



CLASS 12 · CBSE HISTORY (027)

History Solved Board Papers

Chapter-wise and year-wise CBSE board questions with complete answers

10 years · 2016–2026

- ✓ Part A: every question sorted chapter-wise, grouped by marks, with full answers
- ✓ Part B: complete board papers, each followed by its answers
- ✓ Board weightage table and most-asked topics for every chapter
- ✓ Source-based questions answered point by point, map questions with locations
- ✓ Only the current syllabus: questions on deleted themes are flagged

WHAT YOU GET

10 years of CBSE History papers. Every question answered. Sorted chapter-wise.

21

board papers

783

solved questions

8

years · 2016–26

12

chapters

59

map questions

X Questions scattered across years



✓ All in one place, chapter-wise

X Don't know what to study first



✓ Weightage + most-asked topics

X Answers too short to score



✓ Point-wise answers the board way

X Old books carry deleted themes



✓ Only the 2026-27 syllabus

PART A**Chapter-wise****A**

- ✓ Weightage table
- ✓ Most-asked topics
- ✓ Every question + solution

PART B**Full papers****B**

- ✓ Exactly as set by CBSE
- ✓ Solutions after each paper
- ✓ Timed 3-hour practice

2026 · 61/1/1**2025** · 61/1/1**2024** · 61/1/1**2023** · 61/1/1**2022** · 61/1/1 (Term 2)**2020** · 61/1/1**2018** · 61/1**2016** · 61/1

Complete Notes · Solved PYQs

CLASS 6–12 · ALL SUBJECTS

100%
QUESTIONS
SOLVED
Made for **board toppers**

How to use this book

Part A puts every board question of a theme together, from 1-mark MCQs to 8-mark long answers and source-based questions. Finish a theme in your notes, then answer its Part A questions without looking at the answers. Check, mark the ones you got wrong, and repeat them a week later.

Each question shows where it was asked, for example **CBSE 2026 · 61/1/1 · Q13**. Use the weightage table and the most-asked topics chart at the start of each chapter to decide what to revise first.

Part B gives full papers. In the last month before the exam, sit with a clock and write one paper in 3 hours, then check it with the answers that follow the paper.

Answers are written the way the board awards marks: one point per mark, each point stated and then explained with a fact, name or date; source answers quote the source; and map answers say where the place is. Write your answers the same way.

Contents

Part A · Chapter-wise questions with solutions

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Bricks, Beads and Bones: The Harappan Civilisation 81 Qs | 6. Bhakti–Sufi Traditions 62 Qs |
| 2. Kings, Farmers and Towns: Early States and Economies 66 Qs | 7. An Imperial Capital: Vijayanagara 66 Qs |
| 3. Kinship, Caste and Class: Early Societies 50 Qs | 8. Peasants, Zamindars and the State 68 Qs |
| 4. Thinkers, Beliefs and Buildings: Cultural Developments 83 Qs | 9. Colonialism and the Countryside 58 Qs |
| 5. Through the Eyes of Travellers: Perceptions of Society 54 Qs | 10. Rebels and the Raj: The Revolt of 1857 63 Qs |
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| | 12. Framing the Constitution 57 Qs |

Part B · Full board papers, each followed by its solutions

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. CBSE 2026 · 61/1/1 solutions | 5. CBSE 2022 · 61/1/1 (Term 2) solutions |
| 2. CBSE 2025 · 61/1/1 solutions | 6. CBSE 2020 · 61/1/1 solutions |
| 3. CBSE 2024 · 61/1/1 solutions | 7. CBSE 2018 · 61/1 solutions |
| 4. CBSE 2023 · 61/1/1 solutions | 8. CBSE 2016 · 61/1 solutions |

783 questions in all. Questions are taken from the CBSE Class 12 History board papers and the answers are our own, checked against the official marking schemes wherever the board published one. Older papers carried themes since removed from the syllabus (Kings and Chronicles, Colonial Cities, Understanding Partition, and others). These questions are left out of Part A and marked in Part B, where they are still fully answered.

CHAPTER 1

Bricks, Beads and Bones: The Harappan Civilisation

Board weightage 2016–2026

Year	2016	2018	2020	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Questions	2	2	4	–	4	24	24	21
Marks	7	6	6	–	8	54	53	49

Most asked topics

The Harappan civilisation		17
Discovery and interpretation		17
Seals, script and weights		13
Harappan town planning		10
Craft production		9
Subsistence strategies		4
Social differences		2
Map: Lothal		2

81 questions from 20 papers. Repeated questions are shown once with every year they were asked.

1 mark: MCQ and Assertion–Reason

CBSE 2026 · 61/1/1 · Q1

1 mark

Match the Column – I with Column – II and choose the correct option:

Column – I (Harappan Sites) Column – II (Present Location)

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| a. Manda | 1. Haryana |
| b. Kalibangan | 2. Gujarat |
| c. Rakhigarhi | 3. Rajasthan |
| d. Lothal | 4. Jammu |

Options (a, b, c, d):

(A) 1, 2, 3, 4

(B) 3, 4, 2, 1

(C) 2, 3, 4, 1

(D) 4, 3, 1, 2

Solution

(D) Manda – Jammu, Kalibangan – Rajasthan, Rakhigarhi – Haryana, Lothal – Gujarat.

CBSE 2026 · 61/1/1 · Q2

1 mark

Arrange the following in correct chronological order and choose the correct option:

- I. Chalcolithic Age
- II. Mesolithic Age
- III. Neolithic Age
- IV. Paleolithic Age

- (A) I, IV, III, II
- (C) II, III, I, IV

- (B) IV, II, III, I
- (D) III, I, IV, II

Solution

(B) IV, II, III, I: Palaeolithic → Mesolithic → Neolithic → Chalcolithic.

CBSE 2026 · 61/1/1 · Q34.1(i) | CBSE 2025 · 61/1/1 · Q34.1(i) | CBSE 2020 · 61/1/1 · Q31.1(i) asked 3 times

1 mark

On the given political outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate signs or symbols:

- (i) Nageshwar – a mature Harappan site

Solution

Nageshwar: Gujarat, on the coast of the Gulf of Kachchh (Jamnagar/Dwarka region), a shell-working site.

CBSE 2026 · 61/2/1 · Q34.1(i) | CBSE 2025 · 61/5/1 · Q34.1(ii) | CBSE 2024 · 61/5/1 · Q34.1(i) asked 3 times

1 mark

Locate and label **Banawali**, a Harappan site.

Solution

Banawali: Fatehabad district of Haryana, on the dried bed of the Saraswati (Ghaggar).

CBSE 2026 · 61/3/1 · Q1

1 mark

Which statements on the Harappan economy are correct? I. Urban centres give remains of organised craft production II. Iron tools for agriculture were common III. Seals indicate long-distance trade IV. Standardised weights point to regulated trade. (A) II, III, IV (B) I, II, III (C) I, III and IV (D) I, II, IV

Solution

(C) I, III and IV. The Harappans used copper and bronze, not iron.

CBSE 2026 · 61/3/1 · Q6

1 mark

Match sites with features: a. Dholavira b. Mohenjodaro c. Kalibangan d. Nageshwar — i. Great Bath ii. ploughed field iii. craft centre iv. water reservoir. (A) a-iv b-i c-ii d-iii (B) a-i b-iii c-iv d-ii (C) a-ii b-iv c-iii d-i (D) a-iii b-ii c-i d-iv

Solution

(A) Dholavira – reservoirs; Mohenjodaro – Great Bath; Kalibangan – ploughed field; Nageshwar – shell-working craft centre.

CBSE 2026 · 61/3/1 · Q34.1(i) | CBSE 2025 · 61/6/1 · Q34.1(i) | CBSE 2025 · 61/7/1 · Q34.1(ii)

asked 3 times

1 mark

Locate and label **Lothal**, a mature Harappan site. (VI: one mature Harappan site in Gujarat.)

Solution

Lothal: Ahmedabad district, Gujarat, near the head of the Gulf of Khambhat (Cambay). VI: Lothal, Dholavira, Nageshwar.

CBSE 2026 · 61/4/1 · Q1

1 mark

"Mesopotamian texts mention contacts with Meluhha." Which statement is supported by archaeologists' interpretation? (A) Meluhha was the south Indian megalith culture (B) a kingdom ruled by Shiva (C) another name of Egypt (D) Meluhha referred to the Harappan region

Solution

(D) Mesopotamian texts mention Meluhha (with Dilmun and Magan), probably the Harappan region, as a land of seafarers supplying carnelian, lapis lazuli, copper, gold and woods.

CBSE 2026 · 61/4/1 · Q34.1(i) | CBSE 2024 · 61/2/1 · Q34.1(i) | CBSE 2024 · 61/3/1 · Q34.1(i)

asked 3 times

1 mark

Locate and label **Dholavira**, a mature Harappan site. (VI: one mature Harappan site in present Pakistan.)

Solution

Dholavira: Khadir island in the Rann of Kachchh, Gujarat. VI: Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Chanhudaro, Ganweriwala, Kot Diji.

CBSE 2026 · 61/5/1 · Q1

1 mark

"Traces of canals have been found at Shortughai in Afghanistan but not in Punjab or Sindh." Identify archaeologists' explanation: (A) tools in Afghanistan were more advanced (B) Punjab and Sindh have not been excavated thoroughly (C) Punjab and Sindh had higher rainfall (D) Shortughai had perennial Himalayan rivers

Solution

NCERT's explanation is that **the ancient canals in Punjab and Sindh probably silted up long ago** (water drawn from wells and stored in reservoirs, as at Dholavira, was also used). None of the four options states this; there is no published marking scheme for this set. The closest reading is that the evidence has not survived, not that the region lacked canals.

CBSE 2026 · 61/5/1 · Q6

1 mark

Match Harappan artefacts with significance: a. seals b. weights c. beads d. faience — i. craftsmanship ii. used in administration iii. standardised unit of measurement iv. used for pottery-making. (A) a-ii b-iii c-i d-iv (B) a-iii b-iv c-ii d-i (C) a-iv b-ii c-iii d-i (D) a-i b-iii c-iv d-ii

Solution

(A) Seals – administration/trade control; weights (chert cubes) – standardised measurement; beads – craftsmanship; faience (a glazed material) – small vessels/pots.

CBSE 2026 · 61/5/1 · Q34.1(i) | CBSE 2025 · 61/4/1 · Q34.1(ii) asked 2 times

1 mark

On the outline map of India locate and label **Kalibangan**, a mature Harappan site.

Solution

Kalibangan: northern Rajasthan (Hanumangarh district) on the bank of the Ghaggar river, near the Punjab–Haryana border.

CBSE 2025 · 61/1/1 · Q1

1 mark

Which of the following is correct regarding Harappan script?

- (A) This script was alphabetical. (B) It was written from left to right.
(C) This script has not been deciphered so far. (D) This script has a few signs or symbols.

Solution

(C) The Harappan script is still undeciphered. It was not alphabetical (it has 375–400 signs, too many for an alphabet) and was probably written from right to left.

CBSE 2025 · 61/1/1 · Q2

1 mark

In which of the following sites of Harappan civilization, the terracotta models of plough have been discovered?

- (A) Kalibangan and Dholavira (B) Shortughai and Lothal
(C) Banawali and Cholistan (D) Sanghol and Rakhigarhi

Solution

(C) Banawali and Cholistan. Terracotta models of the plough have been found at sites in Cholistan and at Banawali (Haryana); they show that oxen were used for ploughing. Archaeologists have also found evidence of a ploughed field at Kalibangan (Rajasthan).

CBSE 2025 · 61/2/1 · Q3

1 mark

Assertion (A): Harappa was a well-planned city. Reason (R): It had a well-planned drainage system.

- (A) Both correct, R explains A (B) Both correct, R does not explain A (C) A correct, R not (D) A not correct, R correct

Solution

(A) Planned drains (laid out first, with houses built along them) are a key sign of the city's planning.

CBSE 2025 · 61/2/1 · Q4

1 mark

A distinctive feature of Harappan architecture: (A) wood (B) iron (C) bricks (D) marble

Solution

(C) Use of bricks of standardised ratio (length : breadth : height = 4 : 2 : 1), sun-dried or baked.

CBSE 2025 · 61/2/1 · Q34.1(i)

1 mark

Locate and label **Rakhigarhi**, a mature Harappan site.

Solution

Rakhigarhi: Hisar district of Haryana, in the Ghaggar–Chautang plain north-west of Delhi.

CBSE 2025 · 61/4/1 · Q1

1 mark

Which statement best explains the uniformity in urban planning across Harappan cities? (A) Presence of a central authority (B) Management by city-states (C) Tribal leadership (D) Nomadic governance

Solution

(A) Uniform bricks, weights, seals and planned layouts suggest a central authority that took and implemented complex decisions.

CBSE 2025 · 61/4/1 · Q5

1 mark

Which statements describe Harappan seals? I. They often feature animal motifs. II. They were made of terracotta with symbols. III. They were known for military victories. IV. They were mainly used in burials. (A) I and II (B) I and III (C) II and III (D) III and IV

Solution

(A) as per the board key. (Most Harappan seals were in fact of **steatite**; sealings were clay impressions. They carry animal motifs and signs of the script.)

CBSE 2025 · 61/5/1 · Q1

1 mark

The primary method archaeologists use to study social differences within Harappan society is: (A) cropping patterns (B) designs of seals (C) examining burial customs (D) religious beliefs

Solution

(C) Burials (and the distribution of artefacts classified as utilitarian or luxuries) show social differences; some graves had pottery and ornaments, a few had copper mirrors or beads, but the Harappans did not bury great wealth with the dead.

CBSE 2025 · 61/6/1 · Q1

1 mark

A Harappan seal depicts a bull. What might this suggest? (A) bulls were important for protection (B) bulls were linked to war with Oman (C) bulls were a symbol of wealth (D) bulls were usually used in agriculture

Solution

(D) as per the board key: terracotta figurines and seal motifs of the bull suggest that oxen were used for ploughing (terracotta ploughs found at Banawali and Cholistan).

CBSE 2025 · 61/6/1 · Q2

1 mark

Who was an ex-army Brigadier and Director General of the ASI in 1944? (A) John Marshall (B) R.E.M. Wheeler (C) Alexander Cunningham (D) S.N. Roy

Solution

(B) R.E.M. Wheeler, who brought military precision to excavation and followed the stratigraphy of the mound.

CBSE 2025 · 61/7/1 · Q1

1 mark

Granaries at Harappan sites most likely imply: (A) surplus production (B) plantation farming (C) shifting cultivation (D) a nomadic lifestyle

Solution

(A) Storage of grain shows production above immediate needs, to feed cities and specialists.

CBSE 2024 · 61/1/1 · Q1

1 mark

Which of the following was the best source of lapis lazuli in the Harappan sites?

(A) Nageshwar

(B) Manda

(C) Rakhigarhi

(D) Shortughai

Solution

(D) Shortughai in Afghanistan, near the best source of lapis lazuli (a blue stone of very high value).

CBSE 2024 · 61/1/1 · Q34.1(i)

1 mark

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

(i) Banawali, a Harappan site

Solution

Banawali: Fatehabad district of Haryana, on the dried bed of the Saraswati (Ghaggar).

CBSE 2024 · 61/2/1 · Q1

1 mark

Who wrote "The Story of Indian Archaeology"? (A) John Marshall (B) Daya Ram Sahni (C) S.N. Roy (D) R.E.M. Wheeler

Solution

(C) S.N. Roy.

CBSE 2024 · 61/2/1 · Q5

1 mark

Which is *not* correct about Harappan subsistence strategies? (A) terracotta oxen indicate ploughing (B) two sets of furrows at right angles indicate two crops (C) canals found at Shortughai (D) deep water reservoirs found in Sindh for irrigation

Solution

(D) Water reservoirs were found at **Dholavira** (Gujarat), not in Sindh.

CBSE 2024 · 61/3/1 · Q5

1 mark

The Harappan site of ___ is in present-day Rajasthan. (A) Rakhigarhi (B) Lothal (C) Kalibangan (D) Manda

Solution

(C) Kalibangan.

CBSE 2024 · 61/3/1 · Q6

1 mark

About Cunningham: I. first Director-General of the ASI II. began excavations in the mid-19th century III. brought military precision to archaeology IV. used accounts of Chinese Buddhist pilgrims. (A) I and IV (B) I and II (C) I, II, III (D) I, II and IV

Solution

(D) I, II and IV. Military precision was brought by R.E.M. Wheeler; Cunningham used the accounts of Chinese pilgrims to locate early settlements and missed the significance of Harappa.

CBSE 2024 · 61/4/1 · Q1

1 mark

Who was the first Director-General of the ASI? (A) S.N. Roy (B) John Marshall (C) Daya Ram Sahni (D) Alexander Cunningham

Solution

(D) Alexander Cunningham.

CBSE 2024 · 61/4/1 · Q2

1 mark

Match sites with regions: I. Manda II. Rakhigarhi III. Nageshwar IV. Kalibangan — a. Gujarat b. Rajasthan c. Haryana d. Jammu. (A) c a b d (B) a b d c (C) b d c a (D) d c a b

Solution

(D) Manda – Jammu, Rakhigarhi – Haryana, Nageshwar – Gujarat, Kalibangan – Rajasthan.

CBSE 2024 · 61/5/1 · Q1

1 mark

Which is correct about Harappan culture? (A) most sites were in semi-arid lands (B) irrigation was probably not needed (C) no traces of canals found (D) iron-tipped ploughshares were used

Solution

(A) Most sites were in semi-arid lands, where irrigation was probably required; canals have been traced at Shortughai; the Harappans did not use iron.

CBSE 2024 · 61/5/1 · Q2

1 mark

Who was an ex-army officer and Director-General of the ASI? (A) John Marshall (B) Cunningham (C) R.D. Banerji (D) R.E.M. Wheeler

*Solution***(D) R.E.M. Wheeler.**

CBSE 2024 · 61/5/1 · Q3

1 mark

Which is *not* true about the Harappan script? (A) undeciphered (B) written from left to right (C) not alphabetic (D) between 375 and 400 signs

*Solution***(B)** It was apparently written from **right to left**.

CBSE 2023 · 61/1/1 · Q1

1 mark

In which of the modern Indian states is Rakhigarhi, an ancient site of Harappan culture, located?

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| (a) Himachal Pradesh | (b) Uttar Pradesh |
| (c) Haryana | (d) Rajasthan |

*Solution***(c) Haryana.** Rakhigarhi, one of the largest Harappan sites, is in Hisar district of Haryana.

CBSE 2023 · 61/1/1 · Q2

1 mark

Who among the following archaeologists is the author of 'The Story of Indian Archaeology'?

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| (a) R.D. Banerjee | (b) D.R. Sahn |
| (c) S.N. Roy | (d) B.B. Lal |

*Solution***(c) S.N. Roy.** S.N. Roy wrote 'The Story of Indian Archaeology', which describes, among other things, how Cunningham's interest in early historic material blinded him to the importance of the Harappan finds.

CBSE 2020 · 61/1/1 · Q1

1 mark

Which group of scholars among the following reconstructed the dietary practices of Harappa from the remains of charred grains and seeds found in the Harappan sites?

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| (A) Archeo-Zoologists | (B) Archeo-Ethnographers |
| (C) Geo-Archeologists | (D) Archeo-Botanists |

*Solution***(D) Archaeo-botanists.** They are specialists in ancient plant remains; studying charred grains and seeds, they found that the Harappans ate wheat, barley, lentil, chickpea and sesame (and millets and rice in some sites). Archaeo-zoologists study animal bones.

CBSE 2020 · 61/1/1 · Q2

1 mark

Why is the Harappan script called enigmatic? Choose the correct reason from the following options:

- | | |
|--|--|
| (A) It resembles the Hieroglyphic script of Egypt. | (B) It had too many symbols, between 600 and 1000 in number. |
| (C) It was written from left to right. | (D) Its writing remains undeciphered to date. |

Solution

(D) The Harappan script remains undeciphered to date, which makes it enigmatic. It was not alphabetical (it has between 375 and 400 signs) and was apparently written from right to left.

2 marks: very short answer

CBSE 2018 · 61/1 · Q1

2 marks

Describe the basis on which archaeologists identified the centres of craft production in the Harappan culture.

Solution

To identify centres of craft production, archaeologists usually look for: (1) **raw material** such as stone nodules, whole shells and copper ore; tools; and unfinished objects; and (2) **rejects and waste material**, one of the best indicators of craft work: for instance, if shell or stone is cut to make objects, pieces of these materials are discarded as waste at the place of production. Sometimes larger waste pieces were used up to make smaller objects, which suggests that besides small specialised centres (e.g. Chanhudaro), craft production was also undertaken in large cities such as Mohenjodaro and Harappa.

3 marks: short answer

CBSE 2026 · 61/1/1 · Q22

3 marks

Examine the major contribution of John Marshall as Director General of Archaeological Survey of India.

Solution

(1) In 1924 he announced the discovery of a new civilisation in the Indus valley to the world (after the finds at Harappa and Mohenjodaro), changing the chronology of Indian history. (2) He was the first professional archaeologist to work in India, bringing experience from Greece and Crete, and was interested in spectacular finds. (3) But he excavated along regular horizontal units across the mound, ignoring stratigraphy, so artefacts from different layers were grouped together and their context lost (corrected later by Wheeler).

CBSE 2026 · 61/3/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

As a researcher studying Harappan seals in the National Museum, explain three aspects of the role of seals in trade and administration.

Solution

(1) Seals and sealings were used to secure bags of goods: wet clay pressed on the knot with a seal showed the bag had not been tampered with. (2) The impression identified the sender, aiding long-distance trade (Harappan seals found in Mesopotamia and Oman). (3) Uniform seals, signs and motifs across sites suggest organised control (perhaps by an authority) over exchange and administration.

CBSE 2026 · 61/3/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

Seeing the replica of the "priest-king" statue from Mohenjodaro, which three conclusions would you draw about Harappa?

Solution

(1) The bearded man in a robe with trefoil patterns, a fillet on the forehead and an armband, was labelled "priest-king" by archaeologists, suggesting a person of high status. (2) Archaeologists linked it to Mesopotamian priest-kings, suggesting religious and political authority, though Harappan ritual practices are not well understood. (3) Its fine craftsmanship (steatite, carved details) shows skilled artisans and social differences, but whether Harappa had kings is uncertain, so such labels are interpretations.

CBSE 2026 · 61/4/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

For a project on Harappan agriculture, which three pieces of archaeological evidence would you cite?

Solution

(1) Charred grains and seeds: wheat, barley, lentil, chickpea, sesame (Punjab, Sindh), millets (Gujarat), rice (rare). (2) Representations on seals and terracotta sculpture show the bull, so oxen were probably used for ploughing; terracotta models of the plough at Banawali and Cholistan, and a ploughed field at Kalibangan with two sets of furrows at right angles (two crops grown together). (3) Irrigation: canal traces at Shortughai (Afghanistan), water reservoirs at Dholavira and probably wells; harvesting tools (stone blades in wooden handles, metal tools) are less certain.

CBSE 2026 · 61/4/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

For an exhibition section on the Harappan script, which three aspects would you explain?

Solution

(1) The script remains undeciphered. (2) It was not alphabetical: it has 375 to 400 signs, too many for an alphabet; inscriptions are short (about five signs on average), mostly on seals. (3) It was apparently written from right to left, as some seals show wider spacing on the right and cramping on the left; it appears on seals, copper tools, rims of jars, copper and terracotta tablets, jewellery, bone rods and even an ancient signboard, suggesting widespread literacy.

CBSE 2026 · 61/5/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

From research on Harappan beads and jewellery, which three aspects of craft production and trade would you understand?

Solution

(1) **Variety of materials:** carnelian (red), jasper, crystal, quartz, steatite; copper, bronze, gold; shell, faience and terracotta; some beads made of two or more stones cemented together, some of stone with gold caps. (2) **Techniques of production:** nodules were chipped into rough shapes, flaked into final form, then ground, polished and drilled; the red of carnelian came from firing the yellowish raw material; steatite paste was moulded; craft centres such as Chanhudaro specialised in bead-making, shell-working and weights. (3) **Trade and procurement:** raw materials came from distant areas (carnelian from Bharuch in Gujarat, shell from Nageshwar and Balakot, lapis lazuli from Shortughai, copper from Khetri, Rajasthan and Oman), and finished beads were traded far, even to Mesopotamia.

CBSE 2026 · 61/5/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

In a workshop on Harappan burials and jewellery, which three aspects would you present?

Solution

(1) The dead were generally laid in pits; some burial pits were lined with bricks, which may indicate social differences. (2) Some graves contained pottery and ornaments, perhaps showing a belief that these could be used in the afterlife; jewellery has been found in burials of both men and women (e.g. a necklace of shell rings, jasper and steatite beads in a man's grave at Harappa, 1980s). (3) Some dead were buried with copper mirrors; but on the whole the Harappans did not believe in burying precious things with the dead, so burials show only limited social differentiation.

CBSE 2025 · 61/2/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

Why were seals and sealings used by the Harappans to facilitate long-distance communication? Explain with examples.

Solution

(1) A bag of goods sent from one place to another had its mouth tied with rope and wet clay was put on the knot; one or more seals were pressed on it, leaving an impression (sealing). (2) If the bag reached with the sealing intact, it had not been tampered with; the sealing also conveyed the identity of the sender. (3) The seals carry animal motifs and script, so the motif conveyed meaning even to those who could not read; seals thus supported long-distance trade, e.g. with Oman and Mesopotamia.

CBSE 2025 · 61/2/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

"There were different views of archaeologists on the administration of Harappa." Explain with examples.

Solution

(1) Complex decisions were taken and implemented (uniform artefacts: pottery, seals, weights, bricks of standard ratio; planned settlements; labour for brick-making and great walls), suggesting an authority. (2) A large building at Mohenjodaro was labelled a "palace" and a stone statue "priest-king", but no spectacular finds support this. (3) Some archaeologists think Harappan society had no rulers and everybody had equal status; others think there were several rulers (Mohenjodaro, Harappa etc.); yet others argue for a single state, given the uniformity. The last seems most plausible but is not settled.

CBSE 2025 · 61/6/1 · Q23

3 marks

Explain the views of archaeologists on the religious beliefs of the Harappans.

Solution

(1) Unusual or unfamiliar objects were often taken to have ritual significance: terracotta figurines of women, heavily jewelled with elaborate headdresses, were regarded as **mother goddesses**; rare stone statues of men in a standard posture (e.g. the "priest-king") also. (2) Structures like the Great Bath and fire altars at Kalibangan and Lothal were seen as ritual. (3) Seals with ritual scenes, plants and a figure seated cross-legged in a yogic posture surrounded by animals were seen as an early form of Shiva ("proto-Shiva", Pashupati), and stones as lingas. These reconstructions are based on later traditions and remain speculative because the script is not deciphered.

CBSE 2024 · 61/2/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

Why is the Harappan script called enigmatic? Explain.

Solution

(1) It remains undeciphered to date. (2) It was not alphabetical: it has between 375 and 400 signs; inscriptions are short, the longest about 26 signs. (3) It was apparently written right to left; it appears on many objects (seals, copper tools, jar rims, tablets, jewellery, bone rods, a signboard), yet we cannot read it, so much about Harappan society (religion, polity) remains unknown.

CBSE 2024 · 61/2/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

Why is the Harappan drainage system considered planned and complete? Explain.

Solution

(1) Drains were laid out first and houses built along them; every house had at least one wall along a street to let domestic waste water flow into the street drains. (2) Main channels of bricks set in mortar were covered with loose bricks that could be removed for cleaning; house drains emptied into sumps or cesspits where solid matter settled; long channels had sumps at intervals for cleaning. (3) Mackay called it "the most complete ancient system as yet discovered"; it existed in smaller settlements too (Lothal: burnt-brick drains though houses were of mud brick).

CBSE 2024 · 61/3/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

Explain the methods of irrigation used by the Harappans at different sites.

Solution

(1) Most Harappan sites were in semi-arid lands where irrigation was needed. (2) Traces of **canals** have been found at Shortughai (Afghanistan), but not in Punjab or Sindh, where canals may have silted up. (3) Water drawn from **wells** was probably used; **reservoirs** found at Dholavira (Gujarat) may have stored water for agriculture.

CBSE 2024 · 61/3/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

Explain how burials help us understand social and economic differences among the Harappans.

Solution

(1) The Harappans buried their dead in pits; some **graves were lined with bricks**, which shows that more effort and resources were spent on some burials than on others. (2) Some burials contain **pottery and ornaments**, perhaps reflecting a belief that these could be used in the afterlife; jewellery has been found with both men and women, and in one case a copper mirror and an ornament of shell rings, jasper and microbeads were found. (3) However, the Harappans did not, on the whole, bury precious things with the dead, unlike Egyptian royal burials; so burials suggest some differences in status, but historians also study the distribution of **luxury artefacts** (faience, gold, rare materials) to understand social and economic differences.

CBSE 2024 · 61/4/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

Explain how archaeologists identified centres of craft production of the Harappan age.

Solution

(1) Archaeologists look for **raw material** such as stone nodules, whole shells and copper ore; tools; unfinished objects; rejects and waste material. (2) **Waste** is one of the best indicators of craft work: when shell or stone was cut to make objects, pieces were discarded as waste at the place of production. (3) Larger waste pieces were sometimes used to make smaller objects, which suggests that apart from small specialised centres, craft production was also undertaken in large cities such as Mohenjodaro and Harappa; e.g. Chanhudaro was almost exclusively devoted to craft production (beads, shell-cutting, metal-working, seal-making, weights).

CBSE 2024 · 61/4/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

"The most distinctive feature of Harappan cities was the carefully planned drainage system." Explain.

Solution

(1) Drains were laid out first and houses built along them; every house had at least one wall along a street to let domestic waste water flow into the street drains. (2) Main channels of bricks set in mortar were covered with loose bricks that could be removed for cleaning; house drains emptied into sumps or cesspits where solid matter settled; long channels had sumps at intervals for cleaning. (3) Mackay called it "the most complete ancient system as yet discovered"; it existed in smaller settlements too (Lothal: burnt-brick drains though houses were of mud brick).

CBSE 2024 · 61/5/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

Explain the strategies adopted by the Harappans to procure raw material for crafts.

Solution

(1) They established **settlements** in areas with raw material: Nageshwar and Balakot (shell), Shortughai (lapis lazuli), Lothal (carnelian from Bharuch, steatite from south Rajasthan and north Gujarat, metal from Rajasthan). (2) They sent **expeditions** to areas such as the Khetri region of Rajasthan (copper) and south India (gold); local Ganeshwar culture had Harappan contacts. (3) **Long-distance contacts:** copper from Oman (Magan), and Mesopotamian texts mention Dilmun (Bahrain), Magan and Meluhha (the Harappan region) supplying carnelian, lapis lazuli, copper, gold and woods.

CBSE 2024 · 61/5/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

Explain how archaeologists reconstructed Harappan dietary practices.

Solution

(1) **Charred grains and seeds** studied by archaeo-botanists show wheat, barley, lentil, chickpea, sesame, millets and rice. (2) **Animal bones** found at sites, studied by archaeo-zoologists, show cattle, sheep, goat, buffalo and pig (domesticated) and wild boar, deer and gharial; fish and fowl bones too. (3) Whether they hunted these animals themselves or got meat from hunting communities is not clear; together with tools and cooking hearths these show a varied diet of plants and animals.

CBSE 2023 · 61/1/1 · Q22(a)

3 marks

Explain how the drainage system of Harappan cities indicate town planning.

Solution

(1) Harappan cities had carefully planned drainage. Roads and streets were laid out along an approximate **grid pattern**, intersecting at right angles. (2) Streets with drains were laid out **first** and houses were built along them; every house needed at least one wall along a street so that its domestic waste water could flow into the street drains. (3) The main channels were made of bricks set in mortar and covered with loose bricks or limestone slabs that could be removed for cleaning; sumps or cesspits were provided at intervals. Such a system was possible only with prior planning and civic control.

CBSE 2023 · 61/1/1 · Q22(b)

3 marks

Explain why the seals and sealings were used by the Harappans.

Solution

(1) Seals and sealings were used to **facilitate long-distance communication** and trade. (2) A bag of goods was tied with a rope and on the knot was affixed some wet clay on which one or more seals were pressed, leaving an impression (a sealing). (3) If the bag reached its destination with the sealing intact, it meant that it had not been **tampered** with. (4) The sealing also conveyed the **identity of the sender**.

CBSE 2020 · 61/1/1 · Q21

3 marks

Explain with examples the layout design of the Great Bath on the Citadel in Mohenjodaro.

Solution

(1) The Great Bath was a large rectangular **tank** in a courtyard surrounded by a corridor on all four sides. (2) There were two flights of steps on the north and south leading into the tank, which was made **watertight** by setting bricks on edge and using a mortar of gypsum; there were rooms on three sides, in one of which was a large well, and water from the tank flowed into a huge drain. (3) Across a lane to the north lay a smaller building with eight bathrooms, four on each side of a corridor, with drains from each bathroom connecting to a drain along the corridor. Its uniqueness and its location on the Citadel suggest it was meant for some kind of special ritual bath.

CBSE 2016 · 61/1 · Q17.2

3 marks

On the same outline map of India, three places related to the mature Harappa sites have been marked as A, B and C. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them. (For visually impaired candidates, in lieu of Q17: 17.1 Mention the place where Gandhiji called off Non-Cooperation Movement. 17.2 Name any one capital city of Mughal Empire. 17.3 Name any three mature Harappan Sites.)

Solution

A = **Banawali** (Haryana); B = **Lothal** (Gujarat); C = **Rakhigarhi** (Haryana). VI: Chauri Chaura; Agra / Fatehpur Sikri / Delhi; e.g. Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Kalibangan, Lothal, Dholavira, Rakhigarhi, Banawali.

4 marks: case-based / source-based

CBSE 2025 · 61/1/1 · Q31

4 marks

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

The most ancient system yet discovered

About the drains, Mackay noted: "It is certainly the most complete ancient system as yet discovered." Every house was connected to the street drains. The main channels were made of bricks set in mortar and were covered with loose bricks that could be removed for cleaning. In some cases, limestone was used for the covers. House drains first emptied into a sump or cesspit into which solid matter settled while waste water flowed out into the street drains. Very long drainage channels were provided at intervals with sumps for cleaning. It is a wonder of archaeology that "little heaps of material, mostly sand, have frequently been found lying alongside drainage channels, which shows... that the debris was not always carted away when the drain was cleared".

From Ernest Mackay, Early Indus Civilisation, 1948

Drainage systems were not unique to the larger cities, but were found in smaller settlements as well. At Lothal for example, while houses were built of mud bricks, drains were made of burnt bricks.

31.1 Analyse the possible reason behind the uniformity in the drainage systems across the Harappan cities. (1)

31.2 Analyse the implications of finding little heaps of material, mostly sand, alongside drainage channels. (1)

31.3 Assess the impact of Harappan drainage system. (2)

Solution

31.1 Planned urban engineering under some central authority that set common standards.

31.2 Drains were cleaned regularly, but the debris was not always carted away when a drain was cleared.

31.3 (i) It shows an organised society concerned with public health and cleanliness. (ii) Every house was linked to the network, so sanitation reached all residents, improving quality of life and reducing waste-related disease.

CBSE 2025 · 61/4/1 · Q31

4 marks

Source: Archaeogenetic research — DNA extracted from skeletons excavated at Rakhigarhi (Hisar, Haryana, the biggest Harappan city, about 550 hectares) by Deccan College Pune with CCMB Hyderabad and Harvard Medical School shows that the Harappans were indigenous to the region; their genetic roots go back to 10,000 BCE and continue in most of the South Asian population today; small mixing came through trade and contact; the continuity rules out large-scale immigration of the so-called Aryans; reconstructed faces resemble the modern people of Haryana, showing unbroken continuity of 5000 years.

31.1 How does the research at Rakhigarhi help us understand ancient civilisations? (1) 31.2 How does it redefine our understanding of genetic history in South Asia? (1) 31.3 What is the significance of extracting and analysing DNA from Rakhigarhi remains? (2)

Solution

31.1 It gives scientific (genetic) evidence about who the Harappans were and how they are linked to people today, supplementing material remains.

31.2 It shows unbroken genetic continuity from 10,000 BCE: the Harappans were indigenous and most South Asians descend from them, ruling out large-scale Aryan immigration.

31.3 (i) DNA traces ancestry, migration and mixing of populations objectively, even reversing earlier interpretations. (ii) It shows that people from other regions were absorbed and Harappan genes spread to Iran and Central Asia, revealing long cultural continuity.

CBSE 2025 · 61/5/1 · Q31

4 marks

Source: Harappan settlements — more than 2000 Harappan sites have been found, mostly between the Indus and the Saraswati basins; nearly two-thirds are in the Saraswati basin; five major cities are Rakhigarhi, Mohenjodaro, Harappa, Dholavira and Ganweriwala; other sites are regional centres, agricultural villages, ports and manufacturing centres.

31.1 Significance of the concentration of settlements in the Saraswati basin. (1) 31.2 Importance of classifying Harappan sites. (1) 31.3 Role of rivers in sustaining Harappan settlements. (2)

Solution

31.1 It shows the immense importance of the Saraswati basin as the heartland of the civilisation, with fertile land and water supporting most settlements.

31.2 Classification (cities, regional centres, villages, ports, craft centres) shows the hierarchy and economic functions of settlements and how they were connected.

31.3 (i) Rivers supplied water for drinking and irrigation, and fertile alluvium for agriculture. (ii) They provided routes for trade and transport between settlements.

CBSE 2018 · 61/1 · Q4

4 marks

"There are indications of complex decisions being taken and implemented in the Harappan society." In light of this statement, explain whether there may have been rulers to rule over the Harappan society.

Solution

(1) Complex decisions were taken and implemented: there was extraordinary **uniformity of artefacts** (pottery, seals, weights); bricks, though not produced at a single centre, were of a uniform ratio from Jammu to Gujarat; settlements were strategically set up near sources of raw material; and labour was mobilised for making bricks and building massive walls, platforms and drains. (2) Archaeologists labelled a large building at Mohenjodaro a **palace**, but no spectacular finds were associated with it; a stone statue was labelled the "priest-king", though its identification is uncertain. (3) Some archaeologists think Harappan society had **no rulers** and everybody enjoyed equal status; others feel there was not a single ruler but **several**, one at Mohenjodaro, another at Harappa, and so forth. (4) Others argue there was a **single state**, given the similarity in artefacts and planned settlements; this last theory seems the most plausible, as it is unlikely that entire communities could collectively have made and implemented such complex decisions.

CBSE 2016 · 61/1 · Q4

4 marks

Early Harappan archaeologists thought that certain objects which seems unusual and unfamiliar may have had a religious significance. Substantiate.

Solution

(1) Early archaeologists thought that certain objects which seemed unusual or unfamiliar may have had a religious significance. These included **terracotta figurines of women**, heavily jewelled, some with elaborate head-dresses; these were regarded as **mother goddesses**. (2) Rare stone statuary of men in an almost standardised posture, seated with one hand on the knee, such as the "**priest-king**", was also classified in this category. (3) Structures such as the **Great Bath** and fire altars found at Kalibangan and Lothal have been assigned ritual significance. (4) Some **seals** depict ritual scenes; others, with plant motifs, are thought to indicate nature worship; some animals, such as the one-horned "unicorn", seem mythical; and a figure seated cross-legged in a yogic posture, surrounded by animals, has been regarded as a depiction of "**proto-Shiva**". Also, conical stone objects have been classified as lingas. These interpretations are based on later Hindu practices and remain speculative.

8 marks: long answer

CBSE 2026 · 61/2/1 · Q28(a)

8 marks

Examine the characteristic features of the architecture of Mohenjodaro. (4 + 4)

Solution

(1) Mohenjodaro, the best-known site, was divided into two parts: a smaller, higher **Citadel** to the west and a larger **Lower Town** to the east. (2) The citadel was built on mud-brick platforms; structures there (the warehouse, the Great Bath) were used for special public purposes. (3) The Lower Town was also walled and built on platforms that served as foundations; one estimate says

four million person-days of labour would have been needed for the platforms alone, showing mobilisation of labour. (4) The settlement was planned first and then built: roads and streets followed a grid pattern, intersecting at right angles. (5) **Drains** were laid first and houses built along them; every house was connected to the street drains, with covered drains and sumps. (6) **Bricks** of standardised ratio (4 : 2 : 1), sun-dried or baked, were used everywhere. (7) Houses were built around courtyards, with no windows on the ground floor walls facing the street (privacy); many had a bathroom paved with bricks and private wells (about 700 wells in Mohenjodaro). (8) The **Great Bath** was a large rectangular tank in a courtyard, made watertight with bricks set in gypsum mortar, with steps and rooms around, probably for ritual bathing. Similar planning at Harappa, Kalibangan and Lothal shows a high level of civic organisation.

CBSE 2026 · 61/2/1 · Q28(b)

8 marks

Examine the causes and evidence of the collapse of the Harappan civilisation. (4 + 4)

Solution

Evidence (4): (1) By c. 1800 BCE most mature Harappan sites in regions such as Cholistan were abandoned. (2) There was an expansion of population into new settlements in Gujarat, Haryana and western UP. (3) The few sites still occupied after 1900 BCE show a transformation of material culture: disappearance of distinctive artefacts (weights, seals, special beads), writing, long-distance trade and craft specialisation. (4) Houses were built differently and large public structures were no longer built; this "late Harappan" or successor culture was rural. **Causes (4):** (5) Climatic change and drying up of rivers (shifting courses of rivers, flooding). (6) Deforestation and excessive floods. (7) Overuse of the landscape and decline of trade. (8) Some think the unifying element, perhaps the Harappan state, came to an end, so the civilisation collapsed; no single cause fully explains it.

CBSE 2025 · 61/7/1 · Q28(a)

8 marks

How do archaeological discoveries at Harappa (sites) explain the urban planning of the Indus Valley civilisation? Explain with examples.

Solution

(1) Mohenjodaro, the best-known site, was divided into two parts: a smaller, higher **Citadel** to the west and a larger **Lower Town** to the east. (2) The citadel was built on mud-brick platforms; structures there (the warehouse, the Great Bath) were used for special public purposes. (3) The Lower Town was also walled and built on platforms that served as foundations; one estimate says four million person-days of labour would have been needed for the platforms alone, showing mobilisation of labour. (4) The settlement was planned first and then built: roads and streets followed a grid pattern, intersecting at right angles. (5) **Drains** were laid first and houses built along them; every house was connected to the street drains, with covered drains and sumps. (6) **Bricks** of standardised ratio (4 : 2 : 1), sun-dried or baked, were used everywhere. (7) Houses were built around courtyards, with no windows on the ground floor walls facing the street (privacy); many had a bathroom paved with bricks and private wells (about 700 wells in Mohenjodaro). (8) The **Great Bath** was a large rectangular tank in a courtyard, made watertight with bricks set in gypsum mortar, with steps and rooms around, probably for ritual bathing. Similar planning at Harappa, Kalibangan and Lothal shows a high level of civic organisation.

CBSE 2025 · 61/7/1 · Q28(b)

8 marks

How have the roles and methods of archaeologists contributed to our understanding of the Harappan civilisation over time? Explain with examples.

Solution

(1) The civilisation was first identified when Daya Ram Sahni found seals at Harappa (1921) and R.D. Banerji at Mohenjodaro (1922); John Marshall (DG of the ASI) announced a new civilisation in 1924. (2) Marshall dug along uniform horizontal units and so missed the stratigraphy, collapsing objects from different layers. (3) **R.E.M. Wheeler** (DG 1944) followed the stratigraphy of the mound, correcting this. (4) After partition (1947) major sites went to Pakistan, so Indian archaeologists surveyed and found sites in India: Kalibangan, Lothal, Rakhigarhi, Dholavira, Banawali. (5) New techniques: classification of finds by material and function, analysis of animal bones (e.g. by archaeo-zoologists) and plant remains to understand diet, and study of burials. (6) Use of indirect evidence: material, context (e.g. location of finds) and comparison with present practices to infer use (e.g. querns used for grinding). (7) Scientific methods such as DNA analysis (Rakhigarhi) and microscopic studies of seeds have reversed earlier interpretations. (8) Problems remain: undeciphered script, interpretation of religion from figurines and seals (mother goddess, proto-Shiva) and reconstructions shaped by archaeologists' frames of reference.

CBSE 2024 · 61/1/1 · Q28(a)

8 marks

"The most unique feature of the Harappan civilization was the development of urban centres." Explain.

Solution

(1) Mohenjodaro, the best-known site, was divided into two parts: a smaller, higher **Citadel** to the west and a larger **Lower Town** to the east. (2) The citadel was built on mud-brick platforms; structures there (the warehouse, the Great Bath) were used for special public purposes. (3) The Lower Town was also walled and built on platforms that served as foundations; one estimate says four million person-days of labour would have been needed for the platforms alone, showing mobilisation of labour. (4) The settlement was planned first and then built: roads and streets followed a grid pattern, intersecting at right angles. (5) **Drains** were laid first and houses built along them; every house was connected to the street drains, with covered drains and sumps. (6) **Bricks** of standardised ratio (4 : 2 : 1), sun-dried or baked, were used everywhere. (7) Houses were built around courtyards, with no windows on the ground floor walls facing the street (privacy); many had a bathroom paved with bricks and private wells (about 700 wells in Mohenjodaro). (8) The **Great Bath** was a large rectangular tank in a courtyard, made watertight with bricks set in gypsum mortar, with steps and rooms around, probably for ritual bathing. Similar planning at Harappa, Kalibangan and Lothal shows a high level of civic organisation.

CBSE 2024 · 61/1/1 · Q28(b)

8 marks

Explain the role of various archaeologists in the discovery of Harappa.

Solution

(1) The civilisation was first identified when Daya Ram Sahni found seals at Harappa (1921) and R.D. Banerji at Mohenjodaro (1922); John Marshall (DG of the ASI) announced a new civilisation in

1924. (2) Marshall dug along uniform horizontal units and so missed the stratigraphy, collapsing objects from different layers. (3) **R.E.M. Wheeler** (DG 1944) followed the stratigraphy of the mound, correcting this. (4) After partition (1947) major sites went to Pakistan, so Indian archaeologists surveyed and found sites in India: Kalibangan, Lothal, Rakhigarhi, Dholavira, Banawali. (5) New techniques: classification of finds by material and function, analysis of animal bones (e.g. by archaeo-zoologists) and plant remains to understand diet, and study of burials. (6) Use of indirect evidence: material, context (e.g. location of finds) and comparison with present practices to infer use (e.g. querns used for grinding). (7) Scientific methods such as DNA analysis (Rakhigarhi) and microscopic studies of seeds have reversed earlier interpretations. (8) Problems remain: undeciphered script, interpretation of religion from figurines and seals (mother goddess, proto-Shiva) and reconstructions shaped by archaeologists' frames of reference.

CBSE BOARD PAPER

2026 · Q.P. Code 61/1/1

Time: 3 hours

Maximum marks: 80

Section A: Multiple choice questions (1 mark each)

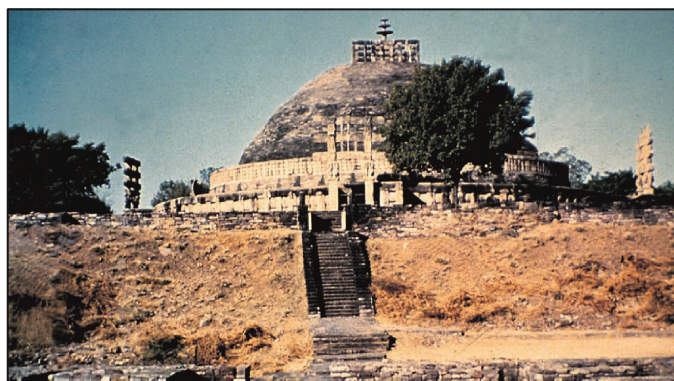
1. Match the Column – I with Column – II and choose the correct option: 1
- Column – I (Harappan Sites) Column – II (Present Location)**
- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| a. Manda | 1. Haryana |
| b. Kalibangan | 2. Gujarat |
| c. Rakhigarhi | 3. Rajasthan |
| d. Lothal | 4. Jammu |
- Options (a, b, c, d):
- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| (A) 1, 2, 3, 4 | (B) 3, 4, 2, 1 |
| (C) 2, 3, 4, 1 | (D) 4, 3, 1, 2 |
2. Arrange the following in correct chronological order and choose the correct option: 1
- I. Chalcolithic Age
II. Mesolithic Age
III. Neolithic Age
IV. Paleolithic Age
- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| (A) I, IV, III, II | (B) IV, II, III, I |
| (C) II, III, I, IV | (D) III, I, IV, II |
3. Which one of the following is a work of Panini on Sanskrit grammar? 1
- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| (A) Sushrut Samhita | (B) Natyashastra |
| (C) Ashtadhyayi | (D) Abhigyanashakuntlam |
4. Which of the following pairs is correctly matched? (Ancient Dynasties – Lineage) 1
- | | |
|---|--|
| (A) Kanvas – Successors of Mauryas | (B) Mauryas – Successors of Mahapadmananda |
| (C) Satvahanas – Successors of Kushanas | (D) Shakas – Successors of Chalukyas |
5. Fill in the blank with the appropriate option given below: 1
- In the ancient period, each city had a history of its own, _____ began as a village but in fifth century B.C.E the Magadhan rulers shifted their capital from Rajagaha to this settlement.
- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| (A) Vidisha | (B) Taxila |
| (C) Ujjain | (D) Patliputra |

6. Which of the following statements regarding Jainism is correct?

- I. Vardhaman Mahavira was born in 5th Century CE.
- II. Mahavira was the 24th Tirathankar.
- III. Jains worship Lord Shiva as Mahavira.
- IV. The principle of Ahimsa is emphasised in Jainism.

- (A) Only I and II are correct.
- (B) Only II and III are correct.
- (C) Only III and IV are correct.
- (D) Only II and IV are correct.

7. Identify the following structure from the options given below:



- (A) Amravati Stupa
- (B) Sanchi Stupa
- (C) Barhut Stupa
- (D) Sarnath Stupa

(For Visually Impaired Candidates, in lieu of Q7: In which of the following modern states of India is Sanchi Stupa located? (A) Maharashtra (B) Madhya Pradesh (C) Tamil Nadu (D) Uttar Pradesh)

8. Which of the following chronicles was authored by Abul-Fazl?

- (A) Babur-Nama
- (B) Humayun-Nama
- (C) Akbar-Nama
- (D) Padshah-Nama

9. The battle at Talikota (Rakshasi Tangri) was fought between which two of the following groups?

- (A) Between Krishnadeva Raya and rulers of Madurai, Ikkeri and Mysore
- (B) Between Rama Raya and rulers of Bijapur, Gingee and Bidar
- (C) Between Krishnadeva Raya and rulers of Golconda, Kolar, and Chandragiri
- (D) Between Ram Raya and rulers of Bijapur, Golconda and Ahmednagar

10. Which of the following temples at Vijayanagara was meant to be used only by the king and his family?

- (A) Vitthala temple
- (B) Chidambaram temple
- (C) Hazara Ram temple
- (D) Virupaksha temple

11. Identify the foreign traveller with the help of the following information:

- He was Moroccan traveller of the 14th century.
- He had the expertise of Islamic religion law.
- He was appointed Qazi of Delhi by Muhammad bin Tughlaq

- (A) Al-Biruni
- (B) Seydi Ali Reis
- (C) Ibn Batuta
- (D) Mahmud Ali Balkhi

- 12.** Who among the following is the author of the book of travels called 'Travels in the Mughal Empire'?
- (A) Francois Bernier (B) Roberto Nobile
(C) Duarte Barbosa (D) Marco Polo
- 13.** Find the odd one out from the following: (Sufi Teachers – Location of Dargah)
- (A) Shaikh Muinuddin Chishti – Ajmer (B) Khwaja Qutubuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki – Delhi
(C) Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya – Agra (D) Shaikh Fariduddin Ganj-i-Shakar – Ajodhan
- 14.** Two statements as Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are given below. Read them carefully and choose the correct option:
Assertion (A): Baba Guru Nanak Devji advocated Nirguna Bhakti.
Reason (R): For Baba Guru Nanak, the absolute or 'rab' had no gender or form.
- (A) Assertion (A) is correct and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A). (B) Assertion (A) is correct, but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A).
(C) Assertion (A) is correct, but Reason (R) is incorrect. (D) Assertion (A) is incorrect, but Reason (R) is correct.
- 15.** Which of the following statements accurately describe the conditions of Bombay-Deccan from 1840 to 1850?
- I. There was significant agrarian expansion during this period.
II. Prices of the agricultural products were rising steadily.
III. There were frequent peasant uprisings due to economic distress.
IV. The agrarian landscape largely remained progressive.
- (A) Only I and III are correct. (B) Only II and IV are correct.
(C) Only I and II are correct. (D) Only III and IV are correct.
- 16.** Identify the major long-term consequence of the permanent settlement for the Indian peasantry from the following:
- (A) Increased ownership of land among farmers. (B) Investment in agricultural technology.
(C) Increased exploitation and indebtedness. (D) Abolition of all kinds of landlordism.
- 17.** Who amongst the following American Presidents played a decisive role in the American War of Independence?
- (A) Abraham Lincoln (B) Thomas Jefferson
(C) John F. Kennedy (D) George Washington
- 18.** Why was the Revolt of 1857 viewed as a serious threat by the British? Choose the most appropriate option:
- (A) It has hurt their global trade. (B) It shook the entire colonial system of the world.
(C) It united all the sections of Indian Society. (D) It led to their defeat in South India.

19. Choose the correct pair regarding the local leaders during the Revolt of 1857. (Local Leader – Region) 1
- (A) Gonoa – Chotanagpur (B) Shahmal – Hyderabad
(C) Kunwar Singh – Kanpur (D) Maulavi Ahmadullah Shah – Arrah
20. Identify the Indian Political Leader with the help of the following information: 1
- I. He moved the 'Objectives resolution' in the Constituent Assembly.
II. He moved the resolution proposing that the National flag be a horizontal tricolor of saffron, white and dark green in equal proportions with a wheel of navy blue colour in the centre.
- (A) Sardar Patel (B) Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru
(C) Dr. Rajendra Prasad (D) Dr. Radhakrishnan
21. Match Column I with Column II and choose the correct option: List of Women members in the Constituent Assembly 1
- Column – I (Women member) Column – II (Constituency)**
- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| I. Sarojini Naidu | a. Central Province |
| II. Hansa Mehta | b. Uttar Pradesh |
| III. Vijayalakshmi Pandit | c. Bihar |
| IV. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur | d. Bombay |
- Options (I, II, III, IV):
- (A) a, c, b, d (B) c, d, b, a
(C) b, a, c, d (D) d, b, a, c

Section B: Short answer (3 marks each)

22. Examine the major contribution of John Marshall as Director General of Archaeological Survey of India. 3
23. (a) Explain the causes of the ruin of Stupa at Amravati. 3
- OR**
- (b) Explain the significance of Pauranic Hinduism of the ancient India. 3
24. "Ibn Batuta was amazed by the efficiency of Indian postal system." Explain the statement with examples. 3
25. (a) Describe the significance of Kamalpuram tank and Hiriya Canal as sources of water for the Vijayanagara. 3
- OR**
- (b) Describe the views of Dominingo Paes on the city of Vijaynagara. 3
26. Analyse the measures taken by the British to suppress the riots of Bombay-Deccan in 1875. 3
27. Explain the main provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935. 3

Section C: Long answer (8 marks each)

28. (a) "Although epigraphy is an important source of reconstructing history yet there are limits to what it can reveal." Justify the statement with suitable arguments. 8

OR

- (b) "Historians have used a variety of sources to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan empire and also explained the ways of their administration." Justify the statement with suitable arguments. (5 + 3 = 8) 8

29. (a) Explain the development of agriculture during Mughal period. 8

OR

- (b) Explain the role of women in the Agrarian society during 16th and 17th centuries. 8

30. (a) "Non-Cooperation Movement became an epoch in the life of Mahatma Gandhi and that of India." Explain the statement of Louis Fisher with examples. 8

OR

- (b) 'Gandhiji started the Salt March for various reasons and it resulted in a significant movement.' Explain the statement with examples. (4 + 4 = 8) 8

Section D: Source-based questions (4 marks each)

31. Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: 4

A Mother's Advice

The Mahabharata describes how, when war between the Kauravas and the Pandavas became almost inevitable, Gandhari made one last appeal to her eldest son Duryodhana. *By making peace you honour your father and me, as well as your well-wishers... it is the wise man in control of his senses who guards his kingdom. Greed and anger drag a man away from his profits; by defeating these two enemies a king conquers the earth... You will happily enjoy the earth, my son, along with the wise and heroic Pandavas.... There is no good in a war, no law (dharma) and profit (artha), let alone happiness; nor is there (necessarily) victory in the end – don't set your mind on war...*

Duryodhana did not listen to this advice and fought and lost the war.

31.1 Explain the main cause of conflict between Kauravas and Pandavas. (1)

31.2 Why did Gandhari advise Duryodhana not to fight? (1)

31.3 Why did Duryodhana not listen to the advice of his mother, Gandhari? (2)

32. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follows:

Declining a Royal Gift

This excerpt from a Sufi text describes the proceedings at Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya's hospice in 1313:

I (the author, Amir Hasan Sijzi) has the good fortune of kissing his (Shaikh Nizamuddin Auliya's) feet... At this time a local ruler had sent him the deed of ownership to two gardens and much land, along with the provisions and tools for their maintenance. The ruler had also made it clear that he was relinquishing all his rights to both the gardens and land. The master...had not accepted that gift. Instead, he had lamented: "What have I to do with gardens and fields and lands?... None of ... our spiritual masters had engaged in such activity."

Then he told an appropriate story: "... Sultan Ghiyasuddhin, who at that time was still known as Ulugh Khan, came to visit Shaikh Fariduddin (and) offered some money and ownership deeds for four villages to the Shaikh, the money being for the benefit of the dervishes (Sufis), and the land of his use. Smiling, Shaikh al Islam (Fariduddin) said: Give me the money. I will dispense it to the dervishes. But as for those land deeds, keep them. There are many who long for them. Give them away to such persons."

32.1 Mention the offering by the local ruler to Sufi saint. (1)

32.2 What was the reaction of Sufi saint on the offerings? (1)

32.3 Why did Sufi saint accept money? Explain. (2)

33. Read the given passage carefully and answer the following questions:

What taluqdars thought

The attitude of the taluqdars was best expressed by Hanwant Singh, the Raja of Kalakankar, near Rae Bareilly. During the mutiny, Hanwant Singh had given shelter to a British officer, and conveyed him to safety. While taking leave of the officer, Hanwant Singh told him:

Sahib, your countrymen came into this country. You sent your officers round the districts to examine the titles to the estates. At one blow you took from me lands which from time immemorial had been in my family. I submitted. Suddenly misfortune fell upon you. The people of the land rose against you. You came to me whom you had despoiled. I have saved you. But now – now I march at the head of my retainers to Lucknow to try and drive you from the country.

33.1 Explain the anguish of Hanwant Singh for the British officer. (1)

33.2 How were Taluqdars facilitated by the rulers? (1)

33.3 Explain any two causes of dissatisfaction of Taluqdars from British rule. (2)

Section E: Map-based question (5 marks)

- 34.1. (i) On the given political outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate signs or symbols:

(i) Nageshwar – a mature Harappan site

(ii) Kashi – early state.

(iii) (a) Goa – an area under Aurangzeb

OR

(b) Thanjavur – a medieval town.

- 34.2.** On the same map two places have been marked as centres of Indian national movement as A and B. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them.
(For Visually Impaired Candidates, in lieu of Q34: 34.1 Name any two important capitals of the early states. 34.2 (a) Name one area which was under the rule of Aurangzeb. OR (b) Name the capital of Vijayanagara Empire. 34.3 Mention any two main centres of Indian National Movement.)

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- Q1** (D) Manda – Jammu, Kalibangan – Rajasthan, Rakhigarhi – Haryana, Lothal – Gujarat.
- Q2** (B) IV, II, III, I: Palaeolithic → Mesolithic → Neolithic → Chalcolithic.
- Q3** (C) **Ashtadhyayi**. Panini's Ashtadhyayi (c. 5th–4th century BCE) is the classic grammar of Sanskrit. Sushruta Samhita is a medical text, Natyashastra (Bharata) a treatise on drama, and Abhijnanashakuntalam a play by Kalidasa.
- Q4** (B) as per the board key: the Mauryas (Chandragupta) overthrew the Nanda dynasty founded by Mahapadma Nanda. (The Kanvas succeeded the Shungas, not directly the Mauryas.)
- Q5** (D) **Pataliputra**. Pataliputra began as a village, Pataligrama; in the fifth century BCE the Magadhan rulers shifted their capital from Rajagaha (Rajgir) to it, and it later became the Mauryan capital.
- Q6** (D) **Only II and IV**. Mahavira lived in the sixth century **BCE** and was the last of 24 tirthankaras.
- Q7** (B) **Sanchi stupa**. The picture shows the great stupa at Sanchi with its hemispherical dome (anda), railing and gateway. VI answer: (B) **Madhya Pradesh** (Sanchi is near Bhopal).
- Q8** (C) **Akbar-nama**. Abul Fazl wrote the Akbar Nama in three volumes; the third volume is the Ain-i Akbari. The Babur Nama is Babur's memoir, the Humayun Nama was written by Gulbadan Begum, and the Padshah Nama by Abdul Hamid Lahori.
- Q9** (D) In 1565 the combined armies of Bijapur, Ahmadnagar and Golconda routed Rama Raya.
- Q10** (C) **Hazara Rama temple** in the royal centre, with Ramayana scenes on its inner walls.
- Q11** (C) **Ibn Battuta**. The Moroccan traveller of the 14th century, learned in Islamic law (sharia), reached Delhi in 1333; Sultan Muhammad bin Tughlaq appointed him the qazi (judge) of Delhi.
- Q12** (A) **François Bernier**. The French physician Bernier, who stayed in the Mughal empire (1656–68), wrote 'Travels in the Mughal Empire', comparing the Mughal state with Europe.
- Q13** (D) Nizamuddin Auliya's dargah is in Delhi (Ghiyaspur, on the Yamuna).
- Q14** (A) Both are correct and R explains A. Nirguna bhakti is devotion to a god without attributes or form; Guru Nanak taught that the absolute or 'rab' had no gender or form, so he rejected

idol worship and advocated nirguna bhakti, remembering and repeating the divine name.

- Q15** (C) **Only I and II.** By the 1840s there was modest agrarian expansion and after 1845 prices recovered steadily, so cultivators extended acreage (though the burden of debt remained).
- Q16** (C) Ryots paid high rents to zamindars and fell into debt to jotedars and moneylenders.
- Q17** (D) **George Washington**, commander of the American forces (later the first President).
- Q18** (C) Sepoys, peasants, zamindars, taluqdars, princes and religious leaders of different communities joined together.
- Q19** (A) **Gonoo – Chotanagpur (Singhbhum).** Shah Mal – Baraut; Kunwar Singh – Arrah; Ahmadullah Shah – Lucknow/Faizabad.
- Q20** (B) **Jawaharlal Nehru.** Nehru moved the Objectives Resolution in the Constituent Assembly on 13 December 1946, and on 22 July 1947 he moved the resolution on the National Flag: a horizontal tricolour of saffron, white and dark green with a navy blue wheel (chakra) in the centre.
- Q21** (B) Sarojini Naidu – Bihar, Hansa Mehta – Bombay, Vijayalakshmi Pandit – United Provinces, Amrit Kaur – Central Provinces.
- Q22** (1) In 1924 he announced the discovery of a new civilisation in the Indus valley to the world (after the finds at Harappa and Mohenjodaro), changing the chronology of Indian history. (2) He was the first professional archaeologist to work in India, bringing experience from Greece and Crete, and was interested in spectacular finds. (3) But he excavated along regular horizontal units across the mound, ignoring stratigraphy, so artefacts from different layers were grouped together and their context lost (corrected later by Wheeler).
- Q23(a)** (1) Amaravati was discovered in 1796 by a local raja who wanted to build a temple and took stone from it, thinking it was a treasure site. (2) In 1854 Walter Elliot, commissioner of Guntur, collected sculpture panels and took them to Madras ("Elliot marbles"); others were taken to Calcutta, Madras and London, and some decorated local temples or gardens. (3) Officials then believed antiquities should be taken away; H.H. Cole's view that they should be preserved where found came too late for Amaravati (unlike Sanchi, which survived in situ).
- Q23(b)** (1) It developed Vaishnavism and Shaivism, centred on devotion (bhakti) to a chosen deity, a bond of love open to all. (2) Through images, temples, avatars and Puranic stories in simple Sanskrit (heard by women and Shudras too) it spread widely and absorbed local beliefs. (3) It shaped temple architecture (garbhagriha, shikhara) and religious practice that continued for centuries.
- Q24** (1) There were two kinds of post: the **horse post (uluq)**, with royal horses stationed every four miles, and the **foot post (dawa)**, with three stations per mile. (2) In the foot post, a runner carried a rod with copper bells and ran to the next station, where another was ready to take the letter; so news travelled very fast. (3) The foot post was quicker than the horse post; it took only five days for news to reach Delhi from Sind, and it was used to send fruit from Khurasan; the system helped merchants send news and credit and transport goods.

- Q25(a)** (1) The region is arid, so storing rainwater was vital; the **Kamalapuram tank** (early 15th century) irrigated nearby fields and was connected by a channel to the "royal centre". (2) The **Hiriya canal** drew water from a dam across the Tungabhadra and irrigated the cultivated valley separating the sacred centre from the urban core, apparently built by the Sangama kings. (3) Together they supported agriculture within the fortified city, so that the city could survive sieges, and supplied the palaces and temples.
- Q25(b)** (1) The Portuguese visitor Paes (16th century) described the city as "as large as Rome and very beautiful to the sight", with many groves of trees, gardens and water conduits. (2) He described the fortifications: walls enclosing the city and agricultural tracts, and the bazaars full of goods, where precious stones (diamonds, rubies, pearls) were sold. (3) He described the Mahanavami festival, the king's grandeur, the royal centre and the abundant provisions, showing a prosperous capital.
- Q26** (1) Police posts were set up in the villages where the riots took place, and troops were quickly called in. (2) Over 950 persons were arrested and many were convicted. (3) The Government of Bombay set up the Deccan Riots Commission to enquire into the causes (its report blamed the moneylenders' greed more than the revenue demand), and laws such as the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act (1879) followed.
- Q27** (1) It extended **provincial autonomy**: elected Indian ministers controlled provincial subjects. (2) It proposed an all-India federation of provinces and princely states, with three lists of subjects (federal, provincial, concurrent). (3) It extended the franchise (to about 10–15% of adults) and kept separate electorates; elections to provincial legislatures under it (1937) gave the Congress governments in 8 of 11 provinces. Much of its framework (lists, governor's powers) was used in the Constitution.
- Q28(a)** **Importance:** (1) Inscriptions are writings engraved on hard surfaces such as stone, metal or pottery; they are permanent records of the achievements, activities or ideas of those who commissioned them. (2) They often carry dates, names of rulers and places, grants of land and donations, so they help build chronology and political history; e.g. Ashoka's inscriptions tell us about his dhamma and empire.
Limits of epigraphy: (3) Sometimes there are **technical limitations**: letters are very faintly engraved and reconstructions are uncertain. (4) Inscriptions may be **damaged** or letters missing. (5) It is not always easy to be sure about the **exact meaning of words**, some of which may be specific to a particular place or time. (6) Not all inscriptions have been **deciphered**, published or translated, and many more must have existed which have not survived. (7) Much of what is politically or economically significant was **not necessarily recorded**: routine agricultural practices and the joys and sorrows of daily life find no mention, since inscriptions focused on grand, unique events. (8) Inscriptions always project the **perspective of the person who commissioned them** (e.g. prashastis exaggerate a ruler's achievements); so they must be scrutinised and read along with other sources.
- Q28(b)** Sources (5): (1) archaeological finds, especially sculpture; (2) contemporary works: Megasthenes's Indica (in fragments) and Kautilya's Arthashastra (parts of it); (3) later Buddhist, Jaina and Puranic literature (e.g. Ashokavadana) and Sanskrit works; (4) Ashoka's inscriptions on rocks and pillars, the most valuable source; (5) punch-marked coins.

Administration (3): (6) There were five major political centres: the capital Pataliputra and the provincial centres of Taxila, Ujjayini, Tosali and Suvarnagiri, all mentioned in Ashoka's inscriptions; control was strongest around the capital and the provincial centres, which were carefully chosen (Taxila and Ujjayini on trade routes, Suvarnagiri for gold mines). (7) Communication along land and river routes was vital; the army was huge (Megasthenes mentions a committee with six subcommittees for military activity: navy, transport, infantry, cavalry, chariots, elephants). (8) Ashoka appointed dhamma mahamattas to spread dhamma; the empire was diverse (Afghanistan to Orissa), so control was uneven.

Q29(a) (1) The basic unit was the village, inhabited by peasants (raiyyat or muzarian; asamis) who cultivated individually owned land; there were khud-kashta (resident) and pahi-kashta (non-resident) peasants. (2) Abundance of land, available labour and peasants' mobility led to constant **expansion of agriculture**. (3) **Monsoon** was the backbone, but artificial irrigation was also used: the state took up canals (e.g. Shah Nahr in Punjab under Shah Jahan) and wells with water-wheels (Persian wheel described by Babur). (4) Technology: wooden plough with an iron tip, drills pulled by oxen to plant seeds, hoes and wooden handles. (5) Two crops a year: **kharif** (autumn) and **rabi** (spring); some areas had three; the Ain lists 39 crops in Agra and 46 in Delhi. (6) **Cash crops** (jins-i kamil): cotton, sugarcane, oilseeds, lentils were encouraged by the state because they brought more revenue. (7) New crops came from abroad via the Portuguese: maize from Africa and Spain, tomatoes, potatoes and chillies from the New World, and tobacco, which spread widely. (8) Agriculture was linked with trade and money; the state's revenue (one-third) depended on it, making land revenue the economic mainstay of the empire.

Q29(b) (1) Women and men worked shoulder to shoulder in the fields: men tilled and ploughed, women sowed, weeded, threshed and winnowed. (2) With nucleated villages and individual peasant farms, the household was the basis of production. (3) Women spun yarn, sifted and kneaded clay for pottery and embroidered; the more commercialised the product, the greater the demand for women's labour. (4) Because women's labour was valued, marriages among peasants and artisans involved **bride-price** instead of dowry. (5) Remarriage was legitimate for divorced and widowed women. (6) Yet biases continued: menstruating women could not touch the plough or the potter's wheel in western India, and men headed households; women were kept under control by family and community. (7) Women petitioned the panchayat (in Rajasthan, Maharashtra) seeking justice, e.g. against husbands who neglected them; Hindu and Muslim women inherited zamindaris and sold them (18th-century Bengal: the Rajshahi zamindari was run by a woman). (8) High mortality from malnutrition and frequent childbirth meant a shortage of wives in peasant and artisan communities.

Q30(a) (1) Louis Fischer wrote that Non-Cooperation became the name of an epoch in the life of India and Gandhiji: negative enough to be peaceful, positive enough to be effective. (2) It was launched (1920) after the Rowlatt Act and Jallianwala Bagh and joined with the Khilafat movement, creating Hindu-Muslim unity. (3) Students left government schools and colleges; lawyers gave up practice; the working class went on strike in towns and cities (396 strikes in 1921). (4) Peasants in Awadh refused taxes; hill tribes in northern Andhra broke forest laws; farmers withheld taxes. (5) Swadeshi and khadi spread; foreign cloth was burnt. (6) For the first time since 1857 British rule was shaken to its foundations, through mass non-violent action. (7) Gandhiji became the leader of the masses ("Mahatma"), and the Congress turned into a mass party with branches in every region. (8) He called it off after Chauri Chaura

(February 1922), and was jailed for sedition (March 1922), but the movement transformed Indian nationalism.

Q30(b) Reasons: (1) The salt tax and state monopoly over salt were hated by all, especially the poor; salt was a daily necessity. (2) Gandhiji wanted an issue that united all classes and regions. (3) It was a symbol of the injustice of British rule; Gandhiji's notice to Irwin was ignored. (4) After the Lahore session (1929) declared Purna Swaraj, a mass movement was needed. **Results:** (5) The march from Sabarmati to Dandi (12 March – 6 April 1930) drew huge crowds and press coverage. (6) Civil Disobedience spread across India: salt laws, forest laws broken; taxes withheld; foreign goods boycotted; women participated in large numbers. (7) The government arrested about 60,000 people, but had to negotiate: Gandhi–Irwin Pact (1931) and the Round Table Conferences. (8) The world became aware of the Indian struggle, and Gandhiji's non-violent method won wide sympathy.

Q31 31.1 A feud over land and power (the throne of the Kuru kingdom) between two groups of cousins.
31.2 War brings no good: no dharma, no profit or happiness, and no certain victory; peace would honour his parents and let him rule with the Pandavas.
31.3 (i) He was driven by greed, anger and pride, wanting the whole kingdom. (ii) Under patriliney he saw himself as the rightful heir, and a mother's advice did not always carry authority, showing the limited influence of women.

Q32 32.1 Deeds of ownership of two gardens and much land, with provisions and tools for their upkeep.
32.2 He refused the gift, lamenting that his spiritual masters had never engaged in owning gardens, fields and lands.
32.3 (i) Money could be distributed to the dervishes and the needy (as *futuh*, charity) for the hospice's open kitchen. (ii) Land would tie the Sufi to worldly property and the state, whereas giving away money served people without accumulating wealth.

Q33 33.1 The British had driven out the king of Awadh and taken away his ancestral lands at one blow.
33.2 Under the Nawabs taluqdars held estates and forts, kept armed retainers and enjoyed autonomy as long as they accepted the Nawab's suzerainty and paid revenue.
33.3 (i) After annexation (1856) the British disbanded their armies and destroyed their forts. (ii) The Summary Settlement of 1856 removed taluqdars wherever possible and settled revenue directly with peasants, so they lost land, power and honour (in Awadh their share of villages fell from 67% to 38%).

Q34.1(i) Nageshwar: Gujarat, on the coast of the Gulf of Kachchh (Jamnagar/Dwarka region), a shell-working site.

Q34.1(ii) Kashi: Varanasi, eastern Uttar Pradesh, on the Ganga. VI: Ujjayini, Kaushambi, Varanasi, Rajagaha, Vaishali, Kusinagara, Shravasti, Champa, Mathura, Taxila.

Q34.1(iii) (a) Goa: west coast between Maharashtra and Karnataka. (b) Thanjavur: Tamil Nadu, in the Kaveri delta.

Q34.2 A = **Chauri Chaura** (Gorakhpur, UP); B = **Dandi** (Navsari, Gujarat coast).



All the best for your boards!

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