

**CAREERS360**  
**PRACTICE** Series

**RBSE Class 12**

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**History**

**Previous Year Questions  
with Detailed Solution**

# RBSE Class 12 History Question with Solution - 2024

## SECTION-A

Multiple Choice Question: Answer the following questions by selecting the correct option and write them in the answer sheet.

i) Kalibangan, the site of the Indus Civilization, is located in which of the following states?

- A) Uttar Pradesh
- B) Rajasthan
- C) Punjab
- D) Haryana

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- B) Rajasthan

Kalibangan, an important site of the Indus Valley Civilization, is located in the state of Rajasthan, India.

ii) Mohenjodaro settlement was divided into how many sections.

- A) Two
- B) Three
- C) Four
- D) Five

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- A) Two

The Mohenjodaro settlement was divided into two main sections: the Citadel (a raised area for public buildings) and the Lower Town (where the majority of the residential buildings were located).

iii) From which country did the pilgrim xuan zang come?

- A) China
- B) Greece
- C) France
- D) Germany

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- A) China

The famous pilgrim Xuan Zang (also known as Hsüan-tsang) came from China. He traveled to India in the 7th century to study Buddhism and collect sacred texts.

iv) Gotami-puta Siri-Satakani was the famous ruler of which dynasty?

- A) Shaka
- B) Kushan
- C) Satavahana
- D) Mourya

Solution:

The correct answer is:

- C) Satavahana

Gotami-puta Siri-Satakani (Gautamiputra Satakarni) was a famous ruler of the Satavahana dynasty. He is known for his significant contributions to the expansion and consolidation of the Satavahana empire in ancient India.

v) According to Jain tradition, how many Teerthankers were there before Mahavira?

- A) 21
- B) 22
- C) 23
- D) 24

Solution:

The correct answer is:

- C) 23

According to Jain tradition, there were 23 Tirthankaras (spiritual teachers) before Lord Mahavira, who was the 24th and last Tirthankara.

vii) Who wrote the book 'Travels in the Mughal Empire'?

- A) Peter Mundy
- C) Francois Bernier
- B) Duarte Barbosa
- D) Antonio Monserrate

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- B) Francois Bernier

François Bernier, a French traveler, wrote the book \*\*'Travels in the Mughal Empire'\*\*, documenting his observations of India during the reign of Emperor Aurangzeb.

viii) In which city was Ibn Battuta appointed Qazi or Judge?

- A) Delhi
- B) Daulatabad

- C) Aurangabad
- D) Agra

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- A) Delhi

Ibn Battuta was appointed as a Qazi (judge) in Delhi by Sultan Muhammad bin Tughlaq during his stay in India.

ix) In which year was the Vijayanagara Empire Established?

- A) 1330
- B) 1336
- C) 1340
- D) 1345

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- B) 1336

The Vijayanagara Empire was established in 1336 by Harihara I and Bukka Raya I.

x) For whom was the word 'Yavana' used?

- A) For the Greeks
- B) For the British
- C) For the Francis
- D) For the Shakas

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- A) For the Greeks

The word 'Yavana' was used in ancient Indian texts to refer to the Greeks, particularly those who came into contact with India during and after the campaigns of Alexander the Great.

xi) When was the Permanent Settlement implemented in Bengal?

- A) 1790
- B) 1793
- C) 1795
- D) 1799

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- B) 1793

The Permanent Settlement was implemented in Bengal in 1793 by Lord Cornwallis during British rule in India.

xii) Which of the following events happened first?

- A) Quit India Movement
- B) Second Round Table conference
- C) Non-Cooperation Movement
- D) Jallianwala Bagh massacre

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- D) Jallianwala Bagh massacre

The Jallianwala Bagh massacre occurred on April 13, 1919. This event happened before the other listed events:

- Non-Cooperation Movement began in 1920.
- Second Round Table Conference was held in 1931.
- Quit India Movement started in 1942.

xiii) How many total sessions of the Constituent Assembly were held?

- A) 9
- B) 11
- C) 13
- D) 15

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- C) 13

A total of 13 sessions of the Constituent Assembly of India were held from December 1946 to January 1950, during which the Constitution of India was drafted and finalized.

xiv) Who was the constitutional advisor to the Government of India at the time of framing of the Constitution?

- A) S.N. Mukherjee
- B) Jawaharlal Nehru
- C) B.N. Rau
- D) B.R. Ambedkar

Answer:

The correct answer is:

- C) B.N. Rau

B.N. Rau (Benegal Narsing Rau) was the Constitutional Advisor to the Government of India during the framing of the Constitution. He played a key role in drafting the initial version of the Constitution, which was later refined by the Constituent Assembly, with Dr. B.R. Ambedkar as the Chairman of the

Drafting Committee.

2. Fill in the blanks:

i) In the Indus civilization, weights were generally made from a stone called \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer:

In the Indus civilization, weights were generally made from a stone called **chert**.

ii) Mandasor was earlier known as \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer:

Mandasor was earlier known as **Dashapura**.

iii) According to \_\_\_\_\_ philosophy, the world is transient and constantly changing.

Answer:

According to **Buddhist** philosophy, the world is transient and constantly changing.

iv) The ruin at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by an engineer and antiquarian named \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer:

The ruins at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by an engineer and antiquarian named **Colonel Colin Mackenzie**.

v) Before the 1860 s, three - fourth of raw cotton imports into Britain came from \_\_\_\_\_.

Answer:

Before the 1860s, three-fourths of raw cotton imports into Britain came from **India**.

vi) Subsidiary Alliance was a system devised by \_\_\_\_\_ in 1798.

Answer:

Subsidiary Alliance was a system devised by **Lord Wellesley** in 1798.

vii) On 13 December 1946, \_\_\_\_\_ in the Constituent Assembly. introduced the 'Objectives Resolution'

Answer:

On 13 December 1946, **Jawaharlal Nehru** introduced the 'Objectives Resolution' in the Constituent Assembly.

3. Very short answer type question

i) How can you say that the indus people had contact with distant lands also?

Answer:

The Indus people had contact with distant lands as evidenced by the discovery of seals, weights, and beads in regions like Mesopotamia and trade artifacts like lapis lazuli, which came from distant places such as Afghanistan, indicating long-distance trade.

ii) What is Pataliputra called at Present?

Answer:

Pataliputra is called **Patna** at present.

iii) What is the meaning of Matriliney?

Answer:

Matriliney refers to a system of social organization in which lineage and inheritance are traced through the mother's side of the family.

iv) According to Ibn Battuta, what was the 'Dawa' postal system?

Answer:

According to Ibn Battuta, the '**Dawa**' postal system involved an efficient system of communication, where horses and foot runners were used to carry messages rapidly across the empire, ensuring swift delivery.

v) In which city is the Dargah of Shah Nizamuddin Auliya?

Answer:

The Dargah of Sheikh Nizamuddin Auliya is located in **Delhi**.

vi) What is Gopuram?

Answer:

A **Gopuram** is a monumental entrance tower, typically ornate, that is part of South Indian temple architecture, often found at the entrance of Hindu temples.

vii) For what was the word muqaddam or mandal used?

Answer:

The word **muqaddam** or **mandal** was used to refer to the headman or leader of a village who acted as a representative of the local authority and collected taxes.

viii) In what sense was the Lahore session of the congress of 1929 important?

Answer:

The **Lahore session of the Congress in 1929** was important because it was during this session that the **Purna Swaraj (Complete Independence)** resolution was adopted, and 26th January 1930 was declared as Independence Day.

ix) What did Gandhiji do to establish his identity with poor?

Answer:

Gandhiji established his identity with the poor by adopting a simple lifestyle. He wore **khadi**, a handspun cloth made from cotton, to symbolize self-reliance and to align with the poor masses who could not afford expensive clothing. He also traveled across rural India, lived among the poor, and promoted the use of local resources, emphasizing the dignity of labor and simplicity in life.

x) Who introduced the proposal for the National Flag in the Constituent Assembly? What did Gandhiji do to establish his identity with poor?

Answer:

The proposal for the National Flag was introduced in the Constituent Assembly by **Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru** on July 22, 1947. The design of the flag was adopted as the national flag of India, featuring three horizontal stripes of saffron, white, and green, with the Ashoka Chakra in the center.

## SECTION-B

4) How do you think the Indus Valley Civilization came to an end? Explain.

Answer:

The Indus Valley Civilization likely declined due to a combination of factors, including environmental changes like shifting river patterns, droughts, and floods. Other contributing factors may include resource depletion, economic decline, and possible invasions by nomadic tribes such as the Aryans around 1900 BCE.

5) What historical information is obtained from coins?

Answer:

Coins provide valuable historical information such as the names and titles of rulers, dates, political events, economic conditions, trade routes, religious beliefs, and cultural symbols of the time. They also help identify the extent of empires and dynasties, as well as insights into art and craftsmanship.

6) What is called stridhana?

Answer:

Stridhana refers to the property that a woman receives as gifts or inheritance during her lifetime, including at the time of her marriage. This property remains under her control, and she has full rights over it, including the ability to use, gift, or dispose of it as she wishes.

7) Write the names of any two stupas?

Answer:

Two famous stupas are:

1. Sanchi Stupa in Madhya Pradesh, India.
2. Dhamek Stupa in Sarnath, Uttar Pradesh, India.

8) How has Ibn Battuta depicted the plant produced product 'Paan'?

Answer:

Ibn Battuta, the famous Moroccan traveler, described 'Paan' as a plant-based product made from betel leaves, often combined with areca nut and lime. He noted its popularity in India, where people chewed it for its refreshing and stimulating effects. Battuta was fascinated by how it stained the mouth red and was a symbol of hospitality and social customs in the region.

9) In your opinion, what characteristics of the Chishti silsila made it popular?

Answer:

The Chishti Silsila became popular due to several key characteristics:

1. **Inclusivity and Simplicity:** It emphasized love, tolerance, and openness to all, regardless of caste or creed, fostering a sense of equality and harmony.
2. **Focus on Spirituality:** The Chishti saints stressed personal devotion, inner purification, and a direct connection to God, making it appealing to the common people.
3. **Charity and Service:** They promoted compassion, generosity, and serving the poor, which resonated with the masses.
4. **Music and Devotional Practices:** Use of Sufi music (Qawwali) in worship made spiritual practices accessible and emotionally moving.

These elements created a deep bond with the local communities and led to widespread influence

10) Write the names of any two Royal centers of Vijayanagara Empire.

Answer:

Two prominent royal centers of the Vijayanagara Empire are:

1. **Hampi** – The capital city, known for its grand temples, palaces, and administrative buildings.
2. **Anegundi** – An important historical and royal center located near Hampi, associated with the early phase of the empire.

11) Explain the difference between Polaj and Parauti land.

Answer:

**Polaj** and **Parauti** were classifications of agricultural land under the Mughal revenue system:

- Polaj:** This was the most fertile and regularly cultivated land, yielding crops annually. It required no fallow periods and was continuously farmed to ensure stable agricultural production.
- Parauti:** This was fallow or uncultivated land left unused for some time to regain its fertility. It was allowed to rest for one or more years before being cultivated again.

The difference lies in the cultivation cycle, with Polaj being productive every year and Parauti being left fallow for recovery.

12) What kind of material does the Deccan Riot Commission report provide to historians?

Answer:

The Deccan Riot Commission report provides historians with valuable material on rural unrest and agrarian conditions in colonial India, particularly in the Deccan region. It offers detailed accounts of the causes of the 1875 riots, including excessive land revenue demands, exploitation by moneylenders, and peasant grievances. The report also sheds light on British administrative policies, the social and economic structure of rural India, and the impact of colonial taxation on farmers, offering insights into peasant resistance and colonial responses during the period.

13) What is meant by the Hoe and the plough in the chapter titled 'Colonialism and countryside'?

Answer:

- **Hoe:** Symbolizes shifting cultivation, a practice where farmers used basic tools like the hoe to clear small patches of land for farming. This method was common in tribal areas and involved less permanent settlement. It reflects the simpler, subsistence-oriented lifestyles of tribal and marginalized communities.
- **Plough:** Represents settled, intensive agriculture, typically found in more fertile plains where farmers used ploughs drawn by animals. This system was associated with larger, more stable agricultural communities and often faced direct colonial intervention through land revenue systems like the Permanent Settlement.

14) Write any two terms and conditions of subsidiary alliance.

Answer:

Two key terms and conditions of the **Subsidiary Alliance** system, introduced by Lord Wellesley, are:

- Permanent Stationing of British Troops:** The Indian ruler had to accept the presence of a British military force (subsidiary troops) in their territory and bear its expenses.
- No Foreign Alliances:** The Indian ruler could not form alliances with other powers or engage in warfare without the permission of the British East India Company, effectively losing their sovereignty in foreign affairs.

15) What recommendation did the Constituent Assembly give for the abolition of untouchability?

Answer:

The Constituent Assembly recommended the abolition of untouchability through Article 17 of the Indian Constitution, which declared that "Untouchability is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden." It further stated that the enforcement of any disability arising from untouchability would be an offense punishable by law. This ensured legal protection against discrimination and aimed to eliminate social practices that marginalized certain communities.

## SECTION- C

16) From which sources is information about the Maurya dynasty obtained? Write.

Answer:

Information about the Maurya dynasty is obtained from several key sources:

- 1. Archaeological Sources:** Inscriptions, especially the **Edicts of Ashoka**, provide direct evidence of the Mauryan administration, policies, and Ashoka's spread of Buddhism.
- 2. Literary Sources:** Ancient texts such as **Arthashastra** by Kautilya (Chanakya) offer insights into Mauryan governance, economy, and political strategies. Additionally, **Indica** by the Greek ambassador **Megasthenes** gives an account of Mauryan society, administration, and urban life.
- 3. Buddhist and Jain Texts:** These religious texts, such as the **Dpavasa** and **Mahvasa**, narrate Ashoka's patronage of Buddhism and his reign.

These sources collectively provide a detailed picture of the Maurya dynasty.

17) Explain the main teaching of Buddhist Philosophy.

Answer:

The main teachings of Buddhist philosophy center around the **Four Noble Truths** and the **Eightfold Path**. The Four Noble Truths are: (1) Life involves suffering (dukkha), (2) Suffering arises from desire and attachment (tanha), (3) The cessation of suffering is possible by eliminating desire, and (4) The way to end suffering is by following the Eightfold Path. The Eightfold Path consists of right understanding, intention, speech, action, livelihood, effort, mindfulness, and concentration. Central to Buddhism is the concept of **impermanence**, **non-self**, and **compassion**, promoting moral living, mindfulness, and wisdom to achieve Nirvana (liberation).

18) Discuss the function of Panchayat in Mughal India

Answer:

In Mughal India, **Panchayats** played an important role in rural governance, serving as local councils that managed the affairs of villages. Their key functions included:

- 1. Dispute Resolution:** The Panchayat acted as a judicial body, settling disputes related to land, property, family matters, and social conflicts among villagers.

2. **Administration and Maintenance:** It oversaw local administrative tasks such as the maintenance of village infrastructure, including roads, wells, and temples, and organized communal projects.
3. **Tax Collection:** Panchayats helped collect land revenue and taxes on behalf of the Mughal authorities, ensuring smooth financial functioning at the village level.
4. **Social and Religious Customs:** They also upheld local customs, religious traditions, and social norms, maintaining harmony within the community.

The Panchayat system represented grassroots governance and played a significant role in the social and administrative fabric of rural Mughal India.

19) Why were people believing the rumours of 1857?

Answer:

People believed the rumors during the 1857 uprising due to several key factors:

1. **Widespread Distrust of British Policies:** British colonial policies, such as the Doctrine of Lapse and aggressive economic exploitation, had created deep resentment. This distrust made people more likely to believe rumors about British intentions, such as the introduction of new rifle cartridges greased with cow and pig fat, which offended both Hindu and Muslim religious sentiments.
2. **Religious Sensitivities:** The fear of forced conversions to Christianity and perceived threats to traditional customs and religions made Indians highly susceptible to believing rumors that British actions were deliberately designed to undermine their faiths.
3. **Communication and Isolation:** In a largely agrarian and rural society with limited access to reliable information, rumors spread quickly and were often accepted as truth, especially when amplified by the existing grievances and anxieties of the people.
4. **Military Discontent:** The sepoys (Indian soldiers) in the British army, already disgruntled by discriminatory treatment and pay, were particularly vulnerable to believing rumors that their religious beliefs were being disrespected, sparking unrest.

These factors combined to create a volatile atmosphere where rumors fueled fear and rebellion, contributing to the outbreak of the 1857 revolt.

20) Which teaching of Baba Guru Nanak are relevant even today?

Answer:

The teachings of Baba Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, remain highly relevant today due to their emphasis on universal values. Some key teachings include:

1. **Equality:** Guru Nanak preached that all humans, regardless of caste, creed, gender, or religion, are equal. This message continues to resonate in today's struggles against discrimination and inequality.
2. **Community Service (Seva):** He advocated selfless service to humanity, promoting a sense of social responsibility and compassion, which remains crucial in fostering inclusive and caring communities.

3. **Honest Living:** Guru Nanak emphasized earning a livelihood through honest means, a principle that supports integrity and ethical behavior in personal and professional life.
4. **Universal Brotherhood and Peace:** His call for unity, peace, and tolerance among diverse faiths and communities is still relevant in promoting harmony in our multicultural and divided world.

These teachings offer timeless wisdom for building a just, compassionate, and peaceful society.

21) Quit India was genuinely a mass movement. Explain.

Answer:

The **Quit India Movement** of 1942 was genuinely a mass movement because it mobilized people from all sections of Indian society, creating widespread participation and support across the country. Key factors demonstrating its mass character include:

1. **Widespread Participation:** People from diverse backgrounds, including peasants, workers, students, women, and urban middle classes, actively participated in protests, strikes, and civil disobedience against British rule.
2. **All-India Reach:** The movement spread across rural and urban areas, affecting towns, villages, and cities, making it a truly national uprising. It wasn't limited to specific regions or social groups but had a pan-Indian appeal.
3. **Involvement of Women and Youth:** Women and young people played a significant role in the movement, taking part in rallies, underground activities, and boycotts, reflecting its inclusive and broad-based nature.
4. **Non-Cooperation and Strikes:** The call for "Do or Die" resonated widely, leading to widespread non-cooperation with the British authorities, large-scale strikes, and protests, paralyzing the colonial administration.
5. **Popular Leadership:** Despite the arrest of major Congress leaders, local leaders and ordinary citizens took charge, sustaining the momentum of the movement, further highlighting its grassroots support.

The Quit India Movement was a mass uprising that reflected the collective will of Indians to achieve independence from British colonial rule.

# RBSE Class 12 History Question with Solution - 2023

## SECTION-A

i) Banawali, the site of the Indus Civilization, is located in which of the following states?

- A) Haryana
- B) Rajasthan
- C) Punjab
- D) Gujarat

Answer:

A) Haryana

ii) Which state was called Magadha in ancient times?

- A) Rajasthan
- B) Bihar
- C) Gujarat
- D) Maharashtra

Answer:

B) Bihar

iii) The excavation work of Hastinapur was done by which archaeologist?

- A) M.K. Sunda
- B) R.K. Raiwar
- C) B.B. Lal
- D) G.K. Sharma

Answer:

C) B.B. Lal

iv) Where is Qutubuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki's Dargah situated?

- A) Ajmer
- B) Patna
- C) Panipat
- D) Delhi

Answer:

D) Delhi

v) When did Hampi get recognition as a national site?

- A) 1976
- B) 1977
- C) 1978
- D) 1979

Answer:

C) 1978

vi) What were the army chiefs called in the Vijayanagara Empire?

- A) Raya
- B) Nayaka
- C) Khwaja
- D) Sultan

Answer:

B) Nayaka

vii) Who was the author of the book 'Ain-i-Akbari'?

- A) Abul Fazal
- B) Ibn Battuta
- C) Al-Biruni
- D) Bernier

Answer:

A) Abul Fazal

viii) Who was the last ruler of Mughal dynasty?

- A) Akbar
- B) Bahadur Shah Zafar
- C) Jahangir
- D) Shah Jahan

Answer:

B) Bahadur Shah Zafar

ix) In which year Awadh was acquired by the British?

- A) 1854
- B) 1855
- C) 1856
- D) 1857

Answer:

C) 1856

x) In which year, elections to the provincial legislatures were held for the first time?

- A) 1930
- B) 1933
- C) 1939
- D) 1937

Answer:

D) 1937

xi) Who was the chairman of the Drafting committee?

- A) B. R. Ambedkar
- B) Rajendra Prasad
- C) S.N. Mukherjee
- D) K.M. Munshi

Answer:

A) B. R. Ambedkar

xii) When did the sepoys of the Royal Indian Navy revolt?

- A) 1942
- B) 1946
- C) 1939
- D) 1936

Answer:

B) 1946

2 Fill in the blanks :

i) Chanakya was the minister of Maurya ruler

Answer:

Chanakya was the minister of the Maurya ruler Chandragupta Maurya.

ii)      lake was rebuilt by the Shaka ruler Rudradaman.

Answer:

Sudarshana Lake was rebuilt by the Shaka ruler Rudradaman.

iii) The name of Ibn Battuta's travelogue is

Answer:

The name of Ibn Battuta's travelogue is "Rihla."

iv) The disciples of Nizamuddin Auliya addressed him as

Answer:

The disciples of Nizamuddin Auliya addressed him as "Mehboob-e-llahi" (Beloved of God).

v) \_\_\_\_\_, the Nawab of Bengal, attacked Calcutta in 1756 .

Answer:

Siraj-ud-Daulah, the Nawab of Bengal, attacked Calcutta in 1756.

3. Very short answer type questions : Answer the following questions in one word or one line.

i) Why was the Cabinet Mission sent to India?

Answer:

The Cabinet Mission was sent to India in 1946 to discuss and plan for the transfer of power from British rule to Indian leadership.

ii) Why did Mahatma Gandhi oppose the demand of separate electorates for Depressed castes?

Answer:

Mahatma Gandhi opposed the demand for separate electorates for Depressed Castes because he believed it would divide Hindus and further marginalize the Depressed Castes, hindering their integration into society and weakening national unity.

iii) What provision has been made in Article 356 of the Indian Constitution?

Answer:

Article 356 of the Indian Constitution provides for the imposition of President's Rule in a state if the President, based on the Governor's report or otherwise, believes that the state's government cannot function according to the provisions of the Constitution.

iv) Which two administrative officers had an important contribution in the making of Indian constitution?

Answer:

The two administrative officers who had an important contribution in the making of the Indian Constitution were **B. N. Rau** (Constitutional Adviser) and **S. N. Mukherjee** (Chief Draftsman).

v) What was the utility of steatite stone for the inhabitants of the Indus Valley Civilization?

Answer:

Steatite, or soapstone, was used by the inhabitants of the Indus Valley Civilization primarily for making seals, beads, and small figurines. Its softness made it easy to carve intricate designs, especially for the famous Indus seals, which were used for trade and possibly as markers of ownership or identity.

vi) Write any two causes of communal tension in India of 1920 s.

Answer:

Two causes of communal tension in India during the 1920s were:

- 1. The Khilafat Movement:** This movement, initiated to support the Ottoman Caliphate, created divisions between Hindus and Muslims, as some viewed it as a religious cause rather than a nationalist one.
- 2. Hindu-Muslim Riots:** Increasing instances of communal violence, fueled by religious and political differences, particularly over issues like cow slaughter and processions during festivals, heightened tensions between the two communities.

vii) In which language was Prayaga Prashasti composed?

Answer:

The Prayaga Prashasti was composed in **Sanskrit**.

viii) Who were the Nayanars?

Answer:

The **Nayanars** were a group of Tamil poet-saints devoted to the worship of Lord Shiva in South India. They lived between the 6th and 9th centuries and played a significant role in the Bhakti movement by composing devotional hymns and promoting Shaivism through their poetry and teachings.

ix) What was the other name of Battle of Talikota?

Answer:

The Battle of Talikota is also known as the Battle of Bannihatti.

x) Who founded the Asiatic Society of Bengal?

Answer:

The Asiatic Society of Bengal was founded by **Sir William Jones** in 1784.

xi) The Gateway of India is an example of which architectural style?

Answer:

The Gateway of India is an example of the **Indo-Saracenic** architectural style, which blends elements of Indian, Islamic, and European Gothic architecture.

xii) When did the Jallianwala Bagh massacre take place?

Answer:

The Jallianwala Bagh massacre took place on **13th April 1919**.

## SECTION-B

4) Who were the Chandals in ancient times?

Answer:

In ancient times, the Chandals were considered one of the lowest groups in the social hierarchy of the caste system in India. They were often regarded as "untouchables" and performed tasks deemed impure, such as handling the disposal of corpses. Chandals were marginalized and faced significant social discrimination and exclusion.

5) Mention any two important beliefs of Buddhist Philosophy.

Answer:

Two important beliefs of Buddhist philosophy are:

1. **The Four Noble Truths:** These explain the nature of suffering (Dukkha), its cause (desire), its cessation, and the path leading to its end (the Eightfold Path).
2. **The Doctrine of Impermanence (Anicca):** This teaches that all things are transient and constantly changing, and attachment to them leads to suffering.

6) What do you understand by Panch Mahavrata?

Answer:

**Panch Mahavrata** refers to the "Five Great Vows" in Jainism, which are the fundamental ethical principles followed by Jain monks and nuns. These include:

1. **Ahimsa** (Non-violence): Avoid causing harm to any living being.
2. **Satya** (Truthfulness): Always speak the truth.
3. **Asteya** (Non-stealing): Do not take anything that is not given.
4. **Brahmacharya** (Celibacy): Practice chastity and control over desires.
5. **Aparigraha** (Non-possession): Renounce material possessions and attachments.

These vows are aimed at achieving spiritual purity and liberation.

7) Define Stupa.

Answer:

A **Stupa** is a dome-shaped structure that serves as a Buddhist monument, typically built to house sacred relics, commemorate important events, or as a place of meditation. The stupa represents the enlightened mind of the Buddha and is an important symbol in Buddhism, often surrounded by a circular path for circumambulation.

8) Why has Bernier called Mughal cities as 'Camp Cities'?

Answer:

Bernier called Mughal cities 'Camp Cities' because he observed that they resembled large, temporary military camps rather than permanent urban settlements. The Mughal emperors frequently moved with their court, and the cities seemed to grow or shrink depending on the presence of the emperor.

and his entourage, leading to a transient, impermanent character in these cities.

9) What responsibilities were given to Ibn Battuta by Muhammad bin Tughlaq?

Answer:

Ibn Battuta was appointed by Muhammad bin Tughlaq as the **Qazi (judge)** of Delhi, responsible for overseeing legal and religious matters. Later, he was also given the role of an **ambassador**, and Muhammad bin Tughlaq sent him on a diplomatic mission to China to represent the Delhi Sultanate at the court of the Mongol Yuan dynasty.

10) Describe any two victories of Krishnadeva Raya.

Answer:

Two significant victories of **Krishnadeva Raya**, the ruler of the Vijayanagara Empire, are:

1. **Victory over the Gajapati Kingdom:** Krishnadeva Raya successfully defeated the Gajapati rulers of Odisha in 1513 and captured important territories like Udayagiri, Kondavidu, and Rajamahendri, significantly expanding his empire.
2. **Battle of Raichur:** In 1520, Krishnadeva Raya defeated the combined forces of the Bijapur Sultanate and recaptured the strategic Raichur Doab, a fertile land between the Krishna and Tungabhadra rivers, strengthening his hold over the region.

11) What do you understand by 'Manzil-abadi' and 'Sipah-abadi'?

Answer:

**Manzil-abadi** and **Sipah-abadi** were terms used during the Mughal period to refer to two key aspects of urban and military settlements:

1. **Manzil-abadi:** It referred to the development and growth of urban settlements or civilian towns. These were the cities or towns where people lived, and they played a crucial role in the administration and economy of the empire.
2. **Sipah-abadi:** It referred to the settlement of military personnel or the establishment of military garrisons. These were areas where soldiers and their families lived, often near forts or strategic locations, ensuring a military presence in the region.

These terms reflect the dual focus on urban administration and military strength in the Mughal Empire.

12) Into how many parts was the land classified during the reign of Akbar? Mention any two.

Answer:

During the reign of Akbar, land was classified into **four** categories based on its fertility and productivity. Two of these categories are:

1. **Polaj:** This was the best type of land, which was regularly cultivated and did not need to lie fallow.

2. **Parauti:** Land that was left uncultivated for a short period to regain its fertility.

13) When and who killed Abul Fazal?

Answer:

Abul Fazal was killed in **1602** on the orders of **Prince Salim** (who later became Emperor Jahangir). The assassination was carried out by **Vir Singh Bundela**, a Bundela chieftain, as part of Salim's efforts to remove one of Akbar's most trusted advisors and secure his own path to the throne.

14) What was the 'Sunset law' regarding permanent settlement?

Answer:

The "**Sunset Law**" under the Permanent Settlement, introduced by the British in Bengal in 1793, stipulated that if the **zamindars (landlords)** failed to pay the land revenue to the British government by sunset on the due date, they would lose their rights over the land. This law placed immense pressure on zamindars to meet revenue demands, often leading to the auctioning of their estates if payments were delayed.

15) Write any two causes of Santhal Rebellion.

Answer:

Two major causes of the **Santhal Rebellion** (1855-1856) were:

1. **Exploitation by Zamindars and Moneylenders:** The Santhals faced severe exploitation from zamindars, moneylenders, and British officials, who imposed high taxes and usurious loans, pushing the Santhals into poverty and debt.

2. **Loss of Traditional Land:** The Santhals' ancestral lands were taken away due to expanding British settlements and agricultural activities, leading to widespread displacement and resentment among the tribal population.

16) Why did the Muslim League reject the proposals of the cabinet mission?

Answer:

The Muslim League rejected the proposals of the Cabinet Mission in 1946 because the mission did not fulfill their key demand for the creation of a separate state, **Pakistan**. While the plan suggested a federal structure with groupings of provinces, it maintained India's unity, which the Muslim League saw as inadequate to safeguard Muslim interests and achieve their goal of partition.

## SECTION-C

17) Prove that the colonial cities reflected the commercial culture of the new rulers.

Answer:

Colonial cities in India reflected the commercial culture of the new British rulers in several ways:

- 1. Development of Port Cities:** Cities like Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras became major centers of British trade, facilitating the export of raw materials (like cotton, jute, and tea) and the import of British manufactured goods. These cities were developed around harbors, dockyards, and trading hubs, reflecting the commercial priorities of the British colonial economy.
- 2. Establishment of Commercial Infrastructure:** Colonial cities were planned and structured to support the commercial interests of the British. Railways, roads, and telegraph lines were constructed primarily to facilitate the movement of goods and raw materials to and from port cities, rather than for the benefit of the local population.
- 3. Segregated Urban Areas:** The cities were often divided into distinct sections—European quarters with impressive administrative buildings and commercial centers, and native quarters, where local traders and workers lived. This segregation reflected the commercial dominance of the British and their control over trade and industry.
- 4. Emergence of New Commercial Elites:** The colonial administration encouraged the rise of a new class of Indian merchants, middlemen, and industrialists who worked within the British system, further embedding the commercial culture of the colonial rulers within these cities.

These aspects demonstrate how colonial cities were designed and developed to cater to the commercial and economic interests of the British Empire, embodying the commercial culture of the new rulers.

18) Mention the contribution of Maulvi Ahmadullah shah in the revolt of 1857.

Answer:

Maulvi Ahmadullah Shah played a significant role in the **Revolt of 1857** as a prominent leader and military commander:

- 1. Leadership in Awadh:** He was a key leader in the region of Awadh (modern-day Uttar Pradesh), where he inspired and mobilized both soldiers and civilians to rise against British rule. His leadership in Faizabad and Lucknow made him a symbol of resistance during the uprising.
- 2. Military Expertise:** Maulvi Ahmadullah Shah was known for his military skills and strategic brilliance. He led several successful battles against the British forces, including in Faizabad, and was able to unite various groups, including local landowners and soldiers, to fight against colonial oppression.

His courage and defiance of British rule made him one of the most respected leaders of the 1857 rebellion.

19) Describe the main teachings of Kabir.

Answer:

Kabir, the 15th-century poet-saint, conveyed profound spiritual teachings that blended elements of both Hinduism and Islam, emphasizing a universal approach to faith. His main teachings include:

- Unity of God:** Kabir preached the belief in a formless, omnipresent God, rejecting idol worship and rituals. He emphasized that God is beyond religious divisions, and all paths lead to the same divine truth.
- Rejection of Caste and Creed:** Kabir was vocal against the rigid caste system and religious orthodoxy, advocating equality and unity among all humans. He believed that devotion to God transcends social distinctions and that all individuals, regardless of caste or religion, could attain spiritual liberation.
- Importance of Bhakti (Devotion):** Kabir stressed the importance of sincere devotion, love, and meditation as the true means to connect with God. He believed that rituals and ceremonies were less important than inner purity and devotion.
- Critique of Religious Hypocrisy:** Kabir often criticized the dogmas and rituals of both Hinduism and Islam, denouncing the religious hypocrisy of priests, Brahmins, and mullahs. He called for inner spiritual awakening rather than mere external observance of religious practices.
- Moral Living and Simplicity:** Kabir taught the importance of leading a simple, moral, and righteous life. He encouraged truthfulness, humility, and compassion, while discouraging materialism and attachment to worldly desires.

Through his teachings and poetry, Kabir promoted a message of love, harmony, and universal spirituality, bridging the gap between diverse religious communities.

20) Describe the Mauryan Military administration mentioned by Megasthenes.

Answer:

Megasthenes, the Greek ambassador to the Mauryan court, provides a detailed account of the Mauryan military administration during the reign of **Chandragupta Maurya** in his work, **Indica**. His observations highlight the structured and well-organized nature of the Mauryan army. Key aspects include:

- Large and Diverse Army:** According to Megasthenes, the Mauryan military was vast, comprising 600,000 infantry, 30,000 cavalry, 9,000 war elephants, and 8,000 chariots. This large army was essential for maintaining control over the extensive Mauryan Empire, and it included soldiers from different regions.
- War Council and Divisions:** The Mauryan military administration was overseen by a **war council** composed of six boards, each responsible for different aspects of the military. The divisions were:
  - o Infantry
  - o Cavalry
  - o War elephants
  - o Chariots
  - o Naval forces
  - o Supply and logistics (including weapons, provisions, and transport)
- Elephant Corps:** The war elephants were a key component of the Mauryan army, used as powerful offensive units in battle. Megasthenes highlights the importance of the elephant corps, which was meticulously maintained and trained.

4. **Centralized Administration:** The Mauryan military system was highly centralized, with control exerted by the emperor and his appointed officials. The administration ensured that soldiers were trained, equipped, and provided with supplies, and the empire maintained a standing army even during peacetime.

5. **Fortifications and Garrisons:** The Mauryan empire had numerous fortified cities and garrisons strategically placed to defend key locations. The military ensured the safety of trade routes, maintained law and order, and safeguarded the frontiers of the empire.

Megasthenes' account highlights the strength, discipline, and organizational efficiency of the Mauryan military, contributing to the stability and expansion of the empire under Chandragupta Maurya.

## SECTION-D

21) Throw light on the Domestic architecture of the Indus Valley Civilization.

Answer:

The domestic architecture of the **Indus Valley Civilization** reflects the advanced urban planning and engineering skills of its inhabitants. Key features of their homes and buildings include:

1. **Brick Construction:** Houses were built using uniform, kiln-baked bricks (both mud and burnt bricks). The use of standard-sized bricks across various cities shows a high level of architectural standardization.
2. **Houses with Multiple Rooms:** Homes ranged from modest single-room structures to multi-roomed, multi-storied houses. Larger homes often had courtyards, separate bathing areas, and storage spaces, suggesting social and economic stratification.
3. **Well-Planned Layout:** The houses were part of well-planned cities with a grid-like layout, intersected by straight roads. Homes were built on raised platforms to prevent flooding. Streets were often paved, and houses opened onto alleys or main roads.
4. **Private Wells and Bathrooms:** Many houses had private wells and well-designed drainage systems. Bathrooms with water-tight floors connected to advanced drainage systems that carried waste out of the city. This indicates a high level of attention to sanitation and public health.
5. **Ventilation and Light:** Homes had small windows and ventilators to allow light and air to enter. Some larger houses had courtyards or open spaces in the center to improve ventilation.
6. **Use of Staircases:** Evidence of staircases in houses suggests that many structures had upper floors or terraces. The presence of staircases further reflects the advanced architectural planning of multi-storied buildings.
7. **Granaries and Storage:** Some houses had special storage areas for grains and food supplies, indicating that families stored surplus produce for future use.

The domestic architecture of the Indus Valley Civilization reflects a sophisticated urban culture with a strong focus on public health, privacy, and functional design, making it one of the most advanced early civilizations in terms of housing and urban planning.

22 ) Evaluate the non-cooperation movement.

Answer:

The **Non-Cooperation Movement** (1920-1922), led by Mahatma Gandhi, was a significant phase in India's freedom struggle, marked by a widespread, non-violent protest against British rule. It was launched in response to events like the **Jallianwala Bagh Massacre** (1919) and the **Khilafat issue**, and aimed to challenge British authority through non-violent means. Here's an evaluation of the movement:

## Successes:

- 1. Mass Mobilization:** The movement succeeded in mobilizing millions of Indians across various sections of society, including peasants, workers, students, and women. For the first time, it brought together diverse groups under a united national cause, making it a truly mass movement.
- 2. Boycott of British Institutions:** The boycott of British schools, colleges, law courts, and the relinquishment of British titles were widespread. Many prominent lawyers like Motilal Nehru and C. R. Das gave up their practices, and students left government schools and colleges to join nationalist institutions.
- 3. Economic Impact:** The movement encouraged the boycott of foreign goods and the promotion of Swadeshi (locally made) goods. This had an economic impact on British industries, as imports of British textiles and other goods dropped significantly.
- 4. Non-Violence as a Strategy:** The movement was one of the first large-scale experiments with non-violence (Satyagraha) as a method of political resistance. Gandhi's emphasis on peaceful protest inspired many to adopt non-violence as a long-term strategy in India's struggle for independence.
- 5. Political Awakening:** The Non-Cooperation Movement helped instill a sense of political consciousness and national pride among Indians, especially in rural areas. It laid the foundation for future mass movements and transformed the Indian National Congress into a popular national organization.

Limitations and Failures:

- 1. Violence at Chauri Chaura:** Despite Gandhi's insistence on non-violence, the movement was marred by the violent incident at **Chauri Chaura** in 1922, where a mob killed 22 policemen. Gandhi immediately called off the movement, fearing that it was spiraling into violence. This abrupt end disappointed many followers.
- 2. Limited Participation of Elites:** While the movement attracted mass participation, many wealthy and elite Indians, particularly landlords and business leaders, did not fully support it. They were hesitant to give up their privileges and adopt a confrontational stance against the British.

- 3. Failure to Achieve Immediate Goals:** The movement did not succeed in forcing the British to grant Swaraj (self-rule) or address the key grievances like the Rowlatt Act, Jallianwala Bagh massacre, or the Khilafat issue. The colonial government remained in power, and the demand for self-government was deferred.
- 4. Communal Tensions:** While the movement had widespread support, there were growing communal tensions, especially towards the end of the movement. The failure of the Khilafat Movement, which had been an integral part of the Non-Cooperation Movement, led to disillusionment among Muslims.

# RBSE Class 12 History Question with Solution - 2022

## SECTION-A

i) Who was the founder of the Maurya Empire?

- (A) Chandragupta
- (B) Ashoka
- (C) Bimbisara
- (D) Mahapadmananda

Answer:

ii) The founder of the Maurya Empire was **(A) Chandragupta**

By which name was Mandasor known in ancient times?

- (A) Darmi
- (B) Karad
- (C) Dashapur
- (D) Bispur

Answer:

iii) In ancient times, Mandasor was known as **(C) Dashapur.**

Prabhavati Gupta was the famous ruler of which dynasty?

- (A) Shaka
- (B) Satavahana
- (C) Maurya
- (D) Vakataka

Answer:

iv) Prabhavati Gupta was a famous ruler of the **(D) Vakataka** dynasty.

Who was the author of the book 'Kitab-ul-Hind'?

- (A) Al-Biruni
- (B) Abul Fazal
- (C) Bernier
- (D) Ibn Battuta

Answer:

v) The author of the book '**Kitab-ul-Hind**' was **(A) Al-Biruni.**

The capital of Magadha was

- (A) Champa
- (B) Shravasti
- (C) Kushinagara
- (D) Pataliputra

Answer:

The capital of Magadha was **(D) Pataliputra**.

vi) From which site has terracotta models of the plough been founded?

- (A) Ropar
- (B) Dholavira
- (C) Kalibanga
- (D) Banawali

Answer:

Terracotta models of the plough have been found at **(C) Kalibanga**

vii) What is the most distinctive artefact of the Indus Valley Civilization?

- (A) House
- (C) Seal
- (B) Tool
- (D) Ornament

Answer:

The most distinctive artefact of the Indus Valley Civilization is the **(C) Seal**.

viii) Who was the Mughal emperor during the revolt of 1857 ?

- (A) Lakshmi Bai
- (B) Bajirao
- (C) Nana Sahib
- (D) Bahadur Shah

Answer:

The Mughal emperor during the revolt of 1857 was **(D) Bahadur Shah** (Bahadur Shah II or Bahadur Shah Zafar).

ix) When was the Permanent Settlement implemented in Bengal ?

- (A) 1791
- (C) 1792
- (B) 1793
- (D) 1794

Answer:

The Permanent Settlement was implemented in Bengal in **(B) 1793**.

x) Who was the official historian of Akbar's period?

- (A) Bernier
- (B) Abul Fazal
- (C) Al-Biruni
- (D) Ibn Battuta

Answer:

The official historian of Akbar's period was **(B) Abul Fazal.**

xi) When did the Battle of Talikota take place?

- (A) 1564
- (B) 1565
- (C) 1566
- (D) 1567

Answer:

The Battle of Talikota took place in **(B) 1565**

xii) Which Sufi saint is popularly known as 'Garib wat

- (A) Shaikh Nizamuddin
- (B) Shaikh Nasiruddin
- (C) Khwaja Muinuddin
- (D) Khwaja Qutubuddin

Answer:

The Sufi saint popularly known as 'Garib Nawaz' is **(C) Khwaja Muinuddin.**

Fill in the blanks :

(i) The        world war started in September, 1939.

Answer:

The **Second** world war started in September, 1939.

(ii) The second        conference was held in London in 1931.

Answer:

The second **Round Table** conference was held in London in 1931.

(iii)        was defeated in the battle of Plassey.

Answer:

**Siraj-ud-Daulah** was defeated in the battle of Plassey.

(iv) The first all India census was attempted in

Answer:

The first all India census was attempted in **1871**.

(v) In 1861, civil war started in

Answer:

In 1861, civil war started in **the United States**.

(vi) The **Indian** supply association was established in Britain in 1857.

Answer:

The **Indian** supply association was established in Britain in 1857.

3. Very short answer type questions : Answer the following questions in one word or one line.

(i) In which year did Mahatma Gandhi start the Quit India Movement?

Answer:

1942

(ii) Why did Mahatma Gandhi choose salt an issue for his Satyagraha?

Answer:

Mahatma Gandhi chose salt because it was a **basic necessity** and affected all Indians, symbolizing British oppression

(iii) Why was the 'Gateway of India' constructed?

Answer:

The 'Gateway of India' was constructed to commemorate the visit of **King George V and Queen Mary** to India in 1911.

(iv) In which year Awadh was merged with the British empire?

Answer:

**1856**

(v) Who was Andal ?

Answer:

Andal was a **Tamil poet-saint** and one of the twelve Alvars, known for her devotional songs.

(vi) How many times did Akbar visit the Dargah of Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti ?

Answer:

Akbar visited the Dargah of Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti **14 times**.

(vii) Which city has been described by Ibn Battuta as the largest city of India ?

Answer:

**Delhi** was described by Ibn Battuta as the largest city of India.

(viii) What was the name of the eldest son of Shahjahan?

Answer:

The eldest son of Shahjahan was **Dara Shikoh**.

(ix) When was the Manusmriti compiled?

Answer:

The Manusmriti was compiled around **200 BCE - 200 CE**.

(x) What provision has been made for women in relation to the distribution of ancestral property in Manusmriti?

Answer:

Manusmriti **denied women the right** to ancestral property, favoring male heirs.

(xi) What do you understand by exogamy?

Answer:

Exogamy refers to the practice of **marrying outside one's social group** or community.

xii) When did John Marshall announce the discovery of a new civilization in the Indus Valley?

Answer:

John Marshall announced the discovery of a new civilization in the Indus Valley in **1924**.

Short answer type questions. (Answer word limit approx. **50** words)

## SECTION-B

4. Why was the 'Neoclassical style' used by the British in public buildings in India ?

Answer:

The British used the Neoclassical style to showcase their authority and culture, reflecting the values of order, rationality, and power. This style, based on ancient Greek and Roman architecture, was chosen to symbolize the British Empire's supposed superiority, civilization, and control over India.

5. What were the steps taken by the rebels for Hindu-Muslim unity during the time of revolt of 1857 ? Mention any two.

Answer:

(i) The rebels emphasized religious unity by issuing proclamations that respected both Hindu and Muslim traditions.

(ii) Leaders like Bahadur Shah Zafar became symbols of joint resistance, and soldiers from both religions fought together against the British rule.

6. What were the causes of the discontentment among the Indian Sepoys during the revolt of 1857 ? Mention any two.

Answer:

(i) The introduction of the new Enfield rifle, which involved cartridges greased with cow and pig fat, offended both Hindu and Muslim sepoys.

(ii) The sepoys were also dissatisfied with the British for their low wages, poor working conditions, and lack of promotions compared to British soldiers.

7. How was the Ryotwari System different from the Permanent Settlement?

Answer:

The Ryotwari System involved direct collection of land revenue from the individual peasants (ryots) by the government, while the Permanent Settlement relied on landlords (zamindars) who collected revenue from peasants and paid a fixed amount to the government. The Ryotwari system gave the state direct control over revenue, unlike the zamindar-based Permanent Settlement.

8. What were the causes of the Santhal revolt?

Answer:

The Santhal revolt was triggered by the exploitation of the Santhals by landlords, moneylenders, and British revenue officers. They faced high taxes and the loss of their land due to oppressive policies, which led to widespread discontent and their rebellion in 1855-56.

9. How can you say that the policy adopted by the Vijayanagara Prime Minister Rama Raya towards the sultans was risky?

Answer:

Rama Raya's policy of playing the Deccan sultans against one another was risky because it led to temporary alliances that backfired. Eventually, the sultans united against Vijayanagara, leading to its defeat in the Battle of Talikota in 1565, causing the downfall of the empire.

10. Which elements of the architecture of the Vijayanagara rulers were influenced by the architecture promoted by the Turkish sultans ?

Answer:

Vijayanagara architecture incorporated Islamic elements such as domes, arches, and vaulted ceilings, which were introduced by the Turkish sultans. These features were blended with traditional Dravidian styles, seen in structures like the Lotus Mahal, combining Indo-Islamic influences with local temple architecture.

11) What were the causes for the popularity of Sufi saints?

Answer:

The popularity of Sufi saints can be attributed to several factors:

- Simple and Inclusive Teachings:** Sufi saints emphasized love, compassion, and equality, which appealed to people across social and religious boundaries.
- Spiritual Guidance:** They provided emotional and spiritual solace, emphasizing a personal connection with God, unlike the rigid rituals of orthodox religion.
- Social Equality:** Sufis promoted social justice, rejecting caste and class distinctions, making their message appealing to common people.
- Moral Integrity:** Sufi saints were known for their piety, humility, and moral integrity, inspiring followers with their simple, ascetic lives.
- Local Involvement:** Sufi saints often engaged with local communities, helping the poor and marginalized, further increasing their popularity.

These factors made Sufi saints highly respected and widely followed across regions.

12. Why was Ibn Battuta surprised to see the Indian Postal System?

Answer:

Ibn Battuta was surprised by the efficiency and speed of the Indian postal system. It used a network of horse riders and foot runners, allowing rapid communication across vast distances, something advanced for the time. He was impressed by its organization and reach.

13. When did Ibn Battuta reach Sindh? Who was the Sultan of Delhi at that time ?

Answer:

Ibn Battuta reached Sindh in **1333**. At that time, **Muhammad bin Tughlaq** was the Sultan of Delhi.

14. Write two rules of Gotra System.

Answer:

Members of the same gotra are considered descendants of a common ancestor and are therefore **forbidden from marrying within the same gotra** to avoid incest. (ii) **Gotra exogamy** is followed, meaning marriages must occur outside one's own gotra, ensuring diversity in family lineage.

15. Why did gold coins become less available from the **6<sup>th</sup>** century A.D. ?

Answer:

Gold coins became less available from the 6th century A.D. due to the **decline in Roman trade** with India and other eastern countries, which disrupted the flow of gold. Additionally, political instability and economic changes in the Gupta Empire contributed to the reduced minting of gold coins.

16. Mention any two characteristics of the weights prevalent in the Indus Valley Civilisation.

Answer:

(i) The weights were generally made of **chert**, a hard stone, and were finely polished and cubical in shape. (ii) The weights followed a **binary system**, increasing in multiples of two (1, 2, 4, 8, etc.), indicating an advanced understanding of measurements and standardization in trade.

## SECTION-C

17) Write any three causes for the rise of Magadha among the Sixteen Mahajanapadas.

Answer:

Here are three key causes for the rise of Magadha among the Sixteen Mahajanapadas:

- 1. Strategic Location:** Magadha's location near the Ganga and Son rivers provided fertile land for agriculture, and its rivers facilitated trade and transport, enhancing its economic strength.
- 2. Strong Rulers:** Magadha was ruled by powerful kings like Bimbisara and Ajatashatru, who expanded the kingdom through military conquests and diplomatic alliances.
- 3. Iron Resources:** Magadha had access to rich iron deposits, which were crucial for making weapons and tools, giving it a military advantage over other Mahajanapadas.

These factors contributed significantly to Magadha's dominance in ancient India.

18) Which features of the domestic architecture of the Indus Civilisation are still relevant?

Answer:

Several features of the domestic architecture of the Indus Valley Civilization remain relevant today:

- 1. Urban Planning:** Houses were built along a grid-like pattern with well-planned streets and drainage systems, which is still a foundational principle in modern city planning.
- 2. Brick Construction:** The use of standardized baked bricks for building houses is still common in contemporary construction practices for durability and uniformity.
- 3. Water Management:** The Indus people had advanced water management systems, including wells and bathrooms in homes, a concept that is still crucial in modern housing design for access to clean water and sanitation.

These aspects reflect the enduring influence of Indus Valley urban and domestic planning in today's architecture.

19) What was the religious significance of Mahanavami Dibba in Vijayanagara empire ?

Answer:

The **Mahanavami Dibba** in the Vijayanagara Empire had great religious and ceremonial significance. It was the platform where the kings of Vijayanagara conducted grand rituals and celebrated important festivals, especially **Mahanavami (also known as Dussehra)**. The platform served as the center for royal ceremonies, military parades, and public displays of wealth and power.

The festival included processions, sacrifices, and offerings to deities, symbolizing the king's divine right to rule and reinforcing the connection between the monarchy and religious traditions. The Mahanavami Dibba was a site for public viewing of these royal religious events, underlining the integration of politics, religion, and power in the empire.

20) How can you say that the prepare maps of cities was useful for the colonial government?

Answer:

The preparation of maps of cities was highly useful for the colonial government for several reasons:

- 1. Control and Administration:** Detailed maps helped the British establish effective control over cities by understanding their layout, roads, and key locations, enabling efficient governance and military control.
- 2. Urban Planning and Infrastructure:** Maps allowed the colonial government to plan and develop urban infrastructure such as railways, roads, drainage systems, and public buildings, facilitating economic growth and better administrative reach.
- 3. Revenue Collection:** Mapping cities helped in identifying and demarcating landholdings, properties, and resources, which was crucial for tax and revenue collection, a key part of the colonial economic system.

Overall, city maps aided the British in maintaining political control, facilitating trade, and enhancing administrative efficiency.

21) Describe the Veerashaiva Tradition of Karnataka.

Answer:

The **Veerashaiva Tradition** of Karnataka, also known as the **Lingayat Movement**, was a reformist religious movement that emerged in the 12th century under the leadership of **Basava**, a philosopher and social reformer. It played a significant role in challenging established caste hierarchies and promoting social equality.

Key features of the Veerashaiva Tradition:

- 1. Worship of Shiva:** The followers of this tradition, known as **Lingayats**, worshipped Lord Shiva as the supreme deity. They carried a small linga (symbol of Shiva) around their neck as a mark of devotion.

2. **Opposition to Caste and Rituals:** The movement rejected the caste system and opposed Brahmanical rituals and temple worship, advocating for a direct relationship between the individual and God.
3. **Emphasis on Social Justice:** The tradition focused on social equality, women's rights, and the upliftment of marginalized sections, promoting an inclusive spiritual community.
4. **Ethical Living:** Veerashaivas emphasized living a moral and ethical life based on truth, non-violence, and service to humanity, aligning their beliefs with principles of devotion and personal integrity.

This tradition left a lasting influence on Karnataka's social and religious landscape, challenging orthodoxy and promoting progressive reforms.

22) Evaluate the rise of Mahatma Gandhi as a mass leader.

Answer:

The rise of **Mahatma Gandhi** as a mass leader in India can be evaluated through several key phases of his leadership:

1. **Initial Involvement in South Africa:** Gandhi first gained prominence through his activism in South Africa, where he fought against racial discrimination using non-violent civil disobedience, or **Satyagraha**. His success there established him as a committed leader who could mobilize people for social justice.
2. **Champaran and Kheda Movements (1917-1918):** Gandhi's return to India saw his involvement in the **Champaran Satyagraha** (Bihar), where he championed the cause of indigo farmers oppressed by the British. This was followed by the **Kheda Movement** in Gujarat, where he supported farmers affected by crop failures. These movements were Gandhi's first major successful engagements in India, earning him widespread support among peasants.
3. **Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-1922):** Gandhi's leadership reached new heights during the **Non-Cooperation Movement**, which called for boycotts of British goods, institutions, and honors. He transformed the Indian National Congress from an elite group into a mass movement, engaging millions of Indians across different regions and communities.
4. **Salt March and Civil Disobedience Movement (1930):** The **Dandi March** (Salt March) of 1930 marked another major moment in Gandhi's leadership. This act of defiance against the British monopoly on salt resonated with people across the nation. It demonstrated Gandhi's ability to use symbolic, non-violent protests to unite the masses in the freedom struggle.
5. **Quit India Movement (1942):** During the **Quit India Movement**, Gandhi called for immediate British withdrawal from India. Despite mass arrests, the movement spread rapidly across India, showing the depth of his influence and his ability to inspire civil disobedience on a national scale.

Factors Contributing to Gandhi's Rise as a Mass Leader:

- **Non-violent Philosophy:** Gandhi's principles of **Ahimsa** (non-violence) and **Satyagraha** resonated with people who were drawn to peaceful resistance against British rule.

- **Inclusive Leadership:** Gandhi was able to unify people across caste, class, religion, and gender, making the freedom movement truly inclusive.
- **Simple and Relatable Lifestyle:** Gandhi lived a simple life, dressing in traditional Indian attire and adopting the lifestyle of the common people, which made him relatable to the masses.
- **Moral Integrity:** Gandhi's emphasis on ethics and truthfulness made him a moral beacon, earning the trust and loyalty of millions.

In summary, Mahatma Gandhi's rise as a mass leader was marked by his ability to connect with ordinary people, his non-violent methods, and his moral leadership. His unique approach galvanized Indians across social and economic divisions, turning the Indian independence movement into a widespread, popular struggle.