

4. Intellectual Awakening and Socio-Political Changes

Exercise

1 A. Question

Choose the correct answer:

Identify the founder of a new sect who exemplified simplicity and self-denial.

- A. Buddha
- B. Lao-tze
- C. Confucius
- D. Zoroaster

Answer

Mahavira and Buddha the founder of Jainism and Buddhism respectively were a preacher of simplicity and self-denial.

1 B. Question

Choose the correct answer:

The Magadha king influenced by the teachings of Mahavira

- A. Dhana Nanda
- B. Chandragupta
- C. Bimbisara
- D. Shishunaga

Answer

Bimbisara and Ajatshatru were influenced by his teachings.

1 C. Question

Choose the correct answer:

Northern India extended from the Kabul Valley in the north to the Godavari in the south witnessed the rise of Sixteen States.

- A. Mahajanapadas
- B. Gana-sanghas

C. Dravida

D. Dakshinapatha

Answer

They were Kasi, Kosla, Anga, Magadha, Vajji, Malla, Chedi, Vatsa, Kuru, Panchala, Matsya, Surasena, Assaka, Avanti, Gandhara and Kamboja.

1 D. Question

Choose the correct answer:

Tri-rates are the three principles taught by

A. Buddha

B. Mahavira

C. Lao-tze

D. Confucius

Answer

The Tri ratnas is the teaching of Mahavira:

1. Right Faith: he said to have belief in the teachings of Mahavira and have wisdom.
2. Right Knowledge: He said that the world is without god and there is no creator.
3. Right actions: By this, he meant ahimsa, honesty, kindness, truthfulness, no desires for others' belongings.

1 E. Question

Choose the correct answer:

The account which throws light on Mauryan polity and society

A. Marco Polo

B. Fahien

C. Megasthenes

D. Seleucus

Answer

His account named Indica throws light on Mauryan polity and society.

1 F. Question

Choose the correct answer:

- (i) Under the Magadha king the mahamatriyas functioned as secretaries to the ministers.
- (ii) Accounts of Megasthenes titled Indica is a useful record about Mauryan polity and society.
- (iii) Nanda's attempt to build an imperial structure was cut short by Ashoka who founded the Mauryan kingdom.
- (iv) According to tradition, towards the end of his life, Chandragupta become an ardent follower of Buddhism.

- A. (i) is correct
- B. (ii) is correct
- C. (i) and (ii) is correct
- D. (iii) and (iv) is correct

Answer

Chandragupta was an ardent follower of Jainism.

2 A. Question

Fill in the blanks:

_____ is a collection of sacred literature of different epochs, containing prayers, confessions and myths.

Answer

Zend Avesta is a collection of the sacred literature of different epochs, containing prayers, confessions, and myths.

It is a holy book of Zoroastrians.

2 B. Question

Fill in the blanks:

In the Gangetic plain _____ agriculture required the use of bullocks.

Answer

In the Gangetic plain Iron plough agriculture required the use of bullocks. This region is the most traditional cultivation region of India which usually uses livestock instead of modern agricultural techniques.

2 C. Question

Fill in the blanks:

Jains believe that _____ came in a long line of Tirthankaras and he was the twenty - fourth and the last.

Answer

Jains believe that Mahavira came in a long line of Tirthankaras and he was the twenty - fourth and the last. In Jainism, a **tirthankara** (Sanskrit tīrthaṅkara) is an omniscient Teaching God who preaches the dharma.

2 D. Question

Fill in the blanks:

The place where Buddha attained enlightenment has been built into the Mahabodhi temple that still exists in _____

Answer

The place where Buddha attained enlightenment has been built into the Mahabodhi temple that still exists in Bodh Gaya. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, **is** an ancient, but much rebuilt and restored, **Buddhist temple** in **Bodh Gaya**, marking **the location** where the **Buddha is** said **to have attained enlightenment**.

2 E. Question

Fill in the blanks:

The rock edicts form the reliable source to know about the Mauryan empire in particular the Dharmic rule of _____.

Answer

The rock edicts form the reliable source to know about the Mauryan empire, in particular, the Dharmic rule of Asoka. Various edicts depict different events for instance, the 13th Major Rock Edict vividly describes the horrors and miseries of this war and the deep remorse it caused to Ashoka.

3 A. Question

Find out the correct statement:

- a) The introduction of Bronze tools made easy the removal of dense forest cover from the banks of the Ganges.
- b) Ajivikas had a small presence in western India.
- c) The clusters where particular clansmen were dominant came to be known were Pre-Mauryan states.
- d) Of the kingdoms mentioned in the literature of the period Kashi, Kosala and Magadha are considered to be powerful.

Answer

- a) True
- b) False.

It has a small presence in Southern India under the Chola empire.

c) True.

They were pre Mauryan and known as janapadas.

d) True

These were Gangetic plain and had economic and strategic advantages.

3 B. Question

Find out the correct statement:

a) Ajatashatru was the first important king of Magadha.

b) Bimbisara succeeded in establishing a comprehensive structure of administration.

c) The Mauryas were the first of non- Kshatriya dynasties to rule in northern India.

d) Nanda's attempt to build an imperial structure was cut short by Ashoka.

Answer

a) True.

He made the kingdom powerful and expanded it.

b) True.

He had established a good format structure with the village as a basic unit, each village had a headman.

c) False.

The Nandas were the first nonkshatriya to rule in northern India.

d) False.

It was cut short by Chandragupta Maurya.

4. Question

Match the following

1. Eight-fold path	tallest Jaina statue
2. Bahubali	a code of political morality
3. The Spring and Autumn Annals	sacred literature of laws and myths
4. Zend Avesta	first Tirthankara
5. Rishabha	path to attain the purest state of mind

Answer

1. Eight Fold Paths: the path to attain the purest state of Mind.

Explanation: Buddha this path to attain the purest state of mind. These are right view, right aspiration, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, right concentration.

2. Bahubali: Tallest Jaina Statue

3. The spring and Autumn Annals: a code of political morality

Explanation: This is a book written by Confucius on the code of political morality.

4. Zend Avesta: sacred literature of laws and myths

5. Rishabha: first Tirthankara

5 A. Question

Answer the following briefly:

The invention of smelting of Iron transformed both production and warfare-Justify.

Answer

Smelting of Iron transformed both production and warfare as prior to its invention copper and bronze were used which were expensive and would become

blunt quickly, so the products could not be used effectively both in warfare and agriculture.

Iron was easily available, the iron ax was very effective in clearing jungles, plow the field and break the hardest soil. The weapons used in warfare were advanced too.

5 B. Question

Answer the following briefly:

Elaborate the term “Tri-ratnas”.

Answer

The Tri ratnas is the teaching of Mahavira:

1. Right Faith: he said to have belief in the teachings of Mahavira and have wisdom.
2. Right Knowledge: He said that the world is without god and there is no creator.
3. Right actions: By this, he meant ahimsa, honesty, kindness, truthfulness, no desires for others' belongings.

5 C. Question

Answer the following briefly:

What do you know of Ajatasatru?

Answer

Ajathasatru was the son of Bimbisara who murdered his father and attained the throne. He expanded his empire and strengthened the Rajgriha fort. After his death, he was succeeded by 5 kings.

5 D. Question

Answer the following briefly:

What does the Edict of Kalinga convey?

Answer

After the Kalinga war Ashoka was shattered by the bloodshed and gave up his warriors and turned Buddhist. He carved out 33 edicts where he elaborated his experiences and teachings of Buddhism.

In Kalinga edict, Ashoka has described the horrific bloodshed of the Kalinga war and he vowed not to further indulge in any such war.

5 E. Question

Answer the following briefly:

Highlight the steps taken by Ashoka to spread Buddhism.

Answer

Ashoka sends his council members to various places like Sri Lanka, Tibet to spread the philosophies of Buddha. He carved out many rock edicts and Pillars where he elaborated the principles and philosophies of Buddha.

6 A. Question

Answer all the questions given under each caption:

Zoroastrianism

- (a) Who was the founder?
- (b) Name the God he proclaimed
- (c) What did Zoroaster teach?
- (d) What was the highest form of worship?

Answer

(a) Zoroaster was from Persia and founder of Zoroastrianism. He was against the worshipping of primitive deities and proclaimed that there is one god Ahura Mazda (the Lord of Light).

(b) Zoroaster was from Persia, He was against the worshipping of primitive deities and proclaimed that there is one god Ahura Mazda (the Lord of Light).

He emphasized upon virtues like fighting evil, making effort for good and working for Ahura Mazda.

(c) The teachings of Zoroaster:

1. Cultivating morality gives rise to religion, state or society.
2. The purity of thought, word and deed are the highest religious forms.
3. Charity is essential part of religion.
4. He emphasized upon virtues like fighting evil, making effort for good.

(d) According to Zoroaster Purity of thought, word and deed are the highest religious forms.

6 B. Question

Answer all the questions given under each caption:

Gautama Buddha

- (a) What was the original name of Buddha?
- (b) Name the birth place of Buddha
- (c) Where did he get enlightenment?

(d) Mention the place of his first sermon

Answer

(a) Buddha was born to the chief of Kshatriya clan at Kapilavastu and was named as Siddhartha.

(b) He was born at Kapilavastu, present-day Nepal.

(c) He left his kingdom and went into the forest in search of truth. He attained enlightenment under the Banyan tree at Bodhgaya Bihar.

(d) He gave his first sermon at Sarnath in Varanasi.

7 A. Question

Answer the following in detail:

Discuss the five cardinal principles of Confucius

Answer

Confucius was born in China, studied history, philosophy, poetry, and music. He has written 5 books on society, religion, songs, metaphysics etc.

The five cardinal principles of him are:

1. Humaneness: It refers to the behaviour of human that he/she must be kind.
2. Righteousness: The quality of being morally right.
3. propriety: The state of being successful.
4. Wisdom: Having experience and good judgment.
5. Trustworthiness: being worthy of keeping trusts.

Confucius' philosophies raised awareness among the people regarding their political rights. His philosophy guided the government regarding their duties towards the people of their country.

7 B. Question

Answer the following in detail:

Compare and contrast the principles of Jainism and Buddhism.

Answer

Difference between Jainism and Buddhism:

1. Mahavira was the founder of Jainism while Gautam Buddha was the founder of Buddhism.
2. Buddhism believes that Karma is the direct outcome of their action while the Jainism differed from this principle.

3. Buddhism had a notion that soul is present only in living beings while the Jainism believed that soul is present in both living and nonliving.
4. Buddhism believed that Nirvana is the ultimate aim of the soul while Jainism believed that soul continues even after attaining Nirvana.
5. Buddhism emphasized on right view, right aspiration, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, right concentration while Jainism emphasized on right perception, right knowledge, and right conduct.

Fun with History

1. Question

Assignment with teacher's guidance

List out the countries where Buddhism exists in the world and mark on the world map.

Answer

