

UP Board Class 12 History - 321(IG) - 2025 Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hours	Maximum Marks :100	Total Questions :27
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General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. First 15 minutes are allotted for the candidates to read the question paper.
2. All questions are compulsory.
3. There are five Sections in this question paper. Section A consists of 10 Multiple Choice Type questions, Section B consists of 5 Very Short Answer Type questions, Section C consists of 6 Short Answer Type questions, Section D consists of 3 Long Answer Type questions and Section E consists of 10 historical dates and 5 map related questions.
4. The symbols used in question paper have usual meanings.

Section - A

1. Who was the first Director General of Archaeological Survey of India?

- (A) John Marshall
- (B) R. Wheeler
- (C) Cunningham
- (D) V. A. Smith

Correct Answer: (C) Cunningham

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks to identify the first Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). The ASI is the premier organization for archaeological research and protection of the cultural heritage of the nation.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Archaeological Survey of India was founded in 1861 by Alexander Cunningham, who also became its first Director-General. He is often referred to as the "Father of Indian Archaeology". His work involved extensive surveys and documentation of ancient sites, which laid the foundation for future archaeological research in India. John Marshall, another prominent figure, served as Director-General from 1902 to 1928 and is known for the discoveries of Harappa and

Mohenjo-daro.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Based on the historical establishment of the ASI, Sir Alexander Cunningham was its first Director General. Therefore, option (C) is the correct answer.

Quick Tip

For history-based questions, remember key figures and their primary contributions. Associating "Cunningham" with the "founding of ASI" is a crucial point for exams.

2. Who is the creator of Mahabharata?

- (A) Arjun
- (B) Shri Krishna
- (C) Vidur
- (D) Ved Vyasa

Correct Answer: (D) Ved Vyasa

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question asks for the traditional author or compiler of the ancient Indian epic, the Mahabharata.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The authorship of the Mahabharata is traditionally attributed to the sage Vyasa, also known as Krishna Dvaipayana or Ved Vyasa. The name 'Vyasa' means 'compiler' or 'arranger', reflecting his role in compiling not just the epic but also the Vedas. According to tradition, Vyasa dictated the epic to the elephant-headed god, Lord Ganesha, who wrote it down. Vyasa is also a significant character within the epic itself.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The creator of the Mahabharata is universally acknowledged in Hindu tradition as Ved Vyasa. Hence, option (D) is the correct answer.

Quick Tip

Remember the key figures of Indian epics. Ved Vyasa is for the Mahabharata, and Valmiki is for the Ramayana. This is a fundamental piece of knowledge in Indian culture and history.

3. Who among the following was the founder of Khalsa Panth?

- (A) Guru Govind Singh
- (B) Guru Arjun Dev
- (C) Guru Teg Bahadur
- (D) Guru Nanak Dev Ji

Correct Answer: (A) Guru Govind Singh

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks to identify the founder of the Khalsa Panth, a significant community within Sikhism.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Khalsa Panth was founded by the tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, in 1699 at Anandpur Sahib on the day of Vaisakhi. He initiated the 'Panj Pyare' (the five beloved ones) and established the Khalsa as a community of warrior saints. The purpose was to protect the innocent from religious persecution and uphold dharma. This event marked a major turning point in Sikh history, giving Sikhs a distinct identity.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The founder of the Khalsa Panth was Guru Gobind Singh. Therefore, option (A) is the correct choice.

Quick Tip

Associate key events with specific Sikh Gurus. Guru Nanak Dev Ji was the founder of Sikhism, while Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru, founded the Khalsa Panth. Knowing the order and main contributions of the Gurus is important.

4. Who implemented the Permanent Settlement system in Bengal?

- (A) Lord Wellesley
- (B) Lord Cornwallis
- (C) Lord Ellenborough
- (D) Lord Dalhousie

Correct Answer: (B) Lord Cornwallis

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question is about identifying the British Governor-General who introduced the Permanent Settlement, a land revenue system, in Bengal.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Permanent Settlement, also known as the Zamindari System, was introduced in Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa in 1793 by Lord Cornwallis, who was the Governor-General of Bengal at the time. This system was an agreement between the East India Company and the Zamindars (landlords) to fix the land revenue permanently. The aim was to ensure a stable and regular income for the Company and encourage landlords to invest in agricultural improvements.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The Permanent Settlement system in Bengal was implemented by Lord Cornwallis. Thus, option (B) is correct.

Quick Tip

For questions about British India, create a timeline of Governor-Generals and their major policies (e.g., Cornwallis - Permanent Settlement, Dalhousie - Doctrine of Lapse, Wellesley - Subsidiary Alliance). This helps in quickly recalling the correct answers.

5. Ramakrishna Mission is related to

- (A) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
- (B) Keshav Chandra Sen
- (C) Swami Vivekananda
- (D) Raja Rammohan Roy

Correct Answer: (C) Swami Vivekananda

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks to identify the person associated with the founding of the Ramakrishna Mission.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Ramakrishna Mission is a Hindu religious and spiritual organization that forms the core of the Ramakrishna Movement. It was founded on May 1, 1897, by Swami Vivekananda, who was the chief disciple of the 19th-century saint Ramakrishna Paramahansa. The mission's objectives are twofold: to spread the teachings of Vedanta as embodied by Ramakrishna and to carry out extensive educational and philanthropic work to improve the social conditions of

the Indian people.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The Ramakrishna Mission was founded by and is directly related to Swami Vivekananda. Hence, option (C) is the correct answer.

Quick Tip

Connect socio-religious reform movements with their founders. For example, Ramakrishna Mission - Swami Vivekananda, Brahmo Samaj - Raja Rammohan Roy, Arya Samaj - Swami Dayananda Saraswati. This is a frequently tested area in history exams.

6. Who among the following led the Santhals?

- (A) Sidhu
- (B) Kanhu
- (C) Bhagat
- (D) Both (i) and (ii)

Correct Answer: (D) Both (i) and (ii)

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question refers to the leadership of the Santhal Rebellion (also known as Santhal Hul), a major tribal uprising against British colonial rule and the zamindari system.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Santhal Rebellion of 1855-56 was led by four brothers: Sidhu, Kanhu, Chand, and Bhairav Murmu. Sidhu and Kanhu were the principal leaders who mobilized around 10,000 Santhals to declare a rebellion against the exploitative practices of the British East India Company, zamindars, and moneylenders. Since both Sidhu and Kanhu are listed as options and were the main leaders, the correct choice would be the one that includes both.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The Santhal Rebellion was prominently led by the brothers Sidhu and Kanhu. Therefore, the correct option is (D) Both (i) and (ii).

Quick Tip

When studying peasant and tribal revolts, focus on the name of the revolt, the year, the region, and the key leaders. The Santhal Rebellion and its leaders, Sidhu and Kanhu, are a very important topic.

7. Who was the author of the book titled 'India's First War of Independence'?

- (A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- (B) V. D. Savarkar
- (C) Mahatma Gandhi
- (D) Subhash Chandra Bose

Correct Answer: (B) V. D. Savarkar

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks for the author of a specific book about the Indian Rebellion of 1857. The title of the book frames the rebellion as the 'First War of Independence'.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The book titled "The Indian War of Independence, 1857" was written by Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. It was first published in 1909. Savarkar's work was one of the first to describe the 1857 rebellion not as a mere 'sepoy mutiny' but as a national war for independence. The book was considered revolutionary and was banned by the British Raj even before its publication. It is worth noting that Karl Marx also wrote a book with a similar title, 'The First Indian War of Independence 1857-59'. However, among the given options, V.D. Savarkar is the correct author.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The author of 'India's First War of Independence' is V. D. Savarkar. Therefore, option (B) is the correct answer.

Quick Tip

Pay close attention to book titles and their authors, especially those related to the Indian freedom struggle. Savarkar's book is famous for re-framing the narrative of the 1857 revolt.

8. Which movement was withdrawn after Chauri-Chaura incident?

- (A) Champaran Satyagraha
- (B) Bardoli Movement
- (C) Non-cooperation Movement
- (D) Home Rule League Movement

Correct Answer: (C) Non-cooperation Movement

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

The question links a specific historical event, the Chauri-Chaura incident, to the withdrawal of a major national movement during India's freedom struggle.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Chauri-Chaura incident took place on February 4, 1922, in the Gorakhpur district of the United Provinces (modern-day Uttar Pradesh). A large group of protesters participating in the Non-Cooperation Movement clashed with police, who opened fire. In retaliation, the demonstrators attacked and set fire to the police station, killing 22 policemen. Deeply disturbed by this act of violence, Mahatma Gandhi, a staunch advocate of non-violence (Ahimsa), decided to withdraw the Non-Cooperation Movement on February 12, 1922.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The Non-cooperation Movement was withdrawn by Mahatma Gandhi following the violent Chauri-Chaura incident. Hence, option (C) is the correct choice.

Quick Tip

Understanding the cause and effect of major events is key. The Chauri-Chaura incident is a classic example of an event that led to a significant turning point in the national movement. Remember the date and its consequence: the suspension of the Non-Cooperation Movement.

9. When did the Quit India Movement start?

- (A) August, 1942
- (B) September, 1942
- (C) August, 1944
- (D) September, 1944

Correct Answer: (A) August, 1942

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

The question asks for the starting date of the Quit India Movement, a pivotal event in the final phase of India's struggle for independence.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Quit India Movement, also known as the August Movement or 'Bharat Chhodo Andolan', was officially launched by Mahatma Gandhi at the Bombay session of the All-India Congress Committee on August 8, 1942. In his speech at Gowalia Tank Maidan, Gandhi gave the famous

call to "Do or Die". The movement was formally set to begin on August 9, 1942, but the British government arrested Gandhi and other major Congress leaders in the early hours of that day.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The Quit India Movement was launched in August 1942. Therefore, option (A) is the correct answer.

Quick Tip

Remember the Quit India Movement as the "August Kranti" (August Revolution). This will help you associate the movement with the month of August 1942.

10. Who first addressed Mahatma Gandhi as the 'Father of the Nation'?

- (A) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- (B) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (C) Bhagat Singh
- (D) Subhash Chandra Bose

Correct Answer: (D) Subhash Chandra Bose

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks to identify the person who first used the title 'Father of the Nation' for Mahatma Gandhi.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Subhash Chandra Bose was the first person to address Mahatma Gandhi as the 'Father of the Nation'. He did so in a radio address broadcast from Singapore on June 4, 1944. In this broadcast on Azad Hind Radio, Bose sought Gandhi's blessings for the war for India's liberation he was fighting.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The title 'Father of the Nation' was first used for Mahatma Gandhi by Subhash Chandra Bose. Therefore, option (D) is the correct answer.

Quick Tip

Titles given to national leaders are important facts for competitive exams. For Mahatma Gandhi, remember two key titles: Rabindranath Tagore called him 'Mahatma', and Subhash Chandra Bose called him 'Father of the Nation'.

Section - B

11. Which book was written by Kalhan?

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks to identify the literary work of the 12th-century Kashmiri historian, Kalhana.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The book written by Kalhana is the **Rajatarangini** (River of Kings).

It is a metrical historical chronicle of the kings of Kashmir, written in Sanskrit. The work is widely regarded as one of the first and most important works of historiography (history writing) in India. It provides a detailed account of the rulers and dynasties of Kashmir from the earliest times up to the time of its composition.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Kalhana wrote the **Rajatarangini**.

Quick Tip

For questions on ancient and medieval authors, remember key works. Kalhana's *Rajatarangini* is famous for being one of the earliest systematic historical chronicles in Indian literature.

12. Who was the first to succeed in reading the inscriptions of Ashoka?

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks to name the individual who first deciphered the ancient scripts used in the edicts of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The first person to successfully decipher the Ashokan inscriptions was **James Prinsep**, a British antiquary and scholar who was an official of the East India Company.

In 1837, Prinsep deciphered the Brahmi script, which was used for most of Ashoka's edicts. This breakthrough was monumental as it unlocked a vast amount of information about the Mauryan Empire and Ashoka's reign, including his policies on Dhamma, administration, and the spread of Buddhism. His work laid the foundation for the study of ancient Indian epigraphy and history.

Step 3: Final Answer:

James Prinsep was the first to succeed in reading the inscriptions of Ashoka.

Quick Tip

Associate James Prinsep with the decipherment of the Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts. This achievement is a landmark in the rediscovery of ancient Indian history.

13. Who was Andal? What was she called?**Solution:****Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

The question asks for the identity of Andal and the names she was known by.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:**Who was Andal?**

Andal was a great Tamil poet-saint who lived around the 8th century CE. She is the only female among the twelve **Alvars**, who were Vaishnava saints of South India, known for their devotional hymns to Lord Vishnu. Andal is revered as an incarnation of Bhudevi (the Earth Goddess and consort of Vishnu).

What was she called?

Andal was known by several names:

- **Goda** or **Godadevi**: Meaning 'gift of the Earth', as she was found as an infant under a Tulsi plant by her foster father, Periyalvar.
- **Nachiyar**: A respectful title for a goddess or lady.
- **Chudikodutha Sudarkodi**: Meaning "the lady who wore and gave her garland to the Lord", referring to the story of her wearing flower garlands before offering them to Vishnu.

Her major literary works are the *Thiruppavai* and *Nachiyar Tirumozhi*.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Andal was the only female Alvar saint, devoted to Lord Vishnu. She was also called Goda, Nachiyar, and Chudikodutha Sudarkodi.

Quick Tip

Remember Andal as the "Meera of the South" for her intense and personal devotion to Lord Vishnu, expressed through her beautiful poetry.

14. Who challenged the British from Kanpur in the Rebellion of 1857 AD?

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks to identify the leader of the 1857 Revolt in the important center of Kanpur.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The person who led the challenge against the British from Kanpur during the 1857 Rebellion was **Nana Saheb**.

Nana Saheb was the adopted son of the last Maratha Peshwa, Baji Rao II. The British had refused to grant him his father's pension and titles under the Doctrine of Lapse, which became a major grievance. During the revolt, he gathered forces, expelled the British from Kanpur, and declared himself the Peshwa. He was ably assisted by his commander, Tantia Tope, and advisor, Azimullah Khan.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Nana Saheb led the rebellion of 1857 from Kanpur.

Quick Tip

It's crucial to memorize the key leaders and centers of the 1857 Revolt. For example: Kanpur - Nana Saheb; Jhansi - Rani Lakshmibai; Lucknow - Begum Hazrat Mahal; Delhi - Bahadur Shah Zafar.

15. Who was the last Viceroy of India?

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks to name the last person to hold the title of Viceroy of India, representing the British Crown before India's independence.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The last Viceroy of India was **Lord Mountbatten** (Louis Mountbatten).

He was appointed in February 1947 with the specific task of overseeing the transfer of power from British to Indian hands. He presided over the partition of British India into the independent nations of India and Pakistan in August 1947. After independence, the title of Viceroy was abolished, and Mountbatten stayed on briefly as the first Governor-General of the Dominion of India.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The last Viceroy of India was **Lord Mountbatten**.

Quick Tip

Be precise with titles. Lord Mountbatten was the last Viceroy of British India, but the first Governor-General of independent India. The last Governor-General of India overall was C. Rajagopalachari.

Section - C

16. What do you know about Alwar and Nayanar?

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks for a description of the Alvars and Nayanars, who were key figures in the Bhakti movement of South India.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Alvars and Nayanars were Tamil poet-saints who were instrumental in spreading the Bhakti movement in Southern India between the 6th and 9th centuries CE. They preached a path of intense personal devotion to a deity as the means to salvation.

- **Alvars:** They were devotees of **Lord Vishnu**. There were **12 Alvars**, including one female saint, Andal. Their devotional hymns were compiled into a single volume called the *Nalayira Divya Prabandham*.
- **Nayanars:** They were devotees of **Lord Shiva**. There were **63 Nayanars**. Their hymns and writings are collected in the *Tevaram*.

Both groups came from diverse social backgrounds, including those considered 'untouchable', and composed their works in the local Tamil language, making religion more accessible to the common people and challenging the dominance of Brahmanical rituals.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Alvars were 12 Vaishnava (devotees of Vishnu) poet-saints, and Nayanars were 63 Shaiva (devotees of Shiva) poet-saints who led the Bhakti movement in South India.

Quick Tip

To easily remember the distinction: "Alvar" has a 'V' sound, connecting them to Vishnu. "Nayanar" can be associated with Shiva, who is often depicted with a third eye ('nayan' means eye).

17. Write about Sunset Law.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks for an explanation of the 'Sunset Law' in the context of British India.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Sunset Law was a crucial and strict provision associated with the **Permanent Settlement** of land revenue introduced by Lord Cornwallis in Bengal in 1793.

The law stipulated that the zamindars (landlords) had to pay their fixed annual revenue to the East India Company by **sunset on a specified date**. If a zamindar failed to make the payment by this exact deadline, their zamindari (land estate) was liable to be **auctioned off** by the government to recover the arrears. This law was very rigid and did not allow for any delays, even in cases of crop failure. It led to many traditional zamindars losing their lands, which were then often bought by merchants and moneylenders from the cities.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The Sunset Law was a rule under the Permanent Settlement (1793) which stated that if a zamindar's revenue payment was not received by sunset on the due date, their estate would be sold at auction.

Quick Tip

Always link the Sunset Law with the Permanent Settlement introduced by Lord Cornwallis. It highlights the rigid and revenue-focused nature of the British land policies.

18. Define Democracy based on Adult Franchise.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks for a definition of democracy that specifically incorporates the principle of Adult Franchise.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Democracy based on Adult Franchise is a system of government where the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them through a system of representation, which is based on the principle of **Universal Adult Suffrage**.

This means:

- **Democracy:** A form of government in which rulers are elected by the people.
- **Adult Franchise (or Universal Adult Suffrage):** The right of every adult citizen, typically above a certain age (e.g., 18 years in India), to vote in elections, irrespective of their caste, creed, religion, gender, race, or economic status.

In essence, it is a government "of the people, by the people, for the people," where the mechanism for the people to exercise their power is the guaranteed right of every adult to cast a vote. This ensures political equality, as it is based on the principle of 'one person, one vote, one value'.

Step 3: Final Answer:

It is a form of government where adult citizens choose their representatives through a voting system in which every adult has the right to vote, ensuring political equality.

Quick Tip

Remember that Universal Adult Franchise is the bedrock of modern representative democracy. It translates the abstract idea of 'rule by the people' into a practical, inclusive political process.

19. What is the meaning of Stupa?

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks for the definition and significance of a Stupa.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

A Stupa (from Sanskrit, meaning 'heap' or 'mound') is a dome-shaped or mound-like structure that serves as a Buddhist shrine.

- **Origin and Purpose:** Stupas originated as pre-Buddhist burial mounds. In Buddhism, they are primarily built to enshrine the sacred relics of the Buddha, his disciples, or other venerable figures. After the Buddha's Parinirvana (death), his cremated remains were divided and buried under several stupas.
- **Symbolism:** A stupa is a highly symbolic monument. It represents the enlightened mind of the Buddha, the path to enlightenment, and the universe itself.
- **Function:** It is a place of pilgrimage, meditation, and worship for Buddhists. Devotees circumambulate (walk around) the stupa in a clockwise direction as a mark of reverence.

The Great Stupa at Sanchi, originally commissioned by Emperor Ashoka, is one of the most famous examples.

Step 3: Final Answer:

A Stupa is a dome-shaped Buddhist monument, used as a place of meditation and to house the sacred relics of the Buddha or other holy persons.

Quick Tip

Think of a stupa as the most fundamental form of Buddhist monumental architecture. Its core purpose is to be a reliquary, a container for sacred remains, making it a focal point of devotion.

20. How much valuable is Buchanan's account (Survey) in Indian History?

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks about the historical value and significance of the surveys conducted by Francis Buchanan in early colonial India.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The accounts and surveys conducted by Francis Buchanan (an official of the British East India Company in the early 19th century) are **immensely valuable** to historians for several reasons:

- **Detailed Primary Source:** Buchanan's surveys provide one of the most detailed and systematic accounts of the conditions in various parts of India (like Bengal, Bihar, and Mysore) during the early colonial period.
- **Comprehensive Information:** His reports were encyclopedic in nature. They contained information on topography, soil, minerals, agriculture, industries, trade, social customs, castes, religious practices, and local histories.
- **Snapshot of a Society in Transition:** His work captures a picture of Indian society just as British influence was becoming dominant, providing a crucial baseline for historians to study the changes that occurred under colonial rule.
- **Economic History:** Historians use his statistical data to study topics like de-industrialization and the state of the rural economy before the full impact of British policies was felt.

Critical Perspective: While invaluable, historians also use his accounts with caution. Buchanan wrote from a colonial perspective, and his surveys were often intended to identify resources that the East India Company could exploit. His understanding and descriptions of Indian society were shaped by his colonial mindset.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Buchanan's accounts are extremely valuable as a detailed primary source providing comprehensive information on the economy, society, and culture of early 19th-century India, though they must be interpreted critically due to their colonial perspective.

Quick Tip

Remember Francis Buchanan as a colonial surveyor whose detailed reports give us a rich but biased window into early 19th-century India. His work is a classic example of a primary source that is both indispensable and requires critical analysis.

21. Write two characteristics of Indus Valley Civilization.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks to list two key features of the Indus Valley Civilization (also known as the Harappan Civilization).

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Two prominent characteristics of the Indus Valley Civilization are:

- 1. Systematic Urban Planning:** The cities of the Indus Valley, such as Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa, were remarkably well-planned. They featured a grid-like pattern for streets, which intersected at right angles. The cities were often divided into two parts: a raised citadel area (likely for rulers and public buildings) and a lower town (for the general populace). Houses were built with standardized, baked bricks.
- 2. Advanced Drainage and Sanitation System:** This civilization had one of the world's first and most sophisticated urban sanitation systems. Almost every house had a private bathroom and was connected to a covered drainage network that ran along the streets. These drains had manholes for cleaning and maintenance, showing a strong emphasis on public health and hygiene that was unparalleled in the ancient world.

Other notable characteristics include a standardized system of weights and measures, a unique (and still undeciphered) script, distinctive pottery, and extensive trade networks.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Two key characteristics are its sophisticated urban planning with a grid-like street layout and its advanced drainage and sanitation system.

Quick Tip

When asked about the Indus Valley Civilization, urban planning and the drainage system are the most distinctive and frequently cited features. These highlight the advanced and organized nature of the society.

Section - D

22. Describe the drainage system of Harappan cities. OR Describe the important teachings of Jainism.

Solution (Drainage System of Harappan Cities):

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question requires a detailed description of the advanced sanitation and water management system found in the cities of the Indus Valley (Harappan) Civilization, which is one of its most remarkable features.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The drainage system of Harappan cities was one of the most sophisticated in the ancient world. Its key features were:

- **Planned Network:** The drainage system was not an afterthought; it was an integral part of the city planning. Drains were laid out before the construction of houses.
- **Household Connectivity:** Almost every house, big or small, had its own bathroom and was connected to the main street drain. Wastewater and sewage from houses were channeled into these smaller drains.
- **Street Drains:** The smaller drains from houses flowed into larger, covered drains that ran along the main streets. These were typically made of baked bricks, which were water-resistant, and were mortared together with gypsum or mud.
- **Gentle Slope:** The drains were constructed with a gentle slope to ensure the smooth flow of water and waste.
- **Covering and Inspection Pits:** The drains were covered with stone slabs or bricks, which could be lifted for cleaning. At regular intervals, they were equipped with sump pits or manholes, which allowed for inspection and clearing of blockages. This shows a high level of concern for public health and hygiene.

This systematic and efficient network of drains highlights the Harappans' mastery of hydraulic engineering and their commitment to urban cleanliness.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The Harappan drainage system was a highly advanced and planned network of covered, baked-brick drains connecting individual houses to main street drains. It featured gentle slopes for flow and inspection manholes for maintenance, reflecting a strong emphasis on urban sanitation.

Solution (Important Teachings of Jainism):

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question asks for a description of the core principles and ethical teachings of Jainism, an ancient Indian religion founded on the path of non-violence towards all living beings.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The important teachings of Jainism, as consolidated by the 24th Tirthankara, Mahavira, are based on the goal of liberating the soul (jiva) from the cycle of rebirth (samsara). The main teachings are:

- **The Three Jewels (Triratna):** The path to liberation is achieved by following the three jewels:
 - (a) **Samyak Darshan (Right Faith):** Belief in the teachings of the Tirthankaras.
 - (b) **Samyak Jnana (Right Knowledge):** Correct and complete knowledge of the Jaina creed.
 - (c) **Samyak Charitra (Right Conduct):** Living one's life according to Jaina ethical rules.
- **The Five Vows (Pancha Mahavratas):** Right conduct is defined by adherence to five great vows:
 - (a) **Ahimsa (Non-violence):** The supreme principle. Not causing harm to any living being through thought, word, or deed.
 - (b) **Satya (Truthfulness):** To always speak the truth.
 - (c) **Asteya (Non-stealing):** Not to take anything that is not willingly given.
 - (d) **Brahmacharya (Chastity):** To abstain from sensual pleasures.
 - (e) **Aparigraha (Non-possession):** To detach oneself from worldly possessions and material things.
- **Anekantavada:** The doctrine of the many-sidedness of reality. It teaches that truth is complex and has multiple viewpoints, promoting tolerance.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The important teachings of Jainism include following the Three Jewels (Right Faith, Knowledge, Conduct) and adhering to the Five Vows (Non-violence, Truthfulness, Non-stealing, Chastity, and Non-possession) to achieve liberation of the soul.

Quick Tip

For Harappan cities, always remember "Urban Planning" and "Drainage System" as their defining features. For Jainism, the Five Vows, especially Ahimsa (Non-violence), are the most critical part of its teachings.

23. Who was Al-Biruni? Why is he famous in History? OR Describe the main principles of Bhakti Movement.

Solution (Al-Biruni):

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks for the identity of Al-Biruni and the reason for his historical significance, particularly in the context of Indian history.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

Who was Al-Biruni?

Abu Rayhan al-Biruni (973-1048 AD) was a Persian scholar, polymath, and traveler from Khwarazm (modern-day Uzbekistan). He was a contemporary of Mahmud of Ghazni. When Mahmud conquered Khwarazm, he took Al-Biruni as a hostage to his court in Ghazni. From there, Al-Biruni traveled to India and spent many years here.

Why is he famous in History?

Al-Biruni is famous primarily for his monumental book, the **Kitab-ul-Hind** (or *Tahqiq-i-Hind*, meaning 'History of India'). His fame rests on the following aspects of this work:

- **Comprehensive Account:** It is an encyclopedic work that provides a detailed and objective account of the religion, philosophy, sciences, geography, customs, social structure, and political systems of India in the 11th century.
- **Scholarly Approach:** Unlike other chroniclers of his time, he did not just record events. He adopted a scientific and comparative method. He learned Sanskrit, studied Indian texts like the Puranas and Bhagavad Gita, and compared Indian knowledge with that of the Greeks.
- **Objective Observer:** Despite being part of a conquering group, his account is remarkably free from religious prejudice and is considered a valuable, impartial source for understanding medieval Indian society. He is often called the "founder of Indology".

Step 3: Final Answer:

Al-Biruni was an 11th-century Persian scholar who is famous for writing the *Kitab-ul-Hind*, a comprehensive and scholarly account of India's society, sciences, and culture, which is considered a primary source of great historical value.

Solution (Main Principles of Bhakti Movement):

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question asks for the core ideas and principles that characterized the Bhakti movement, a significant socio-religious reform movement in medieval India.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Bhakti movement was a devotional movement that emphasized love and devotion to God as the primary means of salvation. Its main principles were:

- **Monotheism:** A belief in one God, who could be worshipped with different names and forms (e.g., Rama, Krishna, Allah).
- **Intense Devotion (Bhakti):** The path to God was through intense love, devotion, and personal surrender, rather than complex rituals, sacrifices, or intellectual knowledge.
- **Equality of All:** The movement strongly opposed the rigid caste system and preached that all humans are equal in the eyes of God. A devotee's caste or gender was irrelevant to achieving salvation.
- **Rejection of Ritualism:** The Bhakti saints criticized elaborate rituals, idol worship (in some cases, like Nirguna bhakti), and the dominance of the priestly class (Brahmins). They emphasized purity of heart and mind.
- **Use of Vernacular Languages:** To make their teachings accessible to the masses, the saints composed hymns, poems, and songs in local languages like Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, and Bengali, rather than Sanskrit.
- **Importance of the Guru:** The role of a spiritual teacher (Guru) was considered essential to guide the devotee on the path to God.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The main principles of the Bhakti movement were belief in one God, salvation through intense personal devotion, rejection of the caste system and empty rituals, and the use of vernacular languages to spread the message of love and equality.

Quick Tip

Al-Biruni's *Kitab-ul-Hind* is a must-know source for medieval Indian history. For the Bhakti Movement, remember its core ideas: "Devotion, Equality, and Simplicity" as a reaction against the rigidity of orthodox Hinduism.

24. Discuss the reasons, nature and significance of the Rebellion of Santhals. OR Write an article on the basic features of the Constitution of India.

Solution (Rebellion of Santhals):

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question requires a comprehensive analysis of the Santhal Rebellion of 1855-56, covering its causes (reasons), its characteristics (nature), and its historical importance (significance).

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Santhal Rebellion (or Santhal Hul) was a major tribal uprising against the exploitation faced under the early British colonial rule.

Reasons (Causes):

- **Economic Exploitation:** The Santhals' traditional lands, which they had cleared for cultivation, were taken over by the outsiders ('dikus'), especially zamindars and moneylenders. They were forced into a cycle of debt with exorbitant interest rates.
- **British Policies:** The introduction of the Permanent Settlement gave ownership of the Santhals' lands to the zamindars. The British revenue policies demanded cash payments, forcing the Santhals to depend on moneylenders.
- **Corrupt Officials:** The police, revenue officials, and courts were corrupt and always sided with the exploitative moneylenders and zamindars, leaving the Santhals with no legal recourse.
- **Erosion of Traditional Identity:** Their traditional tribal way of life, social systems, and political autonomy were being systematically destroyed.

Nature (Characteristics):

- **Mass Uprising:** It was a widespread rebellion involving tens of thousands of Santhals, led by four brothers: Sidhu, Kanhu, Chand, and Bhairav.
- **Anti-Colonial and Anti-Feudal:** The rebellion was directed against all oppressors - the British government ('Company Raj'), the zamindars, and the moneylenders.
- **Initial Phase of Appeal:** Initially, the Santhals tried to appeal to the British authorities for justice but were ignored, which led them to take up arms.
- **Violent and Determined:** The rebels used traditional weapons like bows and arrows and were extremely determined. They declared an end to Company rule and the establishment of their own government. The British suppressed the rebellion with extreme brutality.

Significance (Importance):

- **Forced British Recognition:** Despite its brutal suppression, the rebellion forced the British administration to acknowledge the grievances of the tribals.

- **Creation of Santhal Parganas:** As a direct consequence, the British government passed the **Santhal Parganas Tenancy Act, 1856**, which created a separate district of Santhal Parganas and provided some protection for the tribals against exploitation.
- **Inspiration for Future Revolts:** It became a symbol of tribal resistance and inspired future agrarian and tribal revolts in India.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The Santhal Rebellion was caused by severe economic exploitation by moneylenders and zamindars, backed by corrupt British policies. It was a massive and violent uprising aiming to overthrow the oppressors. Its key significance lies in forcing the British to pass protective legislation (Santhal Parganas Act) and becoming an inspiration for tribal resistance.

Solution (Basic Features of the Constitution of India):

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question asks for an article-style description of the fundamental characteristics of the Constitution of India, which is the supreme law of the country.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The Basic Features of the Indian Constitution

The Constitution of India, adopted on 26th January 1950, is a unique document that lays down the framework of the Indian state. Its basic features are as follows:

- **Longest Written Constitution:** It is the most detailed and longest written constitution in the world, containing a Preamble, numerous Articles, and Schedules. This is due to the country's vast diversity and the inclusion of detailed administrative provisions.
- **Drawn from Various Sources:** The framers of the constitution borrowed and adapted features from several other constitutions. For example, the parliamentary system from the UK, Fundamental Rights from the USA, and Directive Principles from Ireland.
- **Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic, Republic:** The Preamble declares India to be a sovereign nation, free from external control; socialist, aiming for social and economic equality; secular, meaning the state has no official religion and treats all religions equally; democratic, with a government elected by the people; and a republic, where the head of state (the President) is an elected, not a hereditary, monarch.
- **Parliamentary Form of Government:** India has a parliamentary system, where the executive (the Council of Ministers, led by the Prime Minister) is responsible to the legislature (the Parliament). The President is the nominal head of state, while the Prime Minister is the real head of government.

- **Federal System with Unitary Bias:** The Constitution establishes a federal structure with a division of powers between the Centre and the States. However, it is also called 'quasi-federal' because the Centre is stronger than the States, and it contains provisions for a strong central authority, especially during emergencies.
- **Fundamental Rights and Duties:** Part III of the Constitution guarantees six fundamental rights to all citizens, which are justiciable (enforceable by courts). Later, Fundamental Duties were added, which are non-justiciable moral obligations on citizens.
- **Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP):** These are guidelines for the state to follow in governance to establish a just society. Though not enforceable in court, they are fundamental to the country's governance.
- **Independent Judiciary:** The Constitution provides for an independent and integrated judicial system, with the Supreme Court at the apex, to act as the guardian of the Constitution and the fundamental rights of the people.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The basic features of the Indian Constitution include it being the lengthiest written constitution, drawn from various sources, and establishing a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic with a parliamentary government. It balances a federal structure with a strong centre and guarantees fundamental rights under an independent judiciary.

Quick Tip

When discussing the Santhal Rebellion, structure your answer into three clear sections: Reasons, Nature, Significance. For the Indian Constitution, remember keywords for its features: Lengthy, Borrowed, Parliamentary, Federal with Unitary Bias, Fundamental Rights, and Independent Judiciary.

Section - E

25. Mention the events related to the following historical dates:

- 321 B.C.
- 1829 A.D.
- 973 A.D.
- 1336 A.D.
- 1605 A.D.

- 1875 A.D.
- 1885 A.D.
- 1907 A.D.
- 1942 A.D.
- 1935 A.D.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question requires identifying a major historical event that corresponds to each of the given years. The dates span from ancient to modern Indian history.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

- **321 B.C.: Accession of Chandragupta Maurya and founding of the Mauryan Empire.** This year marks the beginning of one of the largest empires in ancient India, established after the overthrow of the Nanda dynasty.
- **1829 A.D.: Abolition of Sati.** The Bengal Sati Regulation was passed by the then Governor-General Lord William Bentinck, making the practice of Sati illegal and punishable by the criminal courts.
- **973 A.D.: Founding of the Western Chalukya Dynasty.** Tailapa II overthrew the Rashtrakuta dynasty and established the Western Chalukya (or Kalyani Chalukya) dynasty, which ruled over a large part of the Deccan.
- **1336 A.D.: Founding of the Vijayanagara Empire.** The empire was established in the Deccan Plateau region by the brothers Harihara I and Bukka Raya I of the Sangama dynasty.
- **1605 A.D.: Death of Mughal Emperor Akbar and accession of Jahangir.** This marked the end of the illustrious reign of Akbar and the beginning of the rule of his son, Jahangir.
- **1875 A.D.: Founding of the Arya Samaj.** This Hindu reform movement was founded by Swami Dayananda Saraswati. In the same year, the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College (later Aligarh Muslim University) was founded by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan.
- **1885 A.D.: Formation of the Indian National Congress (INC).** The INC was founded by Allan Octavian Hume, a retired British civil servant, to provide a platform for educated Indians to engage in political dialogue.

- **1907 A.D.: The Surat Split.** During the annual session of the Indian National Congress in Surat, the party split into two factions: the Moderates (Naram Dal) and the Extremists (Garam Dal), over differences in ideology and methods.
- **1942 A.D.: Launch of the Quit India Movement.** On August 8th, Mahatma Gandhi launched the Quit India Movement (Bharat Chhodo Andolan) at the Bombay session of the All-India Congress Committee, giving the call for "Do or Die".
- **1935 A.D.: Enactment of the Government of India Act, 1935.** This was a major piece of legislation passed by the British Parliament. It proposed a federal structure for India and introduced provincial autonomy, forming the basis for many provisions of the current Indian Constitution.

Quick Tip

Creating a chronological timeline of key events is one of the most effective ways to study for history exams. Associate each date with a specific, significant event and its key figures.

26. Question related with Map :

Show the following places on the outline map of India supplied to you by the symbol ☉ and also write their names. For correct name and correct location 1+1 marks are allotted.

- The place where Harshavardhan's later capital was located.
- The place where Taj Mahal is situated.
- The place where Mahatma Gandhi withdrew the non-cooperation movement after violence broke out.
- The place where the annual session of the Indian National Congress was held in 1929.
- The place where Buddha attained enlightenment.

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question requires the identification and location of five significant historical sites on a map of India. For each point, the name of the place and its correct geographical location must be provided.

Step 2: Detailed Identification and Location of Places:

- **The place where Harshavardhan's later capital was located.**
Name: Kannauj.
Location: Kannauj is located in the state of **Uttar Pradesh**. On a map, it would be marked in the central part of Uttar Pradesh, northwest of Kanpur. Emperor Harshavardhana shifted his capital from Thanesar to Kannauj in the 7th century.
- **The place where Taj Mahal is situated.**
Name: Agra.
Location: Agra is located in the state of **Uttar Pradesh**, on the banks of the Yamuna River. On a map, it is situated southwest of Delhi.
- **The place where Mahatma Gandhi withdrew the non-cooperation movement after violence broke out.**
Name: Chauri Chaura.
Location: Chauri Chaura is a town near **Gorakhpur** in the state of **Uttar Pradesh**. The violent incident here on February 4, 1922, led Mahatma Gandhi to call off the Non-Cooperation Movement. The location to be marked on the map is Chauri Chaura.
- **The place where the annual session of the Indian National Congress was held in 1929.**
Name: Lahore.
Location: Lahore is now the capital of the Punjab province in **Pakistan**. On an outline map of pre-partition India, it would be located on the banks of the Ravi River in the Punjab region, west of Amritsar. This session is famous for the adoption of the *Purna Swaraj* (Complete Independence) resolution.
- **The place where Buddha attained enlightenment.**
Name: Bodh Gaya.
Location: Bodh Gaya is located in the state of **Bihar**. On a map, it would be marked south of the city of Patna. It is here that Siddhartha Gautama attained enlightenment under the Bodhi Tree.

Step 3: Final Answer Summary:

The five places to be located are:

- i) Kannauj, Uttar Pradesh
- ii) Agra, Uttar Pradesh
- iii) Chauri Chaura, Uttar Pradesh
- iv) Lahore, Punjab (now in Pakistan)
- v) Bodh Gaya, Bihar

Quick Tip

Map work is a scoring section in history exams. Create a list of important historical sites and practice locating them on a blank map of India. Group them by category: ancient capitals, modern movement centers, world heritage sites, etc., to make them easier to remember.

26. (Only for Vision Impaired Examinees in lieu of Q.No. 26 for Map Work)

Instruction: Write the answers of the following questions in your answer-book. Do not use the map.

- Where was the later capital of Harshavardhan?
- Where is Taj Mahal located?
- At which place did Mahatma Gandhi withdraw the non-cooperation movement due to violence?
- Where was the Congress Session held in 1929?
- Where did Lord Buddha attain enlightenment?

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question requires identifying the specific geographical locations associated with key historical events and figures from Indian history.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

- **Where was the later capital of Harshavardhan?**
The later capital of Emperor Harshavardhana was **Kannauj** (in modern-day Uttar Pradesh). He initially ruled from Thanesar (in Haryana) but later shifted his capital to Kannauj, which was a more central and strategic location in his vast empire.
- **Where is Taj Mahal located?**
The Taj Mahal is located in **Agra**, a city in the state of Uttar Pradesh, India. It is situated on the south bank of the Yamuna river.
- **At which place did Mahatma Gandhi withdraw the non-cooperation movement due to violence?**
The violence that prompted the withdrawal of the Non-Cooperation Movement occurred at **Chauri Chaura** (in the Gorakhpur district of modern-day Uttar Pradesh). On February 4, 1922, a violent mob set fire to a police station, killing several policemen. In response to this event, Mahatma Gandhi, who was in Bardoli at the time, decided to suspend the

movement. The location of the incident, Chauri Chaura, is the place most directly associated with the cause of the withdrawal.

- **Where was the Congress Session held in 1929?**

The historic annual session of the Indian National Congress in 1929 was held in **Lahore** (in modern-day Pakistan). This session, presided over by Jawaharlal Nehru, is famous for the passage of the *Purna Swaraj* (Complete Independence) resolution.

- **Where did Lord Buddha attain enlightenment?**

Lord Buddha (Siddhartha Gautama) attained enlightenment (Nirvana) at **Bodh Gaya** (in modern-day Bihar). He achieved this state of enlightenment while meditating under a Peepal tree, which came to be known as the Bodhi tree.

Quick Tip

For map-based questions or their alternatives, focus on the "where" aspect of historical events. Associate key dynasties with their capitals (Harsha - Kannauj), monuments with their cities (Taj Mahal - Agra), and major national movement events with their locations (1929 INC Session - Lahore).