CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2025

HISTORY

(Solved)

Time allowed : 3 hours | Maximum Marks : 94

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 4** are case based questions

iv. **Section B** – questions number **5 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.

Verses from the Upanishads

Here are two verses from the Chhandogya Upanishad, a text composed in Sanskrit c. sixth century BCE:

The Nature of the Self:

This self of mine within the heart, is smaller than paddy or barley or mustard or millet or the kernel of a seed of millet. This self of mine within the heart is greater than the earth, greater than the intermediate

space, greater than heaven, greater than these worlds.

The True Sacrifice:

This one (the wind) that blows, this is surely a sacrifice... While moving, it sanctifies all this; therefore it is indeed a sacrifice.

(1) Mention the main theme of the verse.

[1 Marks]

(2) Mention the relationship between the self and the wind in the context of these verses.

[1 Marks]

(3) How does this source reflect the philosophical ideas of the Upanishads?

[2 Marks]

Question 2.

Amir Khusrau and the Qaul

Amir Khusrau (1253-1325), the great poet, musician and disciple of Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya, gave a unique form to the Chishti 'sama' by introducing the qaul (Arabic word meaning 'saying'), a hymn sung at the opening or closing of qawwali. This was followed by sufi poetry in Persian, Hindavi or Urdu, and sometimes using words from all of these languages. Qawwals (those who sing these songs) at the shrine of Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya always start their recital with the qaul. Today qawwali is performed in shrines all over the subcontinent.

(1) What unique form did Amir Khusrau introduce to the Chishti 'sama'?

[1 Marks]

(2) How did the Chishti-sufi traditions shape Amir Khusrau's understanding of spirituality?

[1 Marks]

(3) Analyse the significance of the Sufism in the qawwali performances.

[2 Marks]

Question 3.

Why the Salt Satyagraha?

Why was salt the symbol of protest? This is what Mahatma Gandhi wrote: The volume of information being gained daily shows how wickedly the salt tax has been designed. In order to prevent the use of salt that has not paid the tax which is at times even fourteen times its value, the Government destroys the salt it cannot sell profitably. Thus it taxes the nation's vital necessity; it prevents the public from manufacturing it and destroys what nature manufactures without effort... No adjective is strong enough for characterizing this wicked dog-in-the-manger policy. From various sources, I hear tales of such want on destruction of the nation’s property in all parts of India. Maunds if not tons of salt are said to be destroyed on the Konkan coast. The same tale comes from Dandi. Wherever there is likelihood of natural salt being taken away by the people living in the neighbourhood of such areas for their personal use, salt officers are posted for the sole purpose of carrying on destruction. Thus valuable national property is destroyed at national expense and salt taken out of the mouths of the people.

The salt monopoly is thus a fourfold curse. It deprives the people of a valuable easy village industry, involves wanton destruction of property that nature produces in abundance, the destruction itself means more national expenditure and fourthly, to crown this folly, an unheard of tax of more than 1,000 per cent is exacted from a starving people.

This tax has remained so long because of the apathy of the general public. Now that it is sufficiently roused, the tax has to go.How soon it will be abolished depends upon the strength the people.

The Collected Works of Mahatma Gandhi (CWMG),Vol.49

(1) Why was salt law disliked by the masses?

[1 Marks]

(2) Why were salt officers appointed by the British Government?

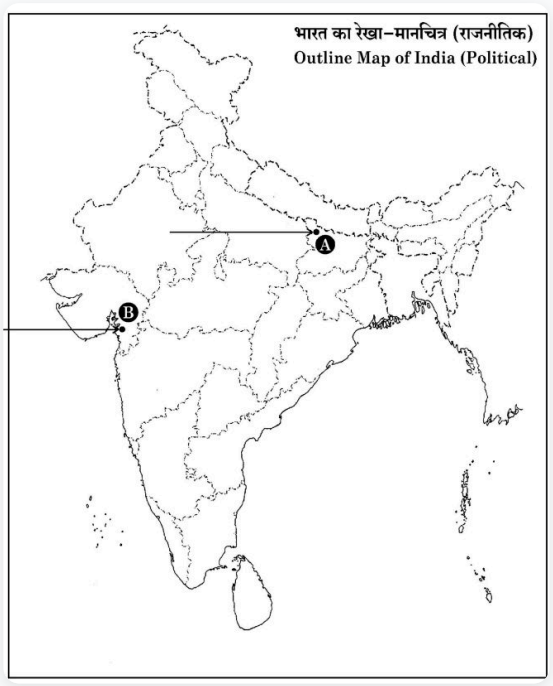
[1 Marks]

(3) Why did Lord Irwin fail to understand the significance of Salt March?

[2 Marks]

Question 4.

On the given poltical outline map of india locate and label the following places with appropriate symbols:



(1)

Rakhigarhi – a mature Harrappan Site

[1 Marks]

(2)

Ajanta – a Buddhist site

[1 Marks]

(3)

Mention any one mature Harappan sites in India.

(4)

Agra – a territory under Mughals

[1 Marks]

(5)

On the same map two places have been marked as A and Basthe centres of Indian National movement. Identify them and write their names on the lines drawn nearthem.n

[2 Marks]

(6)

Ajmer – a territory under Mughals

[1 Marks]

(7)

Mention one Buddhist site in Maharashtra.

[1 Marks]

(8)

Name any two centres of Indian National movement.

[2 Marks]

(9)

Name any one territory which was underthe Mughals

[1 Marks]

(10)

Name the capital of Vijayanagara empire

[1 Marks]

Section B

Question 5. Which one of the following is a correct statement regarding the codes of social behaviour as laid down in Dharmasutras and Dharmashastras during the period of Mahabharata?

[1 Marks]

(A) These norms were to be followed by the Brahmins only.

(B) These norms were being followed universally.

(C) These norms were not followed universally.

(D) Only the rulers followed these norms.

Question 6. Which one of the following dynasties did Queen Prabhavati belong to?

[1 Marks]

(A) Shakas

(B) Vakataka

(C) Maurya

(D) Kanvas

Question 7.

Two statements are given below as Assertion (A) and Reason (R).Read them carefully and chose correct option.

Assertion (A): Harappa was a well-planned city.

Reason (R): It had a well-planned drainage system.

[1 Marks]

(A) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct reasoning of (A).

(B) Both (A) and (R) are correct but (R) is not the correct reasoning of (A).

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

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

Question 8. Which one of the following was a distinctive feature of Harappan architecture?

[1 Marks]

(A) Use of Wood

(B) Use of Marble

(C) Use of Iron

(D) Use of Bricks

Question 9.

Match Column-I with Column-II and choose the correct option:

[1 Marks]

Column-I (Sculpture of Sanchi)		Column-II (Symbolic Importance)	
a	Empty seat	i	Indicator of Mahaparinibbana
b	Gajlakshmi	ii	Indicator of good fortune
c	Wheel	iii	Indicator of auspicious
d	Shalbhanjika	iv	Indicator of first sermon of Buddha

(A) a iv b i c iii d ii

(B) a ii b iii c i d iv

(C) a i b ii c iv d iii

(D) a ii b i c iv d iii

Question 10.

Identify the ruler from Indian history with following information:

- Ruler of Bhopal;
- Ruled from 1868 to 1901 CE;
- Helped in preserving the Sanchi Stupa

[1 Marks]

(A) Shahjehan Begum

(B) Gulbadan Begum

(C) Rukhsaar Begum

(D) Jehanara Begum

Question 11.

The given sculpture from the fifth century Devgarh temple depicts which of the following deities?

[1 Marks]



(A) Shiva

(B) Rudra

(C) Vishnu

(D) Indra

Question 12. Which one of the following statements is correct regarding Virashaiva or Lingayat tradition?

[1 Marks]

(A) They do not bury their dead persons.

(B) They emphasize Brahman as the supreme entity.

(C) They believe that on death they will be united with Shiva.

(D) They are the followers of Vishnu.

Question 13.

Arrange the following in chronological order and choose the correct option: I. Battle of Talikota II. Establishment of Nagalpuram III. Formation of Kamalpuram Tank IV. Emergence of the Sultanate of Golconda

[1 Marks]

(A) I, II, III, IV

(B) II, III, IV, I

(C) IV, I, III, II

(D) III, II, IV, I

Question 14.

Match Column-I with Column-II and choose the correct option:

[1 Marks]

Column-I (Temple)		Column-II (Location)	
a	Brihadeswara temple	1	Vijayanagara
b	Chennakeshava temple	2	Tamil Nadu
c	Hazara Ram temple	3	Belur
d	Chidambaram temple	4	Tanjavur

(A) a1 b3 c4 d2

(B) a4 b3c1 d2

(C) a2 b4 c3 d1

(D) a1 b3 c2 d4

Question 15. Identify the ruler of India from the sixteenth century with the following information: He went on a pilgrimage to Ajmer fourteen times; He sought blessings for new conquests and the birth of sons from Ajmer Sharif.

[1 Marks]

(A) Sultan Ghias-ud-din Khalji

(B) Shah-Jehan

(C) Akbar

(D) Muhammad Bin Tughlaq

Question 16. Who among the following included the composition of Guru Tegh Bahadur ji in the Guru Granth Sahib?

[1 Marks]

(A) Guru Hargobind Sahibji

(B) Guru Gobind Singhji

(C) Guru Arjan Devji

(D) Guru Harkrishan Sahibji

Question 17. Which of the following statements is true regarding the land revenue system of the Mughals?

[1 Marks]

(A) The revenue collectors collected tax of land in cash only.

(B) The tax collectors used to collect taxes with the help of Sahukars.

(C) Revenue from the land was the economic mainstay of the empire.

(D) The cultivated lands were taxed without any measurement.

Question 18. Identify the correct statement from the following regarding the role of women in agrarian society of the Mughal State.

[1 Marks]

(A) Only artisanal work were done by women.

(B) Remarriage were not allowed for divorced women.

(C) Women worked in the fields with men.

(D) Women were totally independent.

Question 19. Find the odd one out regarding the revolt of 1857 from the following:

[1 Marks]

(A) Barout : Shah Mal

(B) Singhbhum : Gonu

(C) Hyderabad : Maulavi Ahmadullah Shah

(D) Arrah : Kunwar Singh

Question 20. Fill in the blank with the suitable option given below: The Revolt of 1857 marked the end of the _____ dynasty in India.

[1 Marks]

(A) Maratha

(B) Scindhia

(C) Rajput

(D) Mughal

Question 21. Which of the following statements best describes the effect of the Permanent Settlement on zamindars?

[1 Marks]

(A) They all were replaced by Jotedars.

(B) They sold their land to British.

(C) They gained significant control over land.

(D) They become landless labourers.

Question 22.

How was the Constituent Assembly influenced by public opinion? Choose the correct option.

I. People aired their viwes outside the Parliament House.

II. People gave their reactions through the press.

III. The members of Constitunet Assembly used to discuss with the public.

IV. Public expressed their viwes in the Constituent Assembly.

[1 Marks]

(A) I, III & IV

(B) I, IV & II

(C) II, III & IV

(D) I, II & III

Question 23.

Identify the person from the given information:

1. He was the head of Advisory Committee of the Constituent Assembly;
2. He was against the separate electorate;
3. He was the first home minister of free India.

[1 Marks]

(A) Vallabhbhai Patel

(B) Pandit Nehru

(C) Gobind Ballabh Pant

(D) R.V. Dhulekar

Question 24. On whose advice Gandhiji spent a year in travelling around British India for getting to know the land and its people before entering into politics?

[1 Marks]

(A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

(B) Gopal Krishna Gokhale

(C) Lala Lajpat Rai

(D) Bipin Chandra Pal

Question 25. Why did Gandhi call for a nationwide campaign against the ‘Rowlatt Act’? Choose the appropriate option from the following:

[1 Marks]

(A) The British Government closed all the schools and colleges.

(B) The first World War came to an end.

(C) British Govt. permitted detention without trial.

(D) People expected independence from the British.

Question 26.

Vardhman Mahavir is related to which of the following religion ?

[1 Marks]

(A) (A) Christianity

(B) (C) Buddhism

(C) (D) Jainism

(D) (B) Hinduism

Section C

Question 27. Why were the seals and sealings used by the Harappans to facilitate long distance communication? Explain with examples.

[3 Marks]

Question 28. “There were different views of archaeologists on the administration of Harappa.” Explain the statement with examples.

[3 Marks]

Question 29. Explain any three sources to know about Maurya Empire.

[3 Marks]

Question 30. Analyse the role of Amara-nayakas in the Vijayanagara empire.

[3 Marks]

Question 31. Analyse the factors that led the rulers of the Vijayanagara empire to choose the site of Vijayanagara as their capital.

[3 Marks]

Question 32. Describe the role of Panchayats in the Mughal era.

[3 Marks]

Question 33. Analyse the policies adopted by William Bentinck to reform Indian society.

[3 Marks]

Question 34. “During the debates in Constituent Assembly, B.R. Ambedkar told that he wanted a strong centre, much stronger than the centre we had created under the Act of 1935.” Analyse the

statement.

[3 Marks]

Section D

Question 35. Examine the nature and characteristics of the land grants in ancient Indian society.

[8 Marks]

Question 36. Examine the various strategies used to enhance agricultural output from the sixth BCE onwards.

[8 Marks]

Question 37. 'Francois Bernier contrasted what he saw in India with the situation in Europe.' Explain the statement with examples.

[8 Marks]

Question 38. 'Ibn-Battuta has written extensively about his experience in India.' Explain the statement with examples.

[8 Marks]

Question 39. Imagine you are leading a historical research team. How would you explain the role of Ryotwari System in fostering rural indebtedness and its long-term consequences on Bombay-Deccan peasantry? Explain.

[8 Marks]

Question 40. You are asked to prepare a report on how the end of the American Civil War affected the cotton boom in the Indian Deccan. How would you assess the changes? Explain.

[8 Marks]