

Shri Shikshayatan School

Midterm Examination

Class - XII

Subject - History

2017

Full Marks :80

Time : 3hrs.

General Instructions:

- i. Answer all questions. Some questions have choice. Marks are indicated against each question.
- ii. Answer to question no. 1 to 3 carrying 2 marks should not exceed 30 words each.
- iii. Answer to questions no. 4 to 9 carrying 4 marks should not exceed 100 words. Students should attempt only five questions in this section.
- iv. Question 10 (for 4 marks) is a value based question and compulsory question.
- v. Answer to questions 11 to 14 carrying 8 marks should not exceed 350 words.
- vi. Questions 15 to 17 are source based questions and have no internal choice.
- vii. Question 18 is a Map question includes identification and significant test items. Attach the map with the answer - sheet.

Part - A

Answer all the questions below.

1. What difficulties have been faced by historians in deciphering the Indus script? 2
2. Mention any two ways in which the inscriptions of land grants help us to understand rural society in ancient times. 2
3. How was Buddha's presence shown through symbols? 2.

Part - B

Section - I

Answer any five of the following questions:

4. Describe some of the distinctive features of Mohenjo-Daro. 4
5. How do the modern historians explain the development and growth of Magadhan power? 4
6. Describe the position of untouchables in ancient Indian society.4

7. Critically examine why Sanchi Stupa survived while Amravati did not. 4

8. Why did travellers who came to India sometimes took social inequalities for granted as a natural state of affairs? Explain. 4

9. Explain how Krishnadeva Raya's death affected the Vijayanagara Empire? 4

Section - II

10. Value based question (compulsory):

" By the Eleventh century Sufism evolved into a well developed movement"- Give examples and mention the values imbibed in it. 4

Part - C

Answer any three of the following questions :

11. The people of Harappan civilisation had their trade relations with West Asia. Explain. 8

12. Examine Bernier's perceptions about the condition of artisans, merchants and towns in Mughal India. 8

13. How did Kabir describe the ultimate reality through his poems ? 8

14. Analyse how the buildings of the Royal centre of Vijayanagara city helped in increasing the prestige of Vijayanagara kingdom. 8

Part - D

15. Source Based Question.

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

Eight forms of marriage

Here the first, fourth, fifth and sixth forms of marriage from the Manusmriti:

First ; The gift of a daughter, after dressing her in costly clothes and honouring her with presents of jewels, to a man learned in the Veda whom the father himself invites.

Fourth : The gift of a daughter by the father after he has addressed the couple with the text, " May both of you perform your duties together", and has shown honour to the bridegroom.

Fifth : When the bridegroom receives a maiden, after having given as much wealth as he can afford to the kinsmen and to the bride herself, according to his own will.

Sixth: The voluntary union of a maiden and her lover ...which springs from desire..

15.1 When was Manusmriti compiled? [1]

15.2 What did the passage narrate about? [3]

15.3 How did Dharmasutra and Dharmasastra classify the marriage? [3]

16. Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions that follow :

Nuts like a man's head.

The following is how Ibn batuta described the coconut : These trees are among the most peculiar trees in kind and most astonishing in habit. They look exactly like date-palms, without any difference between them except that the one produces nuts as its fruits and the other produces dates. The nut of a coconut tree resemble a man's head, for in it one what look likes two eyes and a mouth, and the inside of it when it is green looks like the brain, and attached to it is a fibre which looks like hair. They make from this cords with which they sew up ships instead of (using) iron nails, and they (also) make from it cables for vessels.

- 16.1 Name the two items which held Ibn Battuta's fascination. [1]
16.2 How does he give his readers an idea about what a coconut looked like? [2]
16.3 How does he convey the fruit is unusual? Give two reasons. [2]
16.4 Why do you think Ibn Batutah went into such details? [2]

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

How tanks were built

About a tank constructed by Krishnadeva Raya, Paes wrote:

The king made a tank... at the mouth of two hills so that all the water which comes from either one side or the other collects there; and, besides this, water comes to it from more than three leagues (aapox 15 kilometres) by pipes which run along the lower parts of the range outside. This water is brought from a lake which itself overflows into a little river. The tank has three large pillars handsomely carved with figures; these connect above with certain pipes by which they get water when they have to irrigate their gardens and rice fields. In order to make this tank the said king broke down a hill... In the tank I saw so many people at work that there must have been fifteen or twenty thousand men, looking like ants...

- 17.1 Where and why were tanks built by Krishnadeva Raya?[2]
17.2 Explain how tanks were constructed ?[2]
17.3 Describe the most prominent water works among the ruins.[3]

Part - E

18. On the Given outline map of India, locate and label the following with appropriate symbols: (2 + 3)

18.1 a) Capital of the Mughals. b) Magadh

18.2 On the same political map of India, three places related to the mature Harappan sites have been marked as A, B and C. Identify them and write their correct names on the lines drawn near them.

Project : 20 Marks.

