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HISTORY

QUESTION BANK

COVERING 135 QUESTIONS

UPSC PRELIMS 2024

- **Comprehensive Coverage of various important concepts.**
- **Current Affairs covered from MAY 2023 to APRIL 2024.**
- **Detailed Explanation of all the Questions Covered.**

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1. Consider the following pairs:

TERM MEANING

1. Sukta → Well-Said
2. Vish → Sacrifice
3. Upanishad → Approaching and Sitting Near

How many pairs are Incorrectly matched?

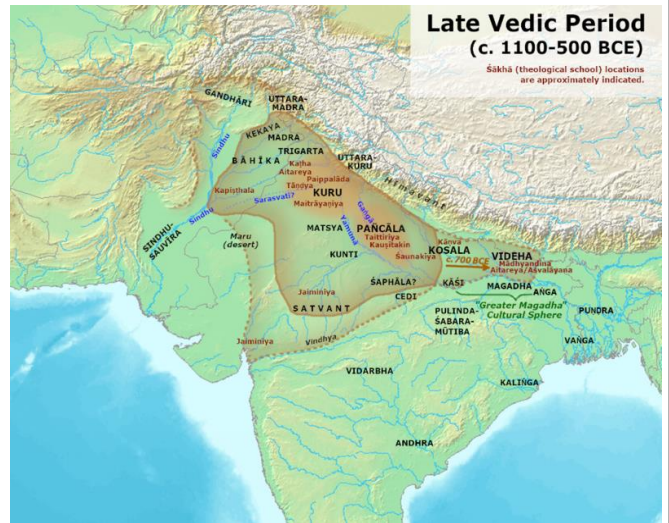
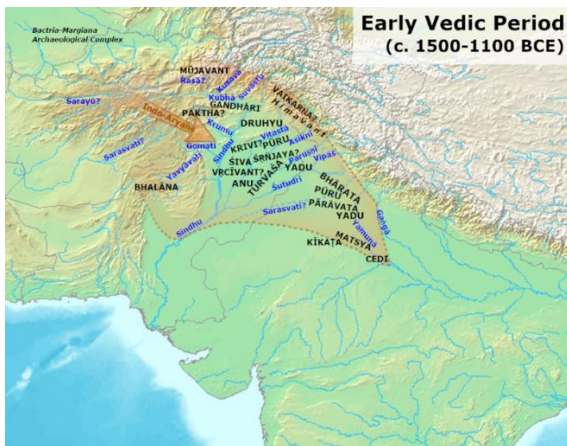
- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: A

Explanation

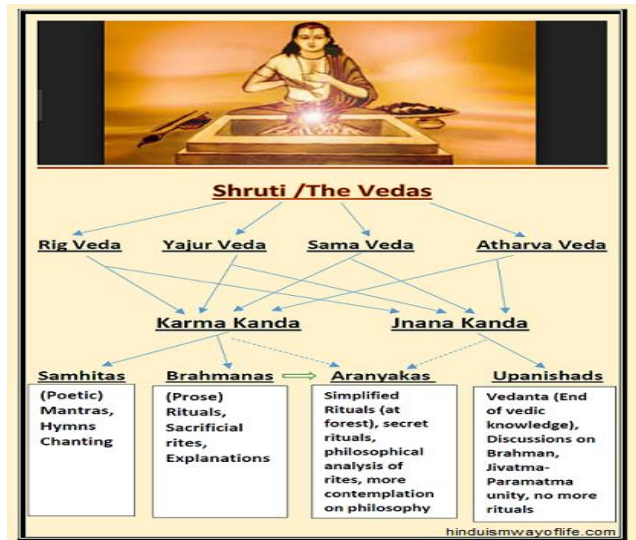
Vedic Period (6th NCERT)

- “Sukta” - Hymns (well-said)
- “Jana, Vish” - People
- Then, “Janapada” - ????



4 Parts

- Samhita- Rig Vedic Samhita
- Brahmana
- Aranyaka
- Upanishad- “Approaching and sitting near”



2. Term ‘Lord of the Dakshinapatha’ is mainly associated with :

- A. Satvahanas
- B. Pallavas
- C. Chola
- D. Sunga

Answer: A

Explanation



Satvahanas

- The most important of the native successors of the Mauryas in the north were the Shungas followed by the Kanvas.
- In the Deccan and in central India, **the Satavahanas succeeded the Mauryas**, (although after a gap of about 100 years) with its centre at **Pratisthana** (*modern Paithan in Maharashtra*) in the first century B.C. Their rule lasted for about **450 years**.
 - The Satavahanas are considered to be the same as the **Andhras** mentioned in the **Puranas**.
 - The **Puranas speak only of Andhra rule and not of Satavahana rule**, and the name **Andhra does not figure in Satavahana inscriptions**.

3. Consider the following pairs:

TERM	MEANING
------	---------

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Vellalar → | Large Landowners |
| 2. Uzhavar → | Landless Labourers (including Slaves) |
| 3. Kadaiyyar → | Ordinary Ploughmen |

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: A

Explanation

“TERMS” associated with Rural People in Ancient India (6th NCERT)

- **South India (Tamil Region)**
 - “Vellalar”- Large Landowners
 - “Uzhavar”- Ordinary Ploughmen
 - “Kadaiyyar” and “Adimai”- Landless labourers, including Slaves
- **North India**
 - “Grama Bhojaka”- Village Headman (largest landowners)
 - “Grihapatis”- Independent farmers, most of whom were smaller landowners
 - “Dasa Karmkara”- Earn living working on fields owned by others

4. With reference to the Chola kingdom, ‘Pallichchandam’ refers to:

- A. Land given for maintenance of school
- B. Land donated to Jaina institutions

- C. Land gifted to temples
- D. None of the Above.

Answer : B

Explanation

Cholas (7th NCERT)

- Types of land
 - “Vellanvagai”- Land of non-Brahmana peasants
 - “Brahmadeya”- Land gifted to Brahmanas
 - “Shalabhoga”- Land for maintenance of school
 - “Devadana” or “Tirunamattukkani”- Land gifted to temples
 - “Pallichchhandam”- Land donated to Jaina institutions

5. Historical works, known as ‘Buranjis’, are associated with :

- A. Chedi Dynasty
- B. Chola Kingdom
- C. Ahom Kingdom
- D. Chera Kingdom

Answer : C

Explanation

Ahoms (7th NCERT)

- Migrated to Brahmaputra valley from ??? in 13th century
- Created a new state by suppressing older political system of ‘bhuiyans’ (landlords)
- 1662: Mughals under Mir Jumla attacked the Ahom kingdom

- Depended upon ‘forced labour’
- Historical works, known as ‘buranjis’, were also written- first in Ahom language and then in Assamese.

6. Which of the following pairs are correctly matched?

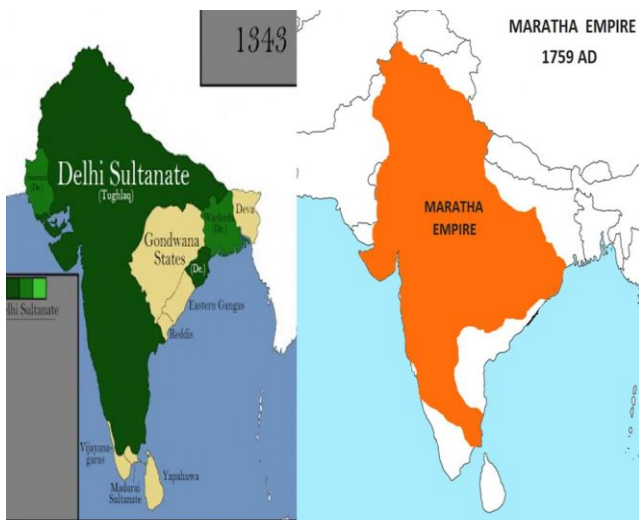
List-I (Period)	List-II
1. AD 1767-69 War	First Anglo-Maratha
2. AD 1790-92 War	Third Anglo-Mysore
3. AD 1803-05 War	Second Anglo-Maratha
4. AD 1780-84 War	First Anglo-Mysore

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

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

Answer : B

Explanation



The Anglo-Maratha Wars (1775–1818)
Three Anglo-Maratha Wars were fought between 1775 and 1818. The British supported the ageing Raghunath Rao for the post of peshwa, while the rest of the Marathas, under the leadership of Nana Phadnavis, were in favour of the young Madhav Rao II. This resulted in the first Anglo-Maratha War. After fighting for almost four years, the British were forced to acknowledge Madhav Rao II as the peshwa. After the death of Nana Phadnavis in 1800, the Maratha chiefs started fighting openly among themselves. The British took advantage of this and comprehensively defeated the Marathas in the Third Anglo-Maratha War (1817–1818). The post of the peshwa was abolished, and large parts of the Maratha kingdom were annexed by the British. This marked the virtual end of Maratha rule in India.

7. 'Khurda Uprising' took place in the region of:

- A. Travancore
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Gujarat
- D. Odisha

Answer : D

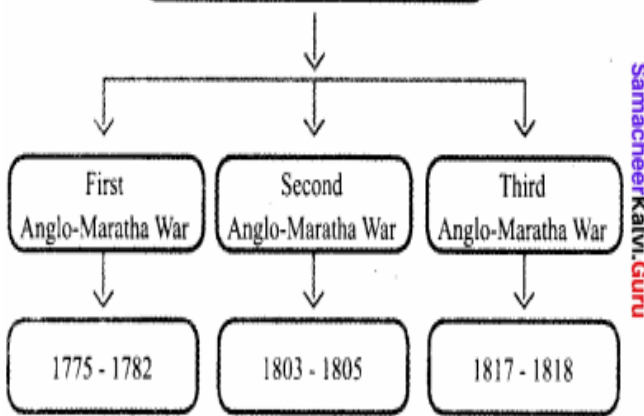
8. Consider the following statements:

1. "A History of British India" was authored by Max Mueller.
2. Author of "White Man's Burden" is Rudyard Kipling.
3. James Mill divided Indian History into 3 periods: Hindu, Muslim and Christian.

How many of the above statements are CORRECT?

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

Anglo-Maratha Wars

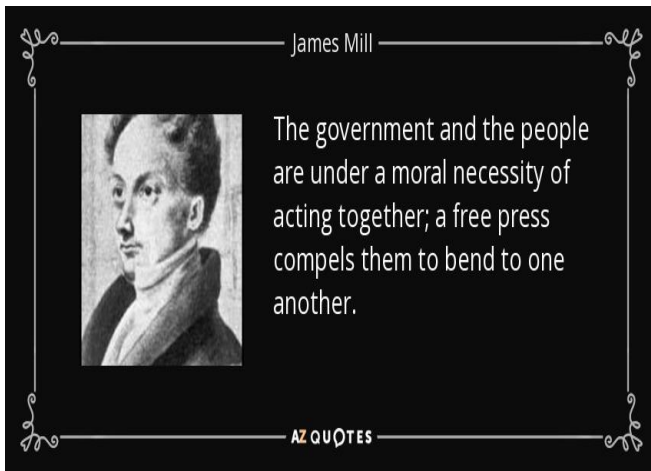


Samacheer Kalvi.Guru

D. None

Answer : A

Explanation



9. "Single shelf of good European library was worth the whole native literature of India and Arabia." This statement is attributed to:

- A. Lord Curzon
- B. Lord Dufferin
- C. Lord Macaulay
- D. Lord Lytton

Answer : C

Explanation

Orientalist & Anglicist

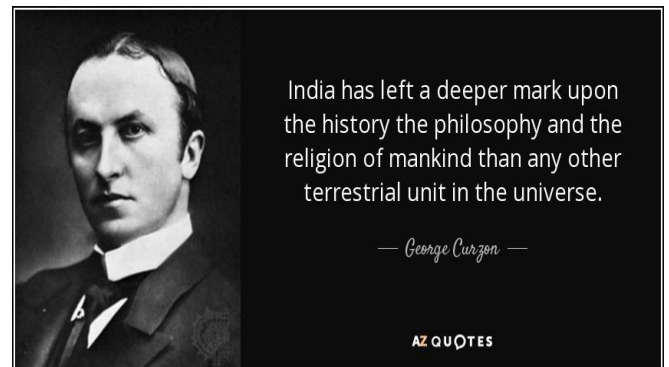
- Polymath-????
- William Jones
 - Asiatic Society of Bengal
 - Started journal called 'Asiatick Researches'
- Warren Hastings- ???
- Raja Rammohun Roy- ???
- "Single shelf of good European library was worth the whole native literature of India and Arabia."

- Following Macaulay's Minute, English Education Act of 1835 was introduced
- Wood's Despatch (1854)

"Congress is tottering to its fall and one of my great ambitious while in India, is to assist it to a peaceful demise." This statement is attributed to: [1998]

- (a) Lord Dufferin
- (b) Lord Curzon
- (c) Lord Lytton
- (d) None of the above

Answer to PYQ: B



10. Consider the following pairs:

TRIBE

REGION

- 1. Dangaria Kandha → Karnataka
- 2. Baiga → Arunachal Pradesh
- 3. Nyishi → Central India

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer : D

Explanation



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11. Consider the following Palaeolithic Sites:

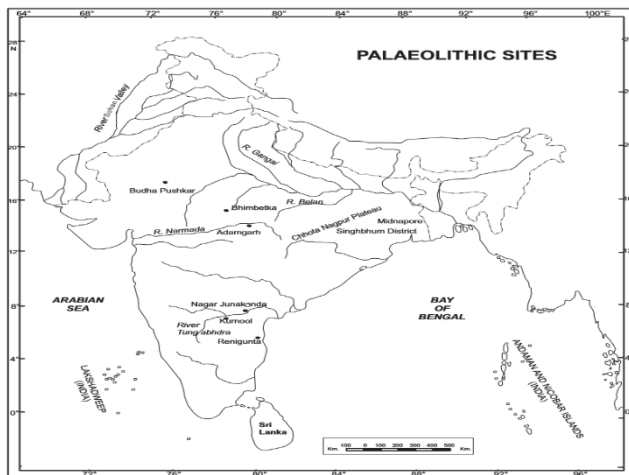
SITE	STATE
1. Kurnool →	Tamil Nadu
2. Attirampakkam →	Tamil Nadu
3. Belan Valley →	Rajasthan

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. None
- B. Only One
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer : B

Explanation



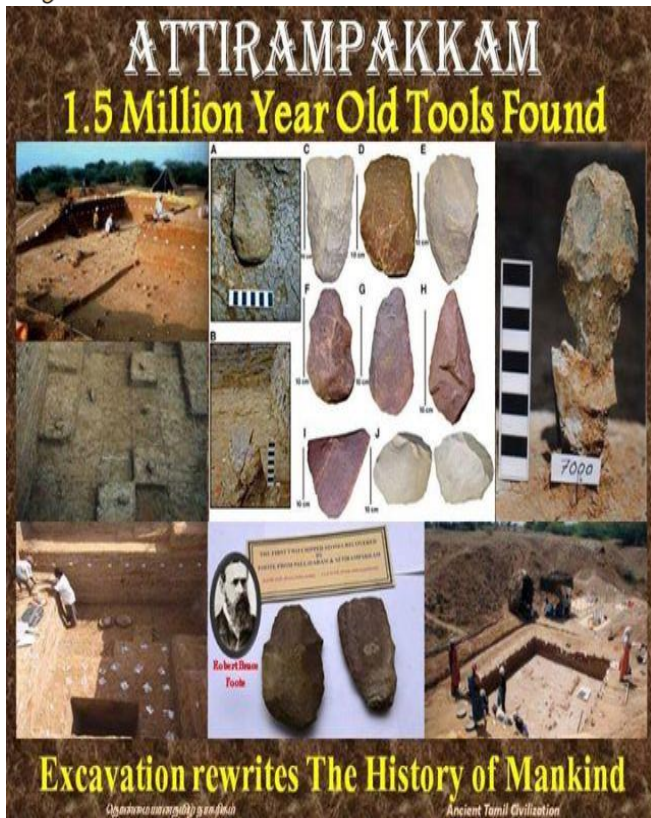
Map 2.3 Paleolithic Sites

Palaeolithic Sites

- This culture was spread throughout the length and breadth of the Indian subcontinent
 - **North:** Kashmir Valley and the Sohan Valley in Rawalpindi; Shivalik Hills
 - **Rajasthan:** River Luni

- **Western India:** rivers Sabarmati, Mahi and their tributaries in Gujarat
- **Maharashtra:** Nevasa on a tributary of Godavari and Patne in the Tapti river system
- **Madhya Pradesh:** Rock shelters at Bhimbetka (near Bhopal) and Adamgarh hills in the district Hoshangabad
- **Uttar Pradesh:** Belan Valley (the region broadly from Allahabad to Varanasi)
- **East:** Assam and Garo hills
- **Bengal, Odisha, Bihar**
- Kurnool in **Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka**
- **Tamil Nadu:** Attirampakkam near Chennai in Chingleput region

“Paleolithic” Period



12. Which among the following is the earliest form of pottery in Indian Subcontinent?

- A. Black and Red Ware
- B. Ochre Coloured Pottery
- C. Painted Grey Ware
- D. Northern Black Polished Ware

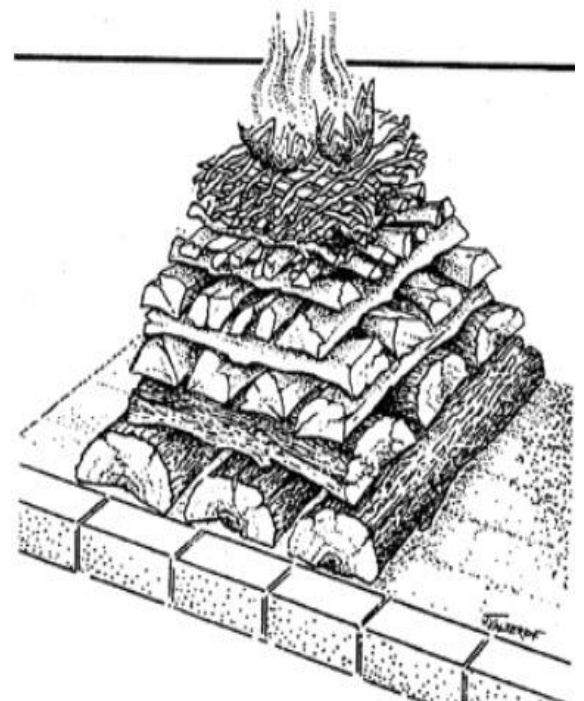
Answer : A

Explanation

Pottery	Period
Black and Red Ware	Around 2400 BCE
OCP - Ochre Coloured Pottery	2000-1000 BCE
Painted Grey Ware	1000-600 BCE
Northern Black Polished Ware	600 BCE-100 AD



“Inverted Firing” Technique





Pottery



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13. Match the Following:

PLACE	SIGNIFICANCE
a. Narmada Valley	1. First Big Kingdom
b. Magadha	2. Hunting and Gathering
c. Garo Hills	3. Cities about 2500 Years Ago
d. Indus and its tributaries	4. Early Agriculture
e. Ganga Valley	5. The First Cities

Select the correct pairs:

- A. a-1, b-2, c-4, d-5, e-3
- B. a-2, b-1, c-5, d-4, e-3
- C. a-1, b-2, c-5, d-4, e-3
- D. a-2, b-1, c-4, d-5, e-3

Answer: D

14. With reference to Stone Age, 'Proto-History' refers to :

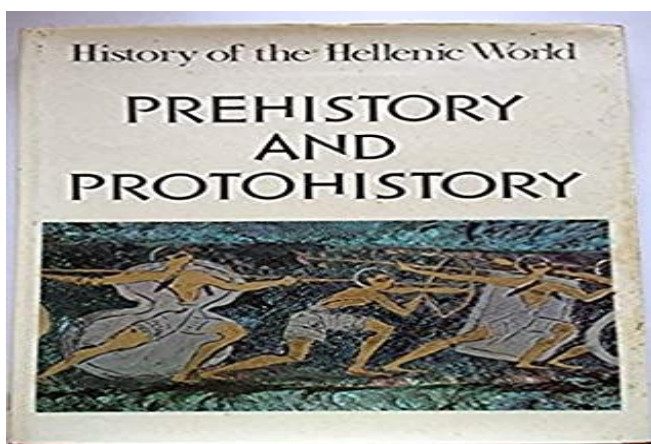
- A. In European Context, sometimes used to refer to people who did not themselves have writing, but who are mentioned in written records of contemporary literate group
- B. Archaeologists often used this word 'Protohistory' for long period between beginning of food production and advent of iron technology (would include Neolithic and Chalcolithic cultures in different parts of subcontinent, including Non-Harappan Chalcolithic cultures)
- C. Both A & B
- D. Neither A Nor B

Answer: C

Explanation

"Pre-history"

- Enormously long period before the invention of writing and study of that period, is known as 'Pre-history'



"Proto-history"

Different Meanings

1. In **European Context**, sometimes used to refer to people who **did not themselves have writing**, but who are **mentioned in written records of contemporary literate group**
2. In **Indian Subcontinent**, Harappan civilization (a literate culture with undeciphered script) is included in proto-history
3. Archaeologists often used this word 'Protohistory' for long period between beginning of food production and advent of iron technology (would include Neolithic and Chalcolithic cultures in different parts of subcontinent, including Non-Harappan Chalcolithic cultures)

15. Consider the following Statements:

1. Kabul is a right-bank tributary of Indus River.
2. Jhelum is a left-bank tributary of Indus River.
3. Yamuna is a left-bank tributary of Indus River.

How many given Statements are Correct?

- A. None
- B. Only One
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: C

16. Consider the following Locations:

SITE	ASSOCIATED WITH
1. Dilmun →	Oman

2. Magan → Bahrain

3. Sumer → Iraq

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - A

Trade and Economy

External trade with Mesopotamia

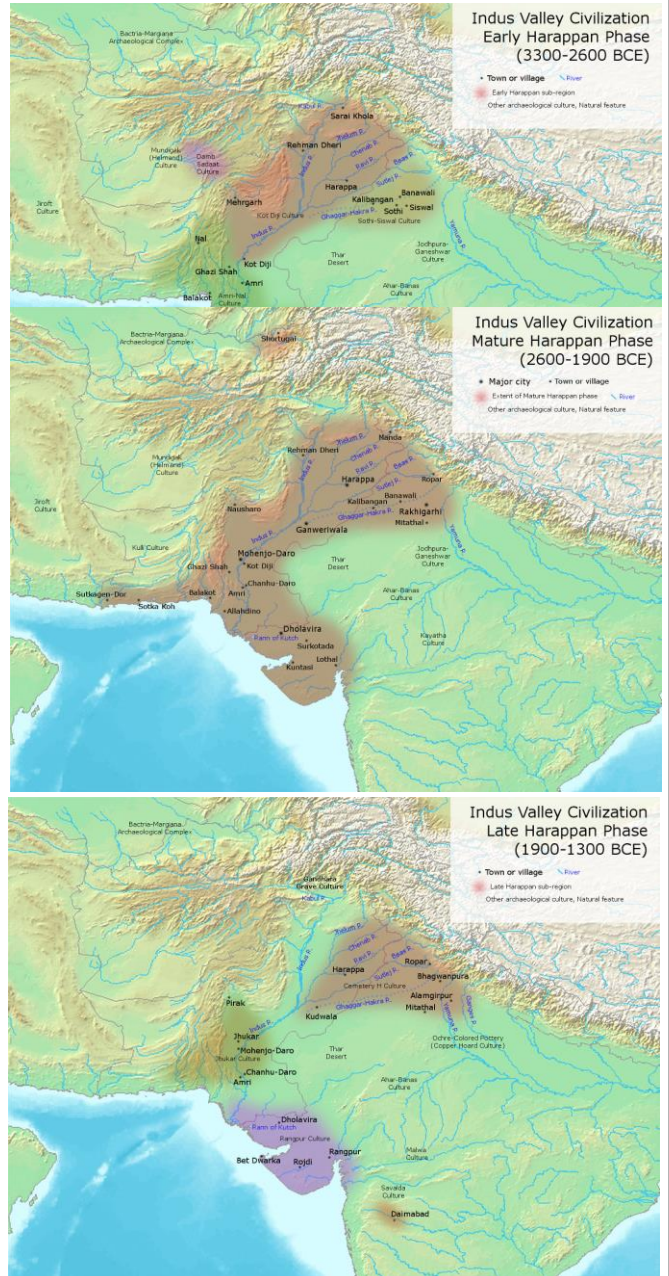
- The Mesopotamian texts speak of two intermediate trading stations called Dilmun and Magan, which lay between Mesopotamia and Meluhha. Dilmun is probably identifiable with Bahrain on the Persian Gulf, and Magan is probably identifiable with Oman.



17. Nausharo, an IVC Site, is located closest to

- A. Kuntasi
- B. Chanhudaro
- C. Mehrgarh
- D. Rehman Dheri

Answer: - C

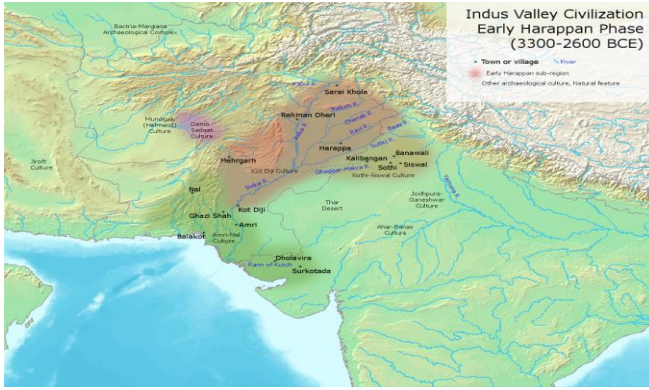


18. Which one of the following groups of plants was domesticated in the “New World” and introduced in the “Old World”?

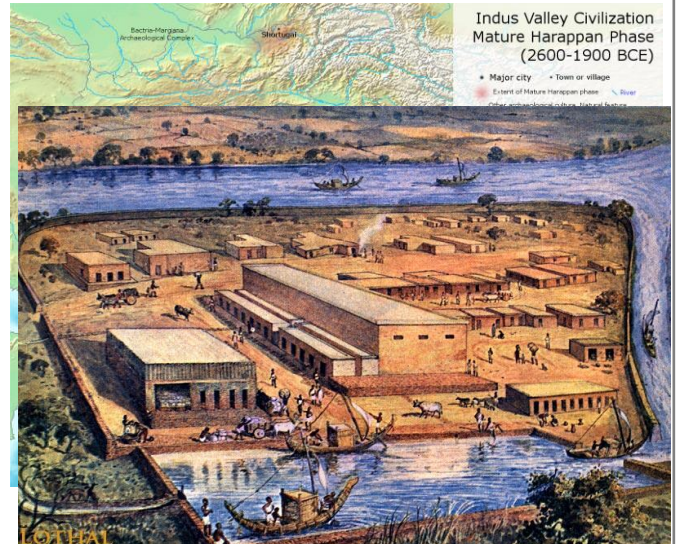
- A. Tobacco, cocoa, and rubber.
- B. Tobacco, cotton, and rubber.
- C. Cotton, coffee, and sugarcane.
- D. Rubber, coffee, and wheat.

Answer: - A

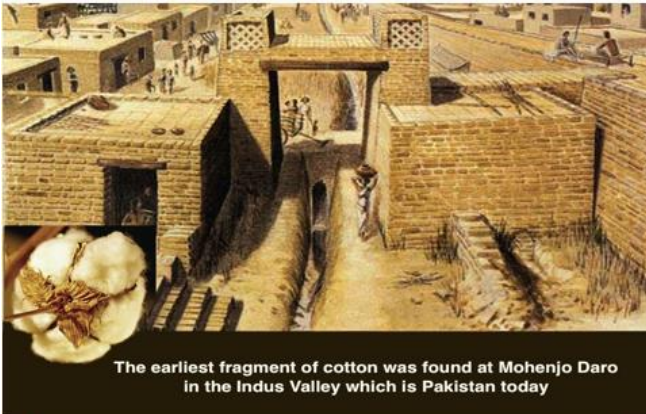
- A. A-1, B-2, C-4, D-3
- B. A-2, B-1, C-3, D-4
- C. A-3, B-1, C-2, D-4
- D. A-3, B-4, C-1, D-2



Answer: - D

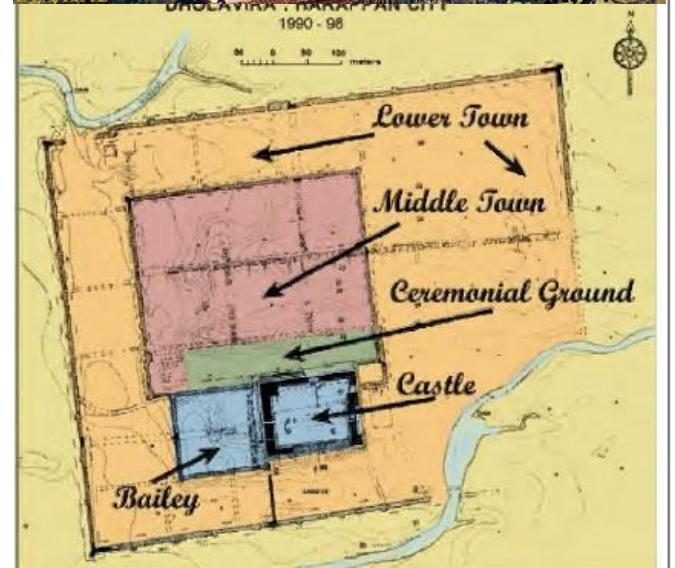


IVC (Usage of Cotton)



Cotton Cloth

- Indus valley people were the first to cultivate cotton and weave its fibers into cloth



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19. Match the Following:

PLACE	SIGNIFICANCE
A. Lothal	1. City divided into 3 parts
B. Chanhudaro	2. Located on Sutlej River
C. Dholavira	3. Evidence of Fire Altars
D. Ropar	4. No Citadel

IVC - Important Centre - Chanhudaro

- City has no citadel.
- Famous for bead maker shop.
- A small pot, possibly an ink-pot.
- Foot prints of a dog chasing a cat.

Select the correct pairs:

Site	River	Things to Remember
Harappa	Ravi	2 rows of six granaries with brick platforms; 12 granaries together had the same areas as the Great Granary at Mohenjo daro
Mohenjo daro	Indus	Great Bath; Great Granary; Dancing Girl; Mother Goddess; Pashupati seal; Priest-king; Direct trade with Mesopotamia
Chanhu daro	Indus	Only Harappan city without a citadel
Ropar	Satluj	Remains of pre-Harappan and Harappan cultures have been found Evidence of burying a dog below the human burial
Banawali	Saraswati	Grid pattern of town planning was not always followed. Lacked a systematic drainage system. High quality barley has been found in excavations
Lothal	Bhogwa	Remains of rice husk (the only other Harappan city where the rice husk has been found is Rangpur, near

		Ahmedabad); Evidence of double burial (burying a male and a female in a single grave)
Kalibangan	Ghaggar	A ploughed field; a wooden furrow; Seven 'fire-altars' in a row on a platform, suggesting the practice of the cult of sacrifice. Remains of massive brick wall around both the citadel and the lower town; Bones of camel

20. Consider the following Statements:

1. 'Animism' is worship of one god at a time as supreme without denying the existence of other gods.
2. 'Kathenotheism' is worship of trees, stones etc.
3. Harappans didn't believe in 'Animism'.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - B

Religious belief and practices

- The Harappan religion is normally termed as animism i.e., worship of trees, stones etc.
- Harappan sites have been associated with the worship of mother goddess.



“Polytheism” and “Kathenotheism



21. Consider the following Terms:

TERMS	MEANING
1. Yava :	Rice
2. Vrihi :	Wheat
3. Godhuma :	Barley

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - D

Early Vedic Period - Economy

- Agriculture -
 - A few references show that they had knowledge of agriculture and

practiced it to supplement their food requirements.

- Ploughshare is mentioned in the earliest part of the Rig veda, possibly which was made of wood.
- They produced yava (modern jau or barley).
- Vrihi → Rice
- Godhuma → Wheat
- The ploughed land was known as Urvara or Kshetra.

22. ‘Purusha Sukta’ hymn is part of

- A. Rig Veda
- B. Yajur Veda
- C. Sama Veda
- D. Atharva Veda

Answer: - A

Early Vedic Period - Society

- Rigveda mentions arya varna and dasa varna.
 - Dasa has been used in the sense of a group different from the Rigvedic people. Later, dasa came to mean a slave.
- Practices during this period, such as concentration of larger share of the war booty in the hands of the chiefs and priests resulted in the creation of some inequalities within a tribe during the later part of this Vedic phase.
- The warriors, priests and the ordinary people were the three sections of the Rigvedic tribe.

- The sudra category came into existence only towards the end of the Rigvedic period. The differentiation in society wasn't very sharp.
- The women in society enjoyed respectable position.
 - She was married at a proper age and could choose a husband of her own choice.
 - She could take part in the proceedings of some tribal assemblies.
- Social Differentiation was there but not very strict -
 - *"I am a poet, my father is a physician, and my mother is a grinder. Earning a livelihood through different means we live together."*
- The growing number of sacrifices and rituals during the period made the brahmanas very powerful.
- The kshatriyas (rulers), along with brahmanas, controlled most aspects of life.
- The vaishyas, the most numerous varna were engaged, in agriculture as well as in trade and artisanal activities.
- The shudras, the fourth varna were at the bottom of the social hierarchy. They were not entitled to the ritual of upanayana samskara (investiture with sacred thread necessary to acquire education).
 - The other three varnas were entitled to such a ceremony and hence they were known as dvijas.

Later Vedic Period - Society

- The later Vedic family became large enough to be called a joint-family with three or four generations living together.
 - Restrictions on women appeared and there was a general decline in status of women
 - Participation of women in public meetings was restricted
 - They had to stay at their husband's place
 - They are referred to as the source of sorrow.
- Society came to be divided in four varnas - brahmanas, kshatriyas, vaishyas and shudras.

23. Match the Following:

TERM	MEANING
1. Gomat	a. Who milks the cow
2. Duhitri	b. Search for cows
3. Gaveshana	c. Wealthy Person
4. Gopati	d. Raja or Chief

Select the correct pairs:

- A. 2-a, 1-b, 4-c, 3-d
- B. 2-a, 1-b, 3-c, 4-d
- C. 3-a, 1-b, 2-c, 4-d
- D. 3-a, 1-b, 4-c, 2-d

Answer: - C

Early Vedic Period - Economy

- The early Vedic Aryans were **pastoralists** - Cattle rearing was their main occupation - reared cattle, sheep, goats, and horses for purposes of milk, meat and hides.
- A large number of words are derived from the **word go meaning cow, which suggests that suggest that social religions and all important areas of Rigvedic life centred round the rearing of cows.**
 - A **wealthy person** was known as **gomat** and his daughter called **duhitri** which means one **who milks the cow.**
 - The word **gaveshana** literally means **search for cows**, but it also means **battle** since many battles were fought over cattle.
 - The **raja or the chief** is called the '**gopati**' or one who protects cows.

- **Succession** in one family was known but that was **not based on the rule of primogeniture** (i.e., the eldest son acquiring the position).
- Some tribes had no hereditary chiefs and were directly governed by the tribal councils.
- The **sena or army was not a permanent fighting group** and consisted of able bodied tribesmen who were mobilized at the time of the wars.
- Changes in Material life → Changes in Political life.
- The nature of chiefship changed in this period.
 - The **territorial idea gained ground.**
 - **People lost control over their chief** - **The chiefship had become hereditary.**
 - **Popular assemblies gradually disappeared.**
 - The **idea of the divine nature of kingship gets a mention** in the literature of this period. The brahmanas helped the chiefs in this process.

24. Consider the following Statements:

1. '**Primogeniture**' is when the eldest son inherit his father's estate.
2. '**Coparcenary Inheritance**' is division of inheritance amongst all the sons.
3. Rig Veda is written in 'Classical Sanskrit'.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - C

Early Vedic Period - Polity

- The **post of the chief was not hereditary but elected.**

25. With reference to Vedic Period, 'Satmana', 'Krishnala' and 'Nishka' refer to

- A. Tribal Officers
- B. Crops
- C. Gold coinage or Bars
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - C

Later Vedic Period - Coinage

- There was no regular system of currency of coinage. But some improvised coinage like Krishnala, Satamana and nishka made their appearance.
- Krishnala berry was a unit of weight which usually weighed one ratti, that is, 1.8 grains.
- Satamana, a piece of gold equivalent to weight of 100 Krishnalas, was used by the merchants as currency.
- The nishka replaced the cow as a unit of value.

26. Consider the following Terms:

TERMS	MEANING
Endogamy	Tracing descent from father to son, grandson and so on.
Polygyny	Practice of man having several wives.
Matriliny	Descent traced through the mother.

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- Only One
- Only Two
- All Three
- None

Answer: - B

27. 'Anguttara Nikaya' is part of

- Sutta Pitaka
- Vinaya Pitaka
- Abhidhamma Pitaka

D. None of the Above

Answer: - A

The Rise

- The Buddhist literature Anguttara Nikaya gives a list of sixteen great kingdoms called 'Sixteen Mahajanapadas'.
 - They were Anga, Magadha, Kasi, Kosala, Vajji, Malla, Chedi, Vatsa, Kuru, Panchala, Matsya, Surasena, Asmaka, Avanti, Gandhara and Kambhoja.

Finally in the mid 6th century B.C., only four kingdoms - Vatsa, Avanti, Kosala and Magadha survived.



28. 'Varuna' and 'Asi' rivers are majorly associated with the Mahajanapada of

- Kosala
- Kasi
- Anga
- Kuru

Answer: - B

Mahajanapada - Kasi

- The Kingdom of Kasi was bounded by the Varuna and Asi rivers to the north and south respectively. It is from the names of

these two rivers that its capital city Varanasi got its name.

- The Jatakas refer to a longstanding rivalry between the kingdoms of Kashi and Kosala.
- Kashi was also involved in occasional conflicts with Anga and Magadha.
- At one time, one of the most powerful states of north India, Kashi was eventually absorbed into the Kosalan kingdom during Buddha's time.
- Kashi emerged as a leading textile manufacture in the time of Buddha, the Kashya, orange brown robes of Buddhist monk are said to be manufactured here.



- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - A

Mahajanapada - Avanti

- Avanti was divided into north and south by the river Vetravati.
- Initially, Mahissati (Mahishamati) was the capital of Southern Avanti, and Ujjaini (Ujjayini) was of northern Avanti, but at the times of Mahavira and Buddha, Ujjaini was the capital of integrated Avanti.
- Avanti was an important center of Buddhism.



29. Consider the following Statements:

1. 'Asmaka' Mahajanapada was divided into north and south by 'Vetravati' River.
2. 'Hastinapura' was a part of 'Kosala' Mahajanapada.
3. 'Champa' was the capital of 'Anga' Mahajanapada.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None

30. 'Kusinara' and 'Pavapuri' are majorly associated with the Mahajanapada of

- A. Anga
- B. Kuru
- C. Vajji
- D. Malla

Answer: - D

Mahajanapada - Malla

- The Malla principality was located to the west of the Vajjis and consisted of a confederacy of nine clans.

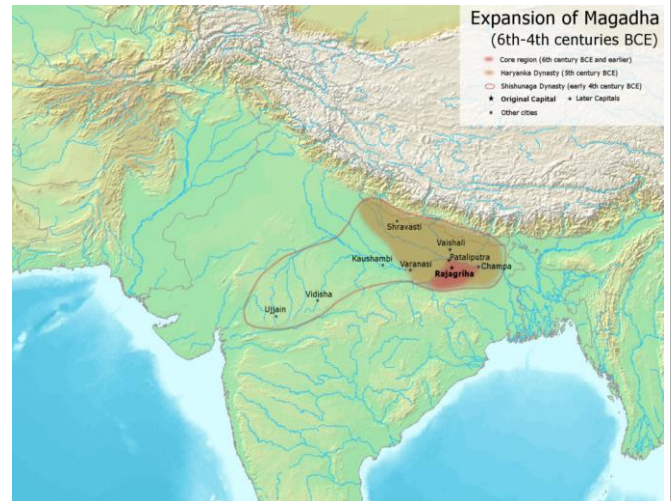
- There were two political centres— at Kusinara and Pava.
- The Vajjis and Mallas seem to have been allies.
- Kusinara and Pava are very important in the history of Buddhism and Jainism since Buddha and Lord Mahavira, took their last breath at Kushinara and Pava/Pavapuri respectively.
- The Mallas originally had a monarchical form of government but later they switched to one of Samgha (republic), the members of which called themselves rajas.
- The Mallas appeared to have formed an alliance with the Licchavis for self-defense but lost their independence not long after Buddha's death and their dominions were annexed to the Magadhan empire.



31. Which dynasty first made 'Avanti' a part of 'Magadha' Mahajanapada?

- A. Haryanka
- B. Shishunaga
- C. Nanda
- D. Mauryans

Answer: - B



32. 'Adi Parvan' is part of

- A. Dharma Sutra
- B. Dharma Shastras
- C. Mahabharata
- D. Ramayana

Answer: - C

33. Consider the following Statements:

1. Shifting of Magadha's capital from Rajagriha to Pataliputra was done during the reign of Bimbisara.
2. In ancient times, number of 'Varnas' was generally fixed but there was no restriction on number of 'Jatis'.
3. 'Pradeshikas' were Rural Officers, whereas 'Rajukas' were Provincial Governors under Mauryan administration.

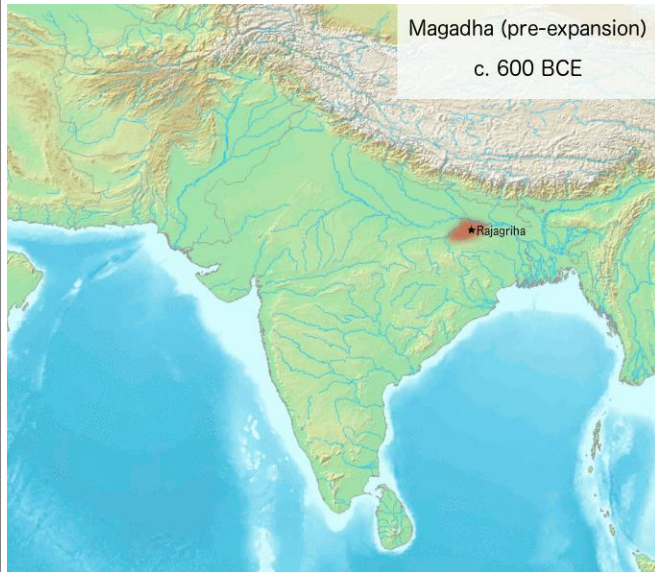
How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - A

Mauryan Administration

Provincial and local Administration



The empire was divided into **four provinces**, each under a **Governor**.

- The four provinces were **Uttarapatha** (capital-Taxila), **Avantipatha** (**Ujjain**), **Dakshinapatha** (**Suvarnagiri**) and **Kalinga** (**Tosali or Dhaulii**).
- **Districts**: The districts was under the charge of the **Pradeshika** whose position and functions are similar to those of a modern district collector.



34. Consider the following Terms:

SECT	BELIEF
Ajivika	Materialist
Charvaka	Everything is pre-ordained
Nastika School	Do not believe in God

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - D

Mauryans - The Beginning

- Built a vast empire, which included not only good portions of Bihar and Bengal, but also western and north western India and the Deccan.
- Chandragupta adopted **Jainism** and went to **Sravanabelagola** (near Mysore) with **Bhadrabahu**.
- Jaina Tradition speaks of the relationship between **Chandragupta and the Jaina saint Bhadrabahu**.
 - The Maurya king is said to have accompanied Bhadrabahu to Karnataka in the wake of the saint's prophecy of the impending outbreak of a 12-year famine in Magadha.
 - Where he died by slow starvation. (**Sallekhana - Samlehna - Santhara**).
- His son **Bindusara** (297 - 272/268 BCE) succeeded him.
 - Called **Amitochates (Amitraghata)** by Greek writers.

- He is said to have conquered 'the land between the 2 seas', i.e., the Arabian Sea & Bay of Bengal.
- At the time of his death, almost the entire subcontinent came under the Mauryan rule.
- At the end of his reign, Bindusara joined the Ajivika sect.

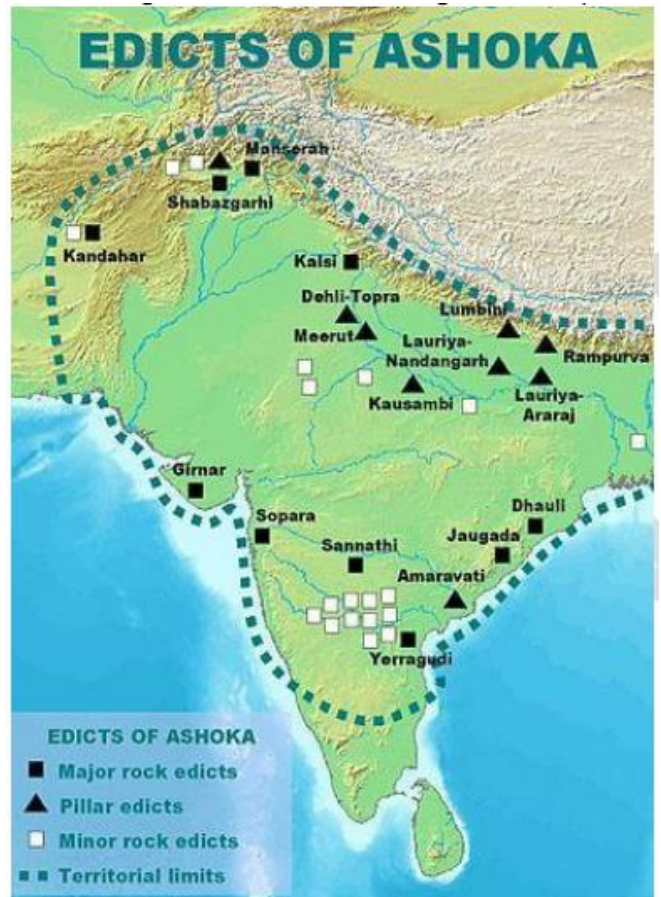
35. Consider the following Pairs:

ASHOKAN INSCRIPTION	STATE/UT/Country
Sannati	Andhra Pradesh
Mansehra	Pakistan
Sopara	Maharashtra

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - B



36. 'Chandogya Upanishad' is part of

- A. Rigveda
- B. Yajurveda
- C. Samveda
- D. Atharvaveda

Answer: - C

37. Consider the following Terms:

TERM	ASSOCIATED WITH
Makkhali Gosala	Ajivika
Ajita Kesakambalin	Charvaka
Lokayatas	Fatalist

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One

- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - B

38. 'Uttaradhyayana Sutta' is a

- A. Jaina Text
- B. Buddhist Text
- C. Smriti Text
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - A

39. Consider the following Statements:

1. Sanchi Stupa is an example of "in-situ preservation".
2. Shahjehan Begum played a crucial role in preservation of Sanchi Stupa.
3. Amaravati Stupa is in ruins today, unlike Sanchi Stupa.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - D

40. Consider the following Pairs:

TERM	ASSOCIATED WITH
<i>Theris</i>	Respected men who had attained liberation
<i>Therigatha</i>	Part of 'Vinaya Pitaka'

'Chaitya'	May have been derived from word 'Chita'
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How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

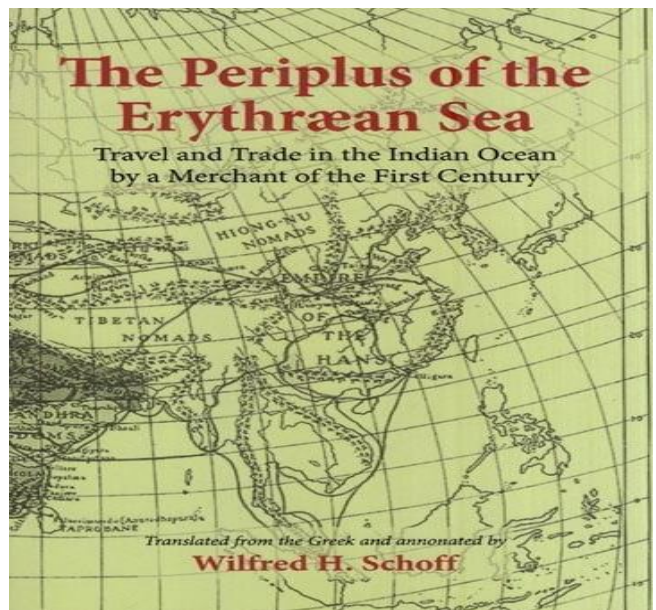
- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - A

41. "Erythraean" was the Greek name for the

- A. Red Sea
- B. Persian Gulf
- C. Mediterranean Sea
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - A



Source: Class 12th NCERT Chapter 2 - Page 17

42. Consider the following Terms:

TERM	ASSOCIATED WITH
Pativedaka	Reporter

Vanik	Merchants
Sartavaha	Merchants

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - C

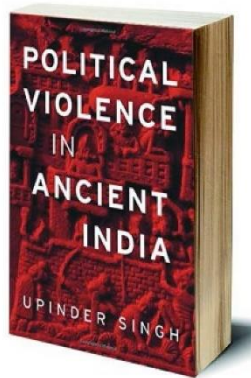
Source:

- *Pativedaka* → Chapter 2 Page 20
- *Vanik, Satavahas* → Chapter 3 Page 12

43. Beginning of Gupta Rule is known from

- A. Kalhan's 'Rajtarangini'
- B. Al-Biruni's 'Kitab-ul-Hind'
- C. Ibn Batuta's 'Rihla'
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - B



Source: Chapter 2 Page 23.

44. Consider the following Statements:

1. Manusmriti talks about 7 means of acquiring wealth for women.
2. Mahabharata was composed over a period of about 1000 years (500 BCE-500 CE).

3. "Anuloma" marriage involves higher varna woman and lower varna man.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - A

Source:

- Manusmriti: Chapter 3 Page 17
- Mahabharata: Chapter 3 Page 1

5. Consider the following Pairs:

TERM	ASSOCIATED WITH
Narrative	Contain prescriptions about social norms
Didactic	Contain stories
Bhagvat Gita	Predominantly 'Narrative'

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - D

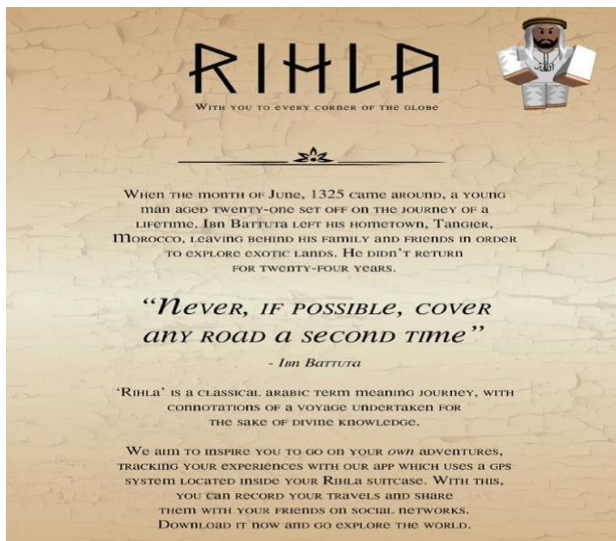


Source: Chapter 3 Page 21

46. Ibn Battuta's "Rihla" is written in

- A. Persian
- B. Arabic
- C. Turkish
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - B



Source: Class 12th NCERT Chapter 5 Page 4

47. Consider the following Travellers:

TRAVELLERS	ASSOCIATED WITH
Abdur Razzaq	Tangier
Ibn Battuta	Herat
Abu Raihan	Uzbekistan

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - A

Source:

- Ibn Battuta → Chapter 5 Page 4
- Rest → Chapter 5 Page 1



48. Which of the following is 'Kharif' Crop?

- A. Bajra
- B. Rapeseed
- C. Mustard
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - A

Source: Chapter 5 Page 14

49. Consider the following statements related to Al-Biruni:

1. Al-Biruni found 'Sanskrit' very similar to Arabic and Persian.
2. 'Insularity of local population' was one of the barriers which obstructed Al-Biruni's understanding of Indian subcontinent.
3. He noted that in ancient Rome, 4 social categories were recognized and such social divisions were not unique to India.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None

- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - A

Source: Chapter 5 Page 10



50. Consider the following Pairs:

TRAVELLERS	FACTS
Duarte Barbosa	Portuguese Traveller
Jean Tavernier	French Jeweller who travelled to India at least 6 times
Manucci	Italian Doctor who settled down in India

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - C

Source: Chapter 5 Page 8

51. In reference to the history of ancient India, which of the following statements is/are correct? (PYQ-2021)

1. Mitakshara was the civil law for upper castes and Dayabhaga was the civil law for lower castes.
2. In the Mitakshara system, the sons can claim right to the property during the lifetime of the father, whereas in the Dayabhaga system, it is only after the death of the father that the sons can claim right to the property.
3. The Mitakshara system deals with the matters related to the property held by male members only of a family, whereas the Dayabhaga system deals with the matters related to the property held by both male and female members of a family.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

Answer: - B

Context

- In a recent case, the Supreme Court referred to the **ancient Mitakshara Law** stating that children born of void or voidable marriages can inherit their parent's share in a joint Hindu family property.

Analysis for Prelims and Mains

Important Points to remember:

- The **Mitakshara Law is a traditional legal Hindu law system** that primarily governs the rules of **inheritance and property rights**.

- It was **written by Vijnaneswara**, a scholar in the Western Chalukya court in the late eleventh century, **as a commentary on the Yajnavalkya Smriti**.
- In present times, it forms the basis for **rules of inheritance of property** for a Hindu Undivided Family (HUF).
- It is one of the **two major schools of Hindu law**, the other being the Dayabhaga school.
- The **Mitakshara law of succession applies to the entire country except West Bengal and Assam**.
- The term **Dayabhaga** is derived from a similarly named text **written by Jimutavahana** and is observed in **Bengal and Assam**.
- In the **Mitakshara** system, the **sons can claim right to the property during the lifetime** of the father.
- While in the **Dayabhaga** system, a son has **no automatic ownership right** by birth but acquires it on the death of his father.



- These sculptures are believed to depict the **Hindu deity Mylareshwar**.
- These sculptures belong to the **15th and 17th centuries** - one depicts **Mylara and Mylaladevi** seated atop an ornate horse with swords in their hands and the other depicts a **royal hero sitting on a horse** with a sword.
- The cult is centered around the worship of a **god named Mylara**, believed to be a **form of Lord Shiva**.
- Mylareshwar cult **once thrived in the Deccan regions**.
- However, this is the first evidence that suggests **following of this cult in the coastal regions of Karnataka**.

52. 'MYLARA' Cult is associated with

- A. Shiva
- B. Vishnu
- C. Buddha
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - A

MYLARA CULT

Context

- Recently, rare sculptures have been **discovered in Udupi, Karnataka**.

Analysis for Prelims and Mains:

Important Points to remember:

- These are also the **first idols of Mylareshwara to be discovered in the region** as earlier, Mylareshwara is **known to have been worshipped in form of linga**.
- Mylareshwar is known as **Khandoba** in Maharashtra and North Karnataka region.

53. 'One Caste, One Religion, One God' was a famous quote, given by

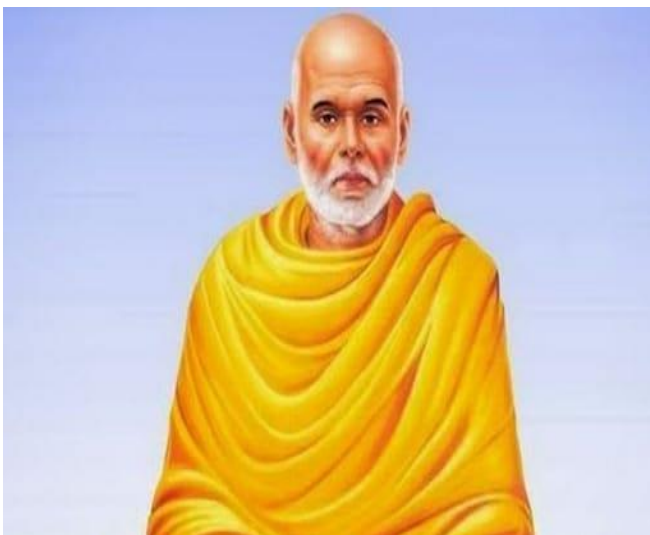
- A. Jyotiba Phule
- B. Sree Narayan Guru
- C. B. R. Ambedkar
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - B

SRI NARAYANA GURU

Context

- Sri Narayana Guru Jayanti was celebrated in August.



Analysis for Prelims and Mains

Important points to remember:

- He was born on 20th(???) August, 1856 in Kerala.

- Belong to the Ezhava caste, he **experienced discrimination** from the upper caste of society.
- He gave the famous slogan "**One Caste, One Religion, One God**" (Oru Jathi, Oru Matham, Oru Daivam Manushyanu).
- On the occasion of Sivarathri in 1888, Sri Narayana Guru, despite belonging to a lower caste, installed an idol of Shiva at Aravippuram in Kerala in his effort to show that the consecration of a god's image was not a monopoly of the brahmins.
- His step sparked off the **anti-caste revolution**.

Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Yogam

- This movement was a regional movement born out of conflict between the depressed, classes and upper non-Brahmin castes.
- Padmanabhan Palpu & Sri Narayan Guru
- It was started among the Ezhavas of Kerala, who were a caste of toddytappers and were considered to be untouchables.

Important points to remember:

- Narayana Guru had **set up more than 40 temples** across the state as an act of protest to **permit lower caste people to enter temples**.
- He was in the forefront of the movement for universal temple entry.
- He provided the **impetus for Vaikom agitation** which was aimed at **temple entry in Travancore** for the lower castes.
- Sree Narayana Guru became one of the greatest proponents and **re-evaluators of Advaita Vedanta**.

- In 1913, he founded the **Advaita Ashram** at Aluva.

54. Consider the following statements related to 'Onam' Festival:

1. It is a sowing festival and also marks the beginning of the Malayalam year called the Kolla Varsham.
2. As per tradition, it marks the return of demon King Mahabali/Maveli to his beloved state Kerala who brought about peace and prosperity in Kerala.
3. The earliest known reference to the word Onam is found in Maturaikkāñci - a Sangam era Tamil poem from 3rd century CE.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - C

Context

- Recently, **Onam festival was celebrated in Kerala** and across the country.

Analysis for Prelims and Mains

Important Points to remember:

- It is also known as **Thiru-Onam** or **Thiruvonam**.
- The festival is **celebrated over 10 days**, starting from Atham (the first day of Onam) and culminating on Thiruvonam (the final day).
- The **sequence begins with Atham**, followed by Chodhi, Vishakam, Anizham,

Thriketa, Moolam, Pooradam, Uthradam, **culminating on the 10th day, known as Thiruvonam.**

- It is basically a harvest festival and also marks the beginning of the **Malayalam year called the Kolla Varsham.**
- As per tradition, it marks the **return of demon King Mahabali/Maveli** to his beloved state Kerala who brought about peace and prosperity in Kerala.
- To welcome **Mahabali**, people start constructing **floral carpets (Pookkalam)** in front of their places.
- Other traditions associated with the festival are **Vallamkali (boat races), Pulikali (tiger dances), Kummattikali (mask dances), and Onathallu (martial arts)**, among other captivating traditions.
- The **earliest known reference to the word Onam is found in Maturaikkāñci** - a Sangam era Tamil poem from 3rd century CE.



55. 'Adopt A Heritage 2.0' Programme has been launched by

- A. CSIR
- B. UNESCO

- C. DoNER Ministry
- D. ASI

Answer: - D

Context

- Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) **recently launched the “Adopt a Heritage 2.0” program** for better upkeep and rejuvenation of India's rich cultural heritage.

Analysis for Prelims and Mains

Important Points to remember:

- 'Adopt a Heritage 2.0' programme seeks to foster **collaboration with corporate stakeholders** through which they can contribute to preservation of these monuments for the next generations.
- Under this programme, ASI invites **corporate stakeholders** to enhance the amenities at the monuments by **utilizing their CSR funds**.
- The programme is a revamped version of the **earlier scheme launched in 2017** and clearly **defines the amenities sought for different monuments**.
- The stakeholders **can apply for adopting a monument or specific amenities** at a monument through a dedicated web portal.
- In doing so, they will get an **opportunity to be recognized as a responsible and heritage-friendly entity**.
- The term of the appointment will be for a **period of five years initially**, which may be further extended up to five years.
- Further, a user-friendly **mobile app, named ‘Indian Heritage’** also launched on

the same day, which will showcase the heritage monuments of India.

- The app will feature **state-wise details of monuments along with photographs**, list of public amenities available, geo-tagged location and feedback mechanism for citizens.

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 administers **more than 366 ancient monuments, archaeological sites and remains of national importance**.

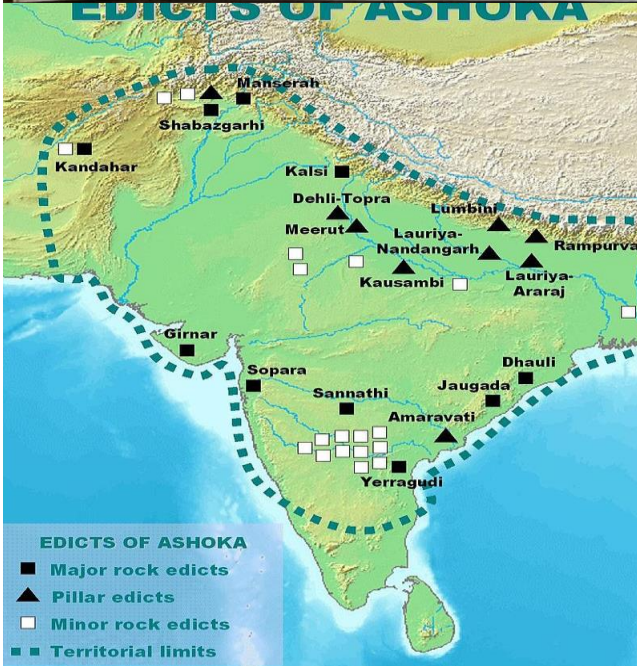
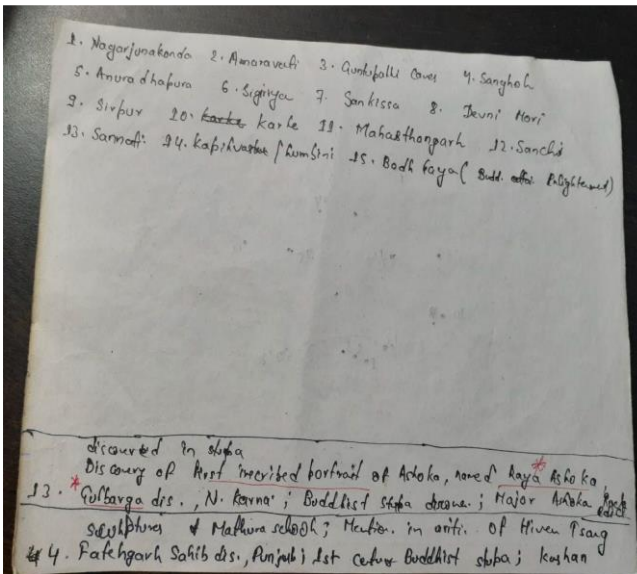
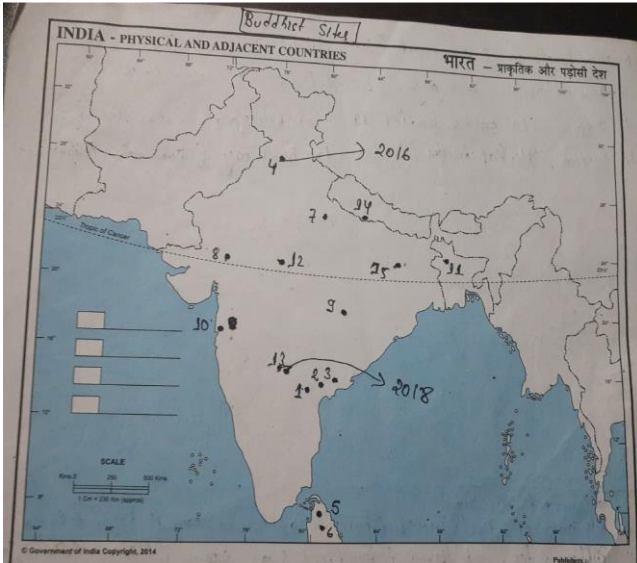
56. Consider the following Buddhist Sites:

Buddhist Sites	State/Country
Sanghol	Uttarakhand
Sannati	Andhra Pradesh
Mahasthangarh	Sri Lanka

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - D



57. Which of the following is NOT part of 'Ashtangika Marg'?

- A. Right Livelihood
- B. Right Effort
- C. Right Ritual
- D. Right View

Answer: - C

Doctrines of Buddha

- Ariya-Sachchani (Four Noble Truths)
- Ashtangika Marga (Eight Fold Path)

The core of Buddha's doctrine on expressed in the:

4 Noble Truths

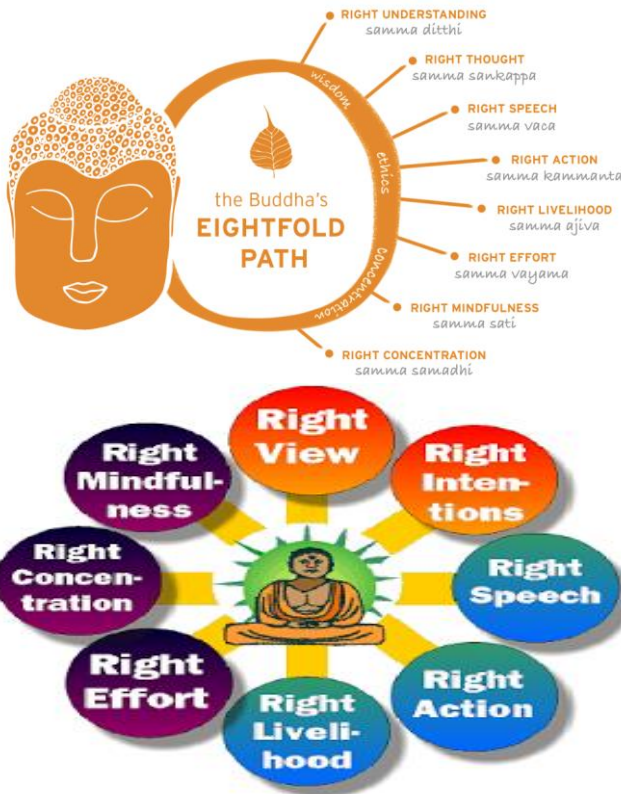
- **Dukkha:** Truth of Suffering
- **Samudaya:** Truth of the Cause of Suffering
- **Nirodha:** Truth of the End of Suffering
- **Magga:** Truth of the Path

The core of Buddha's doctrine of expressed in the

Buddha's Four Noble Truths:

1. Life has inevitable suffering
2. There is a cause to our suffering
3. There is an end to suffering
4. The end to suffering is contained in the eight fold path

The core of Buddha's doctrine is expressed in the



59. Consider the following statements related to Buddhist Councils:

1. 'Mahakassapa' presided over the 2nd Buddhist Council.
2. Vinaya and Sutta Pitakas were compiled during 1st Buddhist Council.
3. Division of Buddhism into 'Mahayana' & 'Hinyana' sects, took place during 3rd Buddhist Council.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - A

Buddhist Councils

58. In Hinyana Buddhism, 'Horse' represents

- A. Nirvana
- B. Dhamma Chakra Pravartan
- C. Mahabhinishkramana
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - C

Life of Buddha

At the age of 29, he saw an old man, a sick man, a corpse, and an ascetic, and thus he left his place to become a wanderer in the last phase of dark night with Channa, the charioteer, and his favourite horse Kanthaka in search of truth (Mahabhinishkramana/Great Renunciation) and thus he wandered for 6 years.

Buddhist Council	Time	Place	Ruler	President	Important Term
First	483 BCE	Sattapani Caves, Rajagriha	Ajatshatru	Mahakassapa	<p><u>Held after the death of Buddha to compile the teachings of Buddha.</u></p> <p><u>Led to the formation of - Vinaya Pitaka - Rules of the Order - Recited by Upali and Sutta Pitaka - a collection of Buddhas Sermon - recited by Ananda.</u></p>
Second	383 BCE	Vaishali	Kalashoka	Sabbakami	<p><u>To settle the debate on certain practices among Buddhist Monks, led to the division of Buddhism into sects - Sthaviravadins and Mahasangikas - These 2 groups will eventually evolve into Hinayana and Mahayana Buddhism.</u></p> <p><u>The group which remained stuck to the original spirit and teaching of Buddha called themselves the Elders (Thera in Pali).</u></p> <p><u>The other group, the greater community (Mahasangikas in Sanskrit) interpreted Buddha's teaching more liberally but in a way that they felt was truer to his intentions.</u></p>
Third	250 BCE	Patliputra	Ashoka	Mogaliputta Tissa	<p><u>The objective was to purify the Buddhist movement from opportunistic factions.</u></p> <p><u>Abhidhamma Pitaka was composed, Completing the Tripitaka, coded in Pali Language.</u></p> <p><u>Sent Buddhist Missionaries to other countries</u></p>

Fourth	1st Century CE	Kashmir	Kanishka	Vasumitra and Ashvagosha	<p><u>Reconciliation of various conflicts between different schools.</u></p> <p><u>Buddhism further divided into Mahayana and Hinayana Sect.</u></p> <p><u>Tripitaka translated from Pali to Sanskrit.</u></p>
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60. The following persons came to India at one time or another:


1. Fa-Hien
2. I-Tsing
3. Hieun-Tsang

The correct chronological sequence of their visits is:

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


Answer: - C

- Fa-Hien-405-411 CE (???)
- Hieun-Tsang-630-645CE
- I-Tsing-671-695 CE



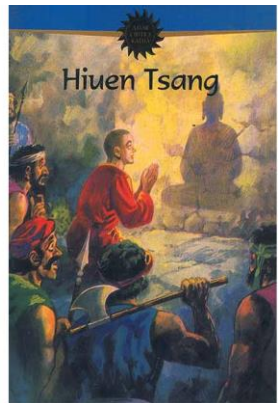
Fa-Hsien: Life in Gupta India

- Chinese Buddhist monk traveled along the Silk Road and visited India in the 5th century A.C.E.
- He was following the path of the Buddha.
- He reported the people to be happy, relatively free of government oppression, and inclined towards courtesy and charity. Other references in the journal, however, indicate that the caste system was rapidly assuming its basic features, including "untouchability," the social isolation of a lowest class that is doomed to menial labor.



Hieun Tsang (Xuan Zang)

- Hieun Tsang was a chinese pilgrim who had come to india during Harsha's reign.
- He is known as 'prince of pilgrims'.
- He was Buddies monk who had dreamt to visit the holy places of Buddhism in india.
- After a long journey he reached Kashmir the king of Kashmir treated him like an ambassador and he guided him to meet his emperor Harsha.
- Harsh welcomed him and provided all facilities for him to stay.
- Soon he visited all holy places which were related to Buddha's life (Lumbini, Kapilavastu, Buddha Gaya, Sarnath and Kushinar).



61. Consider the following Departments:

Departments	Introduced By
<i>Diwan-i-Arz</i>	Alauddin Khalji
<i>Diwan-i-Kohi</i>	Muhammad Bin Tughluq
<i>Diwan-i-Khairat</i>	Firoz Shah Tughluq

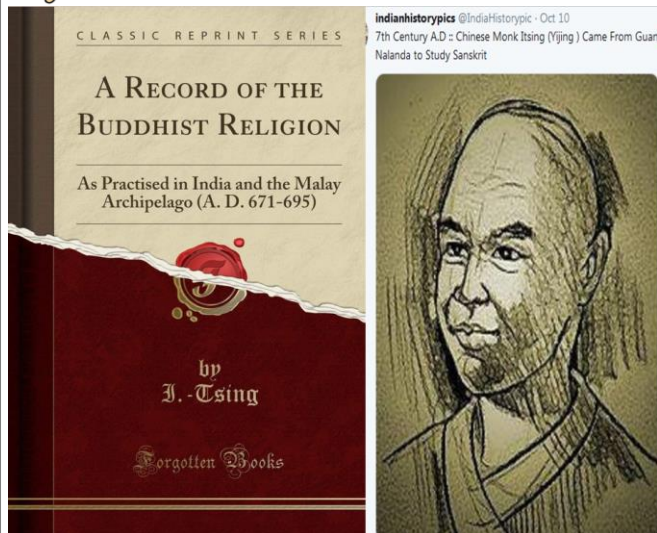
How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - B

Balban (1266-1287 C.E.)

- In his attitude to the people we see a combination of harshness and benevolence.



- Balban was convinced that both excess of wealth or poverty would make people rebellious.
- Hence, he advised his son, Bughra Khan, to be moderate in levying land tax (kharaj) on the peasants.
- As sultan, whenever the army camped anywhere, he used to pay special attention to the poor, the helpless, women, children and the old, to ensure that none of them suffered any loss, or physical harm (from the soldiers).
- Against Mongols - Balban used the policy of 'Force and Diplomacy', as against policy of Appeasement followed by Raziya Sultan.
 - There were 3 major invasions during the Balban Era.
- He established a separate military department - Diwan-i-Arz - and reorganized the army.
- The historian **Barani**, who was himself a great champion of the Turkish nobles, says that Balban remarked 'whenever I see a base born ignoble man, my eyes burn and I reach in anger for my sword (to kill him).'

Muhammad Bin Tughlaq (1325 -1351 C.E.)

- Takkavi Loan or Sondhar Loans
 - With this he became the first Sultan to attempt to formulate an agricultural policy for promoting agriculture.
 - To address problems ailing agriculture, he launched a scheme by which takkavi loans (loans for cultivation) were given to the farmers to buy seed and to extend cultivation and for digging wells for irrigation.
 - A separate department for agriculture, Diwan- i- Kohi was established.
 - To improve the production of land already being cultivated. For this, crop rotation was introduced and crop pattern was changed.

Firoz Shah Tughlaq (1351 - 1388 C.E.)

- As per the Islamic law he levied the taxes. Jizya was strictly imposed on non-Muslims.
- He was the first Sultan to impose irrigation tax. But at the same time he dug irrigation canals and wells.
 - The longest canal was about 200 kilometres from Sutlej to Hansi. Another canal was between Yamuna and Hissar.
- He created new department called Diwan-i-Khairat, to take care of orphans and widows.
- He patronized scholars like Barani and Afif.

62. According to Barani, which Delhi Sultanate ruler believed in the policy of “not harming even an ant.”?

- A. Iltutmish
- B. Firoz Shah Tughluq
- C. Nasiruddin Mahmud
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - D

Jalaluddin Khalji (1290 - 1296)

His approach to the state -

- Although Jalaluddin Khalji was a pious Muslim, he negated the demand of some Ulemas. e.g. demand of conversion of Hindus.
- Thus, unlike Balban, he refused to identify sovereignty with self-pride and tyranny. In the language of Barani, he believed in a policy of “not harming even an ant.”

The Khalji Dynasty (1290 - 1320 C.E.)

- Balban was succeeded by 17-year-old Muiz ud-Din Qaiqabad, who appointed Jalal ud-Din Firuz Khalji as the commander of the army.
 - Khalji assassinated Qaiqabad and assumed power, thus ending the Mamluk dynasty and starting the Khalji dynasty (Kayumars-???).
- During the Mamluk dynasty, many nobles from Afghanistan and Persia migrated and settled in India, as West Asia came under Mongol siege.

63. ‘Battle of Beas River’ took place during the reign of

- A. Iltutmish
- B. Firoz Shah Tughluq
- C. Balban
- D. Alauddin Khalji

Answer: - C

Significance of Balban’s Rule:

- Great emphasis on maintaining a large efficient army
 - Played a crucial role in containing Mongols of the
 - Multan-Dipalpur-Sunam line along the river Beas.
 - (“Battle of Beas River”-1285)

64. Consider the following statements:

1. ‘Kharaj’ was a form of ‘Tax on agricultural land’.
2. During the period of Alauddin Khalji, ‘Kharaj’ reached as high as 50%, and hence subsequently various famines took place in different regions.
3. ‘Inam’ land was a form of ‘Crown Land’.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. None
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - A

Alauddin Khalji (1296 - 1316 C.E.)

Agrarian and Economic Reforms -



- These should be seen **both in the context of the efforts at the internal restructuring of the sultanate**, as also the **need to create a large army to meet the threat of recurrent Mongol invasions.**

T A J U - L M A - A S I R,
or
H A S A N N I Z A M I .

This celebrated work is devoted chiefly to the history of Kutbu-d dīn Aibak, but it also contains portions of the history of his predecessor Muhammad Ghāzī, and his successor, Shamsu-d dīn Altamsh, but without any notice of Arām, the son and immediate successor of Kutbu-d dīn. The name of Tāju-l Ma-āsir is nowhere given to the work by the author himself, but it has never been known by any other name from the earliest period. It means "The Crown of Exploits." Titles similar to this are common in Asiatic literature, the most celebrated being the *Tāju-t Tawārīkh* of the Turkish historian Sa'du-d dīn Muhammad, better known as Khwāja Effendi, "the Prince of Ottoman Historians."¹ Considering that the historical portion of this work is devoted exclusively to India, it enjoys a wide reputation throughout the Eastern Muhammadan world; which is ascribable less to the subject of the history than to the peculiar mode of its treatment. This has already been brought to the knowledge of European scholars by a very good account which has been given of the work by Hammer, in his life of Kutbu-d dīn Aibak, contained in the *Gemäldeaal der Lebensbeschreibungen grosser Moslemischer Herrscher*, (Vol. iv. pp. 172-182). He re-

¹ A. L. David's *Grammar of the Turkish Language*, p. 1, where there is a long extract given from the work. More may be found respecting the author and the work in the *Biographie Univ.* Vol. xxxix. p. 399; the *Penny Cyclopædia*, Vol. xx. p. 292, and the *Geschichte d. Ottom.* Other works with the title of "Tāj" are noticed, but with some omissions, by Hāji Khalfā; *Lexicon Biblic.* Vol. ii. pp. 91-4.

Agrarian Reforms -

- Bringing **Land under Khalisa**
- The magnitude of the **state demand was set at half the produce of the land.**

65. Consider the following Sources:

1. Tabaqat-i-Nasiri
2. Taj-ul-Maasir
3. Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi

The correct chronological sequence of these composition is:

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

Answer: - C

Qutbuddin Aibak (1206 -1210)

- **Muslim writers call Aibak Lakh Baksh** or giver of lakhs because he gave liberal donations.
- Aibak patronized the **great scholar Hasan Nizami.**

- Hasan Nizami's wrote **Tajul Maasir— 'The Crown of Exploits'**, **deals primarily with the history of Qutbuddin Aibak.**

- He also started the **construction of Qutub Minar** after the name of a famous **Sufi saint Khwaja Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki.** It was later **completed by Iltutmish.**
- Aibak **died suddenly while playing chaugan (horse polo) in 1210.**
- He was **succeeded by his son Aram Shah(???)**, who was **replaced by Iltutmish after eight months** (who himself was a slave of Aibak.)

Iltutmish (1211 - 1236 C.E.)

- He introduced the **silver tanka and the copper jital**: 2 basic coins of the Sultanate.
- He patronized many scholars including **Minhaj-us-Siraj, the author of Tabaqat-i-Nasiri (Iltutmish).**
- Iltutmish had also created a new class of ruling elite of forty powerful military leaders, **Chalisa or Chihalgani (the Forty).**

66. Consider the following Pairs:

<u>Title/Book</u>	<u>Associated With</u>
Andhra Bhoja	Krishnadevaraya
Ashoka of the South	Deva Raya II
Prappanamritam	Allasani Peddana

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - A

Vijayanagara Empire

- The greatest ruler of Sangama dynasty was Deva Raya II (1424-1446).
 - He quelled rebellious feudal lords.
 - He invaded the island of Sri Lanka.
 - The inscriptions speak of his title 'Gajabetekara' i.e., the elephant hunter.
- He built the major portion of Virupaksha Temple at Hampi. The temple is dedicated to Virupaksha (consort of the local goddess Pampadevi), a form of Shiva.
- After his death, Sangama dynasty became weak.

Krishna Deva Raya

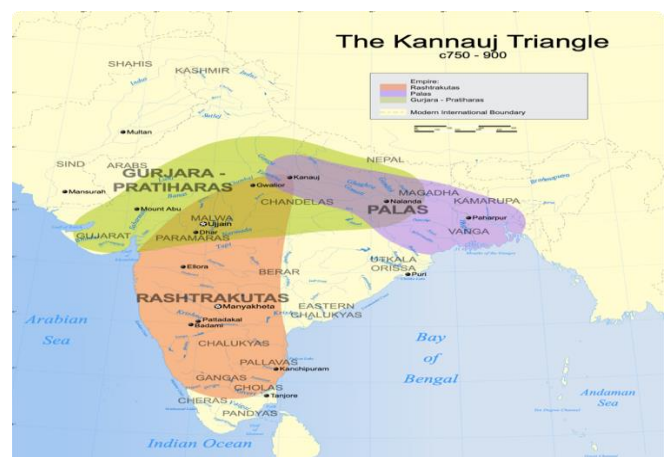
- He strengthened and consolidated the reach of the empire, by hiring both Hindus and Muslims into his army.
- Though a Vaishnavite, he respected all religions, He was a great patron of literature and art and was known as Andhra Bhoja.
- Prappanamritam- Anantacharya

The Rashtrakutas

- While the Palas and the Pratiharas were ruling over north India, the Deccan was being ruled by the Rashtrakutas.
- The kingdom was founded by Dantidurga who set up his capital at Manyakheta or

Malkheda near modern Sholapur. The Rashtrakutas soon dominated the entire area of northern Maharashtra. They also engaged with the Pratiharas for the overlordship of Gujarat and Malwa.

- Although their raids did not result in the extension of the Rashtrakuta empire to the Ganga valley, they brought rich plunder, and added to the fame of the Rashtrakutas.
- The Rashtrakutas also fought constantly against the eastern Chalukyas of Vengi (in modern Andhra Pradesh) and in the south against the Pallavas of Kanchi and the Pandyas of Madurai.
- Probably the greatest Rashtrakuta rulers were Govinda III (793- 814) and Amoghavarsha (814-878).



- Amoghavarsha ruled for 64 years but by temperament he preferred the pursuit of religion and literature to war.
 - He was himself an author and is credited with writing the first Kannada book on poetics.
 - He was a great builder, and is said to have built the capital city Manyakheta. There were many rebellions in the far flung Rashtrakuta empire under

Amoghavarsha. These could be barely contained, and began afresh after his death.

67. As of Sep. 2023, how many UNESCO World Heritage Sites are in India?

- A. 42
- B. 40
- C. 38
- D. 36

Answer: - A

Source: Class 12th NCERT Chapter 7 (Page-24).

68. Afanasii Nikitin, who left an account on Vijayanagara, was a traveller from

- A. Portugal
- B. Italy
- C. Russia
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - C

Source: Class 12th NCERT Chapter 7 (Page-7)

69. Consider the following statements:

1. Krishnadeva Raya founded a suburban township near Vijayanagara called 'Nagalapuram' after his father.
2. 'Hazara Rama' Temple is located in the 'Royal Centre' of Vijayanagara, unlike most temples, which are located in the 'Sacred Centre'.
3. Trader Nicolo Conti came from Italy.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One

- B. None
- C. Only Two
- D. All Three

Answer: - C

Nagalapuram' Source: Class 12th NCERT Chapter 7 (Page-4)

'Hazara Rama Temple' Source: Class 12th NCERT Chapter 7 (Page-14)

'Travellers' Source: Class 12th NCERT Chapter 7 (Page-7)

70. Consider the following Vijayanagara Rulers:

1. Vira Narsimha Raya
2. Achyuta Deva Raya
3. Deva Raya II

The correct chronological sequence is:

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

Answer: - D

Be Careful About the Dates!!!

Vijayanagara Empire	Tuluva dynasty
Sangama dynasty	Tuluva Narasa Nayaka 1491–1503
Harihara I 1336–1356	Vira Narasimha Raya 1503–1509
Bukka Raya I 1356–1377	Krishna Deva Raya 1509–1529
Harihara Raya II 1377–1404	Achyuta Deva Raya 1529–1542
Virupaksha Raya 1404–1405	Venkata I 1542
Bukka Raya II 1405–1406	Sadasiva Raya 1542–1570
Deva Raya I 1406–1422	Aravidu dynasty
Ramachandra Raya 1422	Aliya Rama Raya 1542–1565
Vira Vijaya Bukka Raya 1422–1424	Tirumala Deva Raya 1565–1572
Deva Raya II 1424–1446	Sriranga I 1572–1586
Mallikarjuna Raya 1446–1465	Venkata II 1586–1614
Virupaksha Raya II 1465–1485	Sriranga II 1614
Praudha Raya 1485	Rama Deva Raya 1617–1632
Saluva dynasty	Venkata III 1632–1642
Saluva Narasimha Deva Raya 1485–1491	Sriranga III 1642–1646
Thimma Bhupala 1491	
Narasimha Raya II 1491–1505	

71. Consider the following Pairs:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Associated With</u>
St. Helena Act	Charter Act of 1833
Act for Better Governance	Act of 1858
Magna Carta of Indian People	Regulating Act, 1773

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - B

2. Which Act was enacted to join the power of both Governor-General & Commander in Chief?

- A. Act of 1786
- B. Charter Act of 1813
- C. Charter Act of 1833
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - A

Act of 1786

- In 1786, Pitt moved this bill in order to make Cornwallis accept the Governor-Generalship.
 - Cornwallis wanted to assume the power of both the GG and Commander-in-Chief.
- This Act joined both the offices of GG and the CnC in the same person.
- The GG was further empowered and allowed to override the majority of his

Council in matters of War and peace on his own responsibility (Important).

73. Regarding which Act, JL Nehru commented-
"We are provided with a car, all brakes and no engine."?

- A. GoI Act, 1935
- B. GoI Act, 1919
- C. Indian Councils Act, 1909
- D. Indian Independence Act, 1947

Answer: - A

74. Consider the following statements:

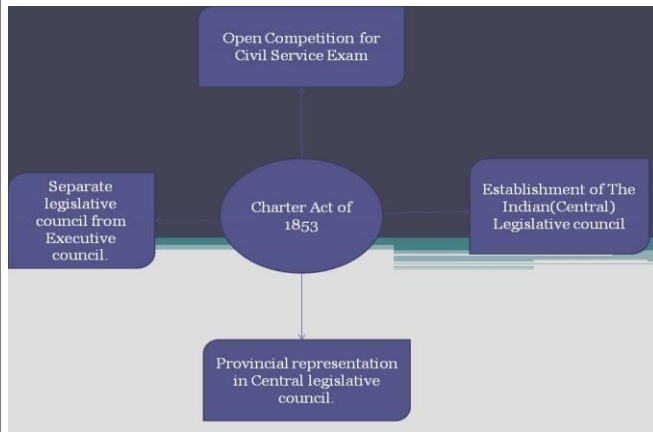
1. Indian Councils Act of 1861 provided for establishment of Central/Imperial Legislative Council.
2. 'Portfolio' system was introduced under William Bentinck.
3. Charles Wood was the 1st Secretary of State.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - D

Charter Act of 1853



Charter Act/GoI of 1858 - Background

- **The Revolt of 1857** gave a death blow to the existing system of Governance, gave an immediate push to demand for transfer of power from the Company to the crown.
- **Edward Henry Stanley** (He became the first Secretary of State for India) introduced bill - "**An Act for the Better Government of India**" and passed on 2 August 1858.

- It introduced **separate electorates for the Muslims.** Some constituencies were earmarked for Muslims and only Muslims could vote their representatives.
- The members could discuss the budget and move resolutions. They could also discuss matters of public interest. They could also ask supplementary questions. No discussions on foreign policy or on relations with the princely states were permitted.
- Lord Minto appointed (on much persuasion by Morley) **Satyendra P Sinha** as the first Indian member of the Viceroy's Executive Council.
- Two Indians were nominated to the Council of the Secretary of State for Indian affairs.

75. Consider the following Events:

1. Introduction of Direct Elections in India
2. 1st Time Indian made part of Executive Council
3. Introduction of Bicameralism in Provinces

The correct chronological sequence is:

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

Answer: - C

Indian Councils Act, 1909

76. Consider the following Congress Sessions:

Congress Session	President
Calcutta Session (1906)	Gopal Krishna Gokhale
Karachi Session (1931)	J L Nehru
Belgaum Session (1924)	C R Das

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - D

Important "INC" Sessions

- **1906:** Calcutta. **President:** Dadabhai Naoroji

Adopted four resolutions on: Swaraj (Self Government), Boycott Movement, Swadeshi & National Education

- **1907:** Surat. **President:** Rash Bihari Ghosh
Split in Congress- Moderates & Extremist
- **1910:** Allahabad. **President:** Sir William Wedderburn; M.A Jinnah decried the separate electorate system introduced by act of 1909
- **1911:** Calcutta. **President:** B.N. Dhar First time recital of Jan-Gan-Man in Congress session.
- **1922:** Gaya. **President:** C.R. Das
Formation of Swaraj Party
- **1924:** Belgaum. **President:** M.K. Gandhi
Only Session presided over by Mahatma Gandhi
- **1925:** Kanpur. **President:** Sarojini Naidu,
First Indian Woman President
- **1928:** Calcutta. **President:** Motilal Nehru
Formation of All India Youth Congress

1929: Lahore. **President:** Jawahar Lal Nehru

- Passed the resolution on 'Poorna Swaraj.'
- **Civil Disobedience movement** for complete independence to be launched

- **26 January** to be observed as 'Independence Day'.



1931: Karachi. **President:** Vallabhbhai Patel

- Resolutions on Fundamental Rights and National Economic Programme
- Endorsement of Gandhi-Irwin pact
- Gandhi nominated to represent INC in the **Second Round Table Conference** to be held in London

77. "ODHUVARS" are mainly associated with

- A. Alvars
- B. Nayanars
- C. Both of the Above
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - B

ODHUVARS IN TAMIL NADU TEMPLES

Context

- Recently, TN government handed over **appointment orders to 15 Odhuvars**, among them were five women who were assigned to temples in the Chennai region.



Analysis for Mains and Prelims

Important Points to remember:

- The word odhuvar comes from the word **odhu or othu, meaning to chant.**
- Odhuvars sing devotional hymns** in Tamil Nadu's Hindu temples but **are not priests.**
- They sing **Thevaram** and other Tamil devotional hymns and songs in temples.
- Tirumurai** is a **twelve-volume compendium of songs or hymns** in praise of Shiva in the Tamil language composed during the 6th to the 11th century CE by various Nayanar poets of Tamil Nadu.
- Odhuvars **won't enter the sanctum sanctorum.**
- The roots of the tradition of Odhuvars can be **traced back to Bhakti Movement** when devotional hymns played a key role in the religion.

78. Consider the following statements about 'ALUPA'

Dynasty:

- Alupa Dynasty spanned the coastal districts of the modern Indian state of Gujarat.
- Alupa Dynasty gave royal patronage to Tulu language and culture.
- Alupa Dynasty ruled from around 2nd Century CE to 15th Century CE.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- Only One
- Only Two
- All Three
- None

Answer: - B

ALUPA DYNASTY

Context

- Archaeologists recently uncovered a rare inscription at **Someshwara near Mangaluru in Karnataka related to the Alupa dynasty**, marking the first record of an Alupa king's death.

Analysis for Prelims

Important Points to remember:



- The inscription is the **first record of the Alupas that announced the death of a king.**
- The inscription is **written in the Kannada script** and the language of 12th century characters announces the death of Alupendra I.
- The human figures shown in the inscription represent **Kulashekara Alupendra himself.**
- In the figure, he is shown standing in Tribhanga (tri-bent posture) and also in a sitting posture in dhyana mudra.

Background Information on Alupa Dynasty:

- Alupa Dynasty spanned the **coastal districts of the modern Indian state Karnataka** from around 2nd century C.E to 15th century C.E.
- Earlier they were independent rulers but later they became the **vassals of the Chalukyas, Rashtrakutas, Hoysalas.**
- **Kulashekara Alupendra I was a famous ruler** of the Alupas.
- Alupendra I **ruled from 1156-1215 A.D. (???)**, as known from his other records.
- He also laid down strict rules and **regulations for temple administration**, which are still followed in many temples of this region.
- He was one of the first rulers to give **royal patronage to Tulu language** and culture, ruling from both the capitals, Mangaluru and Barkuru.

79. "Krinvanto Vishwam Aryam" is the slogan of

- A. Ramkrishna Mission

- B. Satyashodhak Samaj
C. Arya Samaj
D. None of the Above

Answer: - C

MAHARISHI DAYANAND SARASWATI

Context

- Recently, the death anniversary of **Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati** was observed (30th October).

80. Consider the following statements :

1. 'Banni Festival' is celebrated in Arunachal Pradesh during Dussehra festival.
2. 'Vajra Mushti Kalaga' is a form of painting, on the verge of extinction.
3. Both 'Banni Festival' and 'Vajra Mushti Kalaga' are associated with Vijayanagara empire.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
B. Only Two
C. All Three
D. None

Answer: - A

BANNI FESTIVAL

Context

- Recently, **three persons lost their lives** and more than hundred persons were injured in the traditional Banni festival celebrations in Andhra Pradesh.

Analysis for Mains and Prelims

Important Points to remember:

- Banni festival is celebrated in Andhra Pradesh **on the night of Dussehra festival (Vijayadashami).**
- It involves visiting the **Devaragattu temple in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh well equipped with weapons and lathis.**
- Banni **actually refers to mock fight** for capturing the idols during the Banni festival.
- During the ritual, the idols of Parvati (Malamma) and Shiva (Malleshwara Swamy) are brought down to the foot of the hill.
- During this procession, few of the devotees form a ring of security around the idols but the **others try to 'hijack' or capture the idols.**
- Devotees carry long sticks or lathis to **hit each other on the head with these sticks.**
- The festival is believed to have started during the Vijayanagara Empire.

VAJRA MUSHTI KALAGA

Context



- Recently Vajra Mushti Kalaga was in news due to its recent decline.

Analysis for Mains and Prelims

Important Points to remember:

- The “vajra mushti kalaga” is a form of **wrestling different from the conventional grappling.**
- It entails two people taking a swipe at each other’s head **with a weapon - knuckleduster.**
- The weapon is sometimes called **Indra-musti which means Indra's fist.**
- Whosoever draws the **blood from the opponent’s head** first is declared the winner.
- This form of wrestling was **popular during the period of the Vijayanagar rulers** but it has gone extinct and takes place only during Dasara.
- **Medieval travellers from Portuguese noticed this form of wrestling** during the Navaratri celebrations in Vijayanagar empire and have left detailed accounts of it.
- Its matches are still conducted during the **Mysore Dasara festival at Mysore Palace.**



81. 'Vande Mataram' was sung for the first time in the Congress Session of

- A. 1886
- B. 1891
- C. 1896
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - C

Important "INC" Sessions

- **Fourth Session:** held at Allahabad in 1888. **President:** George Yule, first English President.
- **1896:** Calcutta. **President:** Rahimtullah Sayani
National Song 'Vande Mataram' sung for the first time by Rabindranath Tagore.
- **1899:** Lucknow. **President:** Romesh Chandra Dutt.
Demand for permanent fixation of Land revenue
- **1905:** Benaras. **President:** Gopal Krishan Gokhale
Formal proclamation of **Swadeshi movement**

82. Consider the following statements about INC Sessions:

1. The President belonged to a region where the Congress session was being held.
2. Badruddin Tyabji, who presided over 1888 session, was Congress's first Muslim President.
3. 1906 Session of Benaras, was presided over by Dadabhai Naoroji.

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One

- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - D

Important "INC" Sessions

- Formation of Indian National Congress was an effort in the direction of promoting the process of nation building.
- In an effort to reach all regions, it was decided to rotate the Congress session among different parts of the country.
- **The President belonged to a region other than where the Congress session was being held.**
- **First Session:** held at Bombay in 1885. **President:** W.C. Bannerjee
- **Second Session:** held at Calcutta in 1886. **President:** Dadabhai Naoroji
- **Third Session:** held at Madras in 1887. **President:** Syed Badruddin Tyabji, first Muslim President.
- **1906:** Calcutta. **President:** Dadabhai Naoroji
Adopted four resolutions on: Swaraj (Self Government), Boycott Movement, Swadeshi & National Education
- **1907:** Surat. **President:** Rash Bihari Ghosh
Split in Congress- Moderates & Extremist
- **1910:** Allahabad. **President:** Sir William Wedderburn; M.A Jinnah decried the separate electorate system introduced by act of 1909
- **1911:** Calcutta. **President:** B.N. Dhar
- First time recital of Jan-Gan-Man in Congress session

83. Who was the President of Calcutta(1917) Session of INC?

- A. A C Majumdar
- B. Annie Besant
- C. Sarojini Naidu
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - B

- **1915:** Bombay. **President:** Sir S.P. Sinha
Constitution of the Congress was altered to admit the delegates from the extremist section
- **1916:** Lucknow. **President:** A.C. Majumdar
Unity between two factions-Moderates and Extremists of Congress; Lucknow Pact signed between Congress and Muslim League to build political consensus
- **1917:** Calcutta. **President:** Annie Besant,
First Woman President of Congress



84. Consider the following statements :

1. 1929 Session: Reconstitution of Working Committees of Congress on linguistic basis
2. 1939 Session: President-Rajendra Prasad
3. 1941-45: No Congress Session was held

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - B

- **1918 (Special session):** Bombay. **President:** Syed Hasan Imam
The session was convened to deliberate the contentious **Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms Scheme**
- **1919:** Amritsar. **President:** Motilal Nehru
Congress extended support to Khilafat Movement
- **1920 (Special Session):** Calcutta. **President:** Lala Lajpat Rai
Mahatma Gandhi moved the Non cooperation resolution
- **1920:** Nagpur. **President:** C. Vijayaraghavachariar
- Reconstitution of Working committees of Congress on Linguistic basis
- MA Jinnah left the Indian National Congress
- **1936:** Lucknow. **President:** Jawahar Lal Nehru
Push towards socialist ideas by Jawahar Lal Nehru
- **1938:** Haripura. **President:** Subhas Chandra Bose
National Planning Committee set up under Jawahar Lal Nehru.
- **1939:** Tripuri. **President:** Rajendra Prasad
 - Subhas Chandra Bose was re-elected but had to resign

- Rajendra Prasad was appointed in his place
- Subhash Chandra Bose formed **Forward Bloc**

1941-45:

- This Period is marked by events i.e. **Quit India movement**, RIN Mutiny & INA trials.
- Phase of constitutional negotiations such as Cripps Mission, Wavell Plan and Cabinet Mission.
- On account of these events during this phase **no congress session was held.**
- **1946:** Meerut. **President:** J.B Kripalani
 - Last session before independence
 - J.B Kriplani was the president of INC at independence.

85. Consider the following Pairs:

<u>Quote/Article</u>	<u>Associated with</u>
'India for the Indians'	Dadabhai Naoroji
'Swaraj is my Birthright'	Bal Gangadhar Tilak
'New Lamps for Old'	Aurobindo Ghose

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - B



86. Who among the following called Indian National Congress as a group of 'seditious Brahmins', representing only a 'microscopic minority' of India?

- A. Lord Canning
- B. Lord Dufferin
- C. Lord Curzon
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - B

British Reaction to Congress

- Initially the attitude of the British was quite flexible towards the INC. However after **1887**, their attitude stiffened and they began to brand Nationalists as 'Disloyal Babus', 'seditious Brahmins' and 'Violent Villains'.
- Challenging the national character of the Congress, Lord Dufferin stated that 'Congress only represented a Microscopic Minority'.
- "Congress is tottering to its fall and one of my great ambitious while in India, is to assist it to a peaceful demise. "-????? (PYQ)

87. Consider the following statements:

1. United Indian Patriotic Association was formed in 1886 to counter Congress.
2. Dadabhai Naoroji was one of the representatives of Indian interest in Welby Commission.
3. G Subramaniya Aiyer authored 'Economic History of India.'

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - A

Achievements of the Moderates

Economic Achievements

- Welby Commission on Indian Expenditure - In 1895, The Welby Commission on Indian Expenditure was appointed to enquire into Indian Expenditure.

88. "India has left a deeper mark upon the history, the philosophy and the religion of mankind than any other terrestrial unit in the universe."

Who said the above statement?

- A. Surendranath Banerjee
- B. Annie Besant
- C. Sarojini Naidu
- D. None of the Above

Answer: - D

89. Consider the following pairs :

1. Alipore Conspiracy(1908-09): Aurobindo Ghosh

2. Delhi Conspiracy(1912): Rash Behari Bose
3. Barrah Dacoity(1908): Pulin Behari Das

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - C

A Survey of Revolutionary Extremist Activities in Bengal

- In 1908, Prafulla Chaki and Khudiram Bose threw a bomb at a carriage supposed to be carrying a particularly sadistic white judge, Kingsford, in Muzaffarnagar. Two ladies, instead, got killed. Prafulla Chaki shot himself dead while Khudiram Bose was tried and hanged.
- The whole gang was arrested including the Ghosh brothers, Aurobindo and Barindra, who were tried in the Alipore conspiracy case.

Alipore Conspiracy(1908)

- The government's search for illegal arms in Calcutta led to the arrest of thirty-four persons including the Ghosh brothers and their trial came to be known as Alipore conspiracy case.
- Of the accused in the Alipore conspiracy case, fifteen were found guilty and some of them including Barindra kumar Ghosh were transported to life.
- **Pulin Behari Das**(24 January 1877 - 17 August 1949) was an Indian revolutionary and the founder-president of the Dhaka Anushilan Samiti.

- In early 1908, Pulin organized the sensational Barrah Dacoity. The audacious dacoity was committed in broad daylight by a group of revolutionaries at the residence of the zamindar of Barrah, under the Nawabganj police station in the district of Dhaka. The fund was used for buying arms and ammunition.
- Rashbehari Bose and Sachin Sanyal staged a spectacular **bomb attack** on Viceroy Hardinge while he was making his official entry into the new capital in a procession through Chandni Chowk in Delhi in December 1912.



90. Consider the following Pairs:

<u>Newspaper</u>	<u>Language</u>
Kesari	Marathi
Mahratta	English
Swadesamitran	Telugu

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

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

D. None

Answer: - B

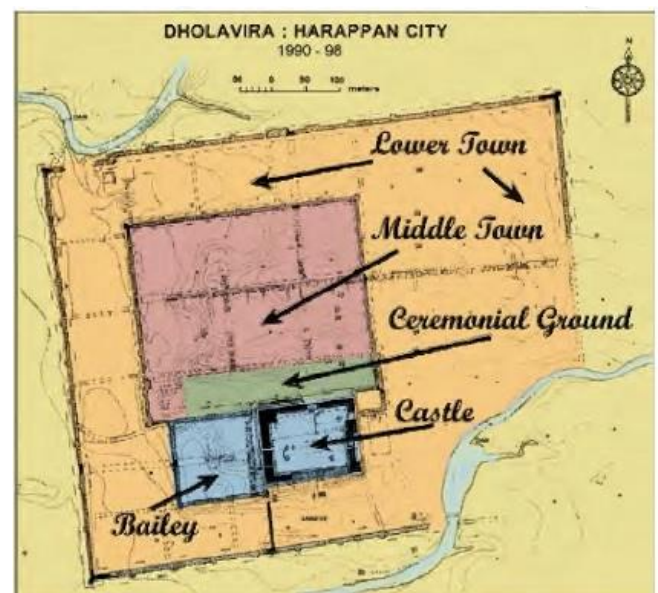
91. Consider the following Pairs:

<u>Palaeolithic Sites</u>	<u>State</u>
Nevasa	Maharashtra
Adamgarh Hills	Gujarat
Renigunta	Andhra Pradesh

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - B



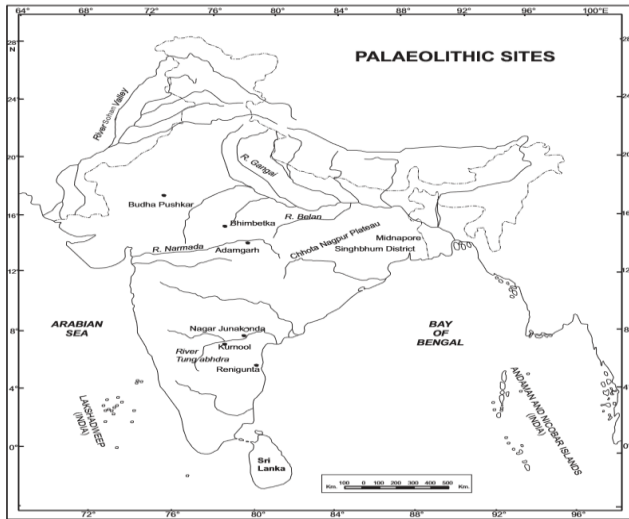
92. Consider the following statements:

“The ancient city is situated on the arid island of Khadir. It is divided into 3 parts and includes a large cemetery. The city also boasts a sophisticated water management system.”

The above mentioned Harappan city is:

- A. Dholavira
- B. Rakhigarhi
- C. Manda
- D. Daimabad

Answer: - A



Map 2.3 Paleolithic Sites

93. Consider the following statements related to IVC site Harappa:

1. Evidence of coffin burials
2. Located on the bank of river Sutlej in Western Punjab
3. Steatite seal depicting 'Pashupati' found here

How many of the given Statements are Correct?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - A

IVC - Important Centres - Harappa

- Harappa was the first site to be excavated.
- From the 1920s onwards archaeologists like Dayaram Sahni, M.S. Vats and Mortimer

Wheeler carried out excavations at Harappa.

- It is located on the bank of the Ravi in Western Punjab.
- In terms of its size and the variety of objects discovered, it ranks as the premier city of the Harappan Civilization.
- There are no clusters of sites around Harappa.
- In Harappa a substantial section of the population was engaged in activities other than food production. These activities could relate to administration, trade, craft work or religion. Since these people were not producing for themselves someone else would have to do it for them.
- Place having evidence of coffin burials.

Religion

- Male God -
 - Harappans also worshipped a **male god** represented on a steatite seal discovered at Mohenjodaro, usually referred to as the Pashupati seal.
 - The description of the Pashupati seal includes -
 - A male figure wearing a buffalo-homed head-dress is shown sitting in a yogic posture.
 - He is flanked by four animals- an elephant, rhinoceros, water buffalo, and a tiger. Beneath the dais are two antelopes or ibexes.

- There exists a striking resemblance between this deity and the **Shiva** (Rudra) of later Hindu mythology who is associated with **asceticism, yoga, and linga**. Hence it is also called **proto-Siva**.

- In **Buddhist texts** (*Digha Nikaya, Mahavamsa, and Divyavadana*):
 - The Mauryas are described as belonging to **Kshatriya clan** called the Moriyas.
- In **Jaina Text** (*Parishishtaparvan*):
 - describes Chandragupta as the son of the daughter of a chief of a village of peacock tamers (mayura-poshakas).
- **Mudrarakshasa**: (*Book by Vishakadatta*)
 - .Mudrarakshasa uses terms like **kula-hina and Vrishala** for Chandragupta's lineage. This means that Chandragupta had a **low origin**.
 - A medieval inscription represents the Maurya clan as belonging to the solar race of Kshatriya.

94. Consider the following Events:

1. Mahaparinirvana of Buddha
2. Coronation of Chandragupta Maurya
3. Alexander's invasion

The correct chronological sequence is:

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

Answer: - A

95. Which of the following statements regarding "Mudrarakshasa" are correct?

1. Authored by Dandin
2. Uses terms like kula-hina & Vrishala for Chandragupta's lineage
3. Written during the Gupta period

Select the correct answer:

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

Answer: - B

Mauryas - Sources

96. Consider the following Pairs:

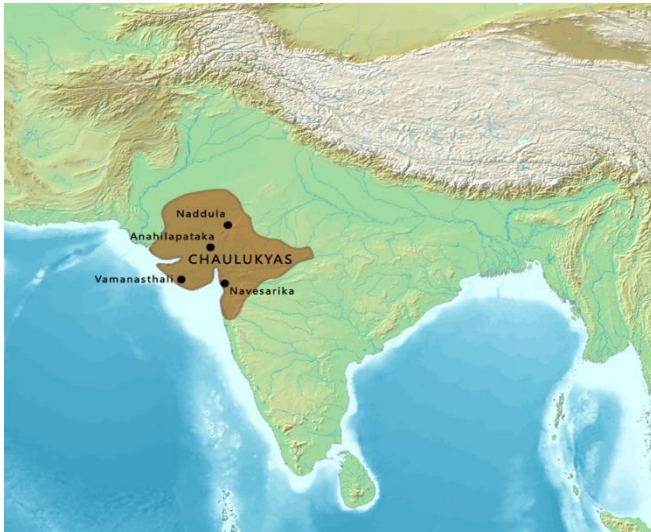
<u>Dynasty</u>	<u>Capital</u>
Solanki	Dhar
Paramaras	Patan
Chandelas	Khajuraho

How many Pairs are Correctly Matched?

- A. Only One
- B. Only Two
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - A

Chaulukyas or Solankis of Anhilwara(940-1244AD)

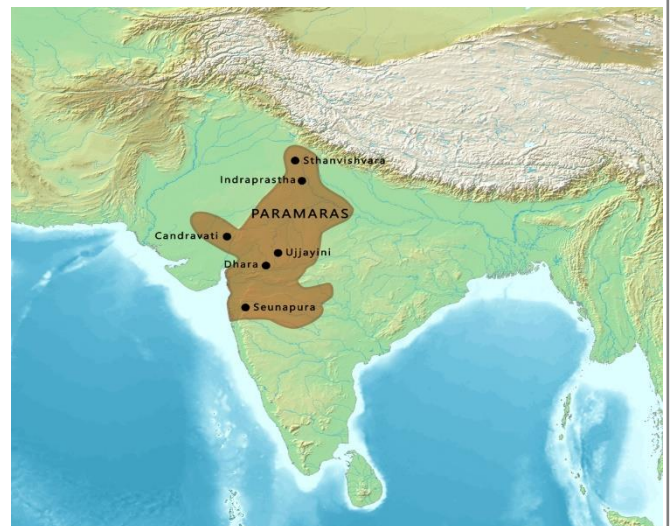


- Initially, they were feudatories of the Pratiharas-???, later around 10th century, they asserted their independence under their chief, Mularaja. The Solanki capital was Anhilwara (Patan).
- Another significant ruler of this dynasty was Bhima. He witnessed the Gujarat invasion led by Mahmud of Ghazni, when he overran Gujarat and plundered Somnath (1025 C.E.)
- In C.E. 1178, Muizuddin Muhammad Ghori invaded Anhilwara or Patan, the capital, who was defeated by Mularaja II near Mount Abu.
- Qutubuddin Aibak led two expeditions to Gujarat and plundered Anhilwara in 1197 C.E.

Paramaras of Malwa(10th to 14th century AD-???)

- The Paramaras began their political domination as the feudatory chiefs of the Rashtrakutas. (Sources also mention them as Slaves of Pratiharas)
- They established themselves in the Malwa region with their capital at Dhar.

- The founder of the dynasty was Siyaka-???.
- Bhoja (1010-1055AD) was the greatest scholar king of India.
 - He is called Kaviraja in an inscription and is said to have authored about two dozen of books on a variety of subjects.
- Bhoja's commentary on the Yogasutras of Patanjali, Ayurvedasaravasya, a work on medicine, are some of his prominent literary creations.
- He set up a college in the capital to impart Sanskrit knowledge to students.
- He expanded Dhar and founded the city of Bhojpura. He also founded a college known as Bhojasala at Dhar.



Chandelas of Bundelkhand(831-1315CE)

- They ruled over the region of Bundelkhand. The area was called Jejakabhukti. The founder of the dynasty was Nannuka.
- Chandelas constructed The Kandariya Mahadeva Temple in Madhya Pradesh in around 1050 A.D, along with many other beautiful temples.
- Sultan Mahmud twice invaded his kingdom in 1019 and 1022.



97. After marvelling at its grandeur, Rabindranath Tagore remarked, "This is a monument where the language of stone surpasses the language of man." Which UNESCO World Heritage Site is being described by Tagore's statement?

- A. Konark Sun Temple
- B. Kailasanatha Temple
- C. Martand Sun Temple
- D. Modhera Sun Temple

Answer: - A

Context

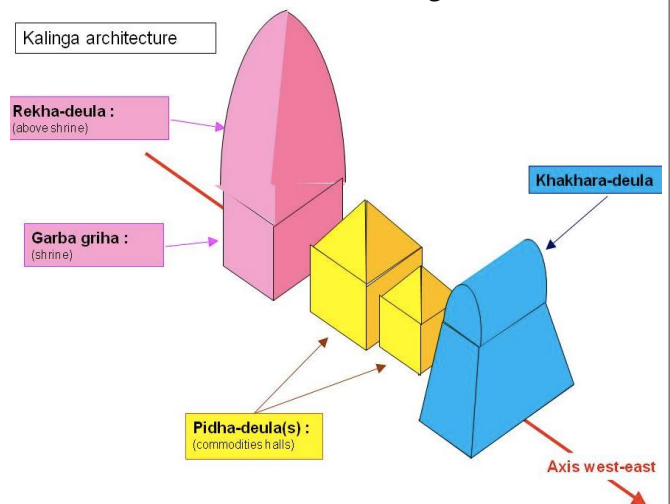
- Recently, the historic **Konark Wheel of Odisha's Sun Temple** became a centre of attraction at the G20 Summit venue as Prime Minister chose a wall depicting the **13th century artefact as the backdrop** for his welcome handshake with world leaders at the Bharat Mandapam in Delhi.

Analysis for Prelims

Important Points to remember:

- Konark Sun Temple was built in the **13th century**, by King Narasimhadeva I, the great ruler of Ganga dynasty.

- The temple was included in **UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 1984.
- The temple is designed in the shape of a **colossal chariot**.
- There are two rows of **12 wheels on each side** of the Konark sun temple. Some say the wheels represent the 24 hours in a day and others say the 12 months.
- It is a great **example of Kalinga temple architecture**.
- 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 color and used as a navigational landmark by ancient sailors to Odisha.
- Similarly, the **Jagannath Temple in Puri** was called the "**White Pagoda**".



98. In the context of medieval Indian history, what does "Takkavi/ Sondhar" refer to and under whose reign was it introduced?

- A. Loans for paying Jizya, initiated during the reign of Alauddin Khilji.

- B. Revenue-related credit system, initiated during the reign of Akbar.
- C. Token currency, initiated during the reign of Sher Shah Suri.
- D. Agricultural loans, initiated during the reign of Mohammad bin Tughlaq.

Answer: - D

Muhammad Bin Tughlaq (1325 -1351 C.E.)

Reforms or Blunders ? Agrarian Measures and Reforms

- **Takkavi Loan or Sondhar Loans**
 - With this he became the **first Sultan to attempt to formulate an agricultural policy for promoting agriculture.**
 - To address problems ailing agriculture, he launched a scheme by which **takkavi loans (loans for cultivation)** were given to the farmers to buy seed and to extend cultivation and for digging wells for irrigation.
 - A separate **department for agriculture, Diwan- i- Kohi** was established.
 - To improve the production of land already being cultivated. For this, crop rotation was introduced and crop pattern was changed:
 - **(a) Wheat in the place of Barley**
 - **(b) Sugarcane in the place of Wheat**

- **(c) Grape and Date in place of Sugarcane.**

99. In the medieval history of southern India, the term "Tarafdar" primarily refers to which of the following?

- A. Village administrators responsible for agricultural matters.
- B. Governors of provinces.
- C. Traders engaged in maritime commerce.
- D. Religious scholars leading educational institutions.

Answer: - B

Administration

- The Sultans followed a **Feudal type of administration.**
 - **Tarafs** - The kingdom was divided into **many provinces called Tarafs namely - Daulatabad, Bidar, Berar and Gulbarga**
 - **Tarafdar or Amir - Governor who controlled the Taraf.**
- **Some land was converted into Khalisa land from the jurisdiction of the tarafdar.**(Khalisa land was that piece of land which was used to run expenses of the king and the royal household).
 - Nobles used to get their salary either in cash or in form of grant of land or 'jagir'.

Military

- Bahmani rulers depended for **military support on his amirs.**
- There were **two groups** in the ranks of amirs: (Nobles)

- One was the Deccanis who were immigrant Muslims and had been staying for a long time in the Deccan region.
- The other group was Afaquis or Pardesis who had recently come from Central Asia, Iran and Iraq.

100. Which of the following is correct about the significance of Nanachampantar, Appar and Chuntaramurti in the cultural and religious history of South India?

- A. Pioneers of classical Carnatic music.
- B. Renowned leaders of the Chola dynasty.
- C. Influential philosophers of the Sangam era.
- D. Distinguished Nayanar saints in the Bhakti tradition.

Answer: - D

Nayanars

- Nayanars bestowed their belief and devotion to Lord Shiva. (63 in Number)
 - Among the Nayanars, the poets Nanachampantar, Appar, and Chuntaramurti (often called "the three") are worshipped as saints through their images in South Indian temples.
 - In the 10th century Nambiyandar Nambi collected the hymns of the Nayanars in an anthology called the Tevaram.

101. Match the Following:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Region</u>
Bharatmata	Europe

Jugantar	North India
India House	East India

Choose the correct answer:

- A. 1-i, 2-ii, 3-iii
- B. 1-ii, 2-iii, 3-i
- C. 1-iii, 2-ii, 3-i
- D. 1-iii, 2-i, 3-ii

Answer: - B

Punjab

- The Punjab extremism was fuelled by issues such as frequent famines coupled with rise in land revenue and irrigation tax, and by the events in Bengal.
- Among those active here were Lala Lajpat Rai who brought out Punjabee (with its motto of self-help at any cost) and Ajit Singh (Bhagat Singh's uncle) who organized the extremist Anjuman-i-Mohisban-i-Watan in Lahore with its journal, Bharat Mata.

A Survey of Revolutionary Extremist Activities in Bengal

- In 1908, Prafulla Chaki and Khudiram Bose threw a bomb at a carriage supposed to be carrying a particularly sadistic white judge, Kingsford, in Muzaffarnagar. Two ladies, instead, got killed. Prafulla Chaki shot himself dead while Khudiram Bose was tried and hanged.
- The whole gang was arrested including the Ghosh brothers, Aurobindo and Barindra, who were tried in the Alipore conspiracy case.

International

Shyamji Krishnavarma

- He left Bombay in 1897 and went to London. Later, started a monthly journal, the **Indian sociologist**.
- Shyamji established the Indian Home Rule society and a hostel for Indian students living in London, popularly known as the **India House** that existed between 1905 and 1910.
- The most important revolutionaries associated with him were V.D. Savarkar, Madanlal Dhingra, Madame Cama, and Lala Hardayal.
- India House ceased to be potent organisation after its liquidation in the wake of assassination of British official Wylie by a member of India House, Madan Lal Dhingra.
- Resultant crackdown led to Shyamji moving to Europe, from where they carried on works in support of Indian nationalism.
- Some Indian students, including Har Dayal, moved to United States.

102. During the reign of Kalashoka, who served as the presiding authority at the Buddhist Council held in Vaishali?

- A. Mahakassapa
- B. Sabbakami
- C. Mogaliputta Tissa
- D. Vasumitra

Answer: - B

Buddhist Council	Time	Place	Ruler	President	Important Term
First	483 BCE	Sattapani Caves, Rajagriha	Ajatshatru	Mahakassapa	<p>Held <u>after the death of Buddha</u> to <u>compile the teachings of Buddha</u>.</p> <p>Led to the <u>formation of - Vinaya Pitaka</u> - Rules of the Order - Recited by Upali and <u>Sutta Pitaka</u> - a collection of Buddhas Sermon - recited by Ananda.</p>
Second	383 BCE	Vaishali	Kalashoka	Sabbakami	<p>To <u>settle the debate</u> on certain practices among Buddhist Monks, led to the <u>division of Buddhism into sects</u> - <u>Sthaviravadins</u> and <u>Mahasangikas</u> - These 2 groups will eventually evolve into <u>Hinayana and Mahayana Buddhism</u>.</p> <p>The group which remained stuck to the original spirit and teaching of Buddha called themselves the <u>Elders (Thera in Pali)</u>.</p> <p>The other group, <u>the greater community (Mahasangikas in Sanskrit)</u> interpreted Buddha's teaching more liberally but in a way that they felt was truer to his intentions.</p>
Third	250 BCE	Patliputra	Ashoka	Mogaliputta Tissa	<p>The objective was to <u>purify the Buddhist movement from opportunistic factions</u>.</p> <p><u>Abhidhamma Pitaka</u> was composed, Completing the Tripitaka, coded in Pali Language.</p>

					<u>Sent Buddhist Missionaries to other countries</u>
Fourth	1st Century CE	Kashmir	Kanishka	Vasumitra and Ashvagosha	<u>Reconciliation of various conflicts</u> between different schools. Buddhism further divided into <u>Mahayana and Hinayana Sect.</u> <u>Tripitaka translated from Pali to Sanskrit.</u>

103. In context of syncretic creed 'Din-i Ilahi' propounded by the Mughal emperor Akbar, consider the following statements:

1. It was synthesised from teaching of various religions including Islam, Hinduism, Zoroastrianism, and Christianity.
2. "Soft voice, gentle words and pleasing speeches" were among the 10 virtues propounded by Din-i Ilahi.
3. The policy of Sulh-e-kul was contradictory to the essence of Din-i Ilahi.
4. The name of Prayag was changed to Allahabad to commemorate Din-i Ilahi.

How many statements given above are incorrect ?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. Three only
- D. All Four

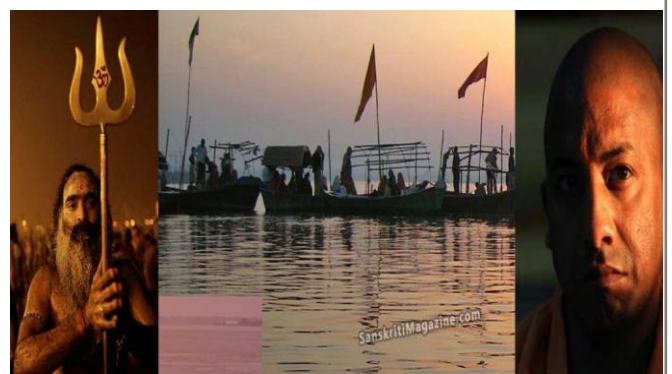
Answer: - A

Din - i - Ilahi

- The Din-i Ilahi was a syncretic creed propounded by the Mughal emperor Akbar in 1582 AD, intending to merge the best elements of the religions of his

empire, and thereby reconcile the differences that divided his subjects.

- It was derived from different religions like Islam, Hinduism, Zoroastrianism, and Christianity.
- A simple, monotheistic cult, tolerant in outlook, it centred on Akbar as a prophet.
- To commemorate Din-e-Ilahi, he changed the name of Prayag to Allahabad (pronounced as ilahabad) in 1583.



RENAME ALLAHABAD TO THE ORIGINAL NAME PRAYAGRAJ
HINDU SEERS URGE UP CM YOGI ADITYANATH IN MEETING
IT WAS CHANGED BY AKBAR TO COMMEMORATE DIN-I-ILAH

Religious and Social Outlook

Din - i - Ilahi

- Ten Virtues -

- Liberty and beneficence
 - refraining from bad action and repulsion of anger with mildness
 - Limiting worldly desires
 - Taking the path of non-violence in social life
 - Piety, wisdom and meditation
 - Sublimity
 - Soft voice, gentle words and pleasing speeches.
 - Brotherly attitude for others
 - Development of attachment towards the Supreme Being
 - Self-purification by enkindling longing for God
- No Sacred book or scripture, no priestly hierarchy, no sacred place of worship and no rituals or ceremonies except that of initiation.
 - Not a religion (???) - It was not a religion and Akbar never intended to establish a church, neither force nor money was employed to enlist disciples and it was entirely a personal matter.
 - It is accepted that the policy of **sulh-e-kul**, which formed the essence of Din-i-Ilahi, was adopted by Akbar not merely for religious purposes, but as a part of general imperial administrative policy.

Enrolling disciples

- **Sunday** was fixed as the day of **initiation**, and that **disciples** were enrolled in batches of twelve.
- The novice placed his head at the feet of the Emperor which was symbolic and meant that the novice had cast aside conceit and selfishness.
- His Majesty raised him up, and gave him the **shast** on which was engraved the name of God, and with Akbar's favourite motto: "**Allah-o-Akbar**" or God is Great.
- Great Devotion was paid to Fire and Light - Symbols of Zoroastrianism.
- Four degrees of Faith:
- A member had to give a written promise of having **accepted the four degrees of devotion** (first mentioned by Badayuni), viz., readiness to sacrifice to the Emperor:
 - property,
 - life,
 - honour
 - religion.
- Enrolling disciples -
 - Four degrees of Faith:
 - Akbar was very selective in choosing those who qualified for the four degrees of devotion.
 - There were **only 18 nobles** who qualified for these degrees.
 - Among these, **Birbal** was the only Hindu.

104. Consider the following statements regarding the Bahmani Kingdom:

1. Muhammad Shah III was the founder of the Bahmani Kingdom.
2. The kingdom was situated to the south of the Vijayanagara Empire.
3. Some regions of present-day Goa and Maharashtra were under its influence.

How many of the statements given above are incorrect ?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - B

105. Consider the following statements:

1. Jaina doctrines are believed to be much older than Buddhism.
2. Jainism is fundamentally theistic and places God at a higher level than Jina.
3. Jaina conception of time is based on endless sequences of progressive and regressive half cycles.
4. The principle of Anekantavada forms one of the core tenets of Jainism.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. Three only
- D. All four

Answer: - C

Doctrines of Jainism

- Jaina doctrines are believed to be much older than Buddhism .
- Jaina conception of time is based on endless sequences of progressive (utsarpinis) and regressive half cycles (avsarpinis) in terms of degrees of happiness.

The core of the Jaina doctrine is expressed in the principle of -

1. Anekantavada - Doctrine of manyfold nature of reality.
2. Triratnas - Three gems
3. Panch Mahavrata - Five great vows
4. Ahimsa - Doctrine of Non Violence



106. Consider the following statements about the Bhakti saint, Dadu Dayal:

1. He represents the Saguna Sant tradition in North India.
2. He advocated strict adherence to Vedic rituals.
3. His followers set up ashrams known as Thambas.

How many of the above statements are correct?

- A. One only
- B. Two only

- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - A

Dadu Dayal

Dadu Dayal (1544-1603)

'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**.

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).

His followers came to be known as **Dadupanthis** who set up **ashrams known as Thambas** around the region. His **adherents abstain from drinking and follow vegetarianism**.

107. Consider the following pairs:

<u>Author</u>	<u>Book</u>
Krishnadevaraya	Amuktamalyada
Gangadevi	Manucharitramu
Allasani Peddanaa	Maduravijayam

How many pairs given above have been correctly matched ?

- A. One only

- B. Two only
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - A

108. In context of the land revenue system during the Mughal period, consider the following pairs:

1. Polaj : Lands which were continually under cultivation.
2. Parati : Cultivable waste-land.
3. Chachar : Land which were fallow for three to four years.

How many pairs have been correctly matched?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - B

Land Revenue System

Dahsala System

Under this system, **both productivity and continuity of cultivation** were taken into account -

Polaj:

Lands which were **continually under cultivation**.

Parati:

Lands which were **fallow (parauti) for a year**, paid full rates when they were brought under cultivation.

Chachar:

Chachar was land which were **fallow for three to four years due to inundation** etc.

It paid a **progressive rate, the full rate being charged in the third year**.

Banjar:

Banjar was cultivable waste-land.

To encourage its cultivation, it paid full rates only in the fifth year.

Dahsala System

The lands were further divided into good, bad and middling.

One-third of the average produce was the state share.

However, in some areas, such as Multan and Rajasthan, one-fourth was charged.

In Kashmir, where saffron was sown, the state share was half.

109. Consider the following pairs:

<u>Act</u>	<u>Provision</u>
Charter Act 1813	Ended activities of Company as commercial body
Charter Act 1833	Company continued its monopoly over trade in tea and trade with China
Charter Act 1853	Abolished Company and transferred its powers, territories & revenues to British Crown

How many pairs given above have been correctly matched ?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: - D

110. Arrange the following events in the order of their occurrence (from earlier to later):

1. Communal Award
2. 2nd Round table conference
3. Simon commission
4. Government of India Act 1935
5. 3rd Round table conference

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- A. 3-2-1-4-5
- B. 3-2-1-5-4
- C. 3-1-2-5-4
- D. 3-1-2-4-5

Answer: - B

First RTC (Nov. 1930-Jan. 1931)

The conferences were based on the recommendations of Muhammad Ali Jinnah to Lord Irwin, the then Viceroy of India and James Ramsay MacDonald, the then British Prime Minister, and the Simon Commission report.

It was for the first time that the Indians and the British were meeting as 'equals'. The first conference started on November 12th, 1930.

Participants in the First Round Table Conference

58 political leaders from British India.

16 delegates from the native princely states.

The Indian National Congress decided not to participate in the conference. Many of the INC leaders were imprisoned due to their involvement in the civil disobedience movement.

Among the British-Indians, the following representatives attended the conference: Muslim League, Hindus, Justice Party, Sikhs, liberals,

Parsis, Christians, Anglo-Indians, Europeans, landlords, labour, women, universities, Sindh, Burma, other provinces, and the representatives from the Government of India.

Second RTC (Sep. 1931-Dec. 1931)

Participants of the Second Round table conference

British delegates belonging to various political parties including the British Prime Minister, James Ramsay Macdonald.

Indian princely states represented by Maharajas, princes and divans.

Indian National Congress (INC) - Mahatma Gandhi, Rangaswami Iyengar, Madan Mohan Malaviya

Muslims - Md. Ali Jinnah, Aga Khan III, Muhammad Iqbal, etc.

Third RTC (Nov. 1932-Dec. 1932)

The third Round Table Conference took place between 17 November 1932 and 24 December 1932.

Participants of the Third Round table conference

Only 46 delegates in total took part in this conference.

The INC and the Labour Party decided not to attend it. (The INC wasn't invited).

Indian princely states were represented by princes and divans.

111. With respect to the Nanda dynasty, which ruled Magadha, consider the following statements:

1. It was established by Kalashoka.
2. Alexander's invasion of India occurred during the reign of Mahapadma Nanda.

3. It achieved the conquest of the province of Kalinga.

How many of the statements given above are correct ?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: A

- The Shishunaga dynasty was succeeded by the kings of the **Nanda dynasty** (346 - 324 BCE).
- The Nandas who usurped the throne of the Shishunaga dynasty were **thought to be of low origin** with some sources stating that the dynasty's founder, Mahapadma, was the son of a Shudra mother.
 - First Nanda King **Mahapadma Nanda**, has been described in the Puranas as "the destroyer of all the Kshatriyas. He is known as **Ekrat (Sole king who destroyed others).**
 - The **Hathigumpha inscription of Kharavela of Kalinga refers to the conquest of Kalinga by the Nandas.**
 - The Nandas are sometimes described as the **first empire builders** in the recorded history of India.
 - The last Nanda king was **Dhannanand (arrogant and oppressive ruler)**
 - **Alexander attacked India during the reign of Dhannanand.**

112. In the context of post-Harshavardhana period in Northern India, how many of the following statements accurately describe the Tripartite Struggle for Kannauj?

1. The struggle primarily involved conflicts between the Rashtrakutas, Palas and Pratiharas.
2. The struggle commenced under the rule of Vatsaraja, a prominent leader of the Rashtrakuta dynasty.
3. Palas emerged victorious and established themselves as the rulers of central India at the end of the long struggle.
4. Kannauj's strategic and commercial importance stemmed from its connection to the silk route.

Select the correct answer from the options given below:

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. Three only
- D. All Four

Answer: B

The Tripartite Struggle



The Rashtrakutas

- While the Palas and the Pratiharas were ruling over north India, the Deccan was being ruled by the Rashtrakutas.
- The kingdom was founded by Dantidurga who set up his capital at Manyakheta or Malkheda near modern Sholapur. The Rashtrakutas soon dominated the entire area of northern Maharashtra. They also engaged with the Pratiharas for the overlordship of Gujarat and Malwa.
- Although their raids did not result in the extension of the Rashtrakuta empire to the Ganga valley, they brought rich plunder, and added to the fame of the Rashtrakutas.
- Probably the greatest Rashtrakuta rulers were Govinda III (793- 814) and Amoghavarsha (814-878).
- Amoghavarsha ruled for 64 years but by temperament he preferred the pursuit of religion and literature to war.
 - He was himself an author and is credited with writing the first Kannada book on poetics.
 - He was a great builder, and is said to have built the capital city Manyakheta. There were many rebellions in the far flung Rashtrakuta empire under Amoghavarsha. These could be barely contained, and began afresh after his death.

113. In the medieval historical context, what does the term "Naskh" denote?

- A. A form of weaponry utilising gunpowder.
- B. A style of calligraphy employed for administrative documents and transcribing books.

- C. An architectural feature.
- D. Diplomatic negotiations involving the English East India Company and the Mughal Empire.

Answer: B

Art and Culture

- The Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb is known to have patronised works of Islamic calligraphy; the demand for Quran manuscripts in the *Naskh* style peaked during his reign.
- Bibi Ka Maqbara, is the mausoleum of Aurangzeb's wife Dilras Banu Begum.
- Aurangzeb's tomb is in Khuldabad, Maharashtra.

Naskh - is a smaller, round script of Islamic calligraphy. Naskh is one of the first scripts of Islamic calligraphy to develop, commonly used in writing administrative documents and for transcribing books, including the Qur'an, because of its easy legibility

114. In context of the Anglo-Mysore Wars consider the following statements:

1. The British emerged victorious in all the wars.
2. The primary cause of these wars was the Company's objective to undermine the independent authority of the Mysore rulers.
3. After winning the third war, the British disintegrated the Mysore state.

How many of the above statements are correct ?

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

D. None

Answer: A

Anglo Mysore Wars (1767 -1799)

- The rise of Mysore under Hyder Ali was viewed as a threat by the neighbouring states - the Marathas, The Nawabs of Carnatic and The Nizam of Hyderabad.
- The Marathas and the Nizam formed an alliance against Mysore and also co-operated with the English Company to curb Mysore.
- But the Nizam was equally apprehensive of the Marathas and therefore cooperated with the English company against the Marathas also.
- In all, 4 Anglo Mysore Wars happened. Except the first war, the British emerged victorious in all of them.
- The basic cause of these wars was the Company's objective to undermine the independent authority of the Mysore rulers.
- After the victory in the fourth war, the British disintegrated the Mysore state and have one part of the Kingdom to the minor prince of Wadiyar dynasty (1399-1950).



115. Identify the individual associated with the slogan "one religion, one caste, one God for mankind":

- A. Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar
- B. Mahatma Jyotirao Phule
- C. E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker
- D. Sri Narayana Guru

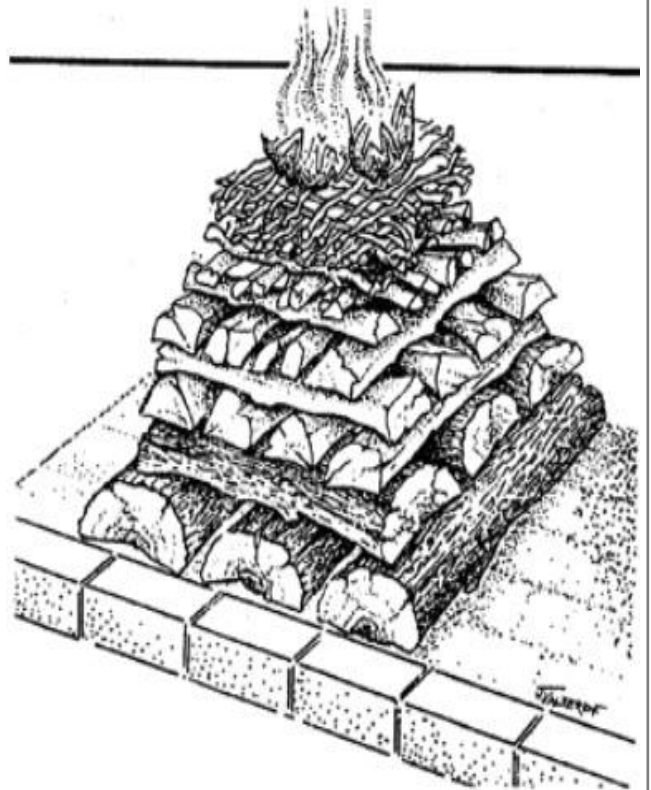
Answer: D

116. Which of the following statements regarding the pottery discovered at the sites of the Indus Valley Civilization is/are incorrect?

- A. The majority of the unearthed pottery comprises finely crafted wheel-made wares.
- B. The Northern Black Polished Ware, distinguished by black paint and a highly lustrous finish, was a prominent feature.
- C. Recurring themes in the pottery include trees, birds, animal figures and geometrical patterns.
- D. Some pottery items exhibit perforations, featuring a large hole at the bottom and small holes along the sides, indicating their use for straining liquor.

Answer: B

"Inverted Firing" Technique





Pottery



Pottery	Period
Black and Red Ware	Around 2400 BCE
OCP - Ochre Coloured Pottery	2000-1000 BCE
Painted Grey Ware	1000-600 BCE
Northern Black Polished Ware	600 BCE-100 AD

117. Consider the Following Pairs:

Invaders	Rulers of Anhilwara
Mahmud of Ghazni (1025CE)	Mularaja II
Muhammad Gori (1178 CE)	Rai Karan

Alauddin Khalji (1297 CE)	Bhima
---------------------------	-------

How many of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: D

Chaulukyas or Solankis of Anhilwara(940-1244AD)

- Initially, they were feudatories of the Pratiharas-???, later around 10th century, they asserted their independence under their chief, Mularaja. The Solanki capital was Anhilwara (Patan).
- Another significant ruler of this dynasty was **Bhima**. He witnessed the Gujarat invasion led by Mahmud of Ghazni, when he overran Gujarat and plundered Somnath (1025 C.E.)
- In C.E. 1178, Muizuddin Muhammad Gori invaded Anhilwara or Patan, the capital, who was defeated by Mularaja II near Mount Abu.
- Qutubuddin Aibak led two expeditions to Gujarat and plundered Anhilwara in 1197 C.E.



118. Arrange the following events related to the British presence in India in chronological order:

1. King Charles II received Bombay as dowry on marrying a Portuguese Princess.
2. Francis Day obtained Madras on lease from the Raja of Chandragiri.
3. The British purchased Fort Devanpatnam near Madras and renamed it Fort St. David.
4. The first English factory was established in Hugli with permission from Sultan Shuja.

Select the answer from the options given below:

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

Answer: C

Coming of Europeans - The English

English - FACTORIES in Madras

In 1632, Sultan of Golconda issued a Golden Farman in favour of the English, permitting them to trade freely from the ports of Golconda on annual payment of 500 pagodas..

- In 1639, Francis Day was able to obtain Madras on lease from the Raja of Chandragiri and shifted the centre of their activity to Madras, Raja allowed the Company to fortify Madras. Thus the English set up a small factory and built a small fort around it called Fort St. George.
- In 1690, The British bought the Fort Devanpatnam, near Madras and renamed it to Fort. David.

English - FACTORIES in Bengal

- In 1651, at Hugli, the first English factory was set up in Bengal upon receiving permission from Sultan Shuja.
- In 1658, all establishments of the Company in Bengal, Bihar and Orrisa and Coromandel Coast were brought under the control of Fort St. George.
- In 1690, Job Charnock established a factory at Sutanati which was fortified in 1697 and called Fort St. Williams.
- In 1698, the Bengal factories were placed under Fort St. Williams.

English - FACTORIES in Bombay

- In 1661-62, King Charles II of England received Bombay as dowry on marrying a Portuguese Princess.
- In 1668, the Crown transferred it to the Company on an annual rent of ten pounds.
- Bombay quickly replaced Surat as the principal depot of the Company on the West Coast.

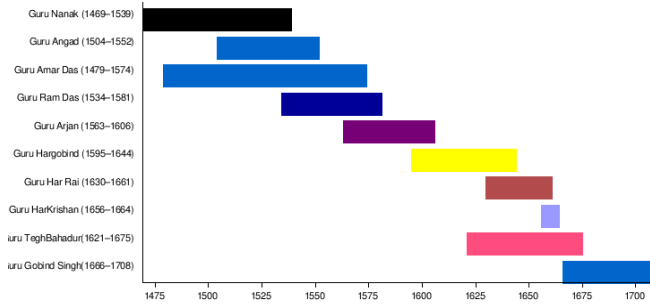
119. Arrange the following Sikh Gurus in chronological order:

1. Guru Arjan
2. Guru Angad
3. Guru Teg Bahadur
4. Guru Har Rai

Select the correct answer from the options given below:

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

Answer: C



120. Consider the following statements regarding the Young Bengal Movement:

- Henry Vivian Derozio is credited with founding the movement.
- It was contemporaneous with the tenure of Lord Curzon as the Viceroy of India.
- It drew inspiration from the ideals of the French Revolution.
- A prominent demand of the movement was the advocacy for freedom of the press and trial by jury.

Which of the statements are correct?

- 1 and 4
- 2 and 3
- 1, 3, and 4
- 2, 3, and 4

Answer: C

121. In the context of ancient Indian cave paintings, "The Dying Princess" is associated with which group of caves?

- Ajanta Caves
- Barabar Caves
- Elephanta Caves
- Sittanavasal Caves

Answer: A

Ajanta Caves



122. In the context of classical dances in India, which dance form is associated with the terms 'Gotipua'?

- Bharatanatyam
- Odissi
- Kuchipudi
- Kathak

Answer: B

Odissi



- The caves of Udayagiri-Khandagiri provide some of the earliest examples of Odissi dance. The dance form derives its name from the 'Odra nritya' mentioned in the Natya Shastra.
- It was primarily practised by the 'maharis' and patronised by the Jain King Kharavela. With the advent of Vaishnavism in the region, the Mahari system became defunct. Instead, young boys were recruited and dressed as females to continue the art form. They came to be known as 'Gotipuas'.

123. Consider the following statements regarding the Udayagiri and Khandagiri Caves of Odisha:

1. The caves are situated on Kumari Parvata as mentioned in the Hathigumpha Inscription.
2. All the caves in this complex are artificial.
3. The upper chambers of many double-storeyed caves were utilised for deep meditation.
4. Buddhism is predominantly associated with these caves.
5. A water source in the form of a small canal passes through some caves.

Which of the statements above is/are correct?

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

Answer: B



124. Consider the following pairs:

1. Kunwar Singh: Bareilly
2. Maulvi Ahmadullah: Faizabad
3. Khan Bahadur Khan: Delhi
4. General Bakht Khan: Bihar

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. Three only
- D. All Four

Answer: A

Storm Centres And Leaders Of The Revolt

- **Begum Hazrat Mahal** took over the reins at **Lucknow** where the rebellion broke out on June 4, 1857 and popular sympathy was overwhelmingly in favour of the deposed Nawab.
- **Jhansi** - Doctrine of Lapse - Rejecting the claim of Damodar Rao (adopted son of Rani and Gangadhar Rao)
- **Bareilly** - Khan Bahadur Khan

125. Consider the following pairs:

1. Bharat Stree Mahamandal : Ramabai Ranade
2. Bharat Mahila Parishad : Sarla Devi Chaudhurani
3. Arya Mahila Samaj : Ramabai Saraswati

How many of the pairs is/are correctly matched ?

- A. None
- B. One only
- C. Two only
- D. All Three

Answer: B

Female Issue Reforms

Women's Organizations

- Pandita Ramabai Saraswati founded the Arya Mahila Samaj to serve the cause of women.
- In 1910, Sarla Devi Chaudhurani convened the first meeting of the Bharat Stree Mahamandal in Allahabad.

Considered as the first major Indian women's organisation set up by a woman, its objectives included promotion of education for women, abolition of the purdah system and improvement

in the socio-economic and political status of woman all over India.

- The All India Women's Conference (AIWC), founded by Margaret Cousins in 1927, was perhaps the first women's organization with an egalitarian approach. Its first conference was held at Ferguson College, Pune.
- Important founding members included Maharani Chimnabai Gaekwad, Rani Sahiba of Sangli, Sarojini Naidu, Kamla Devi Chattopadhyaya and Lady Dorab Tata.
- Its objectives were to work for a society based on principles of social justice, integrity, equal rights and opportunities; and to secure for every human being, the essentials of life, not determined by accident of birth or sex but by planned social distribution.

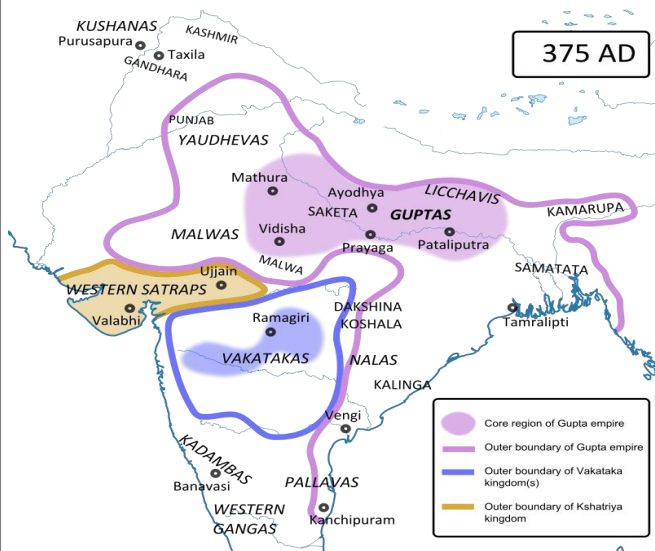
126. In 375 AD, how many of the following dynasties were contemporaries of the Guptas?

1. Vakatakas
2. Kadambas
3. Western Gangas
4. Pallavas

Select the correct answer from the options given below:

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. Three only
- D. All Four

Answer: D



127. How many of the following events occurred during the tenure of Warren Hastings as Governor-General of Bengal?

1. Pitt's India Act
2. The First Maratha War
3. Signing of the Treaty of Seringapatam
4. Foundation of the Asiatic Society of Bengal

Select the correct answer from the options given below:

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. Three only
- D. All Four

Answer: C

128. Regarding the first session of the Indian National Congress in 1885, consider the following statements:

1. Dadabhai Naoroji presided over the session.
2. Lord Lansdowne served as the Governor-General during this period.

3. The Congress expressed faith in the British sense of justice.

Which of the statements provided above is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: A

Congress Session

- The first session of the Indian National Congress was presided over by **Womesh Chandra Bonnerjee**. (He was a Barrister and also the *first Indian to contest the election for the British House of Commons*, although he lost the elections)
 - In his first speech, he declared that **Congress had immense faith in the British sense of Justice**, and the Congress was loyal well wisher of the Government and in return they demanded greater representation of Indians in Government and Higher Posts.
 - This session was attended by **72 delegates of which 39 were lawyers**.

129. Arrange the following events in the history of the Indian community in South Africa in chronological order (earliest to latest):

1. Foundation of the Indian Opinion magazine and Phoenix Farm
2. Foundation of the Natal Indian Congress
3. Foundation of the Indian Ambulance Corps during the Boer Wars

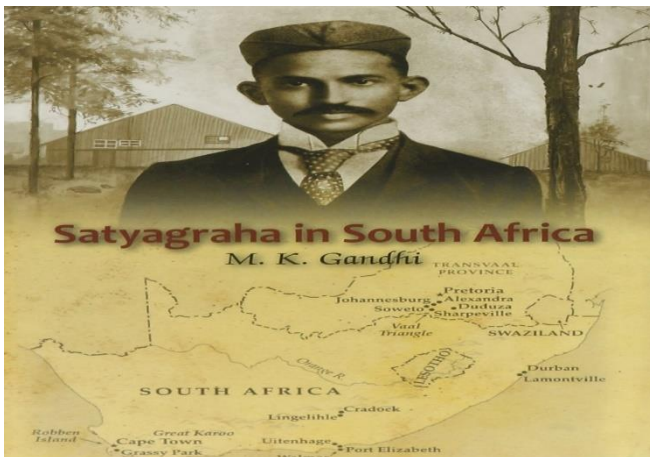
Select the correct answer from the options given below:

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

Answer: C

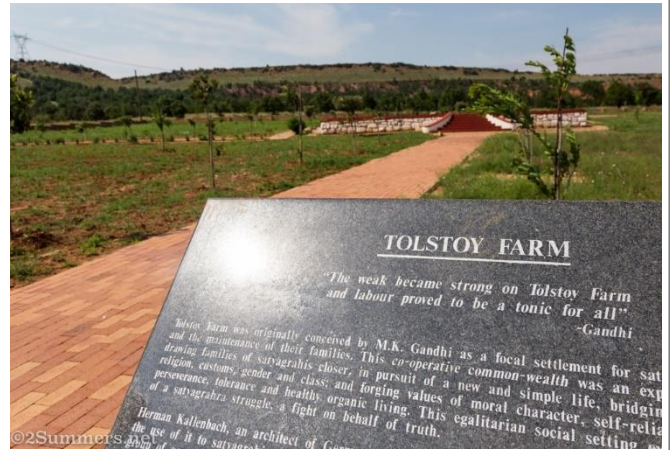
Gandhiji in South Africa

- **1893:** Departure of Gandhi to South Africa.
- **1894:** Foundation of Natal Indian Congress.
- **1899:** Foundation of Indian Ambulance Corps during Boer Wars.
- **1903:** Foundation of Indian Opinion (magazine) and Phoenix Farm, at Phoenix, near Durban.



- **1906:** First Civil Disobedience Movement in Transvaal.
- **1907:** Satyagraha against Compulsory Registration and Passes for Asians (The Black Act) in Transvaal.
- **1908:** Trial and imprisonment- Johannesburg Jail (First Jail Term).
- **1910:** Foundation of Tolstoy Farm (Later- Gandhi Ashrama), near Johannesburg.

- **1913:** Satyagraha against derecognition of non-Christian marriages in Cape Town.
- **1914-15:** Awarded Kaiser-i-Hind for raising Indian Ambulance Corps during Boer wars.



130. Consider the following pairs:

1. Ramosi Peasant Force : Vasudev Balwant Phadke
2. Mitra Mela: Vinayak Damodar Savarkar
3. Anjuman-i-Mohisban-i-Watan: Dadabhai Naroji

How many pairs are correctly matched ?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: B

131. Consider the following statements about Allahabad Pillar inscription:

1. It is engraved on an Ashokan pillar in Pali.
2. It was composed by Kalidasa.
3. It provides an account of Samudragupta's Dakshinapatha expedition.

How many of the statements given above is/are incorrect ?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. All Three
- D. None

Answer: B

Samudragupta

- Harishena, the court poet of Samudragupta rightly describes him as the hero of a hundred battles, and Vincent Smith calls him the 'Napoleon of India'. His name appears in the Javanese text 'Tantrikamandaka'.
- Achievements are recorded in a long inscription (prashasti), written in pure Sanskrit by his court poet Harishena.
 - This inscription is engraved on a pillar at Allahabad (Allahabad Pillar Inscription)
 - Enumerates the regions conquered by Samudragupta and also speaks of his magnanimity to his foes, his polished intellect, his poetic skills and his proficiency in music.
 - Samudragupta is referred to as Lichchhavi-dauhitra (grandson of the Lichchhavis) in his Allahabad prashasti.
 - The inscription calls him Kaviraja because of his ability to compose verses.

132. In the context of medieval Indian history, consider the following statements about the reign of Mohammad bin Tughlaq and his initiatives:

1. He implemented the scheme of 'Din-i Ilahi' as a unifying religion.
2. He shifted the capital from Delhi to Daulatabad.
3. He introduced a copper token currency at par with the value of silver tanka coins.
4. He undertook a successful campaign to Qarachil.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- A. One only
- B. Two only
- C. Three only
- D. All four

Answer: B

Muhammad Bin Tughlaq (1325 -1351 C.E.)

Reforms or Blunders? - Expedition to North-West and North

- Since Alauddin's reign, no attention was given to Multan and focus was mostly on South and Gujarat. After Muhammad Tughluq (earlier known as Ulugh Khan) acceded to the throne that attention was paid to the north-west frontier.
- Led Campaigns to Peshawar - Quite successful - Administrative arrangement settled there.
- Qarachil Campaign (1333) - A fiasco - Only a handful of soldiers return to tell tale of catastrophe - This campaign led to tremendous waste of resources and an erosion in the authority of Muhammad Tughluq.

133. The Lahore Congress of 1929 adopted the Purna Swaraj Resolution, marking a significant shift in the Indian independence movement towards complete independence. This historic event occurred during the reign of which Governor-General/ Viceroy of British India?

- A. Lord Hardinge II
- B. Lord Chelmsford
- C. Lord Reading
- D. Lord Irwin

Answer: D

134. Consider the following statements regarding the 1929 Lahore session of the Congress:

1. The session was presided over by M.A. Ansari.
2. It was decided that congress would attend all the Round Table Conferences.
3. January 26, 1930, was declared as the first Independence Day of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are incorrect?

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

Answer: A

Lahore Session (1929)



- Jawaharlal Nehru was nominated the president for the Lahore session of the Congress (December 1929).
- The following major decisions were taken at the Lahore session-
 - the Round Table Conferences to be boycotted
 - Complete independence declared as the aim of the Congress
 - CWC authorised to launch a programme of civil disobedience including non-payment of taxes and all members of legislatures asked to resign from their seats
 - January 26, 1930 fixed as the first Independence Day, to be celebrated everywhere.



Points of Prominence

- December 31, 1929, at midnight on the banks of River Ravi, the newly adopted tricolour flag of freedom was hoisted amidst slogans of Inquilab Zindabad.
- On January 26, 1930, the declaration of purna swaraj was publicly issued.
- Nehru made an appeal to volunteers across the country to join the civil disobedience movement in which his 12 year old daughter, Indira was the first to volunteer.

removal of the monument memorialising the Black Hole of Calcutta.

- He was released after a few days but was kept under surveillance. He then made his escape from the country in 1941 to Germany via Afghanistan and the Soviet Union.
- He had previously travelled to Europe and met with Indian students and European political leaders.

135. Arrange the following events in chronological order, starting with the earliest:

1. Passing of the 'Quit India Resolution' by the Congress
2. August Offer
3. Escape of Subhas Chandra Bose from India
4. Formation of the Forward Bloc

Select the correct answer from the options given below:

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

Answer: D

Subhash Chandra Bose

- Bose's ideology tilted towards socialism and leftist authoritarianism. He formed the All India Forward Bloc in 1939 as a faction within the Congress.
- At the start of the Second World War, Bose protested against the government for not consulting Indians before dragging them into the war. He was arrested when he organised protests in Calcutta for the

August Offer (1940)



- The astounding success of Hitler and the fall of Belgium, Holland, and France put England in a conciliatory mood.
- In order to win over the sympathy of the Indian masses and political parties during the war, the Viceroy announced the August offer which proposed:

Dominion status as the objective for India.

Expansion of Viceroy's executive council



Setting up of a Constituent Assembly after the war consisting of Indians to

- Decide their constitution according to their social, economic and political conceptions
- Subject to fulfilment of the obligation of the Government regarding defence, minority rights, treaties with states & all India services

No future constitution to be adopted without the consent of minorities.

Reactions to August Offer

- The Congress Working Committee meeting in Wardha on 21 August 1940 rejected this

offer and affirmed its demand for complete freedom from imperial power.

- It was also rejected by the Muslim League. The Muslim League argued that nothing short of India's partition would satisfy it.
- Nehru said, "The Dominion Status concept is as dead as a doornail."
- Gandhiji said that the declaration had widened the gulf between nationalists and British rulers.

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