

UPSC MCQ

04

R KONDALA

Q1

- Which kingdom did the temple of Hazara Rama belong to ?
- (a) Avadh
- (b) Travancore
- (c) Vijayanagara
- (d) Ahom

- Ans c

Q2

- Some of the ancient Indian Kings or dynasties have been eulogised by pre-eminent court poets/writers:
- 1. Pulakesin II by Ravikirti
- 2. Chandragupta Maurya by Megasthenes
- 3. Harsha by Bana Bhatta 4. Chandragupta II by Fa-hien
- Select the code for correct matches:
- (a) 1 and 3
- (b) 1 and 4
- (c) 2 and 3
- (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

- Ans d

Q3

- Which of the following statement(s) is/ are incorrect regarding the philosophy of Hinduism?
- I. Yogasutra by Maharshi Patanjali is a harmonic doctrine that deals with harmony between the mind and the body through yoga.
- II. Nyayasutra is a Dwaita Sidhanta which deals with numerals.
- III. Uttara Mimamsa is a major Upanishadic work about worship via Yajna (rituals) and also became the basis of Karmamarga.
- (a) I and II
- (b) II and III
- (c) Only III
- (d) I, II and III

- Ans b

Q4

- Assertion (A): Despite initial victory, the Sepoy Mutiny could not succeed in overthrowing the Raj.
- Reason (R): The rising middle class sided with the Raj.
- (a) Both (A) and (R) are individually true and (R) is the correct explanation of A
- (b) Both (A) and (R) are individually true, but (R) is not a correct explanation of A
- (c) A is true, but (R) is false
- (d) A is false, but (R) is true

- Ans c

Q5

- Which one of the following statements about Chandragupta II is not correct ?
- (a) Kalidas and Amarsingh were famous scholars in his court
- (b) He expanded his empire both through matrimonial alliances and conquests
- (c) He married a Naga princess, named Kubera Naga
- (d) He married his daughter Prabhawati to an Ahom prince

- Ans b

Q6

- Which one of the following statements about Chandragupta II is not correct ?
- (a) Kalidas and Amarsingh were famous scholars in his court
- (b) He expanded his empire both through matrimonial alliances and conquests
- (c) He married a Naga princess, named Kubera Naga
- (d) He married his daughter Prabhawati to an Ahom prince

- Ans a

Q7

- Simon Commission of 1927 was boycotted because
- (a) there was no Indian Member in the Commission
- (b) it supported the Muslim League
- (c) Congress felt that the people of India are entitled to Swaraj
- (d) there were differences among the members

- Ans a

Q8

- Who among the following wrote the book Babuvivah?
- (a) Raja Rammohan Roy
- (b) Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar
- (c) Pandita Rambai
- (d) Rabindranath Tagore

- Ans b

Q9

- The Rihla was written in
- (a) Arabic in the Fourteenth Century by Ibn Battuta
- (b) Persian in the Fifteenth Century by Abdur Razzaq
- (c) Persian in the Thirteenth Century by Ibn Battuta
- (d) Italian in the Thirteenth Century by Marco Polo

- Ans a

Q10

- With reference to the Vedic Age, some important information is listed below:
- 1. Sabha was a place for recreation, where the prosperous persons often went and played a game of dice.
- 2. Samiti meetings was attended by both the people and the ruler.
- 3. Vidhata acted as a check on the ruler's/Raja's powers.
- 4. Ratnins disappeared in the later Vedic period.
- Select the code for correct statement:
- (a) Only 2
- (b) 1 and 2
- (c) Only 3
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

- Ans b

Q11


- Consider the following statements regarding the Battle of Plassey.
- Statement I: The Battle of Plassey (1757) is historically regarded as a military skirmish rather than a great battle, won more by treachery than by martial prowess.
- Statement II: The victory at Plassey granted the East India Company the Diwani rights of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
- (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
- (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
- (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct

- Ans C
 - Statement I is correct: The Battle of Plassey was largely decided by the betrayal of Mir Jafar (the Commander-in-Chief), who, along with Rai Durlabh, did not join the fighting. Robert Clive had conspired with them. The actual fighting was brief, making it a victory of diplomacy and treachery rather than military might.
 - Statement II is incorrect: The Diwani rights (right to collect revenue) were granted after the Battle of Buxar (1764) via the Treaty of Allahabad (1765). After Plassey, the British only gained the Zamindari of the 24 Parganas and political influence over the Nawab, but not the formal Diwani rights.
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Q12

- Consider the following statements regarding the treaties signed during the Second Anglo-Maratha War:
 - 1. The Treaty of Bassein was signed by Peshwa Baji Rao II, accepting the Subsidiary Alliance.
 - 2. The Treaty of Deogaon was signed by the Holkars after their defeat.
 - 3. The Treaty of Surji-Anjangaon forced the Scindias to cede the Ganga-Yamuna Doab region.
 - Which of the statements given above are correct?
 - (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
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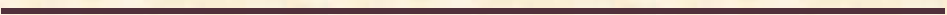
- Ans B
 - Statement 1 is correct because the Treaty of Bassein was signed by Bajji Rao II, who accepted the Subsidiary Alliance. This allowed the British to station troops and control his external affairs, effectively reducing the Peshwa to a dependent ally. This treaty became the immediate cause of the war, as other Maratha chiefs viewed it as a betrayal.
 - Statement 2 is incorrect because the Treaty of Deogaon was signed with Raghuji II Bhonsle, not the Holkars. The Holkars remained outside these early settlements and continued resistance, making them distinct from Scindia and Bhonsle.
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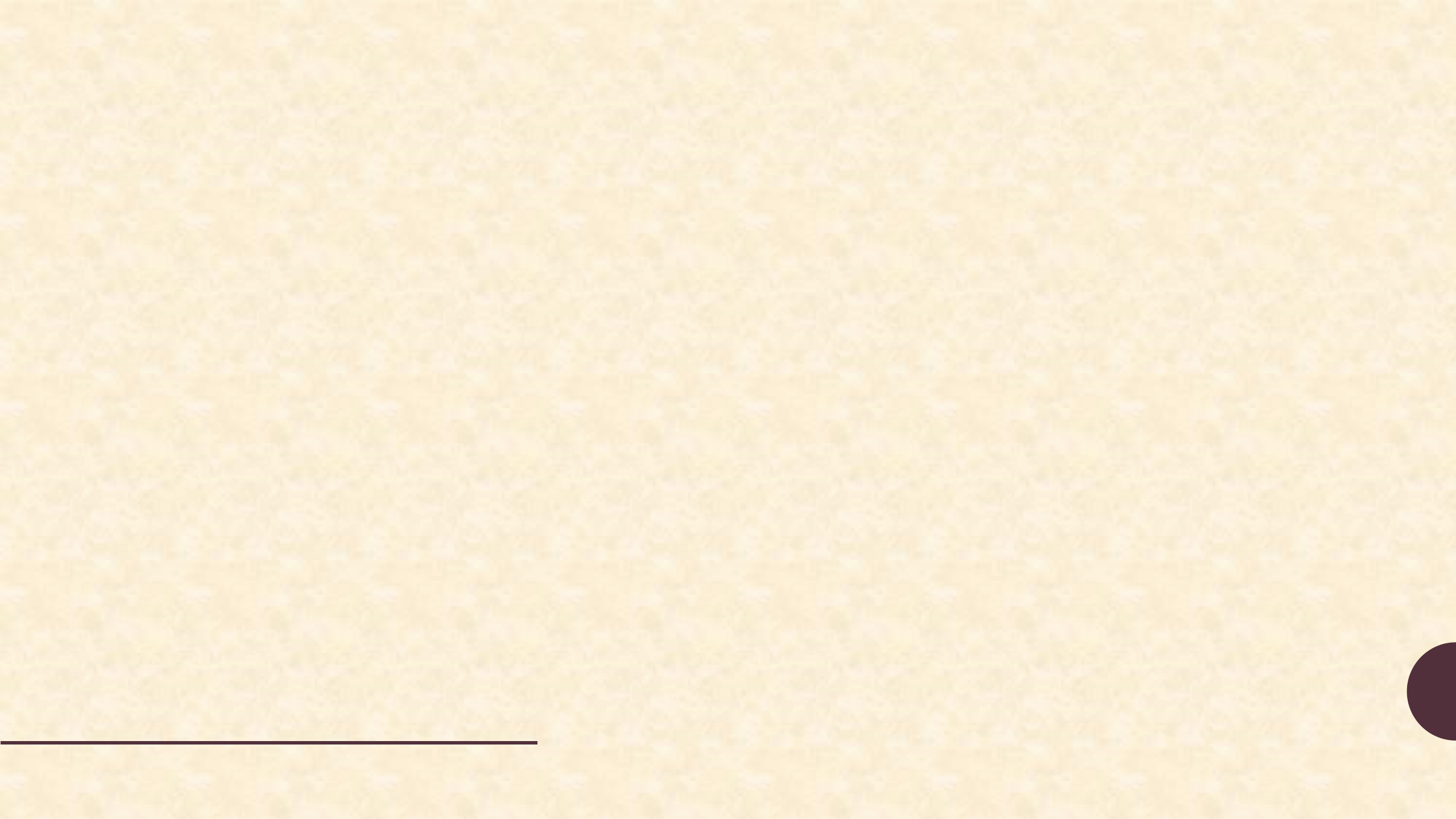
- Statement 3 is correct since the Treaty of Surji-Anjangaon, signed with Daulat Rao Scindia, compelled him to cede key territories including the Ganga–Yamuna Doab, Delhi, and Agra. This significantly weakened Maratha influence in North India and strengthened British political control.
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Q13


- Consider the following statements:
 - : The Dandi March, led by Mahatma Gandhi in 1930, was a highly symbolic act that successfully mobilized diverse sections of Indian society against British rule.
 - Statement-II: The British government's monopoly on the production and sale of salt was an economic grievance that affected every single household in India, making it a powerful and universally relatable issue for a mass struggle. Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?
 - (a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I
 - (b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I
 - (c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect
 - (d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct
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- Ans A








- 1) Consider the following statements regarding Shakyas.
 - 1. The Shakyas ruled Kapilavastu after Buddha's Parinirvana.
 - 2. They fled to different parts of Greater Magadha and to far-flung places like Gandhara and Burma.
 - 3. They were granted a status comparable to that of the Vajracharya priests. How many of the above statements are correct?
 - a) Only one
 - b) Only two
 - c) All three
 - d) None
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- Solution: C
 - The Shakyas who ruled Kapilavastu after Buddha's Parinirvana did not have an army, and many were massacred in Sagarahawa.
 - Eventually, the remaining Shakyas fled to different parts of Greater Magadha and to far-flung places like Gandhara (modern-day Afghanistan) and Burma (Myanmar).
 - Many also went to the Kathmandu valley and were granted a status comparable to that of the Vajracharya priests, but they were not permitted to practise priesthood outside of their families.
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- The word Yavanas mentioned in detail in Sangam literature refer to
 - a) Horse chariots that were used for Ashvamedha sacrifices
 - b) Elaborate religious arrangements made by Kings
 - c) Foreign conquests that lead to local cultural assimilation
 - d) Some Greek kingdoms
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- Solution: D
 - In some Sanskrit sources, the usage of the words “Yona”, “Yauna”, “Yonaka”, “Yavana” or “Javana” etc. appears repeatedly, and particularly in relation to the Greek kingdoms which neighboured or sometimes occupied the Punjab region over a period of several centuries from the 4th century BCE to the first century CE.
 - The Yavanas are mentioned in detail in Sangam literature epics such as Pattinappalai, describing their brisk trade with the Early Cholas in the Sangam period
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- Consider the following statements regarding Prehistoric painting.
 - 1. There are evidences of Lower Paleolithic people producing art.
 - 2. Symbols do not form part of Prehistoric paintings.
 - 3. Hunting scenes predominate in Mesolithic paintings.
 - How many of the above statements is/are correct?
 - a) Only one
 - b) Only two
 - c) All three
 - d) None
-
- 


- Solution: A Only Statement 3 is correct.
 - We have no evidences of lower Paleolithic people producing art it is only during Upper Paleolithic that the production of art begins.
 - The paintings can be divided into three categories: human beings, animals and geometric patterns.
 - The largest number of paintings belongs to Mesolithic age. Hunting scenes predominate in Mesolithic paintings
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- The Natya Shashtra is a notable ancient treatise influencing dance, music and literary traditions in India. It is notable for its aesthetic “Rasa theory”. The Rasa theory state that
 - a) Performance of arts is intended purely for entertainment.
 - b) Pleasure and happiness are the foundations of a human’s life.
 - c) The primary goal of ragas in music is to give it a natural flavour, one that appeals to all creatures and not only human beings.
 - d) Performance of arts is a tool to raise individual consciousness for spiritual upliftment
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- Solution: D
 - It asserts that entertainment is a desired effect of performance arts but not the primary goal, and that the primary goal is to transport the individual in the audience into another parallel reality, full of wonder, where he experiences the essence of his own consciousness, and reflects on spiritual and moral questions.
 - This is similar to the Sufi's views on music, chanting and its spiritual potential to connect with the divine.
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- Consider the following pairs Folk Dance Related Community
 - 1. Hozagiri Dance Reang community
 - 2. Bihu Dance Chakma community
 - 3. Cheraw Dance Lusai community
 - Which of the above pairs is/are correctly matched?
 - a) 1 only
 - b) 1, 2
 - c) 1, 3 d) 1, 2, 3
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- Solution: D
 - The main folk dances of Tripura are –
 - Hozagiri dance of Reang community,
 - Biju dance of Chakma community,
 - Cheraw dance of Lusai community
 - Wangala dance of Garo Community,
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- The sixth century BCE is regarded as a major turning point in early Indian history. It is associated with which of the following?
 - 1. Use of silver for the first time
 - 2. Development of coinage
 - 3. Practice of “gana” oligarchies in mahajanpadas
 - How many of the above statements is/are incorrect?
 - a) Only one b) Only two c) All three d) None
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- Ans a
 - Statement 1 is incorrect.
 - Statement 1 and 2: Silver was being used since Harappan times.
 - So, 1 is wrong. It is an era associated with early states, cities, the growing use of iron, the development of coinage, etc. Statement 3: It also witnessed the growth of diverse systems of thought, including Buddhism and Jainism. Early Buddhist and Jaina texts mention, amongst other things, sixteen states known as mahajanapadas. While most mahajanapadas were ruled by kings, some, known as ganas or sanghas, were oligarchies, where power was shared by a number of men, often collectively called rajas. Both Mahavira and the Buddha belonged to such ganas. In some instances, as in the case of the Vajji sangha, the rajas probably controlled resources such as land collectively.
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- Consider the following statements.
 - 1. Mauryas used punch-marked coins made of silver and copper.
 - 2. The first coins to bear the names and images of rulers were issued by the Indo-Greeks.
 - 3. Yaudheyas of Punjab and Haryana were renowned for issuing copper coins.
 - 4. Both Kushanas and Guptas issued gold coins.
 - How many of the above statements is/are correct?
 - a) Only one b) Only two c) Only three d) All four
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- Solution: D
 - Exchanges were facilitated by the introduction of coinage. Punch-marked coins made of silver and copper (c. sixth century BCE onwards) were amongst the earliest to be minted and used by many dynasties including the Mauryas.
 - The first coins to bear the names and images of rulers were issued by the Indo-Greeks, who established control over the north-western part of the subcontinent c. second century BCE.
 - The first gold coins were issued in the first century CE by the Kushanas (some sources dispute this fact). These were virtually identical in weight with those issued by Roman emperors and the Parthian rulers of Iran.
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- Which of the following three kingdoms (tripartite) were involved in struggle for Kannauj?
 - a) Cholas, Palas and Rashtrakutas
 - b) Palas, Pratiharas and Cholas
 - c) Cheras, Rashtrakutas and Pandyas
 - d) Palas, Pratiharas and Rashtrakutas
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- Solution: d)
 - The Tripartite Struggle for control of northern India took place in the ninth century.
 - The struggle was between the Pratihara Empire, the Pala Empire and the Rashtrakuta Empire.
 - Towards the end of the successor of Nagabhata II of the Gurjara-Pratihara dynasty, he successfully attacked Kanauj and established control there.
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- Which of the following were advocated by the Bhakti movement?
 - 1. There is God in every human being.
 - 2. Annihilation of the age-old caste system.
 - 3. Conceptual erudition
 - How many of the above statements is/are incorrect?
 - a) Only one b) Only two c) All three d) None
-


- Solution: A
 - Statement 3 is incorrect.
 - The conception of bhakti did away with the elite tradition of Sanskrit and accepted the more acceptable language of the common man.
 - Bhakti also attacked the age-old caste system and devoted itself to the worship of humanity, because the catchword of bhakti is that God is there in every human being. The movement was in essence subaltern, as most of its poets belonged to the so-called 'lower' castes.
 - Bhakti is anti-theology and against any kind of conceptual erudition.
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- Consider the following about the edicts of Ashoka.
 - 1. The inscriptions of Asoka were first deciphered by James Prinsep.
 - 2. Major Rock Inscriptions can be found in the Barabar caves.
 - 3. Ashoka refers to himself as "Beloved servant of the People" (Janampiyadasi) in these inscriptions.
 - Which of the above statements are correct?
 - (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1 and 3 only (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
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- Solution: A
 - The Edicts are divided into:
 - Pillar Edicts
 - Major Rock Edicts: 14 Edicts (termed 1st to 14th) and 2 separate ones found in Odisha
 - Major Rock Inscriptions: Minor Rock Edicts, the Queen's Edict, Barabar Caves inscriptions and the Kandahar bilingual inscription.
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- Which of the following were the main demands of the Moderates of Indian National Congress (INC)?
 - 1. Integrated judiciary and executive.
 - 2. Reduction of spending on army.
 - 3. Abolition of salt tax and sugar duty.
 - 4. Reduction of land revenue and protection of peasants from unjust landlords.
 - How many of the above statements is/are correct?
 - a) Only one b) Only two c) Only three d) All four
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- Solution: C
 - Statement 1 is incorrect.
 - Main Demands of Moderates
 - Expansion and reform of legislative councils.
 - Greater opportunities for Indians in higher posts by holding the ICS examination simultaneously in England and in India.
 - Separation of the judiciary from the executive.
 - More powers for the local bodies.
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- What is the significance of Sabarmati Ashram in the modern history of India?
 - 1. It served as the last residence of Mahatma Gandhi.
 - 2. Salt Satyagraha was started from this Ashram in 1930.
 - 3. It has been declared as a national monument by the Indian government.
 - How many of the above statements is/are incorrect?
 - a) Only one b) Only two c) All three d) None
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- Solution: A
 - Statement 1 is incorrect.
 - The Sabarmati Ashram (also known as Harijan or Satyagraha Ashram) was home to Mahatma Gandhi from 1917 until 1930 and served as one of the main centres of the Indian freedom struggle.
 - Sevagram cottage served as the last residence of Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhiji left to Delhi from Sevargam Cottage in 1946 and then went to Noakhali.
 - From there he did not return to Sewagram while engaged in his task of communal unity and peace making. He was martyred in Delhi in 1948
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- Which of the following were the proposals of the Wavell Plan?
 - 1. Indianization of Executive council.
 - 2. Removing any caste and religion-based quota in the Executive council.
 - 3. Governor- general was to exercise his veto on the advice of ministers.
 - How many of the above statements is/are correct?
 - a) Only one b) Only two c) All three d) None
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- Solution: B Statement 2 is incorrect.
 - The main proposals of the Wavell Plan were as follows.
 - With the exception of the governor-general and the commander-in-chief, all members of the executive council were to be Indians.
 - Caste Hindus and Muslims were to have equal representation.
 - The reconstructed council was to function as an interim government within the framework of the 1935 Act (i.e. not responsible to the Central Assembly).
 - Governor- general was to exercise his veto on the advice of ministers
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- Consider the following statements regarding Rani Gaidinliu.
 - 1. Gaidinliu was a Naga spiritual and political leader who led a revolt against British rule in India.
 - 2. She has been called as the “Daughter of the Hills”.
 - 3. She was associated with ‘Heraka movement’, that was based on ancestral Naga religion.
 - How many of the above statements is/are incorrect?
 - a) Only one b) Only two c) All three d) None
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- Solution: D
 - Gaidinliu (26 January 1915 – 17 February 1993) was a Naga spiritual and political leader who led a revolt against British rule in India.
 - At 13, she became associated with freedom fighter and religious leader, Haipou Jadonang, and became his lieutenant in his social, religious and political movement.
 - Jadonang, who was also a Rongmei, started the 'Heraka movement', based on ancestral Naga religion, and envisioned an independent Naga kingdom (or Naga-Raja).
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- Consider the following statements.
 - 1. She is regarded as the first female teacher of India.
 - 2. She along with her husband recognised that education was one of the central planks through which women and the depressed classes could become empowered.
 - 3. She was associated with Satyashodhak Samaj.
 - The above statements refer to
 - a) Sarojini Naidu b) Kadambini Ganguly c) Usha Mehta
d) Savitribai Phule
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- Solution: D
 - Savitribai Phule, the social reformer who is considered to be one of India's first modern feminists, was born on January 3, 1831.
 - Among her accomplishments, she is especially remembered for being India's first female teacher who worked for the upliftment of women and untouchables in the field of education and literacy
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- Consider the following statements regarding the socio-political transformation from the Early Vedic (Rigvedic) to the Later Vedic period:
 - 1. The economy shifted from a primarily pastoral and cattle-centric one in the Rigvedic period to a settled, agrarian-based economy in the Later Vedic period.
 - 2. The political structure evolved from the territorial monarchies (Janapadas) of the Rigvedic period to the tribal assemblies (Sabha and Samiti) of the Later Vedic period.
 - 3. The varna system, which was rigid and hereditary in the Rigvedic period, became more flexible and occupation-based in the Later Vedic period.
 - How many of the above statements are correct?
 - (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None
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- Solution: A
 - Statement 1 is correct. The Rigvedic economy was primarily pastoral. Wealth was measured in cattle (gavisthi or 'search for cows' was a term for war). Agriculture was a secondary occupation. In the Later Vedic period (c. 1000-600 BCE), with the use of iron tools for clearing forests and the movement into the fertile Gangetic basin, settled agriculture became the dominant economic activity. This shift from pastoralism to agriculture is the single most important economic transition of the Vedic age.
 - Statement 2 is incorrect. The political structure of the Rigvedic period was tribal, with the Rajan (chief) being a tribal leader whose power was checked by assemblies like the Sabha and Samiti. In the Later Vedic period, the power of these assemblies diminished, and the Rajan's power increased. This led to the rise of territorial monarchies (Janapadas and later Mahajanapadas) as tribes settled down and established control over specific territories.
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