

CBSE
Class XII - History
All India
Board Question Paper 2013

Time: 3 hrs

Max. Marks: 80

General Instructions:

- Answer all the questions. Some questions have choice. Marks are indicated against each question.
 - Answers to questions carrying 2 marks (**Part-A** Question Nos. 1 to 3) should not exceed 30 words each.
 - Answers to questions carrying 4 marks (**Part-B Section-I** Question Nos. 4 to 9) should not exceed 100 words each. Attempt any 5 questions from this part. (**Part-B Section-II** Question No.10) is a value-based question which is a compulsory question.
 - Answers to questions carrying 8 marks (**Part-C** Question Nos. 11 to 14) should not exceed 350 words each. Attempt any 3 questions from this part.
 - Answers to questions carrying 7 marks (**Part-D**, Source-based questions [No internal choice] Question Nos. 15 to 17)
 - Attach map with the answer sheet (**Part E**).
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Part-A

Answer all the questions given below:

(2×3=6) Marks

1. How were Harappan seals and sealings used to facilitate long distance communication?
What did the sealing's convey? 2
2. Mention any two steps taken by the Mughals to create the revenue as an administrative apparatus. 2
3. Mention any two arguments given by Balakrishnan Sharma for greater power to the Centre. 2

Part - B (Section-I)

Answer any five of the following questions:

(4×5=20) Marks

4. "The archaeological records provide no immediate answer to the Harappa's central authority". Analyse different views given on the same. 5
5. "Historians have used a variety of sources to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan Empire". Explain. 4
6. "The conception of social population intrinsic to the caste system was contrary to the law of nature". Examine Al-Biruni's statement on Indian caste system. 4

7. Describe how the 'Humayun Nama' of Gulbadan Begum gives us the glimpses of the Mughal Imperial household. 4
8. Examine how the Ricardo's idea of land-ownership was introduced in the 'Bombay Deccan'. 4
9. "A careful study of census reveals some fascinating trends of urbanisation in 19th century."Support the statement with facts. 4

Part – B (Section – II)
(Value Based Question) (2 + 2 = 4)

10. Read the following 'value-based' passage and answer the questions that follow: The 77-year-old Gandhi ji decided to stake his all in a bid to vindicate his lifelong principle of non-violence, and his conviction that people's hearts could be changed. He moved from the villages of Noakhali in East Bengal (present-day Bangladesh) to the villages of Bihar and then to the riot-torn slums of Calcutta and Delhi, in a heroic effort to stop Hindus and Muslims kill each other, careful everywhere to reassure the minority community. In October 1946, Muslims in East Bengal targeted Hindus. Gandhi ji visited the area, toured the villages on foot, and persuaded the local Muslims to guarantee the safety of Hindus. Similarly, in other places such as Delhi he tried to build a spirit of mutual trust and confidence between the two communities.
10.1 Explain how the spirit of mutual trust and confidence building was initiated by Gandhi.2
10.2. Explain the values mentioned in this passage. 2

Part – C
(Long Answer Questions)
Answer any three of the following questions: (8×3 = 24) Marks

11. Discuss how and why were the stupas built? 8
12. Why was the south-western part of Vijayanagara settlement designated as Royal Centre? Explain. 8
13. Explain the role played by Zamindars in Mughal India. 8
14. How did the Constituent Assembly seek to resolve the language controversy? Explain. 8

Part – D
(Passage Based Questions)

(7×3=21)Marks

15. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Deeds of hire

When debts mounted the peasant was unable to pay back the loan to the Moneylender. He had no option but to give over all his possessions — land. Carts, and animals — to the moneylender. But without animals he could not continue to cultivate. So he took land on rent and animals on hire. He now had to pay for the animals which had originally belonged to him. He had to sign a deed of hire stating very clearly that these animals and carts did not belong to him. In cases of conflict, these deeds could be enforced through the court.

The following is the text of a deed that a peasant signed in November 1873, from the records of the Deccan Riots Commission: I have sold to you, on account of the debt due to you, my two carriages having iron axles, with their appurtenances and four bullocks ... I have taken from you on hire under (this) deed the very same two carriages and four bullocks. I shall pay every month the hire thereof at Rupees four a month, and obtain a receipt in your own handwriting. In the absence of a receipt I shall not contend that the hire had been paid.

- (a) How did the peasants pay back the loan to the moneylender? 3
- (b) What was the deed of hire? Explain. 3
- (c) What light does the deed of hire throw on the relationship between the peasants and the moneylenders? 1

16. Read the following passage 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."

- (a) Who was Colin Mackenzie? Give his introduction. General mass of the population to this day." 3
- (b) Mention what Mackenzie did to make governance of the colony easier. 1
- (c) According to him, what benefits would the East India Company gain after studying Vijayanagara? Explain in brief.

17. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Rules for monks and nuns

These are some of the rules laid down in the Vinaya Pitaka: When a new felt (blanket/rug) has been made by a bhikkhu, it is to be kept for (at least) six years. If after less than six years he should have another new felt (blanket/rug) made, regardless of whether or not he has disposed of the first, then — unless he has been authorised by the bhikkhus — it is to be forfeited and confessed:

In case a bhikkhu arriving at a family residence is presented with cakes or cooked grain-meal, he may accept two or three bowlfuls if he so desires. If, he should accept more than that, it is to be confessed. Having accepted the two or three bowlfuls and having taken them from there, he is to share them among the bhikkhus. This is the proper course here. Should any bhikkhu, having set out bedding in a lodging belonging to the sangha — or having had it set out — and then on departing neither put it away nor have it put away, or should he go without taking leave, it is to be confessed.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) Name any two Buddhist texts in which the rules for the monks have been laid down. | 1 |
| (b) Why were these rules framed? | 1 |
| (c) What was the sangha? Explain. | 2 |
| (d) State any three rules mentioned in the passage, for the bhikkhus. | 3 |

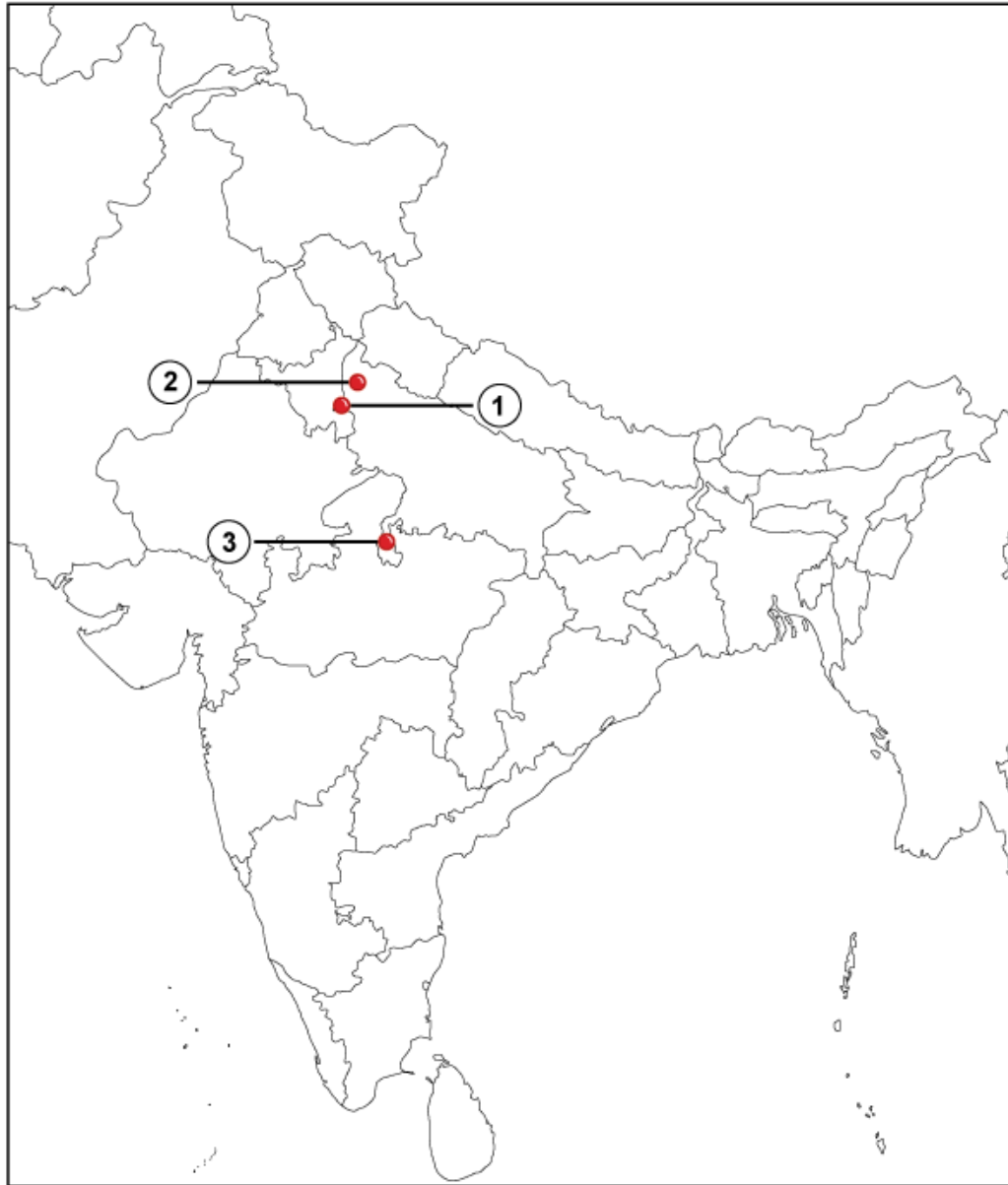
Part - E
(MAP Work)

(5 Marks)

18. (18.1) On the given political outline map of India Locate and label the following: 2

- i. Kalibangan
- ii. Nageshwar

(18.2) On the same map 3 centres of the Revolt of 1857 have been marked as 1, 2 and 3. Identify them and write their names on the lines drawn near them. 3



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Part A

Answer 1

During the Harappan period, seals and sealings were used to facilitate long distance communication. When a bag of goods was transported, its mouth was tied with a rope and wet clay with one or more seals were pressed leaving an impression.

An intact sealing ensured that the bag has not been meddled with. The sealing also conveyed the identity of the sender.

Answer 2

Two steps taken by the Mughals to create the revenue as an administrative apparatus:

- a. The office (*daftar*) of the diwan whose primary duty was to supervise the fiscal system of the empire was included in the state revenue apparatus.
- b. The Mughals first enquired into the extent of the agricultural lands and crops which they produced before fixing the land revenue.

Answer 3

- (i) Balkrishana Sharma, a member from the United Provinces, argued for a strong centre highlighting that only a strong centre can use available resources and can plan for the development of the country.
- (ii) He further stressed that only a strong centre could defend the country against an external aggression.

Part B: Section I

Answer 4

Historians have different opinions on Harappa's central authority as the archaeological records do not provide any information on it. A large building has been found at Mohenjodaro—was it a palace or was it a seat of powerful people? No answers have been arrived at it till yet. Ritual practices of the Harappans have yet not been understood. It is not known if people who performed rituals also held political power. While some archaeologists believe that the Harappan society had no single ruler, others believe that society had not one but many rulers. Archaeologists also believe that the cities of the Indus Valley had had a single state as there were similarities in pottery, weights and standardised ratio of brick size. The last theory seems reasonable as such standard complex decisions could not be made across numerous territories without having one political centre of power.

Answer 5

Historians have used various sources to reconstruct the history of the Mauryan Empire. These sources are

- a. Archaeological finds, especially sculptures, have helped in reconstructing Mauryan history. The Iron Pillar and Sarnath Pillar have shed light on technological advancements during the Mauryan rule.
- b. Literary sources such as *Indica* written by Megasthenes who visited the court of Chandragupta Maurya and *Arthashastra* by Kautilya shed light on the Mauryan administration.
- c. Jain, Buddhist and Puranic traditions and Sanskrit literary works have also been used by historians to study Mauryan rulers.
- d. Asokan inscriptions on rocks and pillars have been an important source of history. They shed light on the religious and social policies of Mauryan kings.

Answer 6

Al-Biruni was a Persian scholar who visited India in eleventh century CE. He closely tried to understand the caste system in India. He attempted to suggest that social divisions were not unique to India as four social categories also existed in ancient Persia. However, he pointed out that no caste system exists in Islam, where all people are considered equal.

Al-Biruni though accepted the Brahmanical description of the caste system. He disapproved the existing notion of pollution. He remarked that everything which falls into a state of impurity strives and succeeds in regaining its original condition of purity. He insisted that life on Earth would have been impossible if the Sun did not clean the air, and the salt in the sea did not prevent water from becoming polluted. So, the conception of social pollution, intrinsic to the caste system, according to him was contrary to the law of nature.

Answer 7

Gulbadan Begum was the daughter of Babur, sister of Humayun and aunt of Akbar. She wrote *Humayun Nama* in which she gave a glimpse of the Mughal domestic world. She wrote fluently in Turkish and Persian. Akbar requested his aunt to record her memories of earlier times under Babur and Humayun so that Abul Fazl could use them to write the history of his reign. Gulbadan did not eulogise the Mughal rulers. She wrote about several day-to-day activities of the Mughal family members. She described in great detail about the conflicts and tensions among the princes and the important role a negotiator played by the elderly Mughal ladies in resolving these conflicts.

Answer 8

Economist David Ricardo was a celebrated figure in England. According to Ricardian ideas, a landowner should have a claim only to the 'average rent' which prevailed at a given time. When the land yielded more than this 'average rent', the landowner had a surplus that the state needed to tax. If tax was not levied, cultivators were likely to turn into rentiers, and their surplus income was unlikely to be productively invested in the improvement of the land. Many British officials in India thought that the history of Bengal confirmed Ricardo's

theory. Zamindars in Bengal seemed to have turned into rentiers, leasing out land and living on rental incomes. The British officials felt it was therefore necessary to have a different system.

The revenue system which was introduced in the Bombay Deccan came to be known as Ryotwari. The revenue was directly settled with the ryot. The average income from different types of soil was estimated. The revenue-paying capacity of the ryot was assessed and a proportion of it fixed as the share of the state. The lands were resurveyed every 30 years and the revenue rates increased. Therefore, the revenue demand was no longer permanent.

Answer 9

A careful study of the census reveals some fascinating trends of urbanisation in the 19th century. This is because the census revealed the following facts:

- a. The ratio of the urban population was very low and had remained stagnant from the 19th century to the first two decades of the 20th century.
- b. From 1900 to 1940, the urban population increased from about 10% of the total population to about 13%.
- c. There were important variations in the patterns of urban development in different parts of the country.
- d. While the cities of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay grew very fast and soon became sprawling cities, smaller towns had limited opportunity to grow economically.

However, the growth of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay as the new commercial and administrative centres was at the expense of other existing urban centres. These cities became hubs of the colonial economy.

Section II

Value-Based Question (Compulsory)

Answer 10

10.1 (a) Gandhiji was a true champion and pious follower of the eternal principle of non-violence or ahimsa. He had the conviction that people's hearts could be changed with love and affection. To convey the spirit of mutual trust and confidence building, Gandhiji moved from the villages of Noakhali in East Bengal (present-day Bangladesh) to the villages of Bihar, then to the riot-torn slums of Calcutta and Delhi. He wanted to stop the barbaric killing between Hindus and Muslims.

10.2 This passage consists of human values and the deeply rooted conviction of Gandhi that people's hearts, minds and thinking could be changed. As an ardent follower of Ahimsa and a true champion of humanity, Gandhiji firmly believed in Hindu-Muslim unity. The feeling of brotherhood and confidence in each other are some other values which have been mentioned in the passage.

Part C: Long Answer Questions

Answer 11

Stupas are sacred Buddhist places where Buddhists mediated. Stupas existed even before the beginning of Buddhism, but later were associated with the religion. Stupas contained the relics of Buddha or his followers in a casket which was covered with earth. Then a large mound was constructed over it. According to a Buddhist text *Ashokavadana*, king Ashoka distributed the relics of Buddha to important towns and then ordered the construction of stupas over them. Some famous stupas were built at Amravati, Sanchi and Sarnath.

Stupas were built with the help of royal patronage. Many sections of people also provided funding to build various sections of the stupas. The casket containing the relics of Buddha or his followers were covered with earth and a semicircular mound of the earth known as *anda* was made over it. Harmika was placed on it. Harmika was a balcony-like structure representing the abode of gods. An umbrella or *chhatra* was located to the top of the *yashti*. Stupas had richly carved gateways. Later, many stupas like at Sanchi were decorated with sculptures.

Answer 12

The southwestern part of Vijayanagara settlement was designated as Royal Centre as about thirty building complexes in the southwestern part of settlement have been identified as palaces. It included over 60 temples and the patronage of temples and the cult was important for rulers who were trying to establish and legitimise their authority through associations with divinities housed in the shrines. In the southwestern part, the 'king's palace' is the largest enclosure though we do not know if the king resided here.

Mahanavami dibba located at the highest point in the city is a huge platform rising from a base of about 11,000 sq. ft to a height of 40 ft. Rituals and ceremonies connected with the structure perhaps coincided with Mahanavmi of the ten-day Hindu festival during September and October. On this auspicious occasion, the king of Vijayanagara displayed his authority, prestige and suzerainty. The Lotus Temple is one of the most splendid building centres. However, historians are not sure what the building is for. Mackenzie suggested that it may have been a council chamber. Hazara Rama Temple is a spectacular temple. It was most probably used only by the King and his family. Although the images in the central shrine are missing, wall sculptures survive. The scenes from the Ramayana are sculpted on the inner walls of the shrine.

Answer 13

Zamindars played an important role during the Mughal period. They were a class of landed aristocracy who collected revenue from farmers. After deducting their commission, they deposited the rest to the Indian treasury.

- Zamindars performed various services for the state known as *khidmat*. They also had vast stretches of land known as *milkiyat*. They could sell or mortgage these lands at will.
- They also controlled military resources in Mughal India. They could maintain a cavalry, artillery and infantry. They also had the power to build forts. This increased their power and reputation in the mediaeval period.
- They occupied the apex position in the social system in India as they were a class of landed aristocracy.

- d. The zamindars were instrumental in colonising agricultural lands and helped the cultivators by providing them with loans. Evidences have shown that zamindars often established local markets (haats) where peasants came to sell their produce or products.
- e. The zamindars have been known as an exploitative class; however, in certain respects, they also maintained good relations with the Indian peasantry, serving as a father-like figure. Their role in Indian agriculture has been of great importance in the mediaeval period.

Answer 14

The Constituent Assembly sought to resolve the language controversy in the following ways:

- a. It was a daunting task before the Constituent Assembly to decide the official language of India. Because India had several states with distinct languages of their own, there was a fierce debate in the Constituent Assembly over the language policy. R. V. Dhulekar, a Congressman from the United Provinces, wanted Hindi to be used for writing the Constitution. When he was told that not all the members of the Constituent Assembly knew the language, he retorted, "People who are present in this house to fashion a constitution for India and do not know Hindustani are not worthy to be members of this Assembly. They better leave."
- b. Many members wanted Hindustani as the national language of India. At this time, the Language Committee of the Constituent Assembly tried to break the deadlock by declaring Hindi in the Devanagari script as the official language of India. By referring to Hindi as the official rather than the national language, the Language Committee of the Constituent Assembly tried to offer a solution acceptable to all. Further, it decided that for the first fifteen years, English would continue to be used for official purposes and each province was allowed to choose one regional language for official work within that province.

Thus, the Constituent Assembly resolved the language controversy by allowing states to use their state language in official use, while Hindi was declared as the official language of the country.

Part D: Source-Based Questions

Deeds of hire

Answer 15

- (a) When the debts of the peasants increased and they were unable to pay back, he gave all his possession to the moneylenders. The peasants thus gave away his land, carts and animals.
- (b) The deed of hire was a document through which a peasant could mortgage his land or animals for stipulated sum of money taken as an advance from the moneylender. Deeds were also signed when peasants hired animals on rent from moneylenders or zamindars. In such cases, the deed clearly stated that the animals and carts given to a peasant were not owned by him. The deed contained the detailed rules of transaction and mortgage.
- (c) The deed in light shows that deeds were made in favour of moneylenders and peasants had no say in deciding the terms of the deeds.

Answer 16

- (a) Colin Mackenzie was born in 1754. He was a famous engineer, surveyor and cartographer. He was appointed the first Surveyor General of India in 1815 and held this post till his death in 1821.
- (b) Colin Mackenzie embarked on collecting local histories and surveying historic sites to better understand India's past and make governance of the colony easier.
- (c) Colin Mackenzie was of the opinion that the East India Company could gain much useful information on institutions of governance by learning and understanding the laws and customs of the local people.

Answer 17

- (a)
 - (i) Sutta Pitaka
 - (ii) Vinay Pitaka
- (b) These rules were framed to maintain simplicity and Dhamma mainly among monks and nuns.
- (c) Sangha was a body of monastic order or disciples of the Buddha. It was an organisation of monks who became teachers of dhamma.
- (d)
 - (i) A new felt blanket/rug made by a bhikkhu is to be kept for (at least) six years.
 - (ii) In case a bhikkhu arrives at a family residence, he should accept only 2 or 3 bowlfuls of cooked grain meals. This should be shared with other bhikkhus.
 - (iii) Should any bhikkhu, having set out bedding in a lodging belonging to the Sangha or having had it set out and then on departing neither put it away nor have put it away; or should he go without taking leave, it is to be confessed.

Answer 18

Map Work

