the Jizya in 1679 CE was viewed as an administrative necessity to stabilize the economy after the Deccan wars.
2. The military conflict resulting from the alienation of the Rathore Rajputs of Marwar following the death of Jaswant Singh forced Aurangzeb to divert resources from the Deccan, delaying his campaign there.
3. The rise of the Jat and Satnami rebellions were solely due to Aurangzeb's policy of temple destruction and the persecution of non-Muslim faiths.

Select the correct code:

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Jizya was framed as a religiously orthodox measure (tax on non-Muslim subjects), not purely an economic one, and caused widespread resentment.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The long, costly Marwar War (1679-1707 CE) in Rajasthan diverted massive imperial resources and Mansabdars to the north, significantly weakening the ongoing campaigns in the Deccan.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** While Aurangzeb's orthodoxy contributed, the Jat and Satnami rebellions primarily originated as **socio-economic peasant uprisings** (Jats) or localized conflict that rapidly escalated (Satnamis), fueled by oppressive revenue demands and conflicts with local Mughal officials.

8. Which of the following steps taken by Emperor Aurangzeb is best categorized as a secular administrative reform or legal contribution, rather than a purely religious or orthodox decree?

- (a) The banning of the singing of classical music at the imperial court and the dismissal of royal musicians.
- (b) The abolition of the Jharokha Darshan (public balcony appearance) tradition started by Akbar.
- (c) The compilation of the Fatawa-i-Alamgiri (a compendium of Islamic laws) in Persian.
- (d) The decision to remove the inscription of the Kalima (Islamic creed) from Mughal coins.

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **(a) and (b)** are both orthodox religious decrees aimed at purging court practices of what was deemed 'un-Islamic'.
- (c) The Fatawa-i-Alamgiri is a major legal and religious contribution, but its intent was to make the state administration follow a fixed corpus of Sunni Hanafi law, thus reinforcing orthodoxy, not secularism.
- **(d) Correct.** Aurangzeb ordered the removal of the Kalima from coins to prevent the inscription of the holy text from being defiled by non-believers, such as when coins passed through the hands of Hindus

or were lost/buried in the ground. This was a pragmatic administrative/security decision taken for a religious reason, but distinct from the direct imposition of religious law on the populace.

9. With reference to Aurangzeb's policy toward the Rajputs, consider the following statements:

1. Aurangzeb generally maintained the sanctity of the Watan Jagir system, ensuring Rajput rulers retained their ancestral domains.
2. The Mughal-Rajput alliance first strained after Aurangzeb demanded a substantial Peshkash (tribute) from the Rajput states following his victory in the War of Succession.
3. The final break occurred over Aurangzeb's attempt to directly annex the state of Marwar (Jodhpur) into the Khalisa lands, denying the succession claim of the deceased ruler's minor son.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** While relations deteriorated, the Watan Jagir system remained largely intact, as it was the cornerstone of the alliance.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** While tribute was often exacted, the first major strain that led to war was Aurangzeb's decision to interfere in the succession of **Marwar** (Jodhpur) and his aggressive actions towards the infant Ajit Singh.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Following the death of Maharaja Jaswant Singh (Rathore ruler of Marwar) in 1678 CE, Aurangzeb initially refused to recognize the claim of his infant son, Ajit Singh, and attempted to place Marwar under **Khalisa** (direct Mughal administration), triggering the Rathore rebellion.

10. Which of the following is the most accurate description of the personal character and administrative style of Emperor Aurangzeb (Alamgir)?

- (a) He was an intellectual patron of music and fine arts, yet lacked the decisive military leadership necessary for a stable empire.
- (b) He was a frugal and disciplined individual who devoted himself to state affairs but suffered from extreme paranoia and distrust of his closest nobles.
- (c) He was a great builder and architectural innovator who preferred courtly pleasures and left the day-to-day administration to his efficient Mansabdars.
- (d) He was a skilled politician who believed in religious pluralism, earning him the title Zinda Pir (Living Saint).

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(b) Correct.** Aurangzeb was renowned for his austere lifestyle, strict personal adherence to the tenets of Islam (earning him the nickname Zinda Pir, which is generally associated with his piety, not pluralism), and immense dedication to administrative work. However, his suspicion of almost everyone—including his sons and leading generals—prevented the delegation necessary for managing an empire of the size it had reached, leading to poor morale and administration.
- **(a) Incorrect.** He was an efficient military leader, but he **banned** music and dismissed court musicians.
- **(c) Incorrect.** Shah Jahan was the great builder; Aurangzeb curtailed spending on such projects and preferred a life of austerity.

- **(d) Incorrect.** He was known for his **strict Sunni orthodoxy** and the reversal of many of Akbar's pluralistic policies, which alienated large sections of the non-Muslim population.

Aurangzeb, Economic and Social Life Under the Mughals

1. Which of the following statements best characterizes the state of Mughal Art and Architecture during the reign of Aurangzeb (1658–1707 CE)?

- (a) The period witnessed an absolute cessation of imperial patronage, leading to the collapse of the imperial workshops and the end of all construction activities.
- (b) Imperial patronage was significantly curtailed, but regional Mughal architecture flourished, incorporating new elements, and court artists migrated to provincial kingdoms like Awadh and Hyderabad.
- (c) The focus shifted entirely to massive fortifications and military structures, with a complete rejection of decorative elements and the use of marble.
- (d) Aurangzeb concentrated all construction efforts on building the new capital city of Shahjahanabad, eclipsing the need for provincial architectural projects.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** While patronage was heavily reduced, it was not an absolute cessation. Buildings like the Badshahi Mosque and Bibi Ka Maqbara were constructed.
- **(b) Correct.** Aurangzeb's personal austerity led to severe cuts in architectural and artistic patronage. This caused many skilled artists and builders to seek patronage in the courts of newly powerful regional states (like the Deccan, Rajputana, and later Murshidabad), contributing to the development of distinct regional Mughal styles.
- **(c) Incorrect.** Though utility was prioritized, decorative elements and marble were still used, albeit sparingly (e.g., Badshahi Mosque's ornamentation).
- **(d) Incorrect.** Shahjahanabad was primarily built by Shah Jahan. Aurangzeb's major architectural projects were the **Badshahi Mosque** in Lahore and the **Bibi Ka Maqbara** in Aurangabad.

2. Which of the following architectural features or characteristics are generally associated with the major buildings constructed during Aurangzeb's reign?

- 1. A tendency towards simplicity and severity of design compared to Shah Jahan's ornate style.
- 2. The use of red sandstone as the primary building material, reducing the reliance on expensive pietra dura inlay work.
- 3. The construction of the Badshahi Mosque (Lahore), marked by its massive scale and prominence of the entrance gate and minarets.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Due to his personal austerity and the empire's financial strain from constant warfare, Aurangzeb's architecture favored clean lines and robustness over the excessive ornamentation of his predecessors.

- **Statement 2: Correct.** While some marble was used (like the domes of the Badshahi Mosque), red sandstone was favored for its cost-effectiveness and durability, leading to reduced use of the expensive pietra dura.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Badshahi Mosque (1673 CE) is a classic example of this era's architecture, being one of the world's largest mosques, emphasizing scale and grandeur, though with restrained decoration.

3. With reference to the overall evolution of the Mughal Deccan Policy from Akbar to Aurangzeb, consider the following statements:

1. Akbar's policy was primarily aimed at controlling the strategic trade routes and securing the vulnerable boundaries of Malwa and Gujarat.
2. Jahangir focused on achieving a negotiated settlement with the Nizam Shahi ruler, often accepting the territorial gains made by the able Malik Ambar.
3. Shah Jahan adopted an aggressive policy leading to the destruction of the buffer states and the formal submission of Bijapur and Golconda through the Treaties of 1636 CE.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Akbar's initial interest was securing his southern border (Gondwana, Khandesh) and protecting the economically vital Western India ports (Gujarat) and routes.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Jahangir lacked the resources for a full conquest and was often frustrated by Malik Ambar's tactics. He eventually achieved a partial settlement with Ahmadnagar that, at times, recognized Ambar's effective control over large parts of the territory.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Shah Jahan's policy was decisive: he annexed Ahmadnagar (destroying the buffer state) and forced Bijapur and Golconda to accept Mughal suzerainty in 1636.

4. Match the following Mughal architectural features with their correct description or primary usage:

Feature	Description/Usage
1. Double Dome	Used to heighten the exterior of the structure without making the interior disproportionately large.
2. Charbagh	The formal four-quartered garden layout symbolizing paradise, used in tomb complexes.
3. Iwan	The pointed, tall arched entrance portal, adopted from Persian and Timurid architectural traditions.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Double Dome** (first used prominently in Humayun's Tomb) consists of two layers—an outer, taller shell and an inner, lower shell—achieving monumental scale without overwhelming the interior space.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Charbagh** (four gardens) is a quintessential Mughal feature, dividing the space symmetrically into four parts, typically used for tombs (like Humayun's and the Taj Mahal).
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The **Iwan** is the massive, vaulted archway serving as the grand entrance, a signature feature derived from Persian (Iran) and Timurid architecture.

5. Which of the following was a defining feature of the Mughal Nobility (Mansabdars) during the 17th century?

- (a) Their ranks were strictly hereditary, allowing for the stable creation of landed aristocracies across the empire.
- (b) The system was highly cosmopolitan, with nobles drawn from Iranian, Turani, Rajput, and Indian Muslim groups, balancing ethnic interests.
- (c) Most nobles preferred holding their assignments as Watan Jagirs (hereditary lands) due to their higher revenue yields compared to Tankhwa Jagirs.
- (d) They rarely participated in actual military campaigns, functioning primarily as tax collectors and civilian administrators.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(a) Incorrect.** The Mansab (rank) was **not** hereditary; it was based on service to the Emperor.
- **(b) Correct.** The Mughal nobility was deliberately inclusive and multi-ethnic (Irani, Turani, Rajput, Afghan, Shaykhzada, etc.). This cosmopolitan character was key to the empire's early stability.
- **(c) Incorrect.** Most Jagirs were **Tankhwa Jagirs** (salary assignments) and were transferable. Only a small, special category of ancestral lands for Rajputs were Watan Jagirs.
- **(d) Incorrect.** Mansabdars were primarily military commanders, responsible for recruiting, maintaining, and leading troops in campaigns, which was their central function.

6. With reference to the condition of the Rural Masses and peasantry in the Mughal Empire, consider the following statements:

1. The village headman (Muqaddam or Chaudhari) played a crucial mediating role between the imperial tax collector and the peasants, often enjoying certain privileges and tax concessions.
2. The demand for land revenue was uniformly high across all regions, generally fixed at one-third of the produce, as established by the Dahsala 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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The village headmen and local intermediaries were integral to the revenue collection process, linking the state to the village. They used their position to exert control over the peasantry and were often rewarded with nankar (revenue-free land) or commissions.

- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** While one-third was the standard under Akbar's Dahsala in core areas, the demand was **not uniform**. It varied greatly by region, the type of crop, and the system used (e.g., Batai in frontier regions, higher demands in areas controlled by powerful Zamindars or later under Aurangzeb).

7. Regarding the Agriculture and agricultural practices in the Mughal Empire, consider the following statements:

1. Indian agriculture was highly diversified, with farmers commonly practicing crop rotation and utilizing a sophisticated understanding of soil and seasons.
2. Tobacco and Maize were two major new cash crops introduced to India during this period, significantly altering the cropping pattern in certain regions.
3. The state actively maintained and expanded irrigation works, such as the Shahnahr canal in Punjab, to boost production and secure revenue.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Contemporary sources and foreign accounts confirm the high level of diversification, dual cropping (two harvests a year), and specialized knowledge of the peasantry.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Tobacco and Maize (along with Potato, Chilli, and Pineapple) were introduced to India by the Portuguese in the 17th century, rapidly spreading and becoming important new crops.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Mughals, especially Shah Jahan, were keen builders of irrigation systems. The **Shahnahr** (or Nahr-i-Faiz), an extension of an older canal system, was repaired and extended by Ali Mardan Khan to irrigate parts of the Punjab.

8. Which of the following factors contributed to the significant Growth of Trade (Internal and Foreign) during the 17th century Mughal Empire?

1. Political unification and the establishment of a single, standardized currency system (gold Mohar, silver Rupiya, copper Dam).
2. A standardized system of land revenue collection and high demand, forcing the monetization of the rural economy.
3. The massive expansion of the European trading companies (English, Dutch, French) at coastal centers, increasing demand for Indian goods.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Political unity facilitated safe trade, while the highly reliable and standardized silver Rupiya made transactions easier across the vast empire.

- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Dahsala and Zabti systems demanded revenue be paid in **cash**. This need for cash forced farmers to sell their produce, increasing the flow of money and commercial activity in the hinterland.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** European demand for Indian textiles, spices, indigo, and saltpeter led to a massive influx of silver and gold (bullion) into India and spurred the expansion of production and trade.

9. Match the following types of crafts with their primary characteristics during the Mughal period:

Craft	Characteristic/Center
1. Textile	India's largest manufacturing industry, with Bengal being the leading center for silk and cotton goods.
2. Karkhanas	State-run workshops that produced luxury goods exclusively for the Emperor, nobles, and the royal household.
3. Metalwork	Famous for the production of sophisticated bronze sculptures, particularly in the Deccan region.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Textiles (cotton and silk) were the most important manufacture and export item. Bengal was a major hub for raw silk and muslin.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Karkhanas** were the imperial workshops where highly skilled artisans produced high-quality luxury items (jewellery, weapons, fine garments) under direct state supervision.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** While metalwork (weapons, utensils, etc.) was important, the production of sophisticated **bronze sculptures** was primarily associated with the **Chola dynasty** (South India) from an earlier period, not the Mughal era. Mughal metalwork focused more on damascening and Bidri ware (Deccan).

10. Match the following aspects of Mughal Miniature Painting with their correct association:

Aspect	Association
1. Hamzanama	A monumental early work of miniature painting, commissioned by Akbar, illustrating the adventures of Amir Hamza.
2. Daswanth and Basawan	The two most celebrated artists of Jahangir's court, known for their focus on realism and portraiture.

3. Taswir Khana	The official name for the Imperial Workshop or Studio of Painting established by Akbar.
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How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Hamzanama** (Stories of Hamza) was one of the first and most ambitious projects of the Mughal painting school, initiated by Akbar.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** **Daswanth** and **Basawan** were the most celebrated court painters of **Akbar's** time, known for illustrating dynamic scenes from Persian epics and historical works. The masters of realism and portraiture during **Jahangir's** time were **Ustad Mansur** (fauna/flora) and **Abul Hasan** (portraiture).
- **Pair 3: Correct.** **Taswir Khana** literally translates to 'Picture Workshop' and was the formal name for the Imperial painting studio and library where the artists worked.

The Later Mughals and Regional Kingdoms

1. Consider the following pairs of early Later Mughal Emperors and their significant political actions/events:

Emperor	Significant Action/Event
1. Bahadur Shah I	Released Shahu, the son of Shambhaji, from Mughal captivity, initiating the Maratha civil war.
2. Jahandar Shah	Introduced the detested practice of Ijarah (revenue farming) on a large scale to raise quick revenue.
3. Farrukh Siyar	Issued a Farman in 1717 CE, granting the British East India Company duty-free trading privileges in Bengal.
4. Rafi-us-Darajat	The first Mughal Emperor to rule with the effective control and king-making authority of the Sayyid Brothers.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Bahadur Shah I (1707–1712 CE) released Shahu in 1707, a pragmatic move that immediately ignited a succession struggle within the Marathas (Shahu vs. Tarabai), which diverted Maratha attention from the Mughal Empire.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Jahandar Shah (1712–1713 CE), under the influence of his Wazir Zulfiqar Khan, legalized *Ijarah* (revenue farming) to address the immediate financial crunch, which severely damaged the long-term agrarian health of the empire.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Farrukh Siyar (1713–1719 CE) issued the famous Farman that became known as the Magna Carta of the Company, providing trading concessions that undermined Bengal's economy and contributed to the Company's later political power.
- **Pair 4: Correct.** Rafi-us-Darajat (1719 CE) was one of the two short-reigning emperors elevated by the powerful Sayyid Brothers ("King Makers").

2. Consider the following pairs of mid-Later Mughal Emperors and their reign-defining foreign invasion or internal challenge:

Emperor	Reign-Defining Event
1. Muhammad Shah (Rangeela)	Witnessed the devastating invasion of Nadir Shah and the sacking of Delhi in 1739 CE.
2. Ahmad Shah	Deposed and blinded following the first successful Afghan invasion under Ahmad Shah Abdali (1748-1754 CE).
3. Alamgir II	Was on the throne when the Third Battle of Panipat was fought between the Marathas and the Durrani forces.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Muhammad Shah (1719–1748 CE) was the emperor when Nadir Shah invaded, leading to the loss of the Peacock Throne, the Koh-i-Noor diamond, and a massive loss of prestige and wealth.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Ahmad Shah (1748–1754 CE) reigned during the first series of invasions by Ahmad Shah Abdali and was eventually deposed by his Wazir, Imad-ul-Mulk, and blinded.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The Third Battle of Panipat was fought in 1761 CE. **Alamgir II** had already been murdered by his Wazir Imad-ul-Mulk in 1759 CE. His successor, **Shah Alam II**, was the nominal emperor at the time of the battle.

3. Consider the following pairs related to the final Later Mughal Emperors:

Emperor	Final Event/Contribution
1. Shah Alam II (Ali Gauhar)	Was restored to the Delhi throne in 1772 CE by the Maratha Chief, Mahadji Scindia.

2. Akbar II	Issued coins without the name of the British monarch inscribed, asserting his nominal independence.
3. Bahadur Shah II (Zafar)	The only Mughal emperor to be tried by a foreign power and deported to Rangoon following the Revolt of 1857.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Shah Alam II, after fighting and losing the Battle of Buxar (1764) and living under British protection, returned to Delhi and was placed on the throne by Mahadji Scindia, accepting Maratha protection in return for tribute.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** Akbar II (1806–1837 CE) was virtually a pensioner of the EIC and was forced to accept the Company's authority. His successor, Bahadur Shah II, also remained subservient until 1857.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Bahadur Shah Zafar (1837–1857 CE) was the last Mughal, tried by the British for treason and exiled, marking the official end of the Mughal line.

4. Consider the following pairs of administrative terms under the Mughals:

Term	Meaning/Description
1. Ijarah	The state practice of granting revenue-free land to religious scholars and institutions.
2. Khalisa	Land reserved for the Emperor, the revenue of which was managed directly by the central treasury officials.
3. Peshkash	A fixed amount of tribute or tax paid by autonomous chieftains, often in the form of a gift or presentation.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** *Ijarah* is the practice of **revenue farming** (selling the right to collect revenue to the highest bidder). The grant of revenue-free land for religious purposes was known as **Sadr-us-Sudur** or **Madad-i-Ma'ash**.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** *Khalisa* land was directly managed by imperial agents (*Amil/Karori*), providing the core income for the central administration and royal household.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** *Peshkash* was a term for a fixed annual tribute paid by vassal rulers or autonomous chiefs (e.g., in the Deccan) in recognition of Mughal suzerainty.

5. With reference to the administrative decay and economic challenges in the Later Mughal period, consider the following statements:

1. The office of the Wazir (Prime Minister) became so dominant that he often acted as the effective ruler, marginalizing the Emperor, which undermined the central authority.
2. The increase in the number of Mansabdars, without a corresponding increase in the amount of Paibaqi land, exacerbated the financial crisis of the 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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Powerful *Wazirs* like Zulfiqar Khan, the Sayyid Brothers, and later Nizam-ul-Mulk, concentrated all effective power, reducing the emperor to a figurehead, leading to administrative paralysis.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** **Paibaqi** was the land whose revenue records were finalized but was awaiting formal assignment as a *Jagir*. The **Jagirdari Crisis** was caused by the shortage of ready-to-assign land (Paibaqi), which failed to keep pace with the hyper-inflation of the number of Mansabdars, crippling the system.

6. Which of the following factors correctly identify the structural weaknesses that contributed to the decline and disintegration of the Mughal Empire in the 18th century?

1. The rise of the Marathas and Rajputs to high Mansabdari ranks resulted in the dilution of the Turani and Irani power groups, leading to factional conflicts.
2. The financial and administrative burdens resulting from Aurangzeb's extended and costly Deccan campaigns.
3. The rise of new Regional States whose provincial governors, though nominally subject to Delhi, treated their *subas* as hereditary kingdoms.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The dilution of power was due to the inclusion of **Deccanis** and **Marathas** who were viewed with suspicion by the established Irani and Turani nobles, leading to factionalism and the **Jagirdari Crisis**. Rajputs were already incorporated and generally loyal until Aurangzeb's interference in Marwar.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The draining of the treasury and manpower during the 27-year Deccan war (1681–1707) left the empire financially bankrupt and militarily exhausted.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** States like **Hyderabad** (Nizam-ul-Mulk) and **Bengal** (Murshid Quli Khan) became virtually independent as their governors consolidated local power and transmitted only a symbolic portion of the revenue to Delhi.

7. Consider the following regional states that emerged during the decline of the Mughal Empire:

State	Founder / Nature of State
1. Hyderabad	Established by a former Mughal nobleman who converted his governorship into a hereditary kingdom.
2. Bengal	A state that arose primarily from the successful military resistance of the local Zamindars against the central government.
3. Marwar (Jodhpur)	A Rajput state that utilized the grant of Watan Jagir to assert near-total independence from the center.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Hyderabad was founded by **Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah I**, a former Wazir who left Delhi and established his rule in the Deccan, paying only nominal allegiance to the Mughal Emperor.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** Bengal was established by **Murshid Quli Khan**, a Mughal *Diwan* (Revenue Administrator), who secured the province's autonomy through financial consolidation and centralized administration, not primarily through Zamindar military resistance.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The Rajputs held their ancestral lands as *Watan Jagirs*. When Aurangzeb interfered in the succession of Marwar, the Rathores successfully mobilized around the principle of defending their *Watan*, ultimately winning concessions and asserting autonomy.

8. With reference to the rise of the Marathas, consider the following statements:

1. The Bhakti Movement in Maharashtra, particularly the egalitarian teachings of saints like Sant Tukaram and Eknath, fostered a shared socio-religious identity among the people.
2. Shahji Bhonsle, father of Shivaji, was the first Maratha noble to successfully challenge Mughal authority and defeat the imperial armies in the Deccan.
3. The initial phase of systematic Maratha expansion into North India began during the tenure of the Peshwa Baji Rao I, who advocated for the ideal of *Hindu Pad Padshahi*.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Bhakti tradition in Maharashtra, focusing on equality and local language, certainly provided a cultural context and unity that aided the political consolidation under Shivaji.

- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** While Shahji was an influential noble who served the Deccan Sultanates and was often in conflict with the Mughals, it was his son **Shivaji** who first provided a sustained and successful political challenge to the Mughal Empire, not Shahji.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Baji Rao I (1720–1740 CE) was the most expansionist of the early Peshwas, who successfully launched Maratha raids and control (Chauth) into Malwa, Gujarat, and parts of North India.

9. Regarding the early life and consolidation of power by Shivaji, consider the following statements:

1. Shivaji seized his first independent territory, the fort of Torna, directly from the service of the declining Bahmani Sultanate.
2. Shivaji appointed the Ashta Pradhan (Council of Eight Ministers) only after his formal coronation as *Chhatrapati* at Raigad in 1674 CE.

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Shivaji seized Torna in 1646 CE from the **Bijapur Sultanate**, not the Bahmani Sultanate, which had fragmented into five separate Sultanates long before.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The **Ashta Pradhan**, while having informal precursors, was formalized as a constitutional body—analogueous to a cabinet—only after the coronation, marking the establishment of the independent Maratha Kingdom (*Swarajya*).

10. Consider the following events in the early Maratha-Mughal conflict:

Event	Associated Power/Outcome
1. Afzal Khan Incident (1659)	Shivaji's successful military maneuver against the leading general of the Mughal forces.
2. Shayista Khan Incident (1663)	A daring surprise night attack by Shivaji on the Mughal Governor of the Deccan, leading to heavy losses for the Mughals.
3. Treaty of Purandar (1665)	Forced Shivaji to surrender 23 of his forts to the Mughals and agree to send his son Shambhaji to serve the Emperor.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** Afzal Khan was the general of the **Bijapur Sultanate**, not the Mughal forces. The confrontation resulted in Afzal Khan's death and was a major victory for Shivaji over the Deccan Sultanates.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** Shayista Khan, a high-ranking Mughal governor and Aurangzeb's maternal uncle, was ambushed by Shivaji at Pune in 1663, an event that deeply humiliated the Mughals.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The treaty, signed with the Mughal commander **Raja Jai Singh**, was a significant defeat for Shivaji, forcing him to surrender territory and recognize Mughal suzerainty, paving the way for his visit to Agra.

The Marathas (Post-Shivaji) and Administration

1. Match the following events associated with Shivaji's visit to Agra (1666 CE) with their correct outcomes:

Event	Outcome/Significance
1. Placement in Mansingh's Haveli	The specific location where Shivaji and his son were detained under house arrest by Aurangzeb.
2. Shivaji's Escape Method	Feigned illness and used large baskets of sweets sent out as gifts to evade Mughal guards.
3. Aurangzeb's reaction	The Emperor immediately released all the hostages held by Shivaji to prevent a potential Maratha uprising.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Shivaji and his son **Shambhaji** were detained in the **Jaipur (Mansingh's) Haveli** in Agra following their disastrous presentation at the imperial court.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** This is the historically famous and accepted method of Shivaji's escape, involving feigned illness and being smuggled out in large baskets (often cited as fruit or sweet baskets) used for imperial gifts.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** Far from releasing hostages, Aurangzeb was furious. The escape triggered renewed conflict and led to Shambhaji being imprisoned after Shivaji's death. The remaining hostages were not released immediately.

2. Consider the following events related to Shivaji's period of Rebuilding and Re-conquest (1670–1674 CE):

Event	Significance
1. Second Sack of Surat (1670)	Marked a major source of revenue (Chauth) and shattered the perception of Mughal invincibility in Western India.
2. Capture of Salher Fort	Considered the greatest pitched battle of the time, resulting in a decisive Maratha victory over the Mughal army.

3. Coronation at Raigad (1674)	Performed by the priest Ganga Bhat, it formally legitimized Shivaji as the Chhatrapati (Sovereign Monarch).
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How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The Second Sack of Surat, an immensely wealthy port, filled the Maratha treasury and confirmed Shivaji's aggressive resurgence against the Mughals.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The Battle of **Salher** (in Baglan, 1672) was a massive confrontation where the Marathas decisively defeated a large Mughal contingent, establishing them as a dominant force in the Deccan.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Shivaji's coronation was a political necessity to establish his legitimacy over rival nobles, proclaim independence from Bijapur and Delhi, and formally organize his administration.

3. With reference to the contributions of Shivaji to the Maratha administration and society, consider the following statements:

1. He promoted the use of Marathi and Sanskrit in official correspondence, replacing Persian, and commissioned the preparation of the Rajya Vyavahar Kosha (a dictionary of administrative terms).
2. He abolished the system of granting Jagirs to his military and civil officials and strictly paid his soldiers and officers in cash.
3. His land revenue system was based on a scientific measurement (Kathi) of land and initially fixed the state demand at 40% of the gross produce.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Shivaji consciously fostered a distinct Maratha identity and administrative tradition by promoting regional languages in his court.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Shivaji opposed the Jagirdari system (which bred local power bases) and insisted on paying his forces in cash (Naqd), although later Marathas reverted to the Jagir system.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** While Shivaji's system was based on measurement (Kathi) and scientific assessment, the state demand was initially fixed at **33%** and later raised to **40%** by **Anna Ji Datto** (not 40% initially).

4. Consider the following statements regarding the reign of Chhatrapati Sambhaji (1680–1689 CE):

1. Sambhaji provided political refuge and support to Prince Akbar, the rebellious son of Aurangzeb, which was a major factor that drew Aurangzeb to the Deccan.
2. Sambhaji continued the policy of the Ashta Pradhan and rigorously followed his father's centralized administrative practices throughout his reign.

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Prince Akbar rebelled against Aurangzeb in 1681 CE and fled to the Maratha court, where Sambhaji offered him protection. This act was the immediate trigger for Aurangzeb's permanent move to the Deccan in 1682 CE, marking a turning point in Mughal-Maratha relations.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** Sambhaji was generally distrustful of his father's ministers and effectively ended the functioning of the **Ashta Pradhan** by relying heavily on his own favorite, the Brahmin poet **Kavi Kalash**, thereby increasing centralization but also internal opposition.

5. With respect to the conflicts and outcomes during Sambhaji's reign, consider the following:

1. Sambhaji successfully concluded a treaty with the Portuguese at Goa, securing their neutrality in the Maratha-Mughal wars.
2. Sambhaji's capture and brutal execution by Aurangzeb led to the immediate collapse of the Maratha kingdom and a period of direct Mughal rule over the Deccan.

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

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Sambhaji was often in direct conflict with the Portuguese, attacking their territories (like Goa and Janjira) and attempting to counter their naval power. He did not achieve a long-term alliance or treaty of neutrality.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** While Sambhaji's execution in 1689 CE was a massive blow, it acted as a catalyst for a **Maratha War of Independence** (1689–1707). Under the leadership of **Rajaram** and later **Tarabai**, the Marathas fiercely resisted, preventing the complete collapse of the kingdom.

6. Following the execution of Sambhaji, the Maratha kingdom was plunged into a prolonged conflict known as the Maratha War of Independence. Who among the following led the Maratha resistance by shifting the capital from Raigad to the safer southern fort of Gingee?

- (a) Shahu
- (b) Tarabai
- (c) Rajaram
- (d) Balaji Vishwanath

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Rajaram** (1689–1700 CE), Sambhaji's younger half-brother, was crowned Chhatrapati after Sambhaji's death. Facing an inevitable siege by the Mughals, he fled the capital, Raigad, and established

a new, highly strategic capital at the remote **Gingee Fort** (in modern Tamil Nadu), from where he directed the guerrilla war.

7. With reference to the events after the death of Rajaram in 1700 CE, consider the following statements:

1. Tarabai, Rajaram's senior widow, assumed control of the government in the name of her infant son, Shivaji II, and sustained the Maratha resistance against Aurangzeb.
2. The release of Shahu from Mughal captivity by Bahadur Shah I led directly to the Battle of Khed (1707 CE), which divided the Maratha leadership into the Satara and Kolhapur factions.

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Tarabai proved to be an extremely able administrator and military leader. She transformed the War of Independence into a popular movement and continued the fight until Aurangzeb's death.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Shahu's release by Bahadur Shah I was a calculated move to sow division. The ensuing civil war culminated in the **Battle of Khed**, where Shahu defeated Tarabai's forces, establishing his claim at Satara and forcing Tarabai to retreat to Kolhapur.

8. The reign of Shahu (1708–1749 CE) is politically significant for:

1. The Treaty of Wana (1731 CE), which formally recognized the separate Maratha kingdom of Kolhapur under Sambhaji II.
2. The final end of the Mughal-Maratha conflict, as Shahu was fully accepted as the rightful ruler of the Maratha state by the Mughal Emperor.
3. The rise of the Chitpavan Brahmin lineage of Peshwas, who transformed the office from a ministerial role into the de facto executive head of the Maratha Confederacy.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Treaty of Wana formally divided the Maratha state into two separate kingdoms: Satara (under Shahu) and Kolhapur (under Sambhaji II).
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** While Shahu achieved recognition and Mughal grants of Chauth and Sardeshmukhi in the Deccan, the conflict with the Mughals did not end. The grants formalized Maratha rights but ensured continued friction over collection and territory.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Shahu appointed **Balaji Vishwanath** (the first Peshwa) and his successors, who were Chitpavan Brahmins, allowing them to centralize power and dominate the Maratha politics, initiating the age of the Peshwas.

9. Which of the following statements accurately describes the position and evolution of the Peshwa in the Maratha administration?

- (a) The Peshwa was the equivalent of the Mughal Diwan-i-Kul (Chief Revenue Minister) and his role remained strictly financial until the death of Shahu.
- (b) The office of the Peshwa was made hereditary during the reign of Shahu, who was himself completely dependent on the Peshwa for military leadership.
- (c) The Peshwa was initially the Chief Minister and a member of the Ashta Pradhan, but his office became synonymous with the Chhatrapati after the Treaty of Sangola.
- (d) Unlike the Chhatrapati, the Peshwa had a permanent staff of administrators but lacked the authority to lead armies in the field.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- (a) Incorrect. The Peshwa was the Prime Minister (head of administration), not just the Chief Revenue Minister. The position became executive head much earlier.
- **(b) Correct.** Shahu made the Peshwa's office hereditary (starting with Balaji Vishwanath), and being largely confined to Satara, he relied entirely on the Peshwa (Baji Rao I and his son) for all military and political expansion.
- (c) Incorrect. The Treaty of Sangola (1750 CE) formalized the Peshwa's de facto power over the Chhatrapati, but the position did not become "synonymous" with the title of Chhatrapati. The Chhatrapati remained the ceremonial head.
- (d) Incorrect. The Peshwas were famous for their military prowess, especially Baji Rao I.

10. Match the following Maratha administrative titles/concepts with their appropriate roles:

Title/Concept	Role/Designation
1. Amatya	The Chief of Intelligence and Communications in the Maratha administration.
2. Sonopant Dabir	The Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs, Treaties, and diplomacy.
3. Sar-i-Naubat	Commander-in-Chief of the Maratha armed forces.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Incorrect.** **Amatya** (or Mazumdar) was the **Accountant General** or Finance Minister. The Chief of Intelligence was the **Mantri** (or Waqia-Navis).
- **Pair 2: Correct.** **Sonopant Dabir** (or Sumant) was the Minister of Foreign Affairs, responsible for dealing with foreign states and ensuring the observance of treaties.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** **Sar-i-Naubat** (or Senapati) was the title for the Commander-in-Chief of the Maratha forces, the highest military position under the Chhatrapati.

The Peshwas and Early Ministers

1. With reference to the early Maratha ministers who were not of the Bhat (Chitpavan) lineage of Peshwas, consider the following statements:

1. Moropant Trimbak Pingle (the first Peshwa under Shivaji) was a major architectural patron who focused on developing the new capital city of Raigad.
2. Shyampant Kulkarni Ranzekar was briefly removed from the post of Peshwa due to his involvement in the succession conflict following Shivaji's death, but was later reinstated by Sambhaji.
3. Ramchandra Pant Amatya served as the Accountant General (Amatya) during Shivaji's time and later penned the influential Adnyapatra on Maratha statecraft.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Moropant Pingle, as the first Peshwa, played a crucial role in the development and fortification of the new capital, Raigad, and other architectural projects.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Shyampant Ranzekar was indeed temporarily removed and imprisoned by Sambhaji due to his support for Rajaram in the succession struggle, but was later re-employed by Sambhaji.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Ramchandra Pant Amatya, who served the Marathas from Shivaji's time, became the regent for Rajaram and is renowned for his work **Adnyapatra** (Royal Edict), a comprehensive treatise on Maratha policy, military strategy, and administration.

2. Which of the following is the most accurate description of the political standing and role of Moreswar Pingale in the Maratha administration?

- (a) He was the founder of the Hereditary Peshwa system during the reign of Shahu, succeeding the Bhat family line.
- (b) He was the father of the first Sar-i-Naubat (Commander-in-Chief) and helped establish the standing army of Shivaji.
- (c) He was the first official to hold the title of Peshwa under Shivaji and served as the chief of the Ashta Pradhan Council.
- (d) He was a contemporary of Sambhaji who successfully negotiated the Treaty of Purandar with Raja Jai Singh of Amber.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(c) Correct. Moreswar Trimbak Pingle** (also known as Moropant Pingle) was Shivaji's most trusted minister, appointed as the first Peshwa (Chief Minister), and was the head of the **Ashta Pradhan** Council.
- (a) Incorrect. The hereditary system was founded by Balaji Vishwanath.
- (b) Incorrect. He was the Peshwa, not the father of the Sar-i-Naubat.
- (d) Incorrect. The Treaty of Purandar (1665) was negotiated a decade before Moreswar's death, and the lead negotiator from the Mughal side was Raja Jai Singh.

3. Regarding the administrative and strategic contributions of Ramchandra Pant Amatya, consider the following statements:

1. He served as the Chief Finance Minister (Amatya) under Shivaji and later held the highest ministerial post during the minority of Rajaram.
2. His military policy advocated for a protracted guerrilla war, focusing on protecting the Mavals (Western Ghat valleys) rather than engaging in direct pitched battles against the Mughals.
3. The Adnyapatra specifically outlines the need for a strong navy and lays down regulations for the appointment and conduct of the Ashta Pradhan ministers.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** He held the Amatya post under Shivaji and became the key figure (acting as Hukumatpanah) directing Maratha defense after Sambhaji's execution, saving the state during Rajaram's minority.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** His strategy during the Maratha War of Independence was centered on highly effective guerrilla warfare and the use of forts to drain the Mughal resources.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** The Adnyapatra is a comprehensive treatise that covers all aspects of statecraft, including the administration of forts, the organization of the navy, and ministerial duties.

4. Which of the following was the most significant diplomatic achievement of Balaji Vishwanath Bhatt (Peshwa, 1713–1720 CE)?

- (a) The successful conquest and annexation of the entire Konkan coast, ending the power of the Siddi of Janjira.
- (b) The negotiation of the Treaty of Sangola (1750 CE), which made the Peshwa the de facto head of the Maratha Confederacy.
- (c) The securing of the Mughal Farman of 1719 CE, recognizing the Maratha right to collect Chauth and Sardeshmukhi across the entire six subas of the Deccan.
- (d) The establishment of the Gaikwad power in Gujarat after defeating the Mughal governor of the province.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(c) Correct.** Balaji Vishwanath journeyed to Delhi and, through a deal with the Sayyid Brothers, secured the Farman (Royal Edict) of 1719 CE from the weak Mughal Emperor Farrukh Siyar. This Farman was a revolutionary diplomatic coup, as it gave legal sanction (though disputed by the Emperor himself) to the Maratha claim over the Deccan, marking the official beginning of Maratha expansion. This Farman is often called the **Magna Carta of the Marathas**.
- **(b) Incorrect.** The Treaty of Sangola was signed under Balaji Baji Rao (Nana Sahib I).
- **(a) and (d) Incorrect.** These were achievements of the subsequent Peshwas, mainly Baji Rao I.

5. Which of the following statements accurately reflects the contributions and administrative policy of Peshwa Baji Rao I (1720–1740 CE)?

1. He popularized the vision of 'Hindu Pad Padshahi' (Hindu Empire) and first led Maratha military expeditions into North Indian territories like Malwa and Gujarat.

2. He established a centralized administration in Pune, ensuring that the Chhatrapati at Satara retained all military and judicial authority.
3. His administrative policy led to the establishment of the semi-autonomous Maratha houses (Holkar, Scindia, Gaikwad) by granting them large, permanent Saranjami Jagirs.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Baji Rao I was the most expansionist Peshwa. He pushed the Maratha frontier across the Narmada and into North India (Malwa, Bundelkhand, Delhi).
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** While he paid nominal allegiance to Shahu (Chhatrapati), Baji Rao I effectively consolidated all military and executive authority under the Peshwa's office in Pune.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Baji Rao I initiated the policy of decentralization through the Saranjami system, assigning large territories (revenue collection rights) in newly conquered areas to loyal military commanders like Ranoji Scindia, Malhar Rao Holkar, and Damaji Gaikwad. This later led to the Maratha Confederacy.

6. With reference to the tenure of Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao (Nana Sahib I) (1740–1761 CE), consider the following statements:

1. He successfully annexed the state of Hyderabad following the decisive Maratha victory at the Battle of Rakshasbhuvan.
2. The Treaty of Sangola (1750 CE), signed during his period, legally transferred all executive and military power from the Chhatrapati to the Peshwa.
3. His attempt to intervene in Punjab and Kabul against the forces of Ahmad Shah Abdali led directly to the Third Battle of Panipat.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** The Battle of Rakshasbhuvan (1763) was fought by his successor, **Madhav Rao I**, against the Nizam of Hyderabad.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Following Shahu's death, the Treaty of Sangola was a bloodless revolution that cemented the Peshwa's position as the de facto ruler of the Maratha Confederacy, formalizing the shift of the capital and power center to Pune.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Balaji Baji Rao's aggressive northern policy, which extended Maratha control up to Attock and Lahore (Punjab), directly clashed with the interests of Ahmad Shah Abdali, leading to the Third Battle of Panipat (1761).

7. Peshwa Madhav Rao I (1761–1772 CE) is often regarded as one of the greatest Peshwas primarily because of which of the following actions?

- (a) He was the first to successfully defeat the British in the First Anglo-Maratha War and secure the Treaty of Salbai.
- (b) He stabilized the Maratha Confederacy following the disaster of Panipat, restored Maratha authority over North Indian powers like the Jats and Rajputs, and re-captured Delhi.
- (c) He introduced the comprehensive revenue reform known as the Ryotwari system across the core Maratha territories.
- (d) He annexed Mysore after successfully defeating Haider Ali at the Battle of Srirangapatna.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(b) Correct.** Madhav Rao I inherited a crumbling empire immediately after the defeat at Panipat. Through his exceptional administrative skill and military leadership, he defeated the Nizam (Rakshasbhuvan), curbed the power of the internal Maratha chiefs (Scindia, Holkar), and reasserted Maratha influence over the North by the time of his death, earning him the title of the Great Restorer.
- (a) Incorrect. The First Anglo-Maratha War began after his death. The Treaty of Salbai (1782) was signed during Sawai Madhav Rao's minority.
- (c) Incorrect. Revenue systems were modified, but the Ryotwari system was a British creation.
- (d) Incorrect. He fought against Haider Ali but did not annex Mysore; the final defeat of Tipu Sultan (Hyder Ali's successor) was achieved by the British.

8. The political instability that engulfed the Maratha state following the death of Madhav Rao I centered around the conflict between Narayan Rao and Raghunath Rao. This conflict led directly to which of the following events?

- (a) The rise of the Gaekwad family as an independent power base in Gujarat.
- (b) The formation of the Bara Bhai Council (Council of Twelve Brothers) under Nana Fadnavis.
- (c) The permanent shift of the Maratha capital from Pune to the safety of Satara.
- (d) The invasion of the Maratha territories by the Nizam of Hyderabad, seizing the opportunity to reclaim lost territories.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(b) Correct.** The murder of Peshwa Narayan Rao (1773) by guards allegedly instigated by his uncle Raghunath Rao (Raghoba) created a vacuum. To prevent the usurper Raghunath Rao from seizing power, a group of powerful ministers and military chiefs, led by **Nana Fadnavis** and Mahadji Scindia, formed the **Bara Bhai Council** to rule in the name of the infant Sawai Madhav Rao.
- (a) (c) and (d) Incorrect. While the Nizam and Gaikwad were involved in the larger politics, the immediate and direct result of this internal conflict was the formation of the Council.

9. The administration during the minority of Sawai Madhav Rao (1774–1795 CE) was primarily characterized by:

- (a) A period of administrative chaos and military decline due to constant infighting among the Council members.
- (b) The effective centralization of power by Mahadji Scindia, who controlled both the military and diplomatic affairs of the Confederacy.
- (c) The establishment of a stable, collegial government dominated by the wise diplomacy of Nana Fadnavis and the military strength of Mahadji Scindia.
- (d) A policy of isolationism, focusing entirely on internal consolidation and avoiding any conflict with the British or Mysore.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(c) Correct.** This period is often called the 'Pentarchy' or the time of the 'Bara Bhai' Council. It was successful due to the effective balance between **Nana Fadnavis** (the master statesman and diplomat of Pune) and **Mahadji Scindia** (the powerful military chief and effective restorer of Mughal authority in Delhi). Together, they successfully navigated the First Anglo-Maratha War and maintained the Confederacy's power.
- (b) Incorrect. Mahadji was powerful, but his power was balanced by Nana Fadnavis in Pune.

10. Which of the following events ultimately sealed the fate of the Maratha Confederacy and led to the political and territorial end of the Peshwa's rule?

- (a) The defeat in the Third Battle of Panipat (1761), which broke the backbone of the Maratha army.
- (b) The signing of the Treaty of Bassein (1802) by Bajji Rao II, placing himself under the protection of the British Subsidiary Alliance System.
- (c) The death of Nana Fadnavis, which eliminated the key figure capable of maintaining Maratha unity.
- (d) The failure to defeat Tipu Sultan of Mysore, diverting resources and weakening the Maratha position.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(b) Correct.** Bajji Rao II, the weakest and last Peshwa, was defeated by the Holkars in 1802 and fled to the British. By signing the **Treaty of Bassein**, he surrendered Maratha independence for British protection. This act was resisted by the Scindia and Bhonsle families, leading directly to the Second Anglo-Maratha War, which cemented British supremacy and began the systematic dismantling of the Confederacy, culminating in the Third Anglo-Maratha War (1817-1818) where Bajji Rao II was defeated and exiled.
- (a) Panipat was a major blow, but the empire recovered under Madhav Rao I.
- (c) Fadnavis's death (1800) certainly hastened the collapse by removing the unifying force, but the Treaty of Bassein was the decisive political and legal instrument for British control

Maratha Confederacy and Administration

1. With reference to the establishment of the Gaikwads of Baroda, consider the following statements:

1. The Gaikwad dynasty was founded by Pilaji Rao Gaikwad as a military commander (Sardar) under the first Peshwa, Balaji Vishwanath.
2. The Gaikwads established their authority in Gujarat by successfully defeating the Bhonsles of Nagpur in the western region of the province.
3. The city of Baroda became the administrative capital of the Gaikwad state only after the formal signing of a Subsidiary Alliance Treaty with the British.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** The Gaikwads rose as Maratha military leaders under the Peshwas, with Pilaji Rao Gaikwad establishing the dynasty's power base in Gujarat during Bajji Rao I's reign.

- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The Gaikwads contended with the Mughal governors and other local chieftains in Gujarat. The Bhonsles were dominant in the **Eastern** regions (Berar/Nagpur), not Gujarat.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Baroda was captured and made the capital earlier, after the decline of the Mughal authority in the region and before the Gaikwads entered into a full Subsidiary Alliance with the British.

2. Which of the following events marks the critical Shift in Power and Leadership Transition within the Maratha Empire, fundamentally changing the structure from a Chhatrapati-centric state to a Peshwa-centric Confederacy?

- (a) The formal coronation of Shivaji as Chhatrapati at Raigad in 1674 CE.
- (b) The release of Shahu from Mughal captivity by Bahadur Shah I in 1707 CE.
- (c) The appointment of Balaji Vishwanath Bhatt as the hereditary Peshwa in 1713 CE.
- (d) The Treaty of Sangola (1750 CE), signed during the reign of Balaji Baji Rao.

Correct Answer: (d)

Explanation:

- **(d) Correct.** While the power shift began with the appointment of Balaji Vishwanath (c), the **Treaty of Sangola** made the shift legal and formal. It transferred the executive and military authority from the Chhatrapati (who remained a figurehead at Satara) to the Peshwa (who was now the de facto ruler based in Pune), giving him complete control over the administration and the military command.

3. Consider the following statements regarding the Holkars of Indore and the Bhonsles of Nagpur:

1. The Holkar dynasty was founded by Malhar Rao Holkar, who was granted the revenue rights of Indore by Peshwa Baji Rao I.
2. The Bhonsles of Nagpur were the only prominent Maratha House in the Confederacy whose founders were not part of Shivaji's Swarajya (core state).
3. The Bhonsles were the first Maratha power to successfully collect Chauth and Sardeshmukhi from the Mughal provinces of Bengal and Orissa.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Malhar Rao Holkar rose from humble origins to become one of the most trusted military commanders of Baji Rao I, laying the foundation for the Holkar dynasty at Indore.
- **Statement 2: Incorrect.** The Bhonsles of Nagpur trace their lineage back to the same family tree as Shivaji's father, Shahji Bhonsle, but they were not part of the core Swarajya established by Shivaji. This statement is subtly flawed because, while they were not part of the **Peshwa-controlled Confederacy**, their origin is definitely tied to the broader Maratha lineage. However, the correct answer selection often hinges on statement 3. Let's re-evaluate based on the most distinct aspect: the **Gaekwad** family was also not from the core Swarajya. The Bhonsles, under Raghuji Bhonsle, operated largely independently of the Peshwa's central command structure and often directly rivaled the Peshwa.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Raghuji Bhonsle of Nagpur was primarily responsible for extending Maratha influence and collecting tribute (Chauth) from the eastern provinces of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa.

4. Regarding the Scindias of Gwalior dynasty, which rose to prominence in the 18th century, consider the following statements:

1. The dynasty was founded by Ranoji Scindia, who was granted large territories in Malwa by the Peshwa.
2. Mahadji Scindia transformed the Gwalior army into a modern military force by employing French military experts.
3. Mahadji Scindia's authority extended so far that he was the de facto controller of the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II in Delhi, acting as the Vakil-i-Mutlaq (Regent of the Empire).

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** Ranoji Scindia, a Maratha nobleman, rose under Baji Rao I and established the dynasty's headquarters at Ujjain (later shifted to Gwalior).
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Mahadji Scindia was the most powerful Maratha chief post-Panipat. He modernized his army on the European pattern, trained by French officers like de Boigne.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Mahadji Scindia re-captured Delhi for the Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II in 1772 and was later granted the prestigious title of **Vakil-i-Mutlaq** (Deputy Regent) by the Emperor in 1784, making him the supreme political and military authority in North India.

5. With reference to Shivaji's Central Administration, consider the following statements:

1. The Chhatrapati was considered the absolute and supreme head of the state, personally managing all revenue and defense matters without delegation of authority.
2. The Ashta Pradhan (Council of Eight Ministers) functioned primarily as an advisory body, and the ministers were not collectively responsible to the sovereign.

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** While the Chhatrapati was supreme, the administration was highly decentralized and delegated through the eight ministers of the Ashta Pradhan. Shivaji himself believed in delegation, although the power ultimately rested with him.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The Ashta Pradhan was an **advisory** council. The ministers were appointed by and solely responsible to the King (Chhatrapati), not to each other or a collective body, reflecting the personal, not parliamentary, nature of the monarchy.

6. Match the following high-ranking officers of Shivaji's Ashta Pradhan with their primary roles:

Official Title	Primary Role
1. Peshwa	Chief Minister and head of the administration.

2. Surnavis / Sachiv	In charge of the Royal Correspondence, ensuring royal writs were drafted and dispatched.
3. Sar-i-Naubat / Senapati	The chief justice and religious head, responsible for judicial and ceremonial functions.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Peshwa** was the Mukhya Pradhan (Chief Minister), the foremost among the eight.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The **Surnavis** (or Chitnis/Sachiv) was the Superintendent of Royal Correspondence, responsible for checking and drafting official letters and orders.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** **Sar-i-Naubat** or **Senapati** was the Commander-in-Chief of the forces. The official responsible for judicial and ceremonial functions was the **Nyayadish** (Chief Justice) or the **Pandit Rao** (Religious Head).

7. Match the following ministers of the Ashta Pradhan with their primary responsibilities:

Official Title	Primary Responsibility
1. Amatya / Majumdar	Keeper of the Accounts and Examiner-General.
2. Sumant / Dabir	Maintenance of the Royal Diary and Court Records.
3. Waqenavis / Mantri	Management of Foreign Affairs and diplomacy.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The **Amatya** (or Majumdar) was the Finance Minister or Accountant General, checking all accounts of public income and expenditure.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** The **Sumant** (or Dabir) was the Foreign Secretary or Minister of Foreign Affairs, dealing with envoys and treaties.
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** The **Waqenavis** (or Mantri) was the Minister of Interior, Intelligence, and Household Affairs, responsible for recording daily proceedings.

8. The Maratha administration under Shivaji had a clear hierarchy of local officers. Which of the following sequence represents the correct descending administrative hierarchy from the largest division to the smallest?

- (a) Prant → Mahal → Mauza
- (b) Mahal → Prant → Mauza
- (c) Mauza → Mahal → Prant
- (d) Prant → Pargana → Mauza

Correct Answer: (a)

Explanation:

- **(a) Correct.** The Maratha administrative structure was generally hierarchical:
 1. **Prant** (Province/Suba) – Largest division.
 2. **Tarfs** or **Mahal** (District) – Sub-division of a Prant.
 3. **Mauza** (Village) – The smallest unit.

Note: The term Pargana was often used interchangeably with Mahal or Tarfs to refer to a district or revenue unit.

9. With reference to Shivaji's Provincial Administration, consider the following statements:

1. Shivaji often appointed the same individual to hold both the revenue (Mughal Diwan) and military (Subedar) charges for a province to ensure administrative efficiency.
2. The provincial heads of key areas were appointed by the King himself, and they were strictly prevented from making their posts hereditary.
3. Unlike the Mughals, Shivaji's system deliberately did not rely on the powerful local Zamindars, instead collecting revenue through state-appointed officials like the Karkuns.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Shivaji avoided combining both military and revenue power in the hands of one provincial official, precisely to prevent the rise of powerful, semi-independent governors (like the Mughals suffered).
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Shivaji's policy, unlike the later Peshwas, was to ensure that all posts were non-hereditary and tenure-bound to maintain central control.
- **Statement 3: Correct.** Shivaji systematically tried to bypass the traditional landed intermediaries (like Zamindars or Deshmukhs), preferring to deal directly with the village headmen and the peasantry through state officials (Karkuns) to maximize revenue and reduce local despotism.

10. Match the following lowest administrative units under the Marathas with their supervising official:

Administrative Unit	Supervising Official
1. Prants (Province)	Subedar or Sarsubedar
2. Tarfs / Parganas	Havaladar or Karkun
3. Mauzas (Village)	Patil (Headman)

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** The largest unit, the **Prant** (Province), was under the supervision of a high-ranking officer like the **Sarsubedar** or Subedar.
- **Pair 2: Correct.** The next level, the **Tarfs** or **Parganas** (districts/sub-divisions), was often administered by a **Havaladar** or a **Karkun** (a general administrator/clerk).
- **Pair 3: Correct.** The smallest unit, the **Mauza** (village), was managed by the traditional village headman, the **Patil** (revenue/police head), assisted by the Kulkarni (accountant).

Maratha Administration and Regional Dynasties

1. With reference to the military administration of the Marathas under Shivaji, consider the following pairs:

Maratha Military Term	Designation/Role
1. Paga	Permanent cavalry maintained directly by the state.
2. Bargir	A soldier who owned his own horse and equipment.
3. Siledars	Troops who were paid a regular salary in cash.
4. Havaladar	Commander of 125 cavalry troops.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Paga (or Risala) was the regular, standing army cavalry, directly paid and equipped by the state.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** A Bargir was a soldier supplied with a horse and arms by the state (Paga). The soldier who provided his own horse and equipment was the **Siledar** (or Silladar).
- **Pair 3: Incorrect.** Siledars were irregular cavalry and were usually not paid a regular cash salary; they were paid through their war booty or revenue grants (a system Shivaji sought to minimize). Bargirs were the ones paid in cash.
- **Pair 4: Correct.** The military hierarchy included the **Havaladar** commanding 125 Bargirs, the Jumledar commanding five Havalgars, and so on.

2. With reference to the revenue administration of the Marathas, consider the following pairs:

Term	Concept/Function
1. Kathi	The standard measuring rod used for land survey.
2. Chauth	1/10th of the land revenue demanded by the Marathas for not plundering the territory.

3. Mokasa	The right to revenue collection given to the Saranjami military chiefs.
4. Karkun	A revenue official responsible for the maintenance of village land records.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair
- (b) Only two pairs
- (c) Only three pairs
- (d) All four pairs

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Pair 1: Correct.** Kathi was the measuring rod used in the scientific survey system introduced by Shivaji, replacing the arbitrary cord measurement.
- **Pair 2: Incorrect.** Chauth was 1/4th (25%) of the revenue paid to the Marathas. Sardeshmukhi was the 1/10th (10%) demanded by the Marathas as hereditary claim on the Deccan.
- **Pair 3: Correct.** Mokasa was the grant of revenue rights (a form of Jagir) given to Saranjami or military leaders by the Peshwas for maintaining troops.
- **Pair 4: Correct.** Karkun was a state-appointed revenue official (Kamavisdar or Mamlatdar) who supervised the collection in a district/Pargana and managed local affairs.

3. With reference to the assertion of independence by the Nawabs of Bengal in the 18th century, consider the following statements:

1. Murshid Quli Khan formally and openly defied the Mughal Emperor by refusing to send any annual tribute to Delhi.
2. He shifted the capital of Bengal from Dhaka to Murshidabad to ensure closer supervision of trade and revenue collection.
3. Alivardi Khan seized power by replacing the ruling family and thereafter successfully prevented the Marathas (Bhonsles of Nagpur) from claiming Chauth over the province.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Incorrect.** Murshid Quli Khan asserted his autonomy by centralizing power (combining the posts of Diwan and Subedar) and transferring key Mughal officials, but he **never formally stopped sending tribute** to Delhi, maintaining a façade of imperial loyalty until his death.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** He shifted the capital from Dhaka (remote) to Murshidabad (more central) to better manage the province and the influx of European traders.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** Alivardi Khan usurped power from the family of Sarfaraz Khan. While he initially resisted the Marathas fiercely, he was eventually compelled to buy peace by agreeing to pay the Chauth of Bengal and ceding Orissa to the Bhonsles of Nagpur.

4. Consider the primary challenges faced by the Nawabs of Bengal, such as Siraj-ud-Daula, against the English East India Company (EIC):

1. The Nawabs were frequently undermined by internal conspiracies involving powerful local bankers and ambitious military commanders.
2. The EIC leveraged the misuse of the Dastak (free trade permit) primarily to avoid internal tolls on goods meant for the Bengal market.
3. The Nawabs faced continuous threats from the Marathas and the Nizam of Hyderabad, forcing them to divert troops and treasury away from Calcutta.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

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

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** This was the most critical internal challenge. Conspirators like **Mir Jafar** (Commander-in-Chief), **Jagat Seth** (chief banker), and Omi Chand were instrumental in Siraj-ud-Daula's defeat at Plassey.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** The **Dastak**, granted for duty-free goods exported/imported by the Company, was illegally extended by EIC servants to cover their **private trade**. This allowed them to bypass the local tolls (rahdari), causing massive revenue loss and resentment among local traders.
- **Statement 3: Incorrect.** By the time of Siraj-ud-Daula (1756), the Maratha threat in Bengal had been settled by Alivardi Khan's concessions (ceding Orissa), and the Nizam of Hyderabad was not a direct threat to Bengal's borders. The major external threats were the Marathas (earlier) and the British (later).

5. The Battle of Plassey (1757) is considered a turning point in the history of British India primarily because it:

- (a) Secured the Diwani (revenue collection rights) of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa for the English East India Company.
- (b) Led to the permanent exile of the Nawabs of Bengal and the introduction of the Subsidiary Alliance System in the province.
- (c) Transformed the English East India Company from a purely commercial entity into a political and military power broker controlling a rich Indian province.
- (d) Decisively defeated the French challenge in Bengal, making the British the dominant European power in Eastern India.

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(c) Correct.** Plassey did not immediately grant the Diwani (that happened after Buxar, 1764), nor did it introduce the Subsidiary Alliance (which came later). Its crucial impact was that it was a political coup, allowing the British to install a puppet Nawab (Mir Jafar) and use the vast resources of Bengal for military expansion, thus transitioning the EIC's role from a trading body to a kingmaker and political ruler.

6. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the assertion of independence by Burhan-ul-Mulk Sa'adat Khan, the founder of the autonomous kingdom of Awadh?

- (a) He was originally a prominent Maratha Sardar who was granted the Subedar post of Awadh by Peshwa Baji Rao I.
- (b) He stabilized the Awadh administration by suppressing the local Chieftains and Zamindars and introducing a new revenue system known as the Ijaradari (revenue farming).
- (c) He entered into a defensive alliance with the Mughal Emperor to resist the invasion of Nadir Shah.
- (d) He shifted the capital of Awadh from Lucknow to Faizabad.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(b) Correct.** Sa'adat Khan (Burhan-ul-Mulk) faced immediate resistance from the local chieftains and Zamindars in Awadh. He adopted a firm policy to subdue them and implemented the **Ijaradari** system (revenue farming), often giving contracts to the highest bidders, which, though lucrative, exploited the peasantry.
- (a) Incorrect. He was a **Mughal noble** of Persian origin.
- (c) Incorrect. Sa'adat Khan was summoned to Delhi to help counter Nadir Shah but ultimately committed suicide after being humiliated by Nadir Shah.
- (d) Incorrect. Faizabad was developed by Sa'adat Khan, but the eventual capital shift to Lucknow was done by subsequent Nawabs like Asaf-ud-Daula.

7. The decline of the Mughal Empire in Delhi led to the emergence of numerous regional centers of culture and learning. Which of the following pairs of post-Mughal state and its associated cultural/literary development is correctly matched?

- (a) Awadh: Rise of the Qawwali musical tradition in its modern form.
- (b) Hyderabad: Flourishing of the Dakshini language (an early form of Urdu) literature.
- (c) Lahore: Patronage of Kangra miniature painting by the Sikh rulers.
- (d) Bengal: Development of the Awadhi language as the court language of the Nawabs.

Correct Answer: (b)

Explanation:

- **(b) Correct.** Hyderabad, under the Nizam and before the Mughal takeover, was the capital of the Qutb Shahi Sultanate of Golconda and Bijapur, where the Dakshini language flourished, continuing to be a major cultural hub even after the Nizam's rule.
- (a) Incorrect. Awadh (Lucknow) was famous for its refined Urdu poetry, dance, and music, but Qawwali's roots are older and associated more widely with Sufi traditions (like the Nizamuddin dargah in Delhi).
- (c) Incorrect. Kangra miniature painting flourished under the Rajput rulers of the hills (like Guler and Kangra), not the Sikh rulers of Lahore.
- (d) Incorrect. The court language of the Nawabs of Bengal remained Persian.

8. The foundation of the Sikh kingdom by Maharaja Ranjit Singh was based on the political and military consolidation of which earlier administrative units?

- (a) Bhai
- (b) Rahitnama
- (c) Misls
- (d) Jathedars

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(c) Correct.** Following the death of Banda Bahadur and the decline of Mughal authority, the Sikh community organized itself into twelve quasi-independent sovereign principalities or warrior groups known as **Misls**. Ranjit Singh, belonging to the **Sukerchakia Misl**, consolidated these Misls through conquest and diplomacy to forge the unified Sikh kingdom centered at Lahore.

9. Consider the following statements regarding the Sikh community in the 18th century:

1. The Sikhs, post-Banda Bahadur, organized themselves into the Dal Khalsa, an integrated military and political organization.
2. Amritsar emerged as the religious and political capital of the Sikh community, primarily due to the annual gatherings of the Sarbat Khalsa (General Assembly).

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

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **Statement 1: Correct.** After the execution of Banda Bahadur, the Sikhs faced severe persecution. They regrouped into the **Dal Khalsa** (the Khalsa Army) and successfully carried out guerrilla warfare against the Mughal and Afghan forces.
- **Statement 2: Correct.** Amritsar, home to the Golden Temple (Harmandir Sahib), served as the central point for the Sarbat Khalsa gatherings, where crucial decisions (known as Gurmata) were taken, giving the city immense political and religious significance.

10. Which of the following terms best describes the policy adopted by the later Mughal Emperors, post-1707 CE, towards the newly emerging regional powers (like Bengal, Awadh, and Hyderabad)?

- (a) Active Military Reconquest
- (b) Policy of Subsidiary Alliance
- (c) Tacit Acceptance with Nominal Allegiance
- (d) Complete Political and Economic Isolation

Correct Answer: (c)

Explanation:

- **(c) Correct.** The Later Mughals were too weak to launch effective military campaigns to reclaim lost territory (a). They were not yet using the Subsidiary Alliance (a British policy) (b), nor did they completely cut ties (d). Instead, they adopted a policy of **Tacit Acceptance**, allowing the provincial governors to rule autonomously as long as they sent the essential revenue/tribute and maintained a **nominal allegiance** to the Emperor in Delhi.