

## Sources of History

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### EXERCISE [PAGE 4]

#### Exercise | Q 1 | Page 4

Complete the names of the following sources of history.

l \_ \_ \_ \_ d

t \_ \_ \_ \_ h

b \_ \_ \_ \_ r

p \_ \_ \_ \_ a

i \_ \_ \_ \_ i \_ \_ i \_ n

m \_ \_ u \_ \_ \_ t

**Solution:**

1. legend
2. tarikh
3. bakhar
4. powada
5. inscription
6. monument

#### Exercise | Q 2.1 | Page 4

**Let's write.**

What do monuments include?

**Solution:** Monuments include samadhis, graves, and veergala.

#### Exercise | Q 2.2 | Page 4

**Let's write.**

What is a Tarikh?

**Solution:** A Tarikh or Tavarikh means a sequence of events.

#### Exercise | Q 2.3 | Page 4

**Let's write.**

What qualities of the author are important in the writing of history?

**Solution:** Author's impartiality and neutrality are very important while writing history.

#### Exercise | Q 3.1 | Page 4

Find the odd man out.

1. Material sources
2. written sources
3. unwritten sources
4. oral sources

**Solution:** Material sources, written sources, unwritten sources, oral sources  
**- Unwritten sources**

**Reason:** 'Unwritten source' is not a source of history, while the remaining are sources of history.

### Exercise | Q 3.2 | Page 4

Find the odd man out.

1. Monuments
2. coins
3. cave sculptures
4. stories

**Solution:** Monuments, coins, cave sculptures, stories - **Stories**

**Reason:** 'Stories' are oral sources of history, while the remaining are material sources of history.

### Exercise | Q 3.3 | Page 4

Find the odd man out.

1. Bhurjapatras
2. temples
3. treatises
4. paintings

**Solution:** Bhurjapatras, temples, treatises, paintings - **Temples**

**Reason:** 'Temples' are a material source of history while the remaining are written sources of history.

### Exercise | Q 3.4 | Page 4

Find the odd man out.

1. Owis
2. tarikhs
3. folk tales
4. myths

**Solution:** Owis, tarikhs, folk tales, myths - **Tarikhs**

**Reason:** 'Tarikhs' are written source of history while the remaining are oral sources of history.

### Exercise | Q 4.1 | Page 4

**Explain the following concept.**

Material sources

**Solution:**

1. Material sources comprise of different objects, different places, and their ruins. These sources provide insights about the period to which they belonged.
2. A style of the building construction memorials, forts, copper plates, coins, inscriptions, cave, sculptures, and monuments, tell us about the development of architecture and people's standard of living in that particular period. Objects like weapons, utensils, ornaments, clothes, decorative articles, toys, implements, musical instruments tell us about the day-to-day lives of the people in that period. Places like chaityas, viharas, temples, churches, mosques, agiaries, durgahs, mukbaras, and gurudwaras tell us about the religious beliefs of the people in that period.
3. Coins tell us a lot about the rulers, their period, governance, religious ideas, their personal details, the financial transactions at that time, metallurgy, the religious co-ordination, and the use of language in that period.
4. An inscription is an important and reliable source of history as it tells us about the language, script, and social life of a particular period.

### Exercise | Q 4.2 | Page 4

**Explain the following concept.**

Written sources

**Solution:**

1. Written sources of literature which help us to understand the history of different periods are called as 'written sources of history'.
2. After man learnt the art of writing, he started documenting different aspects of his life by maintaining written records using the art of writing.
3. Written sources help us learn about significant historical events during the medieval period. These documentations were done using scripts like Devanagari, Arabic, Persian, Modi, etc.
4. Through these documents, we can gather information about the following aspects of the past viz. the people's lives, food items, attire, festivals, cultural & social conditions, linguistic transactions, conventions & rules of conduct of the people, policies & administrative system of the rulers, the diplomatic relations between different rulers, contemporary political happenings, etc.
5. Examples of written sources are treatise & biographies; travelogues; chronicles like Bakhar & Tarikhs or Tavarikhs; documents of proceedings in the kings

courts, Bhurjapatras; genealogies & shakavali; correspondence & dispatch documents; judicial verdicts, orders, edicts, decrees, and religious manuscripts.

### Exercise | Q 4.3 | Page 4

**Explain the following concept.**

Oral sources

**Solution:**

1. The various forms of literature like ovis, folk songs, folk tales, legends, etc. which are traditionally passed on from one generation to the other by the word of mouth are called as oral sources of history.
2. Oral sources reveal various aspects of people's lives.
3. They help us understand various historical events, the policies, and administrations of various rulers, and the diplomatic relations between them.
4. They also throw light on the religious co-ordination, financial transactions, economic conditions, and technological advancements of that period.
5. Some of the examples of oral sources are Myths, Folk songs, Gatha, Shlokas, Abhangas, Powadas, Proverbs, and Legends.

### Exercise | Q 5 | Page 4

Is it necessary to evaluate sources of history? Give your opinion.

**Solution:**

1. Any source of information cannot be termed authentic just because it is old. Sources of history have to be genuine and their quality & authenticity have to be determined as per the internal standards.
2. The sources have to be subjected to critical analysis.
3. Writers also play a major role in evaluating the sources of history. The reliability of their accounts has to be evaluated based on multiple parameters viz. their integrity; their personal interests; the period in which they lived; the political pressures on them; the nature of their account i.e. whether their accounts are based on hearsay or provide any eyewitness account and the use of exaggerations, metaphors and other literary devices. It has to be properly analyzed as their account may be one-sided, contradictory, or exaggerated.
4. The information should also be verified with other contemporary sources.

Hence, we can say that it is necessary to evaluate the sources of history.

### Exercise | Q 6.1 | Page 4

**Write why in your word.**

A stone inscription is considered to be an authentic source of history.

**Solution:**

1. An inscription refers to the carving on a stone, a wall, etc. Few examples of such are - inscriptions found in the Brihadishwara temple in Tanjavur; inscriptions from the period of Chalukya, Rashtrakuta, Chola, and Yadav kings.
2. Inscriptions are a type of material source.
3. Inscriptions provide authentic information about individuals, society, place, and time which are considered as vital factors from the point of view of history.
4. Through inscriptions, we also get information about the various features like language, script, and the social life of the past period. Such data can be considered to be authentic.
5. Hence, a stone inscription is considered to be an authentic source of history.

### Exercise | Q 6.2 | Page 4

#### Write why in your word.

Oral sources reveal various aspects of people's lives.

#### Solution:

1. The various forms of literature like ovis, folk songs, folk tales, legends, etc. which are traditionally passed on from one generation to the other by the word of mouth are called as oral sources of history. Such folk literature narrates about various aspects of the folk life of the people.
2. They also help us understand various historical events, the policies, and administrations of various rulers, and the diplomatic relations between them.
3. They throw light on the religious co-ordination, cultural aspects, etc. of that period.
4. Thus we can say that oral sources reveal various aspects of people's lives.