

Assignment class VII Subject - Sst (History)

Ch-1 (Where, When and How) (Book Exercise)

Q I MCQ's

- 1 The early medieval period is fixed between — 8th century to 13th century
- 2 The land of Seven Rivers is — Sapta Sindhu
- 3 Zend Avesta is the sacred book of the — Parsis
- 4 History of most countries is divided into — periods — 3

Q II Fill in the blanks :-

- 1 History gave the name Aryadesh to India.
- 2 The Chinese used the term Tien Chu for India.
- 3 Minhaj-i-Siraj was a Persian chronicler
- 4 Tansen was a great singer during Akbar's reign.

Q III Write True/False :-

- 1 Aryavarta was another name of northern part of India given at the time of Patanjali. (T)
- 2 After Hui Tsang's visit 'Yin-tu' came to be used for India. (T)
- 3 The Medieval period is fixed between the 6th and 12th centuries. (F)
- 4 The Zend Avesta used the term Sapta-Sindhu for India (T)

Q IV Match them:-

- | A | B |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1 The Delhi Sultanate | a) India (5) |
| 2 Medieval Period | b) 1206 - 1526 (1) |
| 3 Early Medieval Period | c) 700 - 1750 (2) |
| 4 Later Medieval Period | d) 8 th century - 13 th century (3) |
| 5 Aryadesh | e) 13 th century - 18 th century (4) |

Q V Answer the following questions :-

1 What was the term used for the Indian subcontinent?

Ans The Indian subcontinent is a term mainly used for the geographic region surrounded by the Indian Ocean. The subcontinent was the part of Gondwana the ancient southern supercontinent.

2 Which countries comprised the Indian subcontinent?

Ans Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

3 Discuss the broad historical trends during the medieval period.

Ans In the medieval period we find certain historical trends —

- 1) About this period, sufficient historical material is available as compared to Ancient Period.
 - 2 Most of the languages that we speak now, particularly Hindi and Urdu, developed during this period.
 - 3 The dress we wear and the food we eat, bear a clear impact of this period.
 - 4 During this period, the true Indian culture developed with the fusion of the Hindu and the Muslim cultural traits.
 - 5 Attracted by the economic prosperity of India many European countries tried to establish direct trade relations with India.
 - 6 However the position of women in the society worsened. They were to adhere to the Purdah System which greatly restricted their freedom.
- 4 Throw light on the sources of Medieval India.

Ans There are following sources of information to know about medieval period :-

- 1) Literary sources :- It includes literature, drama, biography, autobiography, commentaries etc of medieval period.
- 2 Historical records :- A lots of historical accounts, articles, matters etc. where written during the medieval period, they also tell us about the medieval period of Indian history.
- 3 Archaeological sources of information :- It includes coins, skeleton, monuments, buildings, temples and other ~~extra~~ excavated remains etc. of medieval period of Indian history.

Q. Give Reasons :-

1 Inscriptions are considered an important source of history.

Ans They provide us authentic information about important events, important dates, the personal qualities of the rulers, the mutual relations of different rulers, about the specimens of art and administrative measures.

2 The medieval period is fixed between 8th century - 18th century.

Ans because between these centuries, India is definitely a century of change when everywhere, whether in political, social or economic fields, a great many changes were taking place. Similarly, the break-up of the Mughal Empire and coming of the British in power in about the middle of 18th century has generally been taken as the end of the Medieval Period.

3 Memoirs are an important historical source of knowledge.

Ans because the memoirs tell us many important things about the life and activities of rulers and dynasties.

Assignment, Class VII, Sub - SST (History)

Ch-2 [New Kings and Kingdoms (AD 700-1200)]

QI MCQ's :-

1. Rajashekhar wrote = Kavyamimansa
2. The Mahabodhi Temple at Bodh Gaya was built by = Devapala
3. Dantidurga was the founder of - dynasty = Rashtrakuta
4. The second battle of Tarain was fought in = AD 1192

QII Fill in the blanks :-

1. Dharmapala was a great ruler of the Pala dynasty.
2. Mahmud of Ghazni patronised scholars like Alberuni and Firdausi
3. Muhammad Ghori appointed Qutab-ud-din Aibak as his governor.
4. Persian wheel is known as Rahat. It was used for irrigation.

QIII Write True / False

1. Mahmud of Ghazni was the first Turk to invade India. (T)
2. Mahmud of Ghazni attacked India to accumulate wealth. (T)
3. Mahmud of Ghazni invaded India from 1025-1050. (F)
4. Alberuni wrote the epic Shahnama. (T)
5. Varnas were further subdivided into sub castes. (T)

QIV Match the following

A	B
1. Raja Bhoja	a) Internal disorder in Bengal (3)
2. Mahendrapala	b) Adivaraha (1)
3. Matsyanyaya	c) Founder of Rashtrakutas (4)
4. Dantidurga	d) Worship of Vishnu (5)
5. Vaishnava	e) Kavyamimansa (2)

QV Write short notes on :-

1. Raja Bhoja :- He was the most powerful ruler of this dynasty. He ruled from A.D. 836 to A.D. 885. Under him, the Pratihara empire reached its greatest extent. He even conquered Kanauj and thus added much to his glory at that time. He was a devotee of Vishnu and took the title of 'Adivaraha'.
2. Dharmapala :- He was a great warrior. He fought many successful wars with the neighbouring states. He was a Buddhist and founded the famous monastery of Vikramashila which grew to be a great university later on.
3. Annoghavarsha :- He was a Rashtrakuta emperor, the greatest ruler of this dynasty. His reign of 64 years is one of the

Longest precisely dated monarchical reigns on record.

4 Devapala :- He was an able ruler. He humbled many Rajput clans in the neighbourhood. He was a patron of learning and was a great builder. He built the famous Mahabodhi temple at Bodhi Gaya. Under him, the Pala dynasty established trade relations with South-East Asia.

5 Prithviraj Chauhan :- He was a Rajput ruler of Delhi and Ajmer. He defeated Ghoris in the first Battle of Tarain. Ghoris escaped, while many of his soldiers were killed. He came again with a large army and defeated Prithviraj in the second battle of Tarain, in A.D. 1192.

3 Who were the Chahamanas? Write a brief note about them.

Ans There were several branches of Chahamanas who for about two centuries ruled from small principalities lying in certain parts of Rajasthan around Jaipur, Jodhpur, Ajmer, Marwar etc. Some of their rulers did establish their independent kingdom though they existed for a short period. Some of them even won great laurels in the battlefield. They were great patrons of art and literature. They built beautiful temples.

In the closing years of the 10th century the kingdom of the Chahamanas extended at least up to Siber in the north, the town of Jaipur in the east, Pushkar near Ajmer in the south and Parbatsar in Jodhpur, in the west.

3 Who were the Rashtrakutas? What were their achievements?

Ans The Rashtrakutas belonged to the Deccan. They came to power after the fall of the Chalukyas of Badami in the Deccan. When Pratiharas ruled northern India and Palas were ruling over eastern India, the Rashtrakutas remained supreme in the south for 200 years. Dantivarman, also known as Dantidurga, was the founder of this dynasty who rose to power in 753, in modern Maharashtra. The Rashtrakutas ruled for more than three hundred years.

2 Give an account of the achievements of Mahmud of Ghazni.

Ans Mahmud was the first Turkish invader to invade India from the north-western side. He was the ruler of Ghazni. During the course of 25 years, he carried out 17 raids on India. He attacked India mainly to accumulate wealth. He carried out seventeen attacks on India. His main attacks were directed against the ruler of Punjab, Kanauj, Thanesar, Mathura, Kanauj etc. He even attacked Somnath Temple in Kathiawar to plunder its enormous wealth.

- Q 6 Who was the founder of the Muslim Empire in India? Give reason.
- Ans Muhammad Ghori was the real founder of Muslim Empire in India. As he did not feel content with merely defeating the Rajputs and plundering their territories. He annexed to his own empire whatever he conquered. Even when he was away from India.
- Q 6 Give an account of the chief features of the administration of these Kingdoms which flourished from AD 700 to AD 1200.

Ans Almost all the rulers of the Kingdoms which rose and fell during these five hundred years (AD 700 to 1200) adopted high ranking titles such as Maharaja-Adhiraja Tribhuvana-chakravartin. In running the administration they, however, took the help of their 'samantas', Brahmanas and even the common castes and peasants. The king was regarded as the owner of all lands under him.

Q VI Give Reason: -

- 1 There was a tripartite struggle for Kanauj.
- Ans As Kanauj was once the capital of Harsha. To capture it meant the control of the Ganga Valley. So there was a struggle among the three powers - the Palas, the Pratiharas and the Rashtrakutas - for the control of Kanauj for about a century.
- 2 Mahmud of Ghazni invaded India.
- Ans Mahmud of Ghazni invaded India because he wanted to accumulate the wealth of India.
- 3 We say that Muhammad Ghori was interested in establishing an empire in India.

Ans Muhammad of Ghazni had started his invasions in India during the period when the Rajput power had declined. The main reasons that led to the conquest of India by Muhammad Ghazni was firstly to accumulate the vast amount of wealth that existed in India and secondly to spread Islam.

Q Extra Q/A

- 1 Who was the first ruler of Pratiharas?
- Ans Nagabhata was the first ruler of Pratiharas.
- 2 What is Jauhar?
- Ans Mass sacrifice undertaken by the Rajput women to save their honour and chastity.

Assignment, class - VII Sub-sst (History)

Ch-3 (Political Development in South India AD 100 - 1200)

Q I MCQ's

1. The Cholas became a paramount power under - Rajaraja I
2. The Brihadesvara temple is in - Tanjore
3. Gangaikonda cholapuram was built on the mouth of the river - Kaveri

Q II Match them

A

B

1. Pampa, Ponna and Ranna
2. Alvars
3. Vijaya (A.D. 846-871) was
4. Parantaka I was given the
5. Rajendra Chola built

- a) The founder of imperial Cholas (3)
- b) Gangaikonda Cholapuram (5)
- c) Title of Madurai Kondavan (4)
- d) Kannada poets (1)
- e) Vaishnavism (2)

Q III Write True/False

1. The Chola kings could not maintain trade with foreign countries for want of a powerful navy. (F)
2. The Brahmanas and the merchants held an esteemed position in the society. (T)
3. The temples were used as centres of teaching and holding of assembly meetings for the business of the government. (T)
4. The successors of Rajendra I continued a war-like policy but could not succeed like their predecessors. (T)
5. Nayanars sang hymns in praise of Vishnu. (F)

Q IV Answer these questions :-

1. Who were the Cholas? Write any two of their achievements in brief.

Ans The Cholas were the earliest and the most ancient of South Indian Kingdoms. Till the eighth century, the Chola Kingdom was very small but it gained the importance from ninth century onwards. Their ruler Vijaya defeated the Pallavas and snatched Tanjore from them. They built many temples in Dravidian style like Rajarajeshwar temple and trade with South Asia was resumed, greatly enriching the Chola Kingdom.

2. Discuss the main reason for the conflicts between the Cholas and the Kingdom of Sri Vijaya.

Ans The Indian merchants earned a lot of money because of their trade with the South-East Asian countries and China. Their ships passed through

The straits of Malacca which was held by the Kingdom of Sri Vijaya. When this Kingdom tried to create difficulties for the Indian merchants, the Chola Kings had to intervene. In addition, most of these merchants belonged to the Chola Kingdom and naturally the Chola rulers had to take their side. The Chola rulers also earned a lot of revenue from this trade, so for economic reasons too, the Chola rulers had to intervene. The Chola rulers possessed a strong navy, so they readily sent a naval expedition against the Kingdom of Sri Vijaya and defeated his forces.

3. Narrate the achievements of Rajendra Chola.

Ans Rajendra succeeded his father Rajaraja I and carried on the aggressive policy. He conquered the whole of Sri Lanka. It was made a province of Chola empire and named Mummudi Chola Mandalam. He then overran the Chalukya of Vengi. He then overran the whole of Orissa and Bengal right up to the southern banks of the Ganga. In memory of this exploit, he took the title of Gangaikonda. He then annexed the islands of Lakshadweep and Maladweep. He built the magnificent palaces and beautiful temples.

4. Throw some light on the government and administration of the Chola Kings.

Ans The Chola rulers also organised their provincial Governments on sound footing. They divided their empire into six provinces called Mandalam. Each Mandalam was divided into a number of Valanadus or districts. Each Valanadu contained a certain number of villages. The village was the smallest unit of the Chola administration which was governed by a Sabha. Each Mandalam was put under the charge of a governor. The villages were the main centres of administrative and cultural life in South India. The administration in the village was carried on by the village assemblies which were of three types and worked like local self-governments. The three types of village assemblies were in Ur, Sabha and Nagaram.

5. What were the activities attached with the Chola temples?

Ans In the field of education and literature too, the Cholas made great progress. They encouraged the study of grammar, astronomy, philosophy, art and various sciences. The schools were held in the courtyards of the temples. The temples were also centres of cultural activities like music, dance, drama, fairs, exhibitions and festivals.

6. Write short notes on -

a) Alvars :- The saints who worshipped Lord Vishnu. They were 12 in numbers from various castes. The best known was Periyalvar.

2 Nayanars : - The saints who worshipped Lord Shiva. They were 63 in numbers. They belonged to various castes like workers, peasants, potters and hunters. The most famous was Sambandar.

7 What led to agrarian expansion in Tamil Nadu?

Ans They paid great attention to the promotion of agriculture in their state as a result of which there was much agrarian expansion in Tamil Nadu. They paid attention to irrigation. Almost all rivers, specially river Kaveri, were used for this purpose. In areas, where it was not possible to take the river water, various tanks for irrigation were built. The cholas provided for a Tank Committee which looked after the distribution of water in the fields.

QV Give reasons :-

1 The cholas made great progress in the field of literature.

Ans This period saw much literary activity in South India. The Ramayana of Kambar in Tamil is one such example. Telugu writers like Nanniah and Tikkana immortalised their names by their excellent adaptations of the Mahabharata. The poets like Pampa, Ponna and Ranna also wrote much in Kannada language. Because of fine quality of their writings in the Kannada language, they are called the three jewels of Kannada literature.

2 The system of chola administration was highly organised.

Ans The system of chola administration was highly organised and efficient as the King was the head of the central government. He was all powerful but he acted upon the advice of his council of ministers in government affairs. His chief duty was to look after the welfare of the people.

3 grant of rent free lands to the Brahmanas did wonders.

Ans The Brahmanas played an important role in the agrarian expansion in Tamil Nadu. With the help of nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes, they cleared the jungles and brought more and more land under cultivation. At their instance these nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes also settled down to agriculture. Thus, the Brahman families became instrumental not only in improving agriculture but also in extending cultivation.

QVI Extra Q/Ans

1 Define

1) Uth - It is an assembly of common villagers.

2. Sabha - Sabha is an assembly of learned Brahmanas.

3. Nagaram - Nagaram is an assembly of traders, merchants and artisans.

Name them

1) An important religious movement during the Chola rule - Lingayat

2) Name given to a province under the Cholas - Mandalam

3) Name given to a district under the Cholas - Valanadu