**QUESTION BANK – 2022-23**

**STD 9**

**HISTORY AND CIVICS**

**CHAPTER – 1**

**THE HARAPPAN CIVILISATION**

**Q1. What is meant by the term Civilisation?**

Ans. Civilisation is said to be an advanced stage of human cultural development. It implies the use of superior technology and complex economic relationships.

**Q2. Why is the Harappan civilization called so?**

Ans. The Harappan civilization is called so because the Harappan site was the first to be discovered in 1921 at the modern site of Harappa situated in the province of West Punjab in Pakistan.

**Q3. Name one important building of Indus Valley Civilisation and its importance.**

Ans. THE GREAT BATH :

It is one of the largest public buildings at Mohenjo- Daro. It has a large rectangular tank in a courtyard surrounded by a corridor on all four sides.

Surrounding the bath, were porticos and sets of rooms and a stairway which led to an upper storey.

Some scholars believe that these rooms were provided for the members of some kind of priesthood.

The Great Bath is an important source of information of Harappan civilization:

* The construction of the great bath indicates that the art of building had reached a high degree of perfection
* The massive structure points out that there might have existed a ruling class
* It might have been used for religious purposes. This indicates the importance attached to ceremonial bathing in sacred tanks , pools and rivers
* The design of great bath portrays efficient planning in the structural features relating to water supply and sewage disposal

**Q4. Give any two characteristic features of Citadel.**

Ans. Citadel was the raised area of each city. It had the following characteristic features:

* It owed its height to the buildings constructed on mud brick platforms.
* It had houses of the ruling class and important buildings like the Great Bath, the granary, the assembly hall and the workshops

**Q5. What do you know about the Indus script?**

Ans. The Harappans used a script which is regarded as pictographic since its signs represent birds, fish and varieties of the human form.

The number of signs of Harappan script is known to be between 375 and 400. The script is found inscribed on a number of seals, copper tools, rims of jars, copper and terracotta tablets, jewellery and on an ancient signboard.

**Q6. Mention the type of dress worn by the Indus valley people.**

Ans. A piece of woven cotton was discovered at Mohenjo-Daro and textile impressions were found on several objects.

The human figurines wearing heavy ornaments and headgear shows the gracefulness and dressing style of women as well as power of man.

**Q7. State two features of trade In the Indus Valley Civilisation.**

Ans. There is abundant evidence that the Harappans traded not only with other parts of India but also with many countries of Asia.

The Harappans carried on considerable trade in stone, metal, shell etc. within the Indus civilization zone.

However, they did not use metal money but carried on all exchanges through barter.

**Q8. Name three animals depicted on the Pashupati seal.**

Ans. The tiger , the one – horned bull and the rhinoceros

**Q9. State any two causes that led to the decline of the Harappan Civilisation.**

Ans. The following two causes led to the decline of the Harappan Civilisation:

* FLOODS AND EARTHQUAKES : It is held by some scholars that floods in Mohenjo-daro led to the abandonment of this settlement.
* DEFORESTATION: Enormous quantities of wood was needed to produce Bronze. Wood was also needed to produce jewellery. This could have led to deforestation leading to climatic changes.

**Q10. In what two respects is Harappan Civilisation our greatest heritage?**

Ans. i) The Harappan way of making baked pottery ,bricks, beads , jewellery , textiles etc. was adopted

by the later civilizations.

ii) The worship of Pashupati Shiva, the female deity as mother Goddess, sacred tree, animals,

serpents, religious symbols etc. were prevalent during the Harappan prod were adopted in later

Hinduism and some of them have continued to this day.

**Q11. With reference to the sources of information about the Harappan civilization, Describe the**

**significance of the Seals.**

Ans. Of about 2000 seals that has been discovered a great majority comprise short inscriptions with pictures of the one-horned bull, tiger, goat, elephant and rhinoceros.

Materials used in making seals comprises of terracotta, steatite, agate etc.

Harappan seals provide useful information about the script, trade, religion and beliefs of the Harappans. Seals of Pashupati shows that people believed in Shiva. The seals were used by traders to stamp their goods. After a bag with goods was tied, a layer of et clay was applied on the knot and seal was pressed on it.

**Q12. Discuss briefly how the Harappan Civilisation was discovered.**

Ans. The Harappan site was the first to be discovered in 1921 at the modern site of Harappa situated in the province of West Punjab in Pakistan.

Mohenjo-daro was discovered in 1922. Both lie in the Indus Valley region.

In 1922, R.D.Banerjee was led to a site by a Buddhist monk who wanted to excavate a mound thinking it to be a Buddhist stupa. While digging out the ruins, he came across many strange objects. This was the city of MOhenjo-Daro whose pattern of civilization was similar to the Harappan Civilisation.

**Q13. Write a short note onTown Planning.**

Ans. TOWN PLANNING: The most striking feature of Harappan civilization is its urban planning. The main characteristics of town planning are:

* Each city was divided into two parts – the raised area called the ‘Citadel’ and the ‘Lower town’. The citadel owe its height to the buildings which were constructed on mud brick platforms.
* The main streets followed a grid pattern running from North to South or from East to West
* The houses at street corners were rounded to allow carts to pass easily.
* House drains emptied all waste water into the street drains.
* The streets crossed the main road at right angles dividing the city into square or a rectangular blocks.

**Q14. Write a short note on special features of the houses of the people.**

Ans. – The residential buildings were built according to a set plan on a high mound

* Each house had covered drains connected with street drains
* The entrances to the houses were from the narrow lanes which cut the streets at right angles
* The kitchen was placed in a sheltered corner of the courtyard and the ground floor contained store rooms and well chambers
* Doors and windows opened on the side of the streets and not on the main roads

**Q15. Mention the common elements between Mohenjo –Daro and Harappan civilisaton.**

Ans. i) Both are located on river banks – Mohenjo-daro on the right bank of the Indus and

Harappa on the left bank of Ravi ii) both measured around 5.0 km in circuit iii) ground plans including layout of streets, blocks of houses were common to both the cities iv) water supply , drainage ,granaries were common in both the cities

v) indoor plumbing, paved bathrooms, brick drain pipes, a network of brick line sewage channel is seen in both the cities.

**Q16. Describe any important object of sculpture made by the Harappans**.

Ans. The stone sculpture of a man with a beard was discovered from Mohenjo-Daro. The statue has a shawl worn on the left shoulder and the eyes are half closed, therefore some scholars believe this is the statue of a yogi. This sculpture is of high artistic value and points to the existence of skilled artisans in Harappan civilization.

**Q17. How did the Indus Pottery reflect the potter’s artistic skill?**

Ans. Harappans produced their own characteristic pottery which was made glossy and shiny. Earthen vessels and pottery, crafted on the potter’s wheel were decorated with black geometrical designs the large jars with narrow necks and red potswith black decoration bear evidence of their artistic skill

Question 18.

What are the evidences which reveal the skill of the Indus people in town-planning?

Answer:

Streets: The streets divided the entire city into square or rectangular blocks, each of which was further divided by a number of lanes. The main streets were wide and straight and intersected each other at right angles.

Bricks: Fire-burnt bricks were used for paving the streets. The comers of the streets were rounded off: Houses were not allowed to encroach upon the streets.

Question 19.

Mention the main evidences to suggest that the Indus Valley people paid great importance to sanitation and health.

Answer:

The elaborate drainage system was there in the city. A brick lined drainage channel flowed alongside every street. The house drains were connected to underground main drains, which opened into large brick culverts on the outskirts of the city. The drains were provided with manholes. This provision of such a systematic drainage system in every city shows that the people paid great attention to sanitation and health.

Question 20.

Mention the evidences which suggest that the Harappan people had trade relations with other countries.

Answer:

The Harappan people had commercial relations with southern and eastern. India, Kashmir and with other countries of Asia. They imported various metals, precious stones and other articles. They also carried on their trade with Egypt and Crete. Objects of Sumerian origin found at the ruins of the Indus cities indicate that their trade relations between these countries were actively practiced into. Trade was carried on both by land and sea-routes.

Question 21.

Mention three different kinds of Seals discovered at the various sites of the Harappan Valley Civilization.

Answer:

Three different kinds of Seals discovered are:

1. The Animal Seals.
2. The Unicom Seal.
3. The Shiva Pashupati Seal.

Question 22.

Mention any two features to suggest that the Harappan people enjoyed a higher standard of civic amenities than those of Mesopotamia.

Answer:

Harappan people enjoyed a higher standard of civic amenities than those of Mesopotamia. The Great Bath of Mohenjo-daro and also its many houses with their own water supply, bathrooms and excellent drainage system, all go to say that “the masses enjoyed a degree of comfort and luxury unknown in other parts of the civilized world.”

Question 23.

State the probable period of the existence of the Indus Valley Civilization.

Answer:

The probable period of the existence of the Indus Valley Civilization is between 3250 and 2750 B.C.

Question 24.

Mention three main occupations of the Indus Valley people.

Answer:

1. Agriculture
2. Domestication of Animals and
3. Trade and Commerce

Question 25.

Mention the evidences which suggest that the Harappan people worshiped:

(a) The Mother Goddess, (b) The Shiva Pashupati, and (c) The trees and animals. Answer:

On the basis of the following evidences we can say that the Harappan people worshipped different deities and objects:

(a) Many terracotta figurines and seals discovered, bear the picture of a female deity, identified as the Mother Goddess. The female figures are semi nude, they wear elaborate head dresses and ornaments. Some of the figures smoke-stained which may mean that the people burnt incense before the deity at the time of worship. People worshiped this Goddess believing in the female energy as the source of all creation.

(b) A particular seal discovered, bears remarkable figure of a male deity, identified as Lord Shiva. The figure is tri-faced with horns one either side of his head dress, is seated in a yogic posture on a throne surrounded by animals. The discovery of a large number of conical and cylindrical stones that resemble the Shiva Linga, suggest that the Harappan people worshiped Lord Shiva.

(c) A certain religious seals discovered are found to bear designs, which means that they worshiped trees and animals. They considered Pipal tree sacred as it was a source of wisdom as they believed. Also, they worshiped the bull, the rhinoceros, the tiger and the crocodile. The figure of a deity with a hooded cobra over its head and a worshiper on either side signifies that some form of Naga-worship was in fashion.

Question 26.

What is the evidence to suggest that the Harappan people worshipped trees and animals?

Answer:

The seals are valuable source of information regarding the physical features of the people, their religious beliefs etc. The designs on certain religious seals show that people worshipped trees and animals.

Question 27.

What evidences are found for us to know about the following:

1. Food of the Indus Valley people.
2. Dress and Ornaments worn by the people.

Answer:

In context of the mentioned headlines in the questions evidences that are found are described below:

(a) The principal diet of the Indus Valley people consisted of wheat and barley which were regularly cultivated. Rice and dates were also eaten. Milk, vegetables and fruits were also eaten. Milk, vegetables and fruits were also there. Beef, mutton, poultry, turtle, tortoise, river-fish and shell-fish were commonly used.

(b) The various sculptured figures show that people used to wear simple dress. Men used two pieces of cloth; the upper garment, that was a shawl which was drawn over the left shoulder and under the right arm; the lower garment resembled a modem dhoti. Female dress did not differ much from that of the male. Women used a loin cloth bound by a girdle. Common fabrics were commonly used, perhaps wool was also used.Male and female both were fond of wearing ornaments. Gold, silver, coppe, other metals and precious stones were used for making various ornaments of different designs. Men and women used to wear necklaces, finger-rings and armlets. Women decorated themselves with a head-dress, earrings, bangles, bracelets, girdles and anklets.

Question 28.

Describe the social life of the Harappan people with reference to:

(a) Their Diet. (b) Their Dress. (c) Their Ornaments. (d) Sports and Games.

Answer:

The social life of the Harappan people with reference to the given heads is discussed as under:

1. Their Diet: The principal diet of the people consisted of wheat and barley. Rice anddates were also consumed. Milk, vegetables and fruits were also eaten. Beef, mutton, poultry, turtle, tortoise, river-fish were commonly used.

1. Their Dress: The Harappan people wore simple dress. The dress of men constituted two pieces of cloth the upper garment was a shawl which was drawn over the left shoulder and under the right arm; the lower garment resembled a modern Women used a loin cloth bound by a girdle. The cotton and woollen garments were commonly worn.

1. Their rnaments: Both men and women whether rich or poor were fond of wearing ornaments. The ornaments were guided out of gold, silver, copper and other well-known metals, and precious stones were used for making various ornaments of different designs. Both men and women wore necklaces, finger-rings and armlets. Women also decorated themselves with a head-dress, earrings, bangles, bracelets, girdles and anklets.
2. Their Sports and Games: Dicing was a popular game among the people. Marbles and balls were used for games. The Harappan people were fond of music and dancing. Clay-modelling was popular among children. Crude models of men, women, animals and whistles, rattles and dolls have been found in abundance. People loved hunting and fishing.

Question 29.

What do you know about the trade and commercial activities of the Harappan people ?

Answer:

The Harappan people had commercial tie-ups with southern and eastern India, Kashmir and with other countries of Asia. They imported various precious stones and other articles. They also carried on trade with Egypt and Crete. Trade was carried on both by land and sea-routes.

Question 30.

India is well-known for her deep-rooted tradition in arts and crafts. Substantiate this statement by a brief mention of the following:

(a) The Harappan Pottery, (b) Harappan art of Spinning. (c) Harappan Metal-craft

Answer:

Indians have learnt quite a lot in the field of art and craft from the Harappan art and craft which is discussed as under:

1. The Harappan Pottery: The workmanship of the Harappa potters is admirable. They made pottery of various shapes and sizes on a potter’s wheel. Different types of pots, jars and vases were made. Pots meant for daily use were plain and those which were used for preserving valuables, were glazed and painted. The discovery of pottery kilns reveals that pottery was fired with great care and skill.
2. Harappan art of Spinning: A huge number of spindles have been discovered intheir houses which indicates that spinning of cotton and wool was common among the people. Spindles and spindles- whorls were made of terracotta or porcelain. The discovery of a dyer’s vat on the site reveals that they were familiar with the art of dyeing their fabrics.
3. Harappan Metalcraft: The Harappan people were quite familiar with the art of using metals like—gold, silver and copper. Smiths of various kinds possessed technical skill in producing beautiful jewellery ; in boring carnelian beads ; in casting metals and in creating alloys. A high aesthetic sense is revealed in the exquisite designs of gold ornaments like—necklaces, armbands, bangles, girdles, silver bracelets and earrings worn by the Harappan women. The artisans smelted bronze and produced vessels of fine quality. Copper vessels were made from sheet-metal.

Question 31

Write a note on the religious beliefs and practices of the Harappan people with reference to:

1. Worship of the Mother Goddess.
2. Worship of Shiva Pashupati.
3. Worship of Trees and Animals.

Answer:

The religious beliefs and practices of the Harappan people on the basis of the mentioned headings are described below:

(a) Worship of the Mother Goddess: The Harappan People worshiped the female deity (Mother Goddess). A number of terracotta figurines and seals of this Goddess have been brought to light. The female figures are semi nude, wearing elaborate head-dress and ornaments. It is believed, the people worshiped the Mother Goddess. Some of the figures are smoke-stained, giving an indication that the people burnt incense before the deity at the time of worship. It was generally believed that Mother Goddess had been the source of female energy as the source of all creation. (b) Worship of Shiva Pashupati: The remarkable figure of a male deity, depicted on a particular seal is identified as Lord Shiva. It is a three-faced figure, with horns on either side of his headdress, is seated in a yogic posture on a throne surrounded by animals. It is also described as Trimukha, Mahavogi and Pashupati. A large number of conical and cylindrical stones, which resemble to the Shiva-Linga, affirms that the Harappan people worshiped Lord Shiva.

(c) Worship of Trees and Animals: A certain religious seals depict the designs, which show that the people had faith in the doctrine of animism i.e., they worshiped trees and animals. They worshiped the Pipal tree believing it to be source of wisdom. The bull, the rhinoceros, the tiger and the crocodile were worshiped. The figure of the deity with a hooded-cobra over its head and a worshiper on either side, signifies that some form of Naga-worship was practiced. Some of these animals still figure as the vehicles of the Hindu deities for instance; the bull of Shiva, the lion of Durga, the ram of Brahma, the elephant of Indra and the wild boar of Gauri.

Question 32

With reference to the religious belief of the Harappans, state the following:

1. The sources of information about the religious beliefs of the Harappans.

Answer:

The information about the religious beliefs mostly comes from the seals, seal impressions, terracotta and metal figurines, cemeteries, etc. On the basis of the knowledge obtained from the seals, figurines it has been inferred that the Harappan people had many features of later Hinduism.

1. Their belief in Mother Goddess.

Answer:

They worshiped the Mother Goddess who bears some resemblance to the one that was worshiped in the Middle East and Europe. The Harappans looked upon the earth as the Goddess of Fertility. A plant is shown growing out of the body of a woman resembling the Goddess of earth.

**CHAPTER 2**

**THE VEDIC PERIOD**

Q1. **Why was the Early Vedic Literature known as Shruti?**

Ans. Early Vedic Literature is known as Shruti because it is believed that the Shruti was revealed to the sages by God and they passed on that knowledge orally from generation to generation.

**Q3. What are the Upanishads?**

Ans. The Upanishads are the philosophical commentaries on the Vedas. The doctrines such as Karma, Moksha and Maya are explained in detail. The Upanishads form the basic source of Indian Philosophy.

**Q4. What are the Dharmashastras?**

Ans. The law books called the Dharmasutras and the Smritis together with their commentaries are called Dharmashastras.

**Q5. Mention the importance of the epics as a source of information about the Aryans .**

Ans. i) The Epics serve as the main source of information on the political institutions and the social and cultural organisaton of the Epic age .

ii)They provide information on various Aryan kingdoms, their armies and the weapons they used.

iii)They reveal the high ideals of family life of the Aryans iv)The Bhagwad Gita elaborates the Karma philosophy and the immortality of the soul.

**Q7. Which battle is known as the Mahabharata?**

Ans. The battle fought between the Kauravas and the Pandavas at the Kurukshetra for 18 days is known as the Mahabharata.

**Q8. Give two features of Painted Grey Ware (PGW) .**

Ans. The Painted Grey Ware is a very fine, smooth and even coloured pottery . It was made out of well worked, high quality clay with geometric patterns painted on it in black. In some cases floral patterns and sun symbols are seen. The pottery includes open mouthed bowls and dishes.

**Q9. What are known as the Varnashramas?**

Ans. In the later vedic period Brahmins, Kshtriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras became four distinct castes or varnas.

**Q10. How did trade become a pivot around which the life of the people revolved?**

Ans. During the later Vedic phase agricultural surplus led to trade, giving rise to markets from which developed towns and cities. Thus, trade became the pivot around which the whole town and city life moved.

**Q11. State the difference in the position of women between the Early Vedic and Later Vedic age.**

Ans. During the Rig Vedic period women were respected. The institution of marriage had become sacred. The daughters were given freedom to choose their husbands. The system of remarriage of widows was prevalent . There are no examples of child marriage.

In the later Vedic period, there was significant decline in the status of women. Their participation in Yajnas was not considered necessary. They did not enjoy the right to property. The freedom to choose husbands by women was curtailed.

**Q12. State briefly the change that occurred in the position of the Brahmins in the Later Vedic Age.**

Ans. The Brahmins were responsible for bringing about many innovations and evolving new doctrines. Consequently, all these innovations strengthened the position of Brahmins. The Brahmins were said to have divine powers. No ritual or religious celebrations would commence without the presence of the Brahmins.

**Q13. State two important changes that took place in the society in the process of its transition from the Early Vedic Period to the Later Vedic Period.**

Ans. During the Early Vedic Period, family was the basic unit and women enjoyed equal rights . But in the Later Vedic Period, joint family system prevailed and there was a significant decline in status of women. Earlier during the Early Vedic Period, rigid caste system did not prevail , but during the Later Vedic Period the caste system was becoming rigid.

**Q14. Write short notes on : a) The Epics b) Role of Iron Implements**

Ans. THE EPICS: The Ramayana and the Mahabharata are important epics.

RAMAYANA: The Ramayana was originally composed in Sanskrit. The Sanskrit version is said to be the work of Maharishi Valmiki. The story Ramayana revolves around Rama and the abduction of his wife Sita by a demon king, Ravana. The battle between Rama and Ravana; duty, devotion and love shown by the brothers is told in detail.

MAHABHARATA: It is believed to be the work of sage Vyasa. The Bhagwad Gita which forms a part of the Mahabharata is one of the most popular religious texts considered sacred by many people in India.

ROLE OF IRON IMPLEMENTS: The discovery of iron marks an important stage in the march of civilization in the world . It was used in the following areas:

i)Agriculture : Discovery of iron gave the Aryans new implements like axes to clear forest and cultivate the land . Thus agriculture became their important occupation.

ii)Occupation : The use of iron gave rise to new trades by providing durable implements like saws , chisels , hammers , nails and tongs . This gave rise to occupations such as weaving, spinning carpentary, taning and tool making .

**Q15. What are known as Brahmanas and Aranyakas ?**

Ans. BRAHMANAS : Written after Vedas as their simple commentary the Brahmanas are in prose. They explain the social and religious importance of rituals as well as the value of sacrifices. The Brahmanas are of great historical value. Each Veda has several Brahmanas.

ARANYAKAS: These are known as ‘forest books’ written for the guidance of the hermits and the students living in forests. They form the concluding part of the Brahmanas. Their main themes are mysticism and philosophy.

**Q16. Why was domestication of animals important to the Aryans ?**

Ans. The Rig Vedic economy was primarily pastoral . For Aryans cattle was synonymous with wealth : a wealthy person was called gomat. Gopa and Gopati were epithets given to the king.

**Q17. Describe briefly the life in those ancient education institution.**

Ans. Education was imparted through private gurukuls. The gurukuls were often located on the outskirts of the city and even in forests. The students lived there were required to do household chores for his teacher. Most of the teaching was done orally. The gurus were greatly respected and revered. The main objective of education was to bring about physical mental and spiritual development of the pupils. The subjects of study included the Vedas Puranas , Grammar , Mathematics , Ethics , Logic and Military Science.

Question 18

Name any two early Aryan settlements.

Answer:

The early Aryans settled in the Sapta-Sindhu region which comprised the five rivers of Punjab namely—Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas and Sutlej and the river Indus (Sindhu) and the river Saraswati

Question 19.

What does the Rig Veda contain ?

Answer:

It contains hymns in praise of different Gods and Goddesses like – Indra, varuna and Agni.

Question 20.

Name any two of the four Varnas.

Answer:

The Brahmins and the Kshatriyas.

Question 21.

What were the two main occupations of the Rig Vedic Aryans?

Answer:

Domestication of the animals and agriculture.

Question 22.

What form of worship did the Aryans follow during the early Vedic period?

Answer:

The early Vedic period comprised worshiping of several gods. The Aryans used to worship Gods of the Sky or Heaven, Gods of the Atmosphere Gods of the Earth, Sacrifices or the Yajnas.

Question 23.

Name the two political institutions which exercised check on the powers of the King in the Rig Vedic period.

Answer:

The Samiti and the Sabha.

Question 24.

Mention the important features of the religion of the early Vedic period.

Answer:

The religion of the early Vedic period was very simple. The people worshiped various forces of nature as manifestations of the Supreme God. Thus, they worshiped a number of Nature Gods. The Aryans did not build any temples of worshiped idols. They used to chant hymns in the open air. Sacrifices or the Yajnas occupied a prominent place in the early Vedic period.

Question 25.

State the importance of Sacrifices in the early Vedic ritual.

Answer:

The Aryans propitiated their Gods by performing sacrifices. The common items of offerings for the sacrifice included ghee, milk, grain, flesh and soma juice. Every householder performed the sacrifice by kindling the sacred fire and reciting hymns. All the members of the family participated in these ceremonies.

Question 26

With reference to the following explain the main features of the Rig Vedic Economy:

(a) Agriculture

( b) Domestication of Animals

Answer:

With reference to the given headings, the economic life of the Rig Vedic Aryans is explained as follows:

1. Agriculture: The Rig Vedic Aryans were mainly scattered in villages. They frequently prayed for plentiful rain and bountiful harvest, large herds of cattle and good health. It shows that agriculture was an important occupation of the village folk. However, the only grain referred to in the Rig Veda is Yava which could mean grain in general or barley in particular.
2. Domestication of Animals: The Rig Vedic Aryans had mainly a pastoral economy.Cattle formed an important item of dona (gifts) made to the priests. The word Gomat was used to signify a wealthy person. It meant the one who possessed many cattle, especially the cows and bulls. Other domesticated animals were the ox, the horse, the dog, the goat and the sheep.

**CHAPTER 3**

**JAINISM AND BUDDHISM**

Q1. What are the Tripitikas? Name the three Tripitikas.

Ans. Tripitikas are the most important literary works of the Buddhist. The word Tripitikas means ‘three baskets’ of the Buddhist canons. The earliest writings were on long , narrow leaves sewn together , on one side and bound in bunches then stored in baskets so they were called ‘The Three Baskets’.

The three Tripitikas were : The Vinay Pitaka ; The Sutta Pitaka and The Abhidhamma Pitaka.

Q2. State two important causes for the rise of Jainism and Buddhism.

Ans. The causes for the rise of Jainism and Buddhism sre as follows :

* Reaciton against Ritualism
* Corruption in Religion
* Rigid caste system
* Difficult language
* Political situation - support of rules
* Agricultural economy

Q3. Who was Vardhamana Mahavira? Give the significance of both parts of his name.

Ans. Mahavira was the 24th and the last Tirthankara . He made Jainism popular and systematic so he is considered the founder of Jainism. He is said to have been very brave and to have saved his colleagues from danger. For this he was called Mahavira.At the time of his birth his father ‘s kingdom was prosperous so he was called Vardhamana.

Q4. Name the five vows prescribed for the Jains.

Ans. A Jain householder has to take these vows:

* Ahimsa – nonviolence
* Asteya- not stealing
* Satya - not telling a lie
* Aparigraha – not possessing property
* Brahmacharya – practicing chastity

Q5. What are known as Triratnas?

Ans. Mahavira said that Moksha can be attained by following the Triratnas or three jewels which are :

* Right faith
* Right knowledge
* Right conduct

Q6. Who was Gautama Buddha ? Where was he born ?

Ans. Gautama Buddha was the founder of Buddhism. According to a legend he was born in563B.C at Lumbini near Kapilavastu in Nepal.

Q7. What are the Four Great Sights?

Ans. The four great sights are as follows:

* The appearance of an old man bent with age
* The sight of a sick man groaning with pain
* The dead body of a man being carried for cremation
* An ascetic in search of salvation

Q8. Give the four Noble truths of Buddhism.

Ans. The four Noble truths of Buddhism are as follows:

* The world is full of suffering
* The suffering has a cause
* Desire is the cause of suffering if desire is stopped suffering can be stopped

Q9. Give four points of the Eight fold of Buddha.

Ans. -right action

* Right thoughts
* Right belief
* Right living
* Right speech
* Right effort
* Right recollection
* Right meditation

Q10. What is the Sangha? Name any two principles that governed the Sangha.

Ans. The organization for teaching and spreading Buddhism was known as Sangha. Its main principles were :

* Membership
* Ten commandments
* The Viharas

Q11. What were the features of Buddhism that attracted people?

Ans. – reaction against ritualism

* Universal brotherhood
* Use of local language
* Against animal sacrifice

Q12. Give two differences between Hinayana and Mahayana Buddhism.

Ans. Hinayana :

* Stood for following Buddha in letter and spirit
* Denied the existence of God
* Eight fold path the only means of salvation
* Used Pali
* Found in India, Srilanka, Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia

Mahayana:

* Combination of both Buddhism and Hinduism
* Buddha an incarnation of God
* Made a goal to attain swarga
* Used Sanskrit
* Found in north western parts of India , South east asian countries , China and Japan

Q13. What are the Jatakas?

Ans. Jatakas refer to the tales which describe the previous births of Buddha in both human and animal form.

Q14. With reference to Jainism mention the truths to be followed for obtaining salvation

. Ans. The nine truths are essential and they are:

* Jiva (living things)
* Ajiva (non-living things)
* Punya (results of good deeds)
* Paap sin)
* Ashrav (good deeds)
* Sanvar (hindrances in the way of karma)
* Bandha (bondage)
* Nirjara (destruction of Karma)
* Moksha (salvation)

Q15. What is known as Dharmachakrapravartana?

Ans. After attaining enlightment Buddha delivered his first sermon at the deer park in Sarnath. This

event is known as the Dharmachakrapravartana or the turning of the wheel of sacred law.

Q16. Mention three main teachings of each of the two religions founded by Mahavira and Gautama

Buddha.

Ans . Jainism founded by Mahavira.

* The five vows
* The nine truths

Buddhism founded by Gautama Buddha

* The four noble truths
* The eightfold path

Q17 Mention two similarities and two differences between Jainism and Buddhism.

Ans. SIMILARITIES :

* The founders of both religions belonged to the kshatriya clan and followed the same path
* Both sought Moksha
* Did not accept the Vedas
* Non violence was their creed
* Monks and nuns had to renounce their family life and the world

DISSIMILARITIES : Buddhism

* It was a new religion in sixth century BC
* It followed a middle path
* It spread far and wide JAINISM:
* Had been founded earlier Mahavira was the last Tirthankara
* It believed in hard penance
* It did not spread beyond the Indian shores

Q18 What was the original name of Mahavira?

Ans The Original name of Mahavira was Vardhamana.

Question 19

How did Vardhamana become Mahavira?

Answer:

Vardhamana renounced all wordy pleasures. At the age of thirteen, he became an ascetic and attained the true

knowledge (Kevala Jnana), therefore he come to be known as Mahavira

Question 20

Why were the followers of Mahavira called Jains?

Answer:

Since Vardhamana became popular with the name of Mahavira (the great hero) or Jina (the conqueror of self), therefore, his followers were called Jains.

Question 21

Mention any two teachings of Mahavira (any two doctrines of Jainism). Answer:

The two teachings of Mahavira are:

1. Ahimsa.
2. No Belief in God.

Question 22.

What is known as Triratna in Jainism?

Answer:

Right faith, Right knowledge and Right conduct is known as Triratna in Jainism.

Question 23

Name the two sects of Jainism. What is the main difference between the two?

Answer:

Svetambaras and Digambaras. Their main difference is that the Digambar Munis (ascetics) remain completely nude. They do not keep even a small piece of cloth on their bodies. The Svetambara Munis, on the other hand wear white clothes.

Question 24.

What is known as the Great Renunciation?

Ans. The urge for finding a solution to the problems of human suffering and death, made Buddha broke all his wordy ties and left his place at the age of 29 as an ascetic in search of truth. This event came to be known as the Great Renunciation (Maha Parityaga).

Question 25.

How did Gautama come to be known as the Buddha?

Answer:

When Gautama got enlightened with the spiritual knowledge after rigorous meditation, he came to be known as the Buddha or the Enlightened One.

Question 26.

Name the place where Buddha got Enlightenment.

Answer:

At Bodh Gaya, under the Pipal tree Buddha got Enlightenment.

Question 27.

Name the place where Buddha gave his first Sermon.

Answer:

At the Deer Park near Sarnath, Buddha gave his first spiritual Sermon.

Question 28.

How do Buddhist ideals still affect our life?OR What impact did Buddha’s teachings have on Mahatma Gandhi’s thoughts?

Answer:

The Buddhist ideals even today have a significant place in our life. The principles of equality, teachings of non-violence and individual purification are still working as usual. Evils, such as pride, envy, wrath and lust have no place in our life even today. Mahatma Gandhi took a leaf from the Buddha’s life when he said, “non-violence is the first article of my faith.” He also said, “religion in the sense of peace, fraternity and allembracing love can alone be the basis of the existence of the world.”

Question 29

What is called a Vihara?

Answer:

A Vihara (Monastery) was permanent abode or residence of the monks

Question 30.

What was the purpose of a Chaitya?

Answer:

Chaityas were the big halls where religious rites and worship were performed.

Question 31

With reference to the life and teachings of Gautama Buddha, explain the following:

(a) How did Buddha get Enlightenment?

(b) What views did Buddha hold regarding:

(a) Karma Theory (2) Nirvana (3) Existence of God; and (4) Ahimsa?

Answer:

The given questions with reference to the life and teachings of Gautama Buddha are answered as below:

(a) Gautama Buddha was born about the years 567 BC in the village of Lumbini near Kapilavastu. The Kshatriya Prince, Gautam was the son of Suddhodhana, the Chief of the Shakya Clan of Kapilavastu in the foot-hills of Nepal.Right from childhood, his inclination was towards deep spiritual matters and got never enticed to the luxuries of royal life. He was married to princess Yashodhara and they had a son named, Rahula. Gautama could no longer get entwined to the family life, as his urge to find the solution to the enigmatic process of life and death, never allowed him to remain at ease. The “Four Great Sights” in Buddha’s life brought a big change in his life and at the age of 29, he broke all his worldly ties and left his palace as an ascetic in search of truth. This event came to be known as the Great Renunciation (Maha Parityaga). When Gautama Buddha’s spiritual quest could not be quenched after he accompanied a number of

Brahmins and religious teachers. The severe penance that he performed along with five Brahmin ascetics also proved to be futile to seek the answers to his questions of the mysticsm. He gave up penance after learning it’s futility. Then he sat under a Pipal tree at Bodh Gaya and remained in meditation till he attained spiritual knowledge.

(b) Ultimately, the true light dawned on him and he came to be known as the Buddha or the Enlightened One. Buddha held the following views on the given topics, regarding his life and teachings.

Karma Theory: Buddha believed in the theory of Karma (actions). He preached that whatever a man sows ; good or bad, he has to ultimately reap it accordingly. The condition of man in this life and the next, depends on his deeds and he has to bear the consequences of his own actions. Neither sacrifices, nor any prayers to God can change a man’s destiny.

Nirvana: Man’s ultimate aim in life is to attain Nirvana—the final bliss which is free from desire and sorrow, and is an escape from the cycle of birth and re-birth. One can attain Nirvana by following the Eight-Fold Path.

Existence of God: Buddha was mute on the existence of God. He neither accepted, nor denied the existence of God. He declined mechanical worship of Gods and in it’s place, he gave stress on a high ethical cod

**CHAPTER 4**

**THE MAURYAN EMPIRE**

Q1. What are our main sourcesof information on the Mauryan rule ?

Ans. The main source of information on the Mauryan rule are :

Literary Source : i)Arthashastra of Kautilya ii)Indika of Megasthanese

Archa eological Source : i)Edicts of Ashoka ii)Sanchi Stupa

Q2. Who wrote Arthashastra? What is its importance?

Ans. Arthashastra was written by Kautilya also known as Vishnugupta and Chanakya. It is a comprehensive manual that deals with Politics , rules of diplomacy , principles of administration and other such political topics.

Q3. What is the importance of Ashoka’s edicts?

Ans. The edicts of Ashoka form the most important source of Mauryan history. They are the oldest , best preserved and precisely dated records of India.

Q4. What is a Stupa? Name one stupa built by Ashoka.

Ans . The Stupa is a semi spherical solid dome like structure made of unburnt bricks and

stones. The Buddhist stupa has special significance. It represents the spiritual body of Buddha containing his relics such as hair , teeth or bones. One stupa built by Ashoka was Sanchi Stupa.

Q5. What is the importance of the Kalinga War in the personal life of Ashoka?

Ans. The importance of the Kalinga war in the personal life of Ashoka was:

* He stopped hunting and eating meat
* Abandoned the life of luxury

Q6. Name the two taxes mentioned in the edicts of Ashoka.

Ans. The two kinds of taxes Bali and Bhaga are mentioned in the edicts of Ashoka.

* BALI : It was a religious tribute
* BHAGA : it was levied on agricultural produce and the cattle at the rate of one birth

Q7. Name four important ways in which Buddhism spread under the royal patronage

during the Mauryan times.

Ans. – Ashoka sent his daughter Sanghamitra and son Mahindra to preach Buddhism

He appointed mahamatras to propagate Buddhism

He organized the Buddhist council for the spread of Buddhism

He declared Buddhism as the state religion

Q8. Give the basic principles of Ashoka’s Dhamma.

Ans. – Respect to elders and love to children

Ahimsa or non violence

Good deeds or good karma would give happiness to man in the next birth

He taught people to respect all religions

He disapproved empty rituals

Q9. What was the impact of Dhamma on Ashoka’s policies?

Ans. RELIGIOUS UNITY : People belonging to different religion followed their emperors policy of religious tolerance

MORAL VALUES : People under the influence of Dhamma started living a moral life

END OF CRIMES: The policy of Ahimsa had a greater impact on people.Thefts crimes and other such activities almost came to an end.

Q10. With reference to the sources of information , explain briefly the importance of the following :

Ans. ARTHASHASTRA : Of the all literary sources on the history of the Mauryas, the most important is the Arthashastra , written by Kautilya also known as Vishnugupta and Chanakya. It is a comprehensive manual that deals with political , rules of diplomacy , principles of administration and other such political topics.

INDIKA : Megasthanese wrote a book named Indika which contains his impressions of what he heard and saw during his stay in India.His original Indika has been lost but its fragments still survive in the writings of later Greek authors like Strabo , Arrian and Diodorus.

SANCHI STUPA : The foundation of the sanchi stupa was laid by Ashoka at Sanchi about 45 kms from Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh. There are four gateways in four directions.They have carved panels depicting events ffrom the life of Buddha abd some tales from Jataka stories. Buddha is represented by symbols like the peepal tree , Lotus or a wheel . The pillars are surmounted by capitals which contain sculptures of lion.

Q11. Why is Chandragupta Maurya regarded as the chief architect of the system of administration?

Ans. It was Chandragupta Maurya , under the guidance of Chanakya , who laid the foundations of an elaborate system of administration . Chandragupta’s son Bindusara retained the same system and Ashoka made some minor changes necessitated by the change of heart after the Kalinga War.

Q12. Briefly describe the main features of civil and military administration under Mauryan rule.

Ans. CIVIL ADMINISTRATION : The civil administration has two main divisions Central government : The Mauryan government was centralized and was managed by several officers of different ranks. The king was the supreme authority and his throne was hereditary.

At the central level , the king was assisted by the Council of ministers headed by the Prime Minister.

Provincial government : Head of the province was called Kumar or Aryaputra. The Kumar was assisted by the Governor. Besides the Mahamatra the other officers took active part in the administration of the provinces. Pradeshika collected taxes. Rajuka performed the functions of modern day Tehsildar or revenue officer. The Yukta was the treasurer.

MILITARY ADMINISTRATION : Chandragupta Maurya maintained a huge army

consisting of infantry , cavalry, elephants and chariots. The king was the commander – in – chief of the army . The soldiers were paid salary in cash.

Q13. What is meant by the Pan India character of Mauryan administration?

Ans. The Mauryan empire beginning with Chandragupta Maurya was vast with All India character.

Seleucus whom Chandragupta defeated in war had handed him four provinces of Kabul , Kandahar , Baluchistan and Heart. These remained with the Mauryan empire right upto the end of emperor Ashoka’s rule. During Bindusara’s rule Ashoka reached Takshila and quelled the revolt there . After Bindusara had established his rule over South India no other king ever ruled over the whole of India.

Q14 What is an edict? Where are these edicts inscribed?

Ans. An Edict is a decree issued by a sovereign. These edicts are inscribed on rocks and pillars throughout the country and include 14 major rock edicts, 7 pillar edicts and a number of minor rock edicts.

Q15. What is the significance of edicts as a source of information ?

Ans. The inscriptions on Ashoka’s edicts provide a useful insight into the life and ideals of Ashoka in particular and about the history of the Mauryas in general.

Question 16.

What is a Stupa ? Name one stupa built by Ashoka ?

Answer:

The Stupa is a semi-spherical solid dome-like structure made of unburnt bricks and stones. The Sanchi stupa was made by Ashoka around 3rd century

Question 17

What do you know about the extent of Chandragupta Maurya’s empire?

Answer:

The empire of Chandragupta Maurya had been extended up to Mysore in the South and Kabul, in the north-west. It stretched from Saurashtra in the West up to Bengal in the East.

Question 18

What change did the Kalinga War bring about in Ashoka’s life?

Answer:

Ashoka was the Bird and the most enlightened ruler of the Mauryan dynasty. The Kalinga War was the major turning- point in the career of Ashoka. the massacre of Kalinga absolutely converted the aggressive conscience of his. He „ was so moved by this dreadful heart-tearing scene that he dropped his weapons forever and became a follower of Lord Buddha.

Question 19.

Mention two advantages of the Pan-Indian character of the Mauryan empire.

Answer:

Pan-Indian or Subcontinental character of the Mauryan empire. Ashoka ruled over a large part of the Indian subcontinent. There were three main advantages of the PanIndian character of Ashokan empire. First, it resulted in the disappearance of small states. Second, it enabled the rulers face foreign invasions successfully. Third, it facilitated trade and commerce with frontier towns as well as the Middle Eastern and Greek cities.

Question 20

What does Megasthenes’ Indica tell us about the king’s life?

Answer:

Megasthenes’ Indica tells us that the king Chandragupta had been the first historical emperor of India. He expanded his empire in India and beyond her neighboring countries. Chandragupta renounced princely life and settled down at a place Sravana Belagole in southern India. Here, he died as an ascetic.

Question 21

What do you know about:

(a) Mauryan District Administration.

. Answer:

The above headings are described as follows:

(a) Mauryan District Administration:

Provinces were divided into districts for purposes of administration. Ashokan inscriptions refer to three classes of high officials, namely the Rajukas, Yuktas and the Mahamatras. The Rajukas were probably incharge of district and corresponded to the District Magistrates of the present day. They managed the state property and kept law and order in the districts. The Yuktas were probably the District Treasury Officer who collected revenues and kept accounts. The Mahamatras were heads of special departments. Ashoka created a new class of Mahamatras which included the Dhamma Mahamatras who promoted Dhamma (Dharma) and looked after the general interests of women were protected by a separate Department, headed by Stri Adhyaksha Mahamatra.

Question 22

Identify the picture given below and answer the following questions



(a) When and by whom was the Original Stupa built ?

( b) Which Dynasty enlarged it ?

(c) Mention two important features of the Stupa.

(d) What events are depicted on the panels of the Gateway?

Answer:

(a) The great stupa at Sanchi near Vidisha in Madhya Pradesh is believed to have been originally built in the 3rd Century BC by Ashoka to enshrine the relics of Buddha. Later it was enlarged during the Sunga, period. (b) It was enlarged during the Sunga, period.

(c) The stupa is a semi-spherical solid dome-like structure made of unbumt bricks and stones. The Buddhist stupa has special significance. It represents the spiritual body of Buddha containing his relics such as hair, teeth or bones. A casket containing these relics is placed at the base of the dome.

(d) Gateways are lavishly covered with magnificent sculptures which depict episodes from Buddha’s life and from Jataka tales. Buddha was represented in Symbolic form like that of a wheel or a lotus or a throne under a pipal tree

**CHAPTER 5**

**THE SANGAM AGE**

Q1. What is meant by the term Sangam?

Ans The word Sangam is the Tamil form of the Sanskrit word Sangha which means an association. Thus, the Sangam Age refers to the period when bulk of Tamil literature was composed by a body of Tamil scholars and poets in three successive literary gatherings called Sangam.

Q2. Name the three sections into which the chapter of Tirukkural are categorized.

Ans. Aram (righteousness)

Porul (wealth)

Inbam or Kamam (pleasure )

Q3. Name the five divisions (Tinais) mentioned in the Sangam literature.

Ans. The whole area consisted of five tinais or divisions namely:

* Hilly backwoods (Kurinji)
* Parched zones (palai)
* Pastoral tract (mullai)
* Wet land (marutam) and
* Littoral land ( neital )

Q4. Explain briefly the functions of the four castes mentioned in the Tolkapiyam.

Ans. – The inhabitants of the hilly areas were hunters and gatherers

In the parched zone, the inhabitants lived by plundering and cattle lifting. In

the pastoral tract the inhabitants subsisted on shifting agriculture and animal

Husbandary. Wet land was inhabited by people subsisting on plough agriculture. The littoral land was inhabited by those dependent on fishing and salt extraction.

Q5. Explain the position of women.

Ans. Status of women in Sangam society was not equal to that of men.

The Sangam society consisted of different kinds of women. There were married women who had settled down as dutiful wives looking after their husband and children. There were female ascetics belonging to Buddhists or Jain tradition like Kaundi Adigal and Manimegalai. There were a large number of courtesans. However women enjoyed freedom of movement in society and the number of women poets of the age is a proof that the women were provided with good education.

Q6. Explain the organisaton of internal trade.

Ans. Internal trade was brisk, caravans of merchants with carts and pack – animals

carried their merchandise from place to place. Most of the trade was carried on by barter . Paddy constituted the most commonly medium of exchange in rural areas. Salt was sold for Paddy. Paddy was sold by mentioning its price in terms of salt. Honey and roots were exchanged for fish oil. Todd , sugarcane and rice-flakes were exchanged for arrack. There were established markets called angadi in the bigger towns. Elsewhere , hawkers carried goods to the house of the people.

Q7. Explain the extent and significance of external trade.

Ans. According to Sangam literature the Tamil land had certain commodities which were

in great demand in foreign markets. These included pepper , ginger , cardamom,

cinnamon , turmeric , ivory products , pearls and precious stones. The port cities

were the centres of foreign trade. Saliyur in the Pandya country and Bandar in

Chera country are counted among the most important ports in poems. The gold

and silver coins from the Roman empire found in the interior of tamil land indicate

to the extent of trade.

Question 8

Name the oldest language of South India. OR Name the oldest Dravidian language.

Answer: Tamil.

Question 9

What is known as Sangam literature?

Answer:

The word ‘Sangam’ means ‘Assembly’. According to early tradition, three Sangams or Assemblies of literary men were held at Madurai, the center of great literary activity in the Tamil Country. It is generally accepted that these assemblies lasted from about first century BC to the fifth century AD. Many poets, scholars and bards who gathered there, produced a large volume of excellent Tamil poetry. These literary compositions were collected and complied into books called the Sangam literature.

Question 10.

Name any two literary sources to reconstruct history of the Sangam age.

Answer:

There is no clear evidence regarding the literary works of the first Sangam. ‘Tolkappiyam’, written by Tolkappiyar, a disciple of Agastya, is a standard treatise on grammar and it belongs historically to the Second Sangam. Tiruvalluvar, the famous Tamil poet who attended the Third Sangam, wrote ‘KuraP. The literary works of the third Sangam constituted the most important part of the Sangam literature and they are the main source of information about the life and traditions of the Tamil people.

Question 11.

Why are graves of people in the megalithic phase in South India’s history called ‘Megalithis’?

Answer:

The megalithic culture is mostly known for its burials. The un pland portions of the peninsula were inhabited by people, whose graves are called ‘megaliths’, because they were encircled by big pieces of stone.

Question 12

Name the two agricultural products during the Sangam Age.

Answer:

The two agricultural products during the Sangam Age were jack-fruit, pepper and turmeric. Question 13.

Name the two prominent ports on India’s Western Coast during the Sangam age.

Answer:

The ports of Nelcynda (Kottayam) and Naura (Canhanore) were among the most prominent ports on India’s Western Coast.

Question 14.

Name the two deities worshiped by people in the Sangam age.

Answer:

Vishnu and Murugan.

Question 15.

Name the two items of trade referred to in the Tamil literature of the Sangam age.

Answer:

The Tamil literature refers to items of trade like spices, sandalwood, pearls, sea products, semi-precious stones and textiles of various types.

Question 16

What was the theme of the Aham type of literature ?

Answer:

Aham type of literature discuss about ethical living in private life

Question 17

What were the topics of Puram category of poems ?

Answer:

Puram category of poems deals with militarism and hero worship.

Question .18

Name the four castes mentioned in the Tolkappiyam.

Answer:

The Tolkappiyam has mentioned four castes, namely, Brahmanas, kings, traders and farmers.

Question 19

Who were the Vellalas during the Sangam Age.

Answer:

Vellalas were traders assigned with the duties of learning other than the Vedas, making gifts, agriculture, trade and worship.

Question 20

Name the chief crops grown during the Sangam Period.

Answer:

The chief crop grown during the Sangam Period was rice, while other crops included Cotton , ragi , sugarcane, pepper,ginger,cardamom,turmeric , cinnamon and different varieties of fruits etc.

Question 21.

Name the two items of trade referred to in the Tamil literature of the Sangam age.

Answer:

The Tamil literature refers to items of trade like spices, sandalwood, pearls, sea products, semi-precious stones and textiles of various types.

Question 22.

Describe the social conditions that Sangam literature suggests with reference to:

(a) Institution of Marriage (b) Position of Women Answer:

(a)

The ‘Tolkappiyam’, written by Tolkappiyar, states that marriage was an important religious ceremony, accompanied by many rituals. Naturally, the Aryan culture had now much impact on the institution of marriage. Earlier the Tamils had a relatively simple conception of marriage. They regarded it as “the natural coming together of men and women, mainly due to their physical difference.”

(b)

The joint family system characterised the society. Few women got good education, their status in society was not equal to that of men. They did not have the right to inherit property. There were ascetics also among women, following the Jain and the Buddhist tradition. The worship of Kannagi or Pattini suggests that the vow of chastity was regarded as the greatest of feminine virtues. In fact, the images of Pattini Devi were being preserved and worshiped by Tamils in their temples until very recently.

Question 23

The Sangam literature gives a complete and true picture of economic conditions of the age. Describe economic life of the people with reference to: (a)Agriculture (b) Trade

Answer:

(a) Agriculture was the main occupation of a large section of the people. Land was held by individuals as well as by the state. The land was fertile and there was plenty of grain, meat and fish. The Chola Country was watered by the river Kaveri. About this country there was a saying that “the space in which an elephant did lie down produced enough grain to feed seven persons.” The Chera region was well-known for its buffaloes, jack-fruit, pepper and turmeric. The rich did not plough the land themselves.They hired laborers, called pariyars, for this job. The pariyars belonged to the lowest social class and skinned dead animals also.

(b) The rulers had big income from trade transactions also. A large number of crafts and occupations are referred in Sangam literature. The epic ‘Manimekalai’ was written by a grain merchant of Madurai. The Tamil literature refers to items of trade like spices, sandalwood, pearls, sea products, semi-precious stones and textiles of various types. We also have the information that foreigners (yavanas) visited the coastal towns for trade. Metal lamps in different shapes and bottles of wine figure prominently among the articles of trade brought to India by the foreigners.

**CHAPTER 6**

**THE AGE OF GUPTAS**

Q1. Who was Fa- Hein? What did he say about India?

Ans. Fa-Hein was the earliest Chinese pilgrim who visited India on a religious mission during the reign of Chandragupta II. His views about India were:

* Magadha was a prosperous country
* Patliputra was a flourishing city with numerous charitable institutions
* Although the people were wealth, they led simple lives
* Vaishnavism , Shaivism , Buddhism and Jainism were the main religions -

Q2. Why is the Gupta period known as the Golden Age of Indian culture?

Ans. The Gupta Period ( AD 320 – 540) is described as the golden age of Indian culture because of the high level of civilization and culture of this period. Alongwith the revival of Hinduism , the power of creativity was unleashed in the fields of education , literature , art and architecture ,science and at the same time extending this influence beyond India’s frontiers.

Q3. How was Samudragupta a bold and great conqueror?

Ans. Samudragupta was a great conqueror , an able statesman as well as patron of arts.

It is because of his bravery and generalship that he is known as the Napolean of India. Like Alexander he was daring . During his famous Deccan campaign he covered more than 3000 miles through dense forest.

Q4. What contribution did Aryabhatta make in the field of Science , Astronomy and Mathematics?

Ans. – He said that the earth moves round the sun . It was several centuries before the Europeans said the same thing.

He discovered the rule for finding the area of triangle

He calculated the exact value of Pie which was equal to 3.1416

In his work Suryasiddhanta he explained the exact causes of Solar and Lunar

Eclipse

Aryabhatta was acquainted with decimal system and use of zero

Q5. Write short notes on :

Ans. ALLAHABAD PILLAR INSCRIPTION:

It is one of the most important evidences of the imperial Guptas composed by

Harisena , the court poet of Samudragupta. Allahabad Pillar Inscription also known as Prayaga Prashasti is written in Praise of Samudragupta , arguably the most powerful of the Gupta rulers. It describes the reign of the Guptas in ancient India. The inscription is also important because of the political geography of India that indicates by naming the different kings and people who populated India in the first half of the fourth century AD.

NALANDA UNIVERSITY :

It was the most renowned educational institution of ancient India.

The university of Nalanda had imposed buildings . Th e Nalanda university provide various facilities to the students for their studies . The subjects of study at Nalanda university were : all the Vedas , logic , grammar , medicine , sankya , yogas , nyaya and the Buddhist works of the different schools. Only the most brilliant were admitted to the university.

Q6. Explain the position and powers of the king during the Gupta Age.

Ans. The Gupta kings were compared to different Gods such as Yama,Varuna,Indra and Kuber. They enjoyed a large number of power which covered the political administrative , military and judicial fields. They were the commanders – in – chief of the army. The king was the source of all honours and titles. All land in the country was the property of the king who could give away the same to anybody he pleased.

Q7. Mention the architectural features of the Vishnu temple.

Ans. – The Vishnu temple is one of the finest examples of Gupta architecture .

It was the first north Indian temple with a shikhara or tower and was completely made of stone and bricks.

The temple was built on a 1.5 metre high platform , four stairways outside the platform provided access to the temple.

Its exterior is decorated with scenes from Ramayan

Dedicated to Lord Vishnu, the god of preservation , Vishnu is shown asleep on the coil of the giant serpent called seshnaga

There was an outer wall around the temple

Question 8.

Name one literary and another archaeological source to reconstruct the Age of the Gupta’s. Answer:

1. Literary Source: Fa-hein visit to India.
2. Archaeological Source: Allahabad Pillar Inscriptions.

Question 9.

Name the famous Inscription that tells us about the character and military achievements of Samudragupta.

Answer:

Allahabad Pillar Inscription

Question 10.

Which great conquest enabled Chandragupta II to carry the title of Sakari ?

Answer:

The Conquest of Gujarat and Kathiawar peninsula dominated by the Saka power, enabled Chandragupta II to carry the title of Sakari.

Question 11

What did Fa-hien write about the City of Pataliputra ?

Answer:

Fa-hien wrote about the City of Pataliputra that the City had two grand monasteries-one of the Hinayana and other of the Mahayana. He noticed the usual grandeur of Ashoka’s Palace as such. People living there, were quite prosper by all means. There w:as an excellent hospital run by the wealthy citizens of the town. Rest-houses existed in large towns and on highways for the comforts of the travelers. The relations between the followers of various sects w’ere cordial. The people were honest and law-abiding. No uneven restrictions were imposed on them to move about anywhere in the City The criminal law was mild. Capital punishment was out of practice.

PQ. Which Gupta ruler defeated the Hunas?

Answer: Skandagupta defeated the Hunas.

Question 11.

What does Fa-hien write about the life of the people during the Gupta age?

Answer:

Fa-hien writes that the bulk of the population during the Gupta age was vegetarian and usually followed the principle of Ahimsa (non-violence)

The caste-system prevailed and untouch ability had become an established institution in this age. The Chandalas occupied the lowest rank in society. They were outcasts and lived away from the people. They did menial jobs. When they approached a city or a market, they had to strike a piece of wood, so that others might avoid coming in contact with them.

Slavery also existed, although the Brahmins could not be owned as slaves. Women were educated in fine arts and domestic virtues. Widow-remarriage was viewed with disfavor. The practice of Devadasi was prevalent. In other words, some girls were being maintained to many temples for the service of Gods.

Question 12.

Who was the greatest literary genius of the Gupta period?

Answer:

Kalidasa was the greatest literary genius of the Gupta period.

Question 13.

Name two dramas and two epics written by Kalidasa.

Answer:

Malavikagnimitra and Vikramorvasiya are the two dramas written by Kalidasa. The two epics are—Raghuvamsa and Kumarasambhava.

Question 14.

Mention the contributions of Aryabhatta in the field of astronomy.

Answer:

Aryabhatta was the first Indian astronomer to declare that the earth is spherical in shape and he proved that the earth revolves around the sun on its own axis.

Question 15.

Name the famous astronomer of the Gupta period after whom an Indian Satellite was named.

Answer:

Aryabhatta.

Question 16.

Mention the important contributions of Varahamihira.

Answer:

Varahamihira was a great scientist of the Gupta age, he wrote Brihat Samhita which deals with Astronomy, Mathematics, Botany and Physical Geography. He also wrote a famous book on different branches of Jyotishastra and another work Pancha Siddhantika, giving an account of the five systems of Astronomy.

Question 17.

Mention two famous temples of the Gupta period.

Answer:

The Dasavatara Temple, also known as Vishnu Temple, at Deogarh near Jhansi, and Bhitargaon Temple near Kanpur.

Question 18.

Mention two important architectural features of the Dasavatara (Vishnu) Temple at Deogarh.

Answer:

The Temple stands on a wide basement with a flight of steps in the middle of each side. It had a spire and its roof was supported by pillars.

Question 19.

The Districts (Vishyas) were placed under whose charge during the rule of Guptas ?

Answer:

A Bhukti was divided into districts called Vishyas, which were ruled by Vishayapatis or Ayuktas. They were usually appointed by the Provincial Governor. Many other persons had position of authority in the district administration. They were Prathamkayastlia who wrote letters and documents, Pushtapal, the keeper of records and Nagarshresthi, that is, the Chief Banker.

Question 20.

Mention an important cause for the revival of Brahmanical religion in the Gupta period.

Answer:

The Gupta monarchs were staunch supporters of Brahmanism, they gave a strong impetus to the restoration and enhancement of their religion.

Question 21.

What is the importance of Panchatantra?

Answer:

It is a collection of stories which intended to teach moral lessons to children.

Question 22.

Name three important sciences which made great progress during the Gupta period.

Answer:

Astronomy, mathematics and medicine.

Question 23.

Which Gupta ruler defeated the Hunas?

Answer:

Skandagupta defeated the Hunas.

Question 24.

Regarding archaeological sources to reconstruct the Age of the Gupta, explain what significance do the following have:

(a) Allahabad Pillar Inscription (b) Nalanda University Answer:

(a) The Allahabad Pillar Inscription:

Allahabad Pillar Inscription is one of the most epigraphic evidence of the Imperial Gupta. Achievements of different rulers of the Gupta image are mentioned in Allahabad Pillar Inscription. It gives a vivid description of the reign and conquest of Samudragupta. Historians, both ancient and modem, have considered the historical value of Allahabad Pillar. It provides a pretty impressive lest of Kings and tribal republic that were conquered by Samudragupta.

(b) Nalanda University:

It was the most renowned educational institution of ancient India. Located at Nalanda in Rajagriha in Bihar, it was originally set up by Sakraditya in the 5th century AD during the reign of Kumaragupta-I. The University of Nalanda had imposing buildings. There were at least 8 colleges built by different patrons including one by Balaputradeva, King of Sumatra. According to Hiuen Tsang the whole university area was enclosed by a brick wall. The Nalanda University provided various facilities to the students for their studies. There were three great libraries called Ratnasagar, Ratnodadhi and Ratnaranjak. There were more than 10,000 students including teachers of all kinds. They came from Korea, Mongolia, Japan, China, Tibet, Ceylon and various parts of India. The subjects of study at Nalanda University were all the four Vedas, logic, grammar, medicine, samkya, yoga, nyaya and the Buddhist works of the different schools. It was not an ordinary university. It was a post-graduate institution to which admission was very difficult. Before admission, an examination was held in which hardly 20% students passed and the rest of 80% were rejected. Only the most brilliant were admitted to the University. Nalanda continued to be a beacon of light up to 12th century AD when it was destroyed by Mohammad-bin- Bakhtiyar Khilji, a general of Mohammad Ghori. Today only the remains of its magnificence and glory can be seen.

Question 25

The reign of Chandragupta n marks the zenith of the Gupta glory. In this context briefly describe his conquests and the extent of his Empire.

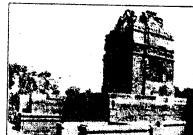
Answer:

In context of the reign of Chandragupta II the given headlines are described below:

Chandragupta II was determined to overthrow the Saka power in Gujarat and Kathiawar peninsula. With a view to pursuing his plan against the Sakas. He married Kubemaga, a Naga princess. He gave the hand of his daughter to Rudrasena II, the Vakataka prince. Thus, he secured the friendship of those rulers who could be of much service to him in his campaign against the Saka satraps. He attacked the Saka satraps. He conquered the Saka rulers and obtained the title of Sakari. He put an end to the domination of foreigners in India, but added rich areas and prosperous parts to the empire. He defeated a united front of his enemies in Vanga (Bengal) and his victorious arms reached the northern Afghanistan (Vahilkas).

Question 26.

Study the picture given here and answer the following questions:



(a) Where is this Vishnu Temple located ?

(b) Which period does it belong to ?

(c) What are the three main structural features of the temple?

Answer:

(a) This is the Vishnu temple located at Deogarh. It is also known as the Dashavatara Temple.

(b) Gupta Period.

The Sanchi temple, another temple in the Gupta period has a flat roof. The columns of the portico are surmounted by a bell capital. A large number of Stupas, Viharas and Chaityas were cut out of solid rock.

Question 27.

Name two famous universities that existed during the Gupta period ?

Answer:

Two famous universities were Taxila near Rawalpindi and Nalanda university in Bihar.

Question 28

Name any two titles adopted by the Gupta rulers ?

Answer:

‘Maharajadhiraja’ and ‘Napoleon of India’ were the two titles adopted by Gupta rulers.

Question 29

Name the officer who collected the toll tax during the Gupta period.

Answer:

The officer who collected the toll tax during the Gupta period was known as ‘Shaulkika’

Question 30

Name the officer who was in charge of a province or bhukti during the Gupta period.

Answer:

The officer who was incharge of a province or bhukti during the Gupta period was called Vishayapati.

Question 31.

What was the chief architectural feature of the brick temple at Bhitrigaon ?

Answer:

This temple dates back to 5th century AD. The temple has a pyramidal roof and its outer walls are decorated with statues and figures. There is a Shivalinga placed in the Garbagriha. The chief architectural feature is the arch, the curved structure supporting the weight of the roof.

Question 32

Give two distinguishing features of Ajanta and Bagh paintings.

Answer:

Ajanta and Bagh paintings are very impressive and lively with human faces, limbs drawn with grace and action along with flowers and birds depicting living action views.

**STRUCTURED QUESTIONS**

Q1 .With reference to the Age of the Guptas, answer the following questions.

Explain the extent of samudragupta’s Empire based on the information given in the Allahabad Pillar Inscription.

Answer:

The Allahabad Pillar Inscription of Samudragupta describes four different kinds of rulers and tells us about Samudragupta’s policies towards them:

The nine rulers of Aryavarta were up rooted and their kingdoms were made a part of Samudragupta’s empire. The twelve rulers of Dakshinpatha (South India), who surrendered to

Samudra gupta after being defeated, were liberated and allowed to rule again over their kingdoms.

The inner circle of neighboring states, including Assam, Coastal Bengal, Nepal and a number of gana sanghas (organisation of many kings) in the north-west. They brought tribute, followed his ordered and attended his court.

The rulers of the outlying areas, who submitted to him and offered their daughters in marriage

Q2 With reference to the administrative system of the Guptas, answer the following questions

Explain the position and powers of the king during the Gupta Age.

Answer:

The Gupta kings enjoyed a large number of powers which covered the political, administrative, military and judicial fields. They were the commanders-in-chief of the army. Samundragupta, Chandragupta II and Skandagupta personally led their armies. The kings appointed all the governors and important military and civil officers. The governors and their officers had to work under the control and guidance of the king. The central secretariat also worked under the supervision of the king. The king was the source of all honors and titles. All land in the country was the property of the king. He could construct dams, give shelter to foreigners, impose, recover and remit taxes and give justice. If any property was unclaimed, that went into the coffers of the king.

**CHAPTER 7**

**MEDIEVAL INDIA – THE CHOLAS**

Q1. Mention the significance of inscriptions for providing information about the Cholas.

Ans. The inscriptions provide the following information about the Cholas:

* They tell us about the Chola administration , village taxation and land revenue
* They record gifts and endowments to temples and the brahmanas
* They inform us about the setting up of a new image of the deity
* Some inscriptions have royal orders
* Inscriptions on temple walls served the purpose of a public registration such as record of sales, mortgages and other other forms of transfers of property rights

Q2.Give any two achievements of Rajendra Chola.

Ans. i)Once his armies marched upto the east coast of India through Odisha and upto the Ganga river. Rajendra Chola himself led the army upto the Godavari and thereafter his generals took charge of the army. The Chola army defeated Mahipala king of Bengal.

ii)The merchants of Shrivijaya began creating problems for the Indian merchants. The Indian merchants appealed to Rajendra Chola for help. He sent out a huge navy and defeated the Shrivijaya king . As a result Indian trade with South east Asia and Southern China continued.

Q3. Why did Cholas build a strong naval fleet?

Ans. The Cholas were aware of the importance of controlling the sea because India is a Peninsula. He decided to show his strength along the coasts of South India . So he took out a naval expedition and attacked both SriLanka and Maldive Island.

The Cholas developed a powerful navy which enabled them to develop India’s sea trade in the Indian Ocean and to conquer SriLanka and Maldive Islands.

Q4. To what use was the temple put during the Chola period?

Ans. The temple in the Chola kingdom was the centre of social activity. It was not only a place worship but also a place where people gathered together. The temple was also a centre for education

Q5. Mention two special features of this temple.

Ans. The special features of this temple are:

* This building is covered from the base to the top with sculptures and decorative mouldings
* The temple is the finest monument of a splendid period of South Indian history and the most beautiful specimen of Tamil architecture

Q6. What is known as the Gopuram?

Ans. The gateway of the south Indians, Dravidians or the chola temple was called as Gopuram.

Question 7

Name one of the masterpieces of the temples built, by the Chola king Rajaraja I. Mention one architectural feature of the temple.

Answer:

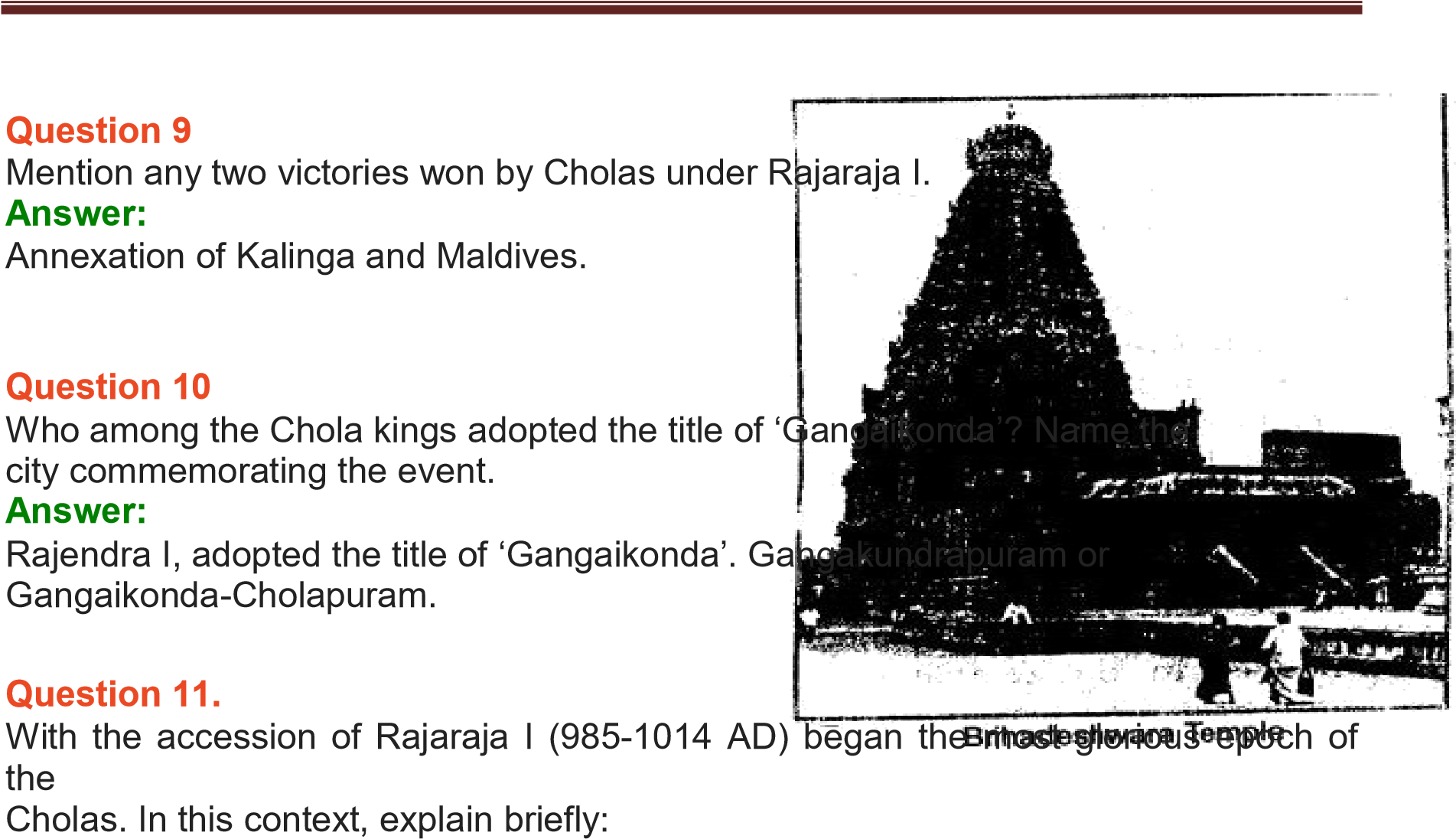
He constructed the famous Brihadeswara Temple also known as Rajarajeshwar Temple at Thanjavur.The temple consists of the Nandi mandapa, a pillared portico and an assembly hall, all interconnected.

Question 8

Under whose rule, the Cholas rose to imperial greatness towards the end of the 10th century AD?

Answer:

Under the ruler ship of Sundara Chola’s son, Rajaraja I, the Cholas rose to Imperial greatness towards the end of the 10th century AD.



(a) His Conquests.

(b) His activities as a Great Builder and a Ruler.

Answer:

With the accession of Rajaraja I (985-1014 AD) began the most glorious epoch of the Cholas. In this context, the given headlines are described as below:

( e)

Rajaraja defeated the Cheras and then he seized Madurai and captured the Pandya king Amarbhujanga. He also annexed Kalinga. He carried out powerful raids into the territory of Western Chalukyas also. He invaded the Island of Sri Lanka and annexed its northern parts. Towards the end of his reign he conquered Maldives. Thus, Rajaraja made himself the overlord of almost the whole of the present state of Tamil Nadu, parts of the State of Karnataka, its adjoining regions, Sri Lanka arid other islands.

( f)

Rajaraja I was also a capable administrator, a great builder and a patron of arts and literature. A chief mark of his administrative system was an expansion of rural selfgoverning institutions. He constructed the famous Brihdeswara Temple (also known as ” Rajarajeshwara Temple) at Thanjavur. He endowed and built some Vishnu temples also. H0w worshiped Shiva, but was tolerant of other sects and religions, as is evident from the fact that he granted to a village to the Buddhist Vihara at Nagapattam in the Malay peninsula.

Question12

Study the picture of the Brihadeswara Temple and answer the following questions:

1. Name the place where the Temple is located.

2.When and by whom was the Temple built?

3. To which deity was the temple dedicated?

4. Mention outstanding features of the Temple.

Answer:

On the basis of the study of the picture of Brihadeswara Temples, the given headlines are answered as follows:

The Brihadeswara Temple is located at Thanjavur.

In 1000 AD, Rajaraja the Great, of the Chola dynasty built the Temple.

The Temple was dedicated to Lord Shiva.

The Temple consists of the Nandi mandapa, a pillared portico and an assembly hall, all interconnected and in the center of a spacious walled enclosure; Its massive tower rises to a height of 57 meters and is shaped like pyramid. It has thirteen successive story and its top is crowned by a single block stone, 8.6 meters high and it weighs about 80 tonnes. The interior walls of the temple are decorated with elaborate painting and magnificent sculptures.

Question 13

Who established the rule of the Cholas ?

Answer:

Chola ruler Vijayalya(AD 846-871) established Chola rule in Tamil land with Tanjore as his capital during the middle of ninth century.

Question 14.

Name any three great rulers of the Chola dynasty.

Answer:

1. Rajaraja I (AD 985-1012)
2. Raj endra Chola (AD 1012-1044)
3. Rajadhiraj Chola (AD 1044-1052)

Question 15

What made the Chola administration strong and effective?

Answer:

The Cholas system of administration was highly organised and efficient, the king as the pivot of all administration. There was central government, provincial government and local self-government including ‘ur’ – assembly of normal villages, ‘ Sabha’- assembly of Brahmins and ‘nagaram’ – the assembly of merchants. All this well distributed and managed system of administration became strong and effective.

Question 16

Name the two languages promoted by the Cholas.

Answer:

The two languages promoted by the Cholas were Sanskrit and Tamil. Poems and plays were also written in Tajnil by leading poets arid dramatists. The works of Tamil writers were collected in eleven volumes which are known as ‘Tirumurais’.

Question 17

Name any two features of temple built by the Cholas.

Answer:

The chief features of Chola temples are their massive vimanas or towers and spacious courtyards. Most of the Chola temples were built in the Dravidian style.

Question 18

Name one important literary source that gives information about the Cholas. Name the author of this text and the ruler, whose exploits its describes.

Answer:

Kalingattuparani is an important literary source about the Cholas. It was a war song by Jayankondar, the court poet of Kulottunga. It celebrates the victory of Kulottunga Chola I over the Kalinga King, Anantavarman Chodaganga in the Chola-Kalinga war. Kulottunga Chola I is the hero of this magnificent work.

Question 19

Name the last ruler of the Cholas.

Answer:

Rajadhiraj Chola (AD 1044-1052) was the last great ruler of Chola dynasty.

Question 20.

Who finally defeated the Cholas ?

Answer:

Cholas were defeated by Chalukyas in AD 1052, in the famous battle of Koppam.

Question 21.

Who wrote the Tamil Ramayana ?

Answer:

Kamban wrote the Tamil Ramayana.

**CIVICS**

**CHAPTER – 1**

**OUR CONSTITUTION**

Q1. What is meant by Constitution?

Ans. Constitution is a comprehensive document containing the set of rules according to which the government of a country runs. It regulates the position and powers of the three organs of the government – the Legislative , the Executive and the Judiciary.

Q2. On the basis of which plan was the constituent assembly constituted?

Ans. The Constituent Assembly was constituted on the basis of the Cabinet Mission Plan.

Q3. What is Objective Resolution?

Ans. The Objective Resolution was proposed by Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. The objectives of the Objective Resolution were:

1. Free India will be nothing but a ‘republic’
2. The ideals of social , political and economic democracy would be

guaranteed to all people

1. The republic would grant Fundamental Rights to all citizens
2. The state would safeguard the rights of minorities and backward classes

Q4. Who was appointed as the chairman of the drafting committee of the constitution?

Ans. Dr.B .R.Ambedkar was appointed as the chairman of the drafting committee of the Constitution.

Q5. When was the constitution adopted and passed? When did it come into force?

Ans. The constitution was adopted and passed by the constituent assembly on 26th November 1949.

The Constitution as a whole came into force on 26th January 1950.

Q6. State the significance of 26th January.

Ans. The date 26th January was selected for the commencement of the constitution because of its historical importance. It was on this date ,26th January 1929 that the Lahore session of Indian National Congress had for the first time given the call of Poorna Swaraj or Complete Independence. Since then this day was celebrated as Independence Day upto 1947.

Q7. When and how were the members of the Constituent Assembly elected?

Ans. Members of the Constituent Assembly were to be elected indirectly by the Provincial Legislative Assemblies (Lower House only).

Elections to the Provincial Assembly were held in July 1946. The Princely States were represented by the members nominated by the rulers of these states. The Constitution Assembly of undivided India consisted of 385 members (292 elected and 93 nominated by the princely states)

Q8. How was the membership of the Constituent Assembly reduced as a result of partition of the country?

Ans. The Muslim League boycotted the constituent Assembly to demand the creation of a separate state called Pakistan. Consequently the members representing the territories which went to Pakistan withdrew from the Constituent Assembly of India.

As a result the membership of the Constituent Asembly of India stood at 299 against the original number of 385 members.

Q9. How can you say that Constituent Assembly gave adequate representation to all sections of the Indian Society?

Ans. The Congress leaders ensured that other communities like Anglo-Indians , Indian Christians , Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes got representation . The Anglo Indians were represented by Mr. Frank Anthony and Mr. S. H. Parter. The Indian Christians by Dr. H.C. Mukherjee and Joseph D ‘ Souza. The Parsees by Dr. H.P. Modi . Though Muslim League had boycotted the Assembly , there were still two members – Zafar Imam and Mohammad Saadullah who reporesented Muslim Community. The Sikhs were represented by Sardar Hukum Singh and Ujjal Singh. It can be said that the Constituent Assembly was truly national in character.

Q10. List three principles that Babasaheb Ambedkar incorporated in the constitutioin.

Ans. The three principles incorporated by Babasaheb Ambedkar in the constitution were:

1. The Right to Constitutional Remedies to ensure that the Fundamental Rights of the individuals are not infringed by the centre or the state government
2. He incorporated single citizenship , single judiciary and uniformity in fundamental laws to integrate Indian society.
3. He incorporated Directive Principles to ensure social and economic democracy and welfare of the people of India.

Question 11

Why did the Muslims League boycott the meetings of the Constituent Assembly ?

Answer:

The Muslims League boycotted the Constituent Assembly to demand the creation of a separate state called Pakistan.

Question 12

Who represented the Anglo-Indians in the Constituent Assembly ?

Answer:

The Anglo-Indians were represented by Mr. Frank Anthony and Mr. S.H. Prater, the Indian Christians, by Dr. H.C. Mukerjee and Joseph Dsauza.

Question 13

Why is our Constitution known as the ‘Fundamental Law of the Land’?

Answer:

Being superior to the ordinary laws of the State, the Constitution of India is known as the “Fundamental Law of Land”. Every that law is redundant that violates any of the provisions of the Constitution.

Question14

Which body framed the Constitution of India?

Answer:

The‘Constituent Assembly’ is the constitution-making body that framed the Constitution of India.

Question 15

When was the Constitution of India enacted and adopted?

Answer:

On November 26, 1949 the Constitution of India was enacted and adopted.

1. How do you say that the Constituent Assembly gave adequate representation to all sections of the Indian Society?

Ans.The wide ranging membership of the Assembly gave representation to all shades of public opinion, e.g. Muslims and Sikhs, Congress leaders, Anglo-Indians, Indian Christians, Scheduled Castes and Tribes, all in one, got combined representation.

**CHAPTER – 2**

**SALIENT FEATURES OF THE CONSTITUTION – I**

Q1. What is meant by the ‘Single Citizenship’ ?

Ans. The Indian constitution provides for a Single Citizenship. This means that all Indians irrespective of the states of their domicile are the citizens of India. In India , a person born in Punjab can only be a citizen of India and not a citizen of the state of their domicile as well.

Q2. ‘ Fundamental Rights are universal in nature ‘ . Explain in one sentence.

Ans . The Fundamental Rights are the basic human rights which provide the conditions essential for all round development of a human being. They protect people against unjust discrimination among members of the community. They don’t make distinctions between human beings based on race , colour , gender or religion or other such considerations.

Q3. How are Fundamental Rights justiciable?

Ans . Fundamental Rights are justiciable means a suit can be filed in a High Court or the Supreme Court if Fundamental Rights are violated.

Q4. What is meant by Right by Equality?

Ans. Right to Eqality means al are equal before law and everyone gets the same opportunity in his life.

Q5. What does the Right for Constitutional Remedies provide for ?

Ans. The Right to Constitutional Remedies ( Article 32 ) is given to the citizens to move to Supreme Court for the enforcement of other Fundamental Rights conferred on them.

Q6 . Name the courts which are competent to issue writs.

Ans. The Supreme Court and The High Courts have the power to issue these writs.

Q7. In the context of Fundamental Rights give one example that India is a secular state.

Ans. India is a secular state as all the persons sre entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess , practice and propagate their religion.

Q8. What is meant by the terem ‘Right against Exploitation’?

Ans. Right to exploitation upholds the dignity of the individual and prohibits exploitation in following respects :

Article 23 – a) freedom from slavery , beggary or other forms of forced labour

b) Trafficking in human beings means buying and selling of human beings is prohibited. It also prohibits use of women or girls for immoral purposes.

Article 24 - This article prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in factories , mines and other hazardous occupation.

Q9. When and in which Act of Parliament were the Fundamental Duties included in the Constitution?

Ans. The Fundamental Duties were added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment Act , 1976 and inserted in Part IV of the constitution.

Q10. Mention the Fundamental Duty which has been added by the constitution (86th Amendment Act 2002).

Ans. Right to Education has been granted by the Constitution ( 86th Amendment Act 2002). By this act a new Article 21A has been inserted in the constitution , which states “ The State shall provide free and compulsory education to all the children between the age of 6 to 14 years “.

Q11. To whom can the citizens of India file an application if they wish to seek any information from the government authorities?

Ans. Any citizen can file an application under RTI with the Public Information Officers (PIO’s) and Assistant Public Information Officers (APIO’s) in order to seek the required information.

Q12. Explain the following basic features of Indian Constitution.

Ans. Universal Adult Franchise – This means that all citizens of and above 18 years of age have the right to vote irrespective of their caste , colour , religion , gender etc.

Fundamental Rights - These are the basic human rights , which provide the conditions essential for all round development of a human being . They protect people against unjust discrimination among members of the community , They don’t make distinctions between human beings based on race , colour and gender etc.

Q13. Why are Fundamental Rights so called ?

Ans. Fundamental Rights are so called because they are the basic human rights , which provide the conditions essential for all round development of a human being. They protect people against unjust discrimination among members of the community.They don’t make distinctions between human beings on the basis of caste , colour , gender etc.

Q14. What are the characteristic features of these rights?

Ans. They give recognition to dignity and equality of all human beings.

Q15. Briefly explain the components of Right to Equality.

Ans. Right to Equality has political , social and economic components.

1. Equality before law : Article 14 guarantees both equality before law as well as equality in protection by law irrespective of economic status , caste , colour , creed , religion and gender.
2. Equality of opportunity : Article 16 provides for equality of opportunity for all citizens
3. Abolition of untouchability: Article 17 abolished untouchability and its practice in any form.
4. Abolition of Titles : Article 18 abolishes all titles like Rai Sahib , Khan Bahadur , Maharaja etc

Q16. State any three freedoms given under Article 19. Ans. Freedom of Speech and Expression

Freedom to assemble peacefully without arms

Freedom to move freely throughout India

Freedom to form association and unions

Q17. What do these freedom imply?

Ans. These freedoms implies that the constitution restricts the states from enacting laws which could curtail them .

Q18. Explain the restrictions imposed on these rights.

Ans. The restrictions imposed on the rights of Article 19 are as follows:

1. Emergency - Article 19 can be suspended during emergency
2. Not Absolute – Reasonable restrictions could be imposed on the implementation of this right
3. Laws of parliament : Legislations like Preventive Detention , Essential Services Maintenance Act impose certain restrictions on the Right to Freedom.

Q19. Article 20 provides for Protection in Respect of Conviction for offences . What protections are available to the citizens against conviction?

Ans Under Article 20 the following protections are available to the citizens against conviction :

1. Against greater penalty than what is prescribed
2. No one can be punished or prosecuted for the same offence twice
3. A person cannot be compelled to be a witness in the case where he himself is accused of the of the offence.

Q20. What is meant by Preventive Detention? State the right of citizens in this respect.

Ans. Preventive Detention means arresting a person before he can commit an offence.

Following are the rights of such a citizen:

1. This does not mean that a person stands accused.It is only a precautionary measure.
2. Detention beyond three months can be extended only by an Advisory Board constituted for the purpose and consisting of a judge of the High Court.
3. Grounds of Detention have to be specified and the detainee informed of these grounds.He also has the right to make representation against the detention order.

Q21. Explain the limitations of the Right to Protection.

The limitations of the Right to Protection are :

1. Public Interest : The authority or the state can take recourse to public interest and refuse to disclose the grounds of detention .
2. Power of the Parliament : The Legislature or the Parliament has the power to specify the maximum period of Preventive Detention.

Q22. With reference to the Right to the Constitutional Remedies : How has the right been legal sanction?

Ans. Article 32 gives the Right to Constitutional Remedies. This right is given to citizens to move to supreme court for the enforcement of other Fundamental Rights conferred on them.

Q23. Why is this Right important?

Ans. This right is important because mere codification of the Fundamental Rights in the Constitution is not enough unless remedies for the Constitution are also guaranteed by the constitution itself.

Q24. Explain any two writs issued by the courts for enforcement of this right.

Ans. A) Mandamus : In latin it means ‘we order’ .It is a command or an order from a superior court to alower or an administrative authority to perform a certain duty.

B)Writ of Prohibition : The writ of Prohibition is an order issued by a superior court to a lower court to stop proceedings in a case which might be in excess of the jurisdiction of the lower court.

Q25. With reference to Fundamental Rights :

What are the components of the Right to Education?

Ans. Right to Education has been granted by the Constitution (86th Amendment Act 2002). By this act a new article 21A has been inserted in the constitution , which states , “The state shall provide free and compulsory education to all the children between 6 to 14 years of age in such a manner as the state may by law determine.

Q26. How is the Right to Information an implied Fundamental Right?

Ans. An implied Fundamental Right is the one which is a part of a named Fundamental Right or partakes of the same basic nature and character as that Fundamental Right . Since RTI is implicit in the Right to Freedom of Speech and Expression ( Article 19) , it is an implied Fundamental Right because if one does not know the facts , one cannot speak freely.

Q27. Write a short note on Right to Privacy.

Ans. On August 24 , 2017 , the supreme court confirmed that the right to Privacy is fundamental right that does not need to be separately articulated but can be derived from Articles 14 , 19 and 21 of the constitution .

It’s a fundamental right about all information of a person and the choice that he makes.

Q28. With reference to Fundamental Duties:

What are known as Fundamental Duties?

Ans. Fundamental Duties are defined as the moral obligation of all citizens to help promote a spirit of patriotism and uphold the unity of the country.

Q29. Give any five Fundamental Duties .

Ans. The constitution states the following duties of a citizen:

1. To cherish and follow the nobleideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom
2. To uphold asnd protect the sovereignty , unity and integrity of India
3. To defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so
4. To value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture
5. To safeguard public property and to abjure violence.

Q30. What is the importance of these duties?

Ans. a) to make the citizens aware of their social and economic obligations

b)to warn them to do and not to do certain things in the interest of their country

c)to protect and awaken the people to their cultural heritage.

d)to tame the unruly elements in society

e)to strengthen national harmony as they stir up patriotism

Question 31.

What is meant by the term ‘Fundamental Rights’?

Answer:

A certain freedoms which are essential for personal and common hood, guaranteed under the India

Constitution and have been incorporated in the Fundamental Law of the Land and can be enforced by the Courts are known as ‘Fundamental Right’.

Question 32.

What is meant by the statement that Rights are not absolute?

Answer:

Rights are not absolute or uncontrolled. Rights are subject to such reasonable restrictions as may be necessary for the protection of general welfare. State is the custodian of the general public interests decency or morality. Therefore, State may make laws putting restrictions on our rights.

Question 33.

What is the significance of the Right to Information granted by an Act enacted in 2005?

Answer:

Right to Information Act 2005 enabled citizen to secure information from Public Authorities, Government Offices, Financial Institutions and Public Sector Undertakings in respect of documents and records under their charge. This right could curb corruption and promote transparency in Government departments.

Question 34.

Name the Fundamental Right that prohibits ‘beggar’ and forced labor.

Answer:

Right Against Exploitation prohibits ‘beggar and forced labor.

Question 35.

Mention two Fundamental Rights that indicate that India is a Secular State.

Answer:

Two Fundamental Rights that indicate that India is a Secular State are as follows:

1. Freedom of conscience and free profession and propagation of Religion.
2. Freedom to manage Religious Affairs.

Question 36.

Name the Fundamental Right aimed at protecting the interests of the Minorities.

Answer:

Cultural and Education Rights (Articles 29).

Question 37. Name two Fundamental Rights that the Constitution confers on the Minorities.

Answer:

1. Right to conserve the Language, Script and Culture.
2. Right to establish Educational Institutions.

Question 38.

What is the scope or purpose of the Writ of Habeas Corpus?

Answer:

‘Habeas Corpus’ is a Latin term which means, “you may have the body”. It provides a remedy for a person wrongly detained or restrained. The Supreme Court and the High Courts issue this Writ to a person who detains another in custody and command him to bring the prisoner into Court and tell the time and the cause of the arrest. If the cause is insufficient, he is at once unconditionally released.

Question 39.

What is meant by the term ‘Writ’?

Ans. A ‘Writ’ is a legal document that orders a particular person or official to do a particular thing or not to do it.

Question 40.

Give the expanded form of the term ‘ESMA’.

Answer:

Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA)

Question 41.

When and by which Act of the Parliament were the Fundamental Duties included in the Constitution ? Mention one Fundamental Duty.

Answer:

The Fundamental Duties were added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment Act,

1976 and inserted in Part IV of the Constitution. One of the Fundamental Duty is to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem.

Question 42.

Mention the Fundamental Duty which has been added by the Constitution (86th Amendment) Act, 2002.

Answer: Article 51A of the Constitution was amended by the Constitution (86th Amendment) Act, 2002, which says,

“Who is a parent or guardian to provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.”

Question 43.

Which Fundamental Right will be violated in each of the following cases ?

1. A person belonging to a certain religious community has been dismissed from Government service without reason.
2. Some students of a school were disqualified from taking examinations without notice.
3. A 10 year old child was found working in a factory.

Answer:

1. Rights to Equality (Equality of Opportunity), Article 16
2. Right to Constitutional Remedies, Article 31
3. Right Against Exploitation, Article 24

Question 44.

Name the writ that will be issued in each of the following circumstances:

1. Against a person holding a public office to which he is not entitled.
2. For a transfer of a case from lower to higher court.
3. An order to an administrative authority to perform a certain duty.
4. To prohibit a lower court from proceeding in a case.

Answer:

1. Quo-warranto
2. Writ of Certiorari
3. Mandamus
4. Writ of Prohibition

Question 45.

What is meant by ‘Preventive Detention’?

Answer:

‘Preventive Detention’ means, “detention of a person without trial”. The object of this detention is not to punish a person for having committed a crime, but to prevent him from doing so.

Question 46.

What is the purpose of the Writ of Mandamus?

Answer:

The purpose of the Writ of Mandamus is to compel an inferior court or an individual to perform their duty. This purpose has to be exercised only for the enforcement of Fundamental Rights.

Question 47.

How does the Writ of Prohibition differ from the Writ of Certiorari?

Answer: The Writ of Prohibition is issued to prevent an inferior court from exercising powers with which it is not legally vested. It directs the inferior to keep within the limits of their authority. The Writ of Certiorari asks the lower court to hand over the record of a particular case to the higher court. The difference between the two is that they are issued at different stages of the proceedings. The Writ of Prohibition is preventive, where as the Writ of Certiorari is remedial.

Question 48.

Name the Writ that shall be issued under the following circumstances:

1. When a person is wrongfully detained or restrained.
2. To compel an inferior court or an individual to perform their duty.
3. To keep the courts within the limits of their jurisdiction.
4. When a Superior Court desires to be informed of what is going on in an inferior court.
5. Against a person who usurps any office.

Question 49.

With reference to the Right to Constitutional Remedies, answer the following questions:

1. How has this right been given legal sanction ?
2. Why is this right important ?
3. Explain any two writs issued by the courts for enforcement of these rights.

Answer:

1. This right has been given legal sanction, because it is given to citizens to move the Supreme Court for the enforcement of other Fundamental Rights conferred on them.

1. Ambedkar described this article as the ‘Heart and Soul of the Constitution’, because it is used 13 maintain order, peace and right judgement with respect to the satisfaction of the community.

1. Two writs are :
2. Mandamus: It is the command from a Superior court to a lower or administrative authority to perform a certain duty.
3. Writ of Prohibition: It is an order issued by a superior court to a lower court to stop proceedings which are out of the jurisdiction of the lower court.

Question 50

With reference to Fundamental Rights, answer the following:

(a) What are the components of the Right to Education?

This right has been granted by the Constitution (Eighty-six Amendment) Act, 2002. By this Act a new article 21A has been inserted in the Constitution, which states, “The State shall provide free and compulsory

**CHAPTER - 3**

**SALIENT FEATURES OF THE CONSTITUTION - II**

Q1. What are known as Directive Principles of State Policy?

Ans. The Directive Principles of State Policy are the guidelines to be followed by the government in the governance of the country.

Q2. When the Directive Principles are not enforceable by law courts why have they been incorporated in the Constitution?

Ans. Even though the Directive Principles are not enforceable by law courts they have been incorporated in the constitution because of the following reasons :

1. They are in the nature of pledge framed by the framers of the constitution.
2. They give guidelines to the government to make laws and draft their policies
3. They provide a measure to judge a government’s performance
4. They direct the government to move towards the goals of a Welfare State
5. They enlighten and educate the people

Q3. What happens in case of any conflict between the Directive Principles and Fundamental Rights? Give reason to support your answer.

Ans. The 42nd Amendment Act 1976 provides that if a law is made to give any effect to any of the Directive Principles it will not be declared unconstitutional even if it takes away any of the rights under Article 14 ,19 and 31. This provision its of great importance for the implementation of the Directive Principles. It also makes it clear that in case of any conflict between the

Directive Principles and Fundamental Rights the former shall prevail. This is because the welfare of the people as a whole is of paramount importance over that of an individual.

Question 4.

In which Part of the Constitution are the Directive Principles of State Policy laid down? **OR**

Which part of the Constitution provides for the establishment of a Welfare State in India?

Answer:

In Part-IV of the Constitution are the Directive Principles of State Policy laid down.

Question 5.

What is meant by ‘Directive Principles of State Policy’?

OR

What is the basic purpose of the Directives Principles of State Policy?

Answer:

The ‘Directive Principles of State Policy’ means directions or instructions that tell the legislature and the executive what to do. The basic purpose of these Directives is to guide the Courts to go in a right direction while implementing the laws for the welfare of state. Their another purpose is to keep up the proclamation that Indian State is what we say a welfare state.