

IAS Mains History 1991

Paper I

Section A

1. Write brief essays of not more than 200 word each on any three of the following:
 - a. External trade of the Harappans
 - b. Contents of Asoka's dhamma and reasons for Asoka's keenness to propagate dhamma
 - c. Origins, chronology, characteristics and geographical spread of Gandhara art
 - d. Origins and meaning of the samanta system
2. In what ways does religion as reflected in the Vedic texts differ from the religion of the Gupta period?
3. In what ways would the period of the Pallavas of the Kanchi and that of the Chalukyas of Badami mark the beginning of a new historical phase in peninsular India?
4. Discuss the scientific and technological developments in ancient India.

Section B

5. Mark any fifteen of the following places on the map supplied to you. Also give brief descriptive notes on the places marked on the map:

- i. Amber
- ii. Anhilwara
- iii. Asirgarh
- iv. Bayana
- v. Bijapur
- vi. Burhanpur
- vii. Cambay
- viii. Champaner
- ix. Chanderi
- x. Daulatabad
- xi. Fathehpur Sikri
- xii. Gaur
- xiii. Gulbarga
- xiv. Halebid
- xv. Hampi
- xvi. Jalor
- xvii. Kabul

- xix. Kanauj
- xx. Lahore
- xxi. Multan
- xxii. Murshidabad
- xxiii. Orchha
- xxiv. Quilon
- xxv. Sambhal
- xxvi. Sirhind
- xxvii. Sonargaon
- xxviii. Surat
- xxix. Tanjore
- xxx. Tarain

6. Critically assess the period of the Cholas in the history of South India.
7. What, in your opinion, was the significance of the extensive military expeditions undertaken during the time of Alauddin Khalji? Do you think his reign is considered significant in terms of such expeditions alone?
8. What were the major features of the administrative system of the Mughal State? To what extent did other Indian powers model their administration on this system in the late medieval period?