

**History 2015 (Outside Delhi)****SET I**

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

**PART-A****PART-B**

1. How have the Prashastis drawn the factual information about the Gupta rulers ? [2]

**Answer : Factual information from prashastis about the Gupta rulers :**

- (i) Histories of the Gupta rulers have been reconstructed from Literature, coins and inscriptions, including prashastis, composed in praise of kings by poets.
- (ii) While historians often attempt to draw factual information from such compositions, those who composed and read them treasured them as works of poetry rather than as accounts.
- (iii) The Prayaga Prashasti (also known as the Allahabad Pillar Inscription) composed in Sanskrit by Harishena, the court poet of Samudragupta is a good example.

2. The Lingayats disapproved certain practices of the Dharmashastras. Cite any two such practices. [2]

**Answer : Lingayats and Dharmashastra :**

- (i) They worship Shiva in his manifestation as a linga. They do not practice funerary rituals such as cremation, prescribed in the Dharmashastra. Instead, they bury their dead bodies.
- (ii) The Lingayats challenged the idea of caste and 'pollution' attributed to certain groups by Brahmins.
- (iii) They questioned the theory of rebirth.
- (iv) They encouraged practices e.g., post puberty marriage, widow remarriage which were not approved in the Dharmashastra. (Any two)

3. Name the region where the Lottery Committee initiated town planning during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Mention any one feature of it. [2]

**Answer : Lottery Committee :**

- (i) Lottery committee initiated in Kolkata (Calcutta).
- (ii) Features :
- (a) It collected funds for town improvement which were raised through public lotteries.
- (b) The Lottery Committee commissioned a new map of the city so as to get a comprehensive picture of Kolkata (Calcutta).
- (c) The Committee's major activities were road building in the Indian part of the city and clearing the river bank of "encroachments".
- (d) Removing huts for cleaner city and displacing the labouring poor who were pushed to the outskirts of Kolkata (Calcutta). (Any one)

4. Why were the water resources of the Vijaynagar Empire developed ? Give reasons. [4]

**Answer : Water resources of Vijaynagar**

- (i) The natural basin formed by the Tungabhadra which flows in a north—easterly direction hills surrounds this and a number of streams flow down to the river from these hills.
- (ii) Embankments were built along the streams to create reservoirs of varying sizes.
- (iii) As Vijaynagar was in one of the most arid zones of the peninsula, elaborate water arrangements had to be made to store rain water and conduct it to the city.
- (iv) Kamalapuram tank not only irrigated fields nearby but water was also conducted through a channel to the "royal centre".
- (v) One of the most prominent was the Hiriya canal. It drew water from a dam across the Tungabhadra and irrigated the cultivated valley which separated the sacred centre from the urban core.

5. Examine the policies adopted by the British towards the Paharias during early 18<sup>th</sup> century in Bengal. [4]

**Answer : Policies adopted by the British towards the Paharias L**

- (i) In the 1770s the British embarked on the brutal policy of extermination, hunting the Paharias down and killing them.
- (ii) By the 1780s, Augustus Cleveland, proposed a policy of pacification.
- (iii) Paharia chiefs were given an annual allowance and made responsible for the proper conduct of their men.
- (iv) Many Paharia chiefs refused the allowances, those who accepted lost authority within the community and came to be known as 'Stipendiary chiefs'.
- (v) The Paharias withdrew deep in the mountains insulating themselves from hostile forces and carrying on a war with the outsiders. The brutal repression shaped their perception of British infiltration into the area.
- (vi) British put Santhals in their areas which led to conflict between them.

6. Explain the strategies for procuring materials by the Harappans for the craft production. [4]

**Answer : Procuring materials by Harappans :**

- (i) The Harappans procured materials for craft production in various ways. They established

settlements such as Nageshwar and Balakot in areas where shell was available.

(ii) Other sites like Shortughai, in far off Afghanistan, the best source of lapis lazuli, a blue stone that was highly valued.

(iii) From Lothal and Bharuch—carnelian was procured, steatite from south Rajasthan and north Gujarat.

(iv) Another strategy for procuring raw material may have been to send expeditions to areas such as Khetri region of Rajasthan for copper and South India for Gold.

(v) Recent Archaeological finds suggest that Harappans procured material from other countries like—they got copper from Oman a region called Magan in Mesopotamian texts. It is likely that communication with Oman, Bahrain or Mesopotamia was by sea.

**7. Historians have used a variety of sources to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan Empire. State any four such sources. [4]**

**Answer :** Historians have used the following of sources to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan Empire. These include :

- (i) Archaeological findings especially sculpture.
- (ii) The account of Megasthenes which survive in fragments.
- (iii) The Arthashastra, parts of which were probably composed by Kautilya or Chanakya.
- (iv) Buddhist, Jain and Puranic literature, as well as Sanskrit literary works.
- (v) The inscriptions of Ashoka (c. 272/268-23) on rocks and pillars. (Any four)

**8. Identify the distinctive features of the imperial household of the Mughal Empire. [4]**

**Answer :** The imperial household of the Mughal

- (i) The Mughal household consisted of the emperor's wives and concubines, his near and distant relatives and female servants and slaves.
- (ii) Polygamy was practiced widely.
- (iii) Distinction was maintained between begams and aghas.
- (iv) The concubines occupied the lowest position in the hierarchy.
- (v) The lineage based family structure was not entirely static. Motherhood played important roles in elevating status.
- (vi) Slave eunuchs worked as guards, servants and also as agents for women dabbling in commerce.
- (vii) Mughal queens and princesses began to control significant financial resources.
- (viii) Control over resources enabled important women of the Mughal household to commission buildings and gardens.

(ix) Women also played an important role in resolving conflicts in the imperial household.

**9. Critically examine Lord Dalhousie's policy of annexation in Awadh. [4]**

**Answer :** Dalhousie's policy of annexation of Awadh :

(i) Dalhousie described the kingdom of Awadh as "a cherry that will drop into our mouth one day."

(ii) The conquest happened in stages. The subsidiary Alliance had been imposed on Awadh in 1801.

(iii) By the terms of this alliance the Nawab had to disband his military force, allow the British to position their troops within the kingdom, and act in accordance with the advice of the British Resident who was attached to the court. Thus, the Nawab became dependent on British.

(iv) The British were keen to acquire Awadh as its soil was good for growing Indigo and cotton and was ideally located for trade.

(v) Annexation of Awadh would complete the territorial annexation by the British beginning with that of Bengal a century earlier.

(vi) It was annexed on the grounds of maladministration. The British wrongly assumed that the Nawab Wajid Ali Shah was an unpopular ruler, on the contrary he was widely loved.

**10. Read the following passage and answer the question that follows : [1 + 3 = 4]**

Dr. Khushdeva Singh describes his work as "humble efforts I made to discharge my duty as a human being to fellow human beings."

"Love is stronger than hate." How true is this value which was proved at the time of the partition of India? What are the values one needs to instill and nurture to avoid hatred? Explain.

**"The Revolt of 1857 marked first nationalist challenge to the English in India." Explain giving examples the values imbibed and practised by the rebels to set the beginning for it.**

**Answer :**

This value is true as historians have discovered numerous stories of how people helped each other during the partition.

For e.g., Dr. Khushdeva Singh won the hearts of people of different communities by his service to them.

The values one needs to instill and nurture to avoid hatred are :

- (a) Integrity and feeling of oneness.
- (b) Respect for all religions equally.
- (c) Secularism and democracy.
- (d) Peaceful coexistence.
- (e) Equality before law.

- (f) Humanist feeling.
- (g) Social justice.
- (h) Selflessness
- (i) Tolerance
- (j) Kindness and compassion
- (k) Sharing and caring

**PART-C**

- 11. "The Salt March of 1930 was the first event that brought Mahatma Gandhi to world attention". Explain the significance of this movement for Swaraj. [8]**

**Answer : Salt March of Gandhiji :**

(i) On 12th March, 1930 Gandhiji began the march from Sabarmati and broke the Salt Law by making salt at Dandi and broke the monopoly of the salt.

(ii) Parallel salt marches and protests were also conducted in other parts of the country. Peasants, factory workers, lawyers, students and local officials joined the march.

(iii) During the march Gandhiji told the upper castes that if they want Swaraj they must serve untouchables. Hindus, Muslims, Parsis and Sikhs have to unite and these are the steps towards Swaraj.

(iv) The salt march of Gandhiji was reported in the American news magazine, Time. In its 1st report on the march the magazine was deeply sceptical of the salt march reaching its destination. But shortly it changed its view and saluted Gandhi as a 'saint' and statesman.

(v) Salt march was notable for three reasons :

Firstly, this event brought Gandhiji to world attention. It was widely covered by the European and American Press.

Secondly, it was the 1st nationalist activity in which women participated in large numbers. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay the socialist activist persuaded Gandhiji not to restrict the protest to men alone. She herself courted arrest by breaking salt and Liquor Laws.

Thirdly, the most significant aspect of the Salt March was that it forced the British the realization that their Raj would not last forever, and they would have to devolve some power to the Indians.

(vi) To that end British Government convened a series of Round Table Conferences in London. First meeting was held in Nov. 1930 without any pre-eminent political Indian leader and was futile. When Gandhiji was released from jail in Jan. 1931, many meetings were held with the Viceroy and it culminated in the 'Gandhi-Irwin Pact' by which civil disobedience would be called off and all prisoners were released and salt manufacture allowed along the coast. Gandhiji represented the congress at Second Round Table Conference at London.

- 12. "The architecture in colonial Bombay represented ideas of imperial power, nationalism and religious glory." Support the statement with examples. [8]**

**Answer : Architecture in colonial Bombay :**

(i) As Bombay's economy grew in mid 19th century the British developed new administrative structures. Many new buildings were constructed in European style to reflect the culture and confidence of the rulers. To symbolise their power, their superiority, which would also mark a difference between colonial masters and their Indian subjects.

(ii) For public buildings British adopted three architectural styles . The 1st was Neo-classical which were geometrical structures fronted with lofty pillars.

(iii) Its original style was that of ancient Rome, the British considered it ideal to express their glory of imperial India. e.g., The Town Hall in Bombay built in 1833, Elphinstone Circle later named Horniman Circle which was inspired from models in Italy. It made innovative use of covered arcades to shield shoppers and pedestrians from sun and rain of Bombay.

(iv) Another style was Neo Gothic characterised by high pitched roofs pointed arches and detail decoration.

(v) The Gothic style had its roots in buildings, especially churches built in North Europe during medieval period.

(vi) The Neo-Gothic style was revived in mid -19th century in England and the Victoria Terminus is the most spectacular example of this style.

(vii) Towards the 20th century a new hybrid architectural style developed called Indo-Saracenic. Europeans used Saracen term to designate Muslim and Indo was Shorthand for Hindu. The inspiration came from medieval buildings in India—domes, chhatris, jalis and arches. Example of Indo-Saracenic is Gateway of India and Taj Mahal Hotel.

(viii) By integrating India and European styles the British wanted to prove that they were legitimate rulers of India .

- 13. Describe the life of forest dwellers in the Mughal era. [8]**

**Answer : Forest dwellers of Mughal India**

(i) Forest dwellers were termed jangli in contemporary texts. Being jangli , however did not mean an absence of civilization. The term described those whose livelihood came from gathering forest produce, hunting and shifting agriculture.

(ii) These activities were season specific which perpetuated mobility.

- (iii) For the state, the forest was a place of refuge for troublemakers.
- (iv) External forces entered the forest in different ways. The state required elephants for the army so the peshkash levied from forest people often included a supply of elephants.
- (v) The hunt symbolized the overwhelming concern of the state to ensure justice to all its subjects and paintings were also done on it.
- (vi) The spread of commercial agriculture was an important external factor that impinged on the life of forest dwellers.
- (vii) Forest products-like honey, beeswax and gum lac—were in great demand and became major items of overseas export from India.
- (viii) Elephants were captured and sold. Trade involved exchange through barter system. Lohanis tribe from Punjab were involved in overland trade between India and Afghanistan.
- (ix) Social factors too affected their lives. Tribal chiefs who became zamindars and even Kings, required an army and recruited people from their lineage groups or demanded that their fraternity provide military service. e.g., Tribes from Sind region had armies consisting of cavalry and infantry. In Assam, the Ahom kings had their paiks.
- (x) Sufi saints played a major role in spread of Islam among these people.

#### PART-D

#### 14. How did Sutta-Pitaka reconstruct the philosophy of Buddhism? Mention about Buddhist Tipitaka. [8]

**Answer :** Sutta Pitaka reconstructed the philosophy of Buddhism.

- (i) Buddha's teachings have been reconstructed from stories found mainly in the Sutta Pitaka. These stories describe his miraculous powers and reason rather than display of supernatural power.
- (ii) The world is transient and constantly changing; it is also soulless as there is nothing permanent.
- (iii) Sorrow is intrinsic to human existence.
- (iv) It is by following the path of moderation between severe penance and self-indulgence that human beings can rise above these worldly troubles.
- (v) In the earliest form of Buddhism existence of god was irrelevant. Buddha regarded the social world as the creation of humans rather than of divine origin.
- (vi) He advised kings to be humane and ethical.
- (vii) Individual effort was expected to transform social relations.
- (viii) The Buddha emphasized individual agency and righteous action as a means to escape from the cycle of rebirth and attain self-realization and nirvana.

- (ix) The extinguishing of the ego and desire would thus end the cycle of suffering.
- (x) The importance attached to conduct and values rather than claims of superiority based on birth, the emphasis placed on fellow feeling and karuna for weaker.
- (xi) The Buddhist developed an alternative understanding of social inequalities and institutions required to regulate social conflict. In a myth found in Sutta Pitaka they suggest that originally human beings did not have fully evolved bodily forms, nor was the world of plants fully developed.
- (xii) All beings lived in idyllic state of peace, taking from nature only what they needed.

#### Buddhist Tipitakas :

- (i) It means three baskets which hold three types of texts. They were first transmitted orally and then written and classified according to the subject matter.
- (ii) The Vinaya Pitaka included rules and regulations for those who joined the sangha or monastic order.
- (iii) The Sutta Pitaka which contains the teachings of Buddha and the Abhidhamma Pitaka dealt with philosophical matters.

#### 15. Read the following paragraph carefully and answer the questions that follow :

##### "Proper" social roles

Here is a story from the Adi Parvan of the Mahabharata :

Once Drona, a Brahman who taught archery to the Kuru princes, was approached by Eklavya, a forest-dwelling nishada (a hunting community). When Drona, who knew the dharma, refused to have him as his pupil, Eklavya returned to the forest, prepared an image of Drona out of clay, and treating it as his teacher, began to practise on his own. In due course, he acquired great skill in archery. One day, the Kuru princes went hunting and their dog, wandering in the woods, came upon Eklavya. When the dog smelt the dark nishada wrapped in black deer skin, his body caked with dirt, it began to bark. Annoyed, Eklavya shot seven arrows into its mouth. When the dog returned to the Pandavas, they were amazed at this superb display of archery. They tracked down Eklavya, who introduced himself as a pupil of Drona.

Drona had once told his favourite student Arjuna, that he would be unrivalled amongst his pupils. Arjuna now reminded Drona about this. Drona approached Eklavya, who immediately acknowledged and honoured him as his teacher. When Drona demanded his right thumb as his fee, Eklavya unhesitatingly cut it off and offered it. But, thereafter when he shot with his remaining fingers, he was no longer as fast as he had been before. Thus, Drona kept his word : no one was better than Arjuna.

- (15.1) Why did Drona refuse to have Eklavya as his pupil? [2]



(15.2) How did Eklavya react to the demand of his Guru ? [2]

(15.3) Mention two versions of Guru-Shishya Parampara mentioned in the given extract. [3]

Answer :

Source Based Question :

(15.1) Guru Drona refused to have Eklavya as his pupil because :

(i) He was a forest dweller and belonged to nishada (a hunting community).

(ii) Drona was a Brahman and followed his dharma because according to Dharma-shastra, Brahmans were not to teach the lower community.

(15.2) Ekalavya's Reaction :

(i) Eklavya acknowledged Drona's demand and honoured his Guru.

(ii) When Drona demanded his right thumb as his fee or guru dakshina, Eklavya unhesitatingly cut it off and offered it.

(15.3) Guru-Shishya Parampara :

(i) Drona kept his promise for Arjuna as Drona had once told his favourite student Arjuna that he would be unrivalled amongst his Pupils.

(ii) Drona for keeping his promise for Arjuna compelled Eklavya to cut off his thumb and offer it to himself as guru dakshina.

(iii) Eklavya acknowledged and honoured him as his guru and following the Guru Shishya Parampara, gave his thumb as guru dakshina to him.

16. Read the following paragraph carefully and answer the questions that follow :

#### The Child Sati

This is perhaps one of the most poignant descriptions by Bernier :

At Lahore, I saw a most beautiful young widow sacrificed, who could not, I think, have been more than twelve years of age. The poor little creature appeared more dead than alive when she approached the dreadful pit : the agony of her mind cannot be described; she trembled and wept bitterly; but three or four of the Brahmans, assisted by an old woman who held her under the arm, forced the unwilling victim toward the fatal spot, seated her on the wood, tied her hands and feet, lest she should run away, and in that situation the innocent creature was burnt alive. I found it difficult to repress my feelings and to prevent their bursting forth into clamorous and unavailing rage ...

(16.1) Why did Bernier consider this treatment as a crucial marker of the difference between western and eastern societies ? [3]

(16.2) What role did the Indian patriarchal society play towards this social evil ? [2]

(16.3) Compare the condition of the women of the era mentioned above to that of today. [2]

Answer :

(16.1) Bernier considered this treatment as a crucial marker of difference between western and eastern society because :

(i) In the western societies women took part in administration but in the eastern societies women were exploited badly.

(ii) Women enjoyed rights in the western society while no rights were given to them in the eastern society.

(iii) Women received education in the west but in the eastern society there was no education and many social evils like sati, purdah system and child marriages existed.

(iv) Eastern societies were male dominated unlike the western.

(16.2) Indian patriarchal society :

(i) It was a male dominated society where women had no rights, were ill treated, discriminated and confined to the house.

(ii) Social inequalities were prominent and thus led to these social evils.

(16.3) Comparison of condition of women :

(i) In medieval era women had no rights but today sati, slavery has been prohibited.

(ii) Today's women are well educated and assertive.

(iii) In this era there is women empowerment.

(iv) She has social, economic and political rights.

17. Read the following paragraph carefully and answer the questions that follow :

"British element is gone but they have left the mischief behind".

Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel said :

It is no use saying that we ask for separate electorates, because it is good for us. We have heard it long enough. We have heard it for years, and as a result of this agitation we are now a separate nation ... Can you show me one free country where there are separate electorates ? If so, I shall be prepared to accept it. But in this unfortunate country if this separate electorate is going to be persisted in, even after the division of the country, woe betide the country; it is not worth living in. Therefore, I say, it is not for my good alone, it is for your own good that I say it, forget the past. One day, we may be united ... The British element is gone, but they have left the mischief behind. We do not want to perpetuate that mischief. (Hear, hear). When the British introduced this element they had not expected that they will have to go so soon. They

wanted it for their easy administration. That is all right. But they have left the legacy behind. Are we to get out of it or not ? (CAD, VOL.V)

- (17.1) Why are separate electorates considered as a mischief ? [2]
- (17.2) State the arguments given by Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel for building political unity and forging a nation. [3]
- (17.3) How did the philosophy of separate electorates result in a separate nation ? [2]

Answer :

(17.1) Separate electorate was considered as a mischief :

- (i) It was like a poison that had entered into politics.
- (ii) The demand had turned one community against another.
- (iii) It caused bloodshed, civil war riots.
- (iv) It divided the nation.

(17.2) Building political unity and forging a nation :

- (i) He considered separate electorate as a poison.
- (ii) For the goodness of the country it should not be followed.
- (iii) It was necessary for maintenance of peace that this system is not followed.
- (iv) In order to build a strong nation every individual must be moulded as a citizen and assimilated within the nation.
- (v) For political unity assimilation is a must but not separatist feelings.

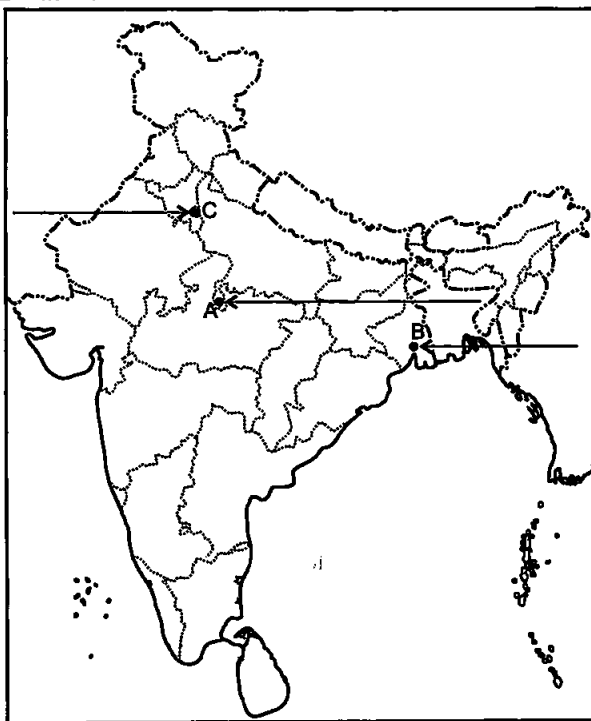
(17.3) Philosophy of Separate electorate :

- (i) It turned one community against another and caused lot of bloodshed.
- (ii) Separatist feelings were cultivated by the British for their selfish ends.
- (iii) Communal hatred led to the tragic partition.
- (iv) It led to the isolation of minorities and eventual partition.

**PART-E**

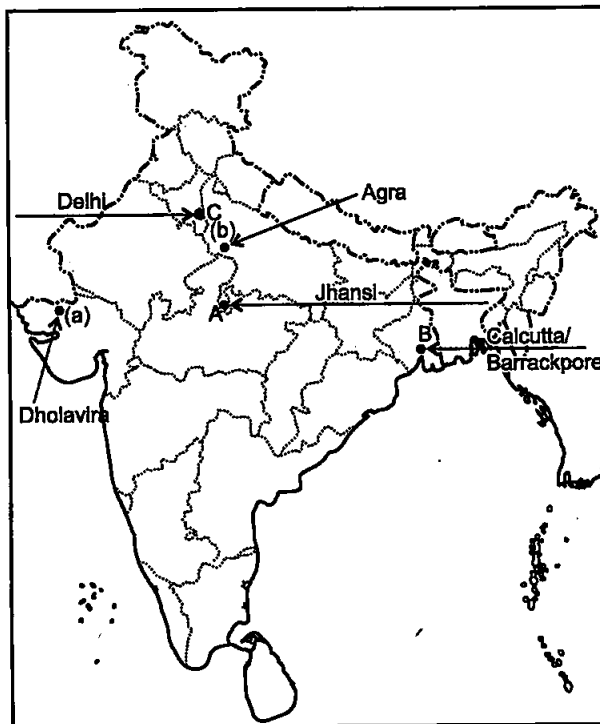
18. (18.1) On the given political outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols : [2]

- (a) Dholavira
- (b) Agra—the capital city of Mughals



(18.2) On the same outline map of India, three centres related to the Revolt of 1857 have been marked as A, B and C. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them. [3]

Answer :



# History 2015 (Outside Delhi)

# SET II

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

**Note :** Except for the following questions, all the remaining questions have been asked in previous set.

## PART-A

1. How were the coins used in the first century CE ? Give two examples. [2]

**Answer :** (i) The first gold coins were issued in the first century CE by the Kushanas which were identical in weight with those issued by contemporary Roman Kings and Parthian rulers of Iran. Its wide spread use indicated network of trade.

(ii) Coins were issued by tribal republics of Yaudheyas of Punjab and Haryana in 1st century (c. first century CE).

(iii) Several thousands of copper coins have been unearthed issued by Yaudheyas pointing to their interest in economic exchanges.

2. Kabir Bijak and Kabir Granthavali are the two distinct but overlapping traditions. How are they preserved ? [2]

**Answer :** Kabir Bijak and Kabir Granthavali are preserved as :

(i) Kabir Bijak is preserved by the Kabir Panth (the path or sect of Kabir) in Varanasi and elsewhere in U.P.

(ii) Kabir Granthavali is associated with the Dadupanth in Rajasthan.

## PART-B

4. Why was Vitthala temple of the Vijaynagar unique ? [4]

**Answer :** Features of Vitthala temple of the Vijaynagar :

(i) The principal deity was Vitthala, a form of Vishnu generally worshipped in Maharashtra.

(ii) The introduction of the worship of the deities in Karnataka drew on different traditions to create an imperial culture.

(iii) This temple too has several halls and a unique shrine designed as a chariot.

(iv) A characteristic feature of the temple complexes is the chariot streets that extended from the temple gopuram in a straight line

(v) These streets were paved with stone slabs and lined with pillared pavilions in which merchants set up their shops.

(vi) Nayakas have supported these temples.

5. What was the other name of 'Bombay Deccan revenue system of 1820s'. Mention any three features of it. [1 + 3 = 4]

**Answer :** Another name of Bombay Deccan revenue system was the Ryotwari System.

**Features :**

(i) The revenue was directly settled with the ryots.

(ii) The average income from different types of soil was estimated.

(iii) The revenue-paying capacity of the ryot was assessed. A proportion of it fixed as the share of the state.

(iv) The lands were resurveyed every 30 years and the revenue rates increased.

(v) The revenue demand was no longer permanent.

6. Describe the opinions of the archaeologists over the central authority of the Harappan civilisation. [4]

**Answer :** Various opinions of the archeologists over the central authority of the Harappa civilisation :

(i) A large building found at Mohenjodaro was labelled as a palace by archaeologists but no spectacular finds were associated with it.

(ii) A stone statue was labelled and continues to be known as the "priest-king".

(iii) Some archaeologists are of the opinion that Harappan society had no rulers, and that everybody enjoyed equal status.

(iv) Others feel there was no single ruler but several that Mohenjodaro had a separate ruler, Harappa another, and so forth.

(v) Others argue that there was a single state, given the similarity in artifacts, the evidence for planned settlements, the standardised ratio of brick size, and the establishment of settlements near sources of raw materials. The last theory is the most plausible, as it is unlikely that entire communities could have collectively made and implemented such complex decisions.

7. "The keeping of exact and detailed records was a major concern of the Mughal administration."

**Justify.**

[4]

**Answer :** The keeping of exact and detailed record was a major concern of the Mughal administration

(i) The Mir Bakhshi supervised the corps of court writers who recorded all applications and documents presented to the court, and all imperial orders (farman).

(ii) Agents or wakils of nobles and regional rulers recorded the entire proceedings of the court under the heading "News from the Exalted court (Akhbarat)" with the date and time of the session.

(iii) The Akhbarat contained all kinds of information such as attendance at the court, grant of offices and titles, diplomatic missions, presents received, or the enquires made by the emperor about the health of an officer.

(iv) It was valuable for writing the history of the public and private lives of kings and nobles.

(v) News reports and important official documents travelled across the length and breadth of the regions under imperial post.

(vi) Round-the-clock relays of foot-runners carried papers rolled up in bamboo containers.

(vii) The emperor received reports from even distant provincial capitals within a few days.

(viii) Agents of nobles posted outside the capital and Rajput princess and tributary rulers copied these announcements and sent their contents by messenger back to their masters. The empire was connected by a surprisingly rapid information loop for public news.

9. Examine the provisions of 'Subsidiary Alliance System' devised by Lord Wellesley in 1798 for India. [4]

Answer : Following point examine the provision of subsidiary Alliance System :

(i) The British would be responsible for protecting their ally from external and internal threats to their power.

(ii) In the territory of the ally, a British armed contingent would be stationed.

(iii) The ally would have to provide the resources for maintaining this contingent.

(iv) The ally could enter into agreements with other ruler or engage in warfare only with the permission of the British.

(v) The ally had to keep the resident who was the representative of the Governor General and was not under direct British rule.

## History 2015 (Outside Delhi)

## SET III

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

Note : Except for the following questions, all the remaining questions have been asked in previous set.

### PART-A

1. How did Kushana rulers exemplify themselves with the high status ? [2]

Answer : Kushana Rulers :

(i) One means of claiming high status was to identify with a variety of deities.

(ii) The notions of Kingship they wished to project are seen in their coins and sculptures.

(iii) Colossal statues of Kushana rulers were installed in Mathura and Afghanistan.

(iv) They projected themselves godlike.

(v) They adopted the title of devaputra or 'Son of God'.

2. "The message of Guru Nanak Devji was based on divinity." Mention any two aspects of it. [2]

Answer : Guru Nanak Dev's Divinity :

(i) He advocated nirguna bhakti.

(ii) He rejected sacrifices, ritual baths, image worship, austerities and the scriptures of both Hindus and Muslims.

(iii) For him the Absolute or 'rab' had no gender or form.

(iv) He proposed a simple way to connect to the divine by remembering and repeating the divine name.

(v) He expressed his ideas through hymns called 'Shabad'.

### PART-B

4. Why did the imperial power of Vijaynagar decline after the death of Krishnadeva Raya ? [4]

Answer : Vijaynagar declined after the death of Krishnadeva Raya :

(i) After Krishnadeva Raya's death in 1529 his successors were troubled by rebellious nayakas or military chiefs.

(ii) By 1542 control at the centre shifted to the Aravidu lineage.

(iii) The military ambitions resulted in shifting alignments.

(iv) This led to an alliance of the Sultanates against Vijaynagar.

(v) In 1565 Rama Raya, the chief minister of Vijaynagar, led the army into the battle at Rakshasi-Tangadi (Talikota), where he was defeated by Bijapur, Ahmednagar and Golconda.

(vi) The victorious armies sacked the city of Vijaynagar. The city was totally abandoned within a few years.

5. Analyse the impact of cotton boom in India during the American Civil War. [4]

Answer : Impact of cotton boom in India during the American civil war :

(i) When the American Civil War broke out in 1861, a wave of panic spread in Britain.

(ii) As cotton prices soared export merchants in (Bombay) Mumbai were keen to meet the British demand.



(iii) They gave advances to urban sahumars who in turn extended credit to rural moneylenders who promised to secure the produce.

(iv) The ryots in the Deccan villages suddenly found limitless credit.

(v) While the American crisis continued, cotton production in the Bombay Deccan expanded. By 1862 over 90 percent of cotton imports into Britain were coming from India.

(vi) As the Civil war ended, cotton production in America revived and Indian cotton exports declined.

**6. Explain the exclusive features of the craft production in Chanhudaro. [4]**

**Answer :** Features of the craft production in Chanhudaro :

(i) It was exclusively devoted to craft production , including bead-making, shell-cutting, metal-working, seal-making and weight-making.

(ii) The variety of materials used to make beads was—stones like carnelian, jasper, crystal, quartz and steatite, metals like copper, bronze and gold, faience and terracotta or burnt clay.

(iii) Some beads were made of two or more stones, cemented together or with gold caps.

(iv) The shapes were numerous—disc shaped, cylindrical , spherical , barrel-shaped and segmented.

(v) Some were decorated by incising or painting and some had designs etched onto them.

(vi) Techniques for making beads differed according to the material. Steatite a very soft stone was easily worked. Carnelian was obtained by firing raw material and beads at various stages of production.

(vii) Nodules were chipped into rough shapes, and then finely flaked into the final form.

(viii) Grinding, polishing and drilling completed the process.

(ix) It is likely that finished products such as beads from Chanhudaro were taken to large urban centres such as Mohenjodaro and Harappa.

**7. "Historians have provided accounts of diplomatic relationships and conflicts with the neighbouring political powers of the Mughal Empire." Elaborate. [4]**

**Answer :** Diplomatic relationship and conflicts with the neighbouring political power of the Mughal Empire.

(i) Tension and political rivalry between them was due to regional interests.

(ii) The political and diplomatic relations between the Mughals and Iran and Turan hinged on the control of the Hindukush mountains.

(iii) A constant aim of Mughal policy was to control strategic outposts —Kabul and Qandhar.

(iv) Qandhar was a bone of contention between the Safavids and the Mughals.

(v) In 1613 Jahangir sent a diplomatic envoy to the court of Shah Abbas to plead for retaining Qandhar, but the mission failed.

(vi) In the winter of 1622 a Persian army besieged Qandhar. The Mughal garrison was defeated and had to surrender the fortress and the city to the Safavids.

(vii) The relationship between the Mughals and the Ottomans was marked by the concern to ensure free movement for merchants and pilgrims where the important pilgrim centres of Mecca and Medina were located.

(viii) The Mughal emperor usually combined religion and commerce by exporting valuable merchandise to Aden and Mokha both Red Sea Ports.

**9. Examine the repressive measures adopted by the British to subdue the rebels of 1857. [4]**

**Answer :** Repressive measures adopted by the British to subdue the rebels of 1857 :

(i) Before sending out troops to reconquer north India the British passed a series of Laws to help them quell the insurgency.

(ii) By a number of Acts , the whole of north India was put under Martial Law.

(iii) Military officers and even ordinary Britons were given the power to try and punish Indians suspected of rebellion.

(iv) Ordinary processes of Law and trial were suspended and it was put out that rebellion would have only one punishment—death.

(v) Reinforcements were brought in from Britain. British mounted a two-pronged attack. One force moved from Calcutta and another from Punjab to reconquer Delhi.

(vi) In the Gangetic plains the forces had to reconquer the area, village by village.

(vii) The British other than using military power, also tried to break up the unity between the landholders and peasants.

(viii) Rebel Landholders were dispossessed and loyal rewarded. Many Landholders died fighting the British or they escaped into Nepal.



# History 2015 (Delhi)

# SET I

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

## PART-A

1. Why was Mauryan Empire regarded as a major landmark in the early Indian history ? [2]

Answer : (i) The Mauryan Empire was the first Empire in the early Indian history which was based on mutual harmony and religious tolerance.

(ii) Many historians maintained that the messages on Ashokan inscriptions were very different from that of most other rulers.

2. Name the major anthology compiled by the Alvars which is also described as the Tamil Veda. How did various chieftoms in the Tamil region help them in the early first millennium CE ? [1 + 1 = 2]

Answer : (i) The major anthology compiled by the Alvars was the *Nalayira Divya prabandham*, it is also describe as the Tamil Veda.

(ii) There were many significant chieftoms in the Tamil region in the early first millennium CE. They got occasional royal patronage.

3. Explain how the conversion of Census data into convenient statistical data by the Britisher in India riddled with ambiguities in the late nineteenth century. [2]

Answer : (i) The census commissioners made categories for classifying different section of the population.

(ii) However, this classification was usually arbitrary and failed to hold the fluid and overlapping identities of people.

## PART-B

4. How have historians provided new insight into the subsistence strategies of the Harappan culture ? [4]

Answer : (i) The Harappans consumed a wide range of plant and animal products, including fish.

(ii) The archaeologists have reconstructed dietary habits from finds of charred grains and seeds. These dietary practices have been extensively studied by archaco-botanists.

(iii) Wheat, barley, lentil, chickpea, sesame and millets have been found from various Harappan sites.

(iv) Animal bones of cattle, sheep, goat, buffalo and pig have been found. Various studies done by archaco-zoologists indicate that all these animals were domesticated.

5. Critically examine the limitations of the inscripational evidences in understanding political and economic history of India. [4]

Answer : (i) Letters are very faintly engraved, and thus reconstructions are uncertain.

(ii) Inscriptions may be damaged or letters missing.

(iii) It is not always easy to be sure about the exact meaning of the words used in inscriptions.

(iv) Not all inscriptions have been deciphered.

(v) Many inscriptions have not been translated or published.

6. "The Mahanavami Dibba in the Royal Centre of Vijaynagar has been assigned name on the basis of its form of buildings as well as functions." Elaborate. [4]

Answer : (i) The name comes from the shape of the platform and the Mahanavami festival which was observed here.

(ii) It had two of the most impressive platforms, the "Audience Hall" and the "Mahanavami Dibba".

(iii) The entire complex was surrounded by high double walls with a street running between them.

(iv) The "Mahanavami Dibba" was a massive platform rising from a base of about 11,000 sq. ft. to a height of 40 ft.

(v) Rituals associated with the structure have coincided with Mahanavami of the ten day Hindu festival during the autumn months of September and October. Known variously as Dussehra, Durga Puja and Navaratri or Mahanavami.

(vi) The ceremonies performed on the occasion included worship of image, keen worship of the state horse, and the sacrifice of buffaloes.

(vii) Dance, wrestling matches and processions of caparisoned horses, elephants and chariots and soldiers as well as ritual presentations before the king and his guests by the chief nayaks and subordinate kings marked the occasion.

(viii) Nayakas brought gifts and tribute for the king.

7. "The heart of the Mughal Empire was its capital city." Explain with examples. [4]

Answer : (i) Undoubtedly, the heart of the Mughal Empire was its capital city, where the court assembled. During the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries the capital cities of the Mughals usually shifted e.g., Babur took over Agra by his court was frequently on the move.

(ii) Akbar decided to build a new capital at Fatehpur Sikri in the 1570s. However, in 1585 the Mughal Capital was transferred to Lahore. Its main purpose was to bring the north-west under control.

(iii) Shah Jahan moved the court, army and household from Agra to Shahjahanabad in 1648.

Shah Jahan followed sound fiscal policies and accumulated sufficient money for building activities.

(iv) Shahjahanabad was a new addition to the old residential city of Delhi. It had the Red Fort, the Jama Masjid, Chandni Chowk and spacious homes for the nobility.

8. Explain how the East India Company subdued the authority of the zamindars in Bengal during 18<sup>th</sup> century. [4]

**Answer :** (i) Though the East India Company had recognized the zamindars yet it wanted to control and regulate them. The company subdued their (zamindars) authority and restricted their autonomy.

(ii) The troops of the zamindars were disbanded by the company and custom duties were abolished. Their cutcheries (courts) were brought under the supervision of a collector appointed by the East India Company.

(iii) Consequently the zamindars lost their authority to organise local justice and the local police.

(iv) Now, the collectorate emerged as an alternative centre of power. The authority of the zamindars was severely curtailed.

9. Analyse the provisions of the Cabinet Mission of 1946. [4]

**Answer :** (i) The Cabinet Mission recommended a weak three-tier confederation. However, India was to remain united.

(ii) A weak central government was proposed. It could control only foreign affairs, defence and communications. The then provincial assemblies were grouped into three sections to elect the Constituent Assembly. Sections A was for the Hindu majority provinces and Sections B and C were for the Muslim majority provinces of the north-west and the north-east.

(iii) In the beginning, all the major parties accepted the provisions of the Cabinet Mission. However, the agreement was short lived. It was based on mutually opposed explanations of the plan.

(iv) The Muslim League wanted the grouping to be compulsory with the right to secede from the union in the future. On the other hand, the Congress wanted that provinces be extended the right to join a group. As a result of these contradictions neither the Congress nor the League accepted the Cabinet Mission's provisions.

10. Read the following passage and answer the question that follows : [4]

“The nationalist movement in the twentieth century drew its inspiration from the events of 1857. A whole world of nationalist imagination was woven around the Revolt. It was celebrated as the First War of

Independence in which all sections of the people of India came together to fight against imperial rule.”

“The Revolt of 1857 marked first nationalist challenge to the English in India.” Explain giving examples the values imbibed and practised by the rebels to set the beginning for it.

**Answer :** The Revolt of 1857 was truly secular in its action and perception. The rebels appealed time and again to all sections of population irrespective of their caste, religion and creed.

Hindus and Muslims made a bridge of mutually accepted sentiments and the same was supported by the pillars of the Hindu-Muslim unity.

The rebellion was considered as a war in which both Hindus and Muslims had equally to lose or gain. The British tried to create cracks in the Hindu-Muslim unity, but such cracks were hardly noticeable.

#### PART-C

11. Explain the structural and sculptural features of the Sanchi Stupa. [4 + 4 = 8]

**Answer :** Structural features :

(i) The Stupas were built on the relics of Buddha and hence were considered sacred.

(ii) The stupa originated as a semi-circular mound of earth, later called Anda.

(iii) The Stupa evolved into a more complex structure, balancing round and square shapes.

(iv) A balcony like structure represented the adobe of the Gods was placed above the Anda.

(v) Arising from the Harmika was a mast called the yashti.

(vi) The Harmika was surmounted by a chhatra or umbrella.

(vii) Around the mound was railing, separating the sacred space from the secular world.

(viii) Sanchi Stupa had stone railing which resembled a bamboo or wooden fence.

(ix) The gateways of Sanchi were richly carved and installed at the four cardinal points.

**Sculpture features :**

(i) Stories from Jataka tales are made in the form of sculptures on the gateways.

(ii) The empty seat to indicate the mediation of the Buddha.

(iii) The Stupa was meant to represent the mahaparinibbana.

(iv) Another frequently used symbol was the wheel, it stood for the first sermon given by Buddha at Sarriath.

(v) The shalabhanjika motif suggest that many people who turned to Buddhism enriched it with their own pre-Buddhist and even non-Buddhist beliefs, practices and ideas.

(vi) Jatakas tales contain many animal stories of *e.g.*, elephants, horses, monkeys and cattle. Elephants signified strength and wisdom.

(vii) A motif of a woman surrounded by lotus and elephants is called Maya, the mother of the Buddha and others think that it is Gajalakshmi, the Goddess of good fortune.

(viii) Serpents have been depicted on the pillars of Stupas. They are a part of popular traditions.

Some other sculptures at Sanchi were probably not directly motivated by Buddhist ideas *e.g.*, beautiful women swinging from the edge of the gateway holding on to a tree. Here, we find some of the finest depictions of animals such as elephants, horses, monkeys and cattle. Animals were generally depicted as symbols of human qualities *e.g.*, elephants were depicted to glorify strength and wisdom.

Other motifs are that of a woman encircled by lotuses and elephants and the serpent which is found on many pillars.

**12. Examine the role of Panchayat as the main constituent of the Mughal village community.**

[8]

**Answer : (i) Structure :** The village panchayats were an assembly of elders. However, in mixed-caste villages the panchayats were usually a heterogeneous body. The panchayats were headed by a headman known as muqaddam or mandal. Headmen used to hold their respective offices as long as they enjoyed the confidence of the village elders, failing which they could be dismissed by the village elders. The main function of the headman was to supervise the preparation of village accounts, assisted by the patwari of the panchayat.

**(ii) Collection of funds :** The panchayat derived its funds from contributions made by individuals to a common financial pool. These funds were used for meeting the costs of entertaining revenue officials who visited the village from time to time. Expenses for community welfare activities such as tiding over natural calamities were also met from these funds. The funds were also deployed in construction of a bund or digging a canal.

**(iii) Regarding caste boundaries :** One of the most important function of the panchayat was to ensure that caste boundaries among the various communities inhabiting the village were upheld. In eastern India all marriages were held in the presence of the mandal. The duty of the village headman was to oversee the conduct of the members of the village community so as to prevent any offence against their caste.

**(iv) Authority to levy fines :** The Panchayats had the authority to levy fines and inflict more serious forms of punishment like expulsion from the community. These meant that the person was forced to leave the village and become an out caste and he lost the right to practise his profession. Such a measure was taken as a violation of caste norms.

**13. "Gandhiji encouraged the communication of the nationalist, message in the mother tongue rather than in the language of the ruler." Examine how he knitted the Non-Cooperation Movement with his philosophy.** [8]

**Answer :** Gandhiji was a practical leader. His idealism of non-violence or Ahimsa was based on mass appeal. He genuinely linked himself with the masses. His simple life style mesmerised the masses. His appeal among the poor and farmers in particular was increased by his ascetic way of living. He glorified the symbols of 'Charkha' and 'Dhoti' very wisely.

Basically, Gandhiji was the first national leader who felt the pulse of the masses as the doctor of politics. Gandhiji appeared not just look like the masses but he understood them and, related to their day-to-day lives.

He changed the character and structure of the Congress party and brought the party from conference rooms to the fields and factories. The network of the Congress was spread out in every nook and cranny of the country.

To make the Congress party's aims more practical, Gandhiji encouraged the communication of the nationalist message in the mother tongue, rather than in the language of the rulers. Prior to Gandhiji's arrival on the national scene the Congress party was a party of the classes. With his mass appeal and magnetic touch it became the party of the masses. Gandhiji was a unique confluence of different streams. Among Gandhiji's admirers and followers were both poor peasants and industrialists. In this way, Gandhiji brought together different ideologies and interests.

Gandhiji infused his philosophy into the Non-Cooperation Movement. People from all walks of life such as peasants, workers, students, tribes and educated Indians actively participated in this movement. According to Louis Fischer "Mahatma Gandhi became an epoch in the life of India and of Gandhiji. Non-Cooperation was negative enough to be peaceful but positive enough to be effective. It entailed denial renunciation and self-discipline. It was training for self-rule."

**PART-D**

14. "Some scholars see partition of India as a culmination of communal politics that started developing in the opening decades of the twentieth century." Elucidate. [8]

**Answer :** (i) They suggested separate electorates for Muslims, created by the colonial government in 1909 and expanded in 1919, this crucially shaped the nature of communal politics. This created a temptation for politicians working within this system to use sectarian slogans and gather a following by distributing favours to their religious groups.

(ii) Jinnah insisted that the league be recognised as a one spokesman of Muslim.

(iii) On 23 March, 1940 the league marked a resolution demanding a measure of autonomy for Muslim majority areas of subcontinent.

(iv) Mohammad Iqbal raised the demand for Pakistan in his presidential address in Muslim League in 1930.

(v) Quit India Movement which started in 1942 compelled the Britishers to open dialogue with Indian parties for transfer of power.

(vi) In 1946 personnel election congress swept the general constitution and league won are 30 rescue committee.

(vii) Muslim League announced 10 August, 1946 as direct action day for winning its demand for Pakistan for withdrawn support to cabinet mission.

(viii) By 1947 violence spread to many parts of north India.

(ix) Gandhi rejected religion as determining a nation. He believed Hindus and Muslims shared a common culture and constituted a single nation. Even till the day of independence Gandhi never participated in any kind of festivities of independence.

(x) Mountbatten plan endorsed a separate nation for Muslims and partitioned India.

(xi) Hindu-muslim riots after partition of India.

15. Read the following paragraph carefully and answer the questions that follow :

**Draupadi's Questions**

Draupadi is supposed to have asked Yudhishtira whether he had lost himself before staking her. Two contrary opinions were expressed in response to this question.

One, that even if Yudhishtira had lost himself earlier, his wife remained under his control, so he could stake her.

Two, that an unfree man (as Yudhishtira was when he had lost himself) could not stake another person. The matter remained unresolved; ultimately,

Dhritarashtra restored to the Pandavas and Draupadi their personal freedom.

(15.1) How did Draupadi's question unsettle everyone in the assembly? [2]

(15.2) What was the implication of her question? [3]

(15.3) What makes Draupadi's question admirable? [2]

**Answer :**

(15.1) Draupadi's question certainly unsettled everyone when she asked Yudhishtira whether he had lost himself before stoking her.

(15.2) Draupadi asked whether an unfree man (Yudhishtira) could stake a person. It was certainly a logical query. However, the whole matter remain unresolved. Finally, Dhritarashtra restored to the Pandavas and Draupadi their personal freedom.

(15.3) Draupadi's question was not only logical but also analytical. It had a touch of morality and equality.

16. Read the following paragraph carefully and answer the questions that follow :

**The Poor Peasant**

An excerpt from Bernier's description of the peasantry in the countryside :

Of the vast tracts of country constituting the empire of Hindustan, many are little more than sand, or barren mountains, badly cultivated, and thinly populated. Even a considerable portion of the good land. Even a remains untilled for want of labourers; many of whom perish in consequence of the bad treatment they experience from Governors. The poor people, when they become incapable of discharging the demands of their rapacious lords, are not only often deprived of the means of subsistence, but are also made to lose their children, who are carried away as slaves. Thus, it happens that the peasantry, driven to despair by so excessive a tyranny, abandon the country.

In this instance, Bernier was participating in contemporary debates in Europe concerning the nature of state and society, and intended that his description of Mughal India would serve as a warning to those who did not recognize the merits' of private property.

(16.1) Name the book written by the Francois Bernier on the critical insight and reflection on the empire of Hindustan. [1]

(16.2) What description Bernier has given on the condition of Indian peasantry during the Mughal Empire? [3]



**(16.3) Which fundamental differences he found between Mughal India and Europe during 16th and 17th century ? [3]**

**Answer :**

**(16.1)** Francois Bernier's book name was, 'Travel in the Mughal Empire'.

**(16.2) (i)** Bernier gave a subdued description on the condition of Indian peasantry during the Mughal Empire.

**(ii)** The poor and resourceless peasants became incapable of discharging the demands of their greedy owners.

**(iii)** Peasants were not only deprived of the means, of subsistence, but were also made to lose their children, who were carried away as slaves.

**(16.3) (i)** According to Bernier, one of the fundamental differences between Mughal India and Europe was the shortage of private property in land in the Mughal India.

**(ii)** Bernier was a staunch supporter of private property. He felt that in the Mughal Empire the emperor owned all the land and distributed the same among his nobles. However, it had disastrous results for the economy and society.

**(iii)** Bernier opined that there was no middle state in India. On the other hand, none of the Mughal official documents suggest that the state was the only owner of land.

**17. Read the following paragraph carefully and answer the questions that follow :**

**"No space for divided loyalty"**

Govind Ballabh Pant argued that in order to become loyal citizens people had to stop focusing only on the community and the self.

For the success of democracy one must train himself in the art of self-discipline.

In Democracies one should care less for himself and more for others. There 'cannot be any divided loyalty. All loyalties must exclusively be centered round the state. If in a democracy, you create rival loyalties, or you create a system in which any individual or group, instead of suppressing his extravagance, cares nought for larger or other interests, then democracy is doomed.

**(17.1) Why did Govind Ballabh Pant lay more stress on the art of self-discipline ? [2]**

**(17.2) What was considered important for the success of democracy ? [3]**

**(17.3) "In democracies one should careless for himself and more for other." Give your views on this philospoy. [2]**

**Answer :**

**(17.1)** Govind Ballabh Pant laid more stress on self-discipline. Without democratic discipline we cannot sustain the lofty ideals and values of democracy.

**(17.2) (i)** For the success of democracy one should have loyalty towards the state.

**(ii)** There is no room for, internal differences and divided loyalties in a democratic system.

**(iii)** All the citizens should be committed to national unity and integrity.

**(17.3) (i)** The philosophy of democracy is based on the dictum of "One should careless for himself and more others."

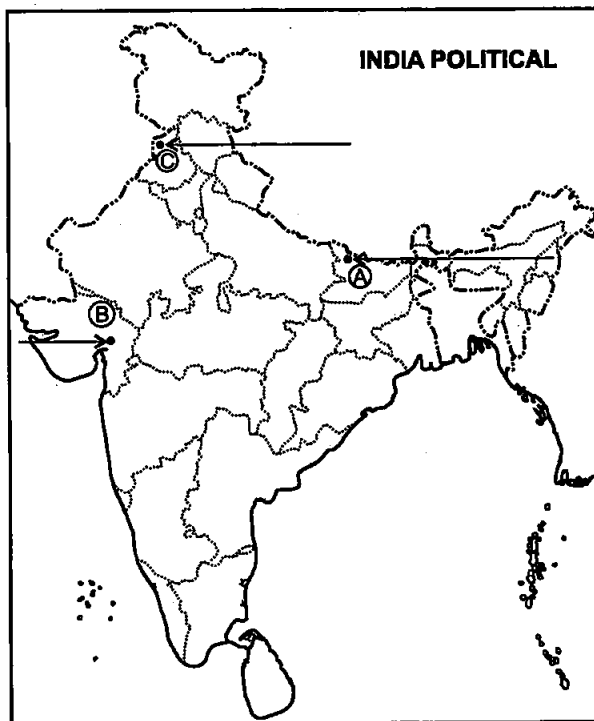
**(ii)** We should take care of other people's rights and there should be total commitment towards secular and democratic values.

**PART-E**

**18. (18.1) On the given political outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols : [ 2]**

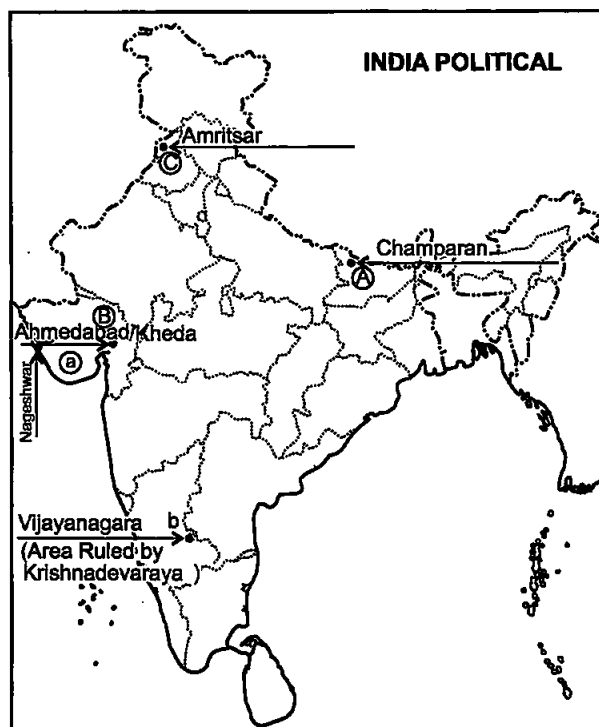
**(a) Nageshwar**

**(b) The area where Krishna Deva Raya ruled.**



**(18.2) On the same outline map of India three places related to the Indian National Movement have been marked as A, B and C. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them. [3]**

Answer :



## History 2015 (Delhi)

## SET II

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum marks : 80

Note : Except for the following questions, all the remaining questions have been asked in previous set.

### PART-A

1. Why is James Princep's contribution considered as the historic development in the Indian epigraphy ? [2]

**Answer :** James Princep, was an officer in the mint of the East India Company.

His contribution in the development of Indian epigraphy was that he was able to decipher Brahmi and Kharosti scripts used in the earliest inscriptions and coins.

2. Analyse how did the introduction of the railways by the British prove advantageous for the Indians in the late nineteenth century. [2]

**Answer :** (i) The introduction of the railways changed the scope and area of economic activities from traditional towns to new cities which were linked to railways.

(ii) The country side from where raw materials and labour were drawn became linked to these port cities. Areas of social and economic mobility enhanced.

### PART-B

4. "Jotedars inevitably weakened zamindars in Bengal, by the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century." Give arguments to support the statement. [4]

**Answer :** In an early nineteenth century, Jotedars were a class of rich peasants. They acquired vast areas of land and controlled local trade as well as money lending. Thus exercising immense power over the poorer cultivators of the region. A large part of their land was cultivated through share croppers who brought their own ploughs, labourers in the field and handed over half the produce to Jotedars after the harvest.

#### More effective than that of Zamindars :

Within the villages, the power of Jotedars was more effective than that of zamindars. The zamindars who often lived in urban areas whereas the Jotedars were located in the villages and exercised direct control over a considerable section of poor villagers. They forcefully resisted efforts by zamindars to increase the jama of the village, prevented zamindars officials from executing their duties, mobilised ryots, who were dependent on them, and deliberately delayed payments of revenue to zamindar. When the estates

of the zamindars were auctioned for failure to make revenue payment, Jotedars were often the purchasers. So, the rise of Jotedars inevitably weakened zamindari authority.

**5. Explain the distinctive features of the residential buildings of the Mohenjodaro. [4]**

**Answer : (i)** The lower town at Mohenjodaro gives instances of residential buildings. Several of these buildings were situated on a courtyard with rooms on all sides.

**(ii)** It seems that the courtyard was the centre of various activities e.g., weaving and cooking. However, there were no windows in the walls along the ground level. Moreover, the main entrance does not provide a direct view of the courtyard.

**(iii)** Every residential building comprised of its own bathroom paved with bricks. Drains were connected through the wall to the street drains.

**(iv)** Some buildings had remains of staircases to reach a second storey or the roof of the house. In several houses, wells have been found, usually in a room that could be approached from the outside. Probably, it could be used by passers-by.

**6. "One important pillar of the Mughal administration was the nobility." Justify. [4]**

**Answer :** One of the most important pillar of the Mughal state was its corps of officers, also referred to by historians collectively as the nobility.

The nobility was recruited from diverse ethnic and religious groups, which ensured that no faction was large enough to challenge the authority of the state. This corps of the Mughals was described as a bouquet of flowers held together by loyalty to the emperor. Turani and Iranian nobles were the earliest in Akbar's imperial service. Many had accompanied Humayun and others migrated later to the Mughal Court.

From 1560 onwards, two ruling groups of Indian origin entered the imperial service, the Rajputs and the Indian Muslims. The first to join was a Rajput chief, Raja Baharmal Kachhwaha of Amber, to whose daughter Akbar got married.

Iranians joined high offices under Jahangir as his politically influential queen Nur Jahan was an Iranian. Aurangzeb appointed Rajputs to high positions and under him the Marathas accounted for a sizeable number within the body of officers.

All holders of the government offices held ranks or mansabs having designation of *Zat*, it was the indication of position in the imperial hierarchy and the salary of the Mansabdar, and the second one was of *Sawar* indicating the number of horsemen he was required to maintain in service.

The nobles participated in military campaigns and also served as officers of the empire in provinces.

**8. Analyse the impact of partition of India on Punjab and Bengal. [4]**

**Answer : (i) Impact of partition of India on Punjab :** Impact of partition was horrible. It destabilized the foundation of mankind. People had to face harrowing experiences. The results of partition were most destructive and bloody in the Punjab. Almost complete displacement of Hindus and Sikhs eastwards into India from west Punjab and of almost all Punjabi-speaking Muslims to Pakistan created untold stories of horror.

**(ii) Impact of partition of India on Bengal :** In Bengal the overall situation was equally serious and horrible. Here, the process of migration was more protracted with people moving across a porous border. However, in Bengal the exchange of population was not near total. Consequently, several Bengali Hindus remained in East Pakistan while several Bengali Muslims continued to remain in West Bengal. In East Pakistan Jinnah's two-nation theory was rejected by the Bengali Muslims.

**9. "The Amar-Nayaka system was the major political innovation of the Vijayanagar Empire." Elaborate. [4]**

**Answer : Amar-Nayakas :** Amara Nayaka system was a major political innovation of the Vijaynagar Empire. The Amar-Nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern by the raya. They collected taxes and other dues from peasants, crafts persons and traders in the area and retained part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingents of horses and elephants. The contingents provided the Vijaynagar Kings with an effective fighting force with which they brought the entire southern peninsula under their control. Some of the revenue was also used for the maintenance of temples and irrigation works.

**History 2015 (Delhi)****SET III****Time allowed : 3 hours****Maximum marks : 80**

**Note : Except for the following questions, all the remaining questions have been asked in previous set.**

**PART-A**

1. Why is the sixth century BCE often regarded as a major turning point in the early Indian history ? [2]

**Answer : (i)** The 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE is generally regarded as an important turning point in early-history. It was an era associated with early states.

**(ii)** This period also experienced the development of diverse systems of thought, including Buddhism and Jainism.

3. Point out one supportive and one conservative view on the opportunities provided to the Indian women in the colonial cities. [2]

**Answer : (i)** Conservatives, were of this opinion that the education of women would turn the World upside down. They would endanger the basis of the whole social fabric.

**(ii)** After sometime, women became more visible in public life. They began to join new professions in the city as domestic and factory workers, teachers and theatre and film actresses.

**PART-B**

4. Analyse the role of memories and oral narratives in constructing the history of the partition of India. [4]

**Answer : Memories and Experiences :** Millions of people viewed partition in terms of the suffering and challenges of the times. For them it was no mere constitutional divisions or just the party politics of the Muslim League Congress and others. For them, it meant the unexpected alterations in life as it unfolded between 1946 and 1950 and beyond requiring psychological, emotional and social adjustments. Memories and experiences shape the reality of an event.

**Oral Narration :** Oral history allows historians to broaden, the boundaries of their discipline by rescuing from oblivion, the lived experiences of the poor and the powerless. The oral history of partition has succeeded in exploring the experiences of those men and women whose existence has hitherto been ignored, taken for granted or mentioned only in passing in mainstream history.

5. "The arguments and evidences offered by the Fifth-Report cannot be accepted uncritically." Give arguments. [4]

**Answer : (i)** The Fifth Report was the report on the administration and activities of the East India

Company in India. From the time the company established its rule in Bengal in the mid 1760s its activities were closely watched and debated in England.

**(ii)** There are many groups in England who were opposed to the monopoly that the East India Company had over trade with India and China, who wanted a revocation of the Royal Charter that gave the company this monopoly.

**(iii)** Also the private traders wanted a share in India trade and the British Industrialists were keen to open up the Indian market for British manufacturers. Many political groups argued that the conquest of Bengal was benefiting only the East India Company but not the British National as a whole.

**(iv)** Information about company misrule and maladministration was hotly debated in Britain and incidents of the greed and corruption of company officials were widely publicised in the Press. The British Parliament passed a series of Acts in the late 18th century to regulate the control company rule in India. The Acts forced the company to produce regular reports on the administration of India and appointed committees to enquire into the affairs of the company. The Fifth Report was one such report produced by a Select Committee.

6. "Abul Fazl has described the ideal of Sulh-i-Kul of Akbar as the corner-stone of his enlightened rule." Justify. [4]

**Answer :** Sulh-i-Kul as describe by Abul Fazl was absolute peace as the corner stone of enlightened rule. Mughal chronicles present the empire as comprising many different ethnic and religious communities—Hindus, Jainas, Zoroastrians and Muslims. As the source of all peace and stability the emperor stood above all religions and ethnic groups, mediated among them, and ensured that justice and peace prevailed.

In Sulh-i-Kul all religions and schools of thought had freedom of expression but on condition that they did not undermine the authority of state or fight among themselves.

The idea of Sulh-i-Kul was implemented through state policies in which nobilities comprising of Iranis, Turanis, Afgans, Rajputs, Deccanis all of whom were given positions and awards purely on the basis of their service and loyalty to the king.

Akbar abolished the tax of pilgrimage in 1563 and Jizya in 1564 as the two were based on religious discrimination for which instructions were sent to

officers of the empire to follow the precept of Sulh-i-Kul in administration.

All Mughal emperors gave grants to support the building and maintenance of places of worship.

**7. Critically examine the limitations of the inscriptional evidences in understanding political and economic history of India. [4]**

**Answer :** Epigraphists face limitations of Inscriptional evidence in the following way :

**(i) Technical limitations :** Sometimes the letters are very faintly engraved and thus, there is uncertainty of reconstructions, inscriptions may be damaged or letters missing. It is not always easy to be sure about the exact meaning of the words used in inscriptions, some of which may be specific to a particular place or time. This has led the scholars constantly debating and discussing alternative ways of reading inscription.

**(ii) Problem of deciphering :** Although several thousand inscriptions have been discovered, not all have been deciphered, published and translated. Besides many more inscriptions must have existed, which have not survived the ravages of time. Therefore, what is available at present is probably only a fraction of what was inscribed.

**(iii) Fundamental problem :** Fundamental problem is not everything that we may consider politically or economically significant was necessarily recorded in inscriptions. For example, routine agricultural practices and the joys and sorrows of daily existence find no mention in inscriptions, which focus more often than not on grand, unique events. Besides the content of inscriptions almost invariably protects the perspective of the persons who commissioned them. Therefore, they need to be juxtaposed with other perspectives so as to arrive at a better understanding of the past.

Thus, epigraphy alone does not provide a full understanding of political and economic history for which historians often questioned both old and new evidence.

**8. Explain the strategies used by the archaeologists to understand socio-economic differences among the Harappans. [4]**

**Answer :** Archaeologists generally use the following strategies to find out the social and economic differences amongst people living within a particular culture in Harappan civilisation.

**(i) Burials :** At burials in Harappan sites the dead were laid in pits which were made in different ways like the hollowed out spaces were lined with bricks.

Some graves contained pottery and ornaments, indicating a belief that these could be used in the afterlife. Jewellery has been found in burials of both men and women.

An ornament consisting of three shell rings, a jasper bead and hundreds of micro-beads was found near the skull of a male was found in excavations at the cemetery in Harappa in the mid 1980's. Dead were also found buried with copper mirrors in some cases.

**(ii) Luxuries :** Objects of daily use made of ordinary materials like stone or clay which were querns, pottery, needles, flesh-rubbers were usually found distributed throughout settlements. Archaeologists also found out objects which were rare and made of costly, non-local materials or complicated technologies. Thus, little pots of faience were considered precious as they were difficult to make. The distribution of rare artefacts of valuable materials were concentrated in large settlements like Mohenjodaro and Harappa and rarely found in the smaller settlements. For example, miniature pots of faience, used as perfume bottles, were found in Mohenjodaro and Harappa and there were none from small settlements like Kalibangan.

Thus, the findings of the above artifacts prove that there were social and economic differences in Harappan culture.

**9. "The rulers of Vijayanagara innovated and developed new traditions in the Virupaksha temple." Elaborate. [4]**

**Answer :** The distinctive physical location of Vijayanagara Empire has helped to meet the requirement of water in the following way :

The striking feature about the location of Vijaynagar is the natural basin formed by river Tungabhadra which flows in north easternly direction. A number of streams flow down to the river from the granite hills that seem to form a girdle around the city.

Embankments were built along these streams to create reservoirs of varying sizes. Elaborate arrangements had to be made to store rain water and conduct it to the city as Vijaynagar is one of the most arid zones of the peninsula. The most important tank was built in the early years of the 15th C was known as Kamalapuram tank, water from this tank was used for irrigating the fields as well as conducted through a channel to the 'Royal Centre'. Another most prominent waterwork to be seen among the ruins is the Hiriya Canal. This canal drew water from a dam across the Tungabhadra and irrigated the cultivated valley that separated the "sacred centre from the urban core". This was built by the kings of the Sangama dynasty.





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