CBSE EXAMINATION PAPER-2024

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.

Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:

What the silk weavers did.

Here is an excerpt from the inscription, which is in Sanskrit:

Some are intensely attached to music (so) pleasing to the ear; others, being proud of (the authorship of) a hundred excellent biographies, are conversant with wonderful tales; (others), filled with humility,

are absorbed in excellent religious discourses; ... some excel in their own religious rites; likewise by others, who were self-possessed, the science of (Vedic) astronomy was mastered.

(1) How was love for music expressed in the inscription?

[1 Marks]

Answer: In the inscription, love for music is expressed through the phrase 'some are intensely attached to music (so) pleasing to the ear.' This indicates a deep appreciation and emotional connection of individuals to music, suggesting it played a significant role in their lives. The use of the term 'intensely attached' emphasizes the passion and devotion that some people had towards music, highlighting its importance in their culture. This attachment may reflect a broader cultural significance that music held, possibly serving as a form of spiritual or artistic expression.

Key Points: intense attachment to music - pleasing to the ear - emphasizes emotional connection - reflects cultural significance

(2) In what ways did the various talents mentioned in the inscription contribute to the overall fabric of society?

[2 Marks]

Answer: The various talents mentioned in the inscription contributed significantly to the overall fabric of society by enriching cultural, intellectual, and spiritual life. For instance, the attachment to music fostered communal harmony and provided entertainment, while the authorship of biographies and tales enhanced storytelling traditions, preserving history and teaching moral values. Those who engaged in religious discourses created a platform for spiritual growth and ethical deliberation, promoting social cohesion. The mastery of Vedic astronomy contributed to navigation and agriculture, thereby advancing economic activities. Moreover, the valor displayed in battle ensured protection and stability within the community. Collectively, these diversely skilled individuals enriched the social fabric by creating a balanced society where arts, knowledge, spirituality, and security coexisted.

Key Points: 1. Contribution to cultural life through music and storytelling; 2. Enhancement of spiritual and ethical discussions via religious discourses; 3. Advancements in practical fields such as astronomy impacting agriculture and navigation; 4. Promotion of social cohesion and stability through valor in battle.

(3) How did individuals demonstrate their mastery in the science of Vedic astronomy?

[1 Marks]

Answer: Individuals demonstrated their mastery in the science of Vedic astronomy through their self-possession and dedication to the subject. They were able to grasp complex astronomical concepts and apply them in practical ways, indicating a deep understanding of celestial phenomena. This mastery likely involved intensive study and observation of the heavens, coupled with a commitment to learning and practicing the scientific principles outlined in Vedic texts. Their achievements in this field were a testament to their intellectual capabilities and their role in contributing to the broader knowledge of the universe during their time.

Key Points: self-possession; dedication to astronomical study; understanding of celestial phenomena; practical application of Vedic principles; contribution to knowledge

Question 2.

Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:

How tanks were built ?

How tanks were built? About a tank constructed by Krishnadeva Raya, Paes wrote:

The king made a tank ... at the mouth of two hills so that all the water which comes from either one side or the other collects there; and, besides this, water comes to it from more than three leagues (approximately 15 kilometres) by pipes which run along the lower parts of the range outside. This water is brought from a lake which itself overflows into a little river. The tank has three large pillars handsomely carved with figures; these connect above with certain pipes by which they get water when they have to irrigate their gardens and rice-fields. In order to make this tank the said king broke down a hill ... In the tank I saw so many people at work that there must have been fifteen or twenty thousand men, looking like ants ...

(1) Why did Krishnadeva Raya construct a tank?

[1 Marks]

Answer: Krishnadeva Raya constructed the tank primarily to manage water resources effectively for irrigation. By situating the tank at the mouth of two hills, he ensured that water from both sides would gather, thus maximizing the water collection. The tank also incorporated a pipe system that brought water over approximately 15 kilometers from a lake, facilitating the irrigation of nearby fields and gardens. This was crucial for agricultural productivity in the region, particularly in supporting rice farming. Additionally, the tank served a significant role in providing water to the royal center, highlighting its importance in the overall infrastructure. The extensive workforce involved in its construction, which included thousands of men, emphasizes the king's commitment to improving irrigation systems for the benefit of his kingdom.

Key Points: Management of water resources-Effective irrigation of nearby fields-Pipe system for water supply-Support for agriculture and rice farming-Importance to the royal center-Large workforce for construction

(2) In what ways was the water from the tanks used?

[2 Marks]

Answer: The water from the tanks constructed by Krishnadeva Raya was used primarily for irrigation, ensuring that the nearby fields and rice paddies received adequate water supply for cultivation. This irrigation was vital for sustaining agricultural productivity in the region. Additionally, the water was conducted through channels to the royal centre, indicating its importance for the overall water management system within the kingdom. The construction of the tank facilitated the collection of water from various sources, thereby enhancing its availability for both agricultural and administrative needs.

Key Points: Irrigation of nearby fields - Supply of water to rice paddies - Conducted to the royal centre - Effective water management system

(3) Why did Krishnadeva Raya choose the location at the mouth of two hills for building the tank?

[1 Marks]

Answer: Krishnadeva Raya chose the location at the mouth of two hills for constructing the tank for several strategic reasons. Firstly, this location allowed for the collection of water from both sides of the hills, maximizing the water intake from rain and runoff. Additionally, the design facilitated the incorporation of water pipes that transported water over a distance of approximately 15 kilometers from a lake, enhancing the tank's water supply. The chosen site also provided natural barriers, likely improving the tank's structural integrity and efficiency in capturing and storing water for irrigation purposes. This strategic placement not only assured a reliable water source for irrigation of nearby gardens and fields but also showcased the engineering prowess of his reign.

Key Points: Location allowed water collection from both hills; pipes transported water over 15 kilometers; natural barriers improved structural integrity;

Question 3.

Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The Nawab has left

Another song mourned the plight of the ruler who had to leave his motherland: Noble and peasant all wept together and all the world wept and wailed Alas! The chief has bidden adieu to his country and gone abroad.

(1) What was the immediate impact of the removal of the Nawab?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The immediate impact of the removal of the Nawab was profound and multifaceted. Firstly, there was a widespread emotional turmoil among the populace, as evidenced by the folk songs that lamented the Nawab's departure and expressed the collective grief of all classes, from nobles to peasants. The court culture, which included musicians, poets, and artisans, faced dissolution, leading to a significant loss of livelihood for many individuals who depended on the Nawab's patronage. The poignant observation that 'the life was gone out of the body' encapsulated the despair felt throughout the kingdom, with streets and markets echoing the cries of agony in separation from their beloved ruler. Furthermore, the political stability of Awadh was greatly undermined, resulting in disaffection towards the British regime that replaced the Nawab, as many viewed his exile as an affront to their cultural and national identity.

Key Points: Widespread emotional grief - Dissolution of court and culture - Loss of livelihood for many - Disaffection towards the British regime

(2) Why was there emotional upheaval at the dethroning and departure of the Nawab?

[1 Marks]

Answer: The dethroning and departure of Nawab Wajid Ali Shah caused significant emotional upheaval among the people of Awadh for several reasons. Firstly, the Nawab was widely loved and respected, and his absence created a profound sense of loss among his subjects, as noted by observers who described the town as lifeless without him. Secondly, the emotional turmoil was exacerbated by the broader context of British annexation, which was viewed as a dishonorable act that stripped the people of their rightful ruler. Folk songs that lamented the loss of the ruler highlighted the collective grief shared between nobles and commoners alike. Additionally, the dissolution of the court and its vibrant culture led to the loss of livelihoods for various members of society, including musicians, artisans, and administrative officials, further deepening the sense of despair. Thus, the events surrounding the Nawab's exile instigated a widespread emotional crisis, rooted in both personal loyalty and societal disruption.

Key Points: Nawab was widely loved-collective grief among nobles and commoners-culture and livelihood disruption due to court's dissolution-songs lamenting the loss-exile viewed as dishonorable act

(3) How did the annexation of Awadh fit into the British colonial strategy? Explain.

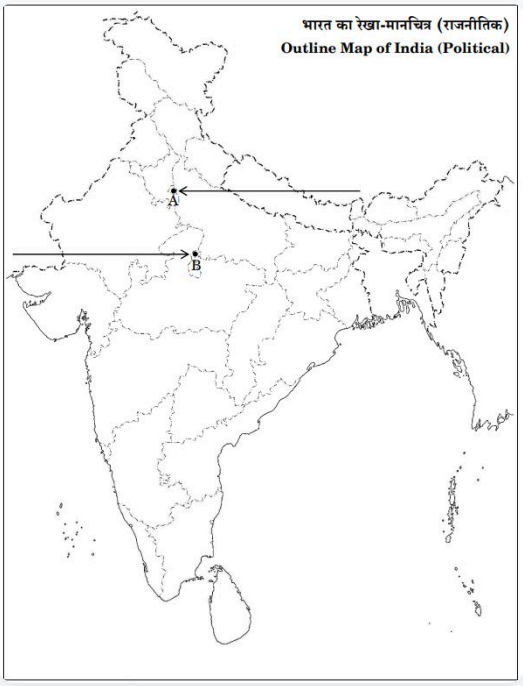
[2 Marks]

Answer: The annexation of Awadh was a crucial part of the British colonial strategy to consolidate power in India. It was executed methodically through the imposition of the Subsidiary Alliance in 1801, which effectively disarmed the Nawab and placed British troops within the kingdom. This maneuver allowed the British to exert direct control over Awadh while maintaining the facade of an independent ruler. The British aimed to weaken local power structures by displacing the Nawab and the taluqdars, thereby dismantling the established feudal hierarchy that threatened British authority. Moreover, Lord Dalhousie's remarks about Awadh as a 'cherry' indicated a strategic view of the region's resources and wealth. Ultimately, the annexation in 1856 reflected the broader imperial objective of territorial expansion and control, leading to significant social and cultural disruptions in Awadh, which had once been a vibrant center of culture and governance.

Key Points: Annexation as consolidation of power-Subsidiary Alliance weakened local rulers-Lord Dalhousie's strategy and views on Awadh-Disruption of local power structures-cultural and material upheaval

Question 4.

On the given political outline map of India (on page 23), locate and label the following with appropriate symbols :



(1)

Dholavira – a Harappan site

[1 Marks]

Answer: To locate Dholavira on the political outline map of India, identify its approximate location in the state of Gujarat, specifically on the arid island of Khadir in the Rann of Kutch region. Mark the site using a symbol such as a dot or a star, and ensure to indicate it clearly with the label 'Dholavira'. Dholavira is significant as it is one of the most important archaeological sites of the Harappan civilization, showcasing advanced urban planning and water conservation techniques.

Key Points: Location in Gujarat - Island of Khadir - Significant Harappan urban site

(2)

Meerut Pillar – a site of Asokan inscription

[1 Marks]

Answer: To locate the Meerut Pillar on the political outline map of India, first identify the state of Uttar Pradesh, as Meerut is situated there. Using a suitable symbol, such as a small circle or dot, mark the location of the Meerut Pillar on the map. The Meerut Pillar is significant as it bears inscriptions from the time of Emperor Asoka, reflecting his efforts to promote Buddhism and his policies during his reign. The inscriptions present offer insight into early Indian political history and the influence of Asoka as a ruler. Make sure to label the pillar clearly for identification.

Key Points: Location is Uttar Pradesh-Use symbol like a dot-Inscription significance of Asoka-Promotes Buddhism and policies-Insight into early Indian political history

(3)

Vijayanagara

[1 Marks]

Answer: To locate Vijayanagara on the political outline map of India, first identify its approximate location in the southern part of India, near the modern city of Hampi in the state of Karnataka. Use a dot or a star symbol to mark the exact site of Vijayanagara. Additionally, label it clearly as 'Vijayanagara' in the respective area. This city, known as the 'city of victory,' was the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire founded in 1336 and exemplifies a distinctive architectural style and layout indicative of its significance in history.

Key Points: Located in southern India near Hampi - Mark with a dot or star symbol - Clearly label as 'Vijayanagara' - Founded in 1336 - Capital of the Vijayanagara Empire - Distinctive architectural style

(4)

Bijapur

[1 Marks]

Answer: To locate and label Bijapur on the political outline map of India, one should identify its position in present-day Karnataka. Bijapur, known for its historical significance and Deccan Sultanate architecture, should be marked with a specific symbol, such as a star or dot, accompanied by its name labeled clearly in legible font. It is situated in the northwestern part of Karnataka, approximately at 16.83° N latitude and 75.71° E longitude. Historical context, such as its prominence during the 14th-18th centuries, could also be briefly noted in an accompanying legend on the map.

Key Points: Location in Karnataka - Historical significance - Use of appropriate symbols - Clear labeling - Inclusion of coordinates

(5)

On the same political outline map of India, two places related to British control in 1857 are marked as A and B. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them.

[2 Marks]

Answer: The locations marked A and B on the political outline map of India in 1857 are significant points during the British control in India. The place labeled A is designed to be Delhi, where the Revolt of 1857 began. The place marked B is likely Kanpur, another crucial site during the uprising. Therefore, the correct identifications are: A - Delhi, B - Kanpur.

Key Points: Delhi-Kanpur-British control 1857

(6)

Name the capital city of Vijayanagara Empire.

[1 Marks]

Answer: The capital city of the Vijayanagara Empire is Vijayanagara, which translates to 'City of Victory'. It was established in the 14th century and became a significant cultural and political center in South India. During its peak, it was known for its impressive architectural structures and sprawling layout.

Key Points: Vijayanagara was the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire - Founded in the 14th century - Significant cultural and political center - Known for its distinctive architecture

(7)

Name any one Harappan site.

[1 Marks]

Answer: One notable Harappan site is Mohenjodaro, which is famed for its advanced urban planning and architecture. It is one of the most important sites of the Indus Valley Civilization, demonstrating sophisticated city planning and water management systems.

Key Points: Mohenjodaro-Harappa-important sites-urban planning-Indus Valley Civilization

(8)

Mention any two cities which were under the British control during 1857.

[2 Marks]

Answer: During the year 1857, two major cities under British control were Delhi and Kanpur. Delhi was a significant center of the rebellion as it became the seat of the uprising against British rule, while Kanpur was also a key location where notable conflicts occurred between the British forces and Indian rebels.

Key Points: Delhi-Kanpur

(9)

Mention any one Buddhist site.

[1 Marks]

Answer: One significant Buddhist site is Sanchi, located in the state of Madhya Pradesh. Sanchi is renowned for its ancient stupas, particularly the Great Stupa, which dates back to the 3rd century BCE and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is also famous for its intricately carved gateways and remains an important center for Buddhist pilgrimage.

Key Points: Buddhist site-Sanchi-Great Stupa-Madhya Pradesh-UNESCO World Heritage Site

(10)

Mention any one neighbouring state of the Vijayanagara Empire.

[1 Marks]

Answer: One neighbouring state of the Vijayanagara Empire was the Kingdom of Bahmani. The Bahmani Sultanate was located to the northwest of the Vijayanagara Empire and was a significant political entity during the same period.

Key Points: Bahmani Sultanate-Location-northwest of Vijayanagara Empire

Section B

Question 5.

Which of the following options are correct regarding Magadha ?

I. Magadha was the most powerful Mahajanapada.

II. Rajgaha was the capital of Magadha.

III. Magadha was in a semi-arid area.

IV. Magadha was rich in natural resources.

[1 Marks]

(A) I, II and III are correct

(B) I, II and IV are correct

(C) I, III and IV are correct

(D) I, III and IV are correct

Explanation: The correct options are I, II and IV are correct. Magadha was indeed the most powerful mahajanapada as mentioned in the context, and its capital was Rajgaha. Moreover, the region was rich in natural resources, particularly due to its productive agriculture and iron mines. The statement that Magadha was in a semi-arid area is incorrect, hence option III is not correct.

Question 6.

Arrange the following in chronological order and choose the correct option :

I. Rule of Asoka

II. Rule of Mahapadma Nanda

III. Rule of Harshavardhana

IV. Rule of Samudragupta

[1 Marks]

(A) IV, III, I, II

(B) III, II, I, IV

(C) II, I, IV, III

(D) I, III, IV, II

Explanation:

Mahapadma Nanda (II) – c. 345–321 BCE, founder of Nanda dynasty

1. **Asoka (I)** – c. 268–232 BCE, Mauryan emperor, spread of Buddhism
2. **Samudragupta (IV)** – c. 335–375 CE, Gupta emperor, military conquests
3. **Harshavardhana (III)** – c. 606–647 CE, ruler of Kannauj

Question 7.

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

[1 Marks]

	Column I (Characters of Mahabharata)		*Column II (Role)*
1.	Duryodhana	(i)	Son of Hidimba
2.	Gandhari	(ii)	Eldest son of Dhritrashtra
3.	Kunti	(iii)	Mother of Pandavas
4.	Ghatotkacha	(iv)	Mother of Duryodhana

(A) 1-(ii), 2-(iv), 3-(iii), 4-(i)

(B) 1-(ii), 2-(i), 3-(iv), 4-(iii)

(C) 1-(iv), 2-(iii), 3-(ii), 4-(i)

(D) 1-(ii), 2-(i), 3-(iii), 4-(iv)

Explanation: The correct option is determined by matching the items in Column I with their respective pairs in Column II. Each pairing must logically correspond based on provided information or definitions.

Question 8.

Which of the following schools of art is depicted in the given sculpture image of Buddha ?

[1 Marks]



(A) Gothic school of art

(B) Amravati school of art

(C) Gandhara school of art

(D) Mathura school of art

Explanation:

The correct answer is 'Mathura school of art'. The relevant context mentions an image of the Buddha from Mathura, c. first century CE, highlighting that early Indian sculptures of Buddha were notably influenced by different artistic styles, including the Mathura school that is recognized for its distinctive representations of Buddhist figures during that time.

Question 9.

In which of the following texts were Buddha’s teachings compiled ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Kalpsutta

(B) Sutta Pitaka

(C) Uttaradhyayana Sutta

(D) Rigveda

Explanation: The correct answer is 'Sutta Pitaka'. This is because the Sutta Pitaka is specifically mentioned in the context as the primary text where the teachings of the Buddha were reconstructed from stories. The other options do not pertain to the compilation of Buddha's teachings.

Question 10.

Fill in the blank with the appropriate word from the given options :

The Harappan site of _____ is located in present day Rajasthan.

[1 Marks]

(A) Lothal

(B) Kalibangan

(C) Manda

(D) Rakhigarhi

Explanation: The correct answer is Kalibangan. The provided context specifies that Kalibangan is associated with early Harappan levels and is explicitly stated to be located in Rajasthan.

Question 11.

Read the following statements regarding Cunningham and choose the correct option :

I. Cunningham was the first Director-General of ASI.

II. He began archaeological excavations in mid 19th century.

III. He brought a military precision to the practice of archaeology.

IV. He used the accounts left by Chinese Buddhist pilgrims.

[1 Marks]

(A) I and IV are correct

(B) I, II and III are correct

(C) I and II are correct

(D) I, II and IV are correct

Explanation:

The correct option is 'I, II and IV are correct'. Cunningham was indeed the first Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and began archaeological excavations in the mid-19th century. Additionally, he used accounts left by Chinese Buddhist pilgrims to locate early settlements. While he brought a systematic approach to archaeology, the phrase 'military precision' may not be explicitly stated in the context, thus option III cannot be conclusively confirmed as correct.

Question 12.

Assertion (A) : Ibn Battuta found Indian agriculture very productive.

Reason (R) : The soils were fertile which allowed the farmers to produce two crops a year.

[1 Marks]

(A) Assertion (A) is correct, but Reason (R) is incorrect.

(B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are correct and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).

(C) Assertion (A) is incorrect, but Reason (R) is correct.

(D) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are correct, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of the Assertion (A).

Explanation: Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are correct and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of the Assertion (A) because the context states that Ibn Battuta found Indian agriculture productive due to the fertility of the soil, which indeed allowed farmers to cultivate two crops a year.

Question 13.

Identify the person with the help of following information :

· He was a famous engineer, surveyor and cartographer.

· He was appointed the first Surveyor General of India in 1815.

[1 Marks]

(A) Alexander Greenlaw

(B) John Marshall

(C) Colin Mackenzie

(D) R.E.M. Wheeler

Explanation: The correct answer is Colin Mackenzie, as he is identified in the context as a famous engineer, surveyor, and cartographer who was appointed the first Surveyor General of India in 1815.

Question 14.

Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched ?

[1 Marks]

	Column I (Temple)		*Column II (Location)*
(A)	Chidambaram Temple	—	Thanjavur
(B)	Brihadishvara Temple	—	Vijayanagara
(C)	Chennakeshava Temple	—	Belur
(D)	Hazara Rama Temple	—	Tamil Nadu

(A) A

(B) D

(C) B

(D) C

Explanation: The correct answer is 'To mitigate the risk of loan default.' Lenders require collateral as a security measure to protect against the possibility that the borrower may default on the loan, ensuring they have a way to recover their money.

Question 15.

Which one of the following tribes was engaged in overland trade between India and Afghanistan and in the villages and towns in Punjab during the Mughal era ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Ahoms

(B) Lohanis

(C) Koch

(D) Mundas

Explanation: The correct answer is Lohanis. According to the provided context, the Lohanis were specifically mentioned as being engaged in overland trade between India and Afghanistan, as well as

trade within the towns and villages of Punjab during the Mughal period.

Question 16.

Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched ?

[1 Marks]

	Saints		*Their Region*
(A)	Kabirdas	—	Karnataka
(B)	Mirabai	—	Rajasthan
(C)	Basavanna	—	Assam
(D)	Shankaradeva	—	Uttar Pradesh

(A) A

(B) D

(C) B

(D) C

Explanation: The correct answer is 'To mitigate the risk of loan default.' Lenders require collateral to secure the loan amount, which reduces their risk in case the borrower fails to repay, ensuring they can recover some losses.

Question 17.

Match Column I with Column II and choose the correct option from the following :

[1 Marks]

	Column I (Leaders of the Revolt of 1857)		*Column II (Related Region)*
1.	Kunwar Singh	(i)	Singhbhum
2.	Shah Mal	(ii)	Arrah
3.	Birjis Qadr	(iii)	Barout
4.	Gonoo	(iv)	Lucknow

(A) 1-(i), 2-(ii), 3-(iii), 4-(iv)

(B) 1-(iii), 2-(ii), 3-(iv), 4-(i)

(C) 1-(iv), 2-(ii), 3-(iii), 4-(i)

(D) 1-(ii), 2-(iii), 3-(iv), 4-(i)

Explanation: The correct option is 1-(ii), 2-(iii), 3-(iv), 4-(i) because it correctly pairs each item in Column I with its corresponding item in Column II, based on the provided context.

Question 18.

Who among the following initiated the task of preparing the critical edition of Mahabharata ?

[1 Marks]

(A) D.N. Jha

(B) V.S. Sukthankar

(C) Irawati Karve

(D) Ram Karan Sharma

Explanation: The correct answer is V.S. Sukthankar, who led the ambitious project of preparing a critical edition of the Mahabharata beginning in 1919. His team of scholars worked on collecting manuscripts and comparing verses, making significant contributions to understanding this complex text.

Question 19.

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

[1 Marks]

	Column I (Traveller)		*Column II (Books authored)*
1.	Abu'l Fazl	(i)	*Travels in the Mughal Empire*
2.	Ibn Battuta	(ii)	*Kitab-ul-Hind*
3.	Al-Biruni	(iii)	*Rihla*
4.	François Bernier	(iv)	*Ain-i-Akbari*

(A) 1-(i), 2-(iii), 3-(ii), 4-(iv)

(B) 1-(iii), 2-(ii), 3-(i), 4-(iv)

(C) 1-(ii), 2-(i), 3-(iv), 4-(iii)

(D) 1-(iv), 2-(iii), 3-(ii), 4-(i)

Explanation:

The correct option is 1-(iv), 2-(iii), 3-(ii), 4-(i) This grouping correctly aligns the items in Column I with their corresponding items in Column II based on the relationships and context provided.

Question 20.

Fill in the blank with the appropriate word from the given options : The land which was annually cultivated for each crop in succession was called _____ in the Mughal Empire.

[1 Marks]

(A) Polaj

(B) Banjar

(C) Chachar

(D) Parauti

Explanation:

The correct answer is 'Polaj'. According to the provided context, Polaj refers to land that is cultivated every year for each crop in succession and is never allowed to lie fallow, which aligns perfectly with the description in the question.

Question 21.

In which of the following districts did the ryots revolt against sahukars of the Ryotwari system ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Poona

(B) Bhagalpur

(C) Barrackpore

(D) Awadh

Explanation:

The correct option is Poona. The context specifies that the movement began at Supa, a large village in the Poona district, where ryots gathered and attacked shopkeepers and sahukars, demanding their account books and debt bonds.

Question 22.

Who among the following belonged to a Moderate group of Indian National Congress ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Bipin Chandra Pal

(B) Bal Gangadhar Tilak

(C) Gopal Krishan Gokhale

(D) Lala Lajpat Rai

Explanation: Gopal Krishan Gokhale was a prominent leader of the Moderate group within the Indian National Congress. He is recognized for his approach of reform and dialogue, contrasting with the more militant methods of leaders like Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal, known collectively as 'Lal, Bal, and Pal'. Gokhale's emphasis on constitutional methods and gradual reforms distinguished him as a Moderate.

Question 23.

Which of the following statements is not correct regarding ‘Quit India Movement’ ?

[1 Marks]

(A) ‘Independent’ governments were proclaimed in Satara and Medinipur.

(B) Quit India Movement was a mass movement.

(C) Thousands of Indians took part in this movement.

(D) A series of ‘Praja Mandals’ were established in princely states.

Explanation:

This is **not correct**. The proclamation of parallel or “independent” governments (like *Prati Sarkar*) happened **in some regions**, but **Satara and Medinipur were not the main examples** associated with this.

Question 24.

‘‘Khoob ladi mardani, woh to Jhansi wali rani thi.’’

Who among the following has written these lines and portrayed Laxmi Bai as a symbol to resist injustice ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Sarojini Naidu

(B) Subhadra Kumari Chauhan

(C) Suryakant Tripathi Nirala

(D) Harivansh Rai Bachchan

Explanation: The correct answer is Subhadra Kumari Chauhan. These lines depict the valiant nature of Rani Lakshmi Bai, highlighting her bravery in resisting injustice and alien rule, as celebrated in her heroic poetry.

Question 25.

Who among the following introduced the ‘Objectives Resolution’ in the Constituent Assembly on 13th December, 1946 ?

[1 Marks]

(A) Vallabh Bhai Patel

(B) Vallabh Bhai Patel

(C) Rajendra Prasad

(D) Jawaharlal Nehru

Explanation:

Jawaharlal Nehru introduced the ‘Objectives Resolution’ in the Constituent Assembly on 13th December, 1946, as stated in the context. This resolution outlined the fundamental ideals of the Constitution of Independent India.

Question 26.

Which of the following were discussed in the Constituent Assembly for making a strong government at the Centre ?

Choose the correct option from the following.

I. Planning for the well-being of the country.

II. To establish strong administration at the state level.

III. To mobilise available economic resources.

IV. To defend the country against foreign aggression.

[1 Marks]

(A) I, III and IV

(B) II, III and IV

(C) I, II and III

(D) I, II and IV

Explanation: The correct options are I, III and IV. The Constituent Assembly discussions emphasized the need for a strong central government to ensure peace, mobilize economic resources, and defend the country against foreign aggression, as highlighted in the context provided.

Section C

Question 27. Explain the methods of irrigation used by the Harappans at different sites.

[3 Marks]

Answer: The Harappans employed several methods of irrigation to support agriculture in their semi-arid environment. Notably, archaeological evidence from Shortughai in Afghanistan suggests they constructed canals for irrigation. These canals effectively redirected river water to fields, facilitating crop growth. Additionally, in regions like Punjab and Sind, it is believed that they utilized wells to draw water for irrigation. Furthermore, at Dholavira in Gujarat, sophisticated water reservoirs have been discovered, indicating another irrigation technique. These reservoirs likely stored rainwater and were critical for irrigation during dry periods.

Key Points: Canals found in Shortughai; Wells used for irrigation in Punjab and Sind; Water reservoirs at Dholavira; Importance of irrigation in semi-arid areas; Support of agricultural activities through these methods.

Question 28. Explain how burials help in understanding the social and economic differences amongst the people in Harappan civilization.

[3 Marks]

Answer: Burials in the Harappan civilization provide essential insights into the social and economic structures of the society. Differences in burial practices, such as the type of pit used or the presence of bricks, indicate a possible stratification of social classes. The presence of pottery and ornaments in graves suggests that certain individuals were accorded more status, potentially indicating wealth or higher social rank. Moreover, the inclusion of jewelry in both male and female burials points to shared cultural practices possibly associated with economic roles. Archaeologists also discovered that some graves were richer than others, allowing researchers to infer differences in wealth and status. Collectively, these burial practices reveal significant information about social hierarchy and economic disparities among the Harappan people.

Key Points: Differences in burial pits indicate social stratification; Presence of pottery and ornaments signifies status; Jewelry in burials reflects cultural practices; Variation in grave richness suggests wealth differences.

Question 29. Analyse the various sources to know about the Mauryan Empire.

[3 Marks]

Answer: Historians have utilized several sources to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan Empire. Archaeological finds, especially sculptures, provide invaluable insights into their culture and artistry. Additionally, the writings of Megasthenes, a Greek ambassador to Chandragupta Maurya, offer contemporary accounts of the empire's governance and society, despite surviving in fragments. The emergence of the Mauryan Empire significantly shaped early Indian history, marked by both advanced administration and cultural achievements reflected in inscriptions and archaeological discoveries. Notably, Asoka's inscriptions convey a distinct message emphasizing humility and moral governance, setting him apart from other rulers. Overall, these combined sources paint a comprehensive picture of the Mauryan Empire's grandeur and legacy.

Key Points: Archaeological findings, Megasthenes' accounts, Asoka's inscriptions, the impact of Mauryan Empire on Indian history, cultural achievements

Question 30. Explain how Ibn Battuta described the Indian cities.

[3 Marks]

Answer: Ibn Battuta offered a vivid portrayal of Indian cities in the 14th century, highlighting their vibrancy and prosperity. He noted the dense populations and flourishing marketplaces filled with diverse goods, indicative of a bustling economy. In his account, he described Delhi as a vast urban center, the largest city in India, showcasing its significance. He also mentioned Daulatabad, which rivaled Delhi in size and prominence. Despite occasional disruptions from wars, the cities thrived as centers of culture and trade, demonstrating the dynamic spirit of the times.

Key Points: Cities were prosperous and densely populated; vibrant markets with diverse goods; Delhi as the largest city; Daulatabad rivaled Delhi in size; cities faced occasional disruption from wars; part of a global network; rich description in Rihla.

Question 31. How did Mughals organize their land revenue system? Explain.

[3 Marks]

Answer: The Mughals organized their land revenue system through a structured administrative framework essential for managing agricultural output. The system involved two main stages: assessment and collection. Initially, officials, notably the diwan, assessed the agricultural lands to determine the revenue burden, known as jama. This was essential since the Mughal state aimed for efficient revenue collection while ensuring control over agricultural production. Revenue was often collected in cash, reflecting a developed trade system, and was viewed as the sovereign's rightful claim for protection offered to subjects. Local power dynamics facilitated village governance, with influential individuals managing affairs and distributing justice.

Key Points: Mughal land revenue system; role of diwan; revenue assessment (jama) and collection (hasil); emphasis on agricultural control; cash-based transactions; local

governance by powerful individuals

Question 32. Describe the role of Gandhiji as a social reformer.

[3 Marks]

Answer: Mahatma Gandhi, a prominent figure in India's struggle for independence, played a crucial role as a social reformer. He focused on significant social issues, including the abolition of untouchability and the promotion of khadi. His work aimed to uplift the marginalized and poor, particularly peasants, by advocating for their rights and dignity against oppressive systems. Gandhi's simple lifestyle and commitment to non-violence resonated with many, fostering a sense of unity and empowerment among Indians. His efforts to engage with the masses transformed the Indian nationalist movement by encouraging widespread participation from various social classes, particularly the underprivileged. Thus, his impact as a social reformer was profound, as he worked towards social equity while leading the country towards independence.

Key Points: Abolition of untouchability-Promotion of khadi-Engagement with peasants and the poor-Transformation of nationalist movement-Widespread participation for social equity

Question 33. Explain the activities of the national movement in India during 1905 to 1907.

[3 Marks]

Answer: The national movement in India between 1905 and 1907 was marked by significant events, especially the Swadeshi movement, which aimed to promote indigenous industries and boycotting British goods. Sparked by the partition of Bengal in 1905, this movement united Indians across various demographics, including the burgeoning middle class. It also saw mass activism, where students resisted British-imposed education, and lawyers boycotted courts. Key figures like Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal led these efforts, emphasizing the need for self-reliance and national pride. This period laid the groundwork for larger movements in subsequent years, with a notable increase in political awareness among the populace.

Key Points: Swadeshi movement; response to Bengal partition; promotion of indigenous industries; student activism and lawyer boycotts; unification of various social classes; involvement of leaders like Tilak and Pal; rise of political consciousness among Indians

Question 34. Explain the attributes of a loyal citizen as defined by G.B. Pant.

[3 Marks]

Answer: Govind Ballabh Pant described a loyal citizen as someone who prioritizes the welfare of the state above individual or community interests. He emphasized the importance of self-discipline in a democratic society, where citizens should act for the collective good rather than personal gain. There should be no divided loyalty; all citizens must identify as equal members of one state. Pant also highlighted the need for empathy, particularly towards minorities, ensuring their spiritual and material

needs are met. Overall, loyalty to the state and recognition of fellow citizens' rights and aspirations are crucial for a harmonious democracy.

Key Points: Self-discipline - Prioritize state over individual/community - No divided loyalty - Equality of all citizens - Empathy towards minorities - Spiritual and material satisfaction

---

Section D

Question 35. Examine the main features of the Stupa at Sanchi and the role of the rulers of Bhopal in preserving it.

[8 Marks]

Answer: The Great Stupa at Sanchi is one of the most significant Buddhist monuments in India, showcasing unique architectural and artistic features. It is a large hemispherical dome, symbolizing the universe, with a central pillar called the 'harmika,' representing the connection between the earthly and divine. The four ornate gateways, known as toranas, depict various stories from the life of Buddha and Jataka tales, reflecting intricate carvings and Buddhist iconography. Additionally, the overall layout of the stupa, including the circumambulatory path, invites devotees to engage in meditation and prayer. The preservation of Sanchi is largely credited to the rulers of Bhopal, particularly Shahjehan Begum, who recognized the site's historical significance. In the 19th century, her administration took crucial steps to protect and restore the structure from potential decay. They actively resisted attempts by foreign entities to export parts of the stupa, such as the eastern gateway, and instead aimed to maintain it as a national heritage site. The Archaeological Survey of India further supported these efforts, ensuring that Sanchi remains a cherished symbol of Buddhist culture and architecture. The combined dedication of local rulers and archaeological initiatives has preserved Sanchi, making it an essential point of interest for both spiritual pilgrims and historians alike.

Key Points: Main features: hemispherical dome; central pillar (harmika); ornate gateways (toranas) with carvings; circumambulatory path. Role of Bhopal rulers: Shahjehan Begum's preservation efforts; resistance against exportation of structures; collaboration with Archaeological Survey of India for restoration.

Question 36. Examine the major teachings of Buddha and explain why Buddhism grew rapidly during the time of Buddha.

[8 Marks]

Answer: The Buddha, born Siddhartha Gautama, propagated several key teachings, most notably the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path. The Four Noble Truths outline the reality of suffering, its origin, cessation, and the path to liberation. The Eightfold Path provides practical steps for ethical and mindful living, emphasizing right understanding, intention, speech, action, livelihood, effort,

mindfulness, and concentration. Buddhism grew rapidly as it provided clarity and solace to many individuals disillusioned by the rigid and often corrupt practices of existing religions. Furthermore, in a time of significant social upheaval and change, the Buddha's emphasis on personal experience, compassion, and community resonated with a diverse populace. His teachings, recorded and disseminated through texts like the Sutta Pitaka, attracted followers across varied regions, facilitating Buddhism's expansion throughout Asia, which further solidified its place as a major world religion.

Key Points: Four Noble Truths-Eightfold Path-reaction to social upheaval and religious dissatisfaction-Buddha's emphasis on personal experience and compassion-dissemination through texts like the Sutta Pitaka

Question 37. Explain the ideas of Alvars and Nayanars. Elucidate how they established their relations with the states.

[8 Marks]

Answer: The Alvars and Nayanars were pivotal figures in the Bhakti movement in Tamil Nadu, advocating devotion to Vishnu and Shiva, respectively. They composed devotional hymns in Tamil, elevating local languages as mediums for spiritual expression. Their ideas challenged the prevailing caste system and the hegemony of Brahmanas, attracting followers from diverse social backgrounds, including those regarded as untouchable. Their influence prompted rulers to seek alliances with them, recognizing their power to sway public sentiment, legitimizing their own rule by associating with these revered figures. By identifying and venerating specific shrines as sacred, they helped establish a connective tissue between the divine and the political sphere, transforming temples into centers of both spiritual and social authority. Ultimately, the relationship between the Alvars, Nayanars, and the state was symbiotic; the rulers gained popular support, while the saints received patronage for their movements, reshaping Tamil culture and spirituality.

Key Points: Alvars and Nayanars as Bhakti movement leaders; hymns in Tamil promoted local language; challenge to caste system; diverse social backgrounds of followers; rulers sought alliances for popular support; identification of identified shrines; temples as centers of spiritual authority; symbiotic relationship with the state.

Question 38. Explain the causes of the growth of Sufism and also explain the Sufis relations with the state.

[8 Marks]

Answer: The growth of Sufism can largely be attributed to the disillusionment with the materialism of the Caliphate, as many early Muslims sought a more spiritual and ascetic approach to faith in response to the thriving wealth and luxury of their leaders. Sufis aimed to delve deeper into the inner meanings of Islamic teachings rather than relying solely on the dogmatic interpretations by theologians. This rise was accompanied by the development of structured communities around khanqahs, where Sufis taught their doctrines and practices. Sufi relationships with state authorities were complex; while the Chishti tradition emphasized austerity and a distance from worldly politics,

Sufis were not entirely estranged from the state. They accepted donations from political elites and held influence over the populace, often having their tombs built near royal sites as a symbol of respect. However, there were instances of conflict arising from the Sufis' spiritual authority challenging the political power of the Sultans, indicating a nuanced interplay between spirituality and governance.

Key Points: Reaction to materialism; Spirituality versus dogmatism; Formation of Sufi communities; Acceptance of donations; Mutual respect; Instances of conflict

Question 39. Examine the factors that influenced the implementation of the Permanent Settlement in Bengal and its consequences.

[8 Marks]

Answer: The implementation of the Permanent Settlement in Bengal was influenced by several interrelated factors. Firstly, the economic crisis of the 1770s created a dire situation, marked by recurrent famines and declining agricultural productivity. The British officials aimed to stabilize the revenue system by fixing revenue demands, thereby attracting individuals who could ensure payment. The settlement was ultimately made with zamindars, who were classified as landholders responsible for paying fixed taxes in perpetuity. This approach was also a result of the British strategy to address administrative inefficiencies and conflicts that arose from fluctuating revenue streams. The consequences of this settlement were far-reaching: it led to a transfer of land ownership, with over 75% of zamindaris changing hands soon after. Additionally, while it provided a temporary revenue boost for the British, it often resulted in the exploitation of the peasants. The zamindars, granted significant power, frequently placed heavy tax burdens on farmers to maintain their own wealth, which contributed to the agrarian distress in Bengal. Ultimately, the Permanent Settlement reshaped the socio-economic fabric of Bengal, but also laid the foundation for future agricultural turmoil.

Key Points: Economic crisis of the 1770s; Aim to stabilize revenue system; Fixing revenue demands; Engagement with zamindars; Consequences of land ownership transfer; Exploitation of peasants; Agrarian distress in Bengal

Question 40. ‘‘The jotedars became powerful figures in many areas of North Bengal during the end of the 18th century.’’ Examine the statement.

[8 Marks]

Answer: The rise of the jotedars in North Bengal during the late 18th century marked a significant shift in local power dynamics. As rich peasants, jotedars acquired vast areas of land, sometimes reaching several thousand acres. Their dominance was facilitated by the decline of zamindars, whose estates were often auctioned due to revenue failures. Jotedars not only controlled local trade but also engaged in moneylending, thereby embedding themselves at the heart of economic activity. Unlike zamindars, who were often detached and resided in urban areas, jotedars lived within the villages, exerting direct control over peasant communities. Francis Buchanan's observations highlight how jotedars resisted zamindar authority and established their own power structures. This local influence enabled them to emerge as crucial figures in village governance. Additionally, they played an essential

role in the socio-economic landscapes of their regions, which rendered them indispensable to both the villagers and the economic framework. Their control over land and resources allowed them to undermine existing power hierarchies, reinforcing the argument of their ascendancy in North Bengal. Overall, the jotedars' rise was a necessary response to the failing management of the zamindars, indicating a critical evolution in rural power structures.

Key Points: Rise of jotedars in North Bengal; Acquisition of land and control of trade; Jotedars vs. zamindars dynamics; Local influence and governance; Economic role as moneylenders; Resistance to zamindar authority; Importance of jotedars in rural society.