

## Long Answer Questions

### Q.1. Write a note on Mahmud of Ghazni.

**Ans. (i)** In 1006 AD, Mahmud captured Multan. During his raids, thousands of people were killed.

**(ii)** Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni, Afghanistan ruled from 997 to 1030.

**(iii)** He raided the subcontinent almost every year.

**(iv)** He targeted wealthy temples, including that of Somnath, Gujarat. Much of the wealth Mahmud carried away was used to create a splendid capital city at Ghazni.

**(v)** Sultan Mahmud was also interested in finding out more about the people he conquered, and entrusted a scholar named Al-Biruni to write an account of the subcontinent.

### Q.2. How did Chola dynasty expand? Why did it decline?

**Ans. (i)** The Chola dynasty was a Tamil dynasty in 9th century.

**(ii)** Under Rajaraja I and his son Rajendra I, Chola dynasty became a military, economic and cultural power in South Asia and South-east Asia.

**(iii)** Rajaraja Chola annexed peninsular South India including parts of what is now Sri Lanka while Rajendra Chola sent a military expedition to North India that defeated the Pala ruler, Mahipala.

**(iv)** The successors of Rajendra Chola continued to fight against the neighbouring kingdoms leading to decline of empire.

### Q.3. Describe the local administration of the Cholas.

**Ans. (i)** The settlements of peasants were called Urs.

**(ii)** The larger units or groups of such villages were known as Nadu.

**(iii)** The village council and Nadu had the function of administration, collection of taxes and delivering justice.

**(iv)** Rich landowners got titles like Araiyan (chief), Muvendavelan (peasant serving three kings), etc. as a mark of respect.

**(v)** Further, even Brahmins got a lot of grants in peninsular India near Kaveri. They were called Brahmadeya.

**(vi)** Each Brahmadeya was looked after by an assembly or Sabha.

**(vii)** The assemblies worked efficiently.

(viii) The administrative function in towns was performed by association of traders called nagarams.

**Q.4. How were Chola rulers great temple architects?**

**Ans. (i)** The Chola rulers are best known for their architectural and sculptural marvels. Rajaraja and Rajendra built the big temples of Thanjavur and Gangaikondacholapuram.

**(ii)** The produce of the land helped all people who lived near the temple— priests, garlandmakers, cooks, musicians, dancers, etc.

**(iii)** Temples, in addition to being places of worship were even places of socio-economic and cultural life.

**(iv)** The images of bronze sculpture were most famous in the Chola crafts.

**Q.5. Describe agriculture and irrigation under the Cholas.**

**Ans. (i)** The Kaveri Delta was fertile for irrigation of rice.

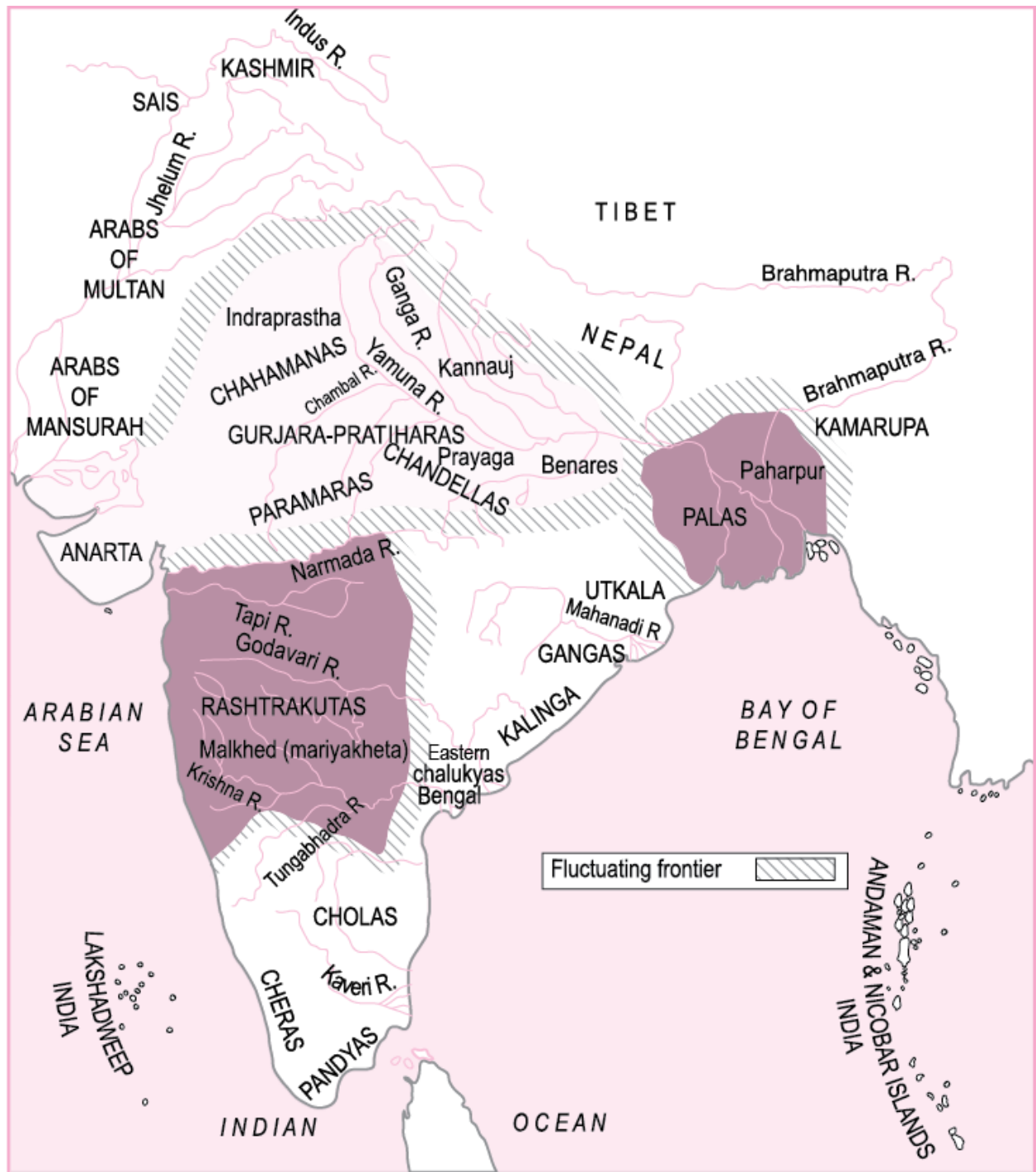
**(ii)** It was under the Cholas that land under forests was cleaned and levelled for agriculture.

**(iii)** In the delta areas, embankments were built to prevent floods and canals were built to carry water to the fields.

**(iv)** A number of new ways for irrigation like wells, rainwater harvesting, etc. were used with active planning and organising for irrigation resources.

**Q.6. On an outline map of India, mark major kingdoms of seventh-twelfth centuries.**

**Ans.**



**Q.7. On an outline map of India, mark the main South Indian Kingdoms.**

**Ans. Chola Kingdom (C. 1100)**

