

Fastrack Revision

► Introduction

- Vijayanagara or "**city of victory**" was the name of both a city and an empire. The empire was founded in the fourteenth century. In its heyday it stretched from the River Krishna in the North to the extreme South of the peninsula. In 1565 the city was sacked and subsequently deserted.
- Although it fell into ruin in the seventeenth-eighteenth centuries, it lived on in the memories of people living in the Krishna-Tungabhadra doab. They remembered it as Hampi, a name derived from that of the local mother Goddess, Pampadevi. These oral traditions combined with archaeological finds, monuments and inscriptions and other records helped scholars to rediscover the Vijayanagara Empire.

► The Discovery of HAMPI

- The ruins at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by an engineer and Antiquarian named Colonel Colin Mackenzie. An employee of the English East India Company, he prepared the first survey map of the site. Much of the initial information he received was based on the memories of priests of the Virupaksha temple and the shrine of Pampadevi.
- Subsequently, from 1856, photographers began to record the monuments which enabled scholars to study them.
- As early as 1836 epigraphists began collecting several dozen inscriptions found at this and other temples at Hampi. In an effort to reconstruct the history of the city and the empire, historians collated information from these sources with accounts of foreign travellers and other literature written in Telugu, Kannada, Tamil and Sanskrit.

► Rayas, Nayakas and Sultans

- According to tradition and epigraphic evidence two brothers, Harihara and Bukka, founded the Vijayanagara Empire in 1336. People of this empire spoke different languages and followed different religious traditions.
- In the North, the Vijayanagara Kings competed with contemporary rulers, like the Sultans of the Deccan and the Gajapati rulers of Orissa for control of the fertile river valleys and the resources generated by overseas trade.
- In the popular traditions of Vijayanagara the Deccan Sultans were termed as **Ashvapati** or **lord of horses**. The interaction between these states also helped in sharing of ideas, especially in the field of architecture.

- Vijayanagara rulers borrowed concepts and building techniques which they developed further. Some of the areas that were made part of the empire had witnessed the development of powerful states like the Cholas in Tamil Nadu and the Hoysalas in Karnataka.

- The rulers of Vijayanagara who called themselves Rayas are also called Narapati or lord of men.

► Kings and Traders:

- During this time, warfare was depended upon effective cavalry, so the import of horses from Arabia and Central Asia was very important for rival kingdoms. This trade was initially controlled by Arab traders.

- From 1498, Portuguese arrived on the West coast of the subcontinent and attempted to establish trading and military stations.

They had superior military technology, especially in the use of muskets, which helped them to become important players in the confused and chaotic politics of the period.

- Vijayanagara Empire was known for its markets dealing in spices, textiles and precious stones. Trade was regarded as a status symbol in those cities who were proud of a wealthy population that demanded high value exotic goods, especially precious stones and jewellery. The revenue derived from trade helped in improving the prosperity of the state.

► The Apogee and Decline of the Empire:

- The **Sangama dynasty** was the first dynasty that exercised the control till 1485. They were replaced by the **Saluvas**, who were military commanders and remained in power till 1503 when they were replaced by the **Tuluvas**. The most famous ruler of Tuluva dynasty was **Krishnadeva Raya**.

- Krishnadeva Raya's rule was known by expansion and strengthening the empire. During this time, the land between the Tungabhadra the Krishna rivers (the Raichur Doab) was acquired in 1512, the rulers of Orissa were brought under the control in 1514 and severe defeats were suffered by the Sultan of Bijapur in 1520.

- Krishnadeva Raya 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. Some of the most detailed descriptions of Vijayanagara come from his time or just after.

- After the death of Krishnadeva Raya in 1529, his successors were troubled by rebellious **Nayakas** or military chiefs. By 1542, control at the centre was shifted to another ruling family of the Aravidu, which remained in power till the end of seventeenth century.
- In 1565, Rama Raya, the Chief Minister of Vijayanagara, led the army into battle of Rakshasi-Tangadi also known as **Talikota**. Here Rama Raya's forces were decisively defeated by the combined armies of Bijapur, Ahmadnagar and Golconda. The victorious armies looted and destroyed the city of Vijayanagara.
- The armies of the Sultans were responsible for the destruction of the city of Vijayanagara. Relations between the Sultans and the Rayas were also not always hostile despite their religious differences.
- For instance, Krishnadeva Raya supported the people who claimed power in the Sultanates and took the title **establisher of the Yavana Kingdom**. Similarly, the Sultan of Bijapur involved to resolve the succession disputes in Vijayanagara, following the death of Krishnadeva Raya.
- ▶ **The Rayas and The Nayakas :**
 - Military chiefs who exercised power in the empire usually controlled forts and had armed supporters. These chiefs often moved from one place to another and in most cases they were accompanied by peasants looking for fertile land on which they could settle.
 - These chiefs were known as Nayakas and they usually spoke Telugu or Kannada. Nayakas accepted the authority of the Kings of Vijayanagara but they often rebelled and had to be brought under control by military action.
 - The Amara-Nayaka system was a major political innovation of the Vijayanagara Empire. It is likely that many features of this system were derived from the Iqta system of the Delhi Sultanate.
 - The Amara-Nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern by the Raya. They collected taxes and other dues from peasants, crafts persons and traders in the area. They retained part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants.
 - These contingents provided the Vijayanagara Kings with an effective fighting force with which they brought the entire Southern Peninsula under their control. Some of the revenue was also used for the maintenance of temples and irrigation works.
 - The Amara-Nayakas sent tribute to the King annually and personally appeared in the Royal court with gifts to express their loyalty. Kings occasionally asserted their control over them by transferring them from one place to another. However, during the course of the seventeenth century, many of these Nayakas established independent kingdoms. This hastened the collapse of the central Imperial structure.
- ▶ **Vijayanagara: The Capital and its Surroundings:**
 - A large number of inscriptions of the Kings of Vijayanagara and their Nayakas recording donations to temples as well as describing important events have been recovered.
- Several travellers such as, an Italian trader named Nicolo de Conti, an ambassador named Abdur Razaaq sent by ruler of Persia, a merchant named Afanasii Nikitin from Russia, Duarte Barbosa, Domingo Paes and Fernao Nuniz from Portugal visited the city.
- These travellers accounts gave information about Vijayanagara. For instance, Domingo Paes's described Vijayanagara that it was very beautiful and large as Rome. He pointed out that the city had many trees, gardens and many water channels and some lakes. Vijayanagara is known for its distinctive physical layout and building style.
- ▶ **Water Resources of Vijayanagara**
 - The most striking feature about the location of Vijayanagara is the natural basin formed by the river Tungabhadra which flows in a North-Easterly direction. The surrounding landscape is characterised by stunning granite hills that seem to form a girdle around the city. A number of streams flow down to the river from these rocky outcrops.
 - In almost all cases embankments were built along these streams to create reservoirs of varying sizes. As this is one of the most arid zones of the peninsula, elaborate arrangements had to be made to store rainwater and conduct it to the city.
 - The most important of such tank was built in the early years of the fifteenth century and is now called Kamalapuram tank. Water from this tank not only irrigated fields nearby but was also conducted through a channel to the "Royal centre".
 - One of the most prominent waterworks to be seen among the ruins is the Hiriya canal. This canal drew water from a dam across the Tungabhadra and irrigated the cultivated valley that separated the "sacred centre" from the "urban core". This was apparently built by Kings of the Sangama dynasty.
- ▶ **Fortifications and Roads:**
 - Before we examine the different parts of the city in detail let us look at what enclosed them all – the great fortress walls. Abdur Razzaq, an ambassador sent by the ruler of Persia to Calicut (present-day Kozhikode) in the fifteenth century, was greatly impressed by the fortifications and mentioned seven lines of forts.
 - These encircled not only the city but also its agricultural hinterland and forests. The outermost wall linked the hills surrounding the city. The massive masonry construction was slightly tapered.
 - No mortar or cementing agent was employed anywhere in the construction. The stone blocks were wedge shaped, which held them in place and the inner portion of the walls was of Earth packed with rubble. Square or rectangular bastions projected outwards.
 - Archaeologists have studied roads within the city and those leading out from it. These have been identified by following paths through gateways and also by identifying footpaths.
 - Roads generally turn around through the valley (i.e. low areas of land present between hills or

mountains) and avoided rocky lands. Some of the most important roads extended from temple gateways and were bordered by bazaars.

- The most important thing about this fortification was that it surrounded agricultural lands. Abdur Razzaq noted that between the first, second and the third walls there were cultivated fields, gardens and houses.
- According to Paes from the first outer wall to the city entrance, there was a great distance in which fields are existed. In these fields rice was sown. It had many gardens and much water, which comes from two lakes.
- In the medieval period, the objective of the military operation was mostly to starve the defenders so that they will accept the defeat. These operations lasted for months and sometimes even years, so normally rulers were prepared for such situations by building large storage rooms for grains within the fortified areas.
- It was surrounded by second line of fortification and the royal centre was surrounded by a third line. Within this, there were major buildings present which were surrounded by their own high walls. The well-guarded gates which were linked to major roads of the city were used to enter the fort.
- These were distinctive architectural features which described the nature of building to which they controlled access. The arch on the gateway leading into the fortified settlement and dome over the gate were regarded as typical features of the architecture introduced by the Turkish Sultans.
- **The Urban Core:**
 - Archaeologists found little archaeological evidence of the houses of ordinary people. They have found fine Chinese porcelain (Chinaware) in some areas in the North-Eastern corner of the urban core and this shows that these areas might have been occupied by rich traders.



Shards of Chinese Porcelain

- Sixteenth century Portuguese traveller Duarte Barbosa described the house of ordinary people. The houses had roofs made of straw, palm leaves, etc., but were well built. They were arranged according to the occupations in long streets with many open places. Field surveys show that the entire area was scattered with number of shrines and small temples.
- This show that different cults were present there, which might be supported by different communities. The surveys also indicate that wells, rainwater tanks, temple tanks were used as sources of water by the ordinary town people.

► **The Royal Centre of Vijayanagara:**

- The royal centre was located in the South-Western part of the settlement. Although designated as a royal centre, it included over 60 temples. Clearly, the patronage of temples and cults was important for rulers who were trying to establish and legitimise their authority through association with the divinities housed in the shrines.
- About thirty building complexes have been identified as palaces. These are relatively large structures that do not seem to have been associated with ritual functions.
- One difference between these structures and temples is that the latter were constructed entirely of masonry, while the superstructure of the secular buildings was made of perishable materials.

► **The Mahanavami Dibba**

- Some of the more distinctive structures in the area have been assigned names based on the form of the buildings as well as their functions. The "king's palace" is the largest of the enclosures but has not yielded definitive evidence of being a royal residence. It has two of the most impressive platforms, usually called the "audience hall" and the "*Mahanavami dibba*".
- The entire complex is surrounded by high double walls with a street running between them. The audience hall is a high platform with slots for wooden pillars at close and regular intervals. It had a staircase going up to the second floor, which rested on these pillars. The pillars being closely spaced, would have left little free space and thus it is not clear what the hall was used for.
- Rituals associated with the structure probably coincided with Mahanavami (literally, the great ninth day) of the ten-day Hindu festival during the autumn months of September and October, known variously as Dussehra (Northern India), Durga Puja (in Bengal) and Navaratri or Mahanavami (in Peninsular India). The Vijayanagara Kings displayed their prestige, power and suzerainty on this occasion.

Various ceremonies were performed in this occasion like:

- Worship of image, worship of the state horse and the sacrifice of buffaloes and other animals.
- Dances, wrestling matches, procession of highly decorated horses, elephants and charlots and soldiers.
- Ritual presentations before the king and his guests by the chief Nayakas and subordinate kings.
- The ceremonies had a deep symbolic meanings. On the last day of the festival, king's army and the armies of the Nayakas were inspected by the king in a grand ceremony in open field.
- The Nayakas brought rich gifts for the king on this occasion. Scholars have raised doubt that, the space surrounding the Mahanavami dibba structure was not sufficient for big processions of armed men, women and large animals.
- **Other Buildings in the Royal Centre:**
 - The Lotus Mahal, named by British travellers in the nineteenth century was one of the most beautiful

buildings in the Royal centre. Historians are not sure about what the building was used for. A map drawn by Mackenzie, suggested that it might have been a council chamber, a place where the king met his advisers.



A photograph of the Lotus Mahal

- It was one of the most spectacular temples. This might have been used only by the king and his family. Though images in the central shrine are missing, but sculpted panels on the walls are still present. These include scenes from Ramayana sculpted on the inner walls of the shrine. When the Vijayanagara city was looted and destroyed, many of the structures were destroyed. Later the practice of building large structures were continued by the Nayakas.



Sculpture from the Hazara Rama temple

► The Sacred Centre:

- The rocky Northern end of the city on the banks of the Tungabhadra. As per the local traditions, these hills had the monkey kingdom of Vali and Sugriva mentioned in the Ramayana.
- Some other traditions suggested that Pampadevi did penance (Tapasya) in these hills in order to marry Virupaksha, the God who protected the kingdom and also recognised as a form of Shiva. This marriage is celebrated even today every year in the Virupaksha temple.
- In these hills, Jain temples of the pre-Vijayanagara period are also found. It implies that this area was associated with different sacred traditions.
- The Pallavas, Chalukyas, Hoysalas and Cholas started building temples in Northern region. In order to associate themselves with divine, rulers encouraged to build temples. Often, the deity was identified directly or indirectly with the king.

- Temple also acted as the centres of learning. Rulers and others often granted land and other resources for the maintenance of temples. This resulted in temples being developed as important religious, social, cultural and economic centres.
- The rulers of Vijayanagara innovated and developed new traditions like, display of royal portrait sculpture in temples. The king's visits to temples were treated as important state occasions and thus king was accompanied by the important Nayakas of temple.

► Gopurams and Mandapas:

- The temple architecture in this period has got new features. These were:
 - The temples have structures of very large scale that must be symbolic imperial authority. The best example are Raya Gopurams or royal gateways that often made the towers on the central shrines look smaller and indicated the presence of the temple from a great distance. They might also be the symbols of the power of kings, who have authority on the resources, techniques and skills needed to construct these extremely tall gateways.
 - Other important feature are Mandapas or pavilion and long pillar corridors that often ran around the shrines within the temple complex. An important feature of the temple complexes was the chariot streets that extended from the temple Gopuram in the straight line. These streets were paved with stone slabs and lined with pillared pavilions in which merchants set-up their shops.
 - Local nayakas continued the traditions of fortification and temple building. Some of them constructed most spectacular Gopurams.
- The Virupaksha temple was built over centuries but inscriptions suggested that the earliest shrine was dated to the ninth-tenth centuries and it was enlarged with establishment of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- Krishnadeva Raya built the hall in front of the shrine to indicate his accession to throne. This was decorated with delicately carved pillars. He is also credited with the construction of the Eastern Gopuram. These additions meant that the central shrine came to occupy a relatively small part of the complex.
- The halls in the temple were used for a variety of purposes. Some were spaces in which the images of gods were placed to witness special programmes of music, dance, drama, etc.
- Others were used to celebrate the marriages of deities and yet others were meant for the deities to swing in. Special images, distinct from those kept in the small central shrine, were used on these occasions.
- The principal deity was Vitthala, a form of Vishnu generally worshipped in Maharashtra. The introduction of the worship of the deity in Karnataka is another indication of the ways in which the rulers of Vijayanagara drew on different traditions to create an imperial culture.

- A characteristic feature of the temple complexes is the chariot streets that extended from the temple Gopuram in a straight line. These streets were paved with stone slabs and lined with pillared pavilions in which merchants set up their shops.
- Just as the nayakas continued with and elaborated on traditions of fortification, so they did with traditions of temple building. In fact, some of the most spectacular *Gopurams* were also built by the local Nayakas.
- **Plotting Palaces, Temples and Bazaars:**
 - Photographs, plans designs of structures and sculpture, all provide lots of information about Vijayanagara. The information was combined together from travellers accounts and inscriptions after the initial surveys by Mackenzie.
 - The site was preserved by the Archaeological Survey of India and the Karnataka Department of Archaeology and Museums in the twentieth century.
 - **Hampi** was recognised as a **site of national importance in 1976**. A project was launched in early 1980s to document and record the material remains at Vijayanagara in detail. Many scholars from all over the world worked to compile and preserve this information.
 - The scholars have recovered and documented traces of thousands of structures from tiny shrines the residences to large temples. They also recovered the traces of roads, path bazars etc. John M Fritz, George Michell and MS Nagaraja Rao, who worked for years at the site, have written that they had to imagine a whole set of disappeared wooden parts, pillars, beams ceilings, overhanging roofs and towers decorated with plaster and painted brightly.
- These wooden structures are lost, and only stone structures have survived, but the descriptions of travellers allowed them to reconstruct some aspects of the energetic life of those times.
- Some travellers like Paes has described the Vijayanagara city as the best provided city in the world and markets with supplies of rice, wheat, grains, corn and some amount of barley and beans, moong, pulses and horsegram. All these were available cheaply and in plenty.
- According to Fernao Nuniz, the Vijayanagara markets were overflowing with large quantities of fruits, grapes and oranges, limes, pomegranates, jackfruit and mangoes which are all very cheap. Meat was also sold in excess quantity in the market places.
- Mutton, pork, deer meat, partridges, hares, doves, quail and all kinds of birds, sparrows, rats, cats and lizards were sold in the market of **Bisnaga** (Vijayanagara).
- **Informations Acquired from Buildings:**
 - Building give information about the ways spaces were organised and used, the ways they were built and the materials and techniques used to built them. For example, the defence requirements and military preparedness of a city can be identified by studying its fortifications.
 - Building also give information about spread of ideas and cultural influences by comparing them with other places. They convey the ideas desired by the builders or their patron to projects. They are often have symbols which are a product of their cultural context.
 - However, architectural features do not give information about ordinary men, women and children, comprising the vast majority of the people who lived in the city and its outskirts.



Practice Exercise



Multiple Choice Questions ➤

- Q 1. Vijayanagara city was situated between which of the following rivers?**
- Krishna in North and Tungabhadra in South.
 - Krishna in the South and Cauvery in North.
 - Tungabhadra in North and Krishna in South.
 - Cauvery in the North and Tungabhadra in South.
- Q 2. According to epigraphic evidence, who among the following founded the Vijayanagara empire?**
- Sultans of Deccan
 - The East India Company
 - Harihara and Bukka
 - Cholas of Tamil Nadu
- Q 3. Abdur Razzaq was an ambassador sent by the ruler of**
- Persia
 - Russia
 - Portugal
 - India
- Q 4. Which European Company arrived on the Indian subcontinent in 1498 AD?**
- The Portuguese
 - The British
 - The East India Company
 - The Napoleon
- Q 5. Where is the famous Brihadeshwara temple is situated?**
- Madurai
 - Chennai
 - Thanjavur
 - Mumbai
- Q 6. 'Amuktamalyada', a book on statecraft was written by**
- Rama Raya
 - Krishnadeva Raya
 - Harihara
 - Virupaksha
- Q 7. Gajapati rulers rules which of the following state?**
- Odisha
 - Deccan states
 - Assam
 - Delhi
- Q 8. Where Chennakeshava temple is situated?**
- Madurai
 - Thanjavur
 - Belur
 - Cochin
- Q 9. Which of the following statement is correct regarding Krishnadeva Raya?**
- He was famous for his literary skills
 - He composed Amuktamalyada in Telugu.
 - He was characterised by expansion and consolidation.
 - He belonged to Saluvas dynasty.

Codes:

- a. (i), (ii) and (iv) b. (i) and (ii)
c. (i), (ii) and (iii) d. (ii) and (iii)

Q 10. Which of the following statements regarding Colin Mackenzie are true?

- (i) He became famous as Engineer, Surveyor and Cartographer.
(ii) He became first Surveyor General of India.
(iii) He remained Surveyor General till his death.
(iv) By studying Vijayanagara East India Company could not get useful information.

Choose the correct option: (CBSE 2021, Term-1)

- a. Only (i) b. (i) and (ii)
c. (i), (ii) and (iii) d. (ii), (iii) and (iv)

Q 11. Which of the following statements are correct regarding Vijayanagara? Choose the correct option:

- (i) Vijayanagara Empire was founded in 11th century.
(ii) The empire was routed out in 1565 and subsequently deserted.
(iii) The ruins of Hampi was brought to light by Colin Mackenzie.
(iv) Krishan Deva Raya founded Vijayanagara.

(CBSE 2021, Term-1)

Codes:

- a. (ii) and (iv) b. (ii) and (iii)
c. (i) and (iv) d. (iii) and (iv)

Q 12. Which one of the following dynasties built the Hiriya Canal? (CBSE SQP 2022-2023)

- a. Sangama Dynasty b. Tuluva Dynasty
c. Saluva Dynasty d. Aravidu Dynasty

Q 13. "Mahanavami dibba was the centre of elaborate rituals." Which of the following rituals were performed here? (CBSE 2021, Term-1)

- a. Lohri Celebration b. Holī Celebration
c. Navaratri Celebration d. Vaisakhi Celebration

Q 14. Which of the following rulers belonged to Tuluva dynasty? (CBSE 2021, Term-1)

- a. Sadasiva Raya b. Rama Raya
c. Harihara d. Krishna Deva Raya

Q 15. Identify the given image of a temple from the following options: (CBSE 2023)



- a. Vitthala Temple
b. Brihadeshwara Temple
c. Virupaksha Temple
d. Kallasha Temple

Q 16. Which one of the following battles brought the downfall of Vijayanagara Empire?

(CBSE 2021, Term-1)

- a. Battle of Mysore
b. Battle of Trichinopoly
c. Battle of Rakshasi-Tangdi
d. Battle of Arcot

Q 17. The hall in front of which of the following shrines was built by Krishan Deva Raya to mark his accession? (CBSE 2021, Term-1)

- a. Vitthala temple b. Virupaksha temple
c. Hazara Ram temple d. Jaina temple

Q 18. Which one of the following temples was used only by Vijayanagara rulers and their families?

(CBSE SQP 2021, Term-1)

- a. The Vitthala Temple
b. The Virupaksha Temple
c. The Hazara Rama Temple
d. The Raghunatha Temple

Q 19. Which of the following information is/are correct about the Vijayanagara empire?

- (i) Its first dynasty was the Sangama dynasty.
(ii) Tuluvas were replaced by the Aravidu.
(iii) Krishnadeva Raya belonged to the Suluva dynasty.
(iv) Harihara and Bukka were from Aravidu dynasty

(CBSE SQP 2021, Term-1)

Codes:

- a. (ii) and (iii) b. (i) and (iii)
c. (i) and (iv) d. (i) and (ii)

Q 20. Which of the following languages were spoken by Rayas and Nayakas in the Vijayanagara Empire?

(CBSE SQP 2021, Term-1)

- a. Malayalam and Telugu
b. Kannada and Telugu
c. Tamil and Telugu
d. Sanskrit and Telugu

Q 21. Which one of the following battles weakened Vijayanagara kingdom? (CBSE SQP 2021, Term-1)

- a. Battle of Talikota b. Battle of Painpat
c. Battle of Mysore d. Battle of Travancore

Q 22. Who among the following travelled in the Vijayanagara Empire in the 15th century and was greatly impressed by the fortification of the empire? (CBSE SQP 2021, Term-1; 2023-24)

- a. Duarte Barbosa b. Abdur Razzaq
c. Colin Mackenzie d. Domingo Paes

Q 23. Which of the following statement is correct regarding Mahanavami Dibba?

(CBSE SQP 2021, Term-1)

- a. Mahanavami Dibba was part of 'The King's Palace Complex'.
- b. Mahanavami Dibba was a part of Sacred Centre.
- c. Mahanavami Dibba was a 'Counselling Hall'
- d. Mahanavami Dibba was a "Discussion Hall"

Q 24. Krishnadeva Raya belonged to which of the following dynasties? (CBSE SQP 2021, Term-1)

- a. Sangama
- b. Tuluva
- c. Aravidu
- d. Suluva



Assertion & Reason Type Questions

Directions (Q. Nos. 25-30): In the following questions given below, there are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:

- a. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- b. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- c. (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- d. (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Q 25. Assertion (A): As warfare during these times depend upon effective cavalry, the import of horses from Arabia and Central Asia was very important for rival kingdoms.

Reason (R): The Portuguese possessed superior military technology that enabled them to become important players during this period.

Q 26. Assertion (A): Sangama dynasty was the first dynasty that exercised control till 1400.

Reason (R): Krishnadeva Raya belonged to the Tuluva dynasty.

Q 27. Assertion (A): Military chiefs were also known as *nayakas*.

Reason (R): *Amara-Nayaka* system was a major political innovation of the Vijayanagara Empire.

Q 28. Assertion (A): The rulers took initiative in constructing, repairing and maintaining temples.

Reason (R): It, however, did not help in winning public supports.

Q 29. Assertion (A): Local communities of merchants were known as *kudirai Chettis*.

Reason (R): *Kudirai Chettis* were also known as horse merchants.

Q 30. Assertion (A): It is likely that the very choice of the site of Vijayanagara was inspired by the existence of the shrines of Virupaksha and Pampadevi.

Reason (R): The Vijayanagara kings claimed to rule on behalf of the god Virupaksha.



Fill in the Blank Type Questions

Q 31. The local merchants of the Vijayanagara Empire who participated in the trade of horses were called

(CBSE SQP 2022-2023)

- a. Gajapati
- b. Mahanayakas
- c. *Kudirai Chettis*
- d. Narapati

Q 32. The term is used by the contemporaries to describe the Vijayanagara Empire.

- a. Karnataka *Samarajyamu*
- b. *Amara Nayaka*
- c. Sangama
- d. Both a. and c.

Q 33. In the popular tradition of Vijayanagara, the Rayas are termed as

- a. Pashupati
- b. Saluva
- c. Narapati
- d. None of these

Q 34. is a person who draws and produce maps.

- a. Artist
- b. Cartographer
- c. Painter
- d. Photographer

Q 35. A person who studies or collects antiquities or antiques is known as

- a. Engineer
- b. Collector
- c. Military chief
- d. Antiquarian

Q 36. The included over 60 temples.

- a. Royal centre
- b. Middle centre
- c. Union centre
- d. Sacred centre

Q 37. The Vijayanagara Kings displayed their prestige, power and suzerainty on the occasion of

- a. Navaratri
- b. Mahanavami
- c. Both a. and b.
- d. Neither a. nor b.

Q 38. Dussehra festival was held with great prestige and power in

(CBSE SQP 2023-24)

- a. Hazara Rama Temple
- b. Virupaksha Temple
- c. Lotus Mahal
- d. Mahanavami Dibba



Correct and Rewrite Type Questions

Q 39. The first dynasty of Vijayanagara Empire was known as the Tuluva dynasty, exercised control till 1485. They were supplanted by the Sangama, military commanders, who remained in power till 1503 when they were replaced by the Tuluvas.

Q 40. Harihara was the Portuguese writer who wrote detailed account of trade and society of South India in the 17th century.

Q 41. The reign of Deva Raya was considered as the golden period in the history of Vijayanagara Empire.

Q 42. According to tradition and epigraphic evidence two brothers, Harihara and Bukka, founded the Vijayanagara Empire in 1536.

Q 43. The ruins at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by an engineer and antiquarian named Sir Alexander Cunningham.



Match the Following Type Questions

Q 44. Match the following:

Column I	Column II
A. Gajapati Ruler	1. Karnataka
B. Sultans	2. Tamil Nadu
C. Chola	3. Odisha
D. Hoysalas	4. Deccan

Codes:

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| A B C D | A B C D |
| a. 3 4 2 1 | b. 3 2 4 1 |
| c. 4 3 2 1 | d. 2 4 1 3 |

Q 45. Match the following:

Column I	Column II
A. Harihar and Bukka	1. Tuluva Dynasty
B. Krishna Deva Raya	2. Saluva Dynasty
C. Narsimha Deva Raya	3. Sangama Dynasty
D. Rama Deva Raya	4. Aravida Dynasty

Codes:

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| A B C D | A B C D |
| a. 1 2 3 4 | b. 2 1 4 3 |
| c. 3 1 2 4 | d. 4 3 2 1 |

Q 46. Match the following:

Column I	Column II
A. Vitthala Temple	1. Karnataka
B. Virupaksha Temple	2. Maharashtra

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| C. Brihadishvara Temple | 3. Belur |
| D. Chennakeshvara Temple | 4. Thanjavur |

Codes:

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| A B C D | A B C D |
| a. 1 2 3 4 | b. 4 3 1 2 |
| c. 2 1 4 3 | d. 2 1 3 4 |

Q 47. Match the following:

Column I	Column II
A. Lord of elephants	1. Narapati
B. Lord of horses	2. Gajapati
C. Lord of men	3. Ashvapati

Codes:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| A B C | A B C |
| a. 1 3 2 | b. 2 3 1 |
| c. 3 2 1 | d. 3 1 2 |

Q 48. Match the following:

Column I	Column II
A. Colin Mackenzie	1. Ambassador of the ruler of Persia
B. Domingo Paes	2. First Surveyor General of India
C. Abdur Razzaq	3. Reconstructed the history of Vijayanagara Empire
D. John M Fritz	4. Portuguese traveller to India

Codes:

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| A B C D | A B C D |
| a. 1 2 3 4 | b. 2 4 1 3 |
| c. 3 1 2 4 | d. 4 1 3 2 |

Answers

1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (a) 4. (a) 5. (c)
6. (b) 7. (a) 8. (c) 9. (c) 10. (c)
11. (b) 12. (a) 13. (c) 14. (d) 15. (c)
16. (c) 17. (b) 18. (c) 19. (d) 20. (b)
21. (a) 22. (b) 23. (a) 24. (b) 25. (b)
26. (d) 27. (b) 28. (c) 29. (b) 30. (a)
31. (c) 32. (a) 33. (c) 34. (b) 35. (d)
36. (a) 37. (c) 38. (d)

39. The first dynasty of Vijayanagara empire was known as the Sangama Dynasty, exercised control till 1485. They were supplanted by the Saluvas, military commanders, who remained in power till 1503 when they were replaced by the Tuluvas.
40. Barbosa was the Portuguese writer who wrote detailed account of trade and society of South India in the 16th century.
41. The reign of Krishnadeva Raya is considered as the golden period in the history of Vijayanagara Empire.
42. According to tradition and epigraphic evidence two brothers, Harihara and Bukka, founded the Vijayanagara Empire in 1336.

43. The ruins at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by an engineer and antiquarian named Colonel Colin Mackenzie.
44. (a) 45. (c) 46. (c) 47. (b) 48. (b)



Picture Based Type Questions

- Q 1. Study this figure of Mahanavami dibba carefully and answer any three of the following questions by choosing the correct option.



- (i) The Mahanavami dibba was enclosed within:
- Royal Centre
 - Sacred Centre
 - Compound of Brihadishvara temple.
 - Outside the main fortification of capital of Vijayanagara Empire.
- (ii) The base of the platform of Mahanavami dibba is covered with:
- Gopuram
 - Arch
 - Relief carving
 - All of these
- (iii) Which of the following ceremonies (s) was/were performed at Mahanavami dibba?
- Worship of state horse.
 - Ritual presentations before the King and his guest by the chief Nayakas and subordinate Kings.
 - Dances, wrestling matches and processions of caparisoned horses.
 - All of the above
- (iv) Mahanavami as celebrated in Peninsular India is famous by the name of in Northern India.
- Dussehra
 - Durga Puja
 - Both a. and b.
 - Diwali

Answers

- (i) (a) Royal Centre
 (ii) (c) Relief carving
 (iii) (d) All of the above
 (iv) (c) Both a. and b.

Q 2. Study this, 'sculpture from the Hazara Rama temple' carefully and answer any three of the following questions by choosing the correct options:



- (i) The construction of temple dedicated to Lord Rama in the Vijayanagara Empire suggests.
- His emperors were descendants from North India.
 - Worship of Lord Rama was part of Shaivism, which was very popular in South India.
 - The rulers of Vijayanagara drew on different traditions to create an imperial culture.
 - It was meant to be used only by the king and his family.

- (ii) The sculptures of this temple depicts scenes from which of the following ancient epic of India?
- Ramayana
 - Mahabharata
 - Both a. and b.
 - None of these
- (iii) The sculptures of this temple contains, beautifully carved images of
- lion, bull and peacock
 - monkey, elephant and horse
 - elephant, tiger and horse
 - None of the above.
- (iv) Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct regarding the art of temple constructors in Vijayanagara Empire?
- Both inner and outer walls of temples were beautifully carved with sculptures depicting scenes from various epics.
 - Beside kings Nayakas also patronised the construction of temples.
 - Architectural elements from various traditions were amalgamated in construction of temples
 - All of the above.

Answers

- (i) (c) The rulers of Vijayanagara drew on different traditions to create an Imperial culture.
 (ii) (a) Ramayana
 (iii) (b) monkey, elephant and horse
 (iv) (d) All of the above.



Source Based Type Questions

Source 1

Read the source given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate option:

A king should improve the harbours of his country and so encourage its commerce that horses, elephants, precious gems, sandalwood, pearls and other articles are freely imported ... He should arrange that the foreign sailors who land in his country on account of storms, illness and exhaustion are looked after in a suitable manner... Make the merchants of distant foreign countries who import elephants and good horses be attached to yourself by providing them with daily audience, presents and allowing decent profits. Then those articles will never go to your enemies.

- Q 1. Which of the following is correct about 'Amuktamalyada'?
- It was written in Sanskrit by Deva Raya II and dealt with Spirituality.

- b. It was written in Telugu by Krishnadeva Raya and dealt with statecraft.
- c. It was written in Kannada by Harihara and dealt with diplomacy.
- d. None of the above

Q 2. Which of the following group of items represents the chief imports of Vijayanagara empire?

- a. Textile, spices and Ivory products
- b. Horses, precious gems, sandalwood and pearls
- c. Both a. and b.
- d. None of the above

Q 3. Choose the correct options.

Assertion (A): Amuktamalyada gave detailed suggestions regarding strengthening the position of Vijayanagara vis-a-vis with its Northern adversaries.

Reason (R): The kings were prescribed to develop close bonds with foreign traders to monopolise the import of strategic items.

Codes:

- a. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- b. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- c. (A) is true, but (R) is false.
- d. (A) is false, but (R) is true.

Q 4. Who among the following was/were foreign travellers who visited Vijayanagara Empire?

- a. Domingo paes
- b. Duarte Barbosa
- c. Abdur Razzaq
- d. All of these

Answers

1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (d)

Source 2

Read the following source carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Colin Mackenzie

Born in 1754 CE, Colin Mackenzie became famous as an engineer, surveyor and cartographer. In 1815, he was appointed the First Surveyor General of India, a post he held till his death in 1821. He embarked on collecting local histories and surveying historic sites in order to better understand India's past and make governance of the colony easier. He says that "it struggled long under the miseries of bad management ... before the South came under the benign influence of the British Government". By studying Vijayanagara, Mackenzie believed that the East India Company could gain "much useful information on many of these institutions, laws and customs whose

influence still prevails among the various Tribes of Natives forming the general mass of the population to this day".

Q 1. Who was Colin Mackenzie? Give his introduction.

Ans. Colin Mackenzie was born in 1754 CE. He became famous as an engineer, surveyor and cartographer. In 1815, he was appointed the first Surveyor General of India, a post he held till his death in 1821.

Q 2. Mention what Mackenzie did to make governance of the colony easier.

Ans. Colin Mackenzie embarked on collecting local histories and surveying historic sites in order to better understand India's past and make governance of the colony easier.

Q 3. According to him what benefits would the East India Company gain after studying Vijayanagara? Explain in brief.

Ans. By studying Vijayanagara, Mackenzie believed that the East India Company could gain much useful information on many of the institutions, laws and customs whose influence still prevails among the various Tribes of Natives forming the general mass of the population.



Very Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. What does Vijayanagara mean?

Ans. It means 'City of Victory'.

Q 2. When was Vijayanagara founded and destroyed?

Ans. It was founded in the 14th century and destroyed in the 17th-18th centuries.

Q 3. What is the meaning of Amara?

Ans. Amara means Battle or War.

Q 4. Amara is believed to be derived from which language?

Ans. Amara is believed to be derived from Sanskrit.

Q 5. Who founded the Vijayanagara Empire?

Ans. Two brothers Harihara and Bukka founded the Vijayanagara Empire in 1336 AD.

Q 6. On whose behalf did the Vijayanagara Kings claim to rule.

Ans. God Virupaksha.

Q 7. Who were Nayakas?

Ans. Nayakas were Military chiefs.

Q 8. What are the two important features of the temple complexes in Vijayanagara?

Ans. The important features of the temple complexes in Vijayanagara are Raya Gopurams and Mandapas.

Q 9. When did Portuguese enter into India?

Ans. Portuguese entered into India in 1498 CE.

Q 10. Name three different dynasties that ruled Vijayanagara Empire?

Ans. Sangama dynasty, Saluvas and Tuluvas ruled Vijayanagara Empire.



Identify the Image Type Questions

Q 1. Identify the image given below:



Ans. It is carving on the Mahanavami Dibba.

Q 2. Identify the image given below:



Ans. Sculpture from the Hazara Rama Temple.



Short Answer Type Questions

Q 1. What have been the methods used to study the ruins of Hampi over the last two centuries? In what way do you think they would have complemented the information provided by the priests of the Virupaksha temple?

OR

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

Ans. The various efforts made by scholars to reconstruct the history of the city and the empire from the ruins of Hampi upto the century were:

- (i) The engineer and antiquarian Colonel Colin Mackenzie brought the ruins of Hampi to light in 1800. He worked for many years in East India company and prepared the first Survey maps of this site. His earliest information were based on the memories of priest of the virupaksha temple and shrine of pampadevi.
- (ii) From 1856 onwards, photographers started to record the picture of monuments. The picture

of the sites helped the scholars to study them. Dozens of inscription were collected from Virupaksha temples and other situated around temples.

- (iii) Historians collected information from these sources, other sources such as account of foreign travellers and literature composed in Kannada, Telugu, Tamil and Sanskrit languages used by the historians so that the history of the city could be reconstructed. These functions complemented the information given Priests of Virupaksha temple.

Q 2. Krishnadeva Raya's rule was characterised by expansion and consolidation. Justify the statement on the basis of evidences.

Ans. Expansion and consolidate of the Vijayanagara Empire under Krishnadeva Raya:

- (i) Krishnadeva Raya's reign is marked by peace, prosperity and military preparedness.
- (ii) Foreign travellers speak of his efficient administration and prosperity of the empire.
- (iii) Agriculture flourished and to increase production the Raya's undertook wise irrigation policy like the construction of Kamalapuram tank.
- (iv) He is credited with building some fine temples and adding impressive Gopurams to many temples.
- (v) He built a new town near Vijayanagara named Nagalapuram after his mother.

Q 3. Discuss about the relation between Sultans and Vijayanagara kings.

Ans. The relations between the sultans and the Rayas were not always of hatred, despite their religious differences.

- (i) For example, Krishnadeva Raya, supported the people who claimed power in the sultanates and took pride in the title establisher of the Yavana Kingdom.
- (ii) The Sultan of Bijapur involved to resolve the succession disputes in Vijayanagara after the death of Krishnadeva Raya.
- (iii) Both Vijayanagara rulers and Sultanates wanted to ensure stability of each other.
- (iv) It was due to the aggressive policy of Rama Raya who tried to engage one Sultan against another, led to the Sultans to come together and decisively defeat him.

Q 4. Explain the reasons for the decline of the Vijayanagara Empire.

Ans. The following were the reasons for the decline of the Vijayanagara Empire:

- (i) All the power of the state was vested in the hands of the King. People had no role in the administration of the state. So, they did not help the King at the time of crisis.
- (ii) The successors of Krishnadeva Raya were troubled by rebellious Nayakas or military chiefs. These rebellious weakened the position of the King.
- (iii) All the successors of Krishnadeva Raya were very weak. They had to fight many wars against the Deccan Sultanates. All these harmed the Vijayanagara Empire.

Q 5. 'The Mahanavami Dibba in the Royal centre of Vijayanagara has been assigned name on the basis of its form of building as well as functions.' Elaborate. (CBSE 2015)

Ans. It is true that Mahanavami dibba has been assigned name on the basis of building and functions.

- (i) Rituals associated with the building might have coincided with Mahanavami, i.e. the ninth day of the ten-day Hindu festival during the autumn month of September and October, known as Dussehra in North India, Durga Puja in Bengal and Navaratri or Mahanavami in Peninsular India.
- (ii) The Vijayanagara Kings showed their prestige, power and control over the empire on this occasion.
- (iii) Various ceremonies are performed on this occasion like worship of image, worship of the state horse and the sacrifice of buffaloes and other animals.
- (iv) On the last day of the festival, king's army and the armies of the Nayakas are inspected by the king in a grand ceremony in an open field.

Q 6. How were the water requirement of Vijayanagara met?

- Ans.**
- (i) The requirements of water in Vijayanagara was fulfilled from the natural basin formed by the river Tungabhadra. This flowed in the North-Eastern direction and was surrounded by stunning granite hills. It flowed down to the river Tungabhadra.
 - (ii) The rulers of the Vijayanagara got built large embankments to store water. They also constructed reservoirs of varying sizes. They also make arrangements to store the rainwater as this was the most arid zone of the Peninsula.
 - (iii) In the fifteenth century, the most important tank was built which is now called Kamalapuram tank. The water from this tank was used both to irrigate fields and transmit to the Royal centre through a channel.

- (iv) One of the most important water works was the Hiriya canal. This was built by the kings of the Sangama dynasty. The canal got water from a dam across the Tungabhadra and irrigated the cultivated valley that separated the sacred centre from the urban core.

Q 7. What do you think were the advantages and disadvantages of enclosing agricultural land within the fortified area of the city?

Ans. Advantages of enclosing agriculture land within the fortified area:

- (i) It had an elaborate canal system which drew water from the Tungabhadra to provide irrigation facilities.
- (ii) It enclosed agricultural tracts, cultivated fields, gardens and forests.
- (iii) This enclosure saved crops from being eaten by wild animals.

Disadvantages of enclosing agriculture land within the fortified area:

- (i) This system was very expensive.
- (ii) During adverse, circumstances this system proved inconvenient to the farmers.
- (iii) The farmers had to seek the permission of gate keeper to reach their field.

Q 8. Discuss about the Hazara Rama temple. What happened to different buildings after Vijayanagara Kings?

Ans. Hazara Rama Temple:

- (i) Hazara Rama temple was one of the most spectacular among the temples. This might have been used only by the king and his family.
- (ii) Images in the central shrine of this temple are missing, but sculpted panels on the walls are still present.
- (iii) These include scenes from the Ramayana sculpted on the inner walls of the shrine.
- (iv) When the Vijayanagara city was looted and destroyed, many of the structures or buildings were destroyed.
- (v) Later, the practice of building large structures were continued by the nayakas. Now many of these building have survived.

Q 9. Highlight any four aspects observed by the Portuguese traveller Duarte Barbosa on the urban core of the Vijayanagara Empire. (CBSE 2016)

Ans. Sixteenth century Portuguese traveller Duarte Barbosa described following aspects on the urban core of the Vijayanagara Empire.

- (i) The houses had roofs made of straw, palm leaves, etc.
- (ii) They were well-build and arranged according to occupations, in long streets and many open places. The houses did not survive.

- (iii) Surveys indicate that the complete area was linked with many shrines and small temples also indicating the prevalence of other cults. This perhaps was supported by different communities.
- (iv) The survey also indicates that wells, rainwater tanks as well as temple tanks could have served as sources of water to the common people.

Q 10. Highlight the aspects observed by Domingo Paes on the Mahanavami Dibba of the Vijayanagara Empire. (CBSE 2016)

Ans. Domingo Paes had made following observations on the Mahanavami Dibba of the Vijayanagara Empire.

- (i) Some significant structures in the area had been given names based on the form of the buildings as well as their functions. The King's palace was the largest of the enclosures. It had two of the most important platforms usually called the Audience Hall and the Mahanavami Dibba.
- (ii) Domingo Paes called the audience hall and the Mahanavami Dibba the 'House of Victory'. These buildings had two platforms, one above the other.
- (iii) On the upper platform was a room made of cloth. The idol was in shrine form. In the centre of the other platform, the throne of the state was placed.

Q 11. Describe the significance of temple building in the sacred centre of Vijayanagara.

Ans. The significance of temple building in the sacred centre of Vijayanagara were:

- (i) The temples were developed as significant religious, social cultural and economic centres.
- (ii) Rulers viewed constructing, repairing and maintaining temples as important means to win support and recognition of their power, wealth and being religious.
- (iii) Vijayanagara rulers were inspired by the rulers of Cholas, Hoysalas in temple building, and took them to the new heights.
- (iv) The rulers of Vijayanagara innovated and developed new traditions like, display of Royal portrait sculpture in temples.
- (v) The King's visits to temples were treated as important state occasions, and thus king was accompanied by the important *nayakas* of temple.

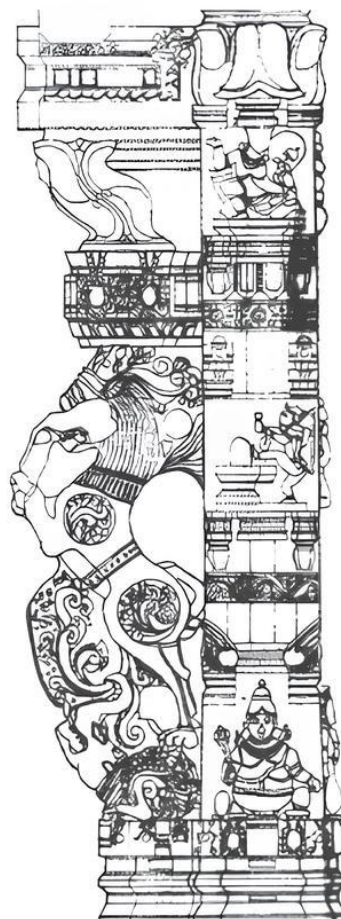
Q 12. Discuss about the sacred centre briefly with respect to legends and other temples.

Ans. The sacred centre with respect to legends and other temples were:

- (i) The rocky Northern end of city located on the banks of the Tungabhadra was referred to as sacred centre.

- (ii) As per the local traditions, these hills had the monkey kingdom of Vali and Sugriva mentioned in the Ramayana.
- (iii) Some other traditions suggested that Pampadevi the local mother Goddess, did penance (Tapasya) in these hills in order to marry Virupaksha, the God who protected the kingdom and also recognised as a form of Shiva.
- (iv) The marriage was celebrated even today every year in the Virupaksha temple.
- (v) In these hills, Jaina temples of the pre-Vijayanagara period were also found. It implies that this area was associated with different sacred traditions.

Q 13. The below figure is an illustration of another pillar from the Virupaksha temple. Do you notice any floral motifs? What are the animals shown? Why do you think they are depicted? Describe the human figures shown:



- Ans.**
- (i) The illustration of pillar from the Virupaksha temple contains floral motifs i.e. flower images which can be noticed on the pillars.
 - (ii) The animals shown include horse, peacock, duck etc. They were depicted to add more beauty to the pillar of the temple.

- (iii) Animals like horses are symbolic to royal power, because they were used in wars as cavalry.
- (iv) The human figures is also depicted on the pillar. At the top, there is a human figure which looks like it was in kneeling position.
- (v) The middle human figure was praying to Shiva linga, but he was using legs instead of hands. The below human figure mostly belongs to some deity, which has crown, a weapon in one hand and necklaces around the neck.

Q 14. Why was Mahanavami Dibba a centre of main Vijayanagara rituals? (CBSE 2023)

OR

What do you think was the significance of the rituals associated with the Mahanavami Dibba?

Ans. The significance of the rituals associated with the Mahanavami Dibba was:

- (i) *Mahanavami dibba* was located at one of the highest points in the city. It was a massive platform or stage rising from a base of about 11,000 sq.ft. to a height of 40 ft.
- (ii) It supported a wooden building and the base of the platform was covered with relief designs or carvings.
- (iii) Rituals associated with *Mahanavami dibba* probably coincided with Mahanavami i.e. the ninth day of the ten-day Hindu festival during the autumn months of September and October. It is known as Dussehra in North India, Durga Puja in Bengal and Navaratri or Mahanavami in Peninsular India.
- (iv) The Vijayanagara Kings showed their prestige, power and control over the empire on the occasion.
- (v) On this occasion several ceremonies were performed this included.
 - (a) Worship of the different Gods and Goddesses.
 - (b) Worship of the state horse.
 - (c) The sacrifice of buffaloes and other animals.
 - (d) The main attraction of this occasion were:
 - Dances
 - Wrestling matches
 - Processions of horses: elephants, chariots and soldiers

Q 15. Describe any three innovations that the rulers of Vijayanagara introduced in the construction of temples.

Ans. The innovations that the rulers of Vijayanagara introduced in the construction of temples were:

- (i) The temples had huge structures. They had high gopurams and royal gateways.
- (ii) The Gopurams could be seen from a far away distance, a reminder of the powers of Kings.

- (iii) The temples also had Nandapams, pavilions and long-pillared corridors. These corridors often ran around the shrines within the temples.
- (iv) Temples developed as a significant religious, social, cultural and economic centre.

(Any three)

Q 16. Describe the accounts of foreign travellers about the city of Vijayanagara.

Ans. The accounts of foreign travellers about the city of Vijayanagara:

- (i) **Colonel Colin Mackenzie:** The ruins at Hampi were brought to light in 1800 by an engineer and Antiquarian named Colonel Colin Mackenzie.
- (ii) **Abdur Razzaq:** He noted that fortification between the first, second and the third walls, there were cultivated fields, houses and gardens.
- (iii) **Domingo Paes:** He observed that from the first circuit of fortification the city was at a great distance, in which they sow rice and have many gardens and water, in which water comes from two lakes.

Q 17. Analyse the main features of Amara-Nayaka system which was introduced in the Vijayanagara Empire.

(CBSE SQP 2023-2024)

Ans. The main features of Amara-Nayaka system were:

- (i) The Amara-Nayaka system was a major political innovation of the Vijayanagara Empire. It is likely that many features of this system were derived from the Iqta system of the Delhi Sultanate.
- (ii) The Amara-Nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern by the Raya.
- (iii) They collected taxes and other dues from peasants, crafts persons and traders in the area. They retained part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants.
- (iv) These contingents provided the Vijayanagara kings with an effective fighting force with which they brought the entire southern peninsula under their control. Some of the revenue was also used for the maintenance of temples and irrigation works.
- (v) The Amara-Nayakas sent tribute to the king annually and personally appeared in the royal court with gifts to express their loyalty. Kings occasionally asserted their control over them by transferring them from one place to another to prove their control over the Amara-Nayakas.

Q 18. What were the contribution of scholars in reconstructing the history of Vijayanagara Empire?

Ans. Contributions of scholars in reconstructing the history of Vijayanagara Empire.

- (i) Some scholars have recovered and documented traces of thousands of structures from tiny shrines and residences to large temples in the Vijayanagara site.
- (ii) John M. Fritz, George Michell and MS Nagaraja Rao have described that they had to imagine a whole set of disappeared wooden parts, pillars, beams, ceilings, overhanging roofs and towers decorated with plaster and painted brightly.
- (iii) Though these wooden structures are lost and only stone structures have survived, the descriptions of travellers allowed them to reconstruct some aspects of the energetic life of those times.

Q 19. Discuss whether the term 'royal centre' is an appropriate description for the part of the city for which it is used.

Ans. The term 'royal centre' is an appropriate description for the part of the city for which it is used due to its royal features which are follows:

- (i) The royal centre was located in the South-Western part of the settlement. It had more than 60 temples.
- (ii) Most of the temples were constructed by the ruler of Vijayanagara Empire to express their supremacy.
- (iii) The royal centre had 30 palaces. These were made of perishable material.
- (iv) One of the most beautiful buildings in the royal centre is the Lotus Mahal. It was named by British travellers in the nineteenth century. While the name is certainly romantic, historians are not quite sure what the building was used for.
- (v) Most temples were located in the sacred centre. One of the most spectacular of these is the Hazara Rama Temple. This was probably meant to be used only by the king and his family.

Q 20. What does the architecture of buildings like the Lotus Mahal and elephant stables tell us about the rulers who commissioned them?

Ans. The architecture of buildings like the Lotus Mahal and elephant stables tell us that the rulers had adopted Indian traditional symbol, signs and totems. They were Hindu by faith but they were liberal by nature.

Lotus Mahal



- (i) The Lotus Mahal, named by British travellers in the nineteenth century was one of the most beautiful buildings in the royal centre. But, historians are not sure about what the building was used for.
- (ii) A map drawn by Mackenzie suggested that it might have been a council chamber, a place where the king met his advisors.
- (iii) Lotus Mahal had arches, which might be inspired by Indo-Islamic techniques. It had nine towers, a high central one and eight along sides.

Elephant Stables



"Elephant stables" located close to the Lotus Mahal.

- (i) Elephant stable was constructed near the Lotus Mahal in which a number of rooms were lined.
- (ii) There were a large number of elephants in the army. To keep these elephants, stable was constructed.

Q 21. What are the architectural traditions that inspired the architects of Vijayanagara? How did they transform these traditions?

- Ans.**
- (i) The rulers of Vijayanagara made many innovations in the architectural traditions. They added many new features in the temple architecture.
 - (ii) These large structures were a show of their imperial authority. For example, they built Gopurams and royal gateways.
 - (iii) The towers of the central shrines signalled the presence of the temple from a great distance. But the royal gateways surpassed them in height.
 - (iv) They reminded the power of the kings. They showed that the kings had full command over the resources, techniques and skills.
 - (v) The rulers of Vijayanagara also got built mandapas or pavilions. Besides there were long and pillared corridors that ran around the shrines.

- (vi) Krishnadeva Raya, to mark his accession also built a hall in front of the main shrine. This hall was decorated with delicately carved pillars. These halls were used for a variety of deities.
- (vii) A characteristic complex is the 'Charlot Street' that extended from the temple Gopurams in a straight line. These streets were paved with stone slabs and lined with pillared pavilions in which the merchants set up their shops.

Q 22. What impression on the lives of the ordinary people of Vijayanagara can you collect from the various descriptions in the chapter?

Ans. The impression on the lives of the ordinary people of Vijayanagara can be explained through the following points:

- (i) Sixteenth century Portuguese traveller Duarte Barbosa described that the houses of ordinary people had roofs made of straw, palm leaves etc. but were well built and were arranged according to the occupations, in long streets with many open places.
- (ii) Field surveys show that the entire area of Vijayanagara was scattered with number of shrines and small temples. This shows that different cults were present there, which might be supported by different communities.
- (iii) The surveys also indicate that wells, rainwater tanks, temple tanks were used as source of water by the ordinary town people.
- (iv) Archaeologists found little archaeological evidence of the houses of ordinary people. They have found fine Chinese porcelain (Chinaware) in some areas in the North-Eastern corner of the urban core and it shows that these areas might have been occupied by rich traders.
- (v) There was an orthodox bigot section in Vijayanagara called as reddis who owned the land. They had enough influence in the Telugu region of Vijayanagara. In the society, there were a few low class people, who were non-influential. They were Domber, Marva, Jogi, Paraiyan, Boi kallaar etc.



Long Answer Type Questions

Q 1. Why did strain begin to show within the imperial structure after the death of Krishnadeva Raya in 1529?

Ans. Strain began to show within the imperial structure after the death of Krishnadeva Raya in 1529 due to following reasons:

- (i) Strain began to show within the imperial structure following Krishnadeva Raya's death in 1529 as his successors were troubled by rebellious nayakas or military chiefs.

- (ii) By 1542 control at the centre had shifted to another ruling lineage, that of the Aravidu, which remained in power till the end of the seventeenth century.
- (iii) During this period, as indeed earlier, the military ambitions of the rulers of Vijayanagara as well as those of the Deccan Sultanates resulted in shifting alignments.
- (iv) Eventually this led to an alliance of the Sultanates against Vijayanagara. In 1565 Rama Raya, the chief minister of Vijayanagara, led the army into battle at Rakshasi-Tangadi (also known as Talikota), where his forces were routed by the combined armies of Bijapur, Ahmadnagar and Golconda.
- (v) The victorious armies sacked the city of Vijayanagara. The city was totally abandoned within a few years. Now the focus of the empire shifted to the East where the Aravidu dynasty ruled from Penukonda and later from Chandragiri (near Tirupati).
- (vi) Although the armies of the Sultans were responsible for the destruction of the city of Vijayanagara, relations between the Sultans and the Rayas were not always or inevitably hostile, in spite of religious differences.
- (vii) Krishnadeva Raya, for example, supported some claimants to power in the Sultanates and took pride in the title 'establisher of the Yavana kingdom'. Similarly, the Sultan of Bijapur intervened to resolve succession disputes in Vijayanagara following the death of Krishnadeva Raya.

Q 2. Outline the distinctive features of the Virupaksha temple and the Vitthala temple in the royal centre of Vijayanagara Empire.

Ans. The Virupaksha Temple:

- (i) The Virupaksha temple was an old temple dedicated to Lord Shiva, the guardian deity. It was enlarged with the establishment of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- (ii) The hall in front of the main shrine was built by Krishnadeva Raya to mark his accession.
- (iii) This was decorated with delicately carved pillars.
- (iv) There were Mandapas or pillared corridors found in temple.
- (v) Images of God were placed to witness special programmes of music, dance and dramas.

The Vitthala Temple:

- (i) The principal deity was Vitthala a form of Vishnu.
- (ii) A characteristic feature of the temple complex is the chariot streets that extended from the temple Gopuram in a straight line.

- (iii) These streets were paved with stone slabs and lined with pillared pavilions in which merchants set up their shops.

Q 3. Why was the South-Western part of Vijayanagara settlement designated as royal centre? Explain.

Ans. The South-Western part of Vijayanagara Kingdom was designated as royal centre as:

- (i) It include over 60 temple.
- (ii) The patronage of temples and cults was important for rulers who were trying to establish and legitimize their authority through associations with the divinities housed in the shrines.
- (iii) It was designated as royal centre because most of the buildings belonged to the royal family and administration were present here.
- (iv) About thirty building complexes have been identified as palaces seeing their structure.
- (v) The 'King's palace' was the largest of the enclosures. It has two impressive platforms, usually called the 'Audience Hall' and the "Mahanavaml Dibba."
- (vi) Rituals associated with the structure probably coincided with Mahanavaml.
- (vii) The Vijayanagara Kings displayed their prestige, power and superiority on Mahanavaml.
- (viii) The most beautiful building in the Royal centre is the Lotus Mahal.
- (ix) The Hazara Rama temple was probably meant for Kings and his family.

Q 4. Describe the features of the water resources of Vijayanagara Empire? (CBSE SQP 2022-2023)

OR

Explain the striking features about the location of Vijayanagara, its water resources and fortifications.

Ans. Location and Water Resources of Vijayanagara:

- (i) Vijayanagara is the natural basin formed by the river Tungabhadra which flows in a North-Easterly direction.
- (ii) The surrounding landscape is characterised by the stunning hills of granite forming a girdle around the city.
- (iii) Streams flowed down to the river from the rocky outcrops.
- (iv) Embankment were built along these streams to create reservoirs of varying sizes.
- (v) Kamlapuram tank was source of water for irrigation as well as the needs of the royal centre.
- (vi) The most prominent water works included the Hiriya canal that drew water from the canal and supplied it for irrigation.

Fortifications:

- (i) Abdur Razzaq, an ambassador sent by the ruler of Persia to Calicut in the 15th century, was

impressed by the fortifications of Vijayanagara and mentioned about the seven lines of forts.

- (ii) These fortifications not only surrounded the city but also remote agricultural areas and forests. The hills surrounding the city were linked with the outermost wall.
- (iii) The large construction was slightly reduced in thickness at one end. The Mortar or cementing agent were not used in the construction.
- (iv) The stone blocks were wedge shaped, which held them in place.
- (v) The inner portion of walls, was Earth packed with rubble and square or rectangular fortification was projected outwards.

Q 5. Why was Persian ambassador Abdur Razzaq greatly impressed by the fortifications of the Vijayanagara Empire? (CBSE 2023)

OR

Explain why Abdur Razzaq, a Persian ambassador, was greatly impressed by the fortification of Vijayanagara Empire during the 15th century.

Ans. Abdur Razzaq was ambassador sent by the ruler of Persia to Calicut in the fifteenth century was impressed after looking at the fortifications due to its following features:

- (i) The fortifications not only surrounded the city but also remote agricultural areas and forests.
- (ii) The hills surrounding the city were linked with the outermost wall. The large construction was slightly reduced in thickness at one end.
- (iii) The mortar or cementing agent was not used in the construction. The stone blocks were wedge shaped, which held them in place.
- (iv) The inner portion of walls was packed with waste parts of Earth like remains of stone, brick, etc and square or rectangular fortification was projected outwards.
- (v) The most important thing about this fortification was that it surrounded agricultural lands.
- (vi) Between the first, second and the third walls, there were cultivated fields, gardens and houses.
- (vii) There is an evidence of an agricultural land between the sacred centre and the urban core, and this land was supplied water from a canal system which drew water from the river Tungabhadra.
- (viii) The inner core of the urban complex was surrounded by second line of fortification and the royal centre was surrounded by a third line.
- (ix) Within this, there were major buildings present which were surrounded by their own high walls.
- (x) The well-guarded gates which were linked to major roads of the city were used to entered the fort.

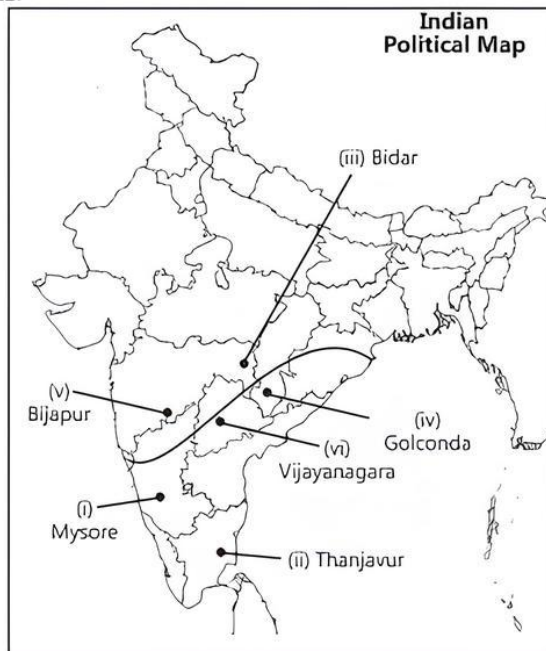


Map Based Questions

Q 1. On the given political outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| (i) Mysore | (ii) Thanjavur |
| (iii) Bidar | (iv) Golconda |
| (v) Bijapur | (vi) Vijayanagara |

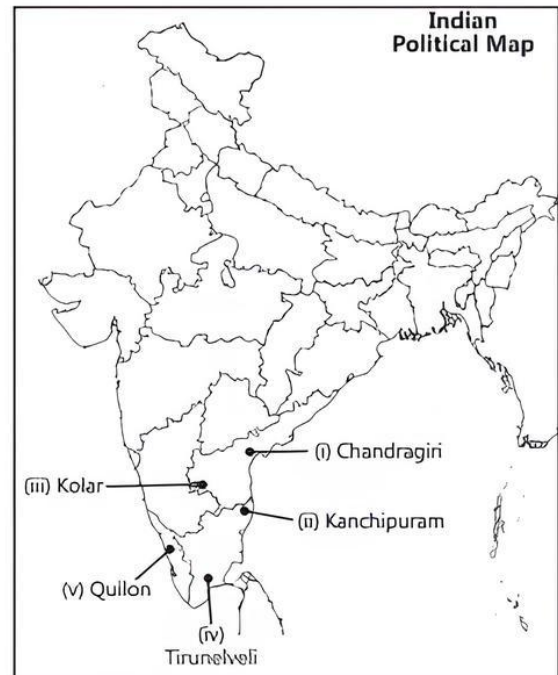
Ans.



Q 2. On a political outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| (i) Chandragiri | (ii) Kanchipuram |
| (iii) Kolar | (iv) Tirunelveli |
| (v) Quilon | |

Ans.



Chapter Test

Multiple Choice Questions

Q 1. The Battle of Talikota between Vijayanagara and the Deccan sultans took place in which year?

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| a. 1550 | b. 1565 |
| c. 1570 | d. 1575 |

Q 2. Which traveller called the 'Mahanavami Dibba' as the 'House of Victory'?

- | |
|-------------------|
| a. Duarte Barbosa |
| b. Fernao Nuniz |
| c. Domingo Paes |
| d. Abdur Razzaq |

Fill in the Blank Type Question

Q 3. The term is used by the contemporaries to describe the Vijayanagara Empire.

- | |
|-------------------------|
| a. Karnataka Smarajyamu |
| b. Amara Nayaka |
| c. Sangama |
| d. Both a. and c. |

Identify the Image Type Question

Q 4. Identify the image given below.



Assertion and Reason Type Question

Q 5. In the question given below, that are two statements marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option:

Assertion (A): The Rayas gave territories to military commanders.

Reason (R): The Amar-Nayaka system was a major political innovation of Mughal Empire.

- a. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).
- b. Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A).
- c. (A) is true but (R) is false.
- d. Both (A) and (R) are false.

Correct and Rewrite Type Question

Q 6. The reign of Krishnadeva Raya is considered as golden period in the history of Hastinapura.

Source Based Question

Q 7. Read the following source carefully and answer the questions that follow:

The Bazaar

Paes gives a vivid description of the bazaar: Going forward, you have a broad and beautiful street ... In this street many merchants live and there you will find all sorts of rubies and diamonds emeralds and pearls and seed-pearls and cloths and every other sort of thing there is on Earth and that you may wish to buy. Then you have there every evening a fair where they sell many common horses and nags, and also many citrons, and limes, and oranges, and grapes, and every other kind of garden stuff, and wood; you have all in this street.

More generally, he described the city as being "the best provided city in the world" with the markets "stocked with provisions such as rice, wheat,

grains, India corn and a certain amount of barley and beans, moong, pulses and horse-gram" all of which were cheaply and abundantly available. According to Fernao Nuniz, the Vijayanagara markets were "overflowing with abundance of fruits, grapes and oranges, limes, pomegranates, jackfruit and mangoes and all very cheap". Meat too was sold in abundance in the marketplaces. Nuniz describes "mutton, pork, venison, partridges, hares, doves, quail and all kinds of birds, sparrows, rats and cats and lizards" as being sold in the market of Bisnaga (Vijayanagara).

- (i) Who is the author of the passage? What is the theme? What all can you find in the market street?
- (ii) How did Paes describe the city?
- (iii) What did Fernao Nuniz tell about Vijayanagara markets?

Very Short Answer Type Questions

- Q 8. Who founded the ruins of Hampi?
- Q 9. Who were the Amara-Nayakas?

Short Answer Type Questions

- Q 10. How and when were the ruins of Hampi brought to light? Explain briefly.
- Q 11. Explain the main features of 'royal centre'.

Long Answer Type Question

- Q 12. Explain the location and Water Resources of Vijayanagara.