

Test Series Date 11 November 2023 (Saturday) Question Paper

Q1: Consider the following statements regarding Mesolithic Art:

Statement I: The paintings have been found only in inhabited shelters.

Statement II: The paintings are made mostly in red and white pigments.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Mesolithic man was a lover of art, evident from the paintings in several thousand rock shelters in the Vindhyan sandstone hills in central India. The paintings have been found in both inhabited and uninhabited shelters.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The paintings are made mostly in red and white pigments, made from the nodules found in rocks and earth.
- The subject matter of the paintings are mostly wild animals and hunting scenes, though there are some related to human, social and religious life such as sex and child birth.
- These rock arts are paintings (petroglyphs) and engravings (petroglyphs) done in rock shelters or natural caves.
- In India also, most of the rock art, especially paintings and carvings, have been known to exist from the Mesolithic Age, which continued to Neolithic Age, Iron Age and early historic period.
- This art not only reflects the cultural life of the times but also a fine aesthetic sense comparable to modern paintings.

Q2: The cultural developments of Neolithic period are termed as Neolithic Revolution. Which among the following is the part of this revolution?

- a) The introduction of domestication of plants and animals.
- b) Fencing of settlement
- c) Pottery making emerged for surplus food.
- d) All of the above

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- The introduction of domestication of plants and animals led to the production of a large quantity of grains and animal food. The food that they produced had to be stored and hence, pottery-making emerged.
- They had to settle in open areas away from caves and thus, houses were built. Large villages developed and permanent residences were built. Settlements were fenced since the cattle and sheep had to be protected.
- These activities gradually led to food surplus and craft specialization. Because of the food security, more people could settle in the villages. Hence, the cultural developments of this period are termed as Neolithic Revolution.

Q3: Consider the following pairs:

(Pre-historic Period)	(Characteristic features of tools)
1. Neolithic Age	Microliths
2. Mesolithic Age	Polished stone tools
3. Paleolithic Age	Hand axes and cleavers

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

- (c) All the three
(d) None of the above

Answer d

Explanation:

Prehistoric Period	Characteristic stone tools
Lower Paleolithic Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand axes • Chopper • Cleavers • Scraper • Flake tool • Burin
Middle Paleolithic Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flake tools • Points • Burins • Scrapers • Hand axes
Upper Paleolithic Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blades and Burins made from flint • Endscrapers
Mesolithic Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microliths- small, mostly triangular, having few centimeter dimension, fitted at the top of arrows
Neolithic Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polished stone tools including celts

Q4: The following statements describe the Burzahom Neolithic site:

1. It is located in Kashmir Valley.
2. The Burzahom people engaged in subsistence activities such as agriculture and animal domestication.
3. A variety of bone tools have been discovered from this site.

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

- (a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All the three
(d) None of the above

Correct Answer b

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Kashmir Valley, home to important Neolithic settlements such as Burzahom (20 km from Srinagar) and Gufkral, is a significant region for understanding the Neolithic period in India.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Burzahom Neolithic site in Kashmir is classified as such based on the discovery of polished stone tools, but there is no evidence that its inhabitants practiced agriculture or animal domestication.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** A large number of bone tools- including weapons - have been found here. Another unique feature of the Burzahom is the burial of dogs along with their masters.

Q5: Parallelogram types of settlement is evidence from the sites of

- a) Harappa
b) Kalibangan
c) Mohenjo-Daro
d) All the above

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- Harappa is remarkably similar to that of Kalibangan in layout having fortifications—parallelogram on plan. Mohenjo-Daro also appears to have a similar layout, despite the fact that flood erosions have obscured the evidence.

- The lower town of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro spreading out on different mounds also appear to have separately fortified.
- However, lower town of Kalibangan gives clear indication of fortification—parallelogram in shape.

Q6: Consider the following statements regarding the economic condition during Indus Valley period:

1. The subsistence system of the Harappan Period consisted of a food producing economy.
2. Pulses, oilseed and fiber plants were predominated crops.
3. Annual flooding of Indus River and its tributaries was the main source of fertility in the area.
4. Harappans harvested two crops per year in the Rabi and Kharif seasons respectively.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Correct Answer b

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The subsistence system of the Mature Harappan Period consisted of a food producing economy involving domesticated plants and animals, with some hunting, fishing, and plant gathering.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Harappans in this period farmed a variety of crop plants. Cereals (wheat, barley, and millets) predominated. Other crops included legumes or pulses (peas, lentils, and gram), oilseed and fiber plants (linseed, mustard, sesame, and cotton), and fruits (melon, date, and grape).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Harappan civilisation, being an urban civilisation, was based on the agricultural surplus that was necessary to feed the city dwellers. Hence, a fertile soil was the key to sustaining it and the annual inundation of the Indus River was the main source of fertility of soil.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Walls made from burnt bricks raised for protection show that floods took place annually. Rainfall has been scanty in this area. Since, their agriculture was based on annual flooding in the floodplains of Indus, they could cultivate only once a year. They sowed in the month of November when the flood water had receded and reaped the harvest in April before the next round of flooding.

Q7: Consider the following statements with respect to the Harappan script:

Statement I: It has not been deciphered yet.

Statement II: It shows connections with contemporary West Asian script.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The complete Harappan script has been discovered but it has not been deciphered yet. Thus, many aspects of the Harappan culture are unknown to us. Scholars have tried to link it with Dravidian and proto-Dravidian scripts, but it has not helped to decipher the script partly because it is not an alphabetical script, but a pictographic one, in which, each letter/picture stands for some sound, idea or object.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Unlike, Egyptians and Mesopotamians, Harappans did not write long inscriptions. Most of their writing was recorded on seals and contains only a few words. Like, many other elements of the Harappan culture, Harappan script is also of indigenous origin and shows no connection to the scripts of West Asia, which notably have been deciphered.

Q8: Consider the following statements regarding the Yajur Veda:

1. The two royal ceremonies of Rajasuya and Vajapeya are mentioned for the first time in this Veda.
2. This Veda is in verse form only.
3. This Veda is divided into Krishna Yajur Veda and Sukla Yajur Veda.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The two royal ceremonies of rajasuya and vajapeya are mentioned for the first time in the Yajur Veda.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** In contrast to the Rig Veda and Sama Veda which are in verse entirely, Yajur Veda is in both verse and prose.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** It is divided into two parts, Krishna Yajur Veda and Sukla Yajur Veda.
- The former (Black) is the older of the two, and contains not only the hymns but also prose commentaries. The latter (White) contain: only the hymns.
- The former consists of four Samhitas (Kathaka, Kapssthala-Katha, Maitrayan and Taittiriya Samhitas), but the latter has only the Vajasaneyi Samhitas.

Q9: Consider the following statements regarding the socio-economic development during the Early Vedic Period and choose the correct option:

- (a) Karmakara enjoyed high status in the society.
- (b) Karmakaras made chariots.
- (c) Monetization of economy was absent.
- (d) Concept of private property was in developed stage.

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- The Rig Veda Samhita mention number of craft such as Takshan (carpentry), Charmakarna (Leather worker) and Karmakara (metal worker) etc.
- The Rathakara enjoyed high status in society because he used to make chariots to be used in wars and battle. **So, option (a) and (b) is incorrect.**
- Trade and commerce was in under developed form during this period. Monetization of economy was absent because there is no references of any metallic currency. The transaction was carried out through barter system. **So, option (c) is correct.**
- The concept of private property was in underdeveloped form most of the resources were commonly known. **So, option (d) is incorrect.**

Q10: Which of the following is correct regarding the role of Sabha and Samiti during the Later Vedic Period?

- a) Both the assembly lost relevance
- b) Only Sabha lost its relevance
- c) Only Samiti lost its relevance
- d) Both assemblies continued in the same way as in Early Vedic Period.

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- The equalitarian and democratic outlook of Later Vedic Period witness some decline during this phase because various political group started emerging during Later Vedic Period.
- The popular representation in Sabha and Samiti no more possible due to increase in size of political entity.

Q11: Consider the following statements regarding transformation in social life in the Later Vedic Period:

Statement I: Tribal character witnesses much transformation in social life.

Statement II: Society witness equalitarian, liberal and progressive outlook.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement I is correct:** Later Vedic Period *witnesses much transformation in social life*. This period was marked by element of continuity and change.
- While many features of Early Vedic Period continue on one hand and on other hand a number of new elements emerge in Later Vedic Period.
- The reference found in Later Vedic text throw light on nature and character of Later Vedic social life.
- The during this period because of amalgamation of number of tribes, tribal character of society witness some decline.
- **Statement II is incorrect:** The equalitarian, liberal and progressive outlook of society also disappear to some extent because element of social rigidity could be seen in the reference found in Later Vedic text.

Q12: Consider the following statements:

1. Jainism believed that nirvana could be achieved by pursuance of Triratna and Panchamahavrata.
2. Monastic life is not essential for salvation.
3. The householder followed Anuvrata practice.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Jainism believed that the main goal of human life is the purification of soul and attainment of nirvana (moksha), which means freedom from birth and death. This can be achieved not through rituals and sacrifices but by pursuance of triratna and panchamahavrata.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** To attain Nirvana, a man must abandon all trammels, including his clothes. Only by a long course of fasting, self-mortification, study and meditation, can he rid himself of Karma. Hence a monastic life is essential for salvation.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Householders were expected to observe milder form of the practice of these virtues called anuvrata (small vows) in comparison to the monks.
- So, one can notice that while the Brahmanism was a ritual oriented religion this new faith was conduct-oriented.

Q13: Consider the following statements regarding Mahavira views on Varna System:

1. Mahavira did not condemn the Varna system.
2. Mahavira looks for human values even in a Chandala.
3. He recognised the existence of the God but placed them lower than the jina.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Mahavira did not condemn the Varna system, as Buddhism did.
- According to Mahavira, a person is born in a high or in a lower Varna in consequence of the sins or the virtues acquired by him in the previous birth.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Mahavira looks for human values even in a Chandala. In his opinion through pure meritorious life members of the lower castes can attain liberation.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Mahavira recognised the existence of the God but placed them lower than the jina.
- World not created, maintained and destroyed by a personal God but by a universal law.
- Mahavira regarded all objects, animate or inanimate, as endowed with various degrees of consciousness.
- They possess life and feel pain on the infliction of injuries.

Q14: Consider the following statements regarding the Jaina Council:

1. First council was held in Pataliputra.
2. Only the Svetambaras accepted the texts compiled in first council.
3. Second council was held in Valabhi.
4. Second council was presided by Devardhi Kshamasramana.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: d

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Sthulabahu held the first Jaina council at Pataliputra in the beginning of the third century BC.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It resulted in the compilation of 12 Angas (sections or limbs) to replace the lost 14 Purvas (former texts). The Svetambaras are the only major sect of Jainism that accepts the texts compiled at the first council at Pataliputra. The other major sect, the Digambaras, do not accept these texts as authentic.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Svetambaras held the second council at Valabhi in the fifth century AD.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Second Council was presided under the leadership of Devardhi Kshamasramana. It resulted in final compilation of the 12 Angas and 12 Upangas (minor sections).

Q15: The doctrine of Anekantavada is the combination of

- a) Syadvada and Nayavada
- b) Sunyavada and Nayavada
- c) Syadvada and Sunyavada
- d) Yogachara and Sunyavada

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- According to Syadvada (the theory of may be), seven modes of predication (saptabhangi) are possible.
- Closely related to the Syadvada is Nayavada (the doctrine of viewpoints), which shows the seven ways of approaching an object of knowledge or study.
- The above two doctrines of Jainism are often together called the Anekantavada (the doctrine of many-sidedness).

Q16: Consider the following statements regarding the teachings of Mahavira:

1. Due to karma the soul is in a state of bondage.
2. Disintegration of the Karmic forces constitutes the final liberation of the soul (jiva).
3. According to Mahavira in order to attained salvation one has to avoid the evil karmas.
4. Mahavira accepted the authority of the Vedas.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** According to Mahavira, on account of karma (the accumulated effects of the actions done in the past lives), the soul is in a state of bondage created by passions and desires collected through several previous births.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is by means of continued efforts through several lives that the Karmic forces binding the soul can be counteracted and the soul itself is rendered passionless. The disintegration of the Karmic forces constitutes the final liberation of the soul (jiva). A certain ethical code is assigned both for a house holder and the homeless monk.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Since the aim of life is to attain salvation, one has to avoid evil karmas, then gradually prevent all kinds of fresh karmas and destroy the existing ones.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** He rejected the authority of the Vedas and objected to the Vedic rituals and the Brahmin supremacy. He advocated a very holy, ethical and elevating code of life and severe asceticism and extreme penance for the attainment of the moksha or the highest spiritual state.

Q17: Consider the following pairs:

Semi-historical work	Written by
1) Prabandhachitamani:	Rajasekhara
2) Prabandhakosa:	Merutunga
3) Samaraichchakaha:	Siddharshi
4) Harivamsapurana:	Jinasena

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: a

Explanation:

- Semi-historical Jain works like Prabandhachitamani of Merutunga (1306 A.D.) and the Prabandhakosa of Rajasekhara (1349 A.D.) are important.
- The Digambaras styled the Charitras as Puranas, for instance Padmacharita or Padmapurana by Vimalasuri. Jinasena wrote Harivamsapurana which was completed in 783 A.D.
- The Jains possess many prose romances like the Samaraichchakaha of Haribhadra and Upamitibha Vaprapanchakatha of Siddharshi (906 A.D.).

Q18: There were few important figures connected to the life of Buddha. Consider the following pairs:

1. Alara Kalama: The sage who taught him the technique of meditation
2. Sujata: The farmer's daughter who gave him rice milk at Bodh Gaya
3. Kanthaka: The charioteer
4. Channa: His horse

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

Important figures connected with the life of the Buddha:

- Channa: The charioteer
- Kanthaka: His horse
- Alara Kalama: The sage who taught him the technique of meditation
- Sujata: The farmer's daughter who gave him rice milk at Bodh Gaya

Q19: Consider the following statements regarding Nirvana:

1. Nirvana means the shedding of all desires and ending of sufferings.
2. Prayers and sacrifices will also end the desire.
3. Nirvana does not mean physical death.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- The ultimate goal of the Buddha's teaching was the attainment of nirvana. This was not a place but an experience and could be attained in this life.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** Nirvana means the shedding of all desires, and ending of sufferings, which finally leads to freedom from rebirth. By a process of elimination of desire, one can attain nirvana. Therefore, Buddha preached that annihilation of desire is the real problem.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Prayers and sacrifices will not end the desire. So, unlike the emphasis on rituals and ceremonies in Vedic religion he laid emphasis on the moral life of an individual. The Buddha is supposed to have experienced nirvana, as did some of his disciples.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Nirvana literally means blowing out, dying out, or extinction-the dying out or extinction of desire, attachment, greed, hatred, ignorance, and the sense of I-ness and breaking out of the cycle of birth, death, and rebirth. Nirvana does not mean physical death.
- The term parinirvana (complete or final dying out) is used for the death of an enlightened being such as the Buddha.

Q20: Consider the following statements regarding Governance in Buddhist Sangha:

1. The Sangha was governed on democratic lines.
2. Women were not entitled to vote.
3. The Buddhist nuns were under the supervision of the monks.
4. There was a special code for the nuns called the Bhikkunipatimokkha.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Sangha was governed on democratic lines and was empowered to enforce discipline among its members. It also had power to punish the erring its members. No assembly was valid unless at least ten monks were present, though in border countries the quorum could, in
- exceptional cases be reduced to five.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** According to the Vinaya Pitaka, novices and women were not entitled to vote or to constitute the quorum in the Buddhist sangha. This was a reflection of the patriarchal society in which Buddhism arose.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Buddhist nuns were independent and not under the supervision of monks. This was a unique feature of Buddhism, as it was one of the few religions in the ancient world that allowed women to join a religious order and live a life of celibacy and devotion
- **Statement 4 is correct:** They had a special text called “Bikkunipati mokkha” in which the mode of life of a nun should live was written. They followed this text in their daily life. The Bhikkhunipati mokkha consists of 311 rules, which are grouped into eight categories

Q21: Consider the following statements regarding the Buddhist Council:

1. Second Buddhist Council led to the compilation of Abhidhamma Pitaka.
2. Third Buddhist Council led to the division of Buddhism into Hinayanist and Mahayanist.
3. Fourth Buddhist Council led to the compilation of Mahavibhasha Sastra.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is Correct:** Second Buddhist Council was held in 383 BC, at Chullavanga in Vaishali. It was presided by Sabbakami under the patronage of Kalashoka. Its objective was to end controversy between Vajji monks who began to follow some unorthodox sect. The outcome of this council was that the Monks of Vaishali wanted some change in rites and this led to the Schism into Sthaviravadins and Mahasanghikas.
- **Statement 2 is Correct:** Third Buddhist Council was held in 250 B.C, at Ashokarama Vihar, Patliputra. It was presided by Mogaliputra Tissa under the patronage of Ashoka. Its objective was to settle dispute arising out of the rival claim. The outcome of this council was that it led to the compilation of Abhidhamma Pitaka and decision to send missionaries to various part of the world.
- **Statement 3 is Correct:** Fourth Buddhist Council was held in 98 A.D., at Kundalavana, Kashmir. It was presided by Vasumitra under the patronage of Kanishka. Its objective was to settle the difference among all the 18 sects of Buddhism. The outcome of this council was that it led to the compilation of Mahavibhasha Sastra and the division of Buddhist into Hinayanist and Mahayanist.

Q22: Consider the following statements:

Statement I: After Alexander, a strong Greek state was formed in the North-West that lasted for centuries.

Statement II: Alexander's established some cities in the North-West.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** After Alexander, the North-Western part of Indian subcontinent fell into the hands of Seleucus Nikator, a general of Alexander. But, the Seleucid Empire could not control that area for long and it was conquered by the Chandragupta Maurya. A matrimonial alliance was also established between the two. So, the statement 1 is incorrect.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Alexander undertook a keen interest in many non-military matters also. He established many cities in the course of his long journey, some of which were established in the Indian subcontinent e.g. Alexandria in Kabul region, Boukephala on Jhelum and Alexandria in Sindh etc.

Q23: Consider the following statements regarding the functioning of village administration during Pre-Mauryan period:

Statement I: King was the owner of all the village land.

Statement II: Village headmen were the link between the villagers and the king.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- Most of the people still lived in villages, and these had not changed much from the earlier period.
- There were more villages now as the population was increasing.
- The villages were connected with one another by roads and pathways, or by boats along the rivers.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Each village had a headman who worked for the people of the village and for the king and was therefore a link, between the king and the peasants.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The king owned some villages and lands. Labourers were employed to cultivate these lands and were paid wages for their work

Q24: Consider the following statements with reference to foreign ambassador in the court of Maurya:

1. Megasthenes in the court of Chandragupta Maurya
2. Deimachus in the court of Bindusara
3. Dionysius in the court of Ashoka

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: c

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Seleucus dispatched an ambassador, Megasthenes, to the court of Chandragupta at the Maurya court at Patliputra.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Deimachus was sent as ambassador to Bindusara at the Maurya court by Antichus (king of Syria).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Ptolemy II Philadelphus, ruler of Ptolemaic Egypt and contemporary of Ashoka, as recorded by Pliny sent an ambassador, Dionysius to the Mauryan court.

Q25: Consider the following statement regarding the extent of Mauryan Empire:

1. Western front of Mauryan Empire is evident from the Major Rock Edict at Dhauri.
2. Eastern front of Mauryan Empire is evident from the Major Rock Edict at Sopara.
3. Minor rock edicts in the Andhra-Karnataka area determine the extent of Mauryan Empire in South.
4. Keralaputras and Sathiyaputras were the only southernmost part of the Mauryan Empire.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- Following evidences help in establishing the fact that the Mauryan Empire extended up to Saurashtra in south Gujarat in western region.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The major rock edicts at Bombay-Sopara and Girnar (Junagadh district, Gujarat). Junagadh inscription of Rudradaman, which attributes the beginning of the construction of a water reservoir known as the Sudarshana Lake to Chandragupta's reign.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** In the east front, the major rock edicts at Dhauili (Puri district) and Jaugada (Ganjam district) shows that the eastern frontier of the empire extended up to Orissa.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The major rock edicts at Erragudi (Kurnool district) and Sannati (Gulbarga district) determine the extent of Mauryan Empire in South India. The noticeable clustering of minor rock edicts in the Andhra-Karnataka area, for example-at Maski, Gavimath, Palkigundu, Nittur, Brahmagiri, etc.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** This shows that the empire included almost the entire subcontinent, except the Southernmost parts, which according to rock edict 2, were inhabited by the Cholas, Pandyas, Keralaputras and Sathiyaputras.

Q26: Consider the following statements regarding Ashoka's administration:

1. The work of administration was divided into a number of departments each of which had its own chief.
2. The city was administered by a council and six boards.
3. Dharma-mahamatras was appointed to persuade people to follow Dhamma.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- Ashoka's ideas on government are also found in his edicts. He believed that a king should treat his subjects as a father treats his children.
- Ashoka ruled from the capital city of Pataliputra (Patna). He had a council of ministers to advise him and a number of officers who carried out his orders.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The work of administration was divided into a number of departments each of which had its own chief or superintendent at Pataliputra.
- Thus the 'king was always informed of what was happening in every part of the empire.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The city was administered by a council and six boards which had charge of different departments.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** In addition to these officers, Ashoka started a special, group of officers whom he called the dharma-mahamatras. These officers travelled around the country inspecting the local work, listening to the people and hearing their complaints, and trying to persuade the people to follow the dharma and live at peace with each other.

Q27: Consider the following statements with respect to Ashokan Pillars:

1. The Ashokan Pillars are mainly found in the north Indian part of the Mauryan Empire with inscriptions engraved on them.
2. The top portion of the pillar was carved with capital figures like the bull, the lion, the elephant, etc.
3. Along with building Stupas and Viharas, erecting pillars was an artistic innovation by Mauryan rulers.
4. The Mauryan pillars are rock cut pillars as against Achaemenian pillars which are constructed in pieces by a mason.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Stone pillars were erected by Ashoka, which have been found in the north Indian part of the Mauryan Empire with inscriptions engraved on them.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The top portion of the pillar was carved with capital figures like the bull, the lion, the elephant, etc. All the capital figures are vigorous and carved standing on a square or circular abacus. Abacuses are decorated with stylised lotuses.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** During Mauryan period, apart from stupas and viharas, stone pillars, rock-cut caves and monumental figure sculptures were carved at several places. The tradition of constructing pillars is very old and it may be observed that erection of pillars was prevalent in the Achaemenian Empire as well.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Mauryan pillars are different from the Achaemenian pillars. The Mauryan pillars are rock-cut pillars thus displaying the carver's skills, whereas the Achaemenian pillars are constructed in pieces by a mason.

Q28: Consider the following statements about Lokayata philosophy that prevailed during the Mauryan period:

1. The idea of this philosophy contain only in Vedas.
2. Lokayata had its followers from North only.
3. Lokayata is also mentioned in Patanjali's Mahabhashya.
4. The followers of the Lokayata had a Brahmanic tendency.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** During the Mauryan period, there was a considerable increase in philosophical knowledge, primarily by the shaping of the Lokayata, the principal materialistic school of ancient India. The ideas of natural philosophy contained in the Vedas were one of its sources. There are some percepts in the Upanishads which anticipated the ideas of the Lokayata.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** In the early epoch, the Lokayata was a widespread teaching. The Upanishads contained precepts close to those of the Lokayata teaching. This school of philosophy is also mentioned in the Buddhist and Jain sources. The Lokayata had its followers in both the North and South of the country.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Kautilya places the Lokayata among three schools of philosophy which he believed to have possessed real value. The Lokayata is also mentioned in other ancient Indian texts, e.g., Patanjali's Mahabhashya.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The followers of the Lokayata had an anti-Brahmanic tendency. They were opposed to the priestly elite and the ideology propounded by them.

Q29: Consider the following statements regarding the social condition of Vaisyas during the Mauryan period:

1. The position of the Vaisyas deteriorated in this period.
2. They controlled urban institutions.
3. According to Kautilya, Vaisya were not enrolled in troops even during the time of emergency.
4. Vaisya were recruited in high government post during the Mauryan period.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** During the Mauryan period, owing to the economic development of the country, the position of the Vaisyas improved. Vaisyas improved condition were now approaching to that of the Brahmanas and Kshatriyas.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Through their trade guilds, Vaisyas often controlled urban institutions. As they were denied the position of prestige to which they entitled, there was resentment among them and they supported Buddhism and Jainism.
- Most of the Vaisyas were engaged in agriculture and crafts. They constituted the bulk of the taxpayers. However, there are many references to ruined Vaisyas who had to take up low occupations. They rank to the level of the Sudras.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Kautilya refers to the enrolment of troops from Vaisyas and Sudras, but that was done in times of emergency.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** In all likelihood, the Vaisyas and Sudras were not full warriors but performed some auxiliary work in the army. The Vaisyas also did not occupy high government posts.

Q30: Consider the following statements regarding the position of women during the Mauryan Period:

1. The condition of women was not good in any of the sect prevalent during this period.
2. Ganikas or courtesans does not enjoyed a good social condition.
3. The sati system was prevalent in Mauryan society.
4. Widow Remarriage and divorce were encouraged in the Mauryan society.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** During Mauryan Period, the condition of women was not good. As compared to Hinduism and Jainism, Buddhism offered a better status to women and consequently a large number of women became nuns.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Ganikas or courtesans enjoyed a good social standing. There was a superintendent to look after prostitutes. They were employed by the state as spies.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The system of sati was practiced at a few places in the North-West, but it was not a general practice in any part of India.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Monogamy was the rule but men belonging to the rich and ruling classes had started keeping many wives. The physical chastity of women was gaining importance and widow remarriage and divorce were discouraged. Among the Hindus, the murder of a woman was regarded as equal to the murder of a Brahman. In general, the condition of women was not good.

Q31: Consider the following statements regarding the functioning of village administration during Pre-Mauryan period:

Statement I: Stupa, vihara and chaitya are part of Buddhist and Jaina monastic complexes but the largest number belongs to the Buddhist religion.

Statement II: The great stupa at Sanchi was built with bricks during the time of Ashoka and later it was covered with stone.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Stupa, vihara and chaitya are part of Buddhist and Jaina monastic complexes but the largest number belongs to the Buddhist religion. One of the examples of the structure of a stupa in the third century BCE is at Bairat in Rajasthan.
- Stupas are hemispherical mounds that contain relics of the Buddha or other Buddhist saints. They are often decorated with sculptures and reliefs that depict Buddhist stories and symbols.
- Viharas are monasteries where Buddhist monks live and study. They typically consist of a central courtyard surrounded by cells, a refectory, and a meditation hall.
- Chaityas are Buddhist prayer halls. They are typically rectangular in shape with a vaulted roof and a large apse at one end. The apse usually houses a statue of the Buddha.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Great Stupa at Sanchi was originally built with bricks during the time of Emperor Ashoka in the 3rd century BCE. It was later enlarged and covered with stone during the Sunga dynasty in the 2nd century BCE.
- The stupa is a hemispherical mound that contains relics of the Buddha. It is one of the oldest stone structures in India and an important monument of Buddhist architecture. The stupa is surrounded by a circumambulatory path and four elaborately carved gateways.

Q32: St. Thomas visited the court of:

- a) Maeus
- b) Azaes
- c) Gondophernes
- d) Azilises

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- The famous Parthian ruler, Gondophernes name is believed to be associated with that of St. Thomas.
- There is a tradition which suggests that St. Thomas travelled from Israel and came to the court of Gondophernes.
- He came to India for the propagation of Christianity.

Q33: The concept of "Deviputra" was started by

- a) Kushanas
- b) Satvahanas
- c) Sakas
- d) Indo-Greek

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- Though Kushana was a foreigner, in course of time he adopted Indian system.
- He introduced the new concept of maharajadhiraj and Devaiputra in India.

Q34: Consider the following statements:

1. Varna system was prevalent in Satavahana society.
2. Caste system that emerged in Satavahana society was based on birth.
3. Brahmins were treated as a symbol of Vedic dharma.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The varna system was prevalent in Satavahana society. There were four varnas during satavahanas. The four varnas namely; Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas, and Sudras were evident in the society.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The caste system too has begun its shaping during this period. The caste system emerged basing on the works done by the people. So, it is evident that the division was primarily based on the work.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Kings of Satavahanas respected Brahmins and treated them as a symbol of Vedic dharma. Brahmins were educated with Vedic dharmas and carried the rituals and other related in the society, this information was evident from the inscription of Nanaghat. Tax-free villages were donated by the kings to the Brahmins.

Q35: Consider the following statements regarding the social condition during the Post-Mauryan Period as described by Manu:

1. The mixed castes were occasionally occupational groups.
2. Brahmin marrying a Vaishya woman produces children who are categorised as the Nisada.
3. Brahmin marrying a Sudra woman resulted in a Ambastha.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** In a standard Dharmasastra such as that of Manu the mixed castes were occasionally occupational groups but generally those tribes which obviously were not easily assimilated into the Aryan society.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Interestingly these tribal names continue to occur with separate identities right up to the early medieval period, as evident from a comparison of the lists in Manu Smriti with those of the ethnic groups mentioned in the later Puranas. Thus, we are informed that a Brahmin marrying a Vaishya woman produces children who are categorised as the Ambastha; the later Puranas refer to the Ambastha tribe as deriving its origin from the Anava Kshatriyas, the tribal identity remaining intact.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Similarly, a Brahmin marrying a Sudra woman resulted in a Nisada, which in fact appears to have been an aboriginal tribe. Evidently the tribes which were not assimilated had to be given a ritual status in the system and thus the theory of mixed castes was worked out.

Q36: Consider the following statements regarding the types of marriages prevalent during the Post-Mauryan Period:

Statement I: Niyoga was practiced only among lower Varna.

Statement II: In epic ages we do not have any regulation confining niyoga to any particular varna.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Niyoga (levirate) was certainly practised by the Sudras in the early centuries of the Christian era, which fact strengthens our presumption about the existence of widow remarriage among the lower varnas.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** In the Vedic and the epic ages, we do not have any regulation confining niyoga to any particular varna, although most examples of this practice during these periods relate to the Kshatriya

princesses and occasionally to the Brahmins. In later times, however, the Smritis restrict the practice to the Sudras only.

Q37: Consider the following statements regarding the religious condition during the Post-Mauryan Period:

1. Mahayana did not follow the Hindu idea of Yoga.
2. Mahayanism believed in the divinity of the Buddha.
3. There is no reference of Bodhisattvas in Jataka tales.
4. Hinayana was a sect with many rites and ceremonies, and worship of saints.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- **Statement 2 is correct:** The doctrine of Bodhisattvas led to a belief that every one might aim at or even rise to Buddhahood for assisting man in obtaining salvation. Mahayanism believed in the divinity of the Buddha, in the efficacy of prayer, faith and devotion to a personal saviour.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Mahayana began to follow the Hindu idea of Yoga. While Hinayanism was unprogressive, cold, inert and rather monotonous, Mahayanism was an intensely living and active faith and infused a new life in old Buddhism which helped it to spread to Central Asia, China, Japan, Tibet, Burma and the Far East.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The Bodhisattvas were holy persons who had lived on earth before the Buddha. There are many stories about the Bodhisattvas in the Jataka tales.
- Buddhism had changed a great deal by now. It was no longer the simple religion which Buddha had taught.
- There were now two sects, namely, Mahayana and Hinayana.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Mahayana was a sect with many rites and ceremonies, and worship of saints. Its monks were powerful. But there were still people in India who did not accept this type of Buddhism. They were called Hinayana Buddhists.
- The Mahayana Buddhists sent missionaries to China who accompanied the Indian merchants who visited China.
- Soon Buddhism was to spread throughout Central Asia and China.

Q38: Consider the following statements regarding the religious practice prevalent during the Post-Mauryan Period:

Statement I: The earliest doctrine of Vyuha cult has been found in Vishnupurana.

Statement II: The ideology underlying the Vyuhavada mainly centred on the topic of pure-creation or Suddha-Srishti.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Much of the tenets of Bhagavata cult can be traced in Bhagavatgita which provide us the first systematic exposition of Ekantika Dharma which centre around Krishana Vasudeva later on Vyuha cult was introduced in Bhagavata cult.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The earliest doctrine of Vyuha cult has been found in Brahmasutra. Later on even Patanjali also mentions it in detail. The ideology underlying the Vyuhavada mainly centred on the topic of

pure-creation or Suddha-Srishti. In other word it means the creation of 6 ideal Gunas. They are jnana, Bala, Aishwarya, Virya, Shakti and Teja.

Q39: Consider the following statements regarding the Allahabad Inscription:

1. The inscription was written only in prose.
2. Harisena composed this inscription.
3. Post of Sandhi-Vigrahika was given to the composer of this inscription.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Allahabad inscription is nonsectarian and purely historical. It was composed by Harisena, the poet-laureate of Samudragupta.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The writer seems to be a poet of high order as is indicated by the excellence of style and language of the inscription. Harisena was a minister of peace and war (Sandhi-Vigrahika).
- The author of the Prasasti or panegyric of Samudra gupta was skilled in the technicalities of Sanskrit verse.
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The inscription is partly in verse and partly in prose.

Q40: Consider the following statements:

1. All the Gupta kings appointed their own commanders-in-chief.
2. Not all land in the country was the property of the king.
3. King did not shared their powers with ministers and other high officers.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Gupta kings enjoyed a large number of powers. Those powers covered the political, administrative, military and judicial fields. Very often, they were their own commanders-in-chief. Samudragupta, Chandragupta II and Skanda Gupta personally led their armies.
- The Gupta 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.
- Likewise, the central secretariat also worked under the personal supervision of the king.
- The king was the source of all honours and titles.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** All land in the country was the property of the king who could give away the same to anybody he pleased.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** It is wrong to say that the Gupta kings were autocrats. They shared their powers with ministers and other high officers.
- A large number of powers were delegated to the local bodies such as village panchayats and town councils.
- The king was required to adopt all means to win popularity among the people by respecting their wishes and promoting their welfare.

Q41: Consider the following statements regarding the function of Guild during the Gupta Period:

1. They had their own constitution.
2. Members were given considerable freedom in the choice of their individual professions.
3. Guilds were closed corporations of businessmen.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- A guild was a corporation of business, men who came together and bound themselves by specific rules and conditions with a view to carrying on trade on cooperative basis.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** It had its own constitution and organisation. It functioned more or less as an autonomous unit in its own sphere.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The unity of the members was the very essence of the guilds. Guilds were not necessarily closed corporations of businessmen occupying themselves with one particular business alone.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Members were given considerable freedom in the choice of their individual professions. The members of the commercial guilds were interested not only in their own trade exclusively, but also in several other cultural activities. Works of public utility were carried out by various guilds.

Q42: Consider the following statements regarding temple architecture during the Gupta period:

1. This period mark the beginning of temple architecture in India.
2. Garbhagriha was a hall where people could assemble.
2. Mandapa was the place where the image of the chief deity was placed.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) 1, 2, and 3
- d) None of the above

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Gupta period mark the beginning of Indian temple architecture. Some of the earliest Hindu temples were also built at this time. Deities such as Vishnu, Shiva, and Durga were worshipped in these shrines.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The most important part of the temple was the room known as the garbhagriha, where the image of the chief deity was placed. It was here that priests performed religious rituals, and devotees offered worship to the deity.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Often, as at Bhitargaon, a tower, known as the shikhara, was built on top of the garbhagriha, to mark this out as a sacred place. Building shikharas required careful planning. Most temples also had a space known as the mandapa. It was a hall where people could assemble.

Q43: Consider the following statements regarding the economic condition during the Gupta Period:

1. Iron and steel plant were well-developed industry.
2. Ship building was not an important industry.
3. Trade was carried with Roman Empire.
4. Palmyra was an important meeting place for Indians and Romans.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: b

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Many industries came into existence under the patronage of the Gupta rulers. The casting of the iron pillar at Mehrauli would not have been possible without a fully equipped iron and steel plant. The large number of weapons mentioned in the Allahabad Pillar inscription could have been manufactured only in big iron works.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Gupta Empire developed a thriving shipbuilding industry. Gupta ships were well-built and seaworthy, and they were used for both trade and military purposes.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** During Gupta Period important seaports were Tamralipti was on the Eastern coast and Bhargukaccha on the Western coast. The wealth of the Roman Empire reached India through the ports of Kalyan, Chaul, Broach and Cambay in Western India.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Tamralipti was an important port in Bengal, It carried on trade with China, Ceylon, Java and Sumatra. Alexandria was an important meeting place for Indians and Romans.
- Commercial relations were maintained with Western countries by way of the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea. The land routes converged on Palmyra and Petra.

Q44: Consider the following statements regarding the religious practice during the Gupta Period:

1. Rama cult became popular in Gupta period.
2. The name of Rama occurs in the Amarakosha as a deity.
3. Few of the Gupta kings were devotee of Rama.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Rama cult was already popular before the Gupta period. The Ramayana, which is the primary source of the Rama cult, was composed around the 5th century BCE. The Ramayana was a popular text during the Gupta period, but there is no evidence that the Rama cult became popular during this time.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The Amarakosha is a Sanskrit thesaurus compiled by Amara Simha in the 6th century CE. It does contain the name "Rama", but it does not list Rama as a deity. The Amarakosha does list other Hindu deities such as Vishnu, Shiva, and Brahma.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** There is no evidence that any of the Gupta kings were devotees of Rama. The Gupta kings were generally tolerant of all religions, but they did not show any special favoritism towards the Rama cult.

Q45: Consider the following statements regarding the development of secular literature during the Gupta Period:

1. Vasubandhu was the first known writer to use Sanskrit for non-religious compositions.
2. The Allahabad Prashasti was written in Champu Kavya style.
3. The transition from Prakrit to Sanskrit in royal inscriptions became completed during Gupta period.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Gupta period is remarkable for the production of secular literature. Ashvaghosha (1st century CE) was the first known writer to use Sanskrit for non-religious compositions.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** There was an increase in the use of prose in Sanskrit literature during this period. The Allahabad Prashasti is in mixed prose and verse (this style is known as champu kavya).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** This is also the time when the transition from Prakrit to Sanskrit in royal inscriptions became completed.

Q46: Consider the following statements Natyashastra and choose the correct option:

- It is the oldest known treatise on drama.
- The text tells us that Brahma passed on the Natyashastra to a sage named Bharata as a fifth Veda.
- This sutras existed both in oral and prose tradition.
- All the above

Ans: d

Explanation:

- The Natyashastra is the oldest known treatise on drama. The Natyashastra tells us that natya was created as a plaything (kridaniyaka) to give pleasure and divert minds weary of the problems, conflicts, and miseries of daily life. **So, option (a) is correct.**
- The text tells us that Brahma passed on the Natyashastra to a sage named Bharata as a fifth Veda in order to save the world from evil passions by a means, which, unlike the four Vedas, was accessible to all people. **So, option (b) is correct.**
- The Natyashastra is a composite work reflecting the codification and compilation of earlier material. This may have initially existed in the form of oral traditions, and later in the form of prose sutras, to which verses and commentary were subsequently added. **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q47: Consider the following statements regarding the characteristic of Gupta Temple:

- Shikara was the key features of Gupta Architecture.
- Temples at Bhumara and Nachnakutara have Shikaras.
- The temples constructed initially had a flat roof but later on Shikaras were raised on the roof.
- 'Mandapa' was in front of the Garbhagriha.

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

- Only one
- Only two
- Only three
- All the four

Answer: c

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** A significant contribution of the Gupta temple architecture to Indian architecture is the construction of a Shikara over the Garbhagriha.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The earlier temples at Bhumara and Nachnakutara do not have Shikaras but the Garbhagriha had only flat roofs.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The temples were built over high platforms. Steps were built on all the four sides of the platform. The temples constructed initially had a flat roof but later on Shikaras were raised on the roof.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** There was a 'Garbhagriha' in which the deities were placed. There was a 'Mandapa' in front of the Garbhagriha. A Pradakshinapatha was built round the Garbhagriha. The pillars were decorated by floral designs.

Q48: Consider the following pairs regarding the archeological source of Sangam Society:

(Archeological Site)	(Characteristic Features)
1. Brahmagiri	Ash mounds
2. Kuppal	Megaliths
3. Burzahom	Pit dwellings
4. Adichchanallur	Urn burials

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- Brahmagiri is a Megaliths archaeological site located in the Chitradurga district of the state of Karnataka. **So, pair (1) incorrect.**
- Adichchanallur is situated in Tirunellvelli district of Tamil Nadu from where the evidence of urn burials was found by archaeologist named Alexander Rey. **So, pair (4) correct.**
- Kupugal is situated in Karnataka from where we get the evidence of Ash mounds. **So, pair (2) incorrect.**
- Burzahom is situated at Jammu and Kashmir which belong to Neolithic culture from where Mortimer wheeler got the evidence of Megalithic culture. **So, pair (3) correct.**

Q49: Which of the following is/are associated with the Megalithic culture of South India?

1. Burials enriched by boulders of stone
2. Use of black and red ware
3. Introduction of punch-marked coins
4. Urban settlements

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Megalithic culture of South India was a full-fledged Iron Age culture that flourished between 1000 BCE and 400 CE. It is characterized by its large stone burial structures, such as dolmens, cists, and menhirs. These burial structures are often enriched by boulders of stone and other artifacts, such as pottery, iron tools, and ornaments.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The Megalithic people also used black and red ware pottery. This type of pottery is characterized by its black or red exterior and its red interior. It was used for a variety of purposes, including cooking, storage, and serving food.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Punch-marked coins were introduced in India during the 6th century BCE. They are believed to have been developed by the merchants of the Mahajanapadas.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The development of urban settlements in India began during the Indus Valley Civilization (c. 2500-1700 BCE). Urban settlements continued to develop during the Iron Age, but they were not a major feature of the Megalithic culture of South India.

Q50: Consider the following statements:

1. Banabhatta live in the court of Harsha.
2. Harshacharita was written by Banabhatta.
3. Harsha wrote 'Ratnavali', Priyadarsika and Nagananda in prakrit language.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 and 2 is correct:** The Harshacharita written by Banabhatta who lived at the court of Harsha is generally recognized as a historical document to throw a flood of light on the political, social and religious condition of India during his time.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Harsha himself was a writer of high standard. His three valuable works named 'Ratnavali', 'Priyadarsika' and 'Nagananda' written in Sanskrit reveal his literary flare. These books also throw sufficient light on the history of Harsha's period.

Q51: Consider the following statements regarding Prayag Assembly:

Statement I: Image of Buddha, Surya and Shiva was worshipped in this assembly.

Statement II: Assembly was held on the banks of Yamuna.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: c

Explanation:

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Harsha arranged another Assembly (Moksha-Parishad) at Prayaga. The Assembly was held on the sand where the rivers Gangs and Yamuna meet.
- It was attended by the 18 royal companions of Harsha and Hiuen Tsang.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** As regards the proceedings at Prayaga, on the first day, an image of Buddha was set up in one of the temporary buildings upon the sands and large number of clothes and valuable articles were distributed among the people. On the second and third days respectively, the images of Surya and Siva were honoured.

Q52: In the context of world history, the 'Abbasids' refer to which of the following?

- (a) A group of sea faring traders
- (b) Scholars patronised by the Caliph of Baghdad.
- (c) A branch of Caliphs
- (d) Sultans of Ghazni

Answer: c

Explanation:

- Following a period of civil war in the middle of 8th century, the Caliph at Damascus was replaced by a new dynasty, called the Abbasids.
- They set up their capital at the newly founded city of Baghdad.
- The Abbasids claimed to belong to the same tribe to which the Prophet Muhammad belonged.
- A great many achievements in the fields of literature, science, architecture, trade, culture and tolerance etc. were notched up by the Abbasids. So, the option c is the correct answer.

Q53: Consider the following statements:

Statement I: In the Deccan region, the early medieval period saw the rise of hereditary revenue officers called Nad Gavundas.

Statement II: Law and order in urban areas was maintained by the Koshta Pala during the 800-1000 CE period.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- The Deccan region of the early medieval period saw the rise of hereditary revenue officers called Nad Gavundas or Desa Gavundas, who discharged the same functions as the Deshmukhs and Deshpandes of later times in Maharashtra. As the power of these hereditary elements grew, the village communities became weaker. So, **the statement 1 is correct.**
- The Koshta Pala or Kotwal maintained law and order in urban areas and their immediate vicinity. Towns were normally administered by various committees, which also included the heads of trade guilds. So, **the statement 2 is also correct.**

Q54: In the context of literature in early medieval and medieval period, the term 'Apabhramsa' denotes which of the following?

- (a) A genre of dramas
- (b) A set of Dharmashastras
- (c) A set of languages
- (d) None of the above

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- Apabhramsa, the forerunner of modern North Indian languages, was spoken during the early medieval period.
- Scholars patronized by royal courts produced literature in Apabhramsa, such as the works of the great poet Svayambhu, who may have lived at the Rashtrakuta court.
- Apabhramsa literature is a valuable source of information about this period.

Q55: The term 'kotisarva' refers to which of the following?

- (a) A wealthy person
- (b) A unit of measuring distance
- (c) A title for feudal chief
- (d) Chief craftsman

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- Early medieval literary sources describe the lavish lifestyles of ministers, officials, feudal chiefs, and wealthy merchants, who sometimes lived as luxuriously as kings.
- One example is a Kotisvara, or millionaire, in the Chalukyan state whose lifestyle matched that of a king. So, the option 'a' is the correct answer.

Q56: Consider the following:

Term	Meaning
1. <i>Smarta</i>	A set of rituals
2. <i>Anulom</i>	A type of marriage
3. <i>Antyaja</i>	Untouchables

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** An important feature of the caste system in the early medieval period is that the social position of Shudras improved during this period. Although, they were not allowed to study the Vedas, they became eligible for **Smarta** rituals, like birth, death, name giving etc.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** According to the Dharmashastras of the period, marriage between different castes were forbidden. Still, they were classified and given names, hinting that it definitely took place. The marriage between a high caste man and a low caste woman was called **Anuloma** (according to norm) marriage and a marriage between a high caste woman and a low caste man was called **Pratiloma** (against norm).
- **Statement 3 is correct:** During the early medieval period, the relative position of Dalits was worse than the shudras. The Dalits included those following professions such as scavenging, skinning dead animals, shoe-makers and hunters etc. These people were called **the antyajas** or untouchables. They formed the fifth social grade, outside the four-fold Varna system.

Q57: Consider the following statements with respect to Shankaracharya:

1. He was contemporary of Harsha.
2. He propounded the doctrine of dvaitvada.
3. According to Shankar, the world around us is real.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer:

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Shankaracharya reformed the philosophical basis of Hinduism. He was born in Kerala sometimes in the 9th century, whereas age of Harsha is between 600-650 CE. However, his life is shrouded in obscurity and many legends have grown around his life.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Shankara's philosophy is called Advaitvada, or non-dualism. It is a monistic school of Vedanta philosophy that teaches that there is only one reality, Brahman, and that everything else is an illusion (maya). Shankara believed that the individual self (Atman) is identical to Brahman, and that the goal of life is to realize this identity and achieve liberation from the cycle of birth and death (samsara).
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** According to Shankara, the world around us is not real in the ultimate sense. He believed that the world is an illusion, or maya, and that the only reality is Brahman, the supreme consciousness. The only way to salvation is devotion to God, strengthened by the knowledge that God and the created beings were one and same. This philosophy is also called Vedanta.

Q58: Consider the following statements regarding the philosophy of Ramanuja:

1. According to him, the way to Moksha lies through Karma, Gyan and Bhakti.
2. Through meditation, the Jiva acquires knowledge.
3. The meditation is characterized by the soul's feeling of love for dependence on God.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) Only 1 and 2
- b) Only 2 and 3
- c) Only 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Ans: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** According to Ramanuja, the way to Moksha lies through Karma, Gyan and Bhakti performance of duty without any selfish motive purifies the mind.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** This makes meditation of Jiva on itself possible. Through such meditation the Jiva acquires knowledge of itself as depended on God. Then it begins to love God and contemplate Him. Bhakti involves meditation just as Gyan does only in Bhakti
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The meditation is characterized by the soul's feeling of love for dependence on God. When Bhakti matures and becomes complete, the soul has a vision of God.

Q59: Which among the following is considered as the epic in Tamil literature?

- a) Silappadigaram
- b) Manimegalai
- c) Sivaga Sindamani
- d) All the above

Ans: d.

Explanation:

- Silappadigaram was the earliest and the greatest of the epic of the Sangam age. Supposedly written by Illango Vadigal (grandson of Karikala, the great Chola King) in the second century AD. **So, option (a) is correct.**
- Manimekalai is a Tamil epic poem written by Seethalai Sathanar in the 6th century CE. It is considered to be one of the Five Great Epics of Tamil Literature, and it is one of only three that have survived into the modern age. **So, option (b) is correct.**
- Sivaga Sindamani, also spelled Jivaka Chintamani, is a Tamil epic poem written by Tiruttakkatevar, a Jain ascetic from Madurai, in the early 10th century CE. It is considered to be one of the Five Great Epics of Tamil Literature. **So, option (c) is correct.**

Q60: Consider the following statements regarding "Shah Nama":

Statement I: It was written in Turkish language by Firdausi.

Statement II: Composition of Shah Nama was commissioned by Mahmud of Ghazni.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Shah Nama, also known as *Shahnameh*, is a Persian epic poem written by Firdausi. *Shahnameh* literally means the 'book of kings'. Firdausi was the court laureate at the court of Mahmud of Ghazni.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The composition of the Shah Nama, the Persian national epic, was commissioned by Mahmud of Ghazni.
- *Shahnameh* tells the mythical and historical past of the kings and empires of the greater Persian area.
- Mahmud of Ghazni not only acted as a defender of Islam from the central Asian tribesmen under the *Gazi* spirit, his reign is also known for the Persian renaissance.

Q61: Consider the following:

Early medieval Rajput states

Area

- | | |
|----------------|----------|
| 1. Gahadavalas | Kannauj |
| 2. Kalachuris | Jabalpur |
| 3. Paramaras | Malwa |
| 4. Tomars | Delhi |

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All of the above

Answer: d.

Explanations:

- With the break-up of the Gurjara-Pratihara Empire, a number of Rajput states came into existence in north India.
- The most important of these were the Gahadavalas of Kannauj, the Paramaras of Malwa and the Chauhans of Ajmer.
- There were other smaller dynasties in different parts of country, such as the Kalachuris in the area around the modern Jabalpur, the Chandellas in Bundelkhand, the Chalukyas of Gujarat and the Tomars of Delhi etc. Bengal remained under the Palas and, later, under the Senas.

Q62: Which of the following statements is incorrect with respect to the 'Mameluk Dynasty':

- a) The term 'Mameluk' literally means slaves.
- b) It was the first dynasty in the Delhi Sultanate.
- c) This dynasty is also known as the Ilbari dynasty.
- d) None of the above

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Mameluk is an Arabic word meaning 'owned'. It practically denoted a slave. It was used to distinguish the imported Turkish slaves meant chiefly for military services, from the humble slaves for domestic or economic purposes.
- The Mameluk dynasty of Delhi Sultanate was started by slave. E.g. Aibak was a slave of Muhammad Ghori.
- Since, Aibak was a Mameluk, we can say that it was the first dynasty in the Delhi Sultanate. It was followed by the Khilji and Tughlaq dynasty.
- However, out of the nine rulers of this dynasty, only three i.e. Qutub-ud-din Aibak, Iltutmish and Balban were slaves during their early life. They too had been manumitted by their masters long before assuming the sovereign powers.
- Therefore, the term 'Ilbari' has gained wide recognition as all rulers of this dynasty except Qutub-ud-din, belonged to the Ilbari tribe of Turks. So, option (d) is the correct option.

Q63: Consider the following statements regarding Lingaraj Temple:

Statement I: The temple is constructed of sandstone and laterite.

Statement II: The temple is constructed in the Deula style.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Lingaraj temple is Bhubaneswar's largest temple. The Lingaraja temple is constructed of sandstone and laterite and faces east. The main entrance is on the east, while smaller entrances are located on the north and south.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The temple is constructed in the Deula style and is composed of four components: a vimana (structure containing the sanctum), a jagamohana (assembly hall), a natamandira (festival hall), and a bhoga-mandapa (hall of offerings), all of which are aligned axially and descend in height.

Q64: Consider the following statements with respect to the term 'Chahalgani' of the Delhi Sultanate:

1. It signified a group of forty Turkish chiefs occupying key positions in the Sultanate administration.
2. After Iltutmish, the Chahalgani became a problem for other Mameluk Sultans.
3. It was ruthlessly dismantled during the reign of Khilji dynasty.

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two

- (c) Only three
(d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Delhi Sultanate was set up by Qutubudin Aibak. But it lacked a solid administrative structure, without which it was impossible to lay a strong foundation for the Delhi Sultanate. So, Iltutmish set up 'Turk-i-Chihalgani'. These were roughly forty Turkish officers who were appointed to the key positions in administration, army and provinces to oversee the centralisation and standardisation of Sultanate administration.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** In course of time, these officers became very powerful. When Iltutmish died, they sought to preserve their power and even increase. Acting as a deep state, they sought to install a puppet on the throne of Sultanate. Razia fended them off, but not for long. Chahalgani eventually removed her. They unabashedly removed one Sultan after another to protect their position.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Stability could be restored only with the arrival of Balban. He was himself a member of Chahalgani. So, he had the firsthand experience of this destructive force. In order to impart stability to the Sultanate, he dismantled the entire Chahalgani. He transferred some of them, killed some others and co-opted some others. He oversaw the destruction of Chahalgani.

Q65: Who among the following provided the first description of 'Jauhar' in Persian language?

- (a) Amir Khusrau
(b) Ziauddin Barni
(c) Abul Fazl
(d) Hasan Nizami

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- On his return from Gujarat, Alauddin faced a rebellion by Mongol soldiers over war booty.
- A massacre ensued, but two Mongol nobles escaped to Ranthambore. Hamirdeva, the king of Ranthambore, refused to return them, giving Alauddin the pretext, he needed to invade.
- The famous poet Amir Khusrau accompanied Alauddin on this campaign.
- After three months of siege, the fearful Jauhar ceremony took place, in which all the men came out to fight to the last.
- Khusrau gave us a vivid description of this Jauhar ceremony in Persian. *So, option 'a' is the correct answer.*

Q66: Consider the following statements regarding the administration during the Delhi Sultanate and choose the correct option:

- a) Most of these nobles came from Turkish or Afghan families which had settled in India.
b) Indian Muslims and Hindus were not appointed as officers during sultanate period.
c) Wazir-i-tafwiz merely carried out the wishes of the ruler.
d) Wazir-i tanfiz had unlimited powers except to appoint his successor.

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- Some of the nobles in Delhi Sultanate were powerful and they influence state policy. Sometimes as governors they revolted and became independent rulers or else usurped the throne of Delhi.
- **Option (a) is correct:** Most of these nobles came from Turkish or Afghan families who had settled in India. Some of them were men who came to India in search of fortune and worked for the Sultan.
- Most of the officers who worked in the provinces, for instance the provincial governors and the military commanders, came from such families.
- **Option (b) is incorrect:** Indian Muslims and Hindus were also appointed as officers after the time of Alauddin Khalji.
- **Option (c and d) is incorrect:** Muslim political thinkers tried to generalize this situation by saying that there were two types of wazirs, the wazir-i-tafwiz who had unlimited powers except to appoint his successor, and the wazir-i tanfiz who merely carried out the wishes of the ruler.

Q67: The term 'rahat' refers to which of the following?

- (a) An irrigation apparatus
- (b) A type of grant by the state to destitute
- (c) A title for officers in army
- (d) A type of pottery used in royal household

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- Agriculture and irrigations were the two areas which underwent deep technological changes after the advent of Turkish rule. Earlier **Arghatta/Arahatta** consisted of one wheel with pots of clay attached around the rim of the wheel.
- It was used to extract water from the shallow waters or open surfaces, but not over wells.
- It underwent a technological upgrade in which the earthen pots fitted around the rim of the wheel were replaced by a chain of pots which was long enough to reach the water level of the well.
- The chain was made of double ropes with open ends between which the pots were secured with timber strips. This was the **Ghatiyantra (pot-machine)**. But, the use of terms Arghatta and Arahatta (modern **rahat**) continued.

Q68: Consider the following statements:

1. Ibn Batuta wrote Kitab-i-Rehla.
2. The book was written in Arabic language.
3. This book consists of detailed information about the postal system of Sultanate period.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) Only 1 and 2
- b) Only 2 and 3
- c) Only 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- Ibn Batutah wrote Kitab-i-Rehla.
- This book was written in Arabic language.
- This is a travelogue of Ibn Batutah.
- This book consists of detailed information about the postal system of Sultanate period.
- Ibn Batutah was the resident of Morocco. He visited India in 1333A.D during the reign of Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq.

Q69: Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The earliest reference of spinning wheel in India is evidence in the middle of the 14th century.

Statement II: The earliest reference of spinning wheel in the world come from China.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- The production of cloth improved during the period because of the introduction of the spinning wheel (charkha).
- **Statement II is incorrect:** According to a modern historian, Irfan Habib, some well-known poets attest to the spinning wheel in Iran in the 12th century.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Its earliest reference in India is in the middle of the 14th century. Thus, it apparently came to India with the Turks, and came into general use by the middle of the 14th century.
- We are told that the spinning wheel in its simplest form increased the spinner's efficiency some six-fold, in comparison with a spinner working with a hand spindle.

Q70: Consider the following statements:

1. During Iltutmish reign, Delhi became the greatest centre of learning in the East.
2. Delhi became "Second Baghdad" during Iltutmish reign.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** During the reign of Iltutmish, Delhi became the greatest center of learning in the East. Iltutmish was a patron of learning and culture, and he established many madrasas (Islamic schools) in Delhi. He also invited scholars from all over the Islamic world to come to Delhi to teach and study.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Great scholars like Nur-ud-Din, Mohammad Aufo, Minhaj-us-Siraj and Hasan Nizami were assembled in his court. Likewise, many saints, artists and artisans also flocked to Delhi. The result was that Delhi became "Second Baghdad".

Q71: Consider the following statements regarding literary development during the Bahmani Sultanate:

1. Persian Scholar popularized the Deccani language.
2. Deccani language was completely different from north Indian Urdu.
3. The Bahmani rulers patronized Persian language.
4. Along with Persian, Brahmi ruler also patronized Kannada and Telugu language.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Sufi movement popularized the Deccani language which emerged as a language of the Muslim ruling class of Deccan.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It was Cultural Development developed in a similar way like north Indian Urdu. The Sufi saints and scholars also developed Dakhani grammar and produced a literature in Dakhani for the ruling class.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The Bahmani rulers also developed Persian language which enjoyed royal patronage. They also made Islamic learning highly popular in the Deccan.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** The Bahmani rulers patronized Persian and Arabic while the Rayas of Vijayanagara encouraged Sanskrit, Kannada and Telugu.

Q72: Consider the following statements regarding the basic element of Balban's theory of kingship and choose the incorrect statement:

- a) According to Balban, kingship was the viceregency of God on earth.
- b) Kings' dignity was equal with prophethood.
- c) The king was the shadow of God.
- d) The source of power of the king lay with God alone.

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- According to Balban kingship was the viceregency of God on earth (Niyabat-i-Khudai).
- In its dignity it was next only to prophethood. The king was the shadow of God (Zilullah).
- In the discharge of his kingly responsibilities, he was at all times inspired and guided by God.
- The source of power of the king lay not with the nobles or the people, but with God alone.
- His actions could not be the subject of public scrutiny.
- External dignity and prestige were emphasised as essential for Kingship.
- Balban maintained a great distance from the masses. He refused to talk to the common people.

Q73: Who among the following were the Mongol leader, who attacked during Alauddin Khalji reign?

1. Targi Khan
2. Kubak
3. Iqbalmand

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- a) Only 1 and 2
- b) Only 2 and 3
- c) Only 1 and 3
- d) All of the above

Ans: d.

Explanation:

- The Fourth Mongol Invasion took place in 1303 when Ala-ud-Din was busy with the siege of Chittor. A Mongol army 12,000 strong under Targhi, its leader, reached Delhi by forced marches. **Option (1) correct.**
- The movements of the Mongols were so quick that the governors were not able to send their contingents to Delhi. Ala-ud-Din was forced to take shelter in the fort of Siri which was besieged by the Mongols for two months.
- The Mongols appeared once again in 1306. They crossed the Indus near Multan and proceeded towards the Himalayas.
- Ghazi Malik who had been appointed the Governor of the Punjab in 1305, intercepted the Mongols and a large number of them were killed 50,000 Mongols were made prisoners including Kubak, their leader. They were put to death their children and wives were sold as slaves. **Option (2) correct.**
- The last Mongol invasion took place in 1307-08 under their leader Iqbalmand. It is true that he crossed the Indus but they could not make any headway after that. He was defeated along with his followers and also killed. **Option (3) correct.**

Q74: Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Alauddin rejected Balban theory of Kingship.

Statement II: He styled himself as Yamin-ul-Khilafat Nasiri Amir-ul-Mumanin.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Alauddin Khilji rejected Balban's theory of kingship. Balban believed that the king was a shadow of God and that he had a divine right to rule. He also believed that the king should be above the law and that he should be obeyed without question. Alauddin Khilji, on the other hand, believed that the king was the source of all power and authority. He also believed that the king should be a just and benevolent ruler, and that he should be accountable to his people.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** He also believed that kinship knows no kingship. All people were to be either his servants or his subjects and he was not to be influenced by anybody in the administration of the country.

He did not consider it necessary to get the sanction of the Khalifa to add to his authority and no wonder he did not apply for an investiture from the Khalifa. However, he styled himself as Yamin-ul-Khilafat Nasiri Amir-ul-Mumanin.

Q75: Consider the following pairs:

Books of Amir Khusrao

1. Kiran-ul-Saladin
2. Kiran-ul-Saladin
3. Nur Siphir

During the reign of

- Jalal-ud-din Khalji
Ala-ud-din Khalji
Qutub-ud-din Mubarak Khilji

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: a.

Explanation:

Amir Khusrao famous books are

- Kiran-ul-Saladin (at the time of Balban)
- Mifta-ul-Futeh (at the time of Jalal-ud-din Khalji)
- Khazain-ul-Futeh (at the time of Ala-ud-din Khalji)
- Ashiqa (Story based on Khizar Khan and Deval Rani)
- Nur Siphir (at the time of Qutub-ud-din Mubarak Khilji)

Q76: Consider the following pairs:

Department during Sultanate Period

1. Diwan-i-Arz
2. Diwan-i-Ishtiaq
3. Diwan-i-Mustakhraj
4. Diwan-i-kohi

Looked after

- Department of Military
Department of Pension
Department of Arrears
Department of Agriculture

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Diwan-i-Arz, also known as the Department of War or the Military Department, was a central department of the Delhi Sultanate. It was responsible for the administration and organization of the Sultan's army. The Diwan-i-Arz was established by Ghiyasuddin Balban in the early 13th century.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Diwan-i-Ishtiaq, also known as the Department of Pensions, was a central department of the Delhi Sultanate. It was responsible for the payment of pensions to retired soldiers, government officials, and other individuals who were entitled to them. The Diwan-i-Ishtiaq was established by Firoz Shah Tughlaq in the early 14th century.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Diwan-i-Mustakhraj, also known as the Department of Arrears, was a central department of the Delhi Sultanate. It was responsible for collecting outstanding taxes and other dues from taxpayers. The Diwan-i-Mustakhraj was established by Alauddin Khilji in the early 14th century.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Diwan-i-kohi, also known as the Department of Agriculture, was a central department of the Delhi Sultanate. It was established by Muhammad bin Tughlaq in the early 14th century. The head of the Diwan-i-kohi was known as the Amir-i-kohi.

Q77: Consider the following statements with respect to Firuz Shah Tughlaq:

Statement I: During his rule, Jizyah became a separate tax.

Statement II: A large number of books on music, medicine and mathematics were also translated from Sanskrit into Persian.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- The policies of Muhammad bin Tughlaq managed had angered nobility and theologians alike. His successor, Firuz tried to win over theologians. So, he patronised a large number of theologians. Without changing the essential character of the state, he made some superficial changes which were to their liking.
- **Statement 1 is correct:** He tried to ban practices which the orthodox theologians considered un-Islamic. e.g. he persecuted those Muslim sects that were considered heretical by the theologians. It was during his time, that Jizyah became a separate tax. Earlier, it was a part of the land revenue i.e. Kharaj.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Though, Firuz adopted a narrow religious policy, he was the first ruler who took steps to have Hindu religious works translated from Sanskrit to Persian. He wanted to have a better understanding of Hindu ideas and practices. During his expeditions, he brought large number of Sanskrit works back to be translated. Many books on medicine, music and mathematics were also translated during his reign.

Q78: Masnad System during Bahlol Lodhi period was

- a) Group of core minister of Bahlol Lodhi
- b) A large platform where Bahlol Lodhi along with prominent leaders sat together.
- c) Holder of Iqta
- d) Distribution of revenue collected from Iqta system.

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- Instead of ascending the throne by himself, Bahlol Lodhi infact built a large platform "Masnad" where all the prominent leaders including Bahlol, sat together. They were addressed as Masnand.
- This is corroborated by Tarikh-i-Daudi, which mentions that Bahlol, maintained a brotherly intercourse with all his chiefs and soldiers.

Q79: Arrange the following events in the correct chronological order:

1. Arrival of Portuguese
2. Establishment of Vijayanagara Empire
3. Establishment of Mughal rule over North India
4. Invasion of Timur

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

- a) 2-4-1-3
- b) 2-4-3-1
- c) 4-2-1-3
- d) 4-2-3-1

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- The Vijayanagara kingdom was founded by Harihara and Bukka who belonged to a family of five brothers. The date of Harihara's coronation is placed at 1336 CE.

- The growing weakness of the Delhi Sultanate emboldened the central Asian ruler, Timur to attack on Delhi in 1398 CE. This caused the flight of Tughlaq kings to flee from his capital and caused a great deal of damage to the reputation of Delhi Sultanate.
- The landing of Vasco da Gama at Calicut in 1498 CE with two ships, with Gujarati pilots around who had guided the ships from the African coast to Calicut marked the arrival of Portuguese in India.
- The first of Panipat between Ibrahim Lodhi and Babur in 1526 CE marks the beginning of Mughal rule in India.

Q80: Which of the following statements is *incorrect* with respect to Zainul Abidin:

- (a) He was a ruler of Kashmir.
- (b) He overturned the religious policy of his predecessor Sikandar Shah.
- (c) Entire '*Rajtarangini*' was written during his reign.
- (d) He was also called *Bud Shah*.

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- Zainul Abidin was the 8th Sultan of Kashmir from the Shah Miri dynasty. **Option (a) is correct.**
- To complete the process, a vehement persecution of the Brahmanas began in the reign of Sikandar Shah Miri (c. 1389-1413 CE) of Shah Miri dynasty.
- He destroyed numerous temples and triggered an exodus out of the Kashmir. This situation changed with the accession of Zainul Abidin (c. 1420-70 CE) who had all these orders cancelled. **Option (b) is correct.**
- He reconciled and brought back to Kashmir all the non-Muslims who had fled. Temples were also restored.
- Kalhana's history of Kashmir, *Rajtarangini*, was translated into Persian and brought up to date. *Rajtarangini* was originally written in Sanskrit in 12th century. Jonaraja wrote '*Dvitiya Rajtarangini*' during his reign. **Option (c) is incorrect.**
- Due to his tireless efforts to promote social harmony, economic development, development of art & craft etc. Zainul Abidin is still called the Bud Shah (the great Sultan) by the Kashmiris. **Option (d) is correct.**

Q81: Consider the following pairs related to foreign travellers visiting the Vijayanagar Empire:

1. Abdur Razzaq: Achyutaraya
2. Duarte Barbosa: Deva Raya II
3. Dominigo Paes: Krishna Deva Raya
4. Fernao Nuniz: Harihara I

How many of the above pairs is/are correct?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- **Abdur Razzaq** was a Persian, Timurid chronicler and a scholar who visited the Vijaynagar Kingdom at the time of Dev Raya II as an ambassador of Shah Rukh, the Timurid dynasty ruler of Persia. **So, pair (1) is incorrect.**
- **Duarte Barbosa** was Portuguese Writer, scrivener and explorer who had given a vivid account of Vijaynagara governance under Krishna Deva Raya in his book i.e. An Account of Countries Bordering the Indian Ocean and their Inhabitants. **So, pair (2) is incorrect.**
- **Dominigo Paes** was Portuguese merchant, writer and explorer who visited India and gave most detailed accounts of all historic descriptions of ancient city Hampi which was governed by Vijaynagar Empire under Krishna Deva Raya. **So, pair (3) is correct.**
- **Fernao Nuniz** was Portuguese traveller, chronicler and horse trader who visited India during reign of Achyutaraya and who spent three years in Vijaynagara. **So, pair (4) is incorrect.**

Q82: Consider the following statements regarding the administrative functioning of Vijayanagar Empire:

1. Vijayanagar Empire had a centralised administration.
2. King had only Civil and Military power but no judicial power.
3. The office of a minister was vested on the basis of selection only.
4. According to foreign traveler there was an existence of a sort of secretariat.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** The Vijayanagar Empire gradually developed a centralised administration with all its branches carefully organised.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The king was the head of all power in the Vijayanagar State. He was the authority in civil, military as well as judicial affairs and also often intervened to settle social disputes.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Though the Brahmanas held high offices in the administration and had considerable influence, the ministers were recruited not only from the rank but also from those of the Kshatriyas and the Vaishyas.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** The office of a minister was sometimes hereditary and sometimes rested on selection. Abdur Razzaq and Nuniz refer to the existence of a sort of secretariat.

Q83: Consider the following statements with respect to Vijayanagar administration:

Statement I: Afaqi/Gharib nobles were the new comers from outside Deccan, who were deeply resented by the Dakhni nobles.

Statement II: Nayaks were the military chiefs in the Vijayanagara Empire who were granted territory with fixed revenue by the king.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Afaqi/Gharib nobles were the new comers from outside Deccan, who were deeply resented by the Dakhni nobles. This resentment was due to a number of factors, including Competition for resources and power, Cultural differences and Perceived favoritism. The resentment of the Dakhni nobles towards the Afaqi/Gharib nobles eventually led to a number of conflicts, which contributed to the decline of the Bahamani sultanate.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** In the centrally controlled territory of the Vijayanagara Empire, the king granted Amaram or 'territory with a fixed revenue' to military chiefs. These chiefs, who were also called Palaiyagar (Palegar) or Nayakshad to maintain a fixed number of soldiers, horses and elephants for the service of the state. The Nayaks also had to pay a sum of money to the central exchequer. They formed a very powerful section and it was difficult to sometimes control them.

Q84: Consider the following statements regarding the social structure of Vijayanagar Empire and choose the correct option:

- a) Social structure among the lower caste were divided into right and left-hand designations.
- b) Vaishnavas corresponding to the left-hand division
- c) Saivites corresponding to the right-hand division
- d) Right-hand castes were involved primarily in artisan production.

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- An important characteristic of the social structure of Vijayanagar was the dual division of lower castes referred to by the right and left-hand designations. **So, option (a) is correct.**
- Vaishnavas corresponding to the right-hand division and the Saivites corresponding to the left-hand castes. **So, option (b) and (c) is incorrect.**
- In most cases, the right-hand castes were involved primarily in Agricultural production and local trade in agricultural commodities whereas left-hand castes were engaged in mobile artisan production and extensive trade in non-agricultural products. **So, option (d) is incorrect.**

Q85: In the context of medieval culture, what is a 'rabab'?

- (a) A musical instrument
- (b) A type of devotional poetry
- (c) A sect of wandering monks
- (d) None of the above

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- Guru Nanak, from who's teaching the Sikh religion was derived, composed hymns and sang them, while his disciple and faithful attendant, Mardana, played *rabab*, which is a stringed instrument.

Q86: Consider the following statements:

Statement I: The Turks were the first to introduce the widespread use of arches and domes in Indian architecture.

Statement II: The architectural features of 'arch' and 'dome' are Arab inventions.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** When the Turks first arrived in India, they had neither time nor skilled artisans to immediately start construction of buildings reminiscent of Persian/Central Asia traditions. They, at first, converted some temples and other existing buildings into mosques. For decorations, they used floral designs and verses from Quran. Soon, the Turks started constructing their own buildings. In their buildings, the Turks used the arch and dome on a wide scale.
- **Statement II is incorrect:** The arch and the dome were known to the Indians earlier, but they were not used on a large scale. Neither the arch nor the dome was a Turkish or Muslim invention. The Arabs borrowed them from the Rome through the Byzantine Empire, developed them and made them their own.

Q87: Consider the following statements with respect to the administration of Sur Empire:

Statement I: A number of villages were grouped into a pargana.

Statement II: The pargana was under control of an officer called 'shiqdar'.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement I is correct:** Sher Shah did not make many changes in the administrative divisions prevailing since the Sultanate period. A number of villages comprised a pargana.
- **Statement II is correct:** The pargana was under the charge of the Shiqdar, who looked after law & order and general administration, and the Munsif or Amil who looked after the collection of land revenue. Above the pargana was the Shiq or Sarkar under the charge of Shiqdar-i-Shiqdaran and a Munsif-i-Munsifan.

Q88: Consider the following statements with respect to Ibrahim Adil Shah II:

1. He was a Nizam Shahi Sultan of Ahmednagar.
2. He composed a book called Kitab-i-Nauras.
3. He issued mahzarnama.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** Ibrahim Adil Shah II was the successor of Ali Adil Shah to the throne of Bijapur state. He ascended the throne at the age of nine.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** Ibrahim Adil Shah II was deeply interested in music and composed a book called Kitab-i-Nauras in which songs were set to various musical notes or ragas. He dedicated this book to goddess Saraswati, the goddess of music. He also built a new capital, Nauraspur.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Mahzarnama was issued by Akbar. According to it, if there were a disagreement between theologians on certain issues, he had the right to choose among the different opinions. Mahzarnama was signed by the leading theologians of the time and it has been wrongly called the 'doctrine of infallibility'.

Q89: Consider the following statements regarding Shah Jahan's Deccan Policy and choose the correct option:

- a) Shah Jahan wanted to extend Mughal frontiers beyond Khandesh.
- b) Malik Amber of Ahmednagar had granted asylum to the rebel Khan Jahan Lodhi.
- c) Shah Jahan's Sunni orthodoxy was a source of tension between him and the Shia Deccan Sultans.
- d) All the above

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- Nizam Shahi Kingdom of Ahmadnagar had greatly disintegrated which provides Shah Jahan an opportunity to attack the same besides there were other factors or objectives towards his Deccan Policy:
- Shah Jahan was guided by his personal ambition and he wanted to extend Mughal frontiers beyond Khandesh. **So, option (a) is correct.**
- Malik Amber of Ahmadnagar had granted asylum to the rebel Khan Jahan Lodhi and this arose his ambition to conquer the province. **So, option (b) is correct.**
- Shah Jahan was an orthodox Sunni Muslim and did not like the Shia of the Deccan Sultan and he also suspected the relation of the Deccan state with the Shia rulers of Persia, who were the hereditary rivals of the Mughals. **So, option (c) is correct.**
- Besides, he could not tolerate the existence of independent political Sultanates in the South. Therefore, he persuaded a vigorous policy in the South.

Q90: Consider the following statements regarding Mughal-Ahmednagar treaty:

1. Jahangir who also conferred the title of Farzand upon Shah Jahan for ratifying the treaty.
2. Adil Shah restore all the territory, which had been seized by Malik Ambar.
3. Prince Khurram Mansab was raised to 30,000 Zat and 20,000 Sawar.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 2 correct:** In 1616, Prince Khurram was entrusted with the command. He offered terms of peace to Malik Ambar and the latter accepted the same. Adil Shah gave presents worth 15 lakhs to Prince Khurram and also promised to restore all the territory which had been seized by Malik Ambar.
- **Statement 1 and 3 is correct:** Jahangir who also conferred the title of Farzand upon Adil Shah for ratifying the treaty. Prince Khurram was given the title of Shah Jahan and his Mansab was raised to 30,000 Zat and 20,000 Sawar.
- There was a lot of rejoicing but the fact remains that Ahmednagar was not conquered and the power of Malik Ambar was not crushed. This state of affairs continued till 1629 when Malik Ambar died.

Q91: Consider the following statements:

1. Aurangzeb prohibited the use of the Kalima on the coins.
2. He abolished the Nauroz.
3. He appointed Muhatsibs or censors of public morals to look after the conduct of the people.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: c.

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Aurangzeb prohibited the use of the Kalima on the coins so that the same may not be touched by the non-Muslims.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** He abolished the Nauroz which was a borrowed institution from Persia.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** He appointed Muhatsibs or censors of public morals to look after the conduct of the people and also to see that they acted according to what the Koran said.
- They were to stop the use of alcohol, intoxicating drugs and other things forbidden by the Holy Koran.
- Aurangzeb ordered the repair of the Mosques and Khanqahs, Imams and Muazzims were regularly paid.

Q92: Which of the following foreign travelers visited the Mughal Empire?

- (a) Ralph Fitch
- (b) Bernier
- (c) Monserrate
- (d) All the above

Answer: d.

Explanation:

- Ralph Fitch was a merchant of London, who traveled in India during the 16th century and wrote a travelogue on his return to England. He had described that Agra and Fatehpur Sikri were larger than London. **So, option (a) is correct.**
- Francois Bernier was a French physician and traveler. For a brief period, he was the chief physician of Dara Shikoh. He also wrote '*Travels in the Mughal Empire*'. His detailed description of India and Indians was a source material among the colonial Europeans. **So, option (b) is correct.**
- Monserrate was a Jesuit priest who was sent by the Portuguese to debate in the Ibadat Khana of Akbar. He had great hopes of converting the emperor to Catholicism. **So, option (c) is also correct.**

Q93: Consider the following statements with respect to the architectural concept of 'double dome':

1. It allows a bigger dome to be built with a smaller one inside.

2. The 'Taj Mahal' was the first example of usage of double dome in the Mughal architecture.
3. Mughals were to introduce this architectural concept into the Indian architecture.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None of the above

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct.** The architectural feature of the 'double dome' was the next step of the idea of 'arch' and 'dome'. 'Double dome' enabled a bigger dome to be built with a smaller one inside. The smaller dome inside was for architecture stability and the outer bigger dome was for creating a grand impression.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** In the Mughal architectural tradition, Humayun's tomb was the first example of usage of double dome. Its dome was covered with marble. It could be considered a precursor of the Taj.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect.** The attempts in the direction of *Double Dome* started with tomb of Taj Khan (1501 CE) and the tomb of Sikandar Lodi (1518 CE), both in Delhi, under the Lodhi dynasty. However, the fully mature form of the *double dome* is seen, for the first time in India in the tomb of Humayun.

Q94: In terms of medieval administration, the term 'abwab' refers to which of the following?

- a) A number of Cesses
- b) A type of land grant
- c) A type of dictate to the royal official
- d) Tax on land

Answer: a.

Explanation:

- Abwabs were a number of cesses that were not sanctioned by the Sharia and were hence considered illegal.
- Under Sharia, only four types of taxes are sanctioned- Zakat, Kharaj, Khams and Jizyah.
- The abwabs were a bit similar to the Zawabit, the regulations that were not sanctioned under the sharia.
- Ghari and Charai, imposed by Allauddin Khilji and Haq-i-Sharb imposed by Feroz Shah can be considered types of abwabs.
- Aurangzeb, by abolishing all sorts of abwabs, had to forgo a great deal of revenue.

Q95: Consider the following statements:

Statement I: Aurangzeb wrote "Shikasta" and "Nastaliq" with great skill.

Statement II: Fatwa-i-Alamgiri was written during his period.

Which of the following is correct with respect to the above statements?

- (a) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is the correct explanation of Statement I
- (b) Both Statement I and II are correct and Statement II is not the correct explanation of Statement I
- (c) Statement I is correct and Statement II is incorrect
- (d) Statement I is incorrect and Statement II is correct

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Aurangzeb was a skilled calligrapher in both Shikasta and Nastaliq scripts. He was particularly fond of the Shikasta script, which is a cursive style of Persian calligraphy known for its flowing lines and complex ligatures. Aurangzeb's Shikasta calligraphy is characterized by its elegance, precision, and speed. Aurangzeb's skill in Nastaliq calligraphy is also evident in his surviving works. Nastaliq is a more formal style of Persian calligraphy that is often used for religious and literary texts. Aurangzeb's Nastaliq calligraphy is characterized by its clarity, legibility, and balance.

- **Statement 2 is correct:** Fatwa-i-Alamgiri was written during the period of Aurangzeb. It is a compilation of Islamic law based on the Hanafi school of jurisprudence. It was compiled under the supervision of Sheikh Nizam Burhanpuri. The Fatwa-i-Alamgiri was completed in 1668 and was presented to Aurangzeb in 1670.

Q96: Consider the following statements and choose the incorrect statement:

- a) Akbar started the practice of Zaminbos.
- b) Akbar was declared as Imami-i-Adil, Amir-ul-Mominin and Mujtahid-i-Ala.
- c) Mughal Emperor in India recognise Khalifa as a superior overlord.
- d) Babur and Humayun took up title of Padshah

Answer: c.

Explanation:

- Mughal emperors in India did not recognize any Khalifa as a superior overlord. This was because they saw themselves as the supreme authority in their own empire and did not want to acknowledge any higher authority. The Mughal emperors were also aware that the Khalifa was a religious figure, and they did not want to get involved in religious disputes. By refusing to recognize the Khalifa, they could maintain their own religious autonomy. This policy of non-recognition of the Khalifa was first established by Akbar, the third Mughal emperor. **So, option (c) is incorrect.**
- Khutba was read in the name of Akbar. He also started the practices of Sijda or prostration on the ground and Zaminbos or kissing the ground in front of the royal throne. **So, option (a) is correct.**
- In 1579, Akbar was declared as Imami-i-Adil, Amir-ul-Mominin and Mujtahid-i-Ala. The descendants of Akbar also regarded themselves as fully sovereign and did not recognise the superiority of anybody, whether directly or indirectly. **So, option (b) is correct.**
- Babur and Humayun took up title of Padshah and were not prepared to accept any superior in the world. **So, option (d) is correct.**

Q97: Consider the following statement regarding the Provincial administration under Mughal:

1. Subahdar of Mughal hold only military authority.
2. Post of Subahdar was hereditary during Mughal period.
3. Faujdars were commanders of provincial troops during Mughal period.
4. Appointment and dismissal of Faujdars were in the hands of Mughal Emperor.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer a

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The Subahdar possessed both civil and military authority. He was the representative of the king in the province. He held his court but could not sit in the Jharoka. He could not declare war or make peace without the permission of the emperor.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** Post of Subahdar was not hereditary during the Mughal period. Subahdars were appointed by the Mughal emperor and served at his pleasure. The Subahdars were transferred after intervals of two or three years. It was feared that if they continue to work at one place for a long time, they might abuse their powers or become independent.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Faujdars were appointed to help the Subahdar. They were put in charge of important sub divisions of the province. They were commanders of the provincial troops.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** Faujdars appointment and dismissal were in the hands of the Subahdar. They helped the Subahdar to maintain law and order in the country and punish the rebellious zamindars. They were also to help the Amils in their work of revenue collection.

Q98: Consider the following statements regarding the Humayun Tomb:

1. It was completed during the reign of Akbar.

2. Colour tiles and Marble had been used in this tomb.
3. It was constructed under the supervision of Maham Anaga.
4. It is the earliest example in India of “double-dome”.

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

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) Only three
- (d) All the four

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- **Statement 1 is correct:** Akbar took great interest in the field of architecture. The Humayun’s Tomb was completed in 1565.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** It has four towers at the four angles of the main building. It has no coloured tiles and marble has been used in its construction.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** Humayun’s Tomb at Delhi was constructed under the supervision of Akbar’s stepmother Haji Begum. This building is Persian in style.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** It is the earliest example in India of “double-dome” with slightly swelling outlines standing on a high neck-a form of construction resembling the Mausoleum of Taimur and Bibi Khanam at Samargand.

Q99: In context of the society during the Mughal period, the term ‘talluqa’ refers to which of the following?

- a) A revenue circle allocated to an official
- b) Right of a zamindar to collect land revenue from an area
- c) A tax-free land grant to religious divines
- d) A settled village

Answer: b.

Explanation:

- Zamindars were a powerful class during Mughal Period. It was a heterogeneous class. Many of them had large tracts of land under personal ownership and cultivation.
- In addition to the land, they owned and cultivated, a considerable section of the zamindars had the hereditary rights of collecting land revenue from a number of villages.
- This was called his talluqa or his zamindari. For collecting the land revenue, the zamindars received a share of the
- land revenue which could go up to 25% in some areas.
- The zamindar was not the owner of all the lands comprising his Zamindari. The peasant-cultivator could not be disposed as long as they paid the land revenue.

Q100: Which among the following is the chief element of architecture during the reign of Akbar?

- a) Use of red sandstone as the building material.
- b) Use of the trabeated construction
- c) Dome used was of the “Lodi” type.
- d) All the above

Answer: d

Explanation:

- Red sandstone was the primary building material used in Mughal architecture during Akbar's reign. Some of the most famous examples of Mughal architecture built from red sandstone during this period include the Buland Darwaza at Fatehpur Sikri, the Agra Fort, and the Jama Masjid in Delhi. **So, option “a” is correct.**
- Trabeated construction is a type of construction that uses horizontal beams to support the weight of a building. It was a common technique used in Mughal architecture during Akbar's reign. Some of the most famous examples of Mughal architecture that use trabeated construction include the Panch Mahal at Fatehpur Sikri and the Tomb of Salim Chishti at Fatehpur Sikri. **So, option “b” is correct.**

- Dome used was of the “Lodi” type: The Lodi dome is a type of dome that is characterized by its double curvature and its lotus-shaped finial. It was a common type of dome used in Mughal architecture during Akbar's reign. Some of the most famous examples of Mughal architecture that use Lodi domes include the Humayun's Tomb in Delhi and the Tomb of Akbar at Sikandra. **So, option “c” is correct.**

