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Session: 2025-2026

CLASS: VII

SUB: SOCIAL SCIENCE

TOPIC: Geography

CH-7

Life in the Desert Region

A. Tick (✓) the correct option.

1. Over how many countries is the Sahara desert spread over?

✓ (iii) 11

2. In Ladakh, the annual rainfall is almost below _____.

✓ (i) 10 cm

3. Which river flows through Ladakh?

✓ (iii) Indus

4. Which national highway connects Leh to Kashmir?

✓ (i) NH 1A

B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate word/words.

1. The important nomadic tribes in the Sahara desert are **Bedouins and Tuaregs**.

2. The two mountain ranges surrounding the Ladakh are **Karakoram and Zanskar**.

3. People in the Sahara desert wear **heavy robes** for protection against heat and dust.

4. Yak is found in **Ladakh**.

5. Tourists visit Ladakh between **May** and **October** months.

C. Write 'T' for true or 'F' for false statements.

1. Atacama is a hot desert. — T

2. Wadis are found in Ladakh. — F

3. Date palms grow in Ladakh. — F

4. Himalaya acts as a barrier to moisture and clouds. — T

D. Short answer questions

1. Name the two types of deserts found.

The two types of deserts are hot deserts like Sahara Desert and cold deserts like Ladakh Desert.

2. Mention the range of altitudes between which the state of Ladakh is situated.

Ladakh is situated at an altitude ranging from about 3000 metres in Kargil to 8000 metres in Karakoram.

3. What kind of vegetation is found in Ladakh?

Omitted

4. What do wadis do in the Sahara?

Wadis are rivers in Sahara region that get flooded with water during rains once a year and help in growing crops nearby.

E. Long answer questions

1. Write about the location and climate of the Sahara Desert.

- a) The Sahara Desert is located in North Africa and is the largest hot desert in the world.
- b) It extends from the Atlantic Ocean in the west up to the Red Sea in the east.
- c) It stretches across eleven countries like Algeria, Egypt, Libya and Sudan.
- d) The climate of the Sahara is extremely hot and dry.
- e) Day temperatures can be very high, while nights become extremely cold. Rainfall is very low and irregular.

2. Describe the life of people in the Ladakh region.

- a) People in Ladakh live a simple and hard life due to extreme cold and high altitude.
- b) They grow crops in the month of May and harvest in the month of October to avoid frost. They grow peas, potato beans etc during short summers.
- c) Horticulture and Livestock rearing are also done by the people in this region.

- d) People wear thick woollen clothes and live in houses made of stone and mud. Tourism is an important source of income.
- e) Women manage all the work on the farms. They also run small business and shops. Weaving is also done in winters.

3. Compare the climatic conditions of the Sahara Desert and Ladakh Desert.

Sahara Desert	Ladakh Desert
Sahara is a hot desert covering a large part of North Africa.	Ladakh is a cold desert lying in the Himalayas, on the Eastern side of Kashmir.
Sahara Desert is located in plain areas having small rocky hills and plateaus with slight elevation.	It is located at a high altitude of 3000-8000 metres above the sea level.
Sahara climate reaches up to 50°C or more during day and at night touches 0°	Ladakh Climate reaches 0°C during day and around -30°C to -40°C at night
Cactus, Date Palms, and Acacia are the main flora found in this region. But near the oasis green islands are found with date palms.	Scanty patches of grass and a few shrubs and trees like willows and poplars are seen. Apples, Apricots and Walnuts are grown in summers.

4. Write about the plant and animal life of Ladakh.

- a) Due to cold climate and scarcity of water, Ladakh has limited vegetation. Grasses, shrubs and some fruit trees like Apples, Apricots, Walnuts grow in river valleys.
- b) Animals like yak, sheep, goat, snow leopard and wild goats are found. Yaks are very useful for milk, wool and transport. Woollen articles are made from the hair of goats and sheep.
- c) A variety of birds are also found here like robins, redstarts, snowcocks, ravens etc.
- d) Shahtoosh is a very light and warm wool obtained from Tibetan antelope which is an endangered species.