



30 Days Revision Module Day 8 - Ancient India (UPSC Prelims 2021)

1) Which of the following is not correctly matched?

- Kharaj - Land revenue amounting from 1/3 rd to ½ paid only by Hindus initially later by all.
- Zakat - Religious tax paid by wealthy Muslims amounting to 1/10 of their property.
- Jizya - Poll-tax paid by Hindus because of zimmi status in Islamic state.
- Abwabs - Irrigation tax amounting to 1/10 of the gross produce.

Answer : d

Abwabs - Tax on cattles for grazing.

2) Consider the following statements about literatures in Medieval India

- Madura Vijayam is a Sanskrit work about Vijayanagar empire by Gangadevi.
- Amuktamalaya is an epic in Telugu by Krishnadevaraya about story of the daughter of Periazavar, Goda Devi (Andal) who used to wear the garlands intended for Lord Ranganatha

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : c

- Harihara and Bukka were the founders of Vijayanagar Empire.
- Kumara Kampana**, Son of Bukka ended Madurai Sultanate and established Nayak kingdom.
- It is described in the poem Madura Vijayam composed by Kumara Kamapana's wife Gangadevi.
- Krishnadeva Raya wrote Amuktamalyada, an epic in Telugu and Sanskrit drama Jambavati Kalyanam (religion) and Ushaparinayam
- Amuktamalyada** - story of the daughter of Periazavar, Goda Devi (Andal) who used to wear the garlands intended for Lord Ranganatha

3) Arrange the following foreign travellers in a chronological order of their arrival in India

- Al-Beruni
- Domingo Paes
- Marco polo
- Abdur Razzaq
- Ibn Battuta

Choose the correct option

- 1-2-3-4-5
- 1-3-5-4-2

c. 1-5-4-3-2

d. 2-1-3-4-5

Answer : b

Al-Beruni - 11th Century

1. Accompanied Mahmud of Ghazni
2. Book - Tahquiq-i-Hind

Marco polo - 13th century

1. From Venice, Italy.
2. Visited India during Pandya Kingdom.

Ibn Battuta - 14th century

1. From Morocco, visited during Muhammad bin Tughlaq and Harihara I of Vijayanagar Empire.
2. His travelogue - Rihla

Abdur Razzaq - 15th century

1. From Central Asia
2. Visited Vijayanagar empire in 1443 (Dev Raya - II)

Domingo Paes - 16th century

1. From Portuguese
2. Visited the city in 1522 (Krishna Devraya)
3. Written about Devadasi System

4) Consider the following statements about Kingdoms in North India

1. Rajyapala of Pala dynasty founded Vikramashila Monastery in Magadha.
2. Prithviraj Chauhan, the founder of the city of Ajmer, whose life was described by Chand Bardai in his work "Prithvirajraso".

Which of the statements given above is/are **not correct**?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : c

- Dharmapala of Pala dynasty founded Vikramashila Monastery in Magadha. He also revived Nalanda University.
- Simharaji was popularly known as founder of the city of Ajmer.
- Chand Bardai wrote Prithvirajraso, describes about life of Prithviraj Chauhan.

5) Who among the following is/are associated with Qutb Minar constructed in memory of Bhakthiyar Khaki

1. Qutb-ud-din-Aibak

2. Iltutmish
3. Ala-ud-din Khalji
4. Muhammad-bin-Tuqlaq
5. Sikander Lodhi

Choose the correct option

- a. 1, 2, 3 only
- b. 1, 2 and 4 only
- c. 1, 3, 4 and 5 only
- d. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6#

Answer : a

- Qutb-ud-din Aibak laid the foundation for Qutb Minar in memory of Bhakthiyar Khaki
- Iltutmish completed the construction of the Qutb Minar.
- Ala-ud-din built Alai Darwaza to Qutb Minar
- Firoz Shah Tughlaq repaired Qutb Minar which was stuck by lightening.

6) With reference to medieval history, consider the following statements

1. Hasan Nizami wrote the first official history of Delhi Sultanate.
2. Tarikh-i-Badauni written by Badauni in 1595 explains about Akbar's administration and his religious policy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2



Answer : c

- Hasan Nizami was a migrant from Ghazni. He wrote Taj-ul-Ma'asir, the first official history of Delhi Sultanates. It gives information about Qutb-ud-din Aibak.
- Tarikh-i-Badauni written by Badauni in 1595, has 3 volumes about Akbar's administration and his religious policy.

7) Consider the following statements about Delhi Sultanate

1. He created Charities to aid poor muslims, built colleges, mosques and hospitals
2. He established Diwan-i-Bandagan and Diwan-i-Khairat.
3. He setup Kharkanas (manufacturing units)
4. He waived off the debts of the agriculturalists.

The above statements describe which of the following kings?

- a. Ghiyas-ud-din Balban
- b. Ala-ud-din-Khalji
- c. Mohammad Bin Tuqlaq
- d. Firoz Shah Tuqhaq

Answer : d

- The above statements described Firoz Shah Tuqhaq.
- He setup royal factories (Kharkanas) at Firozabad.
- He built new towns - Firozabad, Jaunpur, Hissar and Firozpur

8) The term 'jins-i-kamil' during medieval times denotes

- a. Group of traders
- b. Cash crops
- c. Luxury cloth from Central Asia
- d. None of these

Answer : b

- During Medieval times, the term jins-i kamil is used to denote perfect crops.
- Crops such as cotton and sugarcane were jins-i kamil par excellence.

9) Consider the following statements about the Vijayanagar Empire:

1. Deva Raya II built a new city called Nagalapuram in memory of his queen.
2. Krishna Deva Raya built the Vittalaswamy and Hazara Ramaswamy temples at Vijayanagar.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : d

Krishnadeva Raya (1509- 1529 A.D.) of Tuluva dynasty

- He is credited with building some fine temples and adding impressive gopurams to many important south Indian temples.
- He also founded a suburban township near Vijayanagara called Nagalapuram after his mother.

Vittala Temple at Hampi

- It was built in the 15th century during the reign of King Devaraya II (1422- 1446 A.D.) of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- Several sections of the temple were expanded and renovated during the reign of Krishnadevaraya
- **Hazara Rama Temple** at Hampi was also built in the early part of the 15th century by Devaraya II.

10) Which of the following can be the right description for 'Razmnama'?

- a. Performance of the Ramayana epic in a series of scenes during the festival of Dussehra
- b. An epic poem in Awadhi language, composed by Indian Bhakti poet Tulsidas
- c. Persian translation of Mahabharata
- d. Collection of Paintings consisting of scenes from Mahabharata

Answer : c

- Mughal chronicles such as the Akbar Nama were written in Persian, others, like Babur's memoirs, were translated from the Turkish into the Persian Babur Nama.
- Translations of Sanskrit texts such as the Mahabharata and the Ramayana into Persian were commissioned by the Mughal emperors.
- The Mahabharata was translated as the Razmnama (Book of Wars)

11) In the Mughal Empire, Duaspa-Sihaspa means

- a. A Revenue system introduced by Akbar
- b. A decorative method introduced by Shahjahan
- c. A Sub rank in Sawar introduced by Jahangir.
- d. A new painting method introduced by Aurangzeb.

Answer : c

- Mansabdari system was introduced by Akbar.
- Mansabdars are individuals who hold office in the Mughal system.
- They were given Zat rank (Salary and Prestige) and Sawar rank (Military status based on Horse numbers)
- This system was extended by Jahangir. He added Duaspa (2 horses) and Sihaspa (3 horses) under Sawar rank.
- He made it not hereditary and not transferrable.

12) Choose the **incorrect** pairs among the terms used in Medieval India and their meanings

- a. Banjara - Specialist in Carrying goods
- b. Patola - Silk
- c. Gumasta - Agent
- d. Qasbas - Road Cesses

Answer : d

Qasbas - a part of city.



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13) Consider the following Bhakti Saints

1. Dadu Dayal
2. Guru Nanak
3. Tulsidas

Which among the above was/were preaching when Lodhi dynasty fell and Babur took over?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Answer : b

- **Tulsidas** - A contemporary to Akbar. He wrote Ramacharitamans in Hindi
- **Dadu Dayal** - 16th Century philosopher from the State of Gujarat. He created his own school "Nipak"
- **Guru Nanak** - Contemporary of Babur and a founder of Sikh religion.

14) In which one of the following spheres, Akbar carried forward the policies first initiated by Sher Shah

- a. Measurement of land for purpose of assessing land revenue
- b. Recruitment of nobility from various sections of the society
- c. Appointment of rulers who accepted his suzerainty to high offices
- d. Withdrawal of discriminatory laws against non-Muslims

Answer : a

- Sher Shah Suri was benevolent ruler and introduced many reforms and on basis of that Akbar built a robust administration.
- Akbar carried forward the policies initiated by Shershah suri.
- One such policy is that the administration determined the productivity of the land and assessed the tax based on the total measurement.

15) How the Mughal architecture is different from the architecture during the period of Delhi Sultanate?

1. The former used Red sandstones and Marbles while the latter used only Marbles.
2. The former introduced Pietra dura ornamentation while the latter introduced Charbagh style of gardens.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Answer : d

- The first major difference between the two is the aesthetics of the buildings, starting from the stone used in construction. Delhi sultanate used the local stones, mostly from nearby Aravalis, the Mughals were partial to Red Sandstone and marbles, hence the Mughal forts, and buildings look more beautiful (Humayun's Tomb, Red Fort both in Delhi and Agra)
- Charbagh is a Persian-style garden layout, in which the main building is put at the centre of a quadrilateral garden, divided by walkways or flowing.

16) A person visited the Vijayanagara era temple. There were about 70 pillars at the 16th- century temple of stone. Among them, he saw a hanging pillar that does not fully rest on the ground. He also saw India's biggest monolithic Nandi. The temple also had the finest specimens of mural paintings of Vijayanagara Period.

Which of the following temples did the person visit?

- a. Virupaksha temple
- b. Hazara Ramaswamy temple
- c. Lepakshi temple
- d. Brahadeeshwara temple

Answer : c

- Lepakshi temple and Virupaksha temple, both belong to Vijayanagara period with pillar works and dedicated to Lord Shiva.
- But the presence of Unique features like Hanging Pillars and Nandi are the features of only Lepakshi (Veerabadra) temple.

17) Consider the following pairs about Sufi Terms and Meanings

1. Murid - Disciples
2. Ziyarat - Pilgrimage
3. Zikr - Divine names
4. Sama - Audition

Which of the above pairs is/are **not correctly** matched?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 3 and 4 only
- c. 1, 2, 3 and 4

d. None of the above

Answer : d

- All the above pairs are correctly matched.
- Murid/Khalifa - Disciples
- Pilgrimage, called ziyarat, to tombs of sufi saints is prevalent all over the Muslim world.
- The sufis remember God either by reciting the zikr (the Divine Names) or Sama (literally, "audition") or performance of mystical music, which was integral to the Chishtis

18) From the paragraph below identify the temple referred to

Situated on the serene surrounding on the bank of river Mahanadi, this temple is one of the wonders of the medieval period and draws attention of several devotee, tourists and researchers from all around the world. The temple does not stand upright and is titled towards one side. Another attraction of the temple is Kudo fish for which special offerings are made.

- a. Muktesvara temple
- b. Huma temple
- c. Cuttack chandi temple
- d. Lingaraj temple

Answer : b

19) With reference to Chola administration of early medieval age which of the following statements is correct?

- a. The whole empire had been divided into provinces like valanadu which was further sub-divided into Mandalam and further divided into nadu and Urs.
- b. Chola government depended mainly on the customs and tolls as the main source of income to the empire.
- c. The village administration was carried on effectively by variyams which consist of both male and female members of the society.
- d. The responsibility of the village administration was entrusted to the village assembly called Grama Sabha which involved in public works besides in charge of payment of taxes from the villages.

Answer : d

- The whole empire had been divided into nine provinces called mandalams, which is further divided into Kottams or Valanadus, Nadu and Urs.
- They mainly depended on the land revenue as the main source of income. 1/6 of the land produce was collected as tax.
- The village administration was carried on effectively by variyams who used to be the male members of the society.

20) Guru Gobind Singh, the Tenth Sikh Guru, is known for which of the following events?

1. Foundation of Khalsa
2. Introduction of 5Ks among Sikhs
3. Compilation of Adi Granth
4. Construction of Golden Temple at Amritsar

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- a. 1 only
- b. 1 and 2 only
- c. 1, 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2, 3 and 4

Answer : b

- Guru Ramdas - 4th Guru - founded the city of Amritsar and designed the gurdwara Harmandir Sahib

- Guru Arjan - 5th Guru - completed the construction of Amritsar, Compiled and installed the Adi Granth. He built the Harmandir Sahib.
- Guru Gobind Singh - the 10th and last guru - contributions to the Five Ks, initiating the Sikh Khalsa in 1699 .



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