

# CUET-UG History Sample Paper - 16

Duration: 1 Hour

Maximum Marks: 250

## Instructions

- This paper contains a total of 50 Multiple Choice Questions.
- Each correct answer carries **+5 marks**.
- Each incorrect answer carries **-1 mark**.
- No negative marking for unattempted questions.

**Q1.** Which Harappan site has yielded evidence of a 'ploughed field', indicating the use of wooden ploughs?

- (A) Banawali
- (B) Kalibangan
- (C) Lothal
- (D) Mitathal

**Q2.** The discovery of Harappan seals in Mesopotamia led to the identification of which region as 'Meluhha'?

- (A) Dilmun (Bahrain)
- (B) Magan (Oman)
- (C) Indus Valley Region
- (D) Ancient Sumeria

**Q3.** Archaeologists have found a "Dockyard" at which Harappan site, proving their maritime trade capabilities?

- (A) Sutkagendor
- (B) Rangpur



- (C) Lothal
- (D) Balakot

**Q4.** What is the specific name of the script used in Harappan seals, which remains undeciphered?

- (A) Brahmi
- (B) Kharosthi
- (C) Boustrophedon/Logographic
- (D) Cuneiform

**Q5.** The 'Prayaga Prashasti', also known as the Allahabad Pillar Inscription, was composed by:

- (A) Banabhatta
- (B) Harishena
- (C) Ravikirti
- (D) Kalidasa

**Q6.** Who was the first ruler of the Gupta Empire to adopt the grand title of 'Maharajadhiraja'?

- (A) Sri Gupta
- (B) Ghatotkacha
- (C) Chandragupta I
- (D) Samudragupta

**Q7.** The *Periplus of the Erythraean Sea* is an ancient Greek text that provides information about:

- (A) Mauryan Administration
- (B) Indo-Roman trade routes



- (C) Gupta military conquests
- (D) Buddhist philosophies

**Q8.** In the Mauryan administration, the officer in charge of collecting land revenue was called:

- (A) Samaharta
- (B) Sannidhata
- (C) Sitadhyaksha
- (D) Akshapatalika

**Q9.** Under the *Manusmriti*, how many forms of marriage were recognized, out of which the first four were considered 'good'?

- (A) Four
- (B) Six
- (C) Eight
- (D) Ten

**Q10.** The system of 'Matriliny' (tracing descent through the mother) was practiced by which early Indian dynasty?

- (A) Mauryas
- (B) Kushanas
- (C) Satavahanas
- (D) Shakas

**Q11.** The *Dharmasutras* and *Dharmashastras* were compiled by Brahmanas primarily in which language?

- (A) Pali
- (B) Prakrit



- (C) Sanskrit
- (D) Ardhamagadhi

**Q12.** The term 'Mlechchhas' was used in ancient Sanskrit texts to refer to:

- (A) Highly learned Brahmanas
- (B) People who did not follow the Varna system or spoke non-Sanskrit languages
- (C) Royal officers of the Gupta Empire
- (D) Buddhist monks who traveled abroad

**Q13.** The *Stupa* at Sanchi was saved from being shipped to museums in Europe primarily due to the efforts of:

- (A) Alexander Cunningham
- (B) Shahjehan Begum and Sultan Jehan Begum
- (C) John Marshall
- (D) James Prinsep

**Q14.** What is the literal meaning of the word 'Therigatha', a part of the Sutta Pitaka?

- (A) Teachings of the King
- (B) Verses of Elder Nuns
- (C) Discipline of the Sangha
- (D) Life of the Buddha

**Q15.** The 'Lion Capital' found at Sarnath was originally part of a pillar erected by:

- (A) Chandragupta Maurya
- (B) Bimbisara
- (C) Ashoka
- (D) Harsha



- Q16.** Which of the following is the world's oldest functioning observatory found in India?
- (A) Jantar Mantar, Jaipur
  - (B) Ujjain Observatory
  - (C) Nalanda Solar Watch
  - (D) Vijayanagara Sun Temple
- Q17.** Al-Biruni's *Kitab-ul-Hind* is divided into how many chapters?
- (A) 50
  - (B) 80
  - (C) 100
  - (D) 120
- Q18.** Ibn Battuta was appointed as the 'Qazi' (Judge) of Delhi by which Sultan?
- (A) Alauddin Khalji
  - (B) Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq
  - (C) Muhammad bin Tughlaq
  - (D) Firoz Shah Tughlaq
- Q19.** The French traveler Francois Bernier arrived in India during the decline of which Mughal Emperor's reign?
- (A) Akbar
  - (B) Jahangir
  - (C) Shah Jahan
  - (D) Aurangzeb
- Q20.** Which traveler described the 'Slaves' in the Sultanate period, noting that female slaves were used for espionage?



- (A) Al-Biruni
- (B) Ibn Battuta
- (C) Jean-Baptiste Tavernier
- (D) Duarte Barbosa

**Q21.** The *Nalayira Divyaprabandham* is often described as the 'Tamil Veda'. It is a collection of hymns by:

- (A) Nayanars
- (B) Alvars
- (C) Lingayats
- (D) Siddhas

**Q22.** The Sufi concept of 'Ziyarat' refers to:

- (A) Holy war
- (B) Pilgrimage to the tombs of Sufi saints
- (C) Renunciation of the world
- (D) The practice of singing qawwalis

**Q23.** Who among the following Bhakti saints was a contemporary of the Mughal Emperor Jahangir and wrote *Ramcharitmanas*?

- (A) Kabir
- (B) Tulsidas
- (C) Surdas
- (D) Guru Nanak

**Q24.** The 'Khanqah' in Sufism represents:

- (A) The sacred book



- (B) The place of worship and hospice for Sufis
- (C) The lineage of the saint
- (D) The disciple of the master

**Q25.** The ruins of Hampi (Vijayanagara) were first brought to light in 1800 by:

- (A) John Marshall
- (B) Colin Mackenzie
- (C) Robert Sewell
- (D) James Burgess

**Q26.** Which Vijayanagara ruler belonged to the Tuluva dynasty and wrote the *Amuktamalyada*?

- (A) Deva Raya II
- (B) Krishnadeva Raya
- (C) Harihara I
- (D) Rama Raya

**Q27.** The 'Gopurams' of Vijayanagara temples are:

- (A) The main sanctum sanctorum
- (B) Massive royal gateways
- (C) Pillared halls for marriage
- (D) Water tanks for rituals

**Q28.** The battle of Talikota (Rakshasi-Tangadi), which led to the decline of Vijayanagara, took place in:

- (A) 1526
- (B) 1556



(C) 1565

(D) 1576

**Q29.** The Mughal term 'Zat' in the Mansabdari system indicated:

(A) The number of horses a rank holder had to maintain

(B) The personal rank and salary of the officer

(C) The judicial power of the officer

(D) The religious title of the officer

**Q30.** *Ain-i-Akbari* is the third book of which larger work?

(A) Akbarnama

(B) Baburnama

(C) Muntakhab-ut-Tawarikh

(D) Tarikh-i-Firishta

**Q31.** In the Mughal revenue system, the actual amount of revenue collected was known as:

(A) Jama

(B) Hasil

(C) Milkiyat

(D) Banjar

**Q32.** The 'Milkiyat' lands during the Mughal period were:

(A) Lands owned directly by the Emperor

(B) Private hereditary lands of the Zamindars

(C) Lands granted for religious purposes

(D) Fallow lands



**Q33.** The 'Ryotwari System' of land revenue was primarily introduced in which part of India?

- (A) Bengal Presidency
- (B) Madras and Bombay Presidencies
- (C) United Provinces
- (D) Punjab

**Q34.** The Santhal rebellion was led by two brothers named:

- (A) Birsa and Gaya
- (B) Sidhu and Kanhu
- (C) Tilka and Manjhi
- (D) Alluri and Sitarama

**Q35.** The 'Deccan Riots' of 1875 started in which district of Maharashtra?

- (A) Satara
- (B) Poona (Pune)
- (C) Ahmednagar
- (D) Sholapur

**Q36.** Under the British, the 'Lathiyals' were:

- (A) Revenue officers
- (B) Club-wielding strongmen maintained by Zamindars
- (C) Peasant leaders
- (D) Judicial clerks

**Q37.** The last Nawab of Awadh who was deposed by the British in 1856 was:



- (A) Saadat Ali Khan
- (B) Asaf-ud-Daula
- (C) Wajid Ali Shah
- (D) Birjis Qadr

**Q38.** Which city was the main center of the rebellion led by Maulvi Ahmadullah Shah?

- (A) Faizabad
- (B) Kanpur
- (C) Arrah
- (D) Delhi

**Q39.** The term 'Bell of Arms' frequently mentioned in 1857 records refers to:

- (A) A musical instrument
- (B) A place where weapons were stored
- (C) A signal for prayer
- (D) A boundary pillar

**Q40.** Who was the Governor-General of India when the 1857 revolt broke out?

- (A) Lord Dalhousie
- (B) Lord Canning
- (C) Lord Bentinck
- (D) Lord Lytton

**Q41.** Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa in which month and year?

- (A) January 1915



- (B) April 1916
- (C) August 1914
- (D) December 1915

**Q42.** The Rowlatt Act (1919) was described by Indians as:

- (A) The Gateway to Freedom
- (B) The Black Act
- (C) The Great Charter
- (D) The Peace Treaty

**Q43.** Who renounced his Knighthood in protest against the Jallianwala Bagh Massacre?

- (A) Mahatma Gandhi
- (B) Rabindranath Tagore
- (C) Motilal Nehru
- (D) C.R. Das

**Q44.** During the Civil Disobedience Movement, who led the salt march in the Vedaranyam coast of Tamil Nadu?

- (A) K. Kelappan
- (B) C. Rajagopalachari
- (C) Sarojini Naidu
- (D) Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan

**Q45.** The 'Two-Nation Theory' was formally proposed by the Muslim League in which session?

- (A) Karachi Session 1943
- (B) Lahore Session 1940



- (C) Lucknow Session 1916
- (D) Dhaka Session 1906

**Q46.** Who was the President of the Constituent Assembly of India?

- (A) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
- (B) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- (C) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (D) Vallabhbhai Patel

**Q47.** The 'Separate Electorates' were first introduced in India by the British through:

- (A) Morley-Minto Reforms 1909
- (B) Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms 1919
- (C) Government of India Act 1935
- (D) Indian Independence Act 1947

**Q48.** Who among the following was a woman member of the Constituent Assembly?

- (A) Sarojini Naidu
- (B) Hansa Mehta
- (C) Durgabai Deshmukh
- (D) All of the above

**Q49.** In the Constituent Assembly, who made a strong plea for the protection of tribal rights?

- (A) Jaipal Singh
- (B) N.G. Ranga
- (C) Dakshayani Velayudhan
- (D) Somnath Lahiri



**Q50.** The Constitution of India was signed by how many members of the Constituent Assembly?

(A) 284

(B) 299

(C) 389

(D) 250



**Detailed Solutions**

Q1.

**Solution****Concept:**

Agriculture was the primary occupation of the Harappan people. Archaeologists reconstruct their farming practices by examining charred seeds, animal bones, and terracotta models of agricultural tools.

The discovery of actual field markings provides the most direct evidence of how the land was prepared for cultivation.

**Solution:**

1. While terracotta models of the plough have been found at sites like Banawali and Cholistan, they only suggest the knowledge of the tool.
2. At **Kalibangan** in Rajasthan, archaeologists discovered a **ploughed field** dating back to the Early Harappan phase.
3. This field is unique because it features two sets of furrows crossing each other at right angles.
4. This specific pattern strongly indicates that the Harappans were capable of growing two different crops in the same field at the same time.
5. This discovery proves that the Harappans had moved beyond simple garden cultivation to organized, large-scale field agriculture using animal-drawn wooden ploughs.

**Final Answer:** The evidence of a ploughed field was found at Kalibangan.

**Answer: (B)**

Q2.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Indus Valley Civilisation was part of a vast international trade network.

Mesopotamian cuneiform tablets from the 3rd millennium BCE mention trading relations with several distant lands, using names that historians have attempted to link with modern geography.

**Solution:**

1. Mesopotamian texts refer to trade with three regions: Dilmun (modern Bahrain), Magan (modern Oman), and **Meluhha**.
2. Meluhha is described as a land of "exotic items" such as carnelian, lapis lazuli, copper, gold, and various types of wood.
3. These items are characteristic of the Indus Valley region. Furthermore, Mesopotamian texts mention a "Haja-bird" (peacock) from Meluhha.
4. Archaeological evidence, such as the presence of Harappan seals and weights in Mesopotamian cities like Ur, confirms this connection.
5. Therefore, historians and archaeologists identify **Meluhha as the Indus Valley Region**.

**Final Answer:** Meluhha is identified as the Indus Valley Region.

**Answer: (C)**



Q3.

**Solution****Concept:**

Maritime trade was a vital component of the Harappan economy.

The Harappans established settlements near the coast and major rivers to facilitate the movement of goods to and from Western Asia.

**Solution:**

1. **Lothal**, located in modern-day Gujarat, served as a major industrial center and port for the Harappan civilisation.
2. Excavations at Lothal revealed a massive, rectangular baked-brick structure measuring approximately 214 by 36 meters.
3. This structure has been identified as a **dockyard**, built to allow ships to enter during high tides from the nearby Gulf of Khambhat via a canal.
4. The dockyard shows a high level of engineering, including a spillway to maintain water levels.
5. This find confirms that Lothal was a key maritime hub where goods were collected and processed for export to the Persian Gulf and Mesopotamia.

**Final Answer:** The dockyard was found at Lothal.

**Answer: (C)**

Q4.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Harappan script is one of the most intriguing aspects of this civilisation.

It is found on thousands of seals, copper tablets, and tools, yet it remains one of the world's few major ancient scripts that have not been deciphered.

**Solution:**

1. The Harappan script consists of symbols that represent ideas, objects, or words rather than sounds (alphabets) or syllables.
2. Because it uses pictures or signs to represent meanings, it is technically termed **Logographic** or **Pictographic**.
3. The number of signs in the script ranges between 375 and 400, which is too many for an alphabet but typical for a logographic system.
4. It was written from right to left, as seen by the spacing on the seals.
5. While some scholars have noted it might be **Boustrophedon** (written in alternating directions), its fundamental nature is logographic.

**Final Answer:** The script is described as Logographic or Pictographic.

**Answer: (C)**



Q5.

**Solution****Concept:**

In ancient India, kings often employed poets to write elaborate accounts of their reigns, conquests, and virtues.

These inscriptions, known as \*Prashastis\* (meaning "in praise of"), are invaluable sources for political history.

**Solution:**

1. The 'Prayaga Prashasti' is a famous inscription found on an Ashokan pillar at Allahabad (Prayagraj).
2. It was composed in classical Sanskrit using the \*Champu\* style (a mix of prose and verse).
3. The author was \*\*Harishena\*\*, who served as the court poet and a high-ranking official (\*Mahadandanayaka\*) in the Gupta administration.
4. The inscription lists the military victories of Emperor \*\*Samudragupta\*\*, detailing how he unified various parts of India.
5. Because of the extensive details provided in this text, Samudragupta is often referred to as the 'Napoleon of India'.

**Final Answer:** The Prayaga Prashasti was composed by Harishena.

**Answer: (B)**

Q6.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Gupta Empire (c. 319–540 CE) marked a period of political unification in North India.

Early rulers used titles to signify their increasing power and status. As the dynasty moved from being local chieftains to imperial sovereigns, the titles became more ambitious.

**Solution:**

1. The first two rulers of the dynasty, Sri Gupta and Ghatotkacha, were referred to simply as \*Maharaja\*, suggesting they might have been feudatories or local kings.
2. \*\*Chandragupta I\*\*, the third ruler, is generally considered the first independent sovereign of the dynasty.
3. He greatly enhanced the prestige of the family by marrying Kumaradevi, a princess of the powerful Lichchhavi clan.
4. To mark his rise to imperial status, he adopted the title \*\*Maharajadhiraja\*\* (King of Kings).
5. This title distinguished him from his predecessors and established the Guptas as a major power in the Indian subcontinent.

**Final Answer:** Chandragupta I was the first to adopt the title Maharajadhiraja.

**Answer: (C)**



Q7.

**Solution****Concept:**

Ancient maritime history is reconstructed using texts written by sailors and merchants.

The *\*Periplus of the Erythraean Sea\** is a Greco-Roman "handbook" or "logbook" written in the 1st Century CE by an anonymous Greek-speaking sailor.

**Solution:**

1. The "Erythraean Sea" was the ancient name for the Red Sea, which included the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf.
2. The text provides a detailed account of the ports, trade routes, and goods exchanged between the Roman Empire and the East.
3. It specifically mentions Indian ports like *\*\*Barygaza\*\** (Bharuch) and *\*\*Muziris\*\**, detailing the export of pepper, pearls, and fine textiles.
4. It also mentions the import of Italian wine, copper, and tin into India.
5. Thus, it is a primary source for understanding the flourishing *\*\*Indo-Roman trade\*\** and the economic connectivity of the ancient world.

**Final Answer:** The text provides information about Indo-Roman trade routes.

**Answer: (B)**

Q8.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Mauryan Empire possessed a highly centralized and sophisticated administrative machinery. The *\*Arthashastra\** by Chanakya (Kautilya) describes a vast network of officials (*\*Adhyakshas\**) who managed the diverse economic and social affairs of the state.

**Solution:**

1. Land revenue was the mainstay of the Mauryan economy, and its collection was strictly monitored.
2. The *\*\*Samaharta\*\** was the chief collector of revenue and was responsible for maintaining the accounts of the state's income and expenditure.
3. In contrast, the *\*Sannidhata\** was the chief treasurer or the keeper of the royal stores.
4. The *\*Sitadhyaksha\** looked specifically after crown lands or state-owned farms.
5. Therefore, for the general collection of revenue from the entire kingdom, the *\*Samaharta\** held the highest administrative authority.

**Final Answer:** The officer in charge of revenue collection was the Samaharta.

**Answer: (A)**



Q9.

**Solution****Concept:**

The \*Manusmriti\*, compiled between 200 BCE and 200 CE, is a foundational text of Brahmanical social law.

It prescribes norms for social behavior, including the regulations surrounding domestic life and the institution of marriage.

**Solution:**

1. The text categorizes human unions into **eight distinct forms of marriage**.
2. These forms are: Brahma, Daiva, Arsha, Prajapatya, Asura, Gandharva, Rakshasa, and Paishacha.
3. The **first four forms** (Brahma, Daiva, Arsha, and Prajapatya) were considered 'dharmic' or virtuous because they involved the father giving away the daughter with religious rites.
4. The remaining four were considered 'adharmic' or inferior, as they involved elements like the sale of the bride, mutual consent without ritual, or abduction.
5. This classification highlights the Brahmanical emphasis on parental control and ritual purity in social alliances.

**Final Answer:** Eight forms of marriage were recognized.

**Answer: (C)**

Q10.

**Solution****Concept:**

While ancient Indian society was predominantly patrilineal (descent through the father), some dynasties exhibited unique practices regarding their lineage and social identification.

Metronymics (names derived from the mother) were sometimes used as a sign of respect or religious significance.

**Solution:**

1. The **Satavahana** rulers, who reigned over parts of Western India and the Deccan, are famous for their use of metronymics.
2. Famous kings like **Gautamiputra Satakarni** and Vashishtiputra Pulumayi took their names from their mothers (Gautami and Vashishti).
3. This practice of 'Matriliny' or identifying through the mother is a distinct feature of the Satavahana inscriptions.
4. However, it is important to note that the succession to the throne remained patrilineal (passed from father to son).
5. The use of metronymics likely reflected the high status of women within the royal family or a local cultural tradition that the dynasty adopted.

**Final Answer:** The system was practiced by the Satavahanas.

**Answer: (C)**



Q11.

**Solution****Concept:**

From roughly 500 BCE, Brahmanas began composing Sanskrit texts known as the *Dharmasutras* and *Dharmashastras*.

These texts were intended to serve as codes of social behavior and legal frameworks for the four *Varnas*.

The use of a specific language for these texts was a deliberate choice to maintain the sanctity and authority of the Brahmanical tradition.

**Solution:**

1. The *Dharmasutras* and *Dharmashastras* were written in **Sanskrit**, which was considered the language of the gods and the elite.
2. While the common people spoke various dialects of Prakrit or Pali, religious and legal scholars utilized Sanskrit to standardize social norms across the subcontinent.
3. These texts prescribed that the ideal society should be organized according to the *Varna* system, with Brahmanas at the top.
4. The most famous of these works is the *Manusmriti*, which was compiled between 200 BCE and 200 CE.
5. By writing in Sanskrit, the authors ensured that the knowledge remained within the circle of the learned, reinforcing their monopoly over religious and social legislation.

**Final Answer:** The texts were compiled primarily in Sanskrit.

**Answer: (C)**



Q12.

**Solution****Concept:**

In the ancient Brahmanical worldview, society was strictly divided based on the *Varna* system. Individuals or groups who existed outside this system or did not conform to the cultural and linguistic norms of the Indo-Aryan speakers were often labeled with derogatory terms.

**Solution:**

1. The term **'Mlechchhas'** was used in Sanskrit literature to categorize foreigners or indigenous groups who were perceived as culturally "other."
2. This label was primarily applied to people who did not speak Sanskrit or who did not follow the ritual requirements and social hierarchies of the *Dharmashastras*.
3. For example, during the Shaka and Kushana invasions, these "outsiders" were initially called *Mlechchhas*, though some were later integrated into the *Kshatriya* varna through social maneuvers.
4. The term carried a connotation of being "barbaric" or "unrefined" in the eyes of the Brahmanical elite.
5. It served as a linguistic boundary to separate the "civilized" inhabitants of *Aryavarta* from the rest of the world.

**Final Answer:** The term referred to people outside the Varna system or non-Sanskrit speakers.

**Answer: (B)**

Q13.

**Solution****Concept:**

The preservation of the Great Stupa at Sanchi is a rare success story in Indian archaeology. In the 19th century, European powers like the French and the British were keen on taking the beautifully carved gateways (toranas) of the Stupa to display in museums in Paris and London.

**Solution:**

1. The French sought permission to take the eastern gateway, while the British also expressed interest in acquiring parts of the monument.
2. The rulers of Bhopal, **'Shahjehan Begum'** and her successor **'Sultan Jehan Begum'**, played a pivotal role in preventing this.
3. They provided the necessary funding for the preservation of the ancient site and built a museum and a guesthouse where scholars like John Marshall could stay and work.
4. Instead of the original gateways, they allowed the Europeans to take carefully crafted plaster-cast copies, satisfying the foreigners while keeping the originals at their site.
5. It is because of their wise decisions and financial support that the Sanchi Stupa remains one of the best-preserved Buddhist monuments in India today.

**Final Answer:** The Stupa was saved due to the efforts of the Begums of Bhopal.

**Answer: (B)**



Q14.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Buddhist canon, the *Tripitaka*, contains various sections that provide insights into early Buddhist life.

One of the most unique parts of the *Sutta Pitaka* is the *Khuddaka Nikaya*, which includes a collection of verses that are remarkably personal and gender-specific.

**Solution:**

1. The term **'Therigatha'** literally translates to **'Verses of Elder Nuns'**.
2. It is a collection of 73 poems attributed to the *Bhikkhunis* (nuns) of the early Sangha.
3. These verses are significant because they provide a rare glimpse into the social and spiritual lives of women in ancient India.
4. In these poems, women describe their liberation from domestic drudgery, the struggles of family life, and their ultimate attainment of *Nirvana*.
5. It is the first known anthology of women's literature in India and serves as evidence of the spiritual agency of women in Buddhism.

**Final Answer:** It means Verses of Elder Nuns.

**Answer: (B)**

Q15.

**Solution****Concept:**

Buddhist architecture and art flourished under royal patronage, especially during the Mauryan period.

Columns or pillars were erected across the empire to spread the message of the Buddha and the Emperor's policies of *Dhamma*.

**Solution:**

1. The **'Lion Capital'** is a magnificent sculpture consisting of four Asiatic lions standing back to back on an elaborate circular abacus.
2. It was found at Sarnath, the site where the Buddha delivered his first sermon (the *Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta*).
3. This capital was originally the crowning piece of a massive polished sandstone pillar erected by the Mauryan Emperor **Ashoka**.
4. The sculpture features the *Dharmachakra* (Wheel of Law) and figures of an elephant, a bull, a horse, and a lion.
5. Recognizing its historical and spiritual importance, the Government of India adopted the Sarnath Lion Capital as the National Emblem of India in 1950.

**Final Answer:** The pillar was erected by Emperor Ashoka.

**Answer: (C)**



Q16.

**Solution****Concept:**

Ancient and medieval India had a rich tradition of astronomical and mathematical sciences. Various centers across the subcontinent were established to track celestial movements, calculate planetary positions, and determine time using solar instruments.

**Solution:**

1. While the Jantar Mantar observatories built by Sawai Jai Singh II in the 18th century are the most famous, the tradition of astronomical observation is much older.
2. **Ujjain** has historically been considered the "Greenwich of India" because the first meridian of Hindu longitude passed through it.
3. The **Ujjain Observatory** is considered one of the oldest functioning centers for astronomical study in the country.
4. It was a primary center for scholars like Varahamihira and Brahmagupta, who made significant contributions to Indian astronomy.
5. Even today, the instruments at the Ujjain observatory are used to calculate the *Panchang* (traditional Hindu calendar) and track the movement of the sun and planets.

**Final Answer:** The Ujjain Observatory is the oldest functioning one.

**Answer: (B)**

Q17.

**Solution****Concept:**

Al-Biruni was a polymath who accompanied Mahmud of Ghazni to India.

His objective was to provide an objective and encyclopedic account of Indian culture, religion, and science for the benefit of scholars in the Islamic world.

**Solution:**

1. Al-Biruni's masterpiece, *Kitab-ul-Hind* (also known as *Tahqiq-i-Hind*), is written in Arabic.
2. The book is known for its rigorous and systematic structure. Each chapter typically begins with a question, followed by a description based on Sanskrit traditions, and ends with a comparison to other cultures.
3. The work is remarkably comprehensive, consisting of **80 chapters**.
4. These chapters cover a wide range of subjects, including religious beliefs, social customs, weights and measures, iconography, and laws.
5. Because of its meticulous detail and lack of religious bias, it remains one of the most reliable external accounts of 11th-century India.

**Final Answer:** The book is divided into 80 chapters.

**Answer: (B)**



Q18.

**Solution****Concept:**

Ibn Battuta, a Moroccan traveler, arrived in India during the 14th century.

He was a scholar of Islamic law and was warmly welcomed at the court of the Delhi Sultanate, which often employed foreign scholars in high administrative and judicial positions.

**Solution:**

1. Ibn Battuta reached Delhi in 1333 during the reign of **Muhammad bin Tughlaq**.
2. The Sultan, impressed by Ibn Battuta's scholarship and travels, appointed him as the **Qazi** (Judge) of Delhi.
3. Ibn Battuta held this prestigious position for several years, though his relationship with the Sultan was occasionally strained.
4. At one point, he lost the Sultan's favor and was imprisoned, only to be later reinstated and sent as the Sultan's envoy to China.
5. His account in the *Rihla* provides a firsthand look at the judicial system and the eccentric personality of Muhammad bin Tughlaq.

**Final Answer:** He was appointed as Qazi by Muhammad bin Tughlaq.

**Answer: (C)**

Q19.

**Solution****Concept:**

European travelers often visited India to seek employment or document the wealth and customs of the Orient.

Francois Bernier, a Frenchman, spent twelve years in India and served as a physician to the Mughal court during a period of intense political transition.

**Solution:**

1. Bernier arrived in India in 1656, which was during the final years of **Shah Jahan's** reign.
2. He was a witness to the brutal war of succession among Shah Jahan's sons—Dara Shukoh, Shuja, Murad, and Aurangzeb.
3. Bernier eventually became the personal physician to Danishmand Khan, a noble in the Mughal court, and later had access to Emperor **Aurangzeb**.
4. His writings, titled *Travels in the Mughal Empire*, contrast the "despotic" East with the "civilized" West.
5. Since he arrived in 1656 and saw the transition of power, his work is essentially a record of the decline of Shah Jahan's era and the rise of Aurangzeb.

**Final Answer:** He arrived during the decline of Shah Jahan's reign.

**Answer: (C)**



Q20.

**Solution****Concept:**

Slavery was an integral part of the socio-economic and political landscape of the Delhi Sultanate. Travelers observed that slaves were not just used for domestic labor but also performed strategic roles in the administration and military.

**Solution:**

1. **Ibn Battuta** provided a detailed description of the slave market and the different types of slaves available in Delhi.
2. He noted that the Sultan maintained thousands of slaves, some of whom were highly skilled in music and dance.
3. Most interestingly, he recorded that **female slaves** were used by the Sultan for **espionage**.
4. These women were placed in the households of nobles and officials to report on their private conversations and potential conspiracies to the Sultan.
5. Ibn Battuta also mentioned that slaves were frequently given as gifts between the Sultan and his visitors, reflecting their status as commodities.

**Final Answer:** Ibn Battuta described the use of female slaves for espionage.

**Answer: (B)**

Q21.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Bhakti movement in South India was led by two groups of poet-saints: the Alvars (devotees of Vishnu) and the Nayanars (devotees of Shiva).

These saints composed hymns in the local Tamil language, making the divine accessible to all social classes and challenging the dominance of Sanskrit.

**Solution:**

1. The *Nalayira Divyaprabandham* is a monumental collection of 4,000 Tamil verses.
2. These verses were composed by the twelve **Alvars**, who traveled from shrine to shrine singing the praises of Lord Vishnu.
3. The collection was compiled in its current form in the 10th century by Nathamuni.
4. It is held in such high religious esteem that it is frequently referred to as the **'Tamil Veda'**, signifying that its spiritual authority is equal to that of the four Sanskrit Vedas.
5. This designation highlights the success of the Bhakti movement in elevating local vernacular literature to the status of sacred scripture.

**Final Answer:** It is a collection of hymns by the Alvars.

**Answer: (B)**



Q22.

**Solution****Concept:**

Sufism emphasized the spiritual connection between the devotee, the Sufi master (\*Pir\* or \*Sheikh\*), and the Divine.

Even after the death of a Sufi saint, their tomb (\*Dargah\*) was believed to be a source of spiritual grace (\*Barakat\*), leading to specific religious practices.

**Solution:**

1. The practice of **'Ziyarat'** refers to the act of **pilgrimage** to the tombs of Sufi saints.
2. It is based on the belief that the saint is still spiritually present and can act as an intercessor between the devotee and God.
3. People from all walks of life, including kings and commoners, performed Ziyarat to seek blessings, fulfill vows, or find spiritual peace.
4. A significant part of Ziyarat involved *Qawwali* (devotional music) and the distribution of food to the poor.
5. The most famous center for Ziyarat in India is the Dargah of Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti in Ajmer, which has attracted millions of pilgrims for centuries.

**Final Answer:** Ziyarat refers to pilgrimage to the tombs of Sufi saints.

**Answer: (B)**

Q23.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Nirguna and Saguna traditions of Bhakti co-existed in North India.

While some saints worshipped a formless God, others focused on the incarnations (\*Avatars\*) of Vishnu, particularly Rama and Krishna.

**Solution:**

1. **Tulsidas** was a prominent Saguna Bhakti saint who lived during the late 16th and early 17th centuries.
2. He was a contemporary of the Mughal Emperors Akbar and **Jahangir**.
3. His most celebrated work is the *Ramcharitmanas*, a retelling of the Ramayana in **Awadhi**, a dialect of Hindi.
4. By writing in the vernacular, Tulsidas made the story of Rama accessible to the common masses, which greatly increased the popularity of the Rama cult in North India.
5. His work remains one of the most influential texts in the Hindu religious tradition.

**Final Answer:** The saint was Tulsidas.

**Answer: (B)**



Q24.

**Solution****Concept:**

Institutional Sufism was organized around the master-disciple relationship.

To facilitate the spiritual training of disciples and provide a center for social service, Sufi orders established specific physical spaces.

**Solution:**

1. A **'Khanqah'** was a **hospice or community center** maintained by a Sufi order (**Silsila**).
2. It served as the residence of the Sufi master (**Sheikh**) and his family, as well as a lodging place for traveling disciples and visitors.
3. The Khanqah was a hub of activity where spiritual discussions, prayers, and community meals (**Langar**) took place.
4. It acted as a bridge between the spiritual world and the community, as the master would often mediate local disputes or provide counsel to those in need.
5. The Khanqahs played a crucial role in the spread of Islam and Sufi values in the Indian subcontinent.

**Final Answer:** The Khanqah represents the place of worship and hospice.

**Answer: (B)**

Q25.

**Solution****Concept:**

After the fall of the Vijayanagara Empire in 1565, the city of Vijayanagara fell into ruin and was eventually abandoned.

The memory of the empire lived on in the oral traditions of the local people as 'Hampi', but the physical ruins had to be scientifically documented by early British surveyors.

**Solution:**

1. **Colin Mackenzie**, an engineer and surveyor working for the East India Company, visited the site in **1800**.
2. He was the first to prepare a systematic map of the ruins at Hampi.
3. Mackenzie collected oral testimonies from the priests of the Virupaksha and Vitthala temples to identify the different parts of the city.
4. His work provided the foundation for all future archaeological and historical research on the Vijayanagara Empire.
5. Although he did not live to publish all his findings, his massive collection of manuscripts and maps remains a primary source for Southern Indian history.

**Final Answer:** The ruins were brought to light by Colin Mackenzie.

**Answer: (B)**



Q26.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Vijayanagara Empire was ruled by four successive dynasties: Sangama, Saluva, Tuluva, and Aravidu.

The Tuluva dynasty produced the empire's most iconic ruler, who was not only a brilliant military strategist but also a profound scholar and patron of literature.

**Solution:**

1. **Krishnadeva Raya** (reigned 1509–1529) belonged to the **Tuluva dynasty**.
2. His reign is considered the "Golden Age" of Vijayanagara, during which the empire reached its territorial and cultural peak.
3. He was a polyglot and a prolific writer; he composed the *Amuktamalyada* in **Telugu**, which is considered one of the five great Telugu epics (*Pancha Kavyas*).
4. The text describes the life of the Alvar saint Andal and also provides valuable insights into his views on statecraft and political economy.
5. He also wrote a Sanskrit play called *Jambavati Kalyanam*, demonstrating his mastery over multiple languages.

**Final Answer:** The ruler was Krishnadeva Raya.

**Answer: (B)**

Q27.

**Solution****Concept:**

The temple architecture of Vijayanagara reached new heights of grandeur.

As the power of the monarchs grew, they introduced specific architectural features to emphasize their imperial status and their role as protectors of the faith.

**Solution:**

1. One of the most striking features of the Vijayanagara temples is the **Gopuram** (or *Raya-gopuram*).
2. These are **massive royal gateways** that dwarf the central shrines (*Vimanas*) of the temples.
3. They were intended to signal the presence of the temple from a great distance and to showcase the wealth and power of the King (*Raya*).
4. Examples like the gopuram of the Virupaksha Temple or the Ekambaranathar Temple at Kanchipuram illustrate this trend.
5. These structures served as a visual reminder of the king's patronage and his dominance over the religious landscape.

**Final Answer:** Gopurams are massive royal gateways.

**Answer: (B)**



Q28.

**Solution****Concept:**

The decline of the Vijayanagara Empire was accelerated by a decisive military conflict between the empire and a combined alliance of the Deccan Sultanates (Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, and Golconda).

**Solution:**

1. The conflict was sparked by the diplomatic and military maneuvers of Rama Raya, who had been effectively ruling as the de facto head of Vijayanagara.
2. The two sides met at the **Battle of Talikota** (also known as the Battle of Rakshasi-Tangadi).
3. This historic battle took place in **1565**.
4. Despite having a larger army, Vijayanagara was defeated, Rama Raya was captured and executed, and the city of Vijayanagara was subsequently sacked and destroyed by the victorious Sultanates.
5. This event marked the end of the empire's dominance over Southern India, although the dynasty continued to rule from Penukonda and Chandragiri for several more decades.

**Final Answer:** The battle took place in 1565.

**Answer: (C)**

Q29.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Mughal administration was organized around the *Mansabdari* system, a unique civil-military hierarchy.

Every officer of the state was assigned a rank (*Mansab*) which was expressed by two numerical designations: *Zat* and *Sawar*.

**Solution:**

1. The term **'Zat'** served as an indicator of the officer's **personal rank and salary**.
2. It determined the position of the noble in the royal court's hierarchy—the higher the *Zat*, the more prestigious the noble's status.
3. The *Sawar* rank, on the other hand, indicated the number of cavalymen (*Sawar*) the officer was required to maintain for the state's military needs.
4. Together, these two numbers defined the officer's administrative weight and their financial entitlement from the state.
5. Akbar finalized this system to ensure that the military strength of the empire was tied directly to the loyalty and rank of its nobility.

**Final Answer:** *Zat* indicated the personal rank and salary of the officer.

**Answer: (B)**



Q30.

**Solution****Concept:**

The *Akbarnama* is the official chronicle of the reign of Emperor Akbar, written by his court historian and close friend Abu'l Fazl.

The work is divided into three major volumes, each serving a specific historical and administrative purpose.

**Solution:**

1. The first volume deals with Akbar's ancestors and the early years of his life.
2. The second volume records the events of Akbar's reign year by year until 1602.
3. The **third volume** is titled the ***Ain-i-Akbari*** (Institutes of Akbar).
4. The ***Ain*** is an encyclopedic administrative manual that provides exhaustive data on the empire's geography, revenue, administration, and cultural traditions.
5. It was intended to show the Mughal Empire as a harmoniously organized state where every detail was accounted for by the Emperor.

**Final Answer:** *Ain-i-Akbari* is the third book of the *Akbarnama*.

**Answer: (A)**

Q31.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Mughal state was a meticulous record-keeper of agricultural data to ensure the smooth flow of land revenue. In their terminology, they differentiated between the theoretical assessment of revenue and the actual revenue that reached the treasury.

**Solution:**

1. In the Mughal land revenue system, there were two distinct stages of revenue accounting: *Jama* and *Hasil*.
2. **Jama** was the amount assessed—the theoretical amount that the state expected to collect from a particular region based on its productivity.
3. **Hasil**, on the other hand, was the **actual amount of revenue collected** and deposited into the treasury.
4. Discrepancies between *Jama* and *Hasil* were common due to factors like local resistance, crop failure, or corruption among intermediaries.
5. The state constantly tried to minimize this gap by conducting regular surveys and audits of village accounts.

**Final Answer:** The actual revenue collected was known as Hasil.

**Answer: (B)**



Q32.

**Solution****Concept:**

While the Mughal Emperor was technically the owner of all land, the social reality included various forms of private property rights held by influential rural groups like the Zamindars.

**Solution:**

1. **Milkiyat** (derived from the word *Milk*, meaning property) referred to the private hereditary lands of the Zamindars.
2. These lands were cultivated by the Zamindars for their own personal benefit, often using hired labor or servile peasants.
3. The Zamindars had the right to sell, mortgage, or gift these lands at their will.
4. *Milkiyat* lands were distinct from the wider agricultural lands of the village from which the Zamindar merely collected revenue for the state.
5. These property rights were a major source of the Zamindars' social and economic power in the countryside.

**Final Answer:** Milkiyat lands were the private hereditary lands of Zamindars.

**Answer: (B)**

Q33.

**Solution****Concept:**

The British experimented with various land revenue models in India. In areas where there were no traditional powerful Zamindars (like in the South), they preferred to deal directly with the individual cultivators to maximize profit.

**Solution:**

1. The **Ryotwari System** was devised by Thomas Munro and Alexander Read.
2. Under this system, the revenue settlement was made directly between the state and the *Ryot* (peasant/cultivator).
3. The peasant was recognized as the owner of the land as long as they paid the revenue, which was usually fixed for a period of 20 to 30 years.
4. This system was primarily implemented in the **Madras and Bombay Presidencies**.
5. It was intended to eliminate intermediaries and protect the peasants, though in practice, the high revenue rates often led to extreme rural indebtedness.

**Final Answer:** The Ryotwari System was introduced in Madras and Bombay.

**Answer: (B)**



Q34.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Santhals were a tribal community who had been encouraged by the British to settle in the Rajmahal hills as sedentary farmers. However, they soon found themselves trapped by high revenue demands and exploitative moneylenders, leading to an armed uprising.

**Solution:**

1. The Santhal Rebellion (1855–56) was one of the most significant tribal revolts against British colonial rule and the *Zamindari* system.
2. The rebellion was led by two brothers, **Sidhu and Kanhu** Murmu.
3. They claimed that they had a divine mandate to free their land from the *Dikus* (outsiders/exploiters) and establish a Santhal Raj.
4. The rebels used traditional weapons like bows and arrows to fight the British forces.
5. Although the rebellion was brutally suppressed, it forced the British to create the 'Santhal Pargana' and pass special laws to protect tribal land.

**Final Answer:** The rebellion was led by Sidhu and Kanhu.

**Answer: (B)**

Q35.

**Solution****Concept:**

In the mid-19th century, the cotton boom during the American Civil War followed by a sudden crash led to immense distress among the peasants of the Deccan, who were heavily indebted to local moneylenders.

**Solution:**

1. The Deccan Riots of 1875 were a series of peasant uprisings against the *Sahukars* (moneylenders).
2. The movement began in the village of Supa, located in the **Poona (Pune)** district of Maharashtra.
3. The peasants attacked the shops and houses of moneylenders, burning the debt bonds and account books that were the symbols of their exploitation.
4. The riots quickly spread to other parts of Poona and Ahmednagar districts.
5. The intensity of the unrest led the British to pass the Deccan Agriculturists Relief Act in 1879 to prevent the alienation of peasant land to moneylenders.

**Final Answer:** The riots started in Poona (Pune) district.

**Answer: (B)**



Q36.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Permanent Settlement in Bengal created a hierarchy of power. At the top was the Company, followed by the Zamindars, and then the various grades of peasants. To maintain their authority and collect rent from often resistant villagers, Zamindars relied on a private force of enforcers.

**Solution:**

1. In the rural landscape of 19th-century Bengal, the Zamindars maintained a social and physical presence through their local agents and strongmen.
2. The **Lathiyals** were literally "men with sticks" (derived from *Lathi*, meaning a bamboo staff).
3. They were **club-wielding strongmen** employed by the Zamindars to intimidate recalcitrant peasants who refused to pay rent or to settle disputes with rival Zamindars.
4. The Lathiyals were a symbol of the extra-legal power that the landowning class exercised over the rural population.
5. During the Indigo revolt, these Lathiyals were often used by both the European planters and the local Zamindars to coerce the peasantry into submission.

**Final Answer:** Lathiyals were strongmen maintained by Zamindars.

**Answer: (B)**

Q37.

**Solution****Concept:**

The annexation of Awadh in 1856 was a turning point in the relationship between the British and the Indian princely states. It was seen as a breach of trust, as the Awadh dynasty had been a loyal subsidiary of the British for decades.

**Solution:**

1. **Wajid Ali Shah** was the last Nawab of Awadh, succeeding to the throne in 1847.
2. He was a great patron of the arts, particularly music, dance (Kathak), and poetry.
3. In 1856, Lord Dalhousie annexed Awadh on the pretext of "maladministration," claiming that the Nawab was incapable of governing.
4. Wajid Ali Shah was deposed and exiled to Garden Reach in Calcutta (Kolkata).
5. His removal was deeply mourned by his subjects; the city of Lucknow felt desolate, and the resentment among his soldiers (who formed a large part of the Bengal Army) became a major cause of the 1857 Revolt.

**Final Answer:** The last Nawab was Wajid Ali Shah.

**Answer: (C)**



Q38.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Revolt of 1857 was characterized by the leadership of diverse figures, including religious leaders who saw the British as a threat to their faith and social way of life.

**Solution:**

1. Maulvi Ahmadullah Shah was a prominent religious leader who preached an anti-British crusade.
2. He moved to **Faizabad** and began organizing the local population against British rule, predicting that the English "Raj" was about to end.
3. He became a legendary figure in the rebellion, known for his bravery and his ability to evade capture.
4. He fought alongside other leaders like Begum Hazrat Mahal of Lucknow and was a key figure in the defense of the region.
5. His influence was so great that the British government placed a reward of ₹ 50,000 for his capture.

**Final Answer:** His main center of rebellion was Faizabad.

**Answer: (A)**

Q39.

**Solution****Concept:**

Official military records and personal diaries from 1857 contain specific military terminology used by the East India Company's army. Understanding these terms is essential to reconstructing the events of the mutiny.

**Solution:**

1. In the cantonments of the Bengal Native Infantry, every regiment had specific buildings for security and storage.
2. The term **'Bell of Arms'** referred to a small, circular or semi-circular building used for the **storage of weapons (muskets and rifles)** and ammunition.
3. During the initial outbreaks of the mutiny (such as in Meerut on May 10), the first act of the sepoys was often to rush to the 'Bell of Arms' to seize weapons.
4. By taking control of the weapons, the mutineers effectively stripped the British officers of their authority and military advantage.
5. These structures were guarded by sepoys on duty, making them the primary targets during the early hours of the revolt.

**Final Answer:** It was a place where weapons were stored.

**Answer: (B)**



Q40.

**Solution****Concept:**

The transition of the Governor-Generalship from the expansionist Lord Dalhousie to his successor was a period of high tension. The new Governor-General inherited an empire on the brink of an explosion.

**Solution:**

1. Lord Dalhousie left India in 1856 after annexing numerous states through the Doctrine of Lapse and on grounds of misgovernance.
2. He was succeeded by **Lord Canning**, who took office as the Governor-General in early 1856.
3. It was during Canning's tenure that the **1857 Revolt** broke out in Meerut and spread across North India.
4. Canning is often credited for his "clemency" policy after the revolt, where he tried to restore order without resorting to indiscriminate mass executions of all rebels.
5. After the revolt, the Government of India Act 1858 was passed, and Lord Canning became the **first Viceroy** of India under the British Crown.

**Final Answer:** Lord Canning was the Governor-General in 1857.

**Answer: (B)**

Q41.

**Solution****Concept:**

Mahatma Gandhi's return to India from South Africa marked a transformative phase in the Indian nationalist movement. He brought with him the successful experience of *Satyagraha*, which he had developed while fighting racial discrimination.

**Solution:**

1. After spending roughly two decades in South Africa, Gandhi landed at Apollo Bunder in Bombay (Mumbai).
2. The date of his arrival was **January 9, 1915**.
3. In honor of this historic return, January 9 is now celebrated as *Pravasi Bharatiya Divas* in India.
4. Upon his return, he was not immediately involved in mass politics; instead, he spent time at the Sabarmati Ashram and traveled the country to understand the Indian masses.
5. His first major public appearance was at the opening of the Banaras Hindu University in 1916.

**Final Answer:** Gandhi returned to India in January 1915.

**Answer: (A)**



Q42.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Anarchical and Revolutionary Crimes Act of 1919, passed by the Imperial Legislative Council, gave the British government enormous powers to repress political activities.

**Solution:**

1. This law allowed the government to detain political prisoners without trial for up to two years. 2. It was widely condemned by Indian leaders as a violation of basic civil liberties. 3. The Act was popularly known as the '\*\*Black Act\*\*', a term popularized by Gandhi and other nationalists to highlight its oppressive nature. 4. The slogan "No Dalil, No Vakil, No Appeal" was used to describe the lack of legal recourse under this act. 5. The nationwide protest against this act led to the tragic Jallianwala Bagh Massacre in Amritsar.

**Final Answer:** The Rowlatt Act was known as the Black Act.

**Answer: (B)**

Q43.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Jallianwala Bagh Massacre on April 13, 1919, shocked the conscience of the nation and the world. Many Indian luminaries expressed their horror through symbolic acts of protest against the British government.

**Solution:**

1. The massacre involved General Dyer opening fire on a peaceful crowd, killing hundreds. 2. **Rabindranath Tagore**, the Nobel laureate, was deeply distressed by the inhumanity of the incident. 3. In a famous letter to the Viceroy, he stated that the time had come when "badges of honour make our shame glaring in the incongruous context of humiliation." 4. Consequently, he **renounced his Knighthood** (the title of 'Sir') in May 1919 as a symbolic act of protest. 5. This act helped internationalize the grievances of the Indian people against colonial brutality.

**Final Answer:** Rabindranath Tagore renounced his Knighthood.

**Answer: (B)**



Q44.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Dandi March of 1930 triggered salt satyagrahas across different parts of India. Local leaders organized similar marches to defy the British salt monopoly in their respective regions.

**Solution:**

1. While Gandhi marched to Dandi in Gujarat, **C. Rajagopalachari** (popularly known as Rajaji) organized a parallel march in the Madras Presidency. 2. He led a group of volunteers from Trichinopoly to the **Vedaranyam** coast. 3. On April 30, 1930, he and his followers broke the salt law by picking up salt from the shore. 4. This march was instrumental in mobilizing support for the Civil Disobedience Movement in Southern India. 5. Rajagopalachari was arrested shortly after, but the movement continued to gain momentum in the Tamil region.

**Final Answer:** C. Rajagopalachari led the salt march to Vedaranyam.

**Answer: (B)**

Q45.

**Solution****Concept:**

The demand for a separate Muslim state evolved significantly over the 1930s. It culminated in a formal political resolution that changed the trajectory of the freedom struggle toward partition.

**Solution:**

1. The Muslim League held its historic session in **Lahore** in March **1940**. 2. Under the leadership of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the League passed the "Lahore Resolution" (later known as the Pakistan Resolution). 3. The resolution demanded "Independent States" for Muslims in the North-Western and Eastern zones of India, where Muslims were in a numerical majority. 4. This was the first time the **'Two-Nation Theory'**—the idea that Hindus and Muslims were two distinct nations—was officially adopted as a goal by the League. 5. This resolution made the demand for Pakistan the central plank of the Muslim League's future negotiations.

**Final Answer:** The theory was proposed at the Lahore Session of 1940.

**Answer: (B)**



Q46.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Constituent Assembly of India was formed to draft the fundamental law of the land. It required a presiding officer to manage the debates and ensure the orderly functioning of the various committees.

**Solution:**

1. The first meeting of the Assembly took place on December 9, 1946, with Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha as the interim President. 2. Shortly after, **Dr. Rajendra Prasad** was elected as the permanent **President of the Constituent Assembly**. 3. His role was crucial in maintaining decorum during heated debates between members with conflicting ideological viewpoints. 4. While Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, Dr. Rajendra Prasad oversaw the entire Assembly. 5. He eventually became the first President of the Republic of India on January 26, 1950.

**Final Answer:** Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the President of the Constituent Assembly.

**Answer: (B)**

Q47.

**Solution****Concept:**

The British policy of "Divide and Rule" often manifested in constitutional reforms that separated Indian voters into religious categories. This system allowed voters of a specific religion to elect representatives from their own community.

**Solution:**

1. The **Morley-Minto Reforms of 1909** (officially the Indian Councils Act) introduced the concept of **Separate Electorates** for Muslims. 2. This move was intended to appease the Muslim elite and drive a wedge between the growing Hindu-Muslim political cooperation. 3. Lord Minto, the Viceroy, is often called the "Father of the Communal Electorate" because of this policy. 4. The system was later extended to Sikhs, Indian Christians, and Anglo-Indians by the 1919 and 1935 Acts. 5. Nationalists criticized this system, arguing it prevented the development of a unified Indian identity and eventually laid the seeds for partition.

**Final Answer:** Separate electorates were introduced via the 1909 Reforms.

**Answer: (A)**



Q48.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Constituent Assembly was an inclusive body that represented various sections of Indian society, including women, who played a significant role in drafting the social and gender-related clauses of the Constitution.

**Solution:**

1. There were 15 women members in the Constituent Assembly. 2. **Sarojini Naidu** was a prominent freedom fighter and the first Indian woman President of the Congress. 3. **Hansa Mehta** was a reformer who championed women's rights and was instrumental in changing the wording of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights from "all men" to "all human beings." 4. **Durgabai Deshmukh** was a veteran social worker from Andhra who served on the Steering Committee. 5. Since all these women contributed to the Assembly's deliberations, the correct option is 'All of the above'.

**Final Answer:** All of the mentioned women were members of the Assembly.

**Answer: (D)**

Q49.

**Solution****Concept:**

The Constitution-making process involved addressing the grievances of the "tribal" or Adivasi communities, who had suffered under colonial forest laws and land alienation.

**Solution:**

1. **Jaipal Singh**, a charismatic leader of the Adivasis and a former captain of the Indian hockey team, was a vocal member of the Constituent Assembly. 2. He famously stated that he was "not a Brahmana, nor a Kshatriya" but a proud Adivasi. 3. He made a strong plea for the **protection of tribal rights**, arguing that tribal people should be treated as original inhabitants of the land. 4. He demanded that tribal lands be protected from outsiders and that the Adivasis be given a say in their own development. 5. His advocacy contributed to the creation of the Fifth and Sixth Schedules of the Constitution, which provide for the administration of tribal areas.

**Final Answer:** Jaipal Singh made the plea for tribal rights.

**Answer: (A)**



Q50.

**Solution****Concept:**

The work of the Constituent Assembly concluded with a final ceremonial meeting where members formally endorsed the document that would govern the new nation.

**Solution:**

1. The Assembly took nearly three years (two years, eleven months, and eighteen days) to complete the Constitution. 2. The final session was held on January 24, 1950. 3. On this day, the Constitution was **\*\*signed by 284 members\*\*** of the Assembly who were present. 4. Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the first to sign, and it was also on this day that 'Jana Gana Mana' was officially adopted as the National Anthem. 5. The signing marked the formal transition of the drafted text into a binding legal covenant for the Republic.

**Final Answer:** The Constitution was signed by 284 members.

**Answer: (A)**



**Answer Key**

| Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans | Q  | Ans |
|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|
| 1  | B   | 2  | C   | 3  | C   | 4  | C   | 5  | B   |
| 6  | C   | 7  | B   | 8  | A   | 9  | C   | 10 | C   |
| 11 | C   | 12 | B   | 13 | B   | 14 | B   | 15 | C   |
| 16 | B   | 17 | B   | 18 | C   | 19 | C   | 20 | B   |
| 21 | B   | 22 | B   | 23 | B   | 24 | B   | 25 | B   |
| 26 | B   | 27 | B   | 28 | C   | 29 | B   | 30 | A   |
| 31 | B   | 32 | B   | 33 | B   | 34 | B   | 35 | B   |
| 36 | B   | 37 | C   | 38 | A   | 39 | B   | 40 | B   |
| 41 | A   | 42 | B   | 43 | B   | 44 | B   | 45 | B   |
| 46 | B   | 47 | A   | 48 | D   | 49 | A   | 50 | A   |

