CBSE Class 12 History 2008 - Set 61/1/1

Question Paper

Conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)

Time Allowed: 3 Hours **Maximum Marks: 100**

General Instructions

(i) Answer all questions, observing the choices stated in each part. Marks are indicated against each question.

(ii) Answers to questions carrying 2 marks should not exceed 30 words each.

(iii) Answers to questions carrying 5 marks should not exceed 100 words each.

(iv) Answers to questions carrying 8 marks should not exceed 250 words each.

(v) Part D contains questions based on three sources.

(vi) Attach the maps with the answer scripts.

Part A

1. Give any two features of Harappan writing.

2. Why do thousands of devotees visit dargahs of Muslim saints?

3. Give any two features of colonial cities after 1850 in India.

4. Name the book written by Albiruni. Explain briefly the method adopted by him for writing the book.

5. Mention any two rumours spread by the people regarding the miraculous powers of Gandhiji.

Part B

Part B — Section I: Answer any three of Questions 6–9.

6. Describe the various stages through which Mahabharata was compiled in the 20th century.

7. Explain how access to property sharpened social differences between men and women in ancient times.

8. Explain briefly the teachings of Buddha.

9. "Buddhist literature needs to be studied to understand the sculpture at Sanchi and other places." Justify the statement with examples.

Part B — Section II: Answer any two of Questions 10–12.

10. Describe the various efforts made by scholars to reconstruct the history of the city and the empire from the ruins of Hampi upto the 20th century.

11. Explain why Ain-I-Akbari remains an extraordinary document of its times even today.

12. Assess the importance of the painted images in Mughal manuscripts.

Part B — Section III: Answer any three of Questions 13–16.

13. Critically examine the Deccan Riots Commission's report.

14. Describe how the British celebrated those, who they believed, saved the English and repressed the rebels during the Revolt of 1857.

15. "The relationship between Pakistan and India has been shaped by the legacy of partition." Give arguments in favour or against the statement.

16. Explain how the Constituent Assembly reflected the diversity of the people of India and their opinions.

Part C

17. Explain the role of women in the agrarian society in Mughal India.

OR

17. Explain the importance of the 'Sacred Centre' in Vijayanagara with special emphasis on Gopurams and Mandapas.

18. Explain three different kinds of sources through which we come to know about Gandhiji. Give any two problems faced while interpreting them.

OR

18. Explain why hill stations were a distinctive feature of colonial urban development.

Part D

19. Read the following extracts carefully and answer the questions (Questions 19 to 21) that follow:

In praise of Samudragupta

[This is an excerpt from the Prayaga Prashasti]

He was without an antagonist on earth; he, by the overflowing of the multitude of (his) many good qualities adorned by hundreds of good actions, has wiped off the fame of other kings with the soles of (his) feet; (he is) Purusha (the Supreme Being), being the cause of the prosperity of the good and the destruction of the bad (he is) incomprehensible; (he is) one whose tender heart can be captured only by devotion and humility; (he is) possessed of compassion; (he is) the giver of many hundred thousands of cows; (his) mind has received ceremonial initiation for the uplift of the miserable, the poor, the forlorn and the suffering; (he is) resplendent and embodied kindness to mankind; (he is) equal to (the gods) Kubera (the god of wealth), Varuna (the god of the ocean), Indra (the god of rains) and Yama (the god of death)...

19(i). What is a Prashasti ? Who wrote the above Prashasti ?

19(ii). Give any four qualities of the rulers as mentioned in this Prashasti.

19(iii). Why did rulers identify themselves with a variety of deities?

19(iv). Name two other sources for studying about the Guptas.

OR

19. Deadman Lane

Deadman Lane is a narrow alley, varying from 3 to 6 feet in width....At the point where the lane turns westward, part of a skull and the bones of the thorax and upper arm of an adult were discovered, all in very friable condition, at a depth of 4 ft 2 in. The body lay on its back diagonally across the lane. Fifteen inches to the west were a few fragments of a tiny skull. It is to these remains that the lane owes its name.

(From John Marshall, Mohenjodaro and the Indus Civilisation, 1931)

Sixteen skeletons of people with the ornaments that they were wearing, when they died, were found from the same part of Mohenjodaro in 1925.

19(i). Why is the Lane called Deadman Lane?

19(ii). What did some scholars and archaeologists conclude from this information?

19(iii). Who was John Marshall and how did Marshall tend to excavate?

19(iv). Why are earlier interpretations sometimes reversed?

20. "I believe separate electorates will be suicidal to the minorities"

During the debate on 27 August 1947. Govind Ballabh Pant said:

I believe separate electorates will be suicidal to the minorities and will do them tremendous harm. If they are isolated for ever, they can never convert themselves into a majority and the feeling of frustration will cripple them even from the very beginning. What is it that you desire and what is our ultimate objective? Do the minorities always want to remain as minorities or do they ever expect to form an integral part of a great nation and as such to guide and control its destinies? If they do, can they ever achieve that aspiration and that ideal if they are isolated from the rest of the community? I think it would be extremely dangerous for them if they were segregated from the rest of the community and kept aloof in an air-tight compartment where they would have to rely on others even for the air they breathe ... The minorities if they are returned by separate electorates can never have any effective voice.

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20(i). What are separate electorates?

20(ii). Why were some Muslims, like Begam Aizaz Rasul, against it ?

20(iii). Why did G.B. Pant feel separate electorates would be suicidal for the minorities?

20(iv). Do you think that seats should be reserved for Muslims and other minorities in educational institutions? Give one argument for or against it.

OR

20. The Muslim League resolution of 1940

The League's resolution of 1940 demanded:

That geographically contiguous units are demarcated into regions, which should be so constituted, with such territorial readjustments as may be necessary, that the areas in which the Muslims are numerically in a majority as in the north-western and eastern zones of India should be grouped to constitute "Independent States", in which the constituent units shall be autonomous and sovereign.

20(i). Mention three things that this resolution wanted?

20(ii). Did this resolution mention about partition or creation of Pakistan?

20(iii). What did the poet Mohammad Iqbal visualize?

20(iv). Could the Cabinet Mission's idea of a loose confederation help to avoid partition? Give reasons for your answer.

21. A church in Khambat

[This is an excerpt from a farman (imperial order) issued by Akbar in 1598] Whereas it reached our eminent and holy notice that the padris (fathers) of the Holy Society of Jesus wish to build a house of prayer (church) in the city of Kambayat (Khambat, in Gujarat); therefore an exalted mandate ... is being issued, ... that the dignitaries of the city of Kambayat should in no case stand in their way but should allow them to build a church so that they may engage themselves in their own worship. It is necessary that the order of the Emperor should be obeyed in every way.

21(i). What did the padris want to do ?

21(ii). How did Akbar ensure that their desire was fulfilled?

21(iii). Who guided the Muslim rulers?

21(iv). How was the situation complicated in the subcontinent and how did the rulers adopt to this situation.?

OR

21. The bird leaves its nest

[This is an excerpt from the Rihla]

My departure from Tangier, my birthplace, took place on Thursday .... I set out alone, having neither fellow-traveller .... nor caravan whose party I might join, but swayed by an overmastering impulse within me and a desire long-cherished in my bosom to visit these illustrious sanctuaries. So I braced my resolution to quit all my dear ones, female and male, and forsook my home as birds forsake their nests ... My age at that time was twenty-two years.

Ibn Battuta returned home in 1354, about 30 years after he had set out.

21(i). What was Ibn Battuta's desire that made him leave home?

21(ii). Where did he travel before and after coming to India?

21(iii). Why did he find travelling arduous in India?

21(iv). What did he write about Indian cities?

Part E

22. On the given political outline map of India, mark and name any five Harappan sites.

The map for this question is provided in the map references at the end of the paper.

OR

22. On the given political outline map of India, mark and name any three territories and two cities under British control in 1857.

Use the same map provided for Question 22.

22 (VI). For visually impaired candidates only, in lieu of Question 22:

Name any five Harappan sites or any three territories and two cities under British control in 1857.

23. On the given political outline map of India, five centres of Indian National Movement have been marked as 1 to 5. Identify them and write their names on the lines drawn near them.

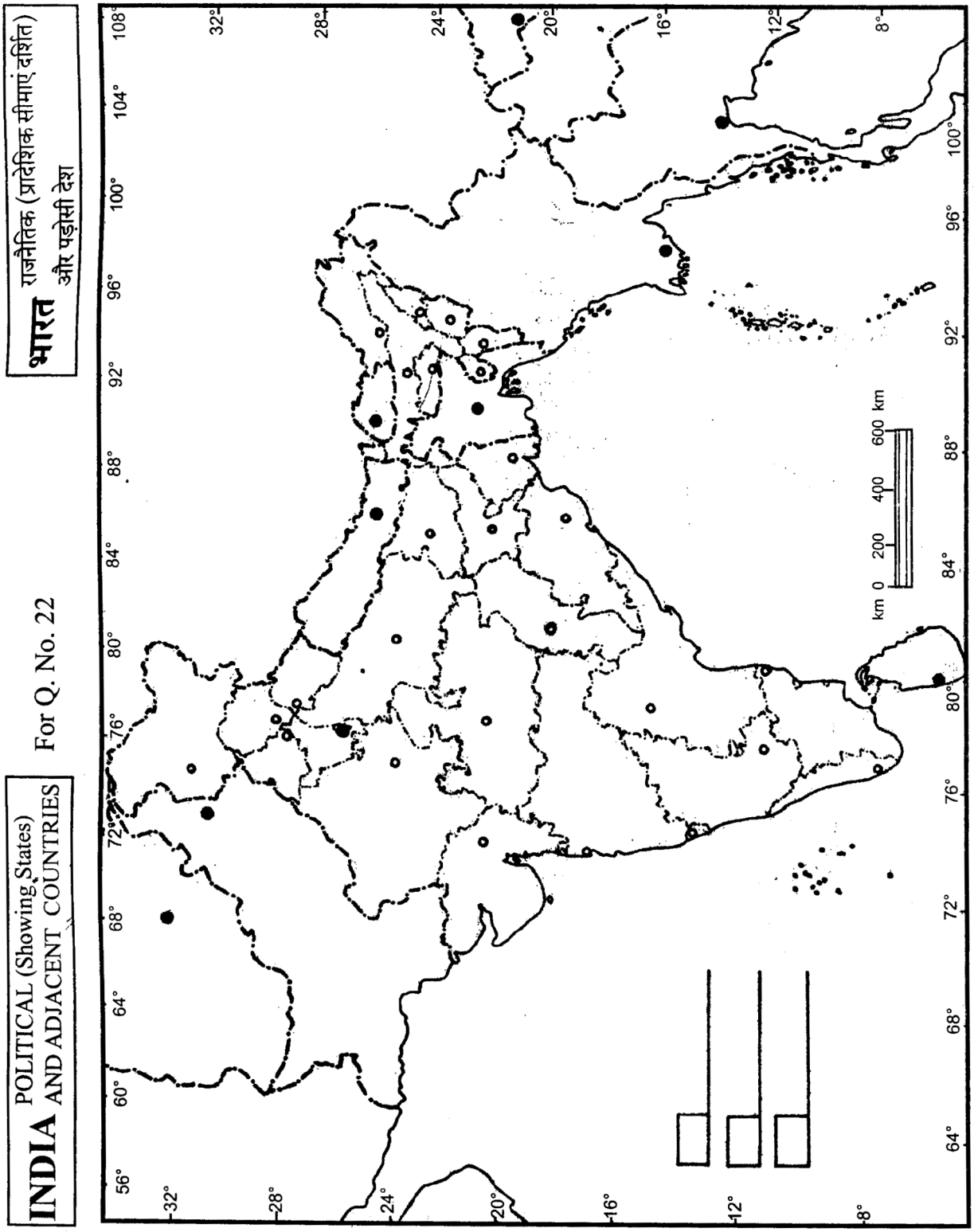
The map for this question is provided in the map references at the end of the paper.

23 (VI). For visually impaired candidates only, in lieu of Question 23:

Mention any five centres of Indian National Movement.

Map reference

Map for Question 22

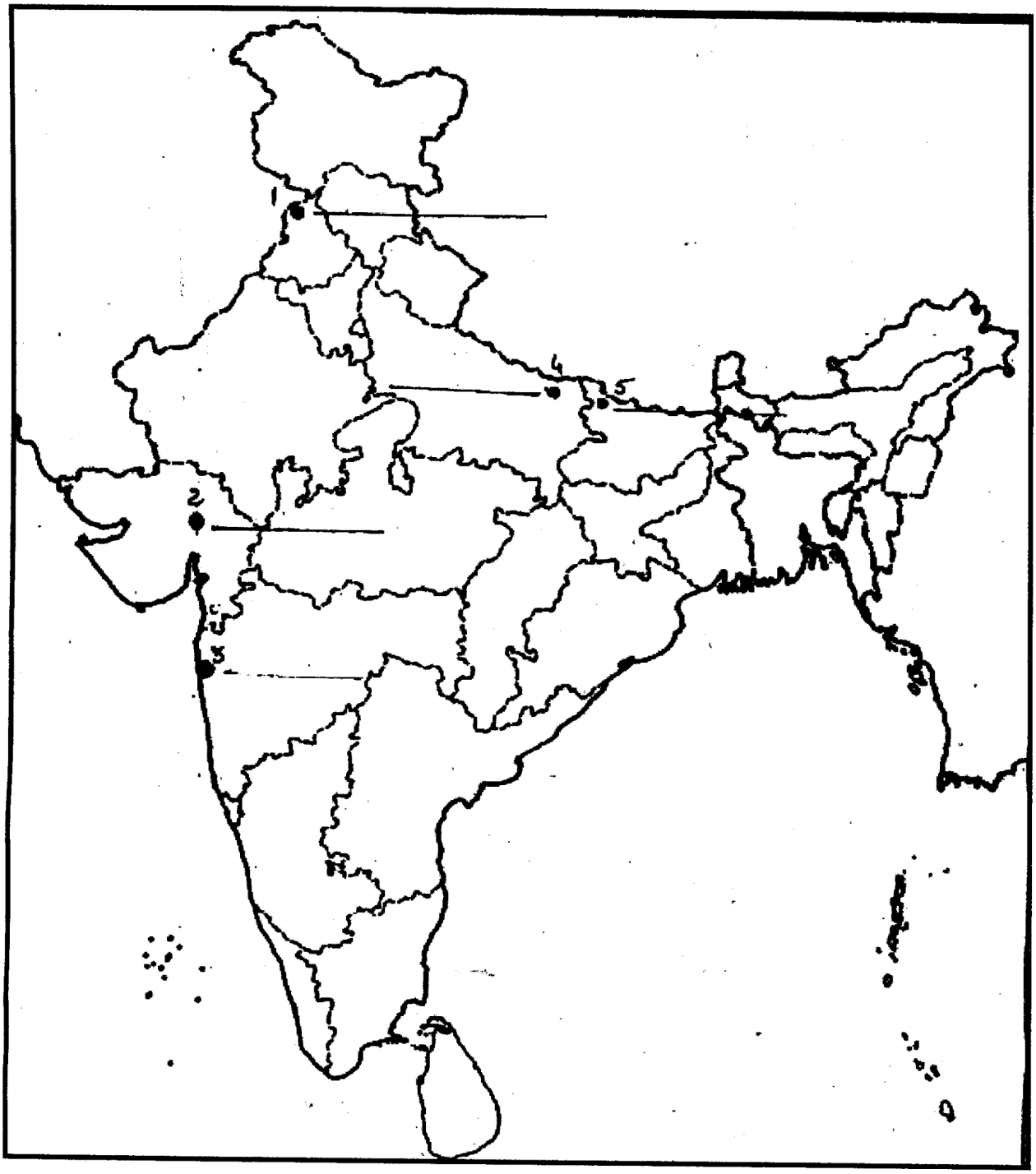


Map reference

Map for Question 23

For Q. No. 23

Outline Map of India (Political)



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