

## 2. Struggling Period of India-From 1206 AD to 1757 AD

### Very Short Answer

#### 1. Question

What is another name of Slave dynasty?

#### Answer

- The Mamluk Dynasty is sometimes referred to as the Slave Dynasty or Ghulam Dynasty.
- The Mamluk Dynasty ruled from 1206 to 1290
- Qutb ud-Din Aibak became the sultan of Delhi, and that was the beginning of the Slave dynasty.

#### 2. Question

On which designation Razia Sultan appointed Yakut?

#### Answer

Jamal ud-Din Yaqut (also Yakut) was an African Siddi slave-turned-nobleman who was a close partner of Razia Sultana. He was Razia's close advisor and friend. She appointed him to the important post of administrator of the royal stables. She awarded Yaqut the title of *Amir-al-Khayl* (*Amir of Horses*) and later the much higher *Amir al-Umara* (*Amir of Amirs*).

#### 3. Question

Name the ruler who applied the policy of "Iron and Yakut"?

#### Answer

Balban displayed great vigor and energy to follow this policy of 'iron and blood' and saved the Delhi. This policy being ruthless to the enemies includes the use of sword, harshness, and strictness and shedding blood. It allowed the use of all sorts of processes of terrorisms the enemies and inflicting brutality upon them.

#### 4. Question

Who had translated Babarnama in Persian?

#### Answer

Baburnama is also known to be the first true autobiography in the Islamic literature. Baburnama was written in Chagatai Turkic language. The work was completely translated to Persian by a Mughal courtier, Abdul Rahīm, 1589 to 1590.

### **5. Question**

Name the ruler who built 'Grand Trunk Road'.

### **Answer**

Grand truck road was the longest highway at that time; it was called Grand Trunk road by the British. The Grand Trunk Road was built by Sher Shah Suri, a ruler of the Indian subcontinent. It connected the extended the Mughal empire stretching from Dacca in Bangladesh to Lahore in Pakistan.

### **6. Question**

When was the second war of Panipat fought?

### **Answer**

The Second Battle of Panipat was fought on November 5, 1556 between the forces of Samrat Hem Chandra Vikramaditya, popularly called Hemu, the Hindu king who was ruling North India from Delhi, and the army of Akbar.

### **7. Question**

What title was adopted by Hemu?

### **Answer**

After defeating Akbar's Mughal forces on 7 October, 1556 Hemu claimed the Hemu claimed royal status and assumed the ancient title of Vikramaditya. The name had been adopted by many Hindu kings in ancient times.

### **8. Question**

When was world famous Haldighati battle fought?

### **Answer**

The Battle of Haldighati was fought in Haldighati, Rajasthan on 18 or 21 June 1576. It lasted for around four hours between Maharana Pratap and Akbar's forces led by Man Singh I.

### **9. Question**

Which religion was initiated by Akbar?

### **Answer**

Akbar spread Din-i-Ilahi, a religious creed derived mainly from Islam and Hinduism as well as some parts of Zoroastrianism and Christianity.

## **10. Question**

Who was the founder of the Bahmani Empire?

### **Answer**

The Bahmani kingdom was founded by Alauddin Hasan in 1347. He assumed the title of Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah (1347-58). It is from this title that the kingdom was called the Bahmani kingdom.

## **11. Question**

Which Sikh Guru constructed 'Akal Takht'?

### **Answer**

Guru Hargobind constructed Akal Takht as a symbol of political autonomy and where religious and worldly concerns of the Sikh people could be addressed. It is originally called as Akal Bunga.

## **12. Question**

Where was the coronation of Shivaji took place?

### **Answer**

The coronation of Shivaji took place on 6th June 1674 at Raigad Fort.

## **13. Question**

Where did Hammir Chauhan rule?

### **Answer**

Hammiradeva or Hammir Chauhan was the last Chahamanas (Chauhans) king of Ranastambhapura (modern Ranthambore). Hammira ruled a kingdom centered on Ranthambore in present-day Rajasthan.

## **14. Question**

Where is the 'Gate of Amar Singh' situated?

### **Answer**

Amar Singh Gate or the 'gate of Amar Singh' is the southern entrance to Agra Fort in the city of Agra in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh.

## **Short Answer**

### **1. Question**

Write five policies of Mohammad Tughlaq.

### **Answer**

The policies of Mohammad Tughlaq are:

1) Revenue Reforms

The main motive of the Sultan was to set up a uniform standard of land revenue

2) Taxation in Doab (1525-27 A.D.)

The taxation was raised by ten to twenty times more.

3) Attempt to Improve Agriculture

The main object of this department was to increase the land under cultivation.

4) Transfer of the Capital (1326-1327 A.D.)

Sultan desired to make Daultabad the centre of Muslim culture and therefore, decided to make it his capital.

5) The Introduction of Token Currency (1329-1330 A.D.)

Sultan introduced token currency because the funds were empty while he needed money to fulfill his schemes of conquest.

Tughlaq lacked the qualities which could make him a successful organizer of a group of people. All these limitations contributed to failures of his schemes.

## 2. Question

Explain about 'Sikandari Gaz'.

### Answer

Sikandari Gaj was used to measure land, and for this measurement, a measure which was equivalent to 39 inches was used. The Sikandari Gaj was introduced by Sikandar Lodi.

## 3. Question

Who gave the title of Sher Khan to Farid and Why?

### Answer

Sher Shah Suri or Sher Khan was the founder of Sur dynasty in India. In 1522 he joined the service of Bahar Khan, governor of Bihar. He was given the title of Sher Khan by Bahar Khan, because of the courage and bravery showed by him in killing a tiger single-handedly, without fear. He was a very capable administrator and is remembered for his rule and the reforms he introduced. His supervision was very efficient but a bit strict. He continued his administrative as well as military activities concurrently. Sher Khan's other name is Farid Khan.

## 4. Question

Give a brief introduction of Vijay Nagar Empire.

### **Answer**

1. The Vijayanagara Empire is also called Karnataka Empire, and the Kingdom of Bisnagar (by the Portuguese). It was based in the Deccan Plateau region in South India.
2. It was established in 1336 by Harihara I and his brother Bukka Raya I of Sangama Dynasty.
3. The empire came to reputation as a conclusion of attempts by the southern powers to rid of Islamic invasions by the end of the 13th century.
4. The empire is named after its capital city of Vijayanagara, whose leftovers surround present day Hampi, now a World tradition Site in Karnataka, India.
5. The writings of medieval European travelers such as Domingo Paes, Fernão Nunes, and Niccolò Da Conti, and the literature in local languages provide central information about its history.
6. Archaeological excavations at Vijayanagara have revealed the empire's power and wealth.
7. The empire's legacy includes many monuments spread over South India, the best known of which is the group at Hampi.
8. Different distinctions were there in Vijayanagara Architecture style.
9. This synthesis inspired architectural originality in Hindu temples' creation.
10. Resourceful administration and vigorous overseas trade brought new technologies such as water management systems for irrigation.
11. The empire's patronage enabled fine arts and literature to reach new heights in Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, and Sanskrit, while Carnatic music evolved into its existing form.
12. The Vijayanagara Empire created an epoch in South Indian history that exceeded regionalism by encouraged Hinduism as a unifying factor.

### **5. Question**

What do you know about Rao Shekha?

### **Answer**

Shekha of Amarsar is also called as Maha Rao Shekha/Shaikha (1433–1488). He was a chief of Nan Amarsar of Jaipur State in 15th-century India. The Shekhawati, as well as Shekhawat Rajputs, get their name from him. His region was vast comprising the districts of Sikar, Churu, and Jhunjhunu in the present-day Indian state of Rajasthan.

- 1) At the age of 12, Shekha was crowned as a new chieftain in 1445 CE.

- 2) The ruler of Amber has honored him with the title of Maharao.
- 3) He fought 6 battles with Rao Chandrasen of Amber for the detached state of Amarsar.
- 4) After the sixth battle, Rao Chandrasen of Amber confirmed Shekhawati as a separate state from Jaipur.

## **6. Question**

Who was Banda Bairagi?

### **Answer**

Banda Singh Bahadur was a Sikh military commander who instituted a Sikh state with capital at Lohgarh (Haryana). His life period is from 27 October 1670 to 9 June 1716. At age 15 he left home to become an ascetic and was given the name "Madho Das".

- 1) He was originally from the Jammu region, is respected as one of greatest Sikh warriors.
- 2) He is as well as known as one of the most blessed martyrs of the Khalsa Army.
- 3) The Khalsa army was engaged in a prolonged fight against the cruel Mughals, who were involved in cruelty and violence.
- 4) Banda Singh's confrontation with the Mughal administration in Northern India was brief but was strong and dynamic enough to shake the foundations of this sinful empire.

## **Long Answer**

### **1. Question**

Explain briefly about Delhi Sultanate.

### **Answer**

Delhi Sultanate. Delhi Sultanate comprises various Muslim dynasties that ruled in India. The period was from 1210–1526. It was founded after Muhammad of Ghor defeated Prithvi Raj and captured Delhi in 1192. Qutb al-Din Aibak, a former Turkic Mamluk slave of Muhammad Ghor, was the first sultan of Delhi, and his Mamluk dynasty conquered large areas of northern India.

- In 1206, Qutb ud-Din, one of his generals, proclaimed himself sultan of Delhi and founded a row of rulers called the Slave dynasty.
- It was because he and several of the sultans who declared succession from him were originally military slaves.

- Iltutmish (1210–35) and Balban (1266–87) were among the dynasty's most well-known rulers.
- the Slave dynasty came to an end in 1290 due to constant revolts by conquered territories and rival families
- Under the Khalji dynasty (1290–1320), the conquests of Ala ud-Din Khalji brought Muslim authority in India to its utmost height until the Mughal empire.
- Early in the reign of Muhammad Tughluq, founder of the Tughluq dynasty (1325–98), the power of Delhi was approved in all parts of India.
- Under Tughluq's successors, the Sultanate of Delhi began to break up into several small states.
- With the dismissal of Delhi by Timur in 1398, the once great sultanate fell, although local rulers stayed behind on at Delhi until the invasion of Babur and the Mughal conquest.
- The Delhi Sultanate literature began with the rise of Persian speaking people to the throne of the Sultanate of Delhi.
- It resulted in the spread of the Persian language in India.
- It was the official language, and soon literary works in the language began to come out.

The Delhi Sultanate is significant because it started the Muslim Rule in India. Before that, it was the Rajputs under Prithviraj Chauhan who ruled over Delhi and the surrounding areas. The beginning of Muslim rule brought in great cultural diversity which became a central and priceless feature of our country.

## 2. Question

Mention the contribution of Sawai Jai Singh's region.

### Answer

Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh (3 November 1688 – 21 September 1743) was the Hindu Rajput ruler of the kingdom of Amber which was later called Jaipur. He was given the title of *Sawai* by the Mughal Emperor, Aurangzeb in the year 1699. "Sawai" means one and a quarter times superior to his contemporaries. He had a great interest in mathematics, architecture, and astronomy.

- The young king was bright, eager to learn, and socially and politically wise.
- Among his many accomplishments, he founded the city of Jaipur which bears his name.
- Jai Singh's greatest achievement was the construction of Jaipur city (known originally as Jainagara)

- Jai Singh's chief astronomer, Jagannatha was a major influence in the design of the Jantar Mantar, and the two men remained lifelong friends.
- 'Jantar Mantar', in Sanskrit roughly translates to 'The Formula of Instruments'.
- In the early 1700s, when Jai Singh visualized his ambitious observatory project, the telescope had been in use by astronomers in Europe for over 100 years.
- Jantar Mantar is located in the modern city of New Delhi. It consists of 13 architectural astronomy instruments.
- He chose naked eye observation as the basis for his observatories. According to him, Observation of natural phenomena, including the movement of stars and planets became a part of the Hindu's worldview and part of our culture.
- Jai Singh opened his observatories to the public in order to popularize astronomy
- Astronomers were invited to his court for study and discussions
- In the political instability of his times, it was essential to maintain good standing with the seat of power in Delhi so that he had to erect these monumental structures.

For numerous achievements, Sawai Jai Singh II is remembered as the most enlightened king of 18th-century.

### 3. Question

Write an essay on 'Battle of Haldighati'.

#### Answer

Haldighati is a mountain pass in the Aravalli Range of Rajasthan in western India. This pass connects Rajsamand and Pali districts. The pass is situated at a distance of 40 kilometers from Udaipur. The name 'Haldighati' originated from the turmeric-colored yellow soil of the area.

- On 21 June 1576, the armies of Maharana Pratap and Akbar met at Haldighati, near the town of Gogunda in Rajasthan. The battle was called The Battle of Haldighati.
- Pratap's army was defeated, but Pratap organized another attack, known as the Battle of Dewar, in which the Mewar army was winning.
- The site of the battle was a narrow mountain pass at Haldighati near Gogunda in Rajasthan
- Maharana Pratap made a force of around 3,000 cavalries and 400 Bhil archers. The Mughals were led by Raja Man Singh of Amber, who controlled an army numbering around 5,000–10,000 men.

- The casualties for Mewar numbered around 1,600 men.
- The Mughal army lost 150 men, with another 350 wounded.
- The Mughals were the victors and caused significant loss among the Mewaris but failed to imprison Pratap, who escaped.
- Haldighati is considered or misinterpreted as a battle for Rajput or even Hindu honor against the Muslim Mughals. However, considering that both sides featured the Hindu Rajputs, and the Mewar army was also served by Hakim Khan Sur's Muslim Afghans, any opinion concerning religious conflict have little reliability.

The historical importance of the battle of Haldighat is that it showed the bravery of Rajputs and the small tribe Bhils. It was a turning point for Mughals also. It also manifests the courage and true spirit of Rajputs to save the motherland.

#### 4. Question

Describe the contribution of Shivaji in the rise of Marathas.

#### Answer

The Marathas emerged as a strong political power under the efficient leadership of **Chhatrapati Shivaji**. The Marathas kept long-drawn rivalry with the Mughals in the 17th and the first half of the 18th centuries.

- Since the early 17th century, the Marathas emerged as new political elite by joining the service of Ahmadnagar, Bijapur and Golkonda courts in the Deccan.
- Marathas earned the titles of Raja, Naik, and Rana
- The Mughal rulers Jahangir and Shahjahan realized the importance of the Maratha chieftains of Deccan
- Shivaji acted as the representative of the popular Maratha Dharma against the Mughal penetration into Maharashtra.
- Shivaji was also a talented administrator as well as a builder of the independent kingdom by bringing together different elements.
- Shivaji was the founder of the Maratha state.
- The Maratha polity was basically a centralized autocratic system but an enlightened monarchy.
- Shivaji divided the kingdom hierarchically into 'mauzas', 'tarafs' and 'prants' for administrative effectiveness and convenience.
- Mauza was the lowest unit of administrative structure.
- Shivaji had taken steps not to have caste group domination in the bureaucratic set-up

- Shivaji was trained in guerilla and hilly warfare.
- Shivaji was not a leader and creator of new administrative ideas
- Shivaji was followed by his son Sambhaji who ruled from 1680 to 1689, and he was followed by his brother Rajaram, who ruled from 1689 to 1700.

The Marathas worked very effectively and efficiently as long as Shivaji carried on and the decline was set in after his death. All these years the unfriendliness with the Mughals continued and in spite of his best efforts no other forces could win over them.

## 5. Question

With a brief introduction of Guru Nanak Dev, describe the important teachings of Sikh religion.

### Answer

Sikhism is a monotheistic religion. Sikhism was founded in the Punjab region in India in the 15th century by Guru Nanak Dev. The primary source of Scripture for Sikhs is the Guru Granth Sahib, regarded as the living Guru. The basic Sikh belief is represented in the phrase *Ik Onkar* meaning "One God." A Sikh place of worship is known as the *gurdwara*, which means "doorway to God." The five Ks are important for Sikhs:

The Five Ks are the articles of faith that Sikhs wear as ordered by the 10th Guru, Guru Gobind Singh. They include:

- *Kesh*, or unshorn long hair, which is sheltered by a *dastaar*, or turban. The *dastaar* is worn by men and some women to cover their long hair. But most women keep their hair long and uncovered, except for when entering a *gurdwara*.
- A *kangha* is a small wooden comb meant to keep the hair combed two times a day.
- A *kara* is an iron bangle to be worn on the hand used most.
- A *kachera* is a specific undergarment for men and women.
- A *kirpan* is a short blade.

### Guru Nanak

- Guru Nanak's life period is from 29 November 1469 – 22 September 1539 was the founder of Sikhism. He was the first of the ten Sikh Gurus. His birth is celebrated worldwide as Guru Nanak Gurburab on Kartik Pooranmashi.
- Guru Nanak traveled far and wide teaching people the message of one God who dwells in every one of His creations and constitutes the eternal Truth.
- He set up a single spiritual, social, and political platform
- His ideas were based on equality, fraternal love, goodness, and good value.

- Guru Nanak's words are collected of 974 poetic hymns in the holy text of Sikhism,
- It is part of the Sikh religious belief that the spirit of Guru Nanak's holiness, divinity, and religious ability descended upon each of the nine subsequent Gurus.