Long Answer Questions

Q.1. Which religions flourished after the coming of rulers from distant lands in India?

Ans. In India, Buddhism and Hinduism were the two main religions. Buddhism was divided into two cults–Hinayana and Mahayana. Hinayana was the simpler and older form of Buddhism which worshipped Buddha as a scholar. Mahayana was a new form of Buddhism with rituals and ceremonies where Buddha was worshipped as God. Menander, the IndoGreek ruler and Kanishka, the Kushana ruler followed Buddhism and gifted land to Buddhist monks for monasteries. Hinduism was patronised by Satavahana ruler who worshipped Vishnu, Shiva and Mother Goddess. Hinduism, by this period, witnessed a seesaw change. Emphasis was now placed on loving devotion to God called Bhakti.

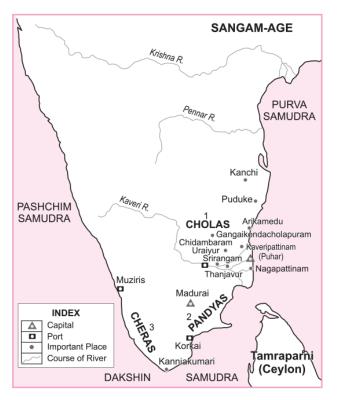
Q.2. How did Bhakti gain popularity in India during this period?

Ans.

- i. During this period, worship of certain deities became a key feature of Hinduism.
- ii. These deities were Shiva, Vishnu and goddesses like Durga.
- iii. These deities were worshipped through Bhakti, an idea which became quite popular at that time.
- iv. Bhakti is normally understood as a person's devotion to his or her chosen deity.
- v. Anyone whether rich or poor, belonging to the so-called 'high' or 'low' castes, man or woman, could follow the path of Bhakti.

Q.3. On an outline map of India, show 'Southern kingdoms'.

Ans.



Q.4. On an outline map of India, mark Kanishka empire.

Ans.

