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1. Which one of the following foreign travellers elaborately discussed about diamonds and diamond mines of India?

- A. Francois Bernier
- B. Jean-Baptiste Tavernier
- C. Jean de Thevenot
- D. Abbe Barthelemy Carre

Answer: B

Explanation

- Jean-Baptiste Tavernier (1605-1689) was a French explorer and merchant.
- He was the first European to describe the diamond mines in India.
- In 1676, Tavernier published an account of his six journeys to India and Persia from 1631 to 1668 in Les Six Voyages de Jean- Baptiste Tavernier (translated into English in 1678 as The Six Voyages of John Baptista Tavernier).
- Though Tavernier provided a wealth of information about his travels and work, he did not record the details of his important transactions.
- Tavernier is best known for his 1666 discovery or purchase of the 116-carat Tavernier Blue diamond.

2. Consider the following pairs:

1. Radhakanta Deb - First President of the British Indian Association

2. Gazulu Lakshminarasu Chetty - Founder of the Madras Mahajana Sabha

3. Surendranath Banerjee - Founder of the Indian Association

Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?

- A. 1 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: B

Explanation

- British Indian Association was founded on October 29, 1851 at Calcutta with Raja radhakanta dev and debendranath tagore as its President and Secretary respectively.
- Other members of the Association included Ramgopal Ghosh, peary chand mitra and Krishnadas Pal. Its membership was kept exclusive to Indians.
- The object of the Association was 'to secure improvements in the local administration of the country and in the system of government laid down by Parliament'.
- Madras Mahajana Sabha was an Indian nationalist organisation based in the Madras Presidency.

- The first organisation in the Madras Presidency to agitate for the rights of Indians was the Madras Native Association which was established by publicist Gazulu Lakshminarasu Chetty in 1849.
- This organisation did not survive for long and was eventually disbanded.
- In May 1884, M. Veeraraghavachariar, G. Subramania Iyer and P. Anandacharlu established the Madras Mahajana Sabha.
- The Indian Association was the first avowed nationalist organization founded in British India by Surendranath Banerjee and Ananda Mohan Bose in 1876.
- The objectives of this Association were "promoting by every legitimate means the political, intellectual and material advancement of the people".

3. Which among the following events happened earliest?

- A. Swami Dayanand established Arya Samaj. 1875
- B. Dinabandhu Mitra wrote Neeldarpon. 1858-59
- C. Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay wrote Anandmath. 1882
- D. Satyendranath Tagore became the first Indian to succeed in the Indian Civil Services Examination. 1864

Answer: B

Explanation

- Nil Darpan is a Bengali play written by Dinabandhu Mitra in 1858–1859.

✓ The play was essential to Nil Vidroha, better known as the Indigo Revolt of February–March 1859 in Bengal, when farmers refused to sow indigo in their fields to protest against exploitative farming under the British rule.

- Arya Samaj is a monotheistic Indian Hindu reform movement that promotes values and practices based on the belief in the infallible authority of the Vedas.
- The samaj was founded by the sannyasi Dayanand Saraswati on 10 April 1875.
- Anandamath is a Bengali fiction, written by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay and published in 1882.
- It is inspired by and set in the background of the Sannyasi Rebellion in the late 18th century, it is considered one of the most important novels in the history of Bengali and Indian literature.
- A Civil Service Commission was setup in 1854 in London and competitive examinations were started in 1855.
✓ In 1864, the first Indian, Shri Satyendranath Tagore brother of Shri Rabindaranath Tagore succeeded in the Indian Civil Services Examination.

4. Consider the following pairs: Traditions :: Communities

1. Chaliha Sahib Festival - Sindhis
2. Nanda Raj Jaat Yatra - Gonds
Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh
3. Wari-Warkari - Santhals Jharkhand

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. None of the above

Answer: A

Explanation

- Sindhis worship, Lord Jhulelal, and Chaliha is the most important festival for the Sindhi community.
- Chailo Sahib or Chaliha is a forty-day festival which falls in the months of July - August when Sindhis observe fast for forty days to please their God Jhulelal.
- Nanda Devi Raj Jaat or Himalayan Mahakumbh is a festival in Uttarakhand in which Goddess Nanda Devi (also known as Gaura and Raj Rajeshwari in Garhwal division) is worshipped.
- Warkari (meaning 'the one who performs the Wari') is a sampradaya (religious movement) within the bhakti spiritual tradition of Hinduism, geographically associated with the Indian state of Maharashtra.
- Warkaris worship Vitthal (also known as Vithoba), the presiding deity of Pandharpur, regarded as a form of Krishna.

- Saints and gurus of the bhakti movement associated with the Warkaris include Dnyaneshwar, Namdev, Chokhamela, Eknath, and Tukaram, Gadge Maharaj all of whom are accorded the title of Sant.

5. Which one of the following statements does not apply to the system of Subsidiary Alliance introduced by Lord Wellesley?

- A. To maintain a large standing army at other's expense
- B. To keep India safe from Napoleonic danger
- C. To secure a fixed income for the Company
- D. To establish British paramountcy over the Indian States

Answer: C

Explanation

- Wellesley developed the system of Subsidiary Alliance. The main features of the system were:
 - ✓ The native ruler who became a subsidiary ally of the English would be protected by the Company's government against foreign attack.
 - ✓ In lieu of this guarantee the native ruler had to maintain a force under British command and pay a subsidy for its maintenance to the Company.
 - ✓ He was forbidden to negotiate with any foreign power without the knowledge of the English.