

CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2023

HISTORY

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours

Maximum Marks : 91

General Instructions :

Read the following instructions carefully and follow them :

- i. This question paper contains **40 questions**. All questions are **compulsory**.
- ii. This question paper is divided into **4 sections**.
- iii. **Section A** – questions number **1 to 7** are case based questions
- iv. **Section B** – questions number **8 to 26** are multiple choice questions
- v. **Section C** – questions number **27 to 34** are short answer
- vi. **Section D** – questions number **35 to 40** are long answer
- vii. There is no overall choice given in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in few questions.
- viii. Use of calculator is NOT allowed.

Section A

Question 1.

Read the following source and answer the questions that follow:

The Therigatha

This unique Buddhist text, part of the Sutta Pitaka, is a collection of verses composed by bhikkhunis. It provides an insight into women's social and spiritual experiences. Punna, a dasi or slave woman, went to the river each morning to fetch water for her master's household. There she would daily see a Brahmana performing bathing rituals. One

morning she spoke to him. The following are verses composed by Punna, recording her conversation with the Brahmana:

I am a water carrier:

Even in the cold

I have always gone down to the water

frightened of punishment

Or the angry words of high class women.

So what are you afraid of Brahmana,

That makes you go down to the water

(Though) your limbs shake with the bitter cold?

The Brahmana replied:

I am doing good to prevent evil;

anyone young or old

who has done something bad

is freed by washing in water.

Punna said:

Whoever told you

You are freed from evil by washing in the water?....

In that case all the frogs and turtles

Would go to heaven, and so would the water snakes

and crocodiles!

(Instead) Don't do that thing.

the fear of which leads you to the water.

Stop now Brahmana!

Save your skin from the cold....

Question 2.

Read the following source and answer the questions that follow:

The Therigatha

This unique Buddhist text, part of the Sutta Pitaka, is a collection of verses composed by bhikkhunis. It provides an insight into women's social and spiritual experiences. Punna, a dasi or slave woman, went to the river each morning to fetch water for her master's household. There she would daily see a Brahmana performing bathing rituals. One morning she spoke to him. The following are verses composed by Punna, recording her conversation with the Brahmana:

I am a water carrier:

Even in the cold

I have always gone down to the water frightened of punishment

Or the angry words of high class women.

So what are you afraid of Brahmana,

That makes you go down to the water (Though)

your limbs shake with the bitter cold?

The Brahmana replied: I am doing good to prevent evil;

anyone young or old who has done

something bad is freed by washing in water.

Punna said: Whoever told you You are freed from evil by washing in the water?....

In that case all the frogs and turtles

Would go to heaven, and so would the water snakes

and crocodiles!

(Instead) Don't do that thing.

the fear of which leads you to the water.

Stop now Brahmana! Save your skin from the cold....

Question 3.

Question 4.

Read the following source and answer the questions that follow:

The Therigatha

This unique Buddhist text, part of the Sutta Pitaka, is a collection of verses composed by bhikkhunis. It provides an insight into women's social and spiritual experiences. Punna, a dasi or slave woman, went to the river each morning to fetch water for her master's household. There she would daily see a Brahmana performing bathing rituals. One morning she spoke to him. The following are verses composed by Punna, recording her conversation with the Brahmana :

I am a water carrier :

Even in the cold

I have always gone down to the water

frightened of punishment

Or the angry words of high class women.

So what are you afraid of Brahmana,

That makes you go down to the water

(Though) your limbs shake with the bitter cold ?

The Brahmana replied:

I am doing good to prevent evil;

anyone young or old who has done something bad

is freed by washing in water. Punna said : Whoever told you You are freed from evil by washing in the water ?

In that case all the frogs and turtles

Would go to heaven, and so would the water snakes and crocodiles!

(instead) Don't do that thing,

the fear of which

leads you to the water.

Stop now Brahmana!

(1)

How does the text provide an insight into Punna's spiritual experience?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The text offers a profound insight into Punna's spiritual experience by illustrating her questioning of established beliefs and practices. As a dasi, Punna is acutely aware of her societal position and the rituals that govern the actions of higher classes, like that of the Brahmana. Her conversation reveals a deep inner conviction that true spiritual cleansing cannot be achieved merely through physical acts, like bathing in water. Instead, she suggests that moral actions and the absence of fear should guide one's path to spirituality. Her assertive questioning of the Brahmana's beliefs about the cleansing power of water and the analogy she draws with animals emphasizes that liberation from evil cannot merely depend on rituals; rather, it requires genuine reflection and moral conduct. Thus, Punna's spiritual experience is characterized by a quest for deeper understanding and authenticity, challenging societal norms and promoting a more egalitarian view of spirituality.

Key Points: Punna's position as a dasi; questioning of Brahmana's beliefs; distinction between ritual and moral purity; emphasis on genuine spiritual understanding; challenge to societal norms

(2)

How is Punna reflected as an awakened soul ?

[1 Marks]

Answer: Punna, as depicted in 'The Therigatha', exemplifies the qualities of an awakened soul through her profound understanding of true freedom and spiritual insight. Firstly, she challenges the Brahmana's belief that physical purification through water can cleanse one of evil deeds, illustrating her critical thinking and deep awareness of the moral implications of actions. Secondly, Punna's role as a dasi highlights her humility and life experiences, which inform her wisdom. By questioning the Brahmana, she conveys a significant truth: that true liberation comes not from external rituals but from internal moral integrity. Lastly, her refusal to succumb to societal expectations and her courage to express her thoughts demonstrate her enlightenment, making her a powerful voice in the discourse on spirituality and ethics.

Thus, Punna embodies the awakened soul who perceives beyond surface rituals to the essence of moral conduct and self-realization.

Key Points: Punna questions the Brahmana's understanding of purification; Punna's life experience contributes to her wisdom; She emphasizes moral integrity over ritualistic practices; Her courage to speak against societal norms reflects enlightenment.

(3)

Which of the teachings to Buddha are evident in the composition ?

[2 Marks]

Answer: In the composition from The Therigatha, several teachings of the Buddha are reflected through the conversation between Punna and the Brahmana. One prominent teaching is the emphasis on understanding the true nature of actions and the idea that mere ritualistic practices, like bathing in water, do not purify one from evil deeds. Punna challenges the Brahmana's belief that physical cleansing can absolve one of wrongdoing, illustrating the Buddhist principle that mental intentions and actions are what truly determine one's moral standing. Furthermore, Punna's position as a dasi or slave woman highlights the message of the Buddha regarding the equality of all individuals and the importance of inner virtue over social status. This conversation also embodies the teaching of mindfulness and awareness, as Punna encourages the Brahmana to confront his fears rather than rely on superficial rituals for spiritual cleansing. Thus, the text reflects fundamental Buddhist concepts such as moral action, inner purity, and the equality of all beings.

Key Points: Moral actions over rituals–Equality of individuals–Mindfulness and awareness in actions

Question 5.

Read the following source and answer the questions that follow:

Education and Entertainment

This is what Ibn Juzayy, who was deputed to write what Ibn Battuta dictated, said in his introduction :

A gracious direction was transmitted (by the ruler) that he (Ibn Battuta) should dictate an account of the cities which he had seen in his travel, and of the interesting events which had clung to his memory, and that he should speak of those whom he had met of the rulers of countries, of their-distinguished men of learning, and their pious saints. Accordingly, he dictated upon these subjects a narrative which gave entertainment to the mind and delight to the ears and eyes, with a variety of curious particulars by the exposition of which he gave edification and of marvellous things, by referring to which he aroused interest.

(1)

Why did the Sultan of Morocco insist Ibn Battuta to dictate the story of his travel to Ibn Juzayy ?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The Sultan of Morocco insisted that Ibn Battuta dictate the story of his travels for several reasons. Firstly, Ibn Battuta's extensive travels through diverse regions, including North Africa, Asia, and parts of Europe, made his experiences rich with knowledge about various cultures, societies, and governance, which was valuable information for both the Sultan and the people of Morocco. Secondly, the ruler recognized Ibn Battuta's ability to narrate these experiences in an engaging way that would entertain and edify listeners, thus serving the purpose of education and fostering curiosity among the audience. Finally, documenting Ibn Battuta's journeys would preserve historical accounts of significant events and notable figures from his encounters, contributing to the cultural heritage and intellectual growth of Moroccan society. Therefore, the Sultan's directive was not only to capture a personal narrative but also to enrich the collective understanding of the world during that time.

Key Points: Ibn Battuta's extensive travels; valuable cultural and governance knowledge; engaging narrative style; education and entertainment; preservation of historical accounts

(2)

Highlight the places Ibn Battuta explored during his travel.

[1 Marks]

Answer: Ibn Battuta, the renowned Moroccan traveler, explored a vast range of places during his extensive journeys. His travels took him through North Africa, where he visited cities such as Tangier and Marrakech. He traversed West Asia, including

significant locations like Mecca and Baghdad. In addition, he ventured into parts of Central Asia, possibly reaching as far as Russia, engaging with various cultures along the way. His explorations also included the Indian subcontinent, where he documented the social and cultural life of prosperous cities before ultimately returning to his homeland in Morocco.

Key Points: North Africa - West Asia - Central Asia - Indian subcontinent - Morocco

(3)

What do Ibn Battuta's travel account reveal about the things he noted in India ?

[2 Marks]

Answer: Ibn Battuta's travel accounts reveal detailed observations about the cities of India during his visit in the fourteenth century. He noted the thriving economies and the bustling trade centers, describing cities as densely populated and prosperous. Battuta highlighted the diverse cultures and traditions he encountered, reflecting a vibrant society connected to a global network of communication that spanned from China to Africa. He also observed the occasional disruptions caused by wars and invasions, showcasing the challenges faced by the region despite its overall prosperity. Furthermore, he documented his interactions with local rulers, distinguished scholars, and pious individuals, thus emphasizing the rich tapestry of life in India that both entertained and educated his audience.

Key Points: Densely populated cities-Prosperous trade centers-Diverse cultures and traditions-Global trade connections-Interactions with rulers and scholars-Impact of wars and invasions

Question 6.

Read the following source and answer the questions that follows:

A newspaper report

The following report, titled "The ryot and the moneylender", appeared in the Native Opinion (6 June, 1876), and was quoted in Report of the Native Newspapers of Bombay :

They (the ryots) first place spies on the boundaries of their villages to see if any Government officers come, and to give timely intimation of their arrival to the offenders.

They then assemble in a body and go to the houses of their creditors, and demand from them a surrender of their bonds and other documents, and threaten them in case of refusal with assault and plunder. If any Government officer happens to approach the villages where the above is taking place, the spies give intimation to the offenders and the latter disperse in time.

(1)

What does the given report of newspaper show about the Deccan Countryside ?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The newspaper report titled 'The ryot and the moneylender' highlights a significant aspect of the social and economic conditions in the Deccan countryside during the late 19th century. It reveals that ryots (peasants) were in a desperate situation due to their debts to moneylenders. The report describes how ryots organized themselves to confront their creditors, which indicates a collective struggle against oppression. They employed tactics such as placing spies to alert them about government officers, demonstrating the fear of legal repercussions that they faced. The assembly of ryots to demand the return of bonds shows their unity and resistance against exploitation. This reflects the larger agrarian distress in the region, fueled by colonial policies that exacerbated their financial struggles, leading to revolts and a breakdown of traditional societal structures.

Key Points: ryots organizing against moneylenders–collective action against oppression–fear of government intervention–agrarian distress under colonial rule

(2)

Examine the causes of revolt by the ryots against moneylender.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The revolt by the ryots against moneylenders can be attributed to several interconnected factors. Firstly, the ryots felt betrayed by moneylenders whom they perceived as deceitful and manipulative, often forging documents and exploiting legal loopholes to their advantage. Many peasants faced mounting debts due to high interest rates and unfair practices by the moneylenders, leading them to seek relief from their oppressive financial burdens. Additionally, the introduction of the Limitation Law in 1859 by the British, which protected moneylenders and made it difficult for ryots to contest debts, further fueled resentment and anger among the agrarian community. Furthermore, during the 1875 revolt in the Deccan, the ryots began to see

moneylenders as complicit allies of colonial power, identifying them as oppressors who supported the British against the interests of the peasantry. This perception galvanized the ryots to band together, taking drastic actions against moneylenders, including threatening them and resorting to violence. Overall, the combination of financial exploitation, perceived betrayal, and colonial complicity led to a significant uprising among the ryots against moneylenders.

Key Points: Deceptive practices of moneylenders - Exploitative loan conditions - Introduction of the Limitation Law - Perceived alliance between moneylenders and British authorities - Rise of collective action among ryots

(3)

Examine the ways through which ryots spied the British.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The ryots employed a systematic approach to spy on the British government officers by positioning spies at the boundaries of their villages. These spies were tasked with monitoring any approach from government officials. Upon spotting such officials, the spies would promptly inform the ryots, enabling them to gather and prepare to confront their creditors, particularly moneylenders, who they felt exploited them. This method of surveillance was crucial as it provided the ryots an opportunity to evade the authorities and protect their interests during confrontations with moneylenders, thereby illustrating their resistance against oppressive practices.

Key Points: Spying at village boundaries - Timely communication about government officials - Gathering to confront moneylenders - Evading authorities for protection

Question 7.

On the given political outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols :

(1)

Sanchi—A Stupa

[1 Marks]

Answer: To locate Sanchi on the political outline map of India, identify its position in Madhya Pradesh, approximately 46 km northeast of Bhopal. Mark the location with a symbol representing a stupa, such as a small circle or triangle, and include the label 'Sanchi' next to it. It is known for the Great Stupa, an important Buddhist site that showcases intricate carvings and historical inscriptions, which provide significant insights into early Buddhism.

Key Points: Sanchi is located in Madhya Pradesh-Represent with a stupa symbol-Adjacent labeling with 'Sanchi'-Significance for Buddhism

(2)

Dholavira –A matured Harappan Site

[1 Marks]

Answer: Dholavira is an important archaeological site of the Mature Harappan civilization located in the present-day state of Gujarat, India. It is situated on the arid island of Khadir and is known for its sophisticated urban planning, water conservation systems, and the use of stone in architecture. Its strategic location provided access to trade routes and showcased advanced subsistence strategies, including agriculture and animal husbandry. Archaeological excavations have revealed complex drainage systems, public buildings, and evidence of a thriving economy, making Dholavira a significant site for understanding the Harappan culture.

Key Points: Location in Gujarat-Advanced urban planning-Water conservation systems

(3)

Shahjahanabad (Delhi) – Territory under the control of Mughals.

[1 Marks]

Answer: To locate and label Shahjahanabad on the political outline map of India, draw a circle or dot on the coordinates corresponding to Delhi. Use the symbol of a star to denote its significance as the territory under the control of the Mughal Empire. Clearly label it 'Shahjahanabad' to identify its historical importance as a center of Mughal rule.

Key Points: Identify the location of Shahjahanabad; Use an appropriate symbol (circle or star); Label clearly as 'Shahjahanabad'; Mention its significance as the Mughal capital.

(4)

Name the capital of Vijayanagara empire.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The capital of the Vijayanagara Empire was Vijayanagara, which means 'city of victory'. Established in the 14th century by the brothers Harihara and Bukka, it served as a significant cultural and political center until it was sacked in 1565. The city's layout and distinctive architecture reflected its prominence during the empire's zenith.

Key Points: Vijayanagara was the capital city of the Vijayanagara Empire- Founded in the 14th century by Harihara and Bukka-Served as a prominent cultural and political center until 1565

(5)

Golconda – An empire of 14th to 18th century.

[1 Marks]

Answer: To locate and label Golconda on the political outline map of South India, you need to identify its historical significance in the context of the 14th to 18th centuries. Golconda, known for its fortress and diamond trade, was a prominent city and the capital of an important South Indian kingdom during this period. You should mark Golconda in the central region of modern-day Telangana. Use a symbol such as a star or dot to indicate its location. Moreover, label the area with the name 'Golconda'. This city played a crucial role in the political landscape of South India and served as a strategic stronghold and trade center.

Key Points: Identify the location of Golconda on the map - Use a star or dot symbol - Label it clearly as 'Golconda' - Mention its significance in the 14th to 18th centuries

(6)

Name any two centres of the Revolt of 1857.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Two significant centres of the Revolt of 1857 are Meerut and Delhi. These locations played a crucial role in the uprising against British colonial rule, with Meerut being the starting point of the revolt, and Delhi becoming the center of the rebellion as it was declared the capital of the resistance.

Key Points: Meerut-Delhi

(7)

Name any two sites of the matured Harappan period.

[2 Marks]

Answer: Two prominent sites of the Mature Harappan period are Mohenjo-daro and Harappa. Mohenjo-daro, located in present-day Pakistan, is known for its advanced urban planning and sophisticated drainage system. Harappa, also in Pakistan, showcases remarkable brick architecture and evidence of trade, indicating a well-developed society during the Mature Harappan culture.

Key Points: Mohenjo-daro-Harappa-Advanced urban planning

(8)

Name any one territory under the control of Mughal empire.

[1 Marks]

Answer: One territory under the control of the Mughal Empire was Agra. It was an important city during the Mughal era, serving as a political and cultural center, and was home to significant monuments such as the Taj Mahal.

Key Points: Agra - important Mughal city; political and cultural hub; notable for monuments like Taj Mahal.

(9)

On the same outline map, two places related with the centres of the Revolt of 1857 have been marked as 'A' and 'B'. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The two places marked on the map that are related to the centres of the Revolt of 1857 are: A - Meerut and B - Kanpur. These locations were pivotal in the uprising as they witnessed significant resistance against British forces and were crucial in the coordination of revolts across various regions.

Key Points: A - Meerut; B - Kanpur; centres of the Revolt of 1857; significant resistance against British; coordination of revolts

Section B

Question 8.

Who among the following was the author of 'ashtadhyayi', work on the Sanskrit grammar?

[1 Marks]

(A) Charaka

(B) Panini

(C) Bhardwaj

(D) Aryabhatta

Explanation: The correct answer is Panini, as he is known for his work 'Ashtadhyayi', which is a comprehensive treatise on Sanskrit grammar, laying down the rules of Sanskrit phonetics, morphology, and syntax.

Question 9.

Which one of the following statement is correct?

[1 Marks]

(A) Budha delivered his first sermon in bodhgaya

(B) Budha attained enlightenment in lubini

(C) Budha was born in sanchi

(D) Budha attained mahaparinirvana at kushinagar

Explanation: The correct statement is 'Buddha attained mahaparinirvana at Kushinagar.' This is accurate as Buddhist literature indicates that Kushinagar is the location where Buddha attained nibbana or mahaparinirvana after his death.

Question 10.

Which one of the following countries did 'Afanasi Nikitins' belong to?

[1 Marks]

(A) Russia

(B) Portugal

(C) Spain

(D) France

Explanation:

Afanasi Nikitin was a Russian traveler and merchant who is known for his travels to India during the 15th century. Therefore, the correct answer is Russia.

Question 11.

Consider the following statements regarding the early traditions of Bhakti and select the correct ones:

I. Historians draw on hagiographies of saints for knowing traditions.

II. Many beliefs and practices were shaped through 'great' and 'little' Sanskrit Puranic traditions.

III. Bhakti tradition was classified into two broad categories Saguna and Nirguna.

IV. God was worshipped with attributes in the Nirguna bhakti.

[1 Marks]

(A) IV, I, II

(B) III, IV, II

(C) I, II, III

(D) I, IV, III

Explanation:

The correct options are III and I. Statement III is correct as the Bhakti tradition is indeed classified into two categories: Saguna (with attributes) and Nirguna (without attributes). However, statement IV is incorrect because it is the Saguna bhakti that involves worshipping God with attributes, while Nirguna bhakti focuses on the formless aspect of divinity. Statement II regarding the beliefs and practices is partially true but doesn't reflect the essence of the classification mentioned, and statement I lacks specificity regarding the historical context for evaluation. Thus, the most accurate selections reflecting the context are I, II, and III.

Question 12.

Which of the following crops were considered 'Jins -i -Kamil' in the mughal empire ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Cotton and sugarcane

(B) Chillies and Potatoes

(C) Rice and Wheat

(D) Maize and bajra

Explanation: The correct option is 'Cotton and sugarcane'. These crops were referred to as jins-i kamil (perfect crops) in the Mughal Empire, as they were cultivated extensively for commercial purposes, bringing in more revenue to the state. Cotton was widely grown in central India and the Deccan plateau, while Bengal was renowned for its sugar production.

Question 13.

Which of the following statements regarding Krishnadeva roy is incomplete ?

[1 Marks]

(A) He belong to tuluva dynasty

(B) His rule was characterised by expansion and consolidation.

(C) He composed a work on statecraft known as ' Amuktamalyada'.

(D) He founded suburban township called Krishnapuram

Explanation: The correct answer is 'He founded suburban township called Krishnapuram.' This statement is incomplete because Krishnadeva Raya actually founded a suburban township called Nagalapuram after his mother, not Krishnapuram. The other statements about his dynasty, his rule, and his work on statecraft are accurate.

Question 14.

Identify the british official with the help of the following information and select the correct option:

- He was a Physician,came to india during 1794 to 1815
- he served as surgeon to the lord welllesley.
- He served in the begal medical services.
- He organised ' Culcutta alipore zoo'.

[1 Marks]

(A) Colon meckenzie

(B) Francis buchanan

(C) Marco polo

(D) Francois bernier

Explanation: The correct answer is Francis Buchanan. He was a physician who came to India and served in the Bengal medical services. He notably served as surgeon to Lord Wellesley and was involved in organizing the Calcutta Alipore Zoo. The context provided mentions the significant contributions of Francis Buchanan during his time in India.

Question 15.

Which one of the following dynasties was the first dynasty of vijanagara empire?

[1 Marks]

(A) Sangana dynasty

(B) Tuluva dynasty

(C) Saluva dynasty

(D) Aravidu dynasty

Explanation: The correct answer is the Sangama dynasty. According to the provided context, it was founded by two brothers, Harihara and Bukka, in 1336, marking the start of the Vijayanagara Empire. The subsequent dynasties mentioned, such as the Saluva and Tuluva, came later.

Question 16.

Find out the chronological order of the events of the Revolt of 1857:

- (I) Subsidiary alliance introduced by Wellesley in Awadh.
- (II) Nawab Wajid Ali Shah deposed.
- (III) Summary revenue settlement introduced in Awadh by the British.
- (IV) Mutiny started in Meerut.

[1 Marks]

(A) I, II, III, IV

(B) I, III, IV, II

(C) II, IV, III, I

(D) II, III, I, IV

Explanation:

The correct chronological order is I, III, II, IV. The Subsidiary Alliance was introduced in Awadh in 1801 (I), then the British introduced a summary revenue settlement to tighten control (III). Following these events, Nawab Wajid Ali Shah was deposed in 1856 (II). The mutiny began in Meerut in May 1857 (IV).

Question 17.

Find out the chronological order of the events of the Revolt of 1857:

- (I) Subsidiary alliance introduced by Wellesley in Awadh.
- (II) Nawab Wajid Ali Shah deposed.
- (III) Summary revenue settlement introduced in Awadh by the British.
- (IV) Mutiny started in Meerut.

[1 Marks]

(A) I, II, III, IV

(B) I,III, IV, II

(C) II, IV, III, I

(D) II, III, I, IV

Explanation: The correct chronological order is: I (Subsidiary alliance introduced by Wellesley in Awadh, 1801) occurred first, followed by III (Summary revenue settlement introduced in Awadh by the British), then II (Nawab Wajid Ali Shah deposed in 1856), and finally IV (Mutiny sparked in Meerut in 1857). The events reflect the build-up to the revolt, starting from the imposition of the Subsidiary Alliance, which laid the groundwork for British control, the subsequent annexation, and culminating in the widespread mutiny.

Question 18.

Assertion(A): Gandhiji called for a countrywide agitation against the Rowlatt act.

Reason(R) : British authorized the government to imprison people without trial.

[1 Marks]

(A) (A) is correct ,but (R) is not correct.

(B) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the explanation of (A)

(C) (R) is correct but (A) is not correct

(D) Both(A) and (R) are correct and (r) is thje correct explanation of (A).

Explanation: Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A). Gandhiji's call for agitation was directly a response to the oppressive measures of the Rowlatt Act, which allowed imprisonment without trial. This unjust law was a significant reason for his mobilization of the Indian populace against British rule.

Question 19.

Who among the following rulers worked onthe preservation of Sanchi stupa

[1 Marks]

(A) Ruksar begum

(B) jahanara begum

(C) roshnara begum

(D) shahjahan begum

Explanation: The correct answer is Shahjehan Begum. She, along with her successor Sultan Jehan Begum, provided funding for the preservation of the ancient Sanchi stupa, ensuring the site's maintenance and the display of its relics while preventing their removal by foreign entities.

Question 20.

In which of the following regions satvahanas ruled during second century BCE to second century CE?

[1 Marks]

(A) Deccan and eastern india

(B) Eastern and northern india

(C) Western and deccan india

(D) Northern and deccan india

Explanation:

The correct answer is 'Western and Deccan India' as the provided context specifies that the Satavahanas ruled over parts of western India and the Deccan during the specified time period (c. second century BCE to second century CE).

Question 21.

Who among the following rulers rebuilt 'Sudarshan lake'?

[1 Marks]

(A) Samudragupta

(B) Vikramaditya

(C) Rudradaman

(D) Chashtana

Explanation: The correct answer is Rudradaman, as mentioned in the context. Rudradaman was noted for rebuilding Sudarshan lake, and he is recognized as the best-known Shaka ruler during the second century CE.

Question 22.

Consider the given statements regarding constituent assembly and select the correct from the following options:

[1 Marks]

- (A) K.M munshi was called as frontier gandi.
- (B) G.B pant was the legal advisor.
- (C) Motila nehru moved resolution of national flag in the constituent assembly**
- (D) Sardar patel was the constitutional advisor

Explanation:

The correct option is 'Motila Nehru moved resolution of national flag in the constituent assembly.' This statement is accurate, as it references Jawaharlal Nehru, who actually moved the crucial 'Objectives Resolution' in the Constituent Assembly, highlighting his significant role. The other options are incorrect: Sardar Patel was not the Constitutional Advisor, K.M. Munshi was not called 'Frontier Gandhi,' and G.B. Pant was not the legal advisor.

Question 23.

Which one of the following regions was called as the "Nursery of the bengal army " by the british during 1850's ?

[1 Marks]

- (A) Barrackpur
- (B) Banaras
- (C) Awadh**
- (D) Azamgarh

Explanation: The correct answer is Awadh, as the provided context explicitly state that Awadh was referred to as the 'nursery of the Bengal Army.' This term highlights its significance as a region that supplied many soldiers to the British Indian Army during that period.

Question 24.

Assertion(A) : The book "Sipah abadi' was the important book on the military and civil administration of mughals.

Reason(R): Book includes short biographical sketches of imperial officials like Mansabdars , poet etc.

[1 Marks]

(A) Both(A) and (R) are correct and (r) is not the correct explanation of (A).

(B) (A) is correct but (R) is not correct

(C) Both(A) and (R) are correct and (r) is the correct explanation of (A).

(D) (R) is correct but (A) is not correct

Explanation: Both(A) and (R) are correct and (R) is not the correct explanation of (A). The 'Sipah abadi' is indeed an important book covering military and civil administration of the Mughals, as stated in Assertion(A). Reason(R) is also correct since it mentions the inclusion of biographical sketches of officials, but it does not directly explain why the book is deemed important regarding its military and civil administration focus.

Question 25.

Which of the following are correctly matched ?

I. Cholas in Tamil Nadu

II. Hoysala in Warangal

III. Sultans of the Deccan

IV. Gajapati of Orissa

[1 Marks]

(A) I, II and IV

(B) I, II and III

(C) I, III and IV

(D) II, III and IV

Explanation: The correct answer is I, III and IV. The Cholas are indeed associated with Tamil Nadu, while the Sultans of the Deccan and the Gajapati rulers of Orissa were significant powers in their respective regions. However, the Hoysala were primarily located in Karnataka, not Warangal, making option II incorrect.

Question 26.

Identify the character of Mahabharata with the help of the following information :

- Was the husband of Gandhari.
- Became the King of Hastinapur.

(A) Yudhisthira

(B) Dhritrashtra

(C) Duryodhana

(D) Pandu

Explanation: The correct answer is Dhritrashtra. He was the husband of Gandhari and became the King of Hastinapur after the death of his brother Pandu, as the royal princes were still young. This information aligns with the context provided regarding the succession of the throne.

Section C

Question 27.

Analyse the elements examined by historians on Mahabharata as a text.

[3 Marks]

Answer: Historians examine multiple elements of the Mahabharata to understand its historical significance. Firstly, its classification as an 'itihasa' indicates an intertwining of history and mythology, reflecting societal values and historical narratives from its time. The intricate language and style highlight its oral tradition, indicating how stories circulated among communities. Furthermore, historians identify the Mahabharata's narrative layers: the epic tale with moral and philosophical dimensions, and how the didactic elements provide insights into ancient Indian social practices, governance, and ethics. Overall, its multifaceted approach serves as a crucial resource for understanding historical perspectives and societal evolution in ancient India.

Question 28.

Describe any three feature of ancient numismatics.

[3 Marks]

Answer: Ancient numismatics, the study of coins, offers insights into economic and cultural life. Firstly, the emergence of punch-marked coins made from silver and copper around the sixth century BCE signifies the advent of coinage, facilitating trade and commerce. These coins were often linked to specific ruling dynasties, revealing political authority and governance, as they were frequently issued by kings such as the Mauryas. Secondly, coins served as vital evidence of commercial networks, enhancing our understanding of long-distance transactions. Lastly, the decline in the discovery of gold coins from around the

sixth century CE suggests economic shifts, raising questions about stability and prosperity in that era.

Question 29.

Why was Persian ambassador Abdur Razzaq greatly impressed by the fortification of Vijayanagara Empire? Explain

[3 Marks]

Answer: Abdur Razzaq, the Persian ambassador, was deeply impressed by the Vijayanagara Empire's fortifications due to their sophistication and strategic design. The empire featured multiple layers of walls that effectively enclosed agricultural land, ensuring the protection of vital resources. Razzaq observed that between these fortification layers were cultivated fields, gardens, and houses, showcasing the blend of military strength and agricultural prosperity. Such elaborate fortifications not only provided security but also reflected the empire's advanced architectural skills and its organized urban planning, which left a lasting impression on him.

Question 30.

Why was the 'Mahanavami Dibba' a centre of main Vijayanagara rituals? Explain.

[3 Marks]

Answer: The 'Mahanavami Dibba' served as a central hub for the primary rituals of the Vijayanagara Empire due to its grandeur and strategic location. Positioned on one of the highest points in the city, its massive platform illustrated the king's power, serving as a stage for significant ceremonies like Dussehra and Navaratri. Despite its incredible size, scholars note that the surrounding area was inadequate for large processions, reflecting the complexity of rituals held there. Its relief carvings and the presence of an audience hall emphasize its ceremonial significance, embodying the imperial culture that the Vijayanagara rulers had created, combining various traditions to showcase their prestige and authority during important festivities.

Question 31.

Examine the position of zamindars in the Mughal village society.

[3 Marks]

Answer: In Mughal village society, zamindars occupied a critical position at the apex of the agrarian social structure. They were landed proprietors who held significant social and economic privileges, stemming from their upper-caste status, often part of the Brahmana-Rajput class. Zamindars played a pivotal role in agricultural production, although they did not engage directly in farming. Instead, they acted as intermediaries between the peasants and the Mughal administration. Their authority, however, faced challenges during British colonization, as the Company sought to curtail their power and

regulate their functions, significantly weakening their social standing and local autonomy. The dynamics of zamindari thus reflect both their importance in rural governance and the transformations brought about by colonial rule.

Question 32.

"One of the topics most vigorously debated in the constituent assembly was the respective rights of the central and the state governments." Analyse the statement with supporting arguments.

[3 Marks]

Answer: The Constituent Assembly's debates on the powers of the central and state governments were marked by passionate discussions reflecting diverse viewpoints. Jawaharlal Nehru argued for a strong central government post-partition, believing it essential for national unity and coordination of common interests. In contrast, K. Santhanam emphasized the need to empower states, asserting that a strong Centre should not undermine state authority. The Constitution ultimately established three lists: Union, State, and Concurrent, balancing these powers. This division aimed to ensure effective governance while maintaining unity. The debates highlighted a fundamental conflict in India's vision, showcasing differing perspectives on governance and the federal structure necessary for a diverse nation.

Question 33.

"The rebel proclamations of 1857 appealed to all the sections of the population for unity'. Explain the statement with examples.

[3 Marks]

Answer: The rebel proclamations of 1857 indeed emphasized the importance of unity among all sections of Indian society. Despite being issued primarily by Muslim leaders, these proclamations addressed diverse groups, including Hindus, Sikhs, and marginalized communities. For instance, the proclamation by Bahadur Shah II called for all Indians, regardless of caste or creed, to join in the struggle against British rule. This appeal reflected a broader vision of nationalism that sought to unite various social strata against a common oppressor. The uprising, celebrated as India's First War of Independence, was a manifestation of collective desires for freedom. It disrupted established hierarchies, promoting a sense of shared struggle against imperialism that inspired future nationalist movements. Although specific egalitarian visions were not deeply expressed, the emphasis on unity marked a critical step toward a unified national identity.

Question 34.

"Art and literature as much as the writing of history have helped in keeping alive the memory of 1857." Explain the statement in reference to Rani Lakshmi Bai.

Answer: The memory of the 1857 revolt is vividly preserved through art and literature, particularly in the depiction of Rani Lakshmi Bai. Represented as a heroic and valiant figure in battle armor, she embodies the spirit of resistance against colonial oppression. Literature and poetry celebrate her bravery, portraying her as an icon of fighting for freedom. Popular lines, such as those by Subhadra Kumari Chauhan, highlight her courage and strength, ensuring that her legacy and the historical events of 1857 remain alive in collective memory. This portrayal emphasizes the role of cultural expressions in immortalizing such significant historical figures, reinforcing national pride and identity.

Section D

Question 35.

Describe the town planning of Harappa.

[8 Marks]

Answer: The town planning of Harappa is a remarkable example of urban design that emphasizes efficiency and sophistication. Harappa, as one of the most notable cities of the Indus Valley Civilization, featured a well-organized layout. Streets were aligned in a grid pattern, which allowed for organized movement and accessibility. The use of baked bricks for construction ensured durability and uniformity. A distinguishing characteristic was the advanced drainage system, with covered drains running along the streets, indicating a highly developed sanitation system. Furthermore, structures were often situated near essential resources, reflecting careful planning regarding location and functionality. There was a prevalent understanding of urban infrastructure and community needs, revealing a society that valued order and hygiene. Harappa's planning demonstrates innovative thinking and a decisive approach to urban living that was advanced for its time.

Question 36.

Describe the contribution of various archaeologists from 1857 till 1950 in discovering the Harappa civilization.

[8 Marks]

Answer: From 1857 to 1950, several archaeologists made significant contributions to the discovery and understanding of the Harappan civilization. Daya Ram Sahni, during the early twentieth century, played a pivotal role in excavating Harappa and unearthing seals that hinted at a sophisticated urban society. His findings prompted further explorations. Rakhal Das Banerji's announcement of a 'new civilization' in the Indus Valley marked a crucial turning point in archaeological history. In this context, Sir John Marshall's excavations expanded our knowledge of ancient connections between the Indus Valley

and Mesopotamia, revealing the complexity of trade and cultural exchange. By linking discovered seals to similar artifacts in Mesopotamia, archaeologists demonstrated the global significance of the Harappan civilization. Such pioneering efforts laid the foundation for the future study of this extraordinary civilization, showcasing the role of material evidence in reconstructing ancient histories.

Question 37.

'Kabir Das is one of the most outstanding examples of a poet-saint who has given extensive views on social situation, institution and on ultimate reality.' Explain the statement.

[8 Marks]

Answer: Kabir Das, a prominent poet-saint of the 14th-15th centuries, embodies the essence of a spiritual reformer who challenged the established norms of society and religion. His verses often critique social injustices and religious dogmas, urging followers to seek the Divine within themselves rather than through institutionalized practices. Kabir's poetry, representing diverse traditions and languages, reflects his profound insights on Ultimate Reality, articulating concepts like Allah and Khuda alongside Hindu deities. His use of 'sant bhasha' naturalizes complex philosophical ideas, making them accessible to the common people. Additionally, 'ulatbansi' presents paradoxes that provoke deeper thought about spirituality and existence. This multifaceted approach not only showcases Kabir's rejection of rigid religious boundaries but also positions him as a timeless inspiration for those questioning societal norms in their spiritual quests.

Question 38.

'The Chistis became the most influential sufi devotional tradition in the late twelfth century.' Explain the statement.

[8 Marks]

Answer: The Chishti order became the most influential Sufi tradition in the late twelfth century primarily due to their successful adaptation to the Indian socio-religious environment. Their teachings emphasized love, devotion, and the inner experience of God, resonating deeply with the existing Indian devotional practices. The Chishtis maintained a unique characteristic of austerity, often distancing themselves from political power, yet they did accept patronage from political elites. This relationship facilitated the growth of their influence, with increased pilgrimages to their shrines. The charismatic leadership of notable figures like Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti helped spread the order's teachings widely, allowing them to gain a significant following. Over time, the Chishtis not only participated in religious cultures but also contributed to a larger mystical framework that promoted harmony across diverse religious communities in India.

Question 39.

Describe the causes and events of the quit India movement .

[8 Marks]

Answer: The Quit India Movement, launched in August 1942, was a pivotal moment in India's struggle for independence from British rule. Its primary cause was the failure of the Cripps Mission, which sought to negotiate constitutional reforms but was rejected by Indian leaders. Disillusioned, Mahatma Gandhi decided to initiate a mass movement urging the British to 'Quit India.' The campaign galvanized vast sections of society, especially the youth, prompting them to engage in protests, strikes, and acts of civil disobedience. Although Gandhi was imprisoned soon after the movement's inception, local leaders took charge and coordinated various forms of resistance throughout the nation. The British responded with severe repression, yet the widespread participation of ordinary Indians marked it as one of the most substantial movements against colonial rule. The legacy of the Quit India Movement was significant, as it solidified national unity and showcased the determination of Indians to achieve self-rule, culminating in India's independence in August 1947.

Question 40.

Describe the role of Gandhiji in the indian freedom struggle from 1922 till 1931

[8 Marks]

Answer: From 1922 to 1931, Mahatma Gandhi played a pivotal role in the Indian freedom struggle, transforming it into a mass movement. After the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1920, he mobilized millions, including peasants, workers, and artisans, to join the struggle against British colonial rule. His philosophy of non-violence and civil disobedience inspired widespread participation. In 1924, he shifted focus to social reform, promoting khadi and working towards the abolition of untouchability. His leadership was instrumental in uniting diverse sections of society, reinforcing a collective national identity. The period culminated in the Civil Disobedience Movement of 1930, with the Salt March symbolizing defiance against oppressive laws. Gandhi's influence and visionary leadership solidified his position as a revered figure in the quest for independence.
