

Sample Paper 03
Class - 12th Exam - 2025 - 26
History (027)

Time : 3 Hours

Max. Marks : 80

General Instructions :

1. Question paper comprises five Sections – A, B, C, D and E. There are 34 questions in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.
 2. Section A – Question 1 to 21 are MCQs of 1 mark each.
 3. Section B – Question no. 22 to 27 are Short Answer Type Questions, carrying 3 marks each. Answers to each question should not exceed 60-80 words.
 4. Section C – Question no 28 to 30 are Long Answer Type Questions, carrying 8 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 300-350 words.
 5. Section D – Question no.31 to 33 are Source based questions with three sub questions and are of 4 marks each.
 6. Section-E – Question no. 34 is Map based, carrying 5 marks that includes the identification and location of significant test items. Attach the map with the answer book.
 7. There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in a few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions have to be attempted.
 8. In addition to this, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.
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SECTION - A

Objective Type Questions

21 × 1 = 21

1. Which of the following was a consequence of the British Permanent Settlement in Bengal?
(A) It provided land rights directly to peasants and bypassed landlords
(B) Zamindars became hereditary owners of land with a fixed revenue obligation
(C) All cultivable land was auctioned off to the highest bidder each year
(D) Peasants gained the right to negotiate taxes with the British government

2. To which text is the concept of “dharma” and duties of varna (caste) most extensively discussed in ancient Indian society?
(A) Rigveda
(B) Manusmriti
(C) Arthashastra
(D) Ramayana

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3. How did Ashoka's inscriptions contribute to his policy of Dhamma? Select the best suitable option.
- (A) By promoting military conquests across Asia
 (B) By documenting the religious festivals in his empire
 (C) By disseminating messages of tolerance and non-violence
 (D) By emphasizing the importance of economic policies
4. Which of the following features of the Mauryan economy under Ashoka accurately reflects the state's role in economic activities during his reign?
- (A) The Mauryan economy under Ashoka relied entirely on a barter system, with minimal state intervention in trade.
 (B) The Mauryan state imposed high taxes on peasants but did not interfere with trade or regulate economic activities.
 (C) The Mauryan economy under Ashoka featured a well-regulated trade system with state control over weights and measures, ensuring fairness in trade.
 (D) The Mauryan state under Ashoka limited its involvement in trade and focused exclusively on agricultural development.
5. Match the saint with their contribution to Bhakti or Sufi traditions.

Column I	Column II
(a) Kabir	(i) Composed 'Abhangas'
(b) Mirabai	(ii) Devotional poetess of Krishna
(c) Guru Nanak	(iii) Founder of Sikhism
(d) Tukaram	(iv) Criticized caste and religious orthodoxy

Option :

- (A) (a) (ii), (b) (iii), (c) (i), (d) (iv)
 (B) (a) (iv), (b) (ii), (c) (iii), (d) (i)
 (C) (a) (iii), (b) (ii), (c) (iv), (d) (i)
 (D) (a) (i), (b) (iv), (c) (ii), (d) (iii)
6. Assertion (A): The spread of Buddhism in ancient India led to the establishment of numerous stupas and viharas across the region.
- Reason (R):** Stupas were constructed as burial mounds to honor the Buddha and were often used to store his relics.
- Options:
- (A) Both (A) and (R) are correct and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)
 (B) Both (A) and (R) are correct, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)
 (C) (A) is correct, but (R) is not correct
 (D) (R) is correct, but (A) is not correct



7. Identify the Mughal emperor depicted in the image below, known for his Deccan campaigns.



- (A) Akbar
(B) Jahangir
(C) Shah Jahan
(D) Aurangzeb
8. Consider the following statements about Ibn Battuta's account of India and choose the correct option.
- I. Ibn Battuta observed the use of betel leaves by people in India.
II. He admired the strict caste system prevalent in India.
III. Ibn Battuta was surprised by the hospitality extended by the people in India.
- Options:
- (A) I and II
(B) I and III
(C) II and III
(D) I, II and III
9. Identify the structure based on the following information:
- It is a famous monument in the Vijayanagara Empire.
 - Known for its lotus-shaped arches, it shows Indo-Islamic architectural influence.
 - It served as a recreational and possibly ceremonial hall.
- Options:
- (A) Hampi Bazaar
(B) Elephant Stables
(C) Vittala Temple
(D) Lotus Mahal
10. Which of the following statements is incorrect about the 1857 Revolt?
- (A) The Revolt started in Meerut and quickly spread to different regions of India.
(B) Many rulers joined the revolt as they opposed the Doctrine of Lapse.
(C) The Revolt led directly to India gaining independence from British rule.
(D) The Revolt is often seen as a unified expression of resentment against British policies.



11. If you are studying the influence of Mahatma Gandhi's ideas on rural India, including his promotion of village self-reliance and empowerment, which of the following sources would provide the most relevant information?
- (A) British government reports on Indian trade activities
 - (B) Gandhi's speeches and writings on village self-reliance and rural economy
 - (C) An account of British educational reforms in India
 - (D) A list of British administrative regulations
12. Which of the following discoveries significantly contributed to our understanding of urban planning in the Harappan Civilization, revealing advanced engineering skills?
- (A) The discovery of a grid-pattern street layout in Harappan cities
 - (B) Identification of temples with deity-specific iconography
 - (C) Finding ancient irrigation systems for agriculture
 - (D) Records of social hierarchies among Harappan elites
13. What insights do the Dharmashastras, such as Manusmriti, provide about the social hierarchy in early Indian society? Choose the most suitable option from the following.
- (A) They promoted equality among all varnas and rejected hierarchies.
 - (B) They advocated for strict duties and responsibilities for each varna.
 - (C) They focused exclusively on economic matters and trade regulations.
 - (D) They supported the unification of all communities under one common law.
14. Compare the spread of Buddhism in India and its spread in Central Asia. Choose the best suitable option from the following.
- (A) Buddhism spread quickly in India but had minimal influence in Central Asia.
 - (B) Buddhism was practiced mainly by monks in India but by the general population in Central Asia.
 - (C) Buddhist texts were translated to local languages in India but not in Central Asia.
 - (D) In both regions, Buddhism spread through the support of local rulers and merchants.
15. Why did Al-Biruni's observations about Indian society hold significant value for historians? Choose the best suitable option from the following.
- (A) He documented the daily lives of Indian kings and their court rituals.
 - (B) He studied the caste system in detail and provided a comparative analysis with Islamic society.
 - (C) He focused on the art and architecture of Indian temples.
 - (D) He discussed the impact of colonial rule on Indian society.
16. Which of the following events is in the correct chronological order regarding the Bhakti and Sufi movements in India?
- I. Arrival of Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti in India
 - II. Rise of the Bhakti movement in Tamil Nadu
 - III. Compositions of Kabir's dohas
 - IV. Compositions of Guru Nanak's hymns
- Options:
- (A) II, I, III, IV
 - (B) I, IV, II, III
 - (C) III, II, IV, I
 - (D) IV, II, III, I



17. Which of the following was a major source of revenue for the Vijayanagara Empire?

- (A) Taxes levied on temple pilgrimages
- (B) Agricultural taxes collected from peasants
- (C) Trade monopolies with China and Central Asia
- (D) State-controlled production of textiles

18. Complete the following with the correct option regarding the titles of land revenue officials in the Mughal Empire.

Jagirdar: Revenue assignment holder, Zamindar: _____

Options:

- (A) Tax collector on trade routes
- (B) Village headman
- (C) Local revenue collector
- (D) Military officer

19. Match the prominent leader with their role or position in the Constituent Assembly.

Column I	Column II
(a) Dr. B.R. Ambedkar	(i) Chairman of the Drafting Committee
(b) Rajendra Prasad	(ii) President of the Constituent Assembly
(c) Jawaharlal Nehru	(iii) Proposed the Objectives Resolution
(d) H.C. Mookherjee	(iv) Vice-President of the Constituent Assembly

Option :

- (A) (a) (ii), (b) (i), (c) (iii), (d) (iv)
- (B) (a) (i), (b) (ii), (c) (iii), (d) (iv)
- (C) (a) (iii), (b) (i), (c) (ii), (d) (iv)
- (D) (a) (iv), (b) (iii), (c) (i), (d) (ii)

20. Identify the system with the following characteristics:

- Introduced by the British, this system involved revenue collection directly from individual peasants.
- It was implemented primarily in Madras and Bombay Presidencies.
- The government acted as the landowner, and peasants were seen as tenants who paid a fixed amount of land revenue.

Options:

- (A) Permanent Settlement
- (B) Ryotwari System
- (C) Mahalwari System
- (D) Iqta System

21. Which of the following was a cause of the 1857 Revolt related to British policies?

- (A) Complete religious freedom granted to all Indians
- (B) Discontent due to the Doctrine of Lapse and interference in cultural practices
- (C) Support for Indian rulers' autonomy in their regions
- (D) British non-interference in any Indian social matters



SECTION - B

Short Answer Type Questions

3 × 6 = 18

22. Write about any three sources that are used by historians to study Mauryan Empire.

OR

What are the limitations of inscriptional evidence in understanding political and economic history of India?

23. Why was the Charkha chosen as the symbol of nationalism?

24. What were the salient feature of temple architecture under the Vijayanagara Empire?

25. How did archaeologists made a division between the social and economic life of the Harappan people?

26. What were the arguments in favour of greater power to the province?

27. Analyse Bernier's account of the urban centres.

OR

Explain the views of Bernier about a more complex social reality of the Mughal Empire.

SECTION - C

Long Answer Type Questions

8 × 3 = 24

28. Who were the Alvars and the Nayanars? What relations they had with the Southern states?

OR

The wide range of text produced in and around Sufi Khanqahs had helped immensely in reconstruction of history of Sufism. In this regard explain Malfuzat, Maktubat and Tazkiras as the sources used to reconstruct the history of Sufi traditions.

29. Discuss the nature of the Revolt of 1857. What values were reflected by Indians during the Revolt of 1857?

OR

Describe how the British celebrated those, who they believed saved the English and repressed the rebels during the Revolt of 1857?

30. Describe the features of the famous Sanchi stupa in accordance to the structure and sculpture.

OR

Discuss the development in sculpture and architecture associated with the rise of Vaishnavism and Shaivism.

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SECTION - D

Source Based Questions

4 × 3 = 12

31. Read the following source carefully and answer the questions that follow.

“British element is gone but they have left the mischief behind.”

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel said

It is no use saying that we ask for separate electorates, because it is good for us. We have heard it long enough. We have heard it for years, and as a result of this agitation we are now a separate nation ... Can you show me one free country where there are separate electorates? If so, I shall be prepared to accept it. But in this unfortunate country if this separate electorate is going to be persisted in, even after the division of the country, woe betide the country; it is not worth living in. Therefore, I say, it is not for my good alone, it is for your own good that I say it, forget the past.

One day, we may be united ... The British element is gone, but they have left the mischief behind. We do not want to perpetuate that mischief (hear, hear). When the British introduced this element they had not expected that they have to go so soon.

They wanted it for their easy administration. That is all right. But they have left the legacy bad. Are we to get out of it or not?

- (i) Why separate electorate was considered as a mischief?
- (ii) Explain Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's views on the issue of separate electorates system.
- (iii) In what ways did Sardar Patel explain that “The British element is gone, but they have left the mischief behind”?

32. Read the following source carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Colin Mackenzie

Born in 1754, 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.”

- (i) Who was Colin Mackenzie?
- (ii) Mention what Mackenzie did to make governance of the colony easier.
- (iii) According to him, what benefits would the East India Company gain after studying Vijayanagara? Explain in brief.

33. Read the following source carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Name of Satavahana Kings from Inscriptions

These are the names of several generations of Satavahana rulers, recovered from inscriptions. Note the uniform title Raja. Also note the following word, which ends with the term puta, a Prakrit word meaning ‘son’. The term Gotami-puta means ‘Son of Gotami’. Names like Gotami and Vasithi are feminine forms of Gotama and Vasistha Vedic seers after whom gotras were named.

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Raja Gotami-puta Siri-Satakani

Raja Vasithi-puta (sami-) Siri-Pulumayi Raja Gotami-puta sami-Siri- Yana-Satakani Raja Madhari-puta svami-Sakasena Raja Vasathi-puta Chatarapana-Satakani Raja Hariti-puta Vinhukada Chutukulanamda-Satakani

Raja Gotami-puta Siri-Vijaya-Satakani

- (i) What is the importance of gotra in Brahmanical practice?
- (ii) How was Satavahana gotra practice different from the Brahmanical practice?
- (iii) What position did women enjoy in the Satavahana society?

SECTION - E

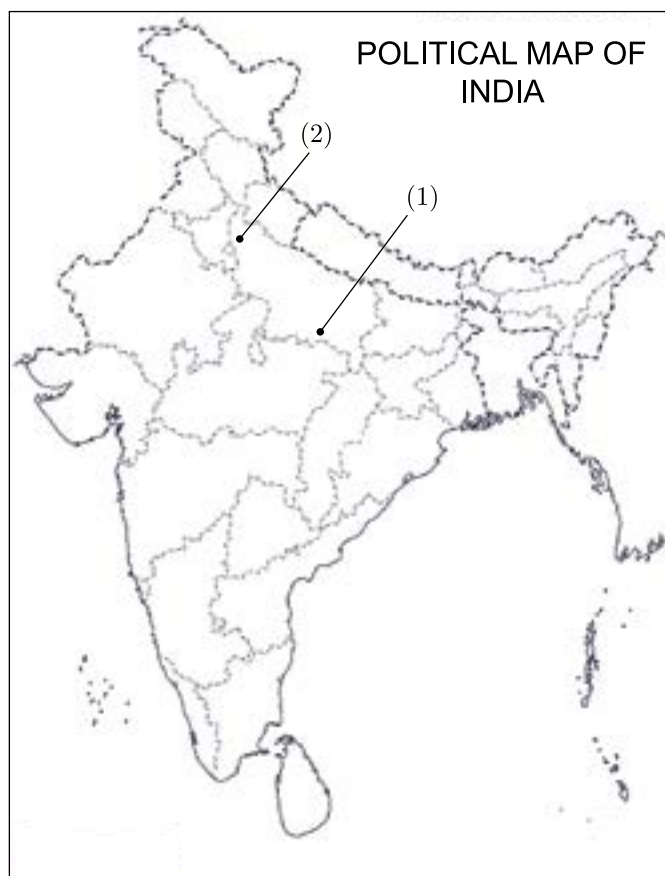
Map Based Questions

1 × 5 = 5

34. A. Locate and label the following.

- (i) Place of Quit India Resolution. Or Place of Jalianwala Bagh Massacre.
- (ii) One centre of National Movement in Gujarat.
- (iii) One city of importance in South India.

B. On the given political outline map of India, two places associated with Asokan Pillar inscriptions are marked from 1 and 2. Write their names.



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