



Sleepy Classes IAS
Awakening Toppers

Pre-Mix

History

January to August 2022

History

Attempt the Questions

1. Consider the following statements in context to Kathak dance:

1. Kathak is the only form of classical dance wedded to Hindustani or the North Indian music.
2. It represents a unique synthesis of Hindu and Muslim genius in art.
3. The spread of the bhakti movement eroded the distinctive style of kathak dance.

Select the correct answer code:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

2. Recently exhibition of 'Chintamani Padya Natakam' was banned. The state known for this play:

- A. Tamil Nadu.
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Maharashtra

3. Which among the following was/were part of Sapta Sindhu rivers mentioned in the Rig Veda:

1. Satluj
2. Saraswati
3. Ganga
4. Indus

Select the correct answer code:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2 and 4 only

D. All of the above

4. A 216-foot-tall statue of 11th-century social reformer and saint, Ramanujacharya is composed of 'panchaloha', a combination of five metals comprising:

1. Gold
2. Aluminium
3. Copper
4. Zinc

Select the correct answer code:

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 2,3 and 4 only
- D. 1,3 and 4 only

5. Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian National Army was formed in 1942 under Subhas Chandra Bose
2. The title 'Netaji' was given to Subhas Chandra Bose by his political mentor Chittaranjan Das.
3. The government has instituted Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar to recognise services in the field of disaster management.

Select the correct answer code:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. All of the above

6. Which of the following ports handled the North Indian trade during the Gupta Period ?

Select the correct option -

- A. Tamralipti
- B. Broach
- C. Kalyan

D. Cambay

7. The practice of military governorship was first introduced in India by the - (UPSC PYQ)

Choose the correct statement -

- A. Greeks
- B. Shakas
- C. Parthians
- D. Mughals

8. In ancient Indian Buddhist monasteries, a ceremony called Pavarana used to be held, it was the -

Select the correct answer -

- A. Occasion to elect the Sanghparinayaka and two speakers one on Dhamma and the other on Vinaya.
- B. Confessions of monks for their offences committed during their interaction with the other world.
- C. Ceremony of initiation of new person into the Buddhist Sangha in which the head is shaped when yellow robes are offered.
- D. Confession by monks of their offences committed during their stay in the monasteries during the rainy season

9. The ancient Indian play Mudrarakshasha of Vishakadutt has its subject on -

Select the correct answer using the code below -

- A. A conflict between Gods and Demons .
- B. A romantic story of an Aryan Prince and a tribal women.
- C. The story of Power struggle between the two Aryans.
- D. The court intrigues at the time of Chandragupta.

10. Mrichachhhakatika an ancient Indian book written by Sudraka deals with -

Select the correct answer using the code below -

- A. The love affair of a rich merchant with the daughter of a courtesan.
- B. The victory of Chandragupta II over the Shaka Kshatrapas of western India.
- C. The military expeditions and exploits of Samudragupta.

D. The love affairs between a Gupta King and a princess of Kumarupa.

11. The term 'Yavanpriya' in Ancient Sanskrit texts denoted

Choose the correct statement -

- A. A fine variety of Indian Muslin
- B. Ivory
- C. Damsels sent to Greek court for dance performance
- D. Pepper

12. The concept of Anuvrata was advocated by

Select the correct answer -

- A. Mahayana Buddhism
- B. Hinayana Buddhism
- C. Jainism
- D. The Lokyata School

13. According to Mimamsa School of Philosophy, liberation is possible by means of -

Select the correct answer using the code below -

- A. Jnana
- B. Bhakti
- C. Yoga
- D. Karma

14. Which one of the following statements regarding Ashokan stone Pillars is incorrect

Select the correct answer using the code below -

- A. They are highly polished.
- B. They are monolithic
- C. The shaft of pillars is tapering in shape.
- D. These are parts of Architectural structures.

15. Which of the following edicts mentions the personal name of Ashoka

Select the correct answer using the code below -

- A. Kalsi
- B. Rummindei
- C. Kaling edict
- D. Maski

16. Based on following statements identify the monument .

1. Built in the 13th century, conceived as a gigantic chariot of the Sun God, with 12 pairs of exquisitely ornamented wheels pulled by seven horses.
2. Built by King Narasimhadeva I, the great ruler of Ganga dynasty.
3. It was included in UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984 for its architectural greatness and also for the sophistication and abundance of sculptural work.

Choose the correct Option -

- A. Jagannath Puri
- B. Lingaraj Temple
- C. Konark Temple
- D. Lalitgiri

17. Which of the following statements are correct about Sahitya Akademi Award?

1. Established in 1944, It is a cultural honour that is conferred biannually by Sahitya Akademi, India's National Academy of letters.
2. Indian film-maker Satyajit Ray is the designer of the plaque awarded by the Sahitya Akademi.

Choose the correct answer -

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

18. Which of the following statements are correct about Bamiyan Buddhas ?

1. It is also called Greco-Buddhist art, showing influences of the Hellenistic styles of classical Greek sculptures.
2. It is situated in the high mountains of Hindkush Range in Pakistan.
3. They were called by the locals Salsal and Shamama.

Choose the correct answer -

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

19. Newspaper “Sambad Prabhakar” was published by -

Choose the correct answer -

- A. Ishwar Chandra Gupta
- B. Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- C. Keshari Nath Tripathi
- D. Debashish Chakraborty

20. Which of the following statements are Nayanars are correct?

1. The Nayanars were a group of 63 saints living in Tamil Nadu during the 3rd to 8th centuries CE who were devoted to the Hindu god Vishnu.
2. The names of the Nayanars were first compiled by Sundarar.

Choose the correct answer -

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

21. Which of the following statements about Ayya Vaikunda Swamikal are correct ?

1. He lived in the Vijayanagar Empire.
2. He was against idol worship and he did not allow the portraiture to draw his figure.

3. He advised his followers to practice Dharma and the most important form of Dharma was considered 'Anadama'.

Choose the correct Option -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All the above

22. Which of the following statements about Rakhigarhi are correct ?

- 1. The site is located in Sarasvati river plain.
- 2. Two levels of Early (3500 BC – 2600 BC) and Mature Harappan (2600 BC – 1800 BC) civilization have been found at Rakhigarhi

Choose the correct answer -

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

23. Based on the following statements identify the dance -

- 1. It is the most popular dance form of Kerala.
- 2. The word translates as story play.
- 3. It is popular for its make-up and costumes.
- 4. The actor never speaks except with his hands.
- 5. They usually depict the ancient stories of Mahabharata, Ramayana and other Puranas.
- 6. The language of the songs used for this dance is Manipravalam.

Choose the correct answer -

- A. Kathakali
- B. Mohiniyattam
- C. Kokkali

D. Tirvathirakali

24. Toto Tribal People are found in which of the following states ?

Choose the correct answer -

- A. Jharkhand
- B. West Bengal
- C. Nagaland
- D. Andhra Pradesh

25. Which of the following statements about Kondwani cave art is/ are correct ?

1. They are pictorial depictions of Jataka stories.
2. The Buddhist rock-cut architecture found in these caves belongs to the Mahayan phase of Buddhism.

Choose the correct answer -

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

26. Many of the Greeks, Shakas and Kushans embraced Buddhism rather than Hinduism because -

Select the correct Answer -

- A. Buddhism was in the ascendent at that time.
- B. They had renounced the policy of war and violence.
- C. Caste ridden Hinduism did not attract them.
- D. Buddhism provided easier access to Indian Society.

27. Which of the following was the corporation of Merchants in Ancient India ?

Select the correct Answer -

- A. Chaturvedimangalam
- B. Parishad

- C. Ashtadikgaja
- D. Manigrama

28. The silver coin issued by the Guptas were called (UPSC PYQ) -

Select the correct Answer -

- A. Rupaka
- B. Karshapana
- C. Dinara
- D. Pana

29. In the Mahayan Buddhism, the Boddhisatva Avalokiteshvara was also known as -

Select the correct Answer -

- A. Vajrapani
- B. Manjusri
- C. Padmapani
- D. Maitreya

30. What is the correct chronological order in which the following appeared in India -

1. Gold Coins
2. Punch Marked Silver Coins
3. Iron Plough
4. Urban Culture

Select the correct Answer -

- A. 3-4-1-2
- B. 3-4-2-1
- C. 4-3-1-2
- D. 4-3-2-1

31. Assertion (A) : According to Ashoka's edict, social harmony among the people was more important than religious devotion.

Reason (R) : He spread ideas of equity instead of promotion of religion.

Select the correct option -

- A. Both A and R are true but R is the correct explanation of A.
- B. Both A and R are true but R is not a correct explanation of A.
- C. A is true but R is false.
- D. A is false but R is true.

32. Which of the following are correctly matched - (1998)

- 1. Lothal : Ancient Dockyard
- 2. Sarnath : First Sermon of Buddha
- 3. Rajgir : Lion Capital of Ashok
- 4. Nalanda : Great seat of Buddhist Learning.

Choose the correct statement -

- A. All of the above
- B. 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2 and 4 only
- D. 1 and 2 only

33. Which one of the following ancient records is the earliest royal order to preserve food grains to be utilised during the crises in the country ? (1998)

Select the correct answer -

- A. Sohgaura Copper Plate
- B. Rummindei Pillar - Edict of Ashoka
- C. Prayaga-prasasti
- D. Mehrauli Pillar inscription of Chandra

34. The concept of Eight fold path forms the theme of -

- A. Vajrapani
- B. Divyavandana
- C. Mahaparinirbana
- D. Dharam Chakra Pravartana Sutta

35. Consider the following statements regarding the town planning in Harappan Civilization:

1. The cities had public baths.
2. They used mud-bricks or air-dried bricks as burnt bricks were not known to them.
3. Dockyard at Lothal had lock gate system.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 3 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. All of the above.

36. Consider the following statements regarding the sculptures found in the Harappan cities:

1. The famous 'Dancing Girl' was sculptured using the 'pinching method'.
2. A 'bearded priest' made from Bronze has been found in Mohenjo-Daro.
3. 'Lost wax technique' was one of the technique used in making sculptures.

Which of the above statements is/are correct ?

- A. 3 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. All of the above.

37. Consider following statements regarding the temples of South India:

1. Shore temple of Mahabalipuram is one of the oldest rock cut temple belonging to the Pallavi school.
2. Virupksha temple at Hampi is known for its musical pillars
3. Airavatesvara Temple at Darasuram is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

38. Consider following statements regarding various schools of sculptures developed in ancient India

1. Mathura school didn't have any major foreign influence
2. Gandhara School used white marble.
3. Amravati School was patronized by Sat vahana rulers.
4. Gandhara School had major influences from all three religions of the time, i.e. Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1 and 4 only
- D. All of the above.

39. Consider following statements regarding the Indo-Islamic architecture

1. Tarbert style of architecture gained prominence in this period.
2. Mortar was used as a cementing agent in their constructions.
3. It avoided the use of human and animal figures.
4. Arabesque method was also used for decoration.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

40. 'Ras' and 'Sankirtana' are popular forms of which of the following classical dances?

- A. Manipuri
- B. Sattriya
- C. Kathak
- D. Kathakali

41. Which of the following texts is considered as the 'Bible of the Tamil Land' ?

- A. Tolkappiyam
- B. Tirukkural
- C. Silpadikaram
- D. Manimekalai

42. Arrange the following Archaeological Sites of the Indian Subcontinent from North to South :

- 1. Burzahom
- 2. Chirand
- 3. Mehargarh
- 4. Bhimbetka

Select the correct option from the given codes below:

- A. 2-1-3-4
- B. 1-2-3-4
- C. 1-3-2-4
- D. 3-1-2-4

43. Consider the below-mentioned pairs of Biographies and their writers:

- 1. Harshacharita : Banbhatta
- 2. Vikramadevachairta : Bilhana
- 3. Prithviraj Raso : Chand Bardai
- 4. Rajtarangini : Kalhan

Which of the above-mentioned pairs is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 4 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

44. Consider the following statements in the context of Ancient Ritualistic Texts of the post-Vedic times:

- 1. Sulvasutras were the texts that contained the public sacrifices made by Kings.

2. Grihyasutras were the texts of domestic rituals such as birth, death, and marriage.
3. Srautsutras were the texts of rituals of the tribal people.

Which of the above-mentioned ritualistic texts is/are correctly explained?

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

45. Arrange the below-mentioned Ancient Indian Universities in their chronological order of establishment

1. Taxila University
2. Nalanda University
3. Vikramshila University

Select the correct option from the below mentioned orders:

- A. 2-1-3
- B. 1-2-3
- C. 1-3-2
- D. 2-3-1

46. Which of the following acts made provisions to grant permission to the Christian Missionaries for the propagation of religion in India?

- A. Pitts India Act of 1784
- B. Charter Act of 1813
- C. Charter Act of 1833
- D. Charter Act of 1853

47. Which of the following were the attributes of the Indigo Revolt 1859-60?

1. The intelligentsia and press supported the British cause during this revolt.
2. It was characterized by Hindu-Muslim unity.
3. The Indigo Revolt was successful in achieving its objectives.

Choose the correct code from below:

- A. 2 and 3 only

- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 only
- D. All of the above

48. With reference to provisions/outcomes of Montague Declaration, 1917, consider the following statements:

1. It provided for the establishment of a responsible government in India.
2. The demand for self-government was to be treated as seditious.
3. It aimed at increasing association of Indians in every branch of administration.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

49. With reference to Tilak's Home Rule, consider the following statements:

1. Along with the demand for swaraj he also sought for linguistic reorganization of states.
2. Use of religious festivals was an important strategy used by Tilak during Home Rule agitation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

50. Consider the following statements with reference to 'Swaraj Party':

1. Swaraj Party, was formed in 1920 by C. Vijayaraghavachariar.
2. Motilal Nehru was its first president.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2

D. Neither 1 nor 2

51. Consider following statements regarding various schools of sculptures developed in ancient India:

1. Mathura school didn't have any major foreign influence.
2. Gandhara School used white marble.
3. Amravati School was patronised by Satvahana rulers.
4. Gandhara School had major influences from all three religions of the time, i.e. Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1 and 4 only
- D. All of the above.

52. Match list-I of pottery with their respective age in the list-II:

List-I (Pottery) List-II (Ancient Age)

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Black and Red Ware (BRW) | A. Vedic Period |
| 2. Painted Grey Ware (PGW) | B. Harappan age |
| 3. Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW) | C. Mauryan peri |

Select the correct option from the given codes below:

- A. 1-a, 2-b, 3-c
- B. 1-b, 2-a, 3-c
- C. 1-c, 2-a, 3-b
- D. 1-c, 2-b, c-a

53. The Satavahanas of the early centuries of the Common Era was significant ruling dynasties. Which of the following statements is/ are correct in the context of Satavhana rulers?

1. Puranas mentions the Satavahana rule in the Deccan.
2. Satavahanas were the only ruling dynasty to follow the matriarchal system of succession.

3. Satavahanas were the first to allot lands to various groups in the form of grants.
4. Satavahanas were a critique of the Varna division in society.

Select the correct option from the given codes below:

- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 and 4 only
- D. Only 3

54. At which of the following Neolithic Sites the evidence of pit dwelling and burying of a dog along with the humans were found?

- A. Sarai Khola
- B. Burzahom
- C. Aile Gul Mohammad
- D. Mehargarh

55. Which of the statements mentioned below is/are correct in the context of Harappan Religion?

1. Temple structures dedicated to several deities were found at various IVC sites.
2. The Priestly class was the ruling class during the Harappan period.
3. The Harappan people worshipped both male and female deities.

Select the correct option from the codes given below:

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

56. Recently Booker Prize was awarded in the month of May, in the above context consider the following statements regarding the same -

1. Geetanjali Shree's 'Tomb of Sand' becomes 1st novel written in an Indian language to win International Booker Prize.
2. The International Booker Prize is awarded annually for a single book, translated into English and published in Europe.

3. It was instituted in 2005 and was earlier known as the Man Booker International Prize.

Choose the correct statements -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

57. Recently Devasahayan Pillai was declared as Saint, Consider the following statements without respect to Canonisation of Saints -

- 1. He is the First Indian Layman to be declared a saint by the Vatican.
- 2. To be approved for sainthood, 3 miracles must be recognised, clearing the path to his canonisation.
- 3. Vasap plays (Vaasappu in Tamil) which have their origin in Portuguese theatres, enacted in Kanniyakumari district and other parts, talk about his life.

Choose the correct statements -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

58. Consider the following statements with respect to Jagadguru Basaveshwara (Basvanna)

- 1. He started a new movement in Karnataka in 12th century known as Veersaiva tradition which is an offshoot of Lingayat tradition.
- 2. He was a worshipper of Vishnu.
- 3. He rejected the caste and gender discrimination and also rejected the theory of rebirth.
- 4. Worshipers of Lingayat tradition, cremate their dead as per the Hindu Tradition.

Choose the correct statement -

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

59. Recently, Govt. reconstituted the Central Advisory Board on Archaeology after 7 years, Consider the following statements with respect to same -

1. The purpose of this Advisory board is to strengthen contacts between the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and those in the field of archaeological research.
2. PM of India is the chairperson of this board.

Choose the correct statement -

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

60. The Gandhi-Irwin Pact included which of the following?

1. Invitation to Congress to participate in the Round Table Conference
2. Withdrawal of Ordinances promulgated in connection with the Civil Disobedience Movement.
3. Acceptance of Gandhiji's suggestion for enquiry into police excesses
4. Release of only those prisoners who were not charged with violence

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- A. 1 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 2, 3 and 4 only

61. Consider the following statements with respect to Adi Sankaracharya -

1. He propounded the philosophy of Advaita Vedanta.
2. He is considered to be the incarnation of Lord Vishnu.
3. His birthplace Kaladi in Ernakulam is likely to declared as national monument.

Choose the correct answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

62. Consider the following statements with respect to Subhash Chandra Bose -

1. In order to protest against the Partition of Bengal, He left his Civil Services Apprenticeship midway to return to India in 1921.
2. In 1931, He was in favour of Gandhi Irwin pact and the suspension of Civil Disobedience Movement.
3. While campaigning for India's Independence, he formed an Indian Government-in-exile 'The Azad Hind Government' in Germany.

Choose the incorrect answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

63. Consider the following statements with respect to Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-

1. It is rendered to Individuals and Organisations in the field of Science and Technology.
2. For 2022, Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management and Professor Vinod Sharma have won this award.
3. Only two Awards can be given every year.

Choose the Incorrect answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

64. Consider the following statements with respect to Jallikattu -

1. It is a Bull taming sport of Tamil Nadu that has traditionally been part of festivities of Pongal.
2. There are references to Jallikattu in Sangam Literature
3. A similar Bull sport Kambala is of Karnataka.

Choose the Correct answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only

- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

65. Consider the following statements with respect to PRASAD Scheme (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive) -

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
2. It is under the Ministry of Culture.
3. It aims at identifying and developing pilgrimage sites across India for enriching the religious tourism experience.

Choose the Incorrect answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

66. Consider the following statements with respect to Hoysala Temple Architecture -

1. This architecture building style evolved between the 11th and 14th century under the Hoysala Empire's rule in the southern Deccan Region and Kaveri River Valley.
2. Hoysala Architecture is often referred to as Hybrid or Vesara temple style.
3. Hard Granite stone is used in the sculptures of Hoysala Temple Architecture.
4. Hoysala temples have several shrines arranged around a central pillared hall in the form of an intricately designed star (stellate-plan).

Which of the following statements are incorrect ?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

67. Consider the following statements with respect to Saint Ramanujacharya -

1. Recently a statue has been inaugurated at Chennai in the backdrop of celebrations of 'Festival of equality', marking the 1000th birth anniversary of the Saint.

2. Ramanujacharya Ji was deeply influenced by the Alvars (Vishnu worshippers) and according to him the best means of attaining salvation was through intense devotion to Vishnu.
3. He propounded the Theory of Vishisht Advaita.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. None of the Above

68. Consider the following statements with respect to Chauri Chaura Incidents -

1. After this incident, CWC met at Bardoli in February 1923 and resolved to roll back NCM.
2. As a response to the violence, British Government arrested Gandhiji in March 2022 and sentenced him to six years in jail.
3. Most of the nationalist leaders including C.R.Das, Motilal Nehru, Subhash Bose, Jawaharlal Nehru expressed bewilderment at Gandhi's decision to withdraw the movement.

Choose the Correct answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

69. Consider the following statements with respect to Medaram Jatara -

1. It is the Second Largest fair of India.
2. It is celebrated by the Tribal Community of Andhra Pradesh for four days.
3. It is a festival with no Vedic or Brahmanic influence.
4. Jampannavagu river (a tributary to river Godavari) is **worshiped** as one of the parts of rituals.

Choose the Correct answer -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two

- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

70. Consider the following statements with respect to ANGADIAS -

- A. It is a century-old parallel banking system.
- B. It is a century-old traditional Agricultural practice.
- C. It refers to a community of traveller from Medieval Indian History.
- D. None of the above

71. Narasinghapettai Nagaswaram has been granted GI Tag recently, which of the following statement correctly describes this object -

- A. Wind Musical Instrument
- B. A form of Tea
- C. A form of Coffee
- D. Traditional terracotta art form

72. Consider the following statements with respect to Paika Rebellion -

- 1. It was an armed rebellion that took place in Odisha against the British East India Company.
- 2. Paikas were Peasant militias of the Gajapati rulers of Odisha who offered military services to the king.
- 3. The advent of the British and establishment of colonial rule brought new land revenue settlements, which led to the Paikas losing their estates.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

73. Consider the following statements with respect to UNESCO's city of Literature -

- 1. Recently, Kozhikode was proposed to be branded as a UNESCO's City of Literature.
- 2. To be a part of this list, a city needs to have specialisation in one or more of the seven creative fields.
- 3. At present 6 Indian cities are included on the list.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

74. For the first time, Indian Constitution was translated into an Indian Language which is mentioned in Schedule VIII of the Constitution, it's written in Ol Chiki script, which of the following language is written in this script -

- A. Santhali
- B. Assamese
- C. Oriya
- D. Bodo

75. Consider the following statements with respect to Bamiyan Buddhas -

- 1. It is situated in the Hindu Kush in the central highlands of Afghanistan.
- 2. Bamiyan Buddhas date back to the 5th century AD and were once the tallest standing Buddhas in the world.
- 3. They were locally known as Salsal and Shamama.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

76. Consider the following statements with respect to Lingaraj Temple which was recently in news

- 1. This temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu.
- 2. It was built by Somavanshi Dynasty King Jajati Keshari in 10th century.
- 3. An important aspect of temple is that it signifies the syncretisation of Shiavism and Viashavanism sects in Odisha.
- 4. It is the biggest temple in Bubhneshwar.

Which of the following statements is/are correct ?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

77. Recently Cyclopean Wall was in news which is associated with the ancient History of India, which of the Ancient Indian cities contained this Cyclopean Wall -

- A. Rajgir
- B. Kausambhi
- C. Harrapa
- D. Hampi

78. Consider the following statements about initiative DHARA : An ode to Indian Knowledge Systems, which was launched by Government of India recently -

1. It is a flagship initiative of Ministry of Tourism.
2. It is conceptualised as a series of lecture demonstrations dedicated to specific areas of enquiry, highlighting India's contribution and achievements across domains.

Which of the following statements is/are correct ?

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

79. Consider the following statements with respect to Dadasaheb Phalke -

1. He is known as the Father of Indian Cinema.
2. His film 'Raja Harishchandra' (1913) is considered to be India's first full length motion picture which laid the foundation of film Making in India.
3. To honour him, Dadasaheb Phalke award is given annually by President of India for remarkable contribution to Indian Cinema.

Choose the correct statements -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only

- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

80. Consider the following statements with respect to scheme - PM SVANIDHI (Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atmanirbhar Nidhi) -

1. It is a central sectoral scheme.
2. Its target is to benefit over 50 Lakh Street Vendors.
3. There will be no penalty on early repayment of loans.

Choose the incorrect statement/s -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. None of the above

81. Recently, an important excavation at Mayiladumparai, has pushed evidence of Iron being used in India back to 4,200 Years ago, which of the following states corresponds to this site -

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Kerala
- D. Andhra Pradesh

82. Consider the following statements with respect to their corresponding characteristic -

1. Dholavira - Water Management System
2. Lothal - A Port City
3. Kalibangan - A Manufacturing Centre
4. Harappa - A Granary

Which of the following is/are correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

83. Consider the following statements with respect to Raja Ram Mohan Roy -

1. The title 'Raja' was bestowed upon him by the Mughal Emperor Akbar II, in 1831.
2. Gopal Krishan Gokhale called him the 'The Father of Modern India'.
3. He wrote 'Sambad Kaumudi - The Moon of Intelligence' in 1821, this Bengali weekly was the first newspaper in an Indian Language.
4. He wrote "Miratul Akhbar - The Mirror of News" in 1822, It was India's first Persian newspaper.

Which of the following statements is/are correct -

- A. 1,2 and 3 only
- B. 2,3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

84. Consider the following statements with respect to Control Advisory Board on Archeology -

1. Its main function is advising centre on matters relating to archeology and promoting closer contacts of ASI with Indian Universities conducting archaeological research all over the country.
2. Union Minister of Culture will be its chairperson.
3. Board will meet once a Year.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

85. Choose the following statements with respect to International Booker Prize awarded to Geetanjali Shree recently -

1. She became the first Indian to win this award for 'Tomb of Sand'.
2. This award is presented annually for a book that is translated into English and published in UK or Europe.

Choose the correct statement -

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

86. Consider the following statement with respect to Dadu Dayal -

1. He rejected the authority of Vedas and instead gave the sermon of focusing on Japa (Chanting the God's Name)
2. He belonged to the Saguna Form of Bhakti Movement.
3. His followers started a tradition by the name of Dadupanthis.

Which of the following statements is/are correct ?

- A. One Only
- B. Two Only
- C. Three Only
- D. None of the above

87. Consider the following statements with respect to Guru Nanak Dev Ji

1. The Present day 'Kartarpur Corridor' is linked with the Gurdwaras associated with the life of Guru Nanak Dev Ji
2. He is the Founder of Sikhism, which today stands as the 5th largest religion of the World.
3. He gave the concept of Langar and Pangat in order to drive the vision of a casteless Society.

Choose the correct option -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

88. Consider the following statements with respect to Ramdas Ji, a famous Bhakti Saint of Maharashtra Bhakti Movement -

1. He was the famed spiritual Guru and Guide of Shivaji.

2. He wrote Dasbodha, which is a treatise on the Advaita Vedanta in the Marathi Language and deals with a wide range of subjects on the spiritual life.
3. He was against all distinctions based on caste and creed and greatly encouraged the participation of women in religious works.

Choose the incorrect statement/s -

- A. One Only
- B. Two Only
- C. All of the above
- D. None of the above

89. Consider the following statements with respect to Maharashtra Bhakti Movement -

1. Maharashtra Bhakti Movement is centred around the shrine of Vithoba or Vitthal, the residing diety of Pandharpur, who was regarded as the manifestation of Krishna.
2. This movement is broadly divided in 2 sects, Varakaris the heroic followers of cult of Ramdasa and Dharkaris the mild devotees of God Vitthala.

Choose the correct statement -

- A. 1 Only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both of the above
- D. None of the above

90. Consider the following statements with respect to Vallabhacharaya -

1. He **founded Pushtimarga (path of grace)**, a path that teaches a devotee how to offer selfless love and devotion to Shrinath ji without **seeking anything in return except love**.
2. He propounded the **philosophy of Shudhadvaita (Pure Monism)** which forms the basis of Pushtimarg devotional practice.
3. He founded the **Rudra Sampradaya**.

Choose the correct statement -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

91. Regarding the Indus Valley Civilization, consider the following statements:

1. It was predominantly a secular civilization and the religious element, though present, did not dominate the scene.
2. During this period, cotton was used for manufacturing textiles in India

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

92. Which of the following characterizes / characterize the people of Indus Civilization?

1. They possessed great palaces and temples.
2. They worshipped both male and female deities.
3. They employed horse-drawn chariots in warfare.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below.

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

93. Consider the following statements with reference to Chalcolithic culture in India:

1. Sites of Kayatha culture were located in the Banas valley.
2. Eran and Tewar are Chalcolithic sites.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 Only
- B. 2 Only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

94. Consider the following statements, with reference to the Mesolithic paintings:

1. Hunting scenes predominate Mesolithic paintings.
2. Bhimbetka paintings corresponding to this period features dancing.

3. Sources of red color and green color are haematite and chalcedony stone respectively.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

95. Consider the following statement regarding Neolithic age:

- 1. Mehrgarh is the earliest Neolithic site.
- 2. There was beginning of use of pottery for storing grains from Neolithic age.
- 3. People of Neolithic age used clothes made of cotton and wool.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

96. Which of the following forms of art was/were found in Mohenjodaro?

- 1. Bronze image of a dancing girl
- 2. Pashupati seal
- 3. Steatite image of a bearded man
- 4. Evidence of boats.
- 5. Terracotta figurine of Mother Goddess

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 2, 3 4 and 5 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

97. Which among the following is correct with respect to the Harappan civilization?

- 1. Fortification was found at Chanhudaro site of Harappan Civilization.
- 2. Red and black pottery was found in Harappan settlements.

3. Ploughing evidence have been found in Kalibangan.

Select the correct answer from the options given below.

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

98. In which of the following relief sculpture inscriptions is 'Ranyo Ashoka' (King Ashoka) mentioned along with the stone portrait of Ashoka?

- A. Kanganahalli
- B. Sanchi
- C. Shahbazagrhi
- D. Sohgaura

99. With reference to the difference between the culture of Rigvedic Aryans and Indus Valley people, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- 1. Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.
- 2. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron.
- 3. Practice of using Burnt bricks for house construction was introduced by Harappans but was used extensively by Rigvedic Aryans.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

100. Consider the following statements about the king Asoka's policy of 'dhamma':

- 1. Asoka appointed special officers named 'rajukas' to spread the message of dhamma.
- 2. The main objective of Asoka's 'dhamma' was to maintain social order.
- 3. James prinsep was the first to decipher the edicts of king Ashoka.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

101. In the context of the rivers of India, consider the following pairs:

Modern Name Ancient Name

- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| 1. Beas | Vipasha |
| 2. Ravi | Asikini |
| 3. Chenab | Parushni |

Which of the given above is/are *incorrectly* matched?

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

102. Consider the following statements, with reference to the tax administration of Mauryas:

- 1. Sannidhata was the officer in charge of the state treasury.
- 2. Taxes were collected in both cash and kind.
- 3. Udaka bhaga was the fees levied on farmers for use of irrigation sources created and maintained by the state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

103. India maintained its early cultural contacts and trade links with Southeast Asia across the Bay of Bengal. For this pre-eminence of early maritime history of Bay of Bengal, which of the following could be the most convincing explanation/explanations?

- A. As compared to other countries, India had a better ship-building technology in ancient and medieval times
- B. The rulers of southern India always patronized traders, Brahmin priests and Buddhist monks in this context
- C. Monsoon winds across the Bay of Bengal facilitated sea voyages
- D. Both a and b are convincing explanations in this context

104. Which one of the following books of ancient India has the love story of the son of the founder of Sunga dynasty?

- A. Swapnavasavadatta
- B. Malavikagnimitra
- C. Meghadoota
- D. Ratnavali

105. Consider the following statements with reference to the reign of Harshavardhana

1. Ratnavali, Priyadarshika and Nagananda were the books on drama written by Harshavardhana.
2. Kannauj assembly was held by Harsha
3. Chinese pilgrim Hieun Tsang visited to India during his reign.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

106. Consider the following pairs

Asian Country	Cultural contact with India is visible in
Indonesia	Borabodur monument
Cambodia	Angkor Vat temple complex
Vietnam	Cham cultural practices

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

- A. 1 and 2 only

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

107. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding social, economic and political life in the post Mauryan age?

1. Vedic sacrifices were absent in the Post Mauryan empire.
2. Gold coins, silver coins, wine-amphorae, lead coiled strips were major items of import by India from Rome in Post Mauryan period
3. Vikram Samvat calendar is started by King Kanishka of Kushana empire.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

108. In the context of the history of India, consider the following pairs

Term	Description
Eripatti	Land, revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank
Taniyurs	Villages donated to a single Brahmin or a group of Brahmins
Ghatikas	Colleges generally attached to the temples

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

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

109. This Kingdom was located in South India and was famous for pearls. They had flourishing seaport of Korkai through which they traded with Roman Empire. This kingdom was mentioned by Megasthenes in his book Indica wherein he refers that it was ruled by a woman.

Which of the following kingdoms best fits the description given above?

- A. Cheras
- B. Pandyas
- C. Cholas
- D. Vakatakas

110. With reference to forced labour (Vishti) in India during the Gupta period, which one of the following statements is correct?

- A. It was considered a source of income for the State, a sort of tax paid by the people.
- B. It was totally absent in the Madhya Pradesh and Kathiawar regions of the Gupta Empire.
- C. The forced labourer was entitled to weekly wages.
- D. The eldest son of the labourer was sent as the forced labourer.

111. With reference to the scholars/literatures of ancient India, consider the following statements:

- 1. Panini is associated with Pushyamitra
- 2. Amarasimha is associated with Harshavardhana
- 3. Kalidasa is associated with Chandra Gupta-II

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

112. Consider the following statements with reference to the period of Gupta dynasty in ancient India

- 1. The towns Ghantasala, Kadura and Chaul were the ports for handling foreign trade
- 2. The terms 'kulyavapa' and 'dronavapa' denote measurement of land
- 3. Sultanganj Buddha belonged to the Gupta period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 2 only



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

Answers with Explanations

1. Consider the following statements in context to Kathak dance:

1. Kathak is the only form of classical dance wedded to Hindustani or the North Indian music.
2. It represents a unique synthesis of Hindu and Muslim genius in art.
3. The spread of the bhakti movement eroded the distinctive style of kathak dance.

Select the correct answer code:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - A

The word Kathak has been derived from the word Katha which means a story. Kathakars or story-tellers, are people who narrate stories largely based on episodes from the epics, myths and legends. It probably started as an oral tradition. Mime and gestures were perhaps added later on to make the recitation more effective. Thus, evolved a simple form of expressional dance, providing the origins of what later developed into Kathak as we see it today.

Dance Style

- Usually a solo performance, the dancer often pauses to recite verses followed by their execution through movement.
- The focus is more on footwork; the movements are skillfully controlled and performed straight-legged by dancers wearing ankle-bells.
- The tatkaar is the fundamental footwork in kathak.
- Kathak is the only form of classical dance wedded to Hindustani or North Indian music. **Statement 1 is correct.**
- Some prominent dancers include Birju Maharaj, Sitara Devi.

Statement 2 is correct: Kathak is the only classical dance of India having links with Muslim culture, it represents a unique synthesis of Hindu and Muslim genius in art.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Kathak began evolving into a distinct mode of dance in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries with the spread of the Bhakti movement. The legends of Radha-Krishna were enacted in folk plays called rasa lila, which combined folk dance with the basic gestures of the kathak story-tellers. Under the Mughal emperors and their nobles, Kathak was performed in the court, where it acquired its present features and developed into a form of dance with a distinctive style. Under the patronage of Wajid Ali Shah, the last Nawab of Awadh, it grew into a major art form.

2. Recently exhibition of 'Chintamani Padya Natakam' was banned. The state known for this play:

- A. Tamil Nadu.
- B. Andhra Pradesh
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Maharashtra

Answer: - B

The Andhra Pradesh government has banned a 100-year-old play named 'Chintamani Padya Natakam'.

What is 'Chintamani Padya Natakam'?

The play was written in 1920 by playwright Kallakuri Narayana Rao, who was also a social reformer.

- The play is about Chintamani, a courtesan and a devotee of Lord Krishna, who finds salvation by singing bhajans.
- She is courted by Subbi Shetty, a businessman from the Arya Vysya community, who loses his wealth and family due to his attraction to Chintamani.
- The play is exhibited across the state, mainly in rural areas, during festivals and fairs.

3. Which among the following was/were part of Sapta Sindhu rivers mentioned in the Rig Veda:

1. Satluj
2. Saraswati
3. Ganga
4. Indus

Select the correct answer code:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - C

Initially, the Aryans lived in the land known as "Sapta Sindhu" (Land of the Seven Rivers). These seven rivers were: Sindhu (Indus), Vipash (Beas), Vitasta (Jhelum), Parushni (Ravi), Asikni (Chenab), Shutudri (Satluj) and Saraswati.

4. A 216-foot-tall statue of 11th-century social reformer and saint, Ramanujacharya is composed of 'panchaloha', a combination of five metals comprising:

1. Gold
2. Aluminium

3. Copper
4. Zinc

Select the correct answer code:

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 2,3 and 4 only
- D. 1,3 and 4 only

Answer: - D

- It is a 216-feet tall statue, which is made of 'panchaloha', a combination of five metals: gold, silver, copper, brass, and zinc.
- It is among one of the tallest metallic statues in sitting position in the world.
- The statue is mounted on a 54-feet high base building named 'Bhadra Vedi'. It has floors devoted for a vedic digital library and research center, ancient Indian texts, a theater, an educational gallery detailing many works of Sri Ramanujacharya.

About Ramanujacharya

- Born in 1017 in Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu, Ramanujacharya is revered as a Vedic philosopher and social reformer.
- He was named Lakshmana at the time of his birth. He was also referred to as Ilaya Perumal which means the radiant one.
- He traveled across India, advocating equality and social justice.
- He revived the Bhakti movement, and his preachings inspired other Bhakti schools of thought. He is considered to be the inspiration for poets like Annamacharya, Bhakta Ramdas, Thyagaraja, Kabir, and Meerabai.
- He is famous as the chief proponent of Vishishtadvaita subschool of Vedānta. VishishtAdvaita (literally "Advaita with uniqueness; qualifications") is a non-dualistic school of Vedanta philosophy. It is non-dualism of the qualified whole, in which Brahman alone is seen as the Supreme Reality, but is characterized by multiplicity.
- He went on to write nine scriptures known as the navaratnas, and composed numerous commentaries on Vedic scriptures. Ramanuja's most important writings include his commentary on the Vedanta Sutras (the Sri Bhasya, or "True Commentary"), and his commentary on the Bhagavad-Gita (the Gitabhasya, or "Commentary on the Gita"). His other writings include the Vedartha Samgraha ("Summary of the Meaning of the Veda"), the Vedantasara ("Essence of Vedanta"), and Vedantadipa ("Lamp of Vedanta").

5. Consider the following statements:

1. The Indian National Army was formed in 1942 under Subhas Chandra Bose
2. The title 'Netaji' was given to Subhas Chandra Bose by his political mentor Chittaranjan Das.

3. The government has instituted Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar to recognise services in the field of disaster management.

Select the correct answer code:

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - B

Statement 1 is incorrect: Azad Hind Fauj or the India National Army (INA) was first established by Mohan Singh in 1942. It was revived by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on October 21, 1943, during the Second World War to secure India's complete independence from British Raj.

Statement 2 is correct: The title 'Netaji' was given to Subhas Chandra Bose by his political mentor Chittaranjan Das.

Statement 3 is correct: The government has instituted Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar to recognise services in the field of disaster management.

Additional info

About Aapda Prabandhan Puraskaar:

- The Government of India instituted Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskaar to recognise the excellent work done by the individuals and institutions in the field of disaster management.
- Administered By: National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA - created by the Ministry of Home Affairs under the Disaster Management Act, 2005).
- The awards are announced on the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose on 23rd January every year.
- In addition to a certificate, these awards carry a cash award of Rs. 51 lakhs for an Institution and Rs. 5 lakhs for an Individual. The Institution has to utilize the cash prize for Disaster Management related activities only.
- Only Indian nationals and Indian institutions can apply for the award.
- The nominated individual or institution should have worked in any area of disaster management like Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness, Rescue, Response, Relief, Rehabilitation, Research, Innovation or early warning in India.

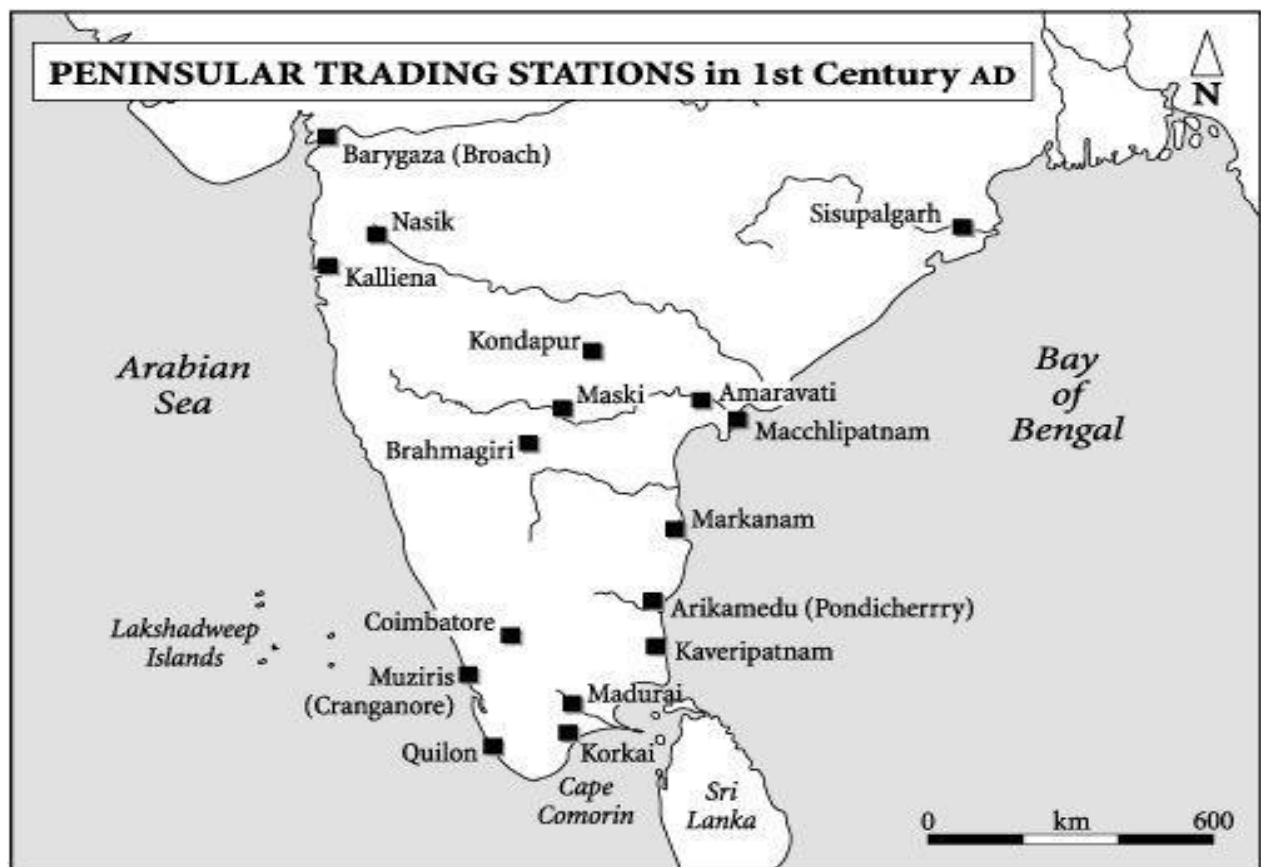
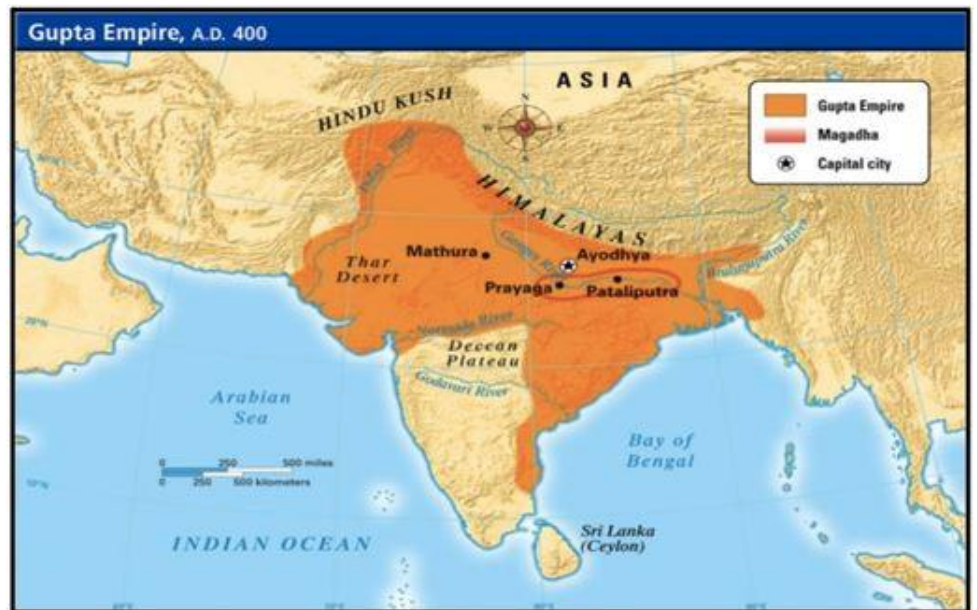
6. Which of the following ports handled the North Indian trade during the Gupta Period?

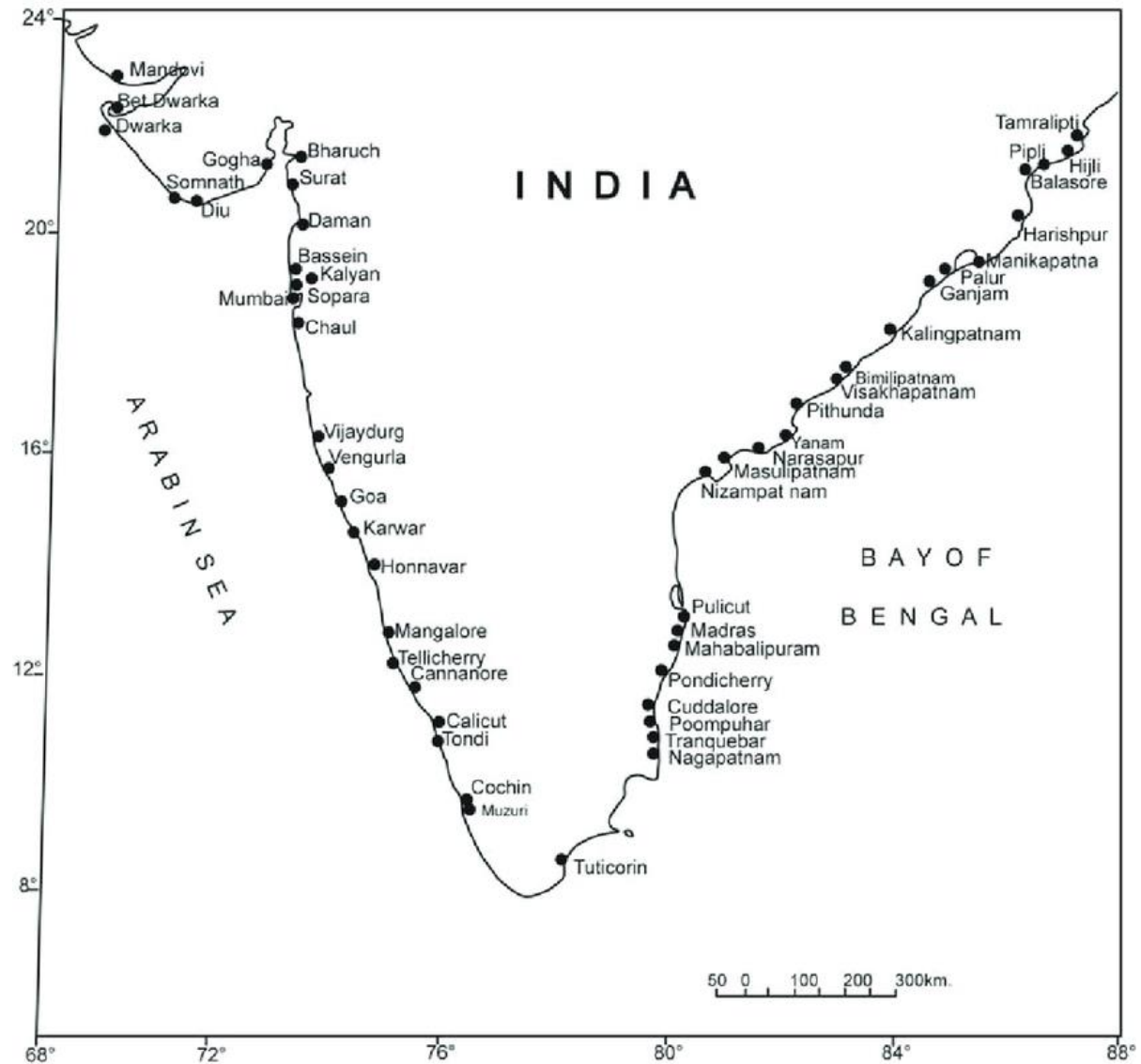
Select the correct option -



- A. Tamralipti
- B. Broach
- C. Kalyan
- D. Cambay

Answer: - A





- Gupta Empire had robust international and internal trade despite fall in Roman trade.
- Riverine trade was also conducted through Ganges, Brahmaputra, Narmada, Krishna etc.
- The important ports included Tamralipti, Braoch, Kalyan, and Cambay. Broach (Bharuch). The main items of trade included spices, pearls, gold, horses etc.
- Tamralipti port handled the north Indian trade during the Gupta period.
- It is believed that Tamralipti was the exit point of the Gupta trade route for the south and south-east.
- It was located near Rupnarayana river.

7. The practice of military governorship was first introduced in India by the - (UPSC PYQ)

Choose the correct statement -

- A. Greeks
- B. Shakas
- C. Parthians
- D. Mughals

Answer: - A

- Greeks first introduced military governorship in India.
- They appointed their Governors called strategos.

8. In ancient Indian Buddhist monasteries, a ceremony called Pavarana used to be held, it was the -

Select the correct answer -

- A. Occasion to elect the Sanghparinayaka and two speakers one on Dhamma and the other on Vinaya.
- B. Confessions of monks for their offences committed during their interaction with the other world.
- C. Ceremony of initiation of new person into the Buddhist Sangha in which the head is shaved when yellow robes are offered.
- D. Confession by monks of their offences committed during their stay in the monasteries during the rainy season

Answer: - D

Pavarana

- It is a Buddhist Holy day celebrated on the full moon day of the eleventh lunar month.
- It marks the end of the month of Vassa, sometimes called "Buddhist Lent"
- This day marks the end of the rainy season in some Asian countries like Thailand, where Theravada Buddhism is practiced.



- On this day, each monk must come before the community of monks and atone for an offence he may have committed during the rainy season.

9. The ancient Indian play Mudrarakshasha of Vishakadutt has its subject on -

Select the correct answer using the code below -

- A. A conflict between Gods and Demons .
- B. A romantic story of an Aryan Prince and a tribal women.
- C. The story of Power struggle between the two Aryans.
- D. The court intrigues at the time of Chandragupta.

Answer: - D

The Mudrarakshasha

("The Signet of the Minister")

- A historical play in Sanskrit by Vishakhadatta (4th century CE) narrates the ascent of the King Chandragupta Maurya to power in North India.

10. Mrichachhhakatika an ancient Indian book written by Sudraka deals with -

Select the correct answer using the code below -

- A. The love affair of a rich merchant with the daughter of a courtesan.
- B. The victory of Chandragupta II over the Shaka Kshatrapas of western India.
- C. The military expeditions and exploits of Samudragupta.
- D. The love affairs between a Gupta King and a princess of Kumarupa.

Answer: - A

Mrichchhakatika (The Clay Court)

- It is a Sanskrit play written by Shudraka in 2nd cen BCE.
- It is about a young man named Charudutta (a rich merchant) and his love for Vasantsena, a courtesan.

11. The term 'Yavanpriya' in Ancient Sanskrit texts denoted

Choose the correct statement -

- A. A fine variety of Indian Muslin
- B. Ivory
- C. Damsels sent to Greek court for dance performance
- D. Pepper

Answer: - D

Yavanapriya

- **Yavanas** was the term which was used to denote **Indo-Greeks/Romans**. They liked pepper, that is why pepper is known as Yavanapriya.
- They liked pepper very much and hence the name '**Yavanapriya**'.

12. The concept of Anuvrata was advocated by

Select the correct answer -

- A. Mahayana Buddhism
- B. Hinayana Buddhism
- C. Jainism
- D. The Lokyata School

Answer: - C

Jainism

- The path or Dharma (truth, teaching) that Mahavira advocated was one of strict asceticism, renunciation and moral cultivation. He instructed his followers to cultivate the three jewels of:
- Right Belief
- Right Knowledge
- Right Conduct
- Emerging from these three jewels and relating to right conduct are the five abstinences, which are the vows of:
- Ahimsa (non-violence)
- Satya (truthfulness)
- Asteya (not stealing)
- Aparigraha (non-acquisition)
- Brahmacharya (chaste living)
- In order to follow these five abstinences there are two ways -
- Mahavratas: the 5 great vows followed by Jain monks and nuns.
- Anuvratas: the lesser vows followed by Jain lay people. These are less strict version of the great vows.

13. According to Mimamsa School of Philosophy, liberation is possible by means of -

Select the correct answer using the code below -

- A. Jnana
- B. Bhakti
- C. Yoga

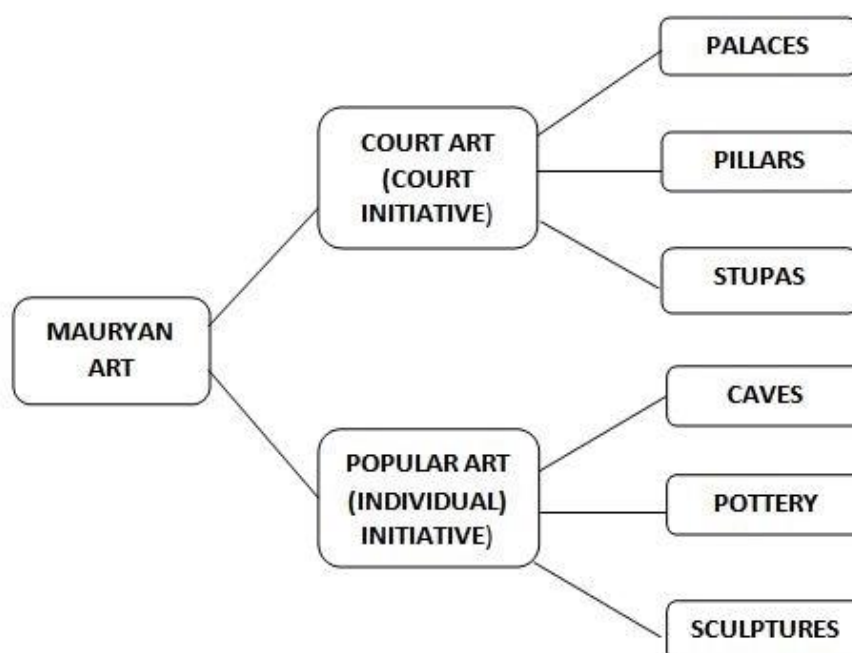
D. Karma

Answer:- D**Mimamsa School of Philosophy -**

- In literal terms it means - Reflection or Critical Investigation.
- It is probably the earliest of all the 6 orthodox schools of Indian Philosophy.
- It is fundamental to Vedanta, another of the six systems, and has deeply influenced the formulation of Hindu Laws.
- The aim of Mimamsa is to give rules for the interpretation of the Vedas, and to provide a philosophical justification for the observance of Vedic rituals.
- It is basically concerned with earlier parts of the Vedas (called Karmakanda). It is also referred to by the name of Purva Mimamsa (Prior Study) or Karma- Mimamsa.
- According to this school, liberation is possible by attaining the path of proper and True Karma.
- Vedanta which deals with the latter portion of the Vedas Literature called Upnishads is called Uttar Mimamsa or Posterior Study or Jnana Mimamsa (Study of Knowledge).

14. Which one of the following statements regarding Ashokan stone Pillars is incorrect**Select the correct answer using the code below -**

- A. They are highly polished.
- B. They are monolithic
- C. The shaft of pillars is tapering in shape.
- D. These are parts of Architectural structures.

Answer: - D

Ashokan Pillars

King Ashok patronised the shramana tradition - Buddhism which also paved the way for the development of Mauryan sculptural and Architectural styles.

If we talk about the pillars, as a symbol of the state, assumed a great significance in the entire Mauryan Empire.

- Material Used - Primarily Chunar Sandstone.
- Objective - To disseminate Buddhist ideology and court orders in the entire Mauryan empire.
- Language - Most of the pillars edicts have the use of Pali and Prakrit language, while few were also found in Greek or Aramic languages.

It comprised mainly of 4 Parts -

- Shaft - A long shaft formed the base and was made up of a single piece of stone or monolith.
- Capital - On top of shaft lay the capital, which was either lotus-shaped or bell-shaped.
- Abacus - Above the capital, there was a circular or rectangular base known as the abacus.
- Capital Figure - All the capital figures (usually animals like a bull, lion, elephant, etc) are vigorous and carved standing on a square or circular abacus.



Similarities with Persian (Achaemenian) Pillars -

- Polished stones and Motifs - Both used polished stones and have certain common sculpture motifs such as the Lotus.
- Proclamations - The idea of spreading written Information through the use of pillars had its origin in the Persian Pillars only.
- Special Feature - Inscriptions of both empires begin in the third person and then move to the first person.



Differences with Persian (Achaemenian) Pillars -

- Minor Variations in Capital Figure and Shape and Orientation like in Mauryan pillars of the Kumhrar hall whereas pillars at Persepolis have the elaborate capital figures and the shape of Mauryan lotus is different from the Persian pillar.
- Pillar Surface: Most of the Persian pillars have a fluted/ ridged surface while the Mauryan pillars have a smooth surface.
- Architectural Scheme: The Achaemenid pillars were generally part of some larger architectural scheme, and bit complex and complicated, while the Ashokan pillars were simple and independent freestanding monuments.

- **Shaft:** Unlike Mauryan shafts which are built of monolith (single piece of stone), Persian/ Achaemenian shafts were built of separate segments of stones (aggregated one above the other).

15. Which of the following edicts mentions the personal name of Ashoka

Select the correct answer using the code below -

- A. Kalsi
- B. Rummindei
- C. Kaling edict
- D. Maski

Answer: - D

Ashokan Edicts

Ashoka uses his name only in these 4 edicts -

- Maski
- Brahmigiri
- Gujjara (MP)
- Nettur (AP)
- The edicts of Ashoka are a collection of 33 inscriptions on the Pillars, as well as boulders and cave walls.
- These were dispersed throughout the areas of Modern Day - Bangladesh - India - Nepal - Afghanistan and Pakistan and provide the first tangible evidence of Buddhism.
- The inscriptions found in the central and eastern part of India were written in Magadhi Prakrit using the Brahmi script, while Prakrit using the Kharoshthi script, Greek and Aramaic were used in the northwest.
- These edicts were deciphered by British archaeologist and historian James Prinsep.
- Three languages are used
 - Ashokan Prakrit, Greek and Aramaic.
- Four Scripts are used -
 - Prakrit inscriptions were written in Brahmi and Kharoshthi scripts.
 - Greek and Aramaic inscriptions used their respective scripts.
- Kandhar Rock Inscription is bilingual in nature - Greek and Aramaic.

16. Based on following statements identify the monument .

1. Built in the 13th century, conceived as a gigantic chariot of the Sun God, with 12 pairs of exquisitely ornamented wheels pulled by seven horses.

2. Built by King Narasimhadeva I, the great ruler of Ganga dynasty.
3. It was included in UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984 for its architectural greatness and also for the sophistication and abundance of sculptural work.

Choose the correct Option -

- A. Jagannath Puri
- B. Lingaraj Temple
- C. Konark Temple
- D. Lalitgiri

Answer- C

Explanation

- The temple is a perfect blend of Kalinga architecture, heritage, exotic beach and salient natural beauty.
- It is protected under the National Framework of India by the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (AMASR) Act (1958) and its Rules (1959).
- The Konark is the third link of Odisha's Golden Triangle. The first link is Jagannath Puri and the second link is Bhubaneswar (Capital city of Odisha).
- This temple was also known as 'BLACK PAGODA' due to its dark colour and used as a navigational landmark by ancient sailors to Odisha

17. Which of the following statements are correct about Sahitya Akademi Award?

1. Established in 1944, It is a cultural honour that is conferred biannually by Sahitya Akademi, India's National Academy of letters.
2. Indian film-maker Satyajit Ray is the designer of the plaque awarded by the Sahitya Akademi.

Choose the correct answer -

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer- B

Explanation

- Sahitya Akademi award established in 1954, is a literary honour that is conferred annually by Sahitya Akademi, India's National Academy of letters.
- Award is presented to the most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the twenty-four major Indian languages recognised by the Akademi (including English).
- Sahitya Akademi award is the second highest literary honour by the Government of India.

after Jananpith award.

- The award is presented in the form of a casket containing an engraved copper-plaque, a shawl and a cheque of Rs 1 lakh.
- Indian film-maker Satyajit Ray is the designer of the plaque awarded by the Sahitya Akademi

Criteria -

- The author must be of Indian Nationality.
- Book/work eligible for award must be an outstanding contribution to the language and literature to which it belongs.
- When equal merit for books of two or more are found, certain criteria like total literary contribution and standing of authors shall be taken into consideration for declaring award

18. Which of the following statements are correct about Bamiyan Buddhas ?

1. It is also called Greco-Buddhist art, showing influences of the Hellenistic styles of classical Greek sculptures.
2. It is situated in the high mountains of Hindkush Range in Pakistan.
3. They were called by the locals Salsal and Shamama.

Choose the correct answer -

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

Answer - C

Explanation

- Bamiyan Buddhas
- Context - The Bamiyan Buddhas were recently brought back to life last year with the help of 3D projection in an event held in Bamiyan village of Afghanistan.
- The event called 'A Night with Buddha' was held on the 20th anniversary of annihilation of the Buddha statues in the valley.
- The event is a beautiful sight where hundreds of young Afghan men and women, carrying kerosene lanterns, spend their nights in a valley of central highlands.
- The Bamiyan Buddhas were great examples of a confluence of Gupta, Sassanian and Hellenistic artistic styles.
- They are said to date back to the 5th century AD.
- They were once the tallest standing Buddhas in the world.
- They were called by the locals as Salsal and Shamama
- Salsal means "light shines through the universe"; Shamama is "Queen Mother".

- UNESCO included the remains in its list of world heritage sites in 2003.
- Efforts have been made to restore and reconstruct the Buddhas in their niches with the pieces available.

Bamiyan Valley in Afghanistan

- It is situated in the high mountains of the Hindu Kush in the central highlands of Afghanistan.
- The valley is set along the line of the Bamiyan River.
- It was once integral to the early days of the Silk Roads, providing passage for merchants, culture, religion and language

19. Newspaper "Sambad Prabhakar" was published by -

Choose the correct answer -

- A. Ishwar Chandra Gupta
- B. Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- C. Keshari Nath Tripathi
- D. Debashis Chakraborty

Answer - A

Explanation

- Sambhad Prabhakar by Ishwar Chandra Gupta
- It was a Bengali daily Newspaper founded by Ishwar Chandra Gupta.
- It began as weekly newspaper in 1831 and became a daily eight year later in 1839.
- It was the first Bengali Daily Newspaper.
- It covered news on India and abroad and out forward its views on religion, politics, society and literature.
- It was influential in the Bengali Renaissance and in building public sentiment leading to Indigo revolt.

Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar

- He was a Bengali Sanskrit pundit, educator, social reformer, writer and philanthropist one of the greatest intellectuals and activists of the 19th century.
- He was bestowed the title of Vidyasagar in 1839 for his mastery over Sanskrit and philosophy.
- At the age of twenty one, Ishwar Chandra joined the Fort William College as the head of the Sanskrit department.
- Michael Madhusudan - famous Bengali poet gave him the title of Dayasagar
- .Principal of Sanskrit College from 1851 to 1858, and he believed that Vidyasagar strongly believed that everyone irrespective of caste or gender, had the right to education and thus opened the premises for lower caste.

- He brought about a revolution in the Bengali education system by changing the way Bengali language was written and taught.
- Credited with reconstructing the Bengali Alphabet and wrote a book - "Borno Porichoy" meaning introduction to the letter for the same

Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar - A Social Reformer

- Actively worked towards changing the status of Women in India.
- Result of his untiring struggle that the then Government of India passed the Widow Remarriage Act in 1856.
- One unique feature - He sought to reform the society from within.
- Fought for women education and battled against the practice of Child Marriage determined battle against the then prevailing social custom of Kulin Brahmin polygamy.

20. Which of the following statements are Nayanars are correct?

1. The Nayanars were a group of 63 saints living in Tamil Nadu during the 3rd to 8th centuries CE who were devoted to the Hindu god Vishnu.
2. The names of the Nayanars were first compiled by Sundarar.

Choose the correct answer -

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer - B

Explanation

Nayanar

- The Nayanars were a group of 63 saints living in Tamil Nadu during the 3rd to 8th centuries CE who were devoted to the Hindu god Shiva.
- Along with the Alvars, their contemporaries who were devoted to Vishnu, they influenced the Bhakti movement in early medieval South India.
- The names of the Nayanars were first compiled by Sundarar.
- The list was expanded by Nambiyandar Nambi during his compilation of material by the poets for the Tirumurai collection, and would include.
- In the 10th century, king Raja Raja Chola I collected the volumes of Tevaram after hearing excerpts of the hymns in his court.
- His priest Nambiyandar Nambi began compiling the hymns into a series of volumes called the Tirumurai.

- He arranged the hymns of three saint poets Sambandar, Appar and Sundarar as the first seven books which he called the Tevaram
- Compiled Manikkavasakar's Tirukovayar and Tiruvasakam as the eighth book, the 28 hymns of nine other saints as the ninth book, the Tirumandiram of Tirumular and 40 hymns by 12 other poets as the tenth book.
- The Nayanars were from various backgrounds, such as - Channars, Vanniyar, Vellalas, Idayars, Kurumbars, Thevars, oilmongers, Brahmins, Washermen, Harijan, and nobles.
- Along with the twelve Vaishnava Alvars, they are regarded as the important Hindu saints from South India.

21. Which of the following statements about Ayya Vaikunda Swamikal are correct ?

1. He lived in the Vijayanagar Empire.
2. He was against idol worship and he did not allow the portraitures to draw his figure.
3. He advised his followers to practice Dharma and the most important form of Dharma was considered 'Anadama'.

Choose the correct Option -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All the above

Answer-B

Explanation

Context

- Prime Minister paid tributes to Ayya Vaikunda Swamikal, a great thinker and social reformer of the 19th century, on his birth anniversary.



Explanation

- Ayya Vaikunda (1809-1851) was a great humanist and social thinker.
- He lived in the Princely Kingdom of Travancore in the early decades of the 19th Century Kerala.
- He is remembered as the first well known social reformer in India who critiqued the caste discrimination and religious hierarchy and fought against the practice of untouchability
- His gave an exhortation of 'ONE CASTE, ONE RELIGION, ONE CLAN, ONE WORLD, ONE GOD'.
- He was against idol worship and he did not allow the portraitures to draw his figure.
- His theory and practice like 'Samantha samaj am', 'sama panthi bhojan', aimed at cultivating a thought of equality and unity in Indian minds

- He founded 'Samantha samajam' in 1836 and was considered the first socio reform movement in India.
- He called the rule of the British as 'Ven Neechan' and the rule of the king of Travancore as 'The Neechan of Ananthapuri'.
- He advised his followers to practice Dharma and the most important form of Dharma was considered 'Annadhanam'.
- He organized 'Sama Panthi Bhojana' in each and every place of worship in the name of 'Annadanam'

22. Which of the following statements about Rakhigarhi are correct ?

1. The site is located in Sarasvati river plain.
2. Two levels of Early (3500 BC – 2600 BC) and Mature Harappan (2600 BC – 1800 BC) civilization have been found at Rakhigarhi

Choose the correct answer -

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer-C

Explanation

Context

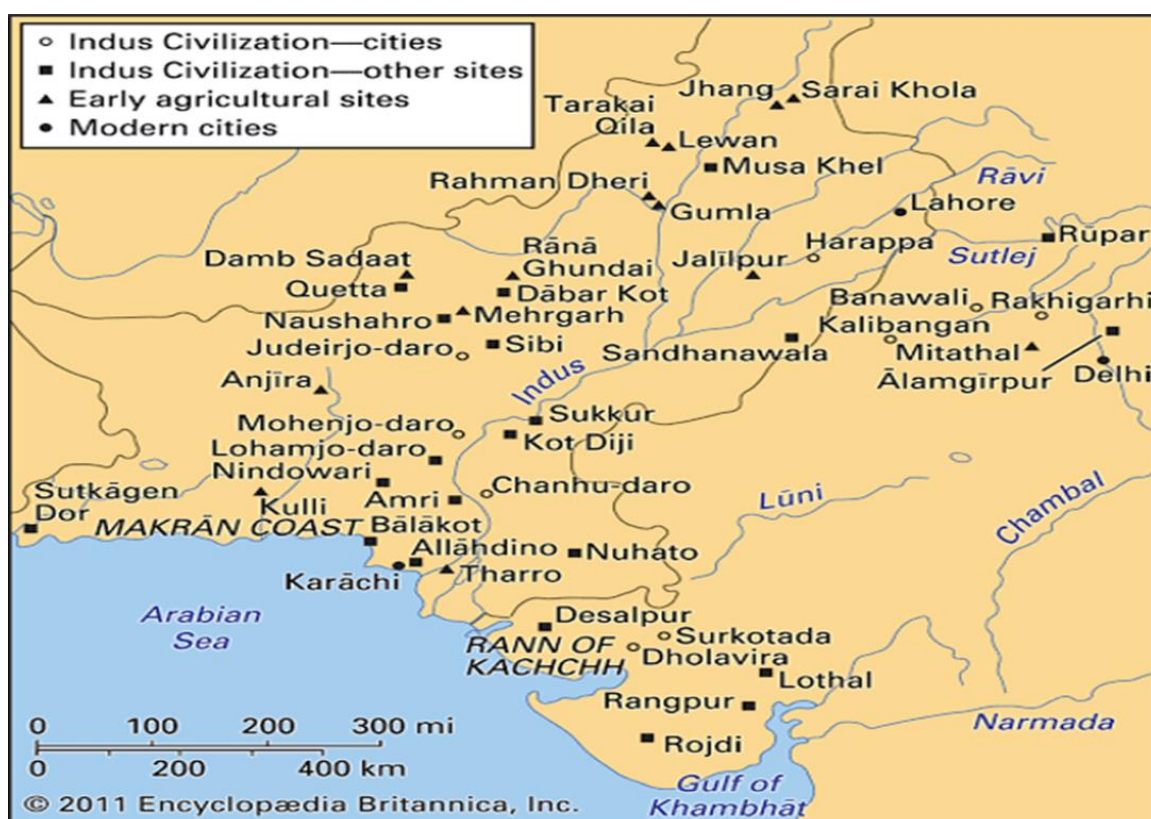
- Rakhigarhi is being developed as one of the Five Identified Iconic Archaeological Sites.

About Rakhigarhi

- The ancient site of Rakhi-Khas and Rakhi-Shahpur are collectively known as Rakhigarhi, located on the right bank of now dried up Palaeo-channel of Drishadvati or Saraswati.
- Seven (07) mounds are located here.
- The site has yielded various stages of Harappan culture and is by far one of the largest Harappan sites in India.
- The site shows the sequential development of the Indus culture in the now dried up Saraswati basin.
- For development of the sites and its environs, repairing of boundary wall, pathways, public amenities, solar lights, benches are being provided



- Rakhigarhi, in Haryana, became an archaeological hotspot when Amarendra Nath, former director of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), undertook excavations at the site in 1997.
- It is the largest Indus Valley Civilisation site in the country
- Two levels of Early (3500 BC – 2600 BC) and Mature Harappan (2600 BC – 1800 BC) civilization have been found at Rakhigarhi. Both the phase have yielded a rich haul of artefacts.
- It is a necropolis which has yielded burials, important for the study of any civilisation.
- The site is located in the Sarasvati river plain, some 27 km from the seasonal Ghaggar river.
- In May 2012, the Global Heritage Fund, declared Rakhigarhi one of the 10 most endangered heritage sites in Asia



23. Based on the following statements identify the dance -

1. It is the most popular dance form of Kerala.
2. The word translates as story play.
3. It is popular for its make-up and costumes.
4. The actor never speaks except with his hands.
5. They usually depict the ancient stories of Mahabharata, Ramayana and other Puranas.
6. The language of the songs used for this dance is Manipravalam.

Choose the correct answer -

- A. Kathakali
- B. Mohiniyattam

C. Kokkali

D. Tirvathirakali

Answer-A

Explanation



Kathakali

- Kathakali is an efflorescent art form of Kerala.
- Kathakali is probably the oldest theatre forms in the world.
- It originated in the state of Kerala and the Kathakali dancers perform a group presentation, in which they act upon various roles which are traditionally based on themes from sacred Hindu mythology, especially the two epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata.
- The actor in Kathakali never speaks except with his hands.
- The text of the drama is sung for him and is the baseline for his interpretation.
- The movements of the face, eyebrows and eyeballs, cheeks, the nose and the chin are minutely worked out and various emotions are registered in a flash by each individual actor-dancer.
- The roles of women are generally played by men, though of late, women are entering the arena
- A cylindrical drum called chenda, another horizontally held drum (maddalam), cymbals and a gong form the musical accompaniment, with two vocalists rendering the songs.
- The language of the songs used for Kathakali is Manipravalam.
- Though most of the songs are set in ragas based on the microtone-heavy Carnatic music, there is a distinct style of plain-note rendition, which is known as the Sopanam style.

This typically Kerala style of rendition takes its roots from the temple songs which used to be sung (continues even now at several temples) at the time when Kathakali was born.

- The costume is the most distinctive characteristic of Kathakali.

- The makeup is very elaborate and the costumes are very large and heavy.



24. Toto Tribal People are found in which of the following states ?

Choose the correct answer -

- A. Jharkhand
- B. West Bengal
- C. Nagaland
- D. Andhra Pradesh

Answer-B

Explanation

TOTO TRIBE

- The Toto is an isolated tribal group residing only in a small enclave called Totopara in the Alipurduar district of West Bengal
- Totopara is located at the foot of the Himalayas just to the south of the borderline between Bhutan and West Bengal (on the western bank of Torsa river).
- Totos were nearly becoming extinct in the 1950s, but recent measures to safeguard their areas from being swamped with outsiders have helped preserve their unique heritage and also helped the population grow

A small tribe's struggle to balance development and cultural identity

Samir K Purkayastha
6:55 AM, 23 March, 2021

COMMENTS PRINT A A



- It is a very primitive inheritance, considered as Mongoloid people.
- Toto People belong in the Indo- Bhutanese tribal community.
- Now a day's all Toto people concentrate in Totopara, 22 km away from Madarihat, Alipurduar District.
- They have flat nose, small eye, broad and square cheeks, thick lips and black iris.
- Toto tribes believed in joint family system as like as other Indian communities people, but nuclear family are also available.
- Monogamy is common form of marriage among the Toto but polygamy is not prohibited.
- They have a simple lifestyle and are largely dependent on trading vegetables and fruits.
- In spite of the fact that they define themselves as Hindus, the Totos are believers of God Ishpa and goddess Cheima.

25. Which of the following statements about Kondwani cave art is/ are correct ?

1. They are pictorial depictions of Jataka stories.
2. The Buddhist rock-cut architecture found in these caves belongs to the Mahayan phase of Buddhism.

Choose the correct answer –

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer-A

Explanation

KONDANA CAVE ART

- Kondane cave art depicts myth and daily life.
- Archaeologists discovered around 40 rock paintings in Kondane caves in Raigarh district in Maharashtra a few years ago.
- These paintings include a hunter standing with a bow and arrow, a Barasingh, footprints, palm impressions and some trees.
- The images were found in both natural caverns and man-made caves.



- The man-made caves also feature Buddhist architecture such as a 'chaitya' (prayer hall) and a monastery.
- A striking image found was that of a mythical figure, perhaps a demon. Other paintings reflected everyday life and occupations such as hunting deer.
- The Buddhist rock-cut architecture found in these caves belongs to the Hinayana phase of Buddhism.



26. Many of the Greeks, Shakas and Kushans embraced Buddhism rather than Hinduism because -

Select the correct Answer -

- A. Buddhism was in the ascendent at that time.
- B. They had renounced the policy of war and violence.
- C. Caste ridden Hinduism did not attract them.
- D. Buddhism provided easier access to Indian Society.

Answer-C

Explanation

- The Indo-Greeks, Shakas, Kushanas entered the subcontinent during the 2nd-4th century CE when Brahmanical religion was at its peak.
- The groups of conquerors from the north west were considered Mlechchas, or outsiders.
- Classical religion did not ever welcome admission of new people.

- Gradually some of the foreigners got incorporated into the lower varnas, however were never considered as Kshatriya, the warrior class.
- On the other hand, Buddhism was rather open to embrace people. During that period Buddhism was gaining popularity among the common masses due to its moderate nature which was in contrast to the strict varna system.
- Thus many of the Shaka, Kushana, Greek kings adopted Buddhism instead of Brahmanism

Note

- The term/concept of Hinduism did not exist in early India. It was Brahmanical or Classical tradition.

27. Which of the following was the corporation of Merchants in Ancient India ?

Select the correct Answer -

- A. Chaturvedimangalam
- B. Parishad
- C. Ashtadikgaja
- D. Manigrama

Answer-D

Explanation

- Chaturvedi Mangalam refers to a place peopled by scholars who were conversant with the four Vedas.
- Manigrama was a large influential guild of south Indian merchants during the period of Western Chalukyan rulers in 10th to 12th century CE.
- Ashtadiggajas is the collective title given to the eight Telugu scholars and poets in the court of Emperor Krishnadevaraya who ruled the Vijayanagar Empire from 1509 until his death in 1529. During his reign, Telugu literature and culture reached its zenith.
- Parishad - A sovereign General Assembly during the Vedic Age.

28. The silver coin issued by the Guptas were called (UPSC PYQ) -

Select the correct Answer -

- A. Rupaka
- B. Karshapana
- C. Dinara
- D. Pana

Answer-A

Explanation

- Rupaka - a silver coin of Gupta period. 16 Rupaka was equal to 1 gold coin.
- The Gupta monarchs were famous for their gold coins. They also issued silver coins. However, coins

made of copper, bronze or any other alloy metals are scarce. The abundance of gold coins from the Gupta era has led some scholars to regard this phenomenon as the 'rain of gold'.

- The Gupta gold coin is known as dinars.
- The gold coins of the Gupta rulers are the extraordinary examples of artistic excellence. The coins depicted the ruling monarch on the obverse and carried legends with the figure of a goddess on the reverse.
- The 'Asvamedha' or horse-sacrifice coins were issued by both Samudragupta and Kumaragupta I.
- Sanskrit was the language of the inscription.
- The gold coins of the Gupta rulers are the extraordinary examples of artistic excellence. The coins depicted the ruling monarch on the obverse and carried legends with the figure of a goddess on the reverse.
- The 'Asvamedha' or horse-sacrifice coins were issued by both Samudragupta and Kumaragupta I.
- Sanskrit was the language of the inscription.
- The gold coins of the Gupta rulers are the extraordinary examples of artistic excellence. The coins depicted the ruling monarch on the obverse and carried legends with the figure of a goddess on the reverse.
- The 'Asvamedha' or horse-sacrifice coins were issued by both Samudragupta and Kumaragupta I.

Sanskrit was the language of the inscription.

- The gold coins of the Gupta rulers are the extraordinary examples of artistic excellence. The coins depicted the ruling monarch on the obverse and carried legends with the figure of a goddess on the reverse.
- The 'Asvamedha' or horse-sacrifice coins were issued by both Samudragupta and Kumaragupta I.
- Sanskrit was the language of the inscription.

29. In the Mahayan Buddhism, the Boddhisatva Avalokiteshvara was also known as -

Select the correct Answer -

- A. Vajrapani
- B. Manjusri
- C. Padmapani
- D. Maitreya

Answer-C

Explanation

- Boddhisatva - A person who is able to reach nirvana but delays doing so through compassion for suffering beings
- Padanaram Boddhisatva
- Avalokitesvara is a bodhisattva who embodies the compassion of all Buddhas. He is one of the more widely revered Bodhisattvas in mainstream Mahayana Buddhism.

- In Sanskrit, Avalokiteshvara is also referred to as Padampani ("Holder of the Lotus")
- Maitreyaan Bodhisattva
- Maitreya, in Buddhist tradition, the future Buddha, presently a bodhisattva residing in the heaven, who will descend to earth to preach anew the dharma ("law") when the teachings of Gautama Buddha have completely decayed.
- The name Maitreya is derived from the Sanskrit maitrī ("friendliness").
- Vajrayana Bodhisattva
- Vajrapāṇi ("Vajra in [his] hand") is one of the earliest- appearing bodhisattvas in Mahayana Buddhism. He is the protector and guide of Gautama Buddha and rose to symbolize the Buddha's power.
- Vajrapāṇi is extensively represented in Buddhist iconography as one of the earliest three protective deities or bodhisattvas surrounding the Buddha. Each of them symbolizes one of the Buddha's virtues:
- Manjushri manifests all the Buddhas' wisdom,
- Avalokiteśvara manifests all the Buddhas' immense compassion,
- Vajrapāṇi protects Buddha and manifests all the Buddhas' power.

30. What is the correct chronological order in which the following appeared in India -

1. Gold Coins
2. Punch Marked Silver Coins
3. Iron Plough
4. Urban Culture

Select the correct Answer -

- A. 3-4-1-2
- B. 3-4-2-1
- C. 4-3-1-2
- D. 4-3-2-1

Answer-D

Explanation

- In India, IVC appeared as the first signs of Urbanisation between 2500 and 2000 BCE.
- According to researchers, it is hard fact that the earlier known specimen of Iron Ploughshare comes from Ganwara in District Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh and dates from around 700 BC.
- The first documented coinage is deemed to start with 'Punch Marked' coins issued between the 7th-6th century BC and 1st century AD.

- Gold coins for the first time were introduced by Indo Greek Rulers - Kushanas who ruled a large part of North Western India around 200 BCE, they introduced coins made of Pure Gold and marks the distinction of the finest Pure Gold in Ancient India.

31. Assertion (A) : According to Ashoka's edict, social harmony among the people was more important than religious devotion.

Reason (R) : He spread ideas of equity instead of promotion of religion.

Select the correct option -

- A. Both A and R are true but R is the correct explanation of A.
- B. Both A and R are true but R is not a correct explanation of A.
- C. A is true but R is false.
- D. A is false but R is true.

Answer: - A

Explanation

- Ashok's edict put stress on social harmony among the people by spreading ideas of equity instead of promotion of religion.
- Although Buddhism as well as Gautama Buddha are mentioned, the edicts focus on social and moral precepts rather than specific religious practices or the philosophical dimension of Buddhism.
- Most of the inscriptions are about dhamma (Prakrit form of dharma, literally means the universal law or righteousness or social and religious order).
- Ashoka's dhamma emphasised non-violence, mutual respect and understanding between people of different sects and beliefs.
- It included the state's concern for the welfare of its people.
- The basic attributes of dhamma included compassion, charity, truthfulness, purity and gentleness.

He asked the people to extend respect, consideration, compassion and tolerance towards slaves and servants,

- obedience to parents,
- Generosity towards friends and relatives,
- Regard and donations to Brahmanas and Shramanas,
- A concern for all living beings and to abstain oneself from destroying life.

32. Which of the following are correctly matched - (1998)

1. Lothal : Ancient Dockyard
2. Sarnath : First Sermon of Buddha
3. Rajgir : Lion Capital of Ashok

4. Nalanda : Great seat of Buddhist Learning.

Choose the correct statement -

- A. All of the above
- B. 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2 and 4 only
- D. 1 and 2 only

Answer: - C

Explanation

- All of the above statements are correct except Statement 3
- Lion Capital of Ashoka is in Sarnath.

Rajgir

- This is a significant area in Jainism and Buddhism.
- Rajgir is one of the important sites of the Eight Mahasthalas in Buddhism.
- As it is surrounded by five sacred hills, Rajgir is also known as Panchpahari.
- It was the birthplace of Munisuvrata, the 20th Jain Tirthankar, and is linked to the arihant Mahavira and Gautama Buddha

Nalanda

- Nalanda was an acclaimed Mahavihara, a large Buddhist monastery in the ancient kingdom of Magadha (modern-day Bihar) in India.
- It developed under the patronage of the Gupta Empire in the 5th and 6th centuries.
- It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Sarnath

- It is known for two things: Buddha gave his first sermon and for the Ashoka Pillar.
- Dharmarajika stupa is the one said to have been built by Ashoka to commemorate Buddha's first sermon.
- Sarnath suffered from the Huna invasions, but Harshavardhana later restored some of the earlier buildings.
- The Chinese pilgrim Hiuen-Tsang (602-664) left detailed accounts of the Dharmarajika stupa and Ashoka's lion pillar.
- Sarnath also suffered when it was attacked by Mahmud of Ghazni in the 11th century.
- After that, Mahipala, the Pala king, restored the monuments.

Lothal

- Lothal was one of the southernmost cities of the ancient Indus Valley Civilization, thrived along the Bhogava river, a tributary of Sabarmati, in the Gulf of Khambhat in Gujarat.

- Lothal was a vital and thriving trade Centre in ancient times, with its trade of beads, gems, and valuable ornaments reaching the far corners of West Asia and Africa.
- The Ministry of Culture (MoC) and Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for 'Cooperation in Development of National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC)' at Lothal, Gujarat.
- It would be developed as an international tourist destination, where the maritime heritage of India from ancient to modern times would be showcased.

33. Which one of the following ancient records is the earliest royal order to preserve food grains to be utilised during the crises in the country ? (1998)

Select the correct answer -

- A. Sohgaura Copper Plate
- B. Rummindei Pillar - Edict of Ashoka
- C. Prayaga-prasasti
- D. Mehrauli Pillar inscription of Chandra

Answer: - A

Explanation

Sohguara Cooper Plate

- The earliest known copper plate called Sohgaura is a Mauryan record that mentions famine relief efforts and is one of the very few pre-Ashokan Brahmi inscription in India.

Rummindie Pillar

- Lumbini Pillar Edict in Nepal is known as the Rummindei Pillar Inscription.
- Ashoka travelled to the Buddha's birthplace and personally made offerings.
- He then had a stone pillar set up and reduced the taxes of the people in that area.

Prayaga Prasasti

- The Allahabad pillar containing one of the Pillars edicts of Ashoka.
- It is particularly notable for containing later inscriptions attributed to the Gupta emperor Samudragupta with extensive military conquest as under his rule he expanded the dynasty's political power.
- Also engraved on the stone are inscriptions by the Mughal emperor Jahangir, from the 17th century.

Mehrauli Pillar Inscription

- Famous Mehrauli iron pillar inscription describes the conquest of one of the most famous kings of the Gupta dynasty i.e Chandragupta II.
- The pillar is famous for the rub-resistant composition of the metals that have been used in the construction.

- It is believed that the pillar was erected perhaps outside the Udayagiri caves and was later moved to its current location in the Qutub complex at Mehrauli under the Delhi sultanate.

34. The concept of Eight fold path forms the theme of - Vajrapani

- A. Vajrapani
- B. Divyavandana
- C. Mahaparinirbana
- D. Dharam Chakra Pravartana Sutta

Answer: - D

Explanation

Dharam Chakra Pravartana Sutta

- The Noble Eight Fold path, is one of the principle teaching of Buddha, who described it as the way leading to the cessation of suffering (Dukkha) and attainment of self awakening.
- In Buddhist symbolism, the Noble eight fold path is often represented by means of the Dharma wheel (Dharmachakra), whose eight spokes represent the eight elements of path.
- Eight fold path includes right understanding, right speech, right livelihood, right mindfulness, right thought, right action, right effort and right concentration.

Dipavamasa

- Dipavamasa - The Dīpavaṃsa "(Chronicle of the Island") is the oldest historical record of Sri Lanka.
- The chronicle is believed to be compiled around the 3rd to 4th century CE.
- Together with the Mahavamsa, it is the source of many accounts of ancient history of Sri Lanka and India.
- Its importance resides not only as a source of history and legend, but also as an important early work in Buddhist and Pali literature.

Divyadana

- It is a Sanskrit anthology of Buddhist avadana tales, many originating in Mūlasarvāstivādin vinaya texts.
- Avadāna is the name given to a type of Buddhist literature correlating past lives' virtuous deeds to subsequent lives' events may be dated to 2nd century CE.
- The stories themselves are therefore quite ancient and may be among the first Buddhist texts ever committed to writing,
- Typically, the stories involve the Buddha explaining to a group of disciples how a particular individual, through actions in a previous life, came to have a particular karmic result in the present.
- A predominant theme is the vast merit (puṇya) accrued from making offerings to enlightened beings or at stupas and other holy sites related to the Buddha.

35. Consider the following statements regarding the town planning in Harappan Civilization:

1. The cities had public baths.
2. They used mud-bricks or air-dried bricks as burnt bricks were not known to them.
3. Dockyard at Lothal had lock gate system.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 3 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 2 only
- D. All of the above.

Answer: - B

Explanation

Statement 2 is *incorrect* Harappan Civilization used burnt bricks in their buildings.

Additional Information

During the Harappan Civilization, Town Planning reached its climax. Some features were:

- Public bath e.g. in Mohenjodaro. It even had stairs.
- Granaries – they were present mostly in citadels.
- Dockyards e.g. in Lothal; it had lock gates.
- Roads cut each other at right angles.
- They even used burnt bricks in their construction.
- Most of the houses had baths and wells inside of them.

36. Consider the following statements regarding the sculptures found in the Harappan cities:

1. The famous 'Dancing Girl' was sculptured using the 'pinching method'.
2. A 'bearded priest' made from Bronze has been found in Mohenjo-Daro.
3. 'Lost wax technique' was one of the technique used in making sculptures.

Which of the above statements is/are correct ?

- A. 3 only
- B. 1 and 2 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. All of the above.

Answer-A

Explanation

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect

- Dancing girl was made using 'lost wax technique' and Bearded priest was made from stone.

Additional Information

Various examples of sculptures found in Indus Valley civilization are:

- A bearded nobleman or high priest, from Mohenjo-Daro, weaving a shawl with trefoil pattern. It is made from stone.
- The bronze dancing girl at Mohenjo-Daro is perhaps the greatest surviving achievement of the metal work of the Harappan age. It is made from Bronze and is cast in the cire perdue or lost-wax process.
- Mother Goddess and Toy carts built from terracotta. These were made using the 'pinching method'.



Priest, Clay, Harappa, Pakistan



Dancing girl, Bronze, Mohen-jo-daro, Pakistan



Toy animal with movable head, Terracotta, Mohen-jo-daro Pakistan

37. Consider following statements regarding the temples of South India:

1. Shore temple of Mahabalipuram is one of the oldest rock cut temple belonging to the Pallavi school.
2. Virupksha temple at Hampi is known for its musical pillars

3. Airavatesvara Temple at Darasuram is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

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

Answer-C

Explanation

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect

- Shore temple of Mahabalipuram is a structural temple and musical pillars are present in Vitthalaswamy temple, Hampi.

Additional Information

- Temple architecture in South India began under the Pallavi's in early 7th century AD
- Under them, earliest temples were rock cut temples. E.g. Panchratha temple at Mahabalipuram.
- Later structural temples were built such as Kailash Nath temple at Kanchipuram and Shore temple at Mahabalipuram.



- Another important school was Vijayanagar a school:
 - Some of the most important temples of Vijayanagar a school are Virupksha temple at Hampi which is dedicated to lord Shiva.
 - Another temple Vitthalaswamy temple, Hampi is famous for its musical pillars. Its 56 pillars are also known as SAREGAMA pillars.



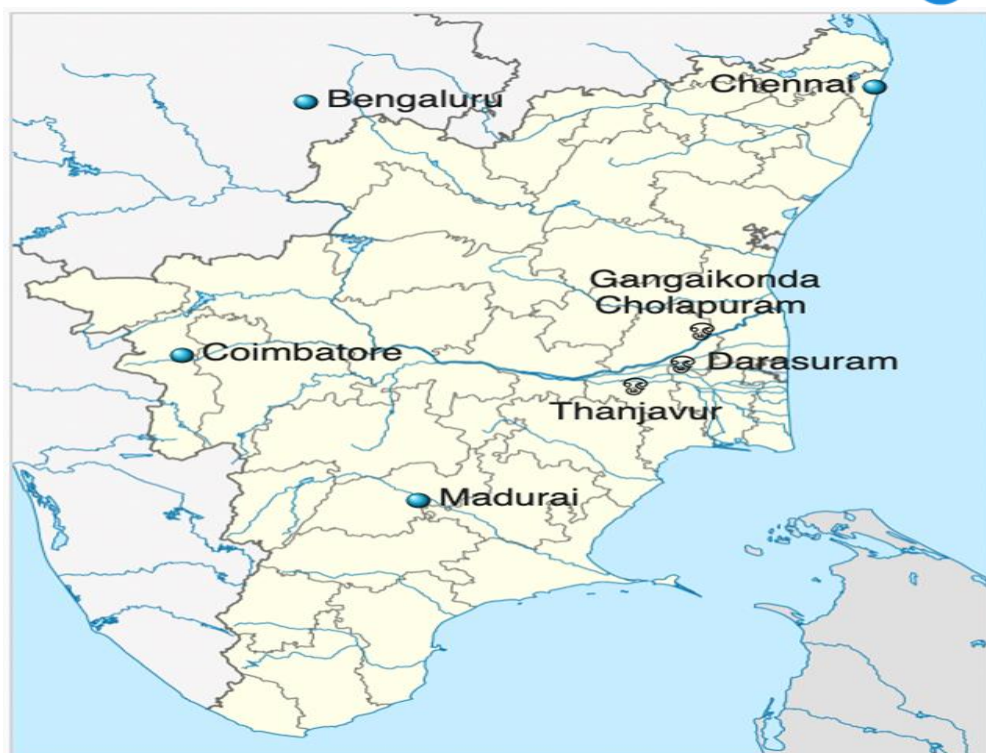
- Another important school was Vijayanagara school:
 - Some of the most important temples of Vijayanagara school are Virupksha temple at Hampi which is dedicated to lord Shiva.
 - Another temple Vitthala'swamy temple, Hampi is famous for its musical pillars. Its 56 pillars are also known as SAREGAMA pillars.
- The 3 temples belonging to Chola School i.e.
 - Airavatesvara Temple in Darasuram (Thanjavur District),
 - Brihadeswara Temple at Thanjavur and
 - Gangaikondacholisvaram Temple at Gangaikonda Cholapuram are included under UNESCO World Heritage Sites and are collectively referred to as the 'Great Living Chola Temples'.



Brihadishvara temple complex



Gangaikonda Cholapuram Temple



Location of Chola temples in the UNESCO world heritage site.

38. Consider following statements regarding various schools of sculptures developed in ancient India

1. Mathura school didn't have any major foreign influence
2. Gandhara School used white marble.
3. Amravati School was patronized by Sat vahana rulers.
4. Gandhara School had major influences from all three religions of the time, i.e. Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1 and 4 only
- D. All of the above.

Answer-A

Explanation

Statement 2 and 4 are incorrect

- Gandhara School used bluish-grey sandstone and it was under influence mainly of only Buddhism.

Additional Information

Gandhara School

- Heavy influence of Greek or Hellenistic sculpture, so it is also known as Indo Greek art.
- Early Gandhara School used **bluish-grey sandstone** while the later period saw the use of mud and stucco.
- Mainly Buddhist imagery, influenced by the GrecoRoman pantheon.
- Patronised by Kushana rulers.

Mathura School

- It was developed indigenously and not influenced by external cultures.
- The sculptures of Mathura School were made using **spotted red sandstone** with influence of all three religions of the time, i.e. Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.
- Patronised by Kushana rulers.

Amravati School

- It was developed indigenously and not influenced by external cultures.
- The sculptures of Amravati School were made using **white marbles**.
- Developed at Amravati, on the banks of the Krishna River in modern Andhra Pradesh.
- Mainly Buddhist influence.
- Patronised by Satvahana rulers.

39. Consider following statements regarding the Indo-Islamic architecture

1. Tarbert style of architecture gained prominence in this period.
2. Mortar was used as a cementing agent in their constructions.
3. It avoided the use of human and animal figures.
4. Arabesque method was also used for decoration.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1, 2 and 4 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer-B

Explanation

Statement 1 is incorrect

- The use of arch and domes gained prominence during this period. It was known as 'arcuade' style of architecture and replaced the traditional Trabeate style of architecture (it involves use of 'lintels').

Additional Information

- The Islamic rulers introduced the use of minars around the mosques and the mausoleums.
- Mortar was used as a cementing agent in their constructions.
- The Indo-Islamic architecture avoided the use of human and animal figures.
- While the Hindu architecture had become too congested, the Indo Islamic architecture introduced spaciousness, massiveness and breadth to it.
- While the previous structures used sculptures as means of decoration, the Indo-Islamic architecture used calligraphy as means of decoration.
- Arabesque method was also used for decoration.
- Arabesque meant the use of geometrical vegetal ornamentation and was characterised by a continuous stem which split regularly, producing a series of counterpoised, leafy, secondary stems.
- The secondary stems, in turn, split again or returned to merge with the main stem creating a decorative pattern.



Figure 10. Floral and vegetal Arabesque in Pietra dura on the entrance gateway of Taj Mahal, Agra [Source: The Author]



Figure 11. Floral and vegetal Arabesque in Pietra dura on a panel in Taj Mahal, Agra [Source: The Author]

40. 'Ras' and 'Sankirtana' are popular forms of which of the following classical dances?

- Manipuri
- Sattriya
- Kathak
- Kathakali

Answer-A

Explanation

Statement A is correct.

- Manipur dance has a large repertoire, however, the most popular forms are the **Ras, the Sankaran and the Thang-Ta**.

Additional Information

- Manipuri, one of the main styles of Indian Art or Classical Dances originated in the picturesque and secluded state of Manipur in the north-eastern corner of India.
- The dance in Manipur is associated with rituals and traditional festivals, there are legendary references to the dances of **Shiva and Parvati** and other gods and goddesses who created the universe.
- Manipur dance has a large repertoire, however, the most popular forms are the Ras, the Sankirtana and the Thang-Ta.
- There are five principal Ras dances of which four are linked with specific seasons, while the fifth can be presented at any time of the year.
- The traditional Manipuri Raas Lila is performed in three styles – Tal Rasak, Danda Rasak and Mandal Rasak.
- In Manipuri Ras, the main characters are Radha, Krishna and the Gopi.
- The Kirtan form of congregational singing accompanies the dance which is known as Sankirtana in Manipur.
- The martial dancers of Manipur - the Thang-ta - have their origins in the days when man's survival depended on his ability to defend himself from wild animals.

41. Which of the following texts is considered as the 'Bible of the Tamil Land' ?

- A. Tolkappiyam
- B. Tirukkural
- C. Silpadikaram
- D. Manimekalai

Answer: - B

Explanation

- **Tirukkural**: Written by Thiruvalluvar during 5th-6th century AD. The text has been dated variously from 300 BCE to 5th century CE. The traditional accounts describe it as the last work of the third Sangam, but linguistic analysis suggests a later date of 450 to 500 CE and that it was composed after the Sangam period.
- Tirukkural is also called as the 'Bible of the Tamil Land'.
- Tolkappiyam (lit. "ancient poem") is the most ancient extant Tamil grammar text and the oldest extant long work of Tamil literature.



- Silpadikaram: It is revered as the 'Ilyad of Tamil Poetry'. The epic is a tragic love story of an ordinary couple, Kannaki and her husband Kovalan. The Silappathikaram has more ancient roots in the Tamil bardic tradition, as Kannaki and other characters of the story are mentioned or alluded to in the Sangam literature.

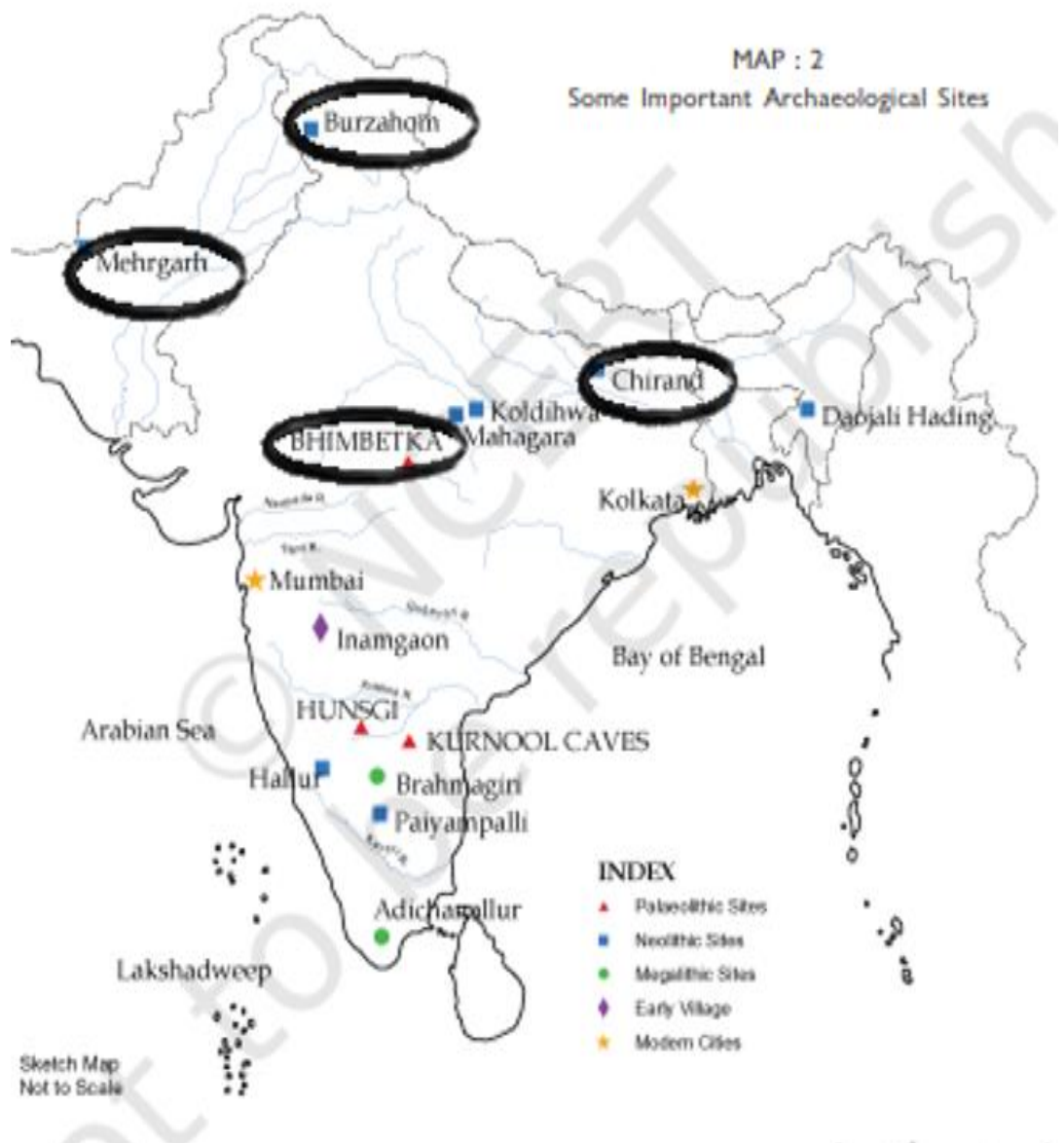
42. Arrange the following Archaeological Sites of the Indian Subcontinent from North to South

1. Burzahom
2. Chirand
3. Mehargarh
4. Bhimbetka

Select the correct option from the given codes below:

- A. 2-1-3-4
- B. 1-2-3-4
- C. 1-3-2-4
- D. 3-1-2-4

Answer: - C



43. Consider the below-mentioned pairs of Biographies and their writers:

1. Harshacharita : Banbhatta
2. Vikramadevachairta : Bilhana
3. Prithviraj Raso : Chand Bardai
4. Rajtarangini : Kalhan

Which of the above-mentioned pairs is/are correct?

- A. 1 and 4 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer: - D

Book	Writer	Content
Harshcharita (7th Century AD)	Banbhatta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Harshacharita was the first composition of Bana and is considered to be the beginning of the writing of historical poetic works in the Sanskrit language. <p>It narrates the biography of the emperor Harsha of Thanesar in the 7th Century AD.</p>
Vikramadevachairta (11th Century AD)	Bilhana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It describes the life of the Western Chalukyan King Vikramadeva VI (1076-1226). It is written in Sanskrit.
Prithviraj Raso (12th Century AD)	Chand Bardai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Prithviraj Raso is a Brajbhasha epic poem about the life of the 12th-century Indian king Prithviraj Chauhan (1166-1192 CE).
Rajtarangini (12th Century AD)	Kalhan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rajatarangini (The River of Kings) is a metrical legendary and historical chronicle of the north-western Indian subcontinent, particularly the kings of Kashmir. It was written in Sanskrit.

44. Consider the following statements in the context of Ancient Ritualistic Texts of the post-Vedic times:

1. Sulvasutras were the texts that contained the public sacrifices made by Kings.
2. Grihyasutras were the texts of domestic rituals such as birth, death, and marriage.
3. Srautsutras were the texts of rituals of the tribal people.

Which of the above-mentioned ritualistic texts is/are correctly explained?

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

Answer: - B

Explanation

- Statement 1 is *incorrect* : Sulvasutras deal with complex fire altars of various shapes.
- Statement 3 is *incorrect* : Shrauta-sutras, are the Hindu ritual manuals used by priests engaged in the performance of the grander Vedic sacrifices.
- Sulvasutras deal with complex fire altars of various shapes constructed with bricks of specific shapes and areas: the total area of the altar must always be carefully respected.
- The four major Sulva Sutras, which are mathematically the most significant, are those composed by Baudhayana, Manava, Apastamba, and Katyayana. Out of them the oldest belongs to Baudhayana and dates back to 600BC.

45. Arrange the below-mentioned Ancient Indian Universities in their chronological order of establishment

1. Taxila University
2. Nalanda University
3. Vikramshila University

Select the correct option from the below mentioned orders:

- A. 2-1-3
- B. 1-2-3
- C. 1-3-2
- D. 2-3-1

Answer: - B

Explanation

- **Taxila University**
 - The university of ancient Taxila was an ancient Indian university located in the city of Taxila, on the eastern bank of the Indus River. The earliest evidence about Taxila comes from Valmiki Ramayana. Taxila university remained in existence during the travels of Chinese pilgrim Faxian, who visited Taxila around 400 CE.
- **Nalanda University**
 - Nalanda was an acclaimed Mahavihara, a large Buddhist monastery in the ancient kingdom of Magadha (modern-day Bihar) in India. The site near Patna near the town of Bihar Sharif, and was a center of learning from the fifth century CE to 1200 CE. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- **Vikramshila University**
 - Vikramashila was one of the three most important Buddhist centers of learning in India during the Pala Empire, along with Nalanda and Odantapuri. It is located in the Bhagalpur district in Bihar.
 - Vikramashila was established by the Pala emperor Dharmapala (783 to 820 AD) in response to a supposed decline in the quality of scholarship at Nalanda. Atiśa, the renowned Pandita, and philosopher, is listed as a notable abbot. It was destroyed by the forces of Muhammad bin Bakhtiyar Khalji around 1193.

46. Which of the following acts made provisions to grant permission to the Christian Missionaries for the propagation of religion in India?

- A. Pitts India Act of 1784
- B. Charter Act of 1813
- C. Charter Act of 1833
- D. Charter Act of 1853

Answer: - B

Explanation

- Statement B is correct.

Additional Information

- The Charter act of 1813 *ended the monopoly of the East India Company in India, however the company's monopoly in trade with china and trade in tea was remained intact.*
- This Act also made provisions to grant *permission to the persons who wished to go to India for promoting moral and religious improvements (Christian Missionaries).*
- This Act regulated *the company's territorial revenues and commercial profits.*
- There was also a provision that Company should invest Rs. 1 Lakh every year on the education of Indians.

47. Which of the following were the attributes of the Indigo Revolt 1859-60?

1. The intelligentsia and press supported the British cause during this revolt.
2. It was characterised by Hindu-Muslim unity.
3. The Indigo Revolt was successful in achieving its objectives.

Choose the correct code from below:

- A. 2 and 3 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 only
- D. All of the above.

Answer: - A

Explanation

- Statement 1 is *incorrect*. The peasants were supported by the intelligentsia and press.

Additional Information

- Indigo planting started in Bengal as early as 1777. (It was practiced mainly in two forms, the *Nij-abad* and the *Ryoti*. In the *Nij* or 'own' system, the planter produced indigo on lands that he directly controlled. In the *Ryoti* cultivation, the ryots cultivated indigo on their own lands as part of a contract with the planters.)
- When the British Power expanded, the Indigo planting was emphasised because of a high demand of the *Blue Dye in Europe*. The peasants were compelled to plant Indigo rather than the food Crops.
- The peasants were provided Loans called "dadon" for indigo planting which was at a *very high interest rate*.
- The loan made the people indebted and resulted in a rebellion.
- Indigo peasants launched revolt in *Nadia district of Bengal presidency*. They refused to grow Indigo. European Planters responded by increasing the rent and evicting farmers. This led to more agitations and confrontations.
- Later on, the revolt got support from the intelligentsia, press, missionaries and Muslims. The leaders were Digambar and Bishnu Bishwas.
- The condition was depicted in the Din Bandhu Mitra's play *Neel Darpan*.
- It was the most violent and widespread of the peasant movements.
- Also, it was a successful one. This was because of the tremendous initiative, cooperation, organisation and discipline of the ryots.
- Result: Government issued a notification that the Indian farmers cannot be compelled to grow indigo and that it would ensure that all disputes were settled by legal means.
- By the end of 1860, Indigo planters shut down their factories and cultivation of indigo was virtually wiped out from Bengal.

48. With reference to provisions/outcomes of Montague Declaration, 1917, consider the following statements:

1. It provided for the establishment of a responsible government in India.
2. The demand for self-government was to be treated as seditious.
3. It aimed at increasing association of Indians in every branch of administration.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: - A

Explanation

- Statement 2 is *incorrect*. The demand for self-government could not be termed as seditious.

Additional Information

- On 20th August, 1917 Lord Montague, the Secretary of State for India, made the following declaration in British Parliament: "The Policy of His Majesty's government... is that of *increasing association of Indians in every branch of administration, and the gradual development of self-governing institutions*, with a view to the progressive realisation of responsible government in India as an integral part of the British empire".
- Importance of Montagu's Statement- From now onwards, the *demand by nationalists for self-government or Home Rule could not be termed as seditious since attainment of self-government for Indians now became a government policy*.
- It was unlike Morley's statement in 1909 that the reforms were not intended to give self-government to India.

49. With reference to Tilak's Home Rule, consider the following statements:

1. Along with the demand for swaraj he also sought for linguistic reorganisation of states.
2. Use of religious festivals was an important strategy used by Tilak during Home Rule agitation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: - A

Explanation

- Statement 2 is *incorrect*. He did not use religious festivals during the Home Rule campaign but during earlier Swadeshi movement.

Additional Information

- Tilak promoted the Home Rule campaign with a tour of Maharashtra and popularised the demand for home rule.
- He also linked up the question of swaraj with the demand for the formation of linguistic states and education in the vernacular.
- There was no trace of religious appeal; the demand for Home Rule was made on a wholly secular basis.
- Celebration of religious festivals like Ganpati and Shivaji was used by Tilak for mass mobilization during Swadeshi Movement.

50. Consider the following statements with reference to 'Swaraj Party':

1. Swaraj Party, was formed in 1920 by C. Vijayaraghavachariar.
2. Motilal Nehru was its first president.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: - D

Explanation

- Statement 1 is *incorrect*: The Swaraj Party, was formed on 9 January 1923 by Chittaranjan Das and Motilal Nehru after the *Gaya annual conference in December 1922* of the National Congress, that sought greater self-government and political freedom for the Indian people from the British Raj.
- Statement 2 is *incorrect*: *Chittaranjan Das was its president and Motilal Nehru was its secretary.*

Additional Info

- The Swaraj Party, was formed on 9 January 1923 by Chittaranjan Das and Motilal Nehru after the *Gaya annual conference in December 1922* of the National Congress, that sought greater self-government and political freedom for the Indian people from the British Raj.
- Other prominent leaders included *Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy and Subhas Chandra Bose of Bengal, Vithalbhai Patel* and other Congress leaders who were becoming dissatisfied with the Congress.
- Chittaranjan Das was its president and Motilal Nehru was its secretary.
- It was against *Gandhiji's suspension of Non-Cooperation movement.*

- Das and Nehru thought of contesting elections to enter the legislative council with a view to obstructing a foreign government.
- Many candidates of the Swaraj Party got elected to the central legislative assembly and provincial legislative council in the 1923 elections.
- In these legislatures, *they strongly opposed unjust government policies.*
- The establishment of a fully responsible government for India, the convening of a round table conference to resolve the problems of Indians, and the releasing of certain political prisoners, were the resolutions in the central legislative council.

51. Consider following statements regarding various schools of sculptures developed in ancient India:

1. Mathura school didn't have any major foreign influence.
2. Gandhara School used white marble.
3. Amravati School was patronised by Satvahana rulers.
4. Gandhara School had major influences from all three religions of the time, i.e. Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.

Which of the above statements are correct?

- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1 and 4 only
- D. All of the above.

Answer: - A

Explanation

- Statement 2 and 4 are incorrect : Gandhara School used bluish-grey sandstone and it was under influence mainly of only Graeco Roman Pantheon.

Additional Information

Gandhara School

- Heavy influence of Greek or Hellenistic sculpture, so it is also known as IndoGreek art.
- Early Gandhara School used bluish-grey sandstone while the later period saw the use of mud and stucco.
- Patronised by Kushana rulers.

Mathura School

- It was developed indigenously and not influenced by external cultures.
- The sculptures of Mathura School were made using spotted red sandstone influence of all three religions of the time, i.e. Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism.

- Patronised by Kushana rulers.

Amravati School

- It was developed indigenously and not influenced by external cultures.
- The sculptures of Amaravati School were made using white marbles.
- Mainly Buddhist influence.
- Patronised by Satvahana rulers.

52. Match list-I of pottery with their respective age in the list-II:

List-I (Pottery) List-II (Ancient Age)

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Black and Red Ware (BRW) | A. Vedic Period |
| 2. Painted Grey Ware (PGW) | B. Harappan age |
| 3. Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW) | C. Mauryan peri |

Select the correct option from the given codes below:

- A. 1-a, 2-b, 3-c
 B. 1-b, 2-a, 3-c
 C. 1-c, 2-a, 3-b
 D. 1-c, 2-b, c-a

Answer: - B

Type of Pottery	Period of Distribution	Area of Distribution	Characteristics
BRW	• Neolithic period, Harappan Age	• Indus region in the North-Western India in present Pakistan. • Western Gangetic plain i.e. western Uttar Pradesh. • Also found at Ahar Banas cultures of Rajasthan.	• The characteristic features of BRW are the black color inside and near the rim on the outside, and the red color over the rest of the body. This color combination was produced by inverted firing.
PGW	• Later Vedic Period	• Gangetic plain and the Ghaggar-Hakra valley in the Indian subcontinent	• It is fine, grey pottery painted with geometric patterns in black.

<p>NBPW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Mauryan and Mauryan Age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle and lower Gangetic Plains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a glossy shiny type of pottery. • It is made of fine fabric and served as tableware for the richer class. It is considered as deluxe pottery only found with the elites revealing societal stratification which was a result of Brahmanical hegemony.
--------------------	---	--	--



53. The Satavahanas of the early centuries of the Common Era was significant ruling dynasties. Which of the following statements is/ are correct in the context of Satavahana rulers?

1. Puranas mentions the Satavahana rule in the Deccan.
2. Satavahanas were the only ruling dynasty to follow the matriarchal system of succession.
3. Satavahanas were the first to allot lands to various groups in the form of grants.
4. Satavahanas were a critique of the Varna division in society.

Select the correct option from the given codes below:

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

C. 3 and 4 only

D. Only 3

Answer: - D

Explanation

About Satavahana Rulers

- The Satavahanas succeeded the Mauryan rule after a gap of 100 years in Central India and the Deccan. They ruled between the late 2nd Century BC and early 3rd Century AD.

Statement 1 is incorrect :

- Puranas mentions the rule of Andhras but does not mention the Satavahanas. And the Satavahana inscriptions do not mention the Andhras.
- Based on several archaeological interpretations the Satavahanas are considered to be identical to the Andhras.

Statement 2 is incorrect :

- The social structure of the Satavahanas was matrilineal. But the political order was not Matriarchal. The kingdom was ruled by Kings and followed the patriarchal system.

Statement 3 is correct :

- Satavahanas were the first rulers to make land grants to the Brahmanas. The land grants were offered to Buddhist monks as well.

Statement 4 is incorrect :

- The Satavahanas originally seems to be of tribal origin in the Deccan, but they were brahmanized later. Gautamiputra Satakarni called himself the only Brahmana and was believed to have destroyed many Kshatriya rulers. They performed the Vedic sacrifice and tried to follow the Vedic varna system.

54. At which of the following Neolithic Sites the evidence of pit dwelling and burying of a dog along with the humans were found?

- A. Sarai Khola
- B. Burzahom
- C. Aile Gul Mohammad
- D. Mehargarh

Answer: - B

Explanation

- The Burzahom archaeological site is located in the Kashmir Valley of the Indian union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

- Archaeological excavations have revealed four phases of cultural significance between 3000 BC and 1000 BC.
 - Periods I and II represent the Neolithic era;
 - Period III is the Megalithic era (of massive stone menhirs and wheel turned red pottery);
 - Period IV relates to the early Historical Period (Post-megalithic period).
- The unique findings at Burzahom were the burying of domestic dogs along with their masters. Another finding, which was unique to the Neolithic culture of Kashmir, was dwelling pits.

55. Which of the statements mentioned below is/are correct in the context of Harappan Religion?

- Temple structures dedicated to several deities were found at various IVC sites.
- The Priestly class was the ruling class during the Harappan period.
- The Harappan people worshipped both male and female deities.

Select the correct option from the codes given below:

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

Answer: - A

Explanation

The Harappan Religion:

Statement 1 is incorrect :

- There were no dedicated temple structures found at Harappan sites. The only means to find about the Harappan religion is various terracotta figurines of male and female deities, several structures signifying religious significance.

Statement 3 is correct :

- The Female Terracotta figurine showing a plant growing out of the embryo is considered to be that of the Mother Goddess. The figurine of male deity in the yogic posture is found in the form of Seal (Pashupati Seal).





Statement 2 is *incorrect*:

- Because the Harappan script is not deciphered yet. There is **nothing that can be said with certainty** about who ruled the **Harappan society and the social order of the Harappan Civilization.**

56. Recently Booker Prize was awarded in the month of May, in the above context consider the following statements regarding the same -

1. Geetanjali Shree's 'Tomb of Sand' becomes 1st novel written in an Indian language to win International Booker Prize.
2. The International Booker Prize is awarded annually for a single book, translated into English and published in Europe.
3. It was instituted in 2005 and was earlier known as the Man Booker International Prize.

Choose the correct statements -

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

D. All of the above

Answer: - D

- Geetanjali Shree's 'Tomb of Sand' becomes 1st novel written in an Indian language to win International Booker Prize.

Important Points

- Originally published in Hindi as Ret Samadhi, the book is translated into English by Daisy Rockwell.
- The International Booker Prize is awarded annually for a single book, translated into English and published in the UK or Ireland.
- It was instituted in 2005 and was earlier known as the Man Booker International Prize.
- Prize money is shared equally between author and translator.



57. Recently Devasahayan Pillai was declared as Saint, Consider the following statements without respect to Canonisation of Saints -

1. He is the First Indian Layman to be declared a saint by the Vatican.
2. To be approved for sainthood, 3 miracles must be recognised, clearing the path to his canonisation.
3. Vasap plays (Vaasappu in Tamil) which have their origin in Portuguese theatres, enacted in Kannyakumari district and other parts, talk about his life.

Choose the correct statements -

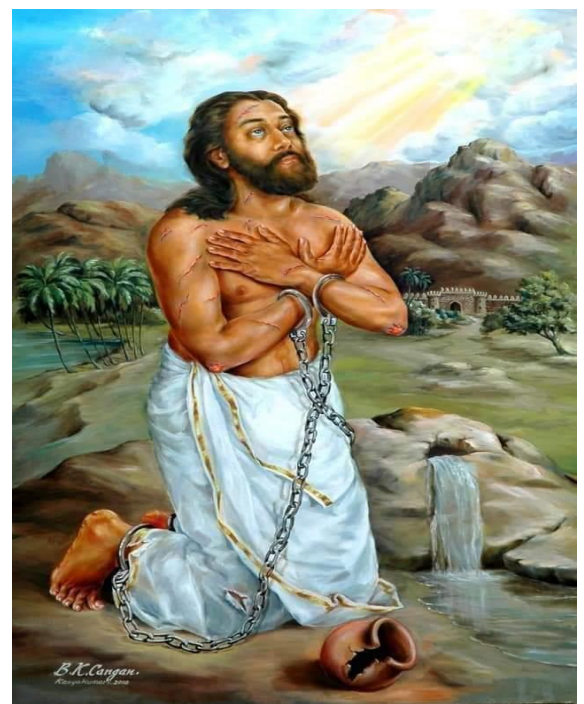
- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - D

- Recently, **Devasahayam Pillai** was declared Saint by Pope Francis (Catholic Church) at The Vatican.

Important Points to remember

- Devasahayam Pillai has become the first Indian layman to be declared a saint by the Vatican.
- He was born a Hindu in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu and converted to Christianity in the 18th century.



- Devasahayam was born on April 23, 1712 and went on to serve in the court of Marthanda Varma of Travancore.
- He was baptised in 1745, and **assumed the name 'Lazarus', meaning 'God is my help'**.
- While preaching, he particularly insisted on the equality of all people, despite caste differences.
- But his teachings aroused the hatred of the higher classes, and he was arrested in 1749 and was shot dead on January 14, 1752.
- In 2014, Pope Francis recognised a miracle attributed to Devasahayam, clearing the path to his canonisation.
- He was approved for sainthood in February 2020 for "enduring increasing hardships" after he decided to embrace Christianity.
- Now with the canonisation, he will be known as Martyr Saint Devasahayam and **not by his caste honorific Pillai**.
- Vasap plays (Vaasappu in Tamil) which have their origin in Portuguese theatres, enacted in Kanniyakumari district and other parts, **talk about his life**.

58. Consider the following statements with respect to Jagadguru Basaveshwara (Basavanna) -

1. He started a new movement in Karnataka in 12th century known as Veersaiva tradition which is an offshoot of Lingayat tradition.
2. He was a worshipper of Vishnu.
3. He rejected the caste and gender discrimination and also rejected the theory of rebirth.
4. Worshippers of Lingayat tradition, cremate their dead as per the Hindu Tradition.

Choose the correct statement -

- A. 1, 2 and 3 only
- B. 2, 3 and 4 only
- C. 1, 3 and 4 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - A

- Prime Minister recently paid tributes to Jagadguru Basaveshwara (Basavanna).

Important Points to remember

- He was a 12th-century poet and philosopher (born in 1131 AD).



- He started new movement in Karnataka in 12th century - Lingayat Tradition.
- Lingayats emerged as a reactionary force against Hinduism and Basavanna rejected caste system, Vedic rituals, idol worship.
- His teachings were based on the principles of Arivu (true knowledge), Achara (right conduct), and Anubhava (divine experience).
- He advocates a holistic approach to Lingangayoga (union with the divine).
- The word 'Linga' does not mean Linga established in temples, but universal consciousness qualified by the universal energy (Shakti).
- He fiercely rejected the caste and gender discrimination.
- He rejected theory of rebirth; they bury their dead and not cremate as called for by Dharmashastras.
- He encouraged certain practices like post-puberty marriage and the remarriage of widows - which was disapproved in the Dharmashastras.
- He gave socio-economic principles of Kayaka (Divine work) and Dasoha (Equal distribution).
 - **Kayaka** signifies that each individual in society should take up the job of his choice while the **Dasoha** stresses equal income for equal work.
- His poetry is popularly known as Vachanaas and is composed in Kannada.
- He belonged to Bhakti tradition and championed devotional worship that rejected temple worship and rituals.
- He also started Sharana movement which attracted people from all castes. The egalitarianism of **Basavanna's Sharana movement** was too radical for its times.
- He established 'Anubhava Mantapa' which acted as a common **forum for all to discuss the prevailing problems** of socio, economic and political strata.

How do Lingayats and Veerashaivas differ?

Lingayat:		Veerashaiva:
12th-century social reformer Basava's sect	Origin	Born out of Shiva's lingam, followers of the panch peeth
Shiva as a formless entity	Worship	Shiva from the Vedas, as a human
Basava's vachanas Does not believe in the caste system	Belief	The Vedas Believes in the caste system
Bans temples and icon worship	Religious institutions	Has temples and priests

59. Recently, Govt. reconstituted the Central Advisory Board on Archaeology after 7 years, Consider the following statements with respect to same -

1. The purpose of this Advisory board is to strengthen contacts between the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and those in the field of archaeological research.
2. PM of India is the chairperson of this board.

Choose the correct statement -

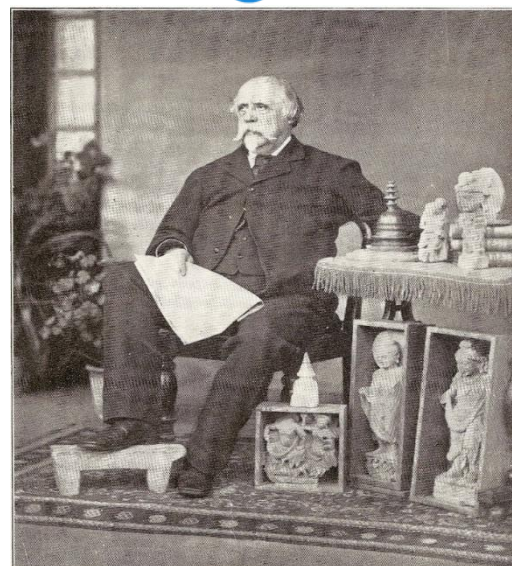
- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. All of the above
- D. None of the above

Answer: - A

- Government has reconstituted the Central Advisory Board on Archaeology.

Important Points to remember

- It has been **re-constituted after over seven years** since its last meeting.
- It is meant to strengthen contacts between the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and those in the field of archaeological research.
- It consists of Culture Minister as the chairperson and including officials from the Culture Ministry and ASI, MPs, nominees of State governments, representatives of universities, scientists and experts on Indus Valley script among the members.
- It has been setup for a **period of three years.**
- The board would also include "five persons nominated in their personal capacities by the Government of India" and **former Director-Generals of ASI.**
- The board **will meet once a year** and its functions would include advising the Centre on "matters relating to archaeology" referred to it by its members.
- Government **also set up a Standing Committee of the board** to be chaired by the ASI D-G.



MAJOR-GENERAL SIR ALEXANDER C. CUNNINGHAM, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.,
LATE BENGAL ENGINEERS.

Background Information on Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

- ASI is an Indian government agency attached to the Ministry of Culture.
- It is responsible for archaeological research and the conservation and preservation of cultural historical monuments in the country.
- It was **founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham** who also became its first Director-General.
- It was formed in 1861 by a statute passed into law by Lord Canning with Cunningham as the first Archaeological Surveyor.
- The survey was suspended briefly between 1865 and 1871 due to lack of funds but restored by Lord Lawrence the then Viceroy of India.
- In 1871, the Survey was revived as a separate department and Cunningham was appointed as its first Director-General.
- It administers **more than 3650 ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains of national importance.**

60. The Gandhi-Irwin Pact included which of the following?

1. Invitation to Congress to participate in the Round Table Conference
2. Withdrawal of Ordinances promulgated in connection with the Civil Disobedience Movement.
3. Acceptance of Gandhiji's suggestion for enquiry into police excesses

4. Release of only those prisoners who were not charged with violence

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- A. 1 only
- B. 1, 2 and 4 only
- C. 3 only
- D. 2, 3 and 4 only

Answer: - B

Explanation -

Result of Gandhi Irwin Pact

- The INC participated in the Second Round Table Conference which was held in 1931 during September - December.
- The government agreed to withdraw all ordinances.
- It agreed to release all political prisoners to save those involved in violence.
- It agreed to allow peaceful picketing of liquor and foreign cloth shops.
- It agreed to revoke the ban on the INC.
- It agreed to restore the confiscated properties of the Satyagrahis.
- It agreed to permit the collection of salt by people near the sea coasts.
- It agreed to forego fines not yet collected.
- It agreed to the lenient treatment of all government servants who had resigned from service in the wake of the civil disobedience movement.

Gandhi - Irwin Pact - Demands of Gandhi not agreed to by Irwin:

- A public inquiry into police excesses during its suppression of the movement.
- Commuting the death sentences of Bhagat Singh and his associates to life sentences.

61. Consider the following statements with respect to Adi Sankaracharya -

- 1. He propounded the philosophy of Advaita Vedanta.
- 2. He is considered to be the incarnation of Lord Vishnu.
- 3. His birthplace Kaladi in Ernakulam is likely to declared as national monument.

Choose the correct answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - C

Explanation

- Context - Adi Sankaracharya's birthplace Kaladi in Ernakulam, **Kerala** will likely be declared as national monument.
- He propounded the philosophy of Advaita Vedanta.
- He is considered as the incarnation of Lord Shiva.
- Sampradaya - Dashnami
- Method of Salvation - Knowledge.
- Major work - His review of 'Brahma Sutra' is known as 'Brahmasutrabhasya', and it is the *oldest surviving commentary on 'Brahma Sutra'*.
- He established 4 Mathas -
 - Dwarka
 - Joshimatha
 - Puri
 - Sringeri.

62. Consider the following statements with respect to Subhash Chandra Bose -

1. In order to protest against the Partition of Bengal, He left his Civil Services Apprenticeship midway to return to India in 1921.
2. In 1931, He was in favour of Gandhi Irwin pact and the suspension of Civil Disobedience Movement.
3. While campaigning for India's Independence, he formed an Indian Government-in-exile 'The Azad Hind Government' in Germany.

Choose the incorrect answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - D

Explanation

- Context - Recently, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose **125th birth** anniversary ('Parakram Diwas') was celebrated.

- Netaji's career took a turn after the horrific incident of Jallianwala Bagh where the Lieutenant Governor of Punjab, Michael O Dwyer opened fire on a peaceful crowd in Amritsar in April, 1919 and little to no action was taken against him. Shook by the Jallianwalla Bagh massacre, Netaji left his Civil Services apprenticeship midway to return to India in 1921.
- In 1931, he **protested against the Gandhi-Irwin pact** and **opposed the suspension of Civil Disobedience movement** specially when Bhagat Singh and his associates were hanged.
- In 1941, Netaji disappeared from his home in Calcutta and reached Germany via Afghanistan. Working on the maxim that "an enemy's enemy is a friend", **he sought cooperation of Germany and Japan against the British Empire.** After reaching Germany in 1942, Netaji started 'Azad Hind Radio' and established 'Free India Centre' (a precursor of the Azad Hind Government).

63. Consider the following statements with respect to Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-

1. It is rendered to Individuals and Organisations in the field of Science and Technology.
2. For 2022, Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management and Professor Vinod Sharma have won this award.
3. Only two Awards can be given every year.

Choose the Incorrect answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - C

Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar Award

- It is to honour invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by **individuals and organizations in India in the field of disaster management.**
- It is **announced every year on 23rd January**, birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.
- The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 51 lakh and a certificate in case of an institution and Rs. 5 lakh and a certificate in case of an individual.
- There are up to three awards (every year).
- For 2022, Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management and Professor Vinod Sharma have been selected hip midway to return to India in 1921.

64. Consider the following statements with respect to Jallikattu -

1. It is a Bull taming sport of Tamil Nadu that has traditionally been part of festivities of Pongal.

2. There are references to Jallikattu in Sangam Literature
3. A similar Bull sport Kambala is of Karnataka.

Choose the Correct answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - A

Explanation

- Jallikattu is a **bull-taming sport of Tamil Nadu** that has traditionally been part of the festival of Pongal.
- The festival is a celebration of nature, and thanksgiving for a bountiful harvest, of which cattle- worship is part.
- There are references to Jallikattu in Sangam literature too. Also, a reference to bull taming is found in a seal discovered at Mohenjodaro, which is dated between 2,500 BC and 1,800 BC.
- **Other states will similar sports include**–Kambala (Andhra Pradesh), Bullock Kart races (Maharashtra), Cock Fight (Andhra and other states), Camel Race (Rajasthan).

65. Consider the following statements with respect to PRASAD Scheme (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Heritage Augmentation Drive) -

1. It is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
2. It is under the Ministry of Culture.
3. It aims at identifying and developing pilgrimage sites across India for enriching the religious tourism experience.

Choose the Incorrect answer -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - A

PRASAD SCHEME

- Recently, **Ministry of Tourism** inaugurated various projects at Govardhan, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh under PRASHAD Scheme.
- PRASHAD scheme is a **Central Sector Schemes** focussing on **developing and identifying pilgrimage sites across India** for enriching the religious tourism experience. It aims:

- to **integrate pilgrimage destinations** in a prioritised, planned and sustainable manner.
- at infrastructure development to envisage world class infrastructural development of the sites with special emphasis on Tourist Facilities.

66. Consider the following statements with respect to Hoysala Temple Architecture -

1. This architecture building style evolved between the 11th and 14th century under the Hoysala Empire's rule in the southern Deccan Region and Kaveri River Valley.
2. Hoysala Architecture is often referred to as Hybrid or Vesara temple style.
3. Hard Granite stone is used in the sculptures of Hoysala Temple Architecture.
4. Hoysala temples have several shrines arranged around a central pillared hall in the form of an intricately designed star (stellate-plan).

Which of the following statements are incorrect ?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above




Answer: - A

Explanation

- **Context** - The Union Ministry of Culture has announced that the Hoysala temples of Belur, Halebid and Somnathapura in Karnataka have been selected as India's nomination for UNESCO's list of World Heritage sites for the year 2022-2023.
- Hoysala architecture is a building style that **evolved between the 11th to 14th centuries** under the Hoysala Empire's rule in the **southern Deccan region and Kaveri River Valley**.
- Hoysala temples are often referred to as **hybrid or Vesara temple style** because their distinctive design tends to have a **basic Dravidian style**, but also show a **strong influence of 'Bhumija'** which is seen in central India, along with '**Nagara'** traditions of northern and western India. (refer image).
- They are easily distinguishable from other medieval temples by their highly original star-like ground-plans and a profusion of decorative carvings.
- Some of the distinctive styles of Hoysala Architecture:
 - Hoysala temples have several shrines arranged around a central pillared hall in the form of an intricately designed star (stellate-plan).



- The temple craftsmen carved their sculptures intricately because they were made of soapstone, a relatively soft stone. These sculptures can be seen in the gods' jewellery that adorns the temple walls.
- Both open and closed mandapas can be found in Hoysala architecture.
 - Hoysala temples have circular pillars in their mandapas. Each pillar has four sculpted figures on the top brackets.
 - The mandapa's ceilings are ornate, with **mythological figures and floral designs**.
 - Mandapa is basically a hall where groups of people used to gather for prayers.

Characteristics of Belur, Halebid, and Somnathapura temples		
Chennakeshava Temple, Belur (Belur was first capital city of Hoysalas)	Hoysaleswara Temple, Halebidu	Keshava Temple, Somanathapura
		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also referred as Keshava, or Vijayanarayana Temple of Belur. • Commissioned by King Vishnuvardhana in 1117 CE. • Built with soapstone, on the banks of the Yagachi River in Belur, also known as Velapura. • Combines elements of North Indian Nagara and South Indian Karnata style architecture. • It is an ekakuta (temple with one shrine) and the garbha griha (sanctum sanctorum) houses portrait of Krishna. • Temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu known as Chennakesava, which means beautiful (chenna) Vishnu (Keshava). • Exterior sculptured exterior depicts scenes from daily life, music, and dance, and narrate scenes from life of Vishnu and his reincarnations and the epics, Ramayana, and Mahabharata. • Some of the representations of Shiva are also included. • It includes images from Jainism and Buddhism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also called 'Halebidu' temple, a 12th-century temple dedicated to Lord Shiva as Nataraja, the God of Destruction. • It is a double building with a large hall for the mandapa to facilitate music and dance. • Sponsored by King Vishnuvardhana. • It is said to be the largest monument in Halebidu, a town in Karnataka and erstwhile capital of the Hoysala Empire. • There are more than 240 images in the temple and no other temple has these many intricate sculptures. • Halebid has a walled complex containing of three Jaina basadi (temples) of the Hoysala period as well as a stepped well. • The basadi are located in close proximity to the Dorasamudhra lake. • Sculptures inside the temple depict scenes from Ramayana, Mahabharata and Bhagavata Purana. • Includes themes from Vaishnavism and Shaktism, too, along with images from Jainism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consecrated in 1258 CE by Somanatha Dandanayaka, a general of the Hoysala King Narasimha III. • It is on the banks of River Kaveri. • It is believed that this was the last major temple built by the Hoysala dynasty. • It is a Trikuta Temple dedicated to Lord Krishna in three forms – Janardhana, Keshava and Venugopala. • It has a stellar plan with three shrines and Vimanas. • Sculptures found at the Keshava Temple are that of Lord Vishnu, Lord Ganesha, Goddess Lakshmi and Saraswati. • It is no longer used as a place of worship because the idols here have been broken and the temple was desecrated by the invading armies of the Muslim Sultanate.

67. Consider the following statements with respect to Saint Ramanujacharya -

1. Recently a statue has been inaugurated at Chennai in the backdrop of celebrations of 'Festival of equality', marking the 1000th birth anniversary of the Saint.
2. Ramanujacharya Ji was deeply influenced by the Alvars (Vishnu worshippers) and according to him the best means of attaining salvation was through intense devotion to Vishnu.
3. He propounded the Theory of Vishisht Advaita.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - C

Explanation

- Context - 216-feet tall 'Statue of Equality' commemorating Sri Ramanujacharya was recently dedicated to the nation.
- The statue has been **inaugurated at Hyderabad** in the backdrop of celebrations of 'Festival of equality', marking the **1000th birth anniversary of the Saint**.
- It is **made of 'panchaloha', a combination of five metals:** gold, silver, copper, brass, and zinc and is among one of the tallest metallic statues in sitting position, in the world.
- It is **mounted on a 54-ft high base building, named 'Bhadra Vedi'** and has *floors devoted for a library, ancient Indian texts, theatre and a gallery detailing works of Sri Ramanujacharya.*

68. Consider the following statements with respect to Chauri Chaura Incidents -

1. After this incident, CWC met at Bardoli in February 1923 and resolved to roll back NCM.
2. As a response to the violence, British Government arrested Gandhiji in March 1922 and sentenced him to six years in jail.
3. Most of the nationalist leaders including C.R.Das, Motilal Nehru, Subhash Bose, Jawaharlal Nehru expressed bewilderment at Gandhi's decision to withdraw the movement.

Choose the Correct answer -

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

D. All of the above

Answer: - B

Chauri Chaura Incident

- **Context** - Year 2022 marks the completion of **100 years of Chauri Chaura Incident**.
- The incident occurred in the last phase of the Khilafat-Non Cooperation Movement (NCM).
- Chauri Chaura is a village in Gorakhpur district in United Province, which awoke to violence on February 5, 1922 owing to a clash between the police and the protesters.
- The police had opened fire on the protestors who were protesting against liquor sale and high food prices.
- In retaliation, the agitated crowd torched the police station with policemen inside resulting in the death of 22 policemen.
- In response to the violence at Chauri Chaura in 1922, Gandhi called off the NCM unilaterally and thus, on 12 February 1922, **the Non-Cooperation Movement came to an end**.
- **Roll back of NCM**: The Congress Working Committee met at **Bardoli in February 1922 and resolved to roll back NCM**.
- It was decided to **take the movement to the passive phase and focus on constructive work like popularisation of khadi**, national schools, and campaigning for temperance, for Hindu-Muslim unity and against untouchability.
- **Arrest of Gandhiji**: As a response to the violence, British Government **arrested Gandhiji in March 2022 and sentenced him to six years in jail**. Government also ordered death sentence for 19 convicts and sentenced 110 to life imprisonments.

Outcome of Chauri Chaura Incident

- **Fall out in Congress - Most of the nationalist leaders including C.R.Das, Motilal Nehru, Subhash Bose, Jawaharlal Nehru expressed bewilderment at Gandhi's decision to withdraw the movement.**
 - Also, sudden roll back of NCM led to disintegration, disorganization and demoralization among nationalist ranks.
 - **Two factions were created**. One faction, **the 'Swarajists' led by C.R. Das and Motilal Nehru** wanted an end to boycott of legislative councils.
 - However, other faction, **the 'No-changers' led by C. Rajagopalachari and Vallabhbhai Patel** opposed it which led to a **split within the Congress and formation of Congress-Khilafat-Swarajya Party (CKSP)**.

69. Consider the following statements with respect to Medaram Jatara -

1. It is the Second Largest fair of India.
2. It is celebrated by the Tribal Community of Andhra Pradesh for four days.
3. It is a festival with no Vedic or Brahmanic influence.
4. Jampannavagu river (a tributary to river Godavari) is **worshipped** as one of the parts of rituals.

Choose the Correct answer -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

Answer: - C

Medaram Jatara

- **Context** - Recently, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sanctioned ₹2.26 Crores for Medaram Jathara.

Explanation

- It is the second-largest fair of India, after the Kumbh Mela.
- It is celebrated by the tribal community of Telangana for four days.
- It is biennially celebrated and organized by the Koyas tribe.
- It is a festival with no Vedic or Brahmanic influence.
- Jampannavagu river (a tributary to river Godavari) is worshiped as one of the parts of rituals
- It assists the tribals to preserve their unique Tribal **Traditions**, Culture and Heritage.

70. Consider the following statements with respect to ANGADIAS -

- A. It is a century-old parallel banking system.
- B. It is a century-old traditional Agricultural practice.
- C. It refers to a community of traveller from Medieval Indian History.
- D. None of the above

Answer: - A

ANGADIAS

- It is a **century-old parallel banking system** in the country where traders send cash generally from one state to another through a person called Angadia that stands for courier.
- It is used **largely in jewellery business**.
- The cash involved is huge and it is the **responsibility of the Angadia** to transfer cash from one state to another for which they charge a nominal fee.
- Generally, it is the **Gujarati, Marwari and Malbari** community that are involved in the business.
- They have recently been under attack by robbers owing to the large quantities of cash they carry.

71. Narasinghapettai Nagaswaram has been granted GI Tag recently, which of the following statement correctly describes this object -

- A. Wind Musical Instrument

- B. A form of Tea
- C. A form of Coffee
- D. Traditional terracotta art form

Answer: - A

Explanation

Context - Narasinghapettai nagaswaram, a wind musical instrument of Tamil Nadu, has been granted the Geographical Indication tag.

- The nagaswaram is a wind instrument that is an integral part of Carnatic concerts, weddings, festivals and temple ceremonies.
- The unique feature of the nagaswaram is its production process - it is handmade in Narasingapettai village in Thanjavur, unlike the other machine-made ones.
- Artisans of the nagaswaram choose the wood wisely, a type of ebony, ensuring it is 200 years old, and which does not absorb moisture. The top portion has a metal staple into which a small metallic cylinder is inserted to hold the mouthpiece made of reed.
- The reeds are made from the leaves of a locally grown plant called 'naanai' (a variety of bamboo).
- The GI tag will now honour the nagaswaram artisans.

72. Consider the following statements with respect to Paika Rebellion -

1. It was an armed rebellion that took place in Odisha against the British East India Company.
2. Paikas were Peasant militias of the Gajapati rulers of Odisha who offered military services to the king.
3. The advent of the British and establishment of colonial rule brought new land revenue settlements, which led to the Paikas losing their estates.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

Answer: - D

Explanation

- Recently, Centre stated that the Paika rebellion cannot be called the first War of Independence

Paika Rebellion -

- It was an armed rebellion that took place in Odisha against the British East India Company (EIC). It took place nearly 40 years before the first sepoy mutiny.

- The Paikas were peasant militias of the Gajapati rulers of Odisha who offered military services to the king. They owned rent-free land that had been given to them for their military service to Kingdom of Khurda.
- The British established themselves in Odisha when the EIC dethroned the King of Khurda, Raja Mukunda Deva in 1803.
- The Paikas under Bakshi Jagabandhu Bidyadhar, the hereditary chief of the militia army of the Gajapati King, rose in rebellion, taking support of tribals and other sections of society.
- They attacked British symbols of power, setting ablaze police stations, administrative offices and the treasury during their march towards Khurda, from where the British fled.
- They were supported by the zamindars, village heads and ordinary peasants.
- The uprising spread like a wildfire across the state resulting in several confrontations and encounters between the British and the Paika forces. The revolt was eventually overpowered by the British army.
 - Bidyadhar was imprisoned in 1825 and died in jail in 1829.

Causes of this rebellion -

- Land revenue system: The advent of the British and establishment of colonial rule brought new land revenue settlements, which led to the Paikas losing their estates.
- British exploitative policies: With the removal of the King of Khurda, exploitative policies of the British administration became increasingly intolerable for the people of Odisha. The continuous interference in the economy and revenue systems led to exploitation and oppression of the peasants and farmers eventually triggering a rebellion against the British.
- New currency system: The British changed the currency system from cowrie to rupee. The villagers faced a lot of problems in handling the new currency and they were grossly exploited by the local mahajanans.
- British salt policy: The long sea coast of Odisha produced a huge quantity of salt which was used by the people of this land freely. However, the British authority deprived the zamindars and the local people of coastal region of their traditional rights to manufacture salt.

73. Consider the following statements with respect to UNESCO's city of Literature -

1. Recently, Kozhikode was proposed to be branded as a UNESCO's City of Literature.
2. To be a part of this list, a city needs to have specialisation in one or more of the seven creative fields.
3. At present 6 Indian cities are included on the list.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - D

Explanation

- Context - Recently, Kozhikode was proposed by the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) to be branded as a UNESCO's City of Literature, which is part of a wider UNESCO's Creative Cities Network (UCCN).
- UCCN was created in 2004 to promote cooperation with and among cities that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable urban development.
- It covers seven creative fields: Crafts & Folk Art, Design, Film, Gastronomy, Literature, Music, and Media Arts.
- 6 Indian cities are included on the list- Hyderabad (gastronomy), Mumbai (film), Varanasi (music), Chennai (music), Jaipur (crafts and folk art) and the latest addition, Srinagar (crafts and folk art).

74. For the first time, Indian Constitution was translated into an Indian Language which is mentioned in Schedule VIII of the Constitution, it's written in Ol Chiki script, which of the following language is written in this script -

- A. Santhali
- B. Assamese
- C. Oriya
- D. Bodo

Answer: - A

Explanation

- Context - For the first time, Indian Constitution is translated into Santali script 'Ol Chiki'. (92nd Constitutional Amendment Act 2003 added Santali to Schedule VIII along with the Bodo, Dogri and Maithili languages.)
- Ol Chiki script-the word ol means "write," and chiki means "script"-was invented by Pandit Raghunath Murmu in 1925 to write Santali.
- Ol Chiki is alphabetic, and does not share any of the syllabic properties of the other Indic scripts. o It contains 30 letters and five basic diacritics (marks placed above or below (or sometimes next to) a letter in a word to indicate a particular pronunciation).

About Santhals -

- Santals community is concentrated in several states including Assam, Tripura, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Odisha and Jharkhand.
- They speak Santali language which belongs to the Munda group of Austro-Asiatic sub-family of languages.
- Santals are well known for their housing architecture with colourfully painted walls, floors and artistically carved doors.
- Primary occupation is settled agriculture.

75. Consider the following statements with respect to Bamiyan Buddhas -

1. It is situated in the Hindu Kush in the central highlands of Afghanistan.
2. Bamiyan Buddhas date back to the 5th century AD and were once the tallest standing Buddhas in the world.
3. They were locally known as Salsal and Shamama.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

Answer: - D**Explanation**

- **Context** - Taliban are preserving Bamiyan buddhas in Mes Aynak, with eye to China investment.
- It is situated in the Hindu Kush in the central highlands of Afghanistan.
- Bamiyan Buddhas date back to the 5th century AD and were once the tallest standing Buddhas in the world.
- They were locally known as Salsal and Shamama.
- They were great examples of a confluence of Gupta, Sassanian, and Hellenistic artistic styles.
- In 2001, Taliban began blowing up the two statues.
- Following this, UNESCO included the remains in its list of World Heritage Sites in 2003.

76. Consider the following statements with respect to Lingaraj Temple which was recently in news

1. This temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu.
2. It was built by Somavanshi Dynasty King Jajati Keshari in 10th century.
3. An important aspect of temple is that it signifies the syncretisation of Shiavism and Viashavanism sects in Odisha.
4. It is the biggest temple in Bubhneswar.

Which of the following statements is/are correct ?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three
- D. All of the above

Answer: - C

Explanation

- Context - The Central government has opposed the Odisha government's ordinance to bring Lingaraj temple and its associated temples under a special law on the grounds that it is outside the legislative competence of the state legislature.

About Lingaraj Temple

- The temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva located in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- It was built by Somavanshi Dynasty King Jajati Keshari of in the 10th Century and completed by King Lalatendu Keshari in the 11th Century.
- The main spire is 54 metres high. Besides, there is a pillared hall, a dancing hall (NatyaMandap) and a hall for serving offerings (BhogaMandap).
- The walled campus has about 50 smaller shrines, including one dedicated to Goddess Parvati.
- It is the biggest temple in Bhubaneswar. This great temple represents the quintessence of the Kalinga type of architecture.
- Lingaraj is referred to as 'Swayambhu' - (self-originated Shivling). Another important aspect of the temple is that it signifies the syncretisation of Shaivism and Vaishnavism sects in Odisha.
- The Shivling is known as Hari Hara.



77. Recently Cyclopean Wall was in news which is associated with the ancient History of India, which of the Ancient Indian cities contained this Cyclopean Wall -

- Rajgir
- Kausambhi
- Harrapa
- Hampi

Answer: - A

Explanation

- Context** - Bihar government has again sent a proposal to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to get Cyclopean wall listed in the UNESCO World Heritage Site.

About

- The Cyclopean Wall is a 40 km long wall of stone (more than 2,500 years old structure) which encircled the ancient city of Rajgir in Bihar.
- The ancient city of Rajgir was the capital city of King Bimbisara and his son Ajatshatru who were contemporaries of the Buddha.
- It was built in the pre-Mauryan era (before 3rd century BC) and was erected by King Jarasandha, the 2nd ruler of Brihadratha (Rawani) dynasty using massive undressed stone to protect their capital from external invaders and enemies.
- The wall is among the oldest examples of cyclopean masonry in the world.
- Cyclopean masonry is a term used to describe a type of megalithic architecture entailing the working of unusually large blocks of stone without mortar, often for the construction of fortifications.
- The term was coined by Greeks in the Classical Age, reflecting the belief that only the Cyclops, gigantic, one-eyed creatures of myth, could have been strong enough to manipulate stones so immense.
- It is believed that the Cyclopean Wall at Rajgir is similar to “Frontiers of the Roman Empire” that runs through Germany, UK and Northern Ireland, which was included on UNESCO’s world heritage list in 1987.



78. Consider the following statements about initiative DHARA : An ode to Indian Knowledge Systems, which was launched by Government of India recently -

1. It is a flagship initiative of Ministry of Tourism.
2. It is conceptualised as a series of lecture demonstrations dedicated to specific areas of enquiry, highlighting India’s contribution and achievements across domains.

Which of the following statements is/are correct ?

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

Answer: - B

Explanation

- It is a flagship initiative of the Ministry of Culture.
- It is conceptualised as a series of lecture demonstrations dedicated to specific areas of enquiry, highlighting India’s contribution and achievements across domains.

- It embodies that idea of “continuous flow” of information and knowledge from one age to another, being adopted, questioned and evolved over time so that we not only move ahead to the next level of insights across various fields but do so on the back of the findings and deep understanding already available to us.

79. Consider the following statements with respect to Dadasaheb Phalke -

1. He is known as the Father of Indian Cinema.
2. His film ‘Raja Harishchandra’ (1913) is considered to be India’s first full length motion picture which laid the foundation of film Making in India.
3. To honour him, Dadasaheb Phalke award is given annually by President of India for remarkable contribution to Indian Cinema.

Choose the correct statements -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - D

Explanation

- Dadasaheb Phalke is known as the Father of Indian Cinema. His film ‘Raja Harishchandra’ (1913) is considered to be India’s first full length motion picture which laid the foundation of film Making in India
- To honour him, Dadasaheb Phalke award is given annually by President of India for remarkable contribution to Indian Cinema.



80. Consider the following statements with respect to scheme - PM SVANIDHI (Prime Minister Street Vendor’s Atmanirbhar Nidhi) -

1. It is a central sectoral scheme.
2. Its target is to benefit over 50 Lakh Street Vendors.
3. There will be no penalty on early repayment of loans.

Choose the incorrect statement/s -

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. Only Three

D. None of the above

Answer: - D

Explanation

- Context - Recently, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved extension of PM SVANidhi beyond March 2022 till December 2024.
- It was announced as a part of the Economic Stimulus-II package under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.
- Launched in 2020 as a Micro-Credit facility under the aegis of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- It is a Central Sector Scheme (CSS), whose targets to benefit over 50 lakh Street Vendors.
- There will be no penalty on early repayment of loan. Implementing partner- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
- It is available to beneficiaries from States/UTs which have notified rules and guidelines under Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.

Eligibility Criteria of Beneficiaries/ Street vendors

- In possession of Certificate of Vending / Identity Card issued by Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). Vendors who have been identified in the survey but have not been issued Certificate of Vending / Identity Card.
- Vendors left out of ULB led identification survey or who have started vending after completion of the survey and have been issued Letter of Recommendation (LoR) to that effect by the ULB/Town Vending Committee (TVC).
- Vendors of surrounding development/peri-urban/rural areas vending in the geographical limits of the ULBs and have been issued LoR to that effect by ULB/TVC.

81. Recently, an important excavation at Mayiladumparai, has pushed evidence of Iron being used in India back to 4,200 Years ago, which of the following states corresponds to this site -

- A. Tamil Nadu
- B. Karnataka
- C. Kerala
- D. Andhra Pradesh

Answer: - A

Context

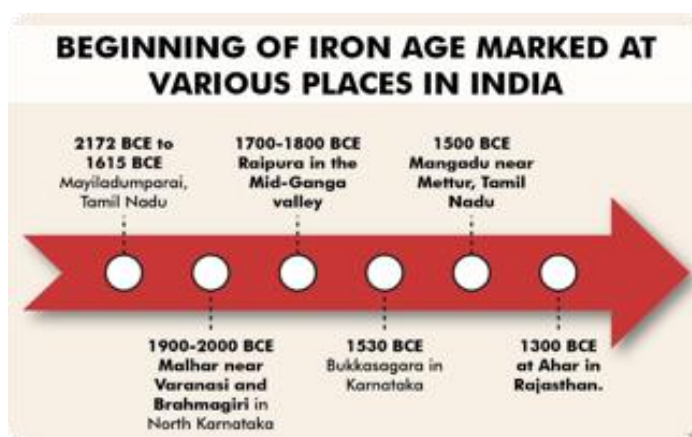
- Recently Carbon dating of excavated finds at Mayiladumparai, Tamil Nadu has pushed evidence of iron being used in India back to 4,200 years ago.

Explanation -

- Archaeological excavations in Mayiladumparai have found that the date of iron artefacts unearthed 'ranges from 2172 BCE to 1615 BCE'.
- Mayiladumparai is an important site with cultural material dating back between the Microlithic (30,000 BCE) and Early Historic (600 BCE) ages.
- The cultural items revealed that the site had survived since the Neolithic period till the historical period.
 - Microlithic, Neolithic, Iron Age, Early Historic and Historic are the five cultural sequences identified based on ceramics, iron objects, rock art, memorial stones and inscriptions.
- The late Neolithic period in Tamil Nadu began before 2200 BCE, based on a cultural deposit 25 cm below the dated level.
- Black and red ware pottery were introduced during the late Neolithic period, rather than the Iron Age, as previously thought.
- Before the latest discovery, the earliest evidence of iron use for Tamil Nadu was from Thelunganur and Mangadu near Mettur, dating back to 1500 BCE.

Significance -

- Timeline revisited: The dates when humans entered the Iron Age vary from one region of the world to another. In India, too, the date has been revised with successive findings over the decades.
- Beginning of culture: With the latest evidence tracing the Iron Age to 2000 BCE, experts believe that it could be assumed that our cultural seeds were laid in 2000 BCE.



82. Consider the following statements with respect to their corresponding characteristic -

- Dholavira - Water Management System
- Lothal - A Port City
- Kalibangan - A Manufacturing Centre
- Harappa - A Granary

Which of the following is/are correctly Matched ?

- Only One
- Only Two
- Only Three
- All of the above

Answer: - D

Context

- The latest round of excavations at the Harappan site of Rakhigarhi in Haryana's Hisar has revealed the structure of some houses, lanes and a drainage system.

83. Consider the following statements with respect to Raja Ram Mohan Roy -

- The title 'Raja' was bestowed upon him by the Mughal Emperor Akbar II, in 1831.
- Gopal Krishan Gokhale called him the 'The Father of Modern India'.
- He wrote 'Sambad Kaumudi - The Moon of Intelligence' in 1821, this Bengali weekly was the first newspaper in an Indian Language.
- He wrote "Miratul Akhbar - The Mirror of News" in 1822, It was India's first Persian newspaper.

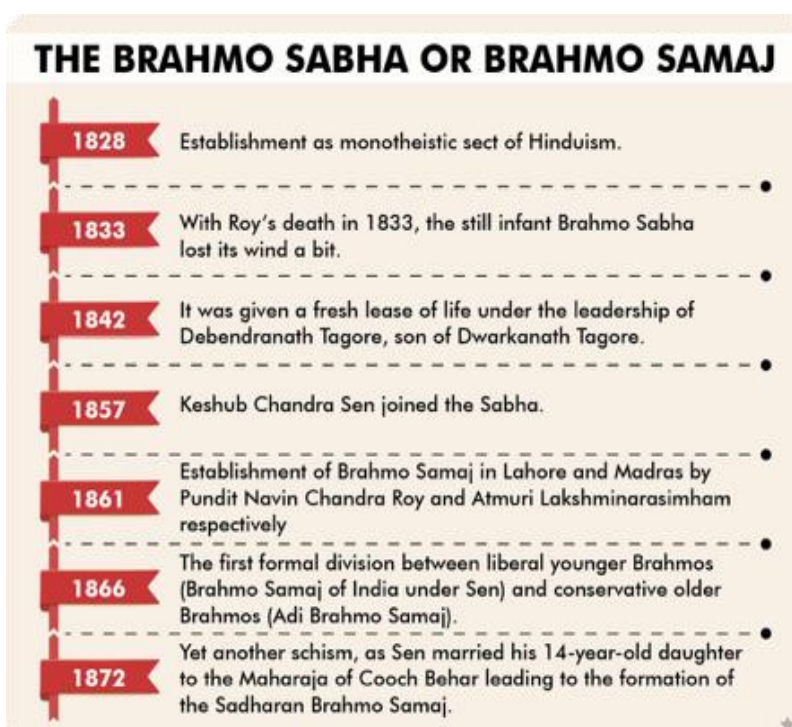
Which of the following statements is/are correct -

- 1,2 and 3 only
- 2,3 and 4 only
- 1, 3 and 4 only
- All of the above

Answer: - D

Context

- Recently, India celebrated the 250th birth anniversary of Raja Ram Mohan Roy.



84. Consider the following statements with respect to Control Advisory Board on Archeology -

1. Its main function is advising centre on matters relating to archeology and promoting closer contacts of ASI with Indian Universities conducting archaeological research all over the country.
2. Union Minister of Culture will be its chairperson.
3. Board will meet once a Year.

Choose the correct statement/s -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer: - D

Answer - D

Context

- CABA was re-constituted recently.

Explanation

- It has been re-constituted after over seven years since its last meeting.
- It is meant to strengthen contacts between the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and those in the field of archaeological research.
- It consists of Culture Minister as the chairperson and including officials from the Culture Ministry and ASI, MPs, nominees of State governments, representatives of universities, scientists and experts on Indus Valley script among the members.
- It has been setup for a period of three years.
- The board would also include “five persons nominated in their personal capacities by the Government of India” and former Director-Generals of ASI.
- The board will meet once a year and its functions would include advising the Centre on “matters relating to archaeology” referred to it by its members.
- Government also set up a Standing Committee of the board to be chaired by the ASI D-G.

85. Choose the following statements with respect to International Booker Prize awarded to Geetanjali Shree recently -

1. She became the first Indian to win this award for ‘Tomb of Sand’.

2. This award is presented annually for a book that is translated into English and published in UK or Europe.

Choose the correct statement -

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

Answer: - A

Context

- Renowned Hindi author Geetanjali Shree became the first Indian to win this award for 2022 for her book 'Tomb of Sand (Ret Samadhi)'. Her book is also the first Indian-language book to be recognised by the award.

Explanation

- Originally published in Hindi as Ret Samadhi, the book is translated into English by Daisy Rockwell.
- The International Booker Prize is awarded annually for a single book, translated into English and published in the UK or Ireland.
- It was instituted in 2005 and was earlier known as the Man Booker International Prize.
- Prize money is shared equally between author and translator.



86. Consider the following statement with respect to Dadu Dayal -

- 1 He rejected the authority of Vedas and instead gave the sermon of focusing on Japa (Chanting the God's Name)
- 2 He belonged to the Saguna Form of Bhakti Movement.
- 3 His followers started a tradition by the name of Dadupanthis.

Which of the following statements is/are correct ?

- A. One Only
- B. Two Only
- C. Three Only

D. None of the above

Answer-B

Explanation

- 'Dadu' means brother and 'Dayal' means the 'The compassionate One'. Dadu Dayal is one of the major representatives of the Nirguna Sant tradition in North India.
- He believed that 'devotion to God should transcend religious or sectarian affiliation and that deviated should become non-sectarian or Nipakh'.
- Dadu worked as a cotton cleaner for a living. He was born in Ahmedabad, India, around 1544 to Brahmin merchant parents, but he spent the major part of his life in Rajasthan, spreading the message of Bhakti.
- Dadu rejected the Vedas (the earliest Hindu scriptures), caste divisions, and other divisive, external forms of worship, such as temple visits and pilgrimages. Instead, he focused on japa (the chanting of God's name).
- Dadu's poetic aphorisms and devotional hymns, which served as the medium for his teachings, were compiled in Bani ("Poetic Utterances"), a 5,000-verse anthology.
- His followers came to be known as Dadupanthis who set up ashrams known as Thambas around the region. His adherents abstain from drinking and eat only vegetarianism; the Dadu Panth also has a significant ascetic component.
- It is believed that Emperor Akbar and Kabir were two of his prominent Followers.
- Dadu had a total of 100 followers who had achieved samadhi. He told the remaining 52 disciples to establish ashrams, or Thambas, around the region in order to disseminate the Lord's word.
- Dadu ji spent the last years of his life in Naraina, a tiny village near Jaipur city near the town of Dudu. Naraina, Bhairanaji, Sambhar, Amer, and Karadala are the five thambas revered by the devotees (Kalyanpura).

87. Consider the following statements with respect to Guru Nanak Dev Ji

1. The Present day 'Kartarpur Corridor' is linked with the Gurdwaras associated with the life of Guru Nanak Dev Ji
2. He is the Founder of Sikhism, which today stands as the 5th largest religion of the World.
3. He gave the concept of Langar and Pangat in order to drive the vision of a casteless Society.

Choose the correct option -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer-D

Explanation

- The first Sikh Guru and the Founder of the Sikhism, who was also a Nirguna Bhakti saint and social reformer.
- Born in the year 1469 in a small village of Talwandi (Now called Nankana Sahib, in Pakistan).
- His father was an accountant, and even Nanak was trained in Persian to follow his father's footsteps, but he was inclined towards mysticism.
- He preached about the Unity of God and opposed all sort of distinctions and condemned the formalism and ritualism of both Islam and Hinduism.
- He laid great emphasis on the purity of character and conduct and considered both of them to be the first essential condition of approaching God.
- He also stressed on the need of a Guru for guidance. Like Kabir, he advocated a middle path in which spiritual life could be combined with the duties of the householder.
- Guru Nanak Dev's vision of a casteless society in which there is no caste hierarchy can help to establish an egalitarian society. His idea of equality can be deduced by the following innovative social institutions, as given by him:
 - Langar: Collective cooking and sharing of food.
 - Pangat: Partaking food without distinctions of high and low caste.
 - Sangat: Collective decision making.
- These egalitarian practices had directly challenged the untouchability and the caste system and continue to do so.
- Guru Nanak Dev's concept of "Jeyee kaa ik daata" can address these issues.
- According to him, the whole world is God's creation (Jeyee kaa ik daata) and all are born equal. There is only one universal creator i.e. "Ik Omkaar Satnaam."
- This spirit of equality began with Guru Nanak Dev's clear recognition that there is no distinction between a Hindu and Muslim. For him, no country was foreign and no people were alien.

88. Consider the following statements with respect to Ramdas Ji, a famous Bhakti Saint of Maharashtra Bhakti Movement -

1. He was the famed spiritual Guru and Guide of Shivaji.
2. He wrote Dasbodha, which is a treatise on the Advaita Vedanta in the Marathi Language and deals with a wide range of subjects on the spiritual life.
3. He was against all distinctions based on caste and creed and greatly encouraged the participation of women in religious works.

Choose the incorrect statement/s -

- A. One Only
- B. Two Only

- C. All of the above
- D. None of the above

Answer-D

Explanation

- He was the famed **spiritual Guru and guide of Shivaji** and is believed to have contributed in the building of the Maratha Empire under Shivaji.
- He wrote **Dasbodha** (A treatise on the **Advaita Vedanta in the Marathi Language** and **deals with a wide range of subjects on the spiritual life** : True and False Knowledge, necessity of a Guru, the qualification of a true disciple, Maya, necessity of spiritual disciplines, Bhakti and Liberation).
- He was **against all distinctions based on caste and creed** and greatly **encouraged the participation of women in religious works**.

89. Consider the following statements with respect to Maharashtra Bhakti Movement -

1. Maharashtra Bhakti Movement is centred around the shrine of Vithoba or Vitthal, the residing diety of Pandharpur, who was regarded as the manifestation of Krishna.
2. This movement is broadly divided in 2 sects, Varakaris the heroic followers of cult of Ramdas and Dharkaris the mild devotees of God Vitthala.

Choose the correct statement -

- A. 1 Only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both of the above
- D. None of the above

Answer-C

Explanation

- Maharashtra Bhakti Movement centred around the shrine of **Vithoba or Vitthal, the residing deity of Pandharpur**, who was regarded as a **manifestation of Krishna**. Therefore it is also known by the name of **Pandharpur Movement**, which led to greater cultural and social development in Maharashtra like -
 - **Development of Marathi Literature.**
 - **Elevation in the status of Women, Breaking of caste barriers.**
- In Maharashtra, it also drew inspiration from **Bhagvata Purana** and the **Shiv Nathpanthis**.
- Broadly divided in **2 sects** -
 - **Varakaris** - The **mild devotees of God Vitthala** of Pandharpur, who are more **emotional, theoretical and abstract in their view point**.
 - **Dharakaris** - The **heroic followers of the cult of Ramdas**, the devotee of God Rama, who are more **rationale, practical and concrete in their thoughts**.

- Realisation of God as the highest end of human life is common aim of both.

90. Consider the following statements with respect to Vallabhacharaya -

1. He **founded Pushtimarga (path of grace)**, a path that teaches a devotee how to offer selfless love and devotion to Shrinath ji without **seeking anything in return except love**.
2. He propounded the **philosophy of Shudhadvaita (Pure Monism)** which forms the basis of Pushtimarg devotional practice.
3. He founded the **Rudra Sampradaya**.

Choose the correct statement -

- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. All of the above

Answer-D

Explanation

- Born in **Benaras to a Telugu Brahman family** in the **15th century** who propagated his **doctrine of Bhakti through God Krishna** whom he fondly addressed as **Shrinath ji**.
- He lived at the **court of Krishnadeva Raya** and **Chaitanya Mahaprabhu** was one of his worthy contemporary.
- He **founded Pushtimarga (path of grace)**, a path that teaches a devotee how to offer selfless love and devotion to Shrinath ji without **seeking anything in return except love**.
- He propounded the **philosophy of Shudhadvaita (Pure Monism)** which forms the basis of Pushtimarg devotional practice
- As in Vishisht Advaita, Shudh Advaita too indicates that the **entire universe is the manifestation of Brahman**. The universe exists as it were as an aspect of Brahman without undergoing any change. (**Two sides of a coin**)
- Although **Shudh Advaita, calls itself monism**, but it **does recognise the presence of both the Universe and Brahman, being equally real**. Hence **there exist two realities**. Even if we say that the Universe is a part of Brahman, it exists as a different reality of Brahman.
- He founded the **Rudra Sampradaya**.
- He along with his **disciple Surdas**, who even though was blind was largely **instrumental in popularising the Krishna cult in North India**.

91. Regarding the Indus Valley Civilization, consider the following statements:

1. It was predominantly a secular civilization and the religious element, though present, did not dominate the scene.
2. During this period, cotton was used for manufacturing textiles in India

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: - C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** It was predominantly a secular civilisation and the religious element, though present, did not dominate the scene. They worshipped male and female deities but they did not influence the social, economic and political life.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** In Indus valley civilization cotton was used to manufacture cotton textiles.

92. Which of the following characterizes / characterize the people of Indus Civilization?

1. They possessed great palaces and temples.
2. They worshipped both male and female deities.
3. They employed horse-drawn chariots in warfare.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below.

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

Answer: - B

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** No building has been discovered at any Harappan site that can be positively identified as a temple, but the Great Bath at Mohenjodaro may have been used for ritual purposes.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Harappans worshipped both male and female deities. A seal with male figure sitting in a logic posture with a trident-like headgear, surrounded by animals, has been found. Figurines resembling a female deity have been found. Thus, they probably worshipped Mother Goddess.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** No evidence of horse-drawn chariots used in warfare has been found.

93. Consider the following statements with reference to Chalcolithic culture in India:

1. Sites of Kayatha culture were located in the Banas valley.
2. Eran and Tewar are Chalcolithic sites.

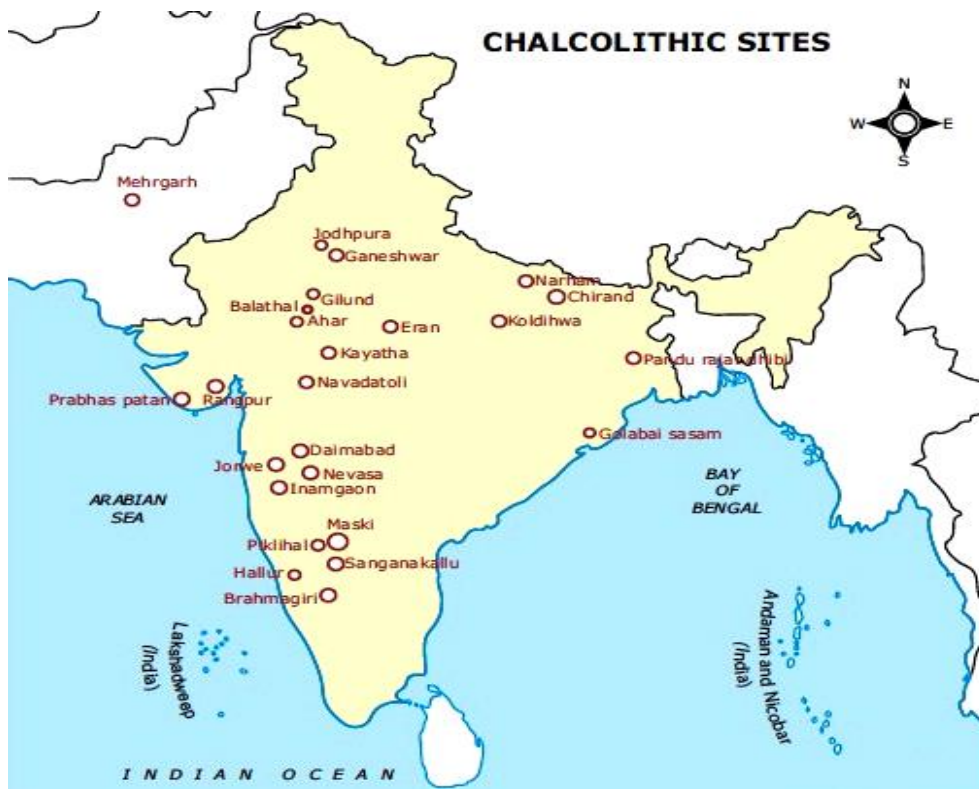
Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- A. 1 Only
- B. 2 Only
- C. Both 1 and 2
- D. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: - B

Explanation

- The Chalcolithic culture of a region was defined according to certain salient features seen in ceramics and other cultural equipment like **copper artefacts, beads of semi-precious stones, stone tools and terracotta figurines**.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** The **Ahar culture is also known as the Banas culture** and is located in the Banas valley. The culture has been named after the type site Ahar, in District Udaipur, Rajasthan.
- Kayatha culture based sites are located on river Chambal.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Recently, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) carried out excavations at two prominent sites of Chalcolithic affiliations in Central India (Eran, district Sagar and at Tewar, district Jabalpur) in the state of Madhya Pradesh.
- Eran (ancient Airikina) is situated on the **left bank of the Bina (ancient Venna) river** and surrounded by it on three sides.



Other Local Chalcolithic Cultures

These cultures are named after their type sites:

- Kayatha culture (2000 – 1800 B.C). - It is named after the site of Kayatha (near Ujjain) located on the bank of the Kalisindh, and affluent of the river Chambal.
- Ahar or Banas culture (2000 – 1400 B.C.): Named after the river Banas and its type site is Ahar (Udaipur, Rajasthan). Many sites of this culture are known in the valleys of Banas and Berach in south-east Rajasthan.
- Savalda culture (2000 – 1800 B.C): The type site of Savalda culture is Savalda (Dhulia district, Maharashtra).
- Malwa culture (1700 – 1200 B.C.): It was discovered in the excavations at Maheshwar and Navadatoli (Nimar district, Madhya Pradesh) on the banks of Narmada. This culture is so named as a large number of sites were brought to light in the Malwa region.
- Prabhas culture (1800 – 1500 B.C.): known after the type sites Prabhas Patan in Gujarat.
- Rangapur culture (1400 – 700 B.C.): known after the type sites Rangpur in Gujarat.
- Jorwe culture: The type site of Jorwe culture is Jorwe (Ahmednagar district) in Maharashtra. Extensive occupations of the Jorwe culture succeed the Malwa culture at Prakash, Daimabad and Inamgaon.
- Chirand culture (1500 – 750 B.C.): Chirand From Bihar.

94. Consider the following statements, with reference to the Mesolithic paintings:

1. Hunting scenes predominate Mesolithic paintings.
2. Bhimbetka paintings corresponding to this period features dancing.
3. Sources of red color and green color are haematite and chalcedony stone respectively.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: - D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** Hunting scenes predominate in Mesolithic paintings.
- For instance, there is one such scene where a group of people are shown hunting a bison. Some injured men are depicted lying scattered in the ground. These paintings show mastery in the skill of drawing these forms.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Some of the Bhimbetka rock shelters corresponding to Mesolithic period include **themes of early dancing and hunting**. In general, the themes of paintings found at Bhimbetka

are of great variety, ranging from mundane events of daily life in those times to sacred and royal images.

- **Statement 3 is correct. The paints were made by grinding various rocks and minerals. They got red from haematite (known as geru in India).** The green came from a green variety of a stone called chalcedony. White might have been made out of limestone.

95. Consider the following statement regarding Neolithic age:

1. Mehrgarh is the earliest Neolithic site.
2. There was beginning of use of pottery for storing grains from Neolithic age.
3. People of Neolithic age used clothes made of cotton and wool.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer: - D

Explanation:

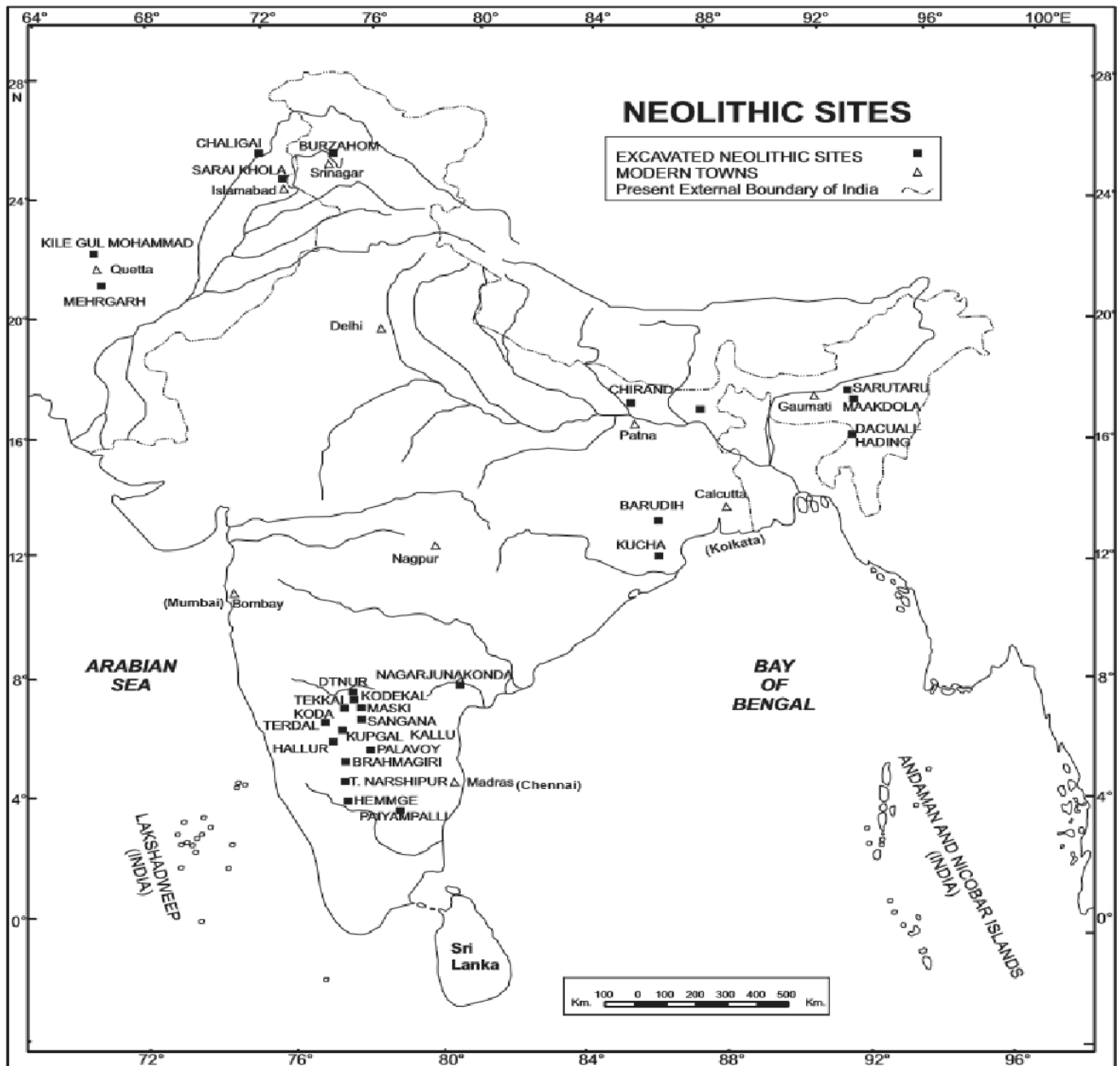
Statement 1 is correct

- **Neolithic settlement started in Indian subcontinent in Mehrgarh during 7000 B.C.** But in some parts of Southern and Eastern India, Neolithic settlements can be found as late as 1000 B.C.

Statement 2 and 3 are correct

Characteristics of Neolithic age

- Refinement of Tools - Agriculture - Animal Domestication, Beginning of Proper sedentary lifestyle, Pottery Introduced.
- New type of ground and polished stone tools having sharper edge.
- Proper domestication of animals on larger scale.
- Advancement of beginning of settled life and the growth of village settlements
- **Beginning of use of pottery for storing grains. Statement 2 is correct.**
- Neolithic settlers are farming communities. We see widespread practice of agriculture and emergence of village communities.
- Rice cultivation is evident from Belan Valley (near Allahabad) in UP. Evidence of wheat, ragi and millet can be found in various sites during the period
- **The people of Neolithic age used clothes made of cotton and wool. Statement 3 is correct.**



Map 2.4 Neolithic Sites

96. Which of the following forms of art was/were found in Mohenjodaro?

1. Bronze image of a dancing girl
2. Pashupati seal
3. Steatite image of a bearded man
4. Evidence of boats.
5. Terracotta figurine of Mother Goddess

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 1, 2, 3 and 4 only

- B. 1, 2 and 3 only
- C. 2, 3 4 and 5 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

Answer: - D

Explanation

- Mohenjodaro was the main centre of Indus Valley Civilization on the banks of River Indus.
- **Option 2 and 4 are correct:** Findings here are the Great granary, maximum number of seals, **Pashupati seal**, cotton cloth **and evidence of boats**.
- **Option 1 is correct:** One of the best known artefacts from the Indus Valley (found in Mohenjodaro) is this approximately four-inch-high Bronze figure of a dancing girl.
- **Option 3 is correct:** The stone statuary found at Harappa and Mohenjodaro are excellent examples of handling 3-D volumes. In stone the male figure is a bust of a bearded man in steatite.
- **Option 5 is correct:** Compared to the stone and bronze statues the terracotta representations of human form are crude in the Indus Valley. **Terracotta figure of Mother Goddess is found in Mohenjodaro.**

97. Which among the following is correct with respect to the Harappan civilization?

1. Fortification was found at Chanhudaro site of Harappan Civilization.
2. Red and black pottery was found in Harappan settlements.
3. Ploughing evidence have been found in Kalibangan.

Select the correct answer from the options given below.

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

Answer: - D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** While fortification is found in most of the sites of Harappan civilization, there have been a few sites where no evidence of fortification has been found. **Chanhudaro in Sindh is one such example.**
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Red and Black pottery type is found in Harappan settlements.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** **Kalibangan** in Rajasthan has given one of the earliest evidences (c. 2800 BC) **ploughed** agricultural field ever revealed through an excavation.

98. In which of the following relief sculpture inscriptions is 'Ranyo Ashoka' (King Ashoka) mentioned along with the stone portrait of Ashoka?

- A. Kanganahalli
- B. Sanchi
- C. Shahbazagrhi
- D. Sohgaure

Answer: - A

Explanation

- **Kanganahalli**, near Sannati, is an important Buddhist site in Kalaburagi district, Karnataka excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). It contains a **sculpture-portrait of Emperor Ashoka – the only available image of the Mauryan emperor**, which is considered the most important thing found in the excavation. Another important finding of the Kanganahalli excavation include a **stone sculptured slab bearing the name Ranyo Ashoka(Raja Ashoka)**. It is the first-ever sculpture of Asoka with his name inscribed.
- **Shabazgarhi**
 - Located in Pakistan
 - Known for rock edicts of Ashoka
- **Sanchi stupa**
 - Located in Madhya Pradesh
 - Buddhist site
- **Sohgura**
 - Copper plate inscription written in Prakrit in Brahmi script
 - Located in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh

99. With reference to the difference between the culture of Rigvedic Aryans and Indus Valley people, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.
2. Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron.
3. Practice of using Burnt bricks for house construction was introduced by Harappans but was used extensively by Rigvedic Aryans.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

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

D. 1, 2 and 3

Answer: - A

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The Rig Vedic charioteers used varma (coats of mail) and sipra/sironastra (helmets). They were also equipped with asi (swords), hanas (arrows) and ilhianus (bows). But in Indus Valley civilization there is no proof of this.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect.** Harappan men and women wore ornaments made of gold, silver, copper, bronze and semi-precious stones. Harappans did not know iron.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The burnt bricks was introduced by Harappans. They had standard system of bricks. In vedic period bricks were absent.

Additional info

- Although there is little evidence of extensive use of plough in Harappan period but plough was introduced by harappans of Kalibangan, Rajasthan. The Aryans also utilized the plough for farming as documented in the Rig Veda.
- The Aryans were brave fighter and developed a high code of warfare. The regular armies were not maintained but every able bodied person had to render military service in times of need.

100. Consider the following statements about the king Asoka's policy of 'dhamma':

1. Asoka appointed special officers named 'rajukas' to spread the message of dhamma.
2. The main objective of Asoka's 'dhamma' was to maintain social order.
3. James prinsep was the first to decipher the edicts of king Ashoka.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: - C

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Special officers, known as *dhamma mahamattas* were appointed by Asoka to spread the message of dhamma.
 - Rajukas were responsible for the administration of justice in his empire.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Asoka's dharma was not a narrow dharma. It cannot be regarded as a sectarian faith. The broader objective of Asoka's dhamma was **to preserve social order**. Its principles were simple and universally applicable. His teachings were meant to strengthen institution of family and the existing social classes.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Ashokan edicts were deciphered by British archaeologist and historian James Prinsep in the 19th century.

- In addition to deciphering Brahmi, James Prinsep also deciphered the 'Kharosthi' script, an ancient script used in the North-Western regions of India to write Sanskrit and Prakrit. For this, he used the coins of the Indo-Greek kings that had ruled Punjab. These coins had the names of the rulers written in Greek on one side and in Kharosthi on the other.

101. In the context of the rivers of India, consider the following pairs:

Modern Name Ancient Name

- Beas Vipasha
- Ravi Asikini
- Chenab Parushni

Which of the given above is/are *incorrectly* matched?

- 1 and 2 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

Answer: - C

Rivers and their ancient names

Ancient Names	Modern Names
Kubhu	Kurram
Kubha	Kabul
Vitastata	Jhelum
Askini	Chenab
Purushni	Ravi
Shatudri	Satluj
Vipasha	Beas
Sadanira	Gandak
Drishdvati	Ghaghara
Gomti	Gomal
Suwastu	Swat
Indus/Sindhu	Indus
Saraswati / Drishtwari	Ghaghara/ Rakshi/Chittag
Sushoma	Sohan
Marudvridha	Maruvarman

Additional info

- **The Sindhu identical with Indus is the river par excellence of Aryans and it is repeatedly mentioned.** This river was known to the ancient Indians in Sanskrit as Sindhu and the Persians as Hindu which was regarded by both of them as "the border river".
- **Battle of ten kings was fought on the river Parushni, identical with river Ravi, and gave its victory to Sudas.**
- **The Chenab River was called Asikni in the Rig-Veda.** The name meant that it was seen to have dark-coloured waters.

102. Consider the following statements, with reference to the tax administration of Mauryas:

1. Sannidhata was the officer in charge of the state treasury.
2. Taxes were collected in both cash and kind.
3. Udaka bhaga was the fees levied on farmers for use of irrigation sources created and maintained by the state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: - D

Explanation

- **Statement 1 is correct.** Sannidhata was the chief custodian of the state treasury and store house. The samaharta was the highest officer in charge of assessment of taxes.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** Taxes were collected in both cash and kind. Arthashastra recommends that the revenue collected in kind in the form of grains must be stored as buffer stock for lean periods like droughts and famines.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** Udaka bhaga ,i.e., a water rate was the fees levied on farmers for use of irrigation sources created and maintained by the state like tanks, canals, etc. It varied from $\frac{1}{5}$ - $\frac{1}{3}$ of the produce. This has been mentioned in Kautilya's Arthashastra.

Additional info

- **Land tax (bhaga) was the main item of revenue.** According to the texts, it was levied at the rate of $\frac{1}{6}$ th of the produce. But it is possible that in the Mauryan period it was quite high and levied at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the produce.
- The State directly employed some of the artisans like armourers, shipbuilders, builders in stone, etc. They were **exempt from payment of tax because they rendered compulsory labour service to the State.**
- In case the State falls short of its needs, several **fiscal measures for periods of emergency** could be made use of. For example one such measure was the **levy of pranaya** which literally meant a gift of affection. This is a tax first mentioned by Panini but elaborated upon for the first time in the Arthashastra.

It amounted to $1/3$ or $1/4$ of the produce according to the nature of the soil. It is usually interpreted as a voluntary gift but once put into practice, in reality it must have become obligatory.

103. India maintained its early cultural contacts and trade links with Southeast Asia across the Bay of Bengal. For this pre-eminence of early maritime history of Bay of Bengal, which of the following could be the most convincing explanation/explanations?

- A. As compared to other countries, India had a better ship-building technology in ancient and medieval times
- B. The rulers of southern India always patronized traders, Brahmin priests and Buddhist monks in this context
- C. Monsoon winds across the Bay of Bengal facilitated sea voyages
- D. Both a and b are convincing explanations in this context

Answer: - C

- Monsoon winds were a more convincing reason for trade with South East Asia in the Bay of Bengal. The use of monsoon wind in the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal for maritime trade was a boon to the sailing ships to reach overseas countries.
- **Indians set their journey to Southeast Asian countries during the Southwest monsoon and return during the Northeast monsoon (trade wind). The flow of wind and current was favourable for setting sail for both onward and return journey.**

104. Which one of the following books of ancient India has the love story of the son of the founder of Sunga dynasty?

- A. Swapnavasavadatta
- B. Malavikagnimitra
- C. Meghadoota
- D. Ratnavali

Answer: - B

- The Malavikagnimitra is a Sanskrit play by Kalidas. The play tells the love story of Agnimitra, the Shunga Emperor. He falls in love with the picture of an exiled servant girl named Malavika.

105. Consider the following statements with reference to the reign of Harshavardhana

1. Ratnavali, Priyadarshika and Nagananda were the books on drama written by Harshavardhana.

2. Kannauj assembly was held by Harsha
3. Chinese pilgrim Hieun Tsang visited to India during his reign.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: - D

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Ratnavali, Priyadarshika and Nagananda were the books on drama written by Harshavardhana.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Harsha organized a **religious assembly at Kannauj** to widely publicise the doctrines of Mahayana. The assembly was attended not only by **Hiuen Tsang** and the Kamarupa ruler **Bhaskaravarman** in 643 A.D.
- **After Kannauj he held conference in Allahabad (Prayag)** which was attended by all the tributary princes, ministers, nobles etc.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Visit of Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsang to India in 629 A.D was during Harshavardhana's reign.

106. Consider the following pairs

Asian Country	Cultural contact with India is visible in
Indonesia	Borabodur monument
Cambodia	Angkor Vat temple complex
Vietnam	Cham cultural practices

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

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

Answer: - D

- **Pair 1 is correct.** The Sailendra empire emerged as the important empire in southeast Asia in the 8th century and it comprised Java (which was called Suvarnadvipa or the island of gold by the ancient Indians), Sumatra, the Malay peninsula and other parts of the Southeast Asian region.
 - The Sailendra rulers were Mahayana Buddhists and maintained cordial relations with the Palas of Bengal and the Cholas of Tamil Nadu.

- Rajaraja I – Chola king allowed the Sailendra king – Maravijayottungavarman to build a Buddhist monastery at Nagapattinam (Tamil Nadu).
- Under the patronage of the Sailendras, the greatest monument was built at Barabodur in Java.
- It is situated at the top of a hill and consists of nine successive terraces, crowned by a bell-shaped stupa at the centre of the topmost terrace.
- The ruins of hundreds of temples and manuscripts in Sanskrit are found in Java.
- **Pair 2 is correct. Angkor Wat** temple complex is the largest religious monument in the world. Designed as a Hindu temple, as that was the religion of the region's ruler at the time, Suryavarman II, by the end of the 12th century, started being considered as a Buddhist site.
- **Pair 3 is correct. Champa**, now absorbed in Vietnam, was one of the two powerful kingdoms that India had setup in Indo-China region. Established by the Cham, a people of Malayo-Polynesian stock and Indianized culture in the 2nd century C.E., Champa was finally absorbed by the Vietnamese in the 17th Century, who in turn were strongly influenced by Cham culture.

Additional Information

- India and Lao PDR have had contacts in the ancient Indian period. It is visible in Lao people practising the Indian originated religions like Buddhism and Hinduism. The **Vat Phu Shiva Temple** was shaped to express the Hindu vision of the relationship between nature and humanity.
- Central Asia was a great centre of Indian culture in the early centuries of the Christian era.
 - In Afghanistan, many statues of Buddha and monasteries have been discovered. Eg. Bamiyan Buddha
 - The ivory work found in Begram (Afghanistan) is similar to Indian workmanship in Kushan times. Buddhism continued to be followed in Afghanistan till the 7th century CE when it was supplanted by Islam.
 - Indian culture had also spread to Tibet and China through central Asia.

107. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding social, economic and political life in the post Mauryan age?

1. Vedic sacrifices were absent in the Post Mauryan empire.
2. Gold coins, silver coins, wine-amphorae, lead coiled strips were major items of import by India from Rome in Post Mauryan period
3. Vikram Samvat calendar is started by King Kanishka of Kushana empire.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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

Answer: - B

- **Statement 1 is incorrect.** Vedic sacrifices were absent in Mauryan phase but not so in post Mauryan phase. Vedic sacrifices were performed by Pushyamitra Sunga and the Satavahana rulers of the Deccan.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** The import items by India from Rome during Post Mauryan period were- Wine, wine-amphorae, various other types of Pottery, Gold and silver coins. Lead coiled strips seem to have been imported from Rome to make coins used by Satvahana.
- The Export items by India to Rome were- Spices, pepper, muslin, pearls, jewels, precious stones, Iron goods especially cutlery.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** According to popular tradition, King Vikramaditya of Ujjain (and not Kanishka) established the Vikrama Samvat era after defeating the Sakas which started in 57 BC.

108. In the context of the history of India, consider the following pairs

Term	Description
Eripatti	Land, revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank
Taniyurs	Villages donated to a single Brahmin or a group of Brahmins
Ghatikas	Colleges generally attached to the temples

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

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

Answer: - C

Option d is correct

- **Pair 1 is correctly matched.** Eripatti was a special category of land during the rule of Pallavas in South India. Donated by individuals, the revenue from this land was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank.
- **Pair 2 is incorrectly matched.** In Chola administration, Kurram referred to a group of villages. Taniyur was a large village big enough to be a Kurram by itself and were revenue units under Cholas.
- **Pair 3 is correctly matched.** During ancient period, in South India, Agraharas served as centers of learning and teaching. South Indian kingdoms also had other cultural institutions known as Ghatika and Brahmapuri. A Ghatika was a centre of learning including religion, was attached to temples and was small in size.

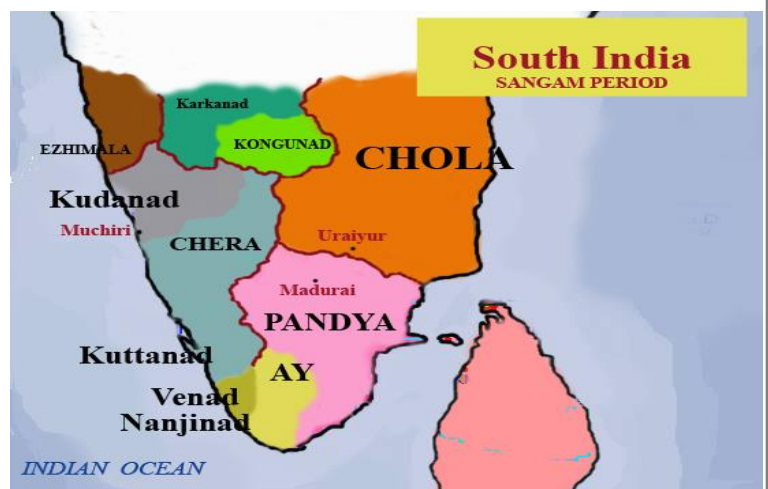
109. This Kingdom was located in South India and was famous for pearls. They had flourishing seaport of Korkai through which they traded with Roman Empire. This kingdom was mentioned by Megasthenes in his book Indica wherein he refers that it was ruled by a woman.

Which of the following kingdoms best fits the description given above?

- A. Cheras
- B. Pandyas
- C. Cholas
- D. Vakatakas

Answer: - B

- The Pandyas territory occupied the southernmost and the south-eastern portion of the Indian peninsula. **The Pandyas are first mentioned by Megasthenes in his Indica**, wherein he refers to a Pandyas Kingdom famous for pearls and ruled by a woman (which may suggest some matriarchal influence in the Pandyas society).
- Even Sangam Literature describes the Pandyas kingdom as wealthy and prosperous. The Pandyas kings profited from trade with Roman Empire and even sent embassies to the Roman emperor Augustus. **Maduraikkanji written by Mangudi Maruthanar** describes the socio-economic condition of the Pandyas country including the flourishing seaport of Korkai.



110. With reference to forced labour (Vishti) in India during the Gupta period, which one of the following statements is correct?

- A. It was considered a source of income for the State, a sort of tax paid by the people.
- B. It was totally absent in the Madhya Pradesh and Kathiawar regions of the Gupta Empire.
- C. The forced labourer was entitled to weekly wages.
- D. The eldest son of the labourer was sent as the forced labourer.

Answer: - A

- **In the Gupta period vishti or forced labour became a source of state income and was looked upon as a sort of taxation paid by the people.** So it finds frequent mention along with other taxes in the Gupta inscriptions. The donees were not only provided with land and villages along with right to various taxes, they were also given the right to forced labour. This shows that forced labour was probably more common than in the earlier period.
- Vishti was forced labour in lieu of tax and therefore not entitled to weekly wages
- **Most of the inscriptions referring to Vishti come from Madhya Pradesh and Kathiawar regions may suggest this practice was more prevalent in these areas.**
- Anyone can be sent as the forced labourer, not particularly from the eldest son of the labourer.

111. With reference to the scholars/literatures of ancient India, consider the following statements:

1. Panini is associated with Pushyamitra
2. Amarasimha is associated with Harshavardhana
3. Kalidasa is associated with Chandra Gupta-II

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: - C

- Amarasimha and Kalidasa were one of the Navratnas in the court of Chandra Gupta-II.
- Panini was a revered scholar belonging to 5th - 6th Century, whereas Pushyamitra Shunga reigned in 2nd BCE.

Panini

- He is considered the founder of the language and literature of Sanskrit.
- His major work involves treatise called Astadhyayi (or Astaka)

- Under Astadhyayi, he distinguished between the language of sacred texts and the usual language of communication.
- He gave formal production rules and definitions to describe Sanskrit grammar.

Amarsimha

- was a Sanskrit lexicographer and a poet and his *Amarkosha* is a vocabulary of Sanskrit roots, homonyms and synonyms. It is also called Trikanda as it has 3 parts viz. Kanda 1, Kanda 2 and Kanda 3. It has 10 thousand words in it.

112. Consider the following statements with reference to the period of Gupta dynasty in ancient India

1. The towns Ghantasala, Kadura and Chaul were the ports for handling foreign trade
2. The terms 'kulyavapa' and 'dronavapa' denote measurement of land
3. Sultanganj Buddha belonged to the Gupta period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

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

Answer: - D

- **Statement 1 is correct.** During Gupta period, there was a **flourishing external and internal trade**.
- In the Andhra region, the **ports were Kadura and Ghantasala, Kaveripattanam (Puhar) and Tondail** were the ports of the Pandya region.
- During this period the wealth of the Roman Empire reached India through the ports of Kalyan, Chaul, Broach, and Cambay in Western India.
- Tamralipti was an important port in Bengal. It carried on trade with China, Lanka, Java and Sumatra.
- **Statement 2 is correct.** These are different terms for measuring land during the Gupta period. The **Kulyavapa, Dronavapa, Adhavapa** are the terms related to land measurements mainly mentioned in the copper plate inscriptions of Gupta era that were found in Bengal.
- Kulyavapa land must have been equal to around 160 bighas of land. A Dronavapa must be 16-20 bighas and Adhvapa which appears to be the smallest must be around 4-5 bighas of land.
- **Statement 3 is correct.** The **Sultanganj Buddha** is the **largest known complete Indian metal sculpture**. It was developed during the **Gupta period**.