

CUET-UG History Sample Paper-18

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 of the following statements regarding the Harappan drainage system is incorrect?

- (A) Every house was connected to the street drains.
- (B) The main channels were made of bricks set in mortar and were covered with loose bricks for cleaning.
- (C) Drainage systems were exclusive to larger cities like Mohenjodaro and were absent in smaller settlements.
- (D) For domestic waste water to flow into street drains, every house needed at least one wall along a street.

Q2. The discovery of a 'dockyard' at which Harappan site suggests that the civilization engaged in maritime trade?

- (A) Kalibangan
- (B) Lothal
- (C) Dholavira
- (D) Kot Diji

Q3. Which archaeologist was the first to use a 'stratigraphic' method for excavation in the Indus Valley, rather than digging along horizontal lines?

- (A) John Marshall
- (B) R.E.M. Wheeler



- (C) Alexander Cunningham
- (D) Daya Ram Sahni

Q4. The 'Pashupati' seal found at Mohenjodaro, depicting a figure surrounded by animals, has been interpreted by many scholars as an early form of:

- (A) Vishnu
- (B) Brahma
- (C) Proto-Shiva
- (D) Indra

Q5. Consider the following statements about the Mauryan Empire and identify the correct one:

- (A) Megasthenes was a Greek ambassador in the court of Ashoka.
- (B) The Arthashastra was primarily composed by Bindusara.
- (C) Ashoka used the Greek and Aramaic scripts for inscriptions in the north-western part of the subcontinent.
- (D) The Mauryan Empire was divided into six administrative provinces.

Q6. James Prinsep's contribution to Indian history in the 1830s was significant because he:

- (A) Excavated the site of Harappa for the first time.
- (B) Deciphered the Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts used in early inscriptions.
- (C) Founded the Archaeological Survey of India.
- (D) Translated the Bhagavad Gita into English.

Q7. The 'Prayag Prashasti' (Allahabad Pillar Inscription), which provides a detailed account of the conquests of Samudragupta, was composed by:

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



(D) Kalidasa

Q8. In the context of the Mahajanapadas, the term 'Oligarchy' or 'Gana/Sangha' referred to a state where:

- (A) Power was exercised by a single hereditary monarch.
- (B) Power was shared by a group of men, often collectively called rajas.
- (C) The administration was entirely handled by Buddhist monks.
- (D) There was no central authority, and villages were self-governing.

Q9. According to the Dharmasutras and Dharmashastras, 'Endogamy' refers to:

- (A) Marriage outside the unit (kin group/caste).
- (B) Marriage within a unit (kin group/caste/locality).
- (C) A man having several wives.
- (D) A woman having several husbands.

Q10. The critical edition of the Mahabharata, which involved comparing thousands of manuscripts, was completed under the leadership of:

- (A) B.B. Lal
- (B) V.S. Sukthankar
- (C) R.C. Majumdar
- (D) Max Muller

Q11. Which of the following categories of women were known to have access to property rights in rare cases, such as the Vakataka queen?

- (A) Prabhavati Gupta
- (B) Didda of Kashmir
- (C) Razia Sultan
- (D) Akkadevi



- Q12.** The concept of 'Therigatha', a collection of verses composed by elderly nuns, is a part of which Buddhist text?
- (A) Vinaya Pitaka
 - (B) Sutta Pitaka
 - (C) Abhidhamma Pitaka
 - (D) Dipavamsa
- Q13.** In Buddhist architecture, the 'Harmika' refers to:
- (A) The hemispherical mound of the stupa.
 - (B) The balcony-like structure above the mound, representing the abode of gods.
 - (C) The gateway of the stupa complex.
 - (D) The circular path for circumambulation.
- Q14.** The primary reason the Sanchi Stupa survived while the Amaravati Stupa did not is:
- (A) Sanchi was built with better quality stone.
 - (B) The rulers of Bhopal provided funds and protection for Sanchi, whereas Amaravati was looted by local rajas and British officials.
 - (C) Amaravati was destroyed by a natural disaster.
 - (D) Sanchi was hidden in a dense forest and discovered much later.
- Q15.** Which of the following is NOT one of the 'Three Jewels' (Triratna) of Jainism?
- (A) Right Faith
 - (B) Right Knowledge
 - (C) Right Conduct
 - (D) Right Meditation
- Q16.** The traveler Ibn Battuta, who visited India in the 14th century, described which Indian city as a vast city with a great population, the largest in India?



- (A) Agra
- (B) Delhi
- (C) Daulatabad
- (D) Lahore

Q17. According to Francois Bernier, a major difference between Mughal India and Europe was the absence of:

- (A) Religious tolerance
- (B) Private property in land
- (C) A standing army
- (D) International trade

Q18. The book 'Kitab-ul-Hind' was originally written in which language?

- (A) Persian
- (B) Arabic
- (C) Turkish
- (D) Urdu

Q19. Which traveler described the 'Paan' (betel leaf) and the 'Coconut' in great detail, expressing his amazement at these unfamiliar items?

- (A) Al-Biruni
- (B) Ibn Battuta
- (C) Francois Bernier
- (D) Duarte Barbosa
- (E)

Q20. The Alvars and Nayanars were Bhakti saints from South India who led movements against which of the following religious traditions?

- (A) Shaivism and Vaishnavism



- (B) Buddhism and Jainism
- (C) Islam and Christianity
- (D) Sikhism

Q21. The 'Nalayira Divyaprabandham' is a sacred anthology often described as the 'Tamil Veda'. It contains the compositions of:

- (A) The Nayanars
- (B) The Alvars
- (C) The Virashaivas
- (D) The Sufis

Q22. Who among the following was a female Alvar saint whose verses expressed her love for the deity Vishnu?

- (A) Karaikkal Ammaiyar
- (B) Andal
- (C) Mirabai
- (D) Akka Mahadevi

Q23. The 'Virashaiva' movement in Karnataka was led by which of the following individuals?

- (A) Ramanuja
- (B) Basavanna
- (C) Madhvacharya
- (D) Shankaracharya

Q24. The term 'Ziyarat' in the context of Sufism refers to:

- (A) Formal prayer five times a day.
- (B) Pilgrimage to the tombs of Sufi saints.
- (C) The practice of fasting during Ramadan.



(D) Distribution of wealth to the poor.

Q25. The 'Dargah' of Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti is located in which of the following cities?

(A) Delhi

(B) Ajmer

(C) Gulbarga

(D) Fatehpur Sikri

Q26. The 'Adi Granth', the holy scripture of the Sikhs, was compiled by which Guru?

(A) Guru Nanak Dev

(B) Guru Angad Dev

(C) Guru Arjan Dev

(D) Guru Gobind Singh

Q27. The ruins of Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by an engineer and antiquarian named:

(A) Colin Mackenzie

(B) Alexander Cunningham

(C) John Marshall

(D) James Prinsep

Q28. The Vijayanagara Empire was founded in 1336 by two brothers named:

(A) Krishna Deva Raya and Achyuta Deva Raya

(B) Harihara and Bukka

(C) Sadashiva Raya and Rama Raya

(D) Deva Raya I and Deva Raya II

Q29. The famous 'Lotus Mahal' and the 'Elephant Stables' are located in which zone of Vijayanagara?



- (A) Sacred Centre
- (B) Royal Centre
- (C) Urban Core
- (D) Suburban Settlements

Q30. Which of the following travelers visited the Vijayanagara Empire and was impressed by its fortification, noting seven lines of forts?

- (A) Nicolo de Conti
- (B) Abdur Razzaq
- (C) Afanasii Nikitin
- (D) Domingo Paes

Q31. Which of the following analytical observations regarding the "Lotus Mahal" and the "Hazara Rama Temple" is most accurate?

- (A) The Lotus Mahal was a central congregational hub for Buddhist monks living within the Royal Centre.
- (B) The Hazara Rama Temple was intended for the use of the entire population and featured scenes from the Mahabharata on its inner walls.
- (C) The Lotus Mahal, while named by British travelers, likely served as a council chamber where the king met his advisers.
- (D) The relief carvings on the Hazara Rama Temple walls primarily depicted the secular life of the Amara-nayakas rather than religious mythology.

Q32. The 'Mahanavami Dibba' was a massive platform in Vijayanagara used primarily for:

- (A) Storing grain during famines.
- (B) Housing the royal elephants.
- (C) Rituals and ceremonies during the ten-day Navaratri festival.
- (D) Guarding the entrance to the Royal Centre.



- Q33.** The deity 'Vitthala', worshipped in a major temple at Vijayanagara, was a form of which god?
- (A) Shiva
 - (B) Ganesha
 - (C) Vishnu
 - (D) Surya
- Q34.** The battle of Talikota (1565), which led to the decline of Vijayanagara, was fought between the empire and the combined forces of:
- (A) The Mughals and the Marathas.
 - (B) Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, and Golconda.
 - (C) The Portuguese and the Dutch.
 - (D) The Cholas and the Pandyas.
- Q35.** The term 'Kuduraichettis' in the Vijayanagara Empire referred to:
- (A) Local revenue officials.
 - (B) Horse merchants.
 - (C) Temple architects.
 - (D) Military commanders.
- Q36.** Which of the following was a major crop introduced to India from the New World (Americas) during the Mughal period?
- (A) Wheat
 - (B) Maize
 - (C) Rice
 - (D) Sugarcane
- Q37.** During the 16th and 17th centuries, the Mughal state used the 'Ayn-i-Akbari' as a tool for administrative regulation. In the context of the 'Pargana', what was the primary function of the 'Qanungo'?



- (A) He was the military commander responsible for suppressing local peasant uprisings.
- (B) He was the village headman responsible for the moral conduct of the ryots.
- (C) He was the keeper of revenue records at the Pargana level, maintaining local customs and land statistics.
- (D) He was a specialized merchant who converted crop-share into cash for the royal treasury.

Q38. In the Mughal land revenue system, land that was annually cultivated for each crop in succession and never allowed to lie fallow was called:

- (A) Polaj
- (B) Parauti
- (C) Chachar
- (D) Banjar

Q39. The 'Zat' and 'Sawar' ranks were the two components of which Mughal administrative system?

- (A) Dahsala system
- (B) Mansabdari system
- (C) Jagirdari system
- (D) Zamindari system

Q40. Under the Mughal empire, the term 'Jins-i-Kamil' referred to:

- (A) Coarse food grains.
- (B) Cash crops or 'perfect crops' like cotton and sugarcane.
- (C) Land that had been left fallow for five years.
- (D) Revenue collectors at the village level.

Q41. Which of the following statements analytically explains the emergence of the 'Jotedars' as a powerful class in the Bengal countryside by the late 18th century?



- (A) They were nomadic pastoralists who gained control over the grain trade through military force.
- (B) Unlike Zamindars, they lived in villages and exercised direct control over a considerable section of poor villagers and local trade.
- (C) They were British officials who purchased land in their own names during the sunset auctions.
- (D) They were appointed by the Mughal Emperor to oversee the collection of revenue from the Paharias.

Q42. The 'Santhal Rebellion' (1855-56) was a major tribal uprising against the zamindars and the colonial state. It took place in which of the following regions?

- (A) Awadh
- (B) Rajmahal Hills
- (C) Chota Nagpur Plateau
- (D) Gudem Hills

Q43. Lord Dalhousie's description of the Kingdom of Awadh as "a cherry that will drop into our mouth one day" reflected the British strategic intent. Which of the following was the immediate justification provided by the British for the annexation of Awadh in 1856?

- (A) The failure of Wajid Ali Shah to provide a male heir to the throne under the Doctrine of Lapse.
- (B) The direct involvement of the Nawab of Awadh in the Santhal Rebellion.
- (C) Allegations of "maladministration" and the claim that the Nawab was unable to govern the territory effectively.
- (D) The refusal of the Nawab to pay the subsidiary alliance arrears accumulated since 1801.

Q44. The 'Subsidiary Alliance' was a system used by the British to exercise control over Indian states without annexing them directly. It was devised by:

- (A) Lord Canning



- (B) Lord Wellesley
- (C) Lord Hastings
- (D) Lord Curzon

Q45. Mahatma Gandhi's first major public appearance in India after returning from South Africa was at the opening of which institution in 1916?

- (A) Sabarmati Ashram
- (B) Banaras Hindu University
- (C) Gujarat Vidyapith
- (D) Jamia Millia Islamia

Q46. The 'Dandi March' (1930) was a protest specifically directed against which colonial law?

- (A) The Rowlatt Act
- (B) The Salt Law
- (C) The Forest Act
- (D) The Vernacular Press Act

Q47. During the Second Round Table Conference in London (1931), Mahatma Gandhi's claim to represent all of India was challenged by which of the following groups/leaders?

I. The Muslim League, claiming they represented the interests of the Muslim minority. II. The Princes, claiming that the Congress had no stake in the territories of the Princely States. III. B.R. Ambedkar, claiming that the Congress and Gandhi did not represent the "Lower Castes."

- (A) I and II only
- (B) II and III only
- (C) I and III only
- (D) I, II, and III



- Q48.** The 'Objectives Resolution', which outlined the guiding principles of the Indian Constitution, was moved in the Constituent Assembly by:
- (A) B.R. Ambedkar
 - (B) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - (C) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
 - (D) Rajendra Prasad
- Q49.** In the Constituent Assembly debates, who made a powerful plea for 'Separate Electorates' for Muslims, which was strongly opposed by most members?
- (A) B. Pocker Bahadur
 - (B) Maulana Hasrat Mohani
 - (C) Muhammad Ali Jinnah
 - (D) Liaquat Ali Khan
- Q50.** The Constitution of India was formally signed and came into effect on January 26, 1950. This date was chosen to commemorate:
- (A) The birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
 - (B) The anniversary of the 'Purna Swaraj' declaration of 1930.
 - (C) The end of the Second World War.
 - (D) The date of the First War of Independence.



Detailed Solutions**Q1.****Solution****Concept:**

The Harappan civilization is known for its sophisticated civil engineering. One of the most remarkable aspects was the drainage system, which suggests a high degree of planning. The streets were laid out in a grid pattern, and the infrastructure was built in a specific sequence to ensure efficient waste management.

Solution:

1. Archaeological evidence from Mohenjodaro shows that the drainage system was not an afterthought but a primary part of the city's layout. 2. The process involved laying out the streets and drains first, and only then constructing houses along these pre-defined lines. 3. To ensure hygiene and the flow of waste, every household had to connect its internal drains to the street drains, necessitating at least one shared wall with the street. 4. While larger cities had more elaborate systems, even smaller settlements like Lothal featured drains made of baked bricks, proving that this was a standardized feature of the civilization, not an exclusive luxury.

Final Answer: Drainage systems were exclusive to larger cities like Mohenjodaro and were absent in smaller settlements.

Answer: (C)**Q2.****Solution****Concept:**

Lothal, located in Gujarat, served as a vital industrial center and a port for the Harappan people. Its proximity to the Gulf of Khambhat allowed for extensive trade networks, reaching as far as Mesopotamia and Oman.

Solution:

1. The most significant discovery at Lothal is a massive brick basin, which has been identified as a dockyard. 2. This structure was designed to allow boats and ships to enter through an inlet channel, controlled by the tides. 3. The presence of this dockyard, along with Mesopotamian seals and Persian Gulf seals found at the site, confirms that Lothal was a major hub for maritime commerce. 4. Other sites like Kalibangan are known for ploughed fields, and Dholavira is known for water reservoirs, but Lothal remains unique for its maritime infrastructure.

Final Answer: Lothal

Answer: (B)

Q3.

Solution**Concept:**

The history of Indian archaeology saw a major shift in methodology in the 1940s. Before this period, excavations often ignored the natural layers of the earth, leading to the loss of valuable chronological data.

Solution:

1. Early excavators like John Marshall tended to excavate along regular horizontal units, measuring all artifacts found at the same level as belonging to the same period. 2. R.E.M. Wheeler, who became Director-General of the ASI in 1944, pointed out that this ignored the stratigraphy (the study of layers) of the site. 3. Wheeler insisted that it was necessary to follow the stratigraphy of the mound rather than dig mechanically along horizontal lines. 4. This scientific approach allowed for a much more accurate dating of artifacts and a better understanding of the different phases of Harappan occupation.

Final Answer: R.E.M. Wheeler

Answer: (B)

Q4.

Solution**Concept:**

The religious beliefs of the Harappans are reconstructed through seals, figurines, and stone structures. One of the most famous seals depicts a male figure seated in a yogic posture, sometimes referred to as the "Pashupati" seal.

Solution:

1. The seal shows a central figure seated cross-legged, surrounded by animals like an elephant, a tiger, a rhinoceros, and a buffalo, with two deer below his seat. 2. Many scholars, including John Marshall, identified this figure as "Proto-Shiva"—an early form of the Hindu deity Shiva, who is also known as Pashupati (Lord of Animals). 3. The figure is often depicted with horns or a headdress, which further aligns with later iconographic representations of Shiva. 4. However, some modern archaeologists suggest the figure might represent a shaman or a different local deity, as the concept of "Pashupati" in later Vedic texts does not perfectly match this depiction.

Final Answer: Proto-Shiva

Answer: (C)



Q5.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mauryan Empire (c. 321–185 BCE) was the first major empire in India. Our knowledge of it comes from diverse sources: Greek accounts, the Arthashastra, Buddhist literature, and royal inscriptions.

Solution:

1. Megasthenes was indeed a Greek ambassador, but he was in the court of Chandragupta Maurya, the founder of the empire, not Ashoka. 2. The *Arthashastra* is attributed to Kautilya (Chanakya), the minister of Chandragupta, not Bindusara. 3. Ashoka's inscriptions are found throughout the subcontinent. While most are in Prakrit (Brahmi script), those in the northwest (like Kandahar) were written in Greek and Aramaic to ensure the local population could understand the message. 4. The empire had five major political centers: the capital Pataliputra and the provincial centers of Taxila, Ujjayini, Tosali, and Suvarnagiri.

Final Answer: Ashoka used the Greek and Aramaic scripts for inscriptions in the northwestern part of the subcontinent.

Answer: (C)

Q6.

Solution**Concept:**

The decipherment of ancient scripts is a turning point in historiography. For centuries, the Ashokan pillars and inscriptions remained a mystery until the 19th century when European scholars began correlating Greek and Indian scripts.

Solution:

1. James Prinsep was an officer in the mint of the East India Company and a founding editor of the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. 2. In 1838, he successfully deciphered Brahmi, the script used in the earliest inscriptions and coins. He also deciphered Kharosthi, used in the northwest. 3. He identified that the "Piyadassi" (meaning pleasant to behold) mentioned in the inscriptions referred to King Ashoka. 4. This breakthrough allowed historians to reconstruct the lineage of major Indian dynasties and provided a chronological framework for ancient Indian history that was previously missing.

Final Answer: Deciphered the Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts used in early inscriptions.

Answer: (B)



Q7.

Solution**Concept:**

The Gupta period is often characterized by its "Prashastis" (eulogies). These were inscriptions composed in praise of kings, usually by their court poets. While they are highly stylized and exaggerate achievements, they provide invaluable historical data.

Solution:

1. The *Prayag Prashasti*, also known as the Allahabad Pillar Inscription, is a unique document as it was inscribed on an existing Ashokan pillar. 2. It was composed by Harishena, who was the *mahadandanayaka* (chief judicial officer) and court poet of Samudragupta. 3. The inscription is written in classical Sanskrit using the *Champu* style (a mix of prose and poetry). 4. It lists the different categories of rulers conquered by Samudragupta, such as those of Aryavarta, Dakshinapatha, and the forest tribes, helping historians map the extent of the Gupta Empire.

Final Answer: Harishena

Answer: (B)

Q8.

Solution**Concept:**

By the 6th century BCE, North India saw the rise of sixteen major states known as Mahajanapadas. While many were monarchies, some followed a different political structure known as *Gana* or *Sangha*.

Solution:

1. In a monarchy, a single king holds absolute power. In contrast, a *Gana* or *Sangha* was an oligarchy where power was shared by a group of men. 2. Each of these men was known as a *raja*. Decisions were often made through discussion and consensus in assemblies. 3. Famous examples include the Vajji confederacy. Both Vardhamana Mahavira (Jainism) and Gautama Buddha (Buddhism) belonged to such oligarchic clans (Jnatrika and Sakya clans, respectively). 4. These states often controlled resources like land collectively, rather than through individual private ownership.

Final Answer: Power was shared by a group of men, often collectively called rajas.

Answer: (B)



Q9.

Solution**Concept:**

The Dharmasutras and Dharmashastras (compiled c. 500 BCE – 500 CE) laid out the social codes and "ideal" forms of marriage for the Brahmanical society. They recognized eight forms of marriage, focusing heavily on kinship rules.

Solution:

1. Kinship rules were designed to maintain the purity of the lineage and social hierarchy. 2. Endogamy is the practice of marrying within one's own social category, such as a kin group, caste, or people living in the same locality. 3. In contrast, Exogamy refers to marrying outside the unit (specifically outside the *Gotra*). 4. While the Brahmanical texts strictly recommended Exogamy regarding the *Gotra*, Endogamy remained a common social practice within the larger caste (Jati) framework.

Final Answer: Marriage within a unit (kin group/caste/locality).

Answer: (B)

Q10.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mahabharata is a dynamic text that evolved over centuries. To understand its "original" or core message, 20th-century scholars embarked on a massive philological task to create a standardized version.

Solution:

1. The project to prepare a critical edition began in 1919 at the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute in Pune. 2. It was led by the famous Sanskrit scholar V.S. Sukthankar. 3. The method involved comparing verses from manuscripts written in scripts like Kashmiri, Malayalam, Bengali, and Devanagari. 4. The team selected verses that were common to all versions and included regional variations in footnotes. This allowed historians to see how the epic changed as it spread across different parts of India.

Final Answer: V.S. Sukthankar

Answer: (B)



Q11.

Solution**Concept:**

According to Brahmanical texts like the Dharmashastras, gender was a significant factor in determining access to resources. Generally, paternal estate was to be divided equally among sons after the death of the parents, with a special share for the eldest. Women were generally not supposed to claim a share of these resources.

Solution:

1. While the general rule restricted women's access to land and cattle, epigraphic and textual evidence suggests exceptions, particularly among the ruling elites. 2. Prabhavati Gupta was the daughter of Chandragupta II, one of the most important rulers in early Indian history. She was married into the ruling family of the Vakatakas. 3. Inscriptions show that Prabhavati had access to resources such as land, which she granted to Brahmanas. 4. This is a significant deviation from the Dharmashastras, suggesting that while legal texts were prescriptive, practice varied, and royal women could occasionally exercise independent economic power.

Final Answer: Prabhavati Gupta

Answer: (A)

Q12.

Solution**Concept:**

The Buddhist canon, known as the Tripitaka (Three Baskets), was compiled after the death of the Buddha to preserve his teachings and the rules of the monastic order.

Solution:

1. The *Sutta Pitaka* is the collection of the Buddha's teachings or discourses. It is divided into various sections or *Nikayas*. 2. The *Therigatha* is a unique part of the *Khuddaka Nikaya* (within the Sutta Pitaka). It consists of 73 poems composed by *theris* (senior nuns). 3. These verses provide a rare glimpse into the social and spiritual experiences of women in early Buddhism, describing their liberation from worldly struggles. 4. Other texts like the *Vinaya Pitaka* focus on monastic discipline, while the *Abhidhamma Pitaka* deals with philosophical matters.

Final Answer: Sutta Pitaka

Answer: (B)



Q13.

Solution**Concept:**

The architectural evolution of the stupa reflected the Buddhist conception of the universe. From a simple semi-circular mound of earth (anda), it evolved into a complex stone structure with symbolic components.

Solution:

1. Above the *anda* (the hemispherical mound) was the *harmika*. It is a balcony-like structure that was considered the symbolic "abode of the gods." 2. Arising from the *harmika* was a mast called the *yashti*, which was often surmounted by a *chhatra* or umbrella. 3. Around the mound was the *vedika* (railing), which separated the sacred space from the secular world. 4. The gateways or *toranas* were lavishly carved and installed at the four cardinal points, representing the entry into the spiritual path.

Final Answer: The balcony-like structure above the mound, representing the abode of gods.

Answer: (B)

Q14.

Solution**Concept:**

The preservation of heritage sites often depends on a combination of chance, geography, and the political will of local or colonial authorities. The contrasting fates of Sanchi and Amaravati serve as a key case study in Indian archaeology.

Solution:

1. Amaravati was discovered earlier (1796) than Sanchi (1818). At that time, the value of preserving monuments *in situ* (on-site) was not well understood. 2. Local rajas used stones from Amaravati to build houses, and British officials carried away its exquisite relief panels to museums in Calcutta, London, and Madras. 3. By the time Sanchi was being studied, archaeologists like John Marshall argued for keeping artifacts at the site. 4. Crucially, the Begums of Bhopal (Shahjehan Begum and Sultan Jehan Begum) provided significant financial grants for the preservation of Sanchi and funded a museum and guesthouse there, ensuring the structure remained intact.

Final Answer: The rulers of Bhopal provided funds and protection for Sanchi, whereas Amaravati was looted by local rajas and British officials.

Answer: (B)



Q15.

Solution**Concept:**

Jainism emphasizes that the entire world is animated and that liberation from the cycle of rebirth can be achieved through a specific path. This path is defined by the "Three Jewels" or *Triratna*.

Solution:

1. The path to liberation in Jainism consists of three pillars: Right Faith (*Samyak Darshana*), Right Knowledge (*Samyak Jnana*), and Right Conduct (*Samyak Charitra*). 2. "Right Meditation," while an important practice within Jainism to control the senses, is not technically listed as one of the formal *Triratnas*. 3. Together, these three jewels are intended to help a practitioner shed the accumulation of karma. 4. This is often accompanied by the five great vows: not to kill, not to steal, not to lie, to observe celibacy, and to abstain from possessing property.

Final Answer: Right Meditation

Answer: (D)

Q16.

Solution**Concept:**

Ibn Battuta, a Moroccan traveler who arrived in India during the reign of Muhammad bin Tughlaq, provided a vibrant account of Indian urban life. He viewed cities as centers of opportunity for those with drive and resources.

Solution:

1. Ibn Battuta was highly impressed by the scale of Indian cities. He described Delhi as a vast city with a great population, the largest in India, and possessing a formidable wall. 2. He noted that Delhi (specifically the four cities of Delhi, Siri, Tughlaqabad, and Jahanpanah) was a major center of culture and trade. 3. Interestingly, he also praised Daulatabad in Maharashtra, claiming it was no less than Delhi in size and importance. 4. However, in his overall assessment of the subcontinent, Delhi was consistently highlighted as the primary metropolis of the Sultanate.

Final Answer: Delhi

Answer: (B)



Q17.

Solution**Concept:**

Francois Bernier, a French physician and traveler, stayed in India for twelve years during the Mughal era. His writings were often comparisons between the "East" and the "West," frequently portraying Europe as superior based on socio-economic structures.

Solution:

1. Bernier's most fundamental thesis was the absence of private property in land in Mughal India. 2. He believed that the Mughal Emperor owned all the land and distributed it among his nobles, which meant it could not be inherited by their children. 3. According to Bernier, this led to a lack of investment in land improvement, causing the decay of agriculture and the impoverishment of the peasantry. 4. He argued that the existence of private property in Europe led to a stable middle class and better social conditions, whereas India consisted only of "a few extremely rich and a vast number of extremely poor."

Final Answer: Private property in land

Answer: (B)

Q18.

Solution**Concept:**

Al-Biruni was a scholar who valued precision and linguistic accuracy. When he accompanied Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni to India, he spent years studying Sanskrit and Indian philosophy.

Solution:

1. Al-Biruni wrote his masterpiece, *Kitab-ul-Hind*, in Arabic. 2. Arabic was the language of scholarship and science in the Islamic world during the 11th century. 3. The book is characterized by its simple and lucid style, despite dealing with complex subjects like metrology, astronomy, and Brahmanical law. 4. His choice of Arabic allowed his findings to be shared with scholars across the Middle East and Central Asia.

Final Answer: Arabic

Answer: (B)



Q19.

Solution**Concept:**

Travelers often focus on the "exotic" or unfamiliar aspects of a new culture. For 14th-century travelers coming from the arid regions of North Africa, the lush vegetation of India was a source of great wonder.

Solution:

1. Ibn Battuta devoted entire sections of his travelogue, the *Rihla*, to describing plants that were unknown to his readers in the West. 2. He described the coconut as looking like a human head, noting that the fiber was used for making ropes and the milk for food. 3. He was equally fascinated by the 'Paan' (betel leaf), explaining how it was grown like a vine and consumed with betel nut and lime for its digestive and stimulant properties. 4. These detailed botanical descriptions were intended to provide a vivid picture of the Indian environment to his Moroccan audience.

Final Answer: Ibn Battuta

Answer: (B)

Q20.

Solution**Concept:**

The Bhakti movement in South India (c. 6th–9th centuries CE) saw the rise of poet-saints who preached personal devotion to God. This movement was characterized by its protest against social hierarchies and rival religious traditions.

Solution:

1. The Alvars (devotees of Vishnu) and Nayanars (devotees of Shiva) traveled from place to place singing hymns in Tamil. 2. One of the major features of their movement was a strong critique of Buddhism and Jainism. 3. These "heterodox" traditions had gained significant royal patronage and social influence in South India. 4. The Bhakti saints sought to reclaim this influence by emphasizing a direct, emotional connection with Hindu deities, often debating with Buddhist and Jaina scholars to win back followers and state support.

Final Answer: Buddhism and Jainism

Answer: (B)



Q21.

Solution**Concept:**

The Alvars and Nayanars played a crucial role in the development of the Bhakti tradition in Tamil Nadu. To preserve their hymns, which were considered as sacred as the Vedas, specific compilations were made by later scholars.

Solution:

1. The *Nalayira Divyaprabandham* is a compilation of 4,000 hymns composed by the twelve Alvars (Vaishnava saints). 2. It was compiled in its present form by Nathamuni in the 9th-10th century. 3. The religious significance of this text was so high that it was frequently referred to as the "Tamil Veda," claiming for it the same divine authority as the Sanskrit Vedas. 4. In contrast, the hymns of the Nayanars (Shaiva saints) were compiled in a collection known as the *Tevaram*.

Final Answer: The Alvars

Answer: (B)

Q22.

Solution**Concept:**

The Bhakti movement was inclusive and saw the participation of several women saints who challenged the patriarchal norms of their time by abandoning their worldly duties to devote themselves to their respective deities.

Solution:

1. Andal was a famous female Alvar saint. Her compositions are widely sung and cherished in South India. 2. She saw herself as the beloved of Lord Vishnu (specifically the form of Ranganatha); her verses express her deep yearning and love for him. 3. Another contemporary was Karaikkal Ammaiyar, a devotee of Shiva (Nayanar tradition), who adopted a path of extreme asceticism. 4. While Mirabai (devotee of Krishna) and Akka Mahadevi (devotee of Shiva) were also prominent female saints, they belonged to different periods and regions.

Final Answer: Andal

Answer: (B)



Q23.

Solution**Concept:**

In the 12th century, Karnataka witnessed a new religious movement that challenged the caste system and the theory of rebirth. This movement was led by a group known as the Virashaivas (heroes of Shiva) or Lingayats (wearers of the linga).

Solution:

1. The movement was led by Basavanna, who was initially a minister in the court of a Kalachuri king. 2. His followers, the Lingayats, worship Shiva in his manifestation as a linga, usually worn in a small silver case on a loop strung over the left shoulder. 3. They questioned the authority of the Vedas and the Brahmanical social order, specifically the ideas of "pollution" associated with certain caste groups. 4. They also encouraged social practices that were disapproved of in Dharmashastras, such as post-puberty marriage and the remarriage of widows.

Final Answer: Basavanna

Answer: (B)

Q24.

Solution**Concept:**

Sufism emphasized the mystical side of Islam, focusing on the relationship between the individual and God through the mediation of a spiritual guide (Pir/Shaiikh). Over time, the burial sites of these saints became major centers of devotion.

Solution:

1. *Ziyarat* literally means "visiting." In the Sufi tradition, it refers to the practice of making a pilgrimage to the *dargah* (tomb-shrine) of a Sufi saint. 2. This practice is based on the belief that the saint, upon death, becomes united with God (*visal*) and is thus closer to Him than ever before. 3. People believe the saint can act as an intermediary, and seeking their blessings (*barakat*) can solve worldly and spiritual problems. 4. *Ziyarat* is often accompanied by the performance of *Qawwali* (mystical music) to evoke a state of spiritual ecstasy.

Final Answer: Pilgrimage to the tombs of Sufi saints.

Answer: (B)



Q25.

Solution**Concept:**

The Chishti *silsila* was one of the most influential Sufi orders in India. Among the various Chishti saints, Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti, also known as 'Gharib Nawaz' (Comforter of the Poor), is perhaps the most revered.

Solution:

1. Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti settled in Ajmer (Rajasthan) in the late 12th century. 2. His *dargah* became a major center of *Ziyarat* due to his reputation for spiritual piety and his role as the founder of the Chishti order in India. 3. Even Mughal emperors like Akbar visited this shrine many times (Akbar visited 14 times) to pray for victories or the birth of sons. 4. The shrine remains a symbol of communal harmony, attracting devotees from all religions.

Final Answer: Ajmer

Answer: (B)

Q26.

Solution**Concept:**

The *Guru Granth Sahib* (or *Adi Granth*) is the central religious scripture of Sikhism. It is not just a book but is regarded by Sikhs as the final, sovereign, and eternal living Guru. The compilation process was a major effort to consolidate the spiritual hymns of the Gurus and other saints.

Solution:

1. The first version of the holy book, known as the *Adi Granth*, was compiled by the fifth Sikh Guru, Guru Arjan Dev, in 1604. 2. He collected the hymns (*Gurbani*) of the previous four Gurus and added his own compositions. 3. To emphasize the universal nature of spirituality, he also included the works of other Bhakti and Sufi saints like Baba Farid, Ravidas, and Kabir. 4. Later, Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru, added the compositions of Guru Tegh Bahadur and declared the scripture as the eternal Guru of the Sikhs, after which it became known as the *Guru Granth Sahib*.

Final Answer: Guru Arjan Dev

Answer: (C)



Q27.

Solution**Concept:**

The ruins of Hampi, the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire, are a UNESCO World Heritage site. Its rediscovery in the modern era marked the beginning of intensive archaeological and historical research into the "City of Victory."

Solution:

1. In 1800, Colonel Colin Mackenzie, an engineer and surveyor working for the East India Company, brought the ruins of Hampi to light. 2. Mackenzie was a noted antiquarian who prepared the first survey map of the site. 3. Much of his initial information was based on the memories of the priests of the Virupaksha temple and the shrine of Pampadevi. 4. His work laid the foundation for later scholars and photographers who documented the city's complex fortification and unique architectural style.

Final Answer: Colin Mackenzie

Answer: (A)

Q28.

Solution**Concept:**

The Vijayanagara Empire was established during a period of political instability in South India. It served as a bastion of Hindu culture and administration for over two centuries.

Solution:

1. The empire was founded in 1336 by two brothers, Harihara and Bukka, who belonged to the Sangama dynasty. 2. According to tradition, they were inspired by the sage Vidyaranya to establish a kingdom on the banks of the Tungabhadra River. 3. The city of Vijayanagara (meaning 'City of Victory') was strategically located amidst rocky terrain, providing natural defense. 4. The empire reached its pinnacle under the Tuluva dynasty, especially under Krishna Deva Raya, but its origins are rooted in the military and political ambition of the Sangama brothers.

Final Answer: Harihara and Bukka

Answer: (B)



Q29.

Solution**Concept:**

The layout of Vijayanagara was divided into distinct zones: the Sacred Centre (housing major temples), the Urban Core, and the Royal Centre. The Royal Centre was the administrative heart of the empire.

Solution:

1. The Royal Centre was located in the southwestern part of the settlement and contained over 60 temples and about 30 palaces. 2. The 'Lotus Mahal', named by British travelers for its lotus-like carvings, was a secular building likely used as a council chamber where the king met his advisers. 3. Nearby are the 'Elephant Stables', a long structure with beautiful domes used to house the ceremonial royal elephants. 4. These buildings are examples of Indo-Islamic architecture, blending local Hindu styles with Islamic arches and domes.

Final Answer: Royal Centre

Answer: (B)

Q30.

Solution**Concept:**

The military strength of Vijayanagara was a source of fascination for foreign visitors. One of the most distinctive features of the city was its elaborate system of fortification.

Solution:

1. Abdur Razzaq, an ambassador sent by the ruler of Persia to Calicut in the 15th century, was greatly impressed by the city of Vijayanagara. 2. He noted that the city was surrounded by seven lines of forts. 3. Significantly, he mentioned that these fortifications did not just encircle the city, but also enclosed agricultural tracts and forests. 4. This strategy was designed to withstand long sieges by ensuring that the city had its own food supply within the walls.

Final Answer: Abdur Razzaq

Answer: (B)



Q31.

Solution

Concept: The Royal Centre of Vijayanagara contained over 60 temples and secular palatial structures. Understanding the specific functions of these buildings—such as the Lotus Mahal and the Hazara Rama Temple—requires analyzing architectural evidence and historical accounts, as many original names were replaced by later travelers.

Solution: Option (C) is correct because while the name "Lotus Mahal" was assigned by 19th-century British travelers, historians (based on a map by Mackenzie) suggest it was likely a Council Chamber where the king met his advisers.

Option (A) is incorrect as it was a secular/royal structure, not a Buddhist hub. Option (B) is incorrect because the Hazara Rama Temple was reserved for the King and his family, and it features scenes from the Ramayana, not the Mahabharata. Option (D) is incorrect because the reliefs depict the Ramayana, which is religious mythology.

Final Answer: The Lotus Mahal, while named by British travelers, likely served as a council chamber where the king met his advisers.

Answer: (C)

Q32.

Solution**Concept:**

The *Mahanavami Dibba* is a massive platform located in one of the highest points in the city of Vijayanagara. It is a stunning example of the empire's ritualistic and architectural grandeur.

Solution:

1. The *Mahanavami Dibba* is a structure that rests on a base of about 11,000 square feet and rises to a height of 40 feet. 2. The base of the platform is covered with relief carvings depicting scenes of daily life, processions, and hunting. 3. Rituals associated with the structure probably coincided with *Mahanavami* (the tenth day of the Navaratri festival), known variously as Durga Puja or Dussehra. 4. During these ceremonies, the Vijayanagara kings displayed their prestige, power, and suzerainty. Activities included worship of the image, slaughter of animals, dances, wrestling matches, and processions of caparisoned elephants and horses.

Final Answer: Rituals and ceremonies during the ten-day Navaratri festival.

Answer: (C)

Q33.

Solution**Concept:**

The religious landscape of Vijayanagara was diverse, with the kings drawing inspiration from various traditions. While the primary state deity was Virupaksha (a form of Shiva), other traditions also received significant patronage.

Solution:

1. The Vitthala Temple is one of the most magnificent architectural monuments in the Sacred Centre of Vijayanagara. 2. The deity Vitthala is a manifestation of Lord Vishnu, traditionally worshipped in Maharashtra. 3. The introduction of the worship of Vitthala in the Vijayanagara capital is an indication of the empire's cultural hybridity and its ability to incorporate traditions from different regions. 4. The temple is famous for its "musical pillars" and the iconic Stone Chariot, which has become a symbol of Karnataka's heritage.

Final Answer: Vishnu

Answer: (C)

Q34.

Solution**Concept:**

The decline of the Vijayanagara Empire was not sudden but was accelerated by a decisive military defeat. Political friction between the empire and the neighboring Deccan Sultanates eventually led to a massive confrontation.

Solution:

1. In 1565, Rama Raya, the chief minister who held the actual power, led the Vijayanagara army into the Battle of Talikota (also known as the Battle of Rakshasi-Tangadi). 2. He faced the combined forces of the Sultanates of Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, and Golconda. 3. Although the Raya tried to play the Sultans against one another, they eventually united to defeat him. 4. The Vijayanagara army was routed, Rama Raya was captured and executed, and the city of Vijayanagara was subsequently sacked and abandoned within a few years.

Final Answer: Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, and Golconda.

Answer: (B)



Q35.

Solution**Concept:**

The Vijayanagara Empire was a major hub for international trade, particularly in high-value commodities like horses, which were essential for the military.

Solution:

1. Warfare during this period depended greatly on effective cavalry, and the best breeds of horses were imported from Arabia and Central Asia. 2. The trade of horses was initially controlled by Arab merchants. 3. Local communities of merchants who participated in these exchanges were known as *Kuduraitchettis* (literally, horse merchants). 4. From 1498 onwards, other actors like the Portuguese also tried to establish themselves in this lucrative trade, using their superior naval technology to capture the horse-import markets.

Final Answer: Horse merchants.

Answer: (B)

Q36.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mughal period witnessed a "Global Exchange" of flora and fauna. As the empire integrated into global trade networks, several crops from the Americas (the New World) reached India via the Europeans.

Solution:

1. Agriculture in Mughal India was remarkably diverse. While traditional crops like rice, wheat, and millets remained staples, new crops were introduced. 2. Maize (makka) was introduced into India via Africa and Spain and became one of the major crops of western India. 3. Other introductions from the New World during this era included tomatoes, potatoes, and chillies. 4. Pineapple and papaya were also introduced around this time. This diversification helped in stabilizing the food supply and changed the dietary habits of the subcontinent.

Final Answer: Maize

Answer: (B)



Q37.

Solution

Concept: The Mughal administrative machinery relied on a hierarchy of officials to manage land revenue and maintain local order. The 'Pargana' was an administrative subdivision of a 'Sarkar', and its functioning was documented extensively in Abul Fazl's 'Ayn-i-Akbari', which aimed to provide a statistical and qualitative snapshot of the empire's resources.

Solution: The 'Qanungo' was a hereditary local official at the Pargana level who served as the custodian of local records. His primary responsibility was to maintain detailed statistics regarding land use, crop yields, and revenue rates, while also being an expert on local customary laws. He acted as a vital link between the imperial administration and the local agrarian society.

The military commander (Option A) was generally the Faujdar, while the village headman (Option B) was known as the Muqaddam or Mandal.

Final Answer: He was the keeper of revenue records at the Pargana level, maintaining local customs and land statistics.

Answer: (C)

Q38.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mughal state took a keen interest in land classification to ensure a steady and fair collection of land revenue. Land was classified based on its productivity and the frequency of cultivation.

Solution:

1. The *Ain-i-Akbari* lists four categories of land. 2. *Polaj* was land which was annually cultivated for each crop in succession and was never allowed to lie fallow. It was the most fertile category. 3. *Parauti* was land left out of cultivation for a time that it might recover its strength. 4. *Chachar* was land that had lain fallow for three or four years, and *Banjar* was land uncultivated for five years or more. This classification allowed the state to vary the revenue demand based on the actual yield.

Final Answer: Polaj

Answer: (A)



Q39.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mansabdari system was the backbone of the Mughal military and civil administration. It was a grading system used by the emperors to fix the rank, salary, and military responsibilities of their officers.

Solution:

1. Every officer was assigned a *Mansab* (rank) comprising two numerical designations: *Zat* and *Sawar*. 2. *Zat* indicated the personal status of the individual and the salary he would receive. The higher the *Zat*, the more prestigious the noble's position in court. 3. *Sawar* indicated the number of cavalymen (*tabinan*) the mansabdar was required to maintain for service. 4. This dual rank system allowed the Emperor to maintain a highly organized and loyal nobility that could be mobilized for war at any time.

Final Answer: Mansabdari system

Answer: (B)

Q40.

Solution**Concept:**

The Mughal state encouraged the cultivation of crops that brought in higher revenue. These were often crops that required more labor and better irrigation but fetched high prices in the market.

Solution:

1. While the peasantry primarily grew food grains for subsistence, the state promoted the cultivation of *Jins-i-Kamil* (literally, 'perfect crops'). 2. These included cash crops like cotton and sugarcane. Cotton was grown over a vast swath of territory spanning central India and the Deccan, while sugarcane was a prized crop in Bengal and North India. 3. Oilseeds and lentils were also considered high-value crops. 4. The shift toward *Jins-i-Kamil* indicated a growing commercialization of agriculture during the 16th and 17th centuries.

Final Answer: Cash crops or 'perfect crops' like cotton and sugarcane.

Answer: (B)



Q41.

Solution

Concept: In late eighteenth-century Bengal, while many Zamindars were facing a crisis due to high revenue demands and the 'Sunset Law', a group of rich peasants known as 'Jotedars' were consolidating their power in the villages. This shifted the balance of social and economic influence within the rural hierarchy.

Solution: The Jotedars became powerful primarily because, unlike the Zamindars who often resided in cities, the Jotedars lived directly in the villages. This physical presence allowed them to exercise immediate control over the local population. They owned vast areas of land, controlled local trade, and acted as moneylenders to the poor cultivators (ryots). When Zamindari lands were auctioned for revenue default, Jotedars were often the ones purchasing these estates, further undermining the Zamindar's authority.

Final Answer: Unlike Zamindars, they lived in villages and exercised direct control over a considerable section of poor villagers and local trade.

Answer: (B)

Q42.

Solution**Concept:**

Tribal rebellions often occurred when colonial policies disrupted traditional lifestyles and allowed outsiders (Dikus) like moneylenders and traders to exploit local populations.

Solution:

1. The Santhals lived in the peripheral regions of the Rajmahal Hills, where they practiced settled agriculture after being displaced from other areas. 2. The introduction of the Permanent Settlement and the high taxes imposed by the state led to heavy debt. 3. Led by the brothers Sidhu and Kanhu, the Santhals rose in rebellion in 1855, attacking zamindars and British officials. 4. Although the rebellion was brutally suppressed, it led to the creation of the Santhal Pargana, a separate administrative unit where special laws were applied to protect tribal interests.

Final Answer: Rajmahal Hills

Answer: (B)

Q43.

Solution

Concept: The annexation of Awadh in 1856 was a turning point in the relationship between the East India Company and the Indian states. Lord Dalhousie had long eyed the region for its fertile soil and potential as a market, famously describing it in 1851 as "a cherry that will drop into our mouth one day."

Solution: By 1856, the British used the specific plea of "maladministration" to justify the takeover. They claimed that Nawab Wajid Ali Shah was an inefficient ruler and that the British were obligated to intervene for the "betterment" of the governed. This was distinct from the 'Doctrine of Lapse', which applied to states like Satara and Jhansi where a natural heir was missing. In reality, the removal of the popular Nawab led to widespread emotional trauma and served as a primary catalyst for the participation of Awadh's taluqdars and peasants in the 1857 Revolt.

Final Answer: Allegations of "maladministration" and the claim that the Nawab was unable to govern the territory effectively.

Answer: (C)

Q44.

Solution**Concept:**

The Subsidiary Alliance was a clever diplomatic-military tool that forced Indian rulers to maintain a British force within their territory and pay for its upkeep, effectively surrendering their foreign policy to the British.

Solution:

1. This system was devised and perfected by Lord Wellesley (Governor-General from 1798 to 1805). 2. Rulers who entered the alliance could not employ any other Europeans or negotiate with other Indian rulers without British consent. 3. In return, the British promised to protect the state from external threats and internal rebellion. 4. This led to the gradual bankruptcy of many Indian states, as the "subsidy" for the troops was often set at an impossibly high rate, leading to eventual annexation (as seen in Awadh).

Final Answer: Lord Wellesley

Answer: (B)



Q45.

Solution**Concept:**

After nearly two decades in South Africa, Mahatma Gandhi returned to India in 1915. He spent his first year traveling the country on the advice of Gopal Krishna Gokhale to understand the people and their problems.

Solution:

1. His first major public speech was at the opening of the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) in February 1916. 2. The audience consisted of princes, philanthropists, and elite Congress leaders like Annie Besant. 3. Instead of a traditional polite speech, Gandhi criticized the Indian elite for their lack of concern for the "laboring millions." 4. He pointed out the contrast between the richly decorated princes and the poverty of the masses, signaling that Indian nationalism would now have to include the peasants and workers.

Final Answer: Banaras Hindu University

Answer: (B)

Q46.

Solution**Concept:**

The Civil Disobedience Movement was launched with the Salt March, a brilliant symbolic act. Salt was a commodity used by every Indian, and the government monopoly on its production and the tax imposed on it were seen as deeply unjust.

Solution:

1. In 1930, Gandhi sent a letter to Viceroy Irwin stating eleven demands, the most stirring of which was the abolition of the salt tax. 2. When the demands were ignored, Gandhi started his march from Sabarmati Ashram to the coastal village of Dandi. 3. The 240-mile march served as a massive mobilization tool, as Gandhi addressed thousands of people along the way, explaining the need for non-violent resistance. 4. On April 6, 1930, he reached Dandi and ceremonially broke the law by picking up a handful of salt, signaling the start of a nationwide movement to defy colonial laws.

Final Answer: The Salt Law

Answer: (B)



Q47.

Solution

Concept: The Second Round Table Conference held in London in 1931 was a crucial diplomatic event where Mahatma Gandhi represented the Indian National Congress. Gandhi maintained that the Congress was the sole representative of all Indian interests, cutting across religious, social, and political divisions.

Solution: Gandhi's claim of universal representation was contested from three major sides. First, the Muslim League argued that the Congress did not represent the specific interests of the Muslim minority. Second, the Princes of various states contended that the Congress had no jurisdiction or mandate over the people living in Princely States. Third, B.R. Ambedkar strongly asserted that Gandhi and the Congress did not represent the "Lower Castes" (Depressed Classes), leading to a significant debate over separate electorates. Since all three statements correctly identify groups or leaders who challenged Gandhi's claim, Option (D) is the correct answer.

Final Answer: I, II, and III

Answer: (D)

Q48.

Solution**Concept:**

The 'Objectives Resolution' was the ideological foundation of the Indian Constitution. It defined the aims of the Constituent Assembly and outlined the nature of the future independent Indian republic.

Solution:

1. The resolution was moved by Jawaharlal Nehru on December 13, 1946. 2. It proclaimed India as an "Independent Sovereign Republic" and guaranteed its citizens justice, equality, and freedom. 3. It also promised adequate safeguards for minorities, backward and tribal areas, and depressed and other backward classes. 4. This resolution eventually took the form of the Preamble to the Constitution, reflecting the aspirations of the people of India.

Final Answer: Jawaharlal Nehru

Answer: (B)



Q49.

Solution**Concept:**

The debates in the Constituent Assembly were often intense, particularly regarding the rights of minorities and the structure of representation in a diverse nation.

Solution:

1. On August 27, 1947, B. Pocker Bahadur from Madras made a strong defense of separate electorates. 2. He argued that minorities needed a political framework that would allow them to have a meaningful voice within the system. 3. However, the idea was met with fierce opposition from most members, including Sardar Patel and Govind Ballabh Pant, who felt that separate electorates had led to the partition of the country. 4. Critics argued that such a system would permanently isolate minorities instead of integrating them into the democratic fabric of the nation.

Final Answer: B. Pocker Bahadur

Answer: (A)

Q50.

Solution**Concept:**

The choice of specific dates for national importance often carries deep historical and symbolic weight, linking the present achievements to the struggles of the past.

Solution:

1. Although the Constitution was ready by November 26, 1949, it was officially implemented on January 26, 1950. 2. This date was chosen specifically to honor the 20th anniversary of the 'Purna Swaraj' (Complete Independence) declaration. 3. In December 1929, at the Lahore Session of the Congress, the resolution for Purna Swaraj was passed under the presidency of Jawaharlal Nehru. 4. Consequently, January 26, 1930, was celebrated as the first "Independence Day" across India, and the adoption of the Constitution on this same day in 1950 turned India into a Republic.

Final Answer: The anniversary of the 'Purna Swaraj' declaration of 1930.

Answer: (B)



Answer Key

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

