

Q.1) Consider the following statements:

1. According to the Vedanta Philosophy, the way forward to salvation was devotion to God, strengthened by the knowledge that God and the created beings were the same.
2. According to the Vishishta Advaita Philosophy, the grace of God was more important than knowledge about God to attain salvation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only  
(b) **2 only**  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**EXPLANATION:**

Vedanta is also known as Uttara Mimamsa is one of the six (Astika) schools of Hindu philosophy. Vedanta means the "end of the Vedas" and it reflects ideas that emerged from the speculations and philosophies contained in the Upanishads specifically knowledge and liberation. Several schools of Vedanta developed, differentiated by their conceptions on the eternal core of the individual self (Atma) and the absolute (Brahman). Those conceptions range from Monoism (Advaita), Qualified Non-dualism (Vishishtadvaita) and Dualism (Dvaita). Only according to Advaita philosophy, way to salvation is the knowledge that God and the created beings were the same. Vedanta didn't stress only on this thought to achieve salvation. **So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

Vishishtadvaita "Qualified Non-dualism" is one of the principal branches of Vedanta.

Ramanujacharya propounded Vishishtadvaita and said that the ultimate reality is Brahman and that the soul and matter are his qualities. According to him, even after merging with Brahman, the Atman remains distinct. He expounded the grace of God as more important than knowledge. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Q.2) Consider the following statements about the architecture of the Delhi Sultanates.

1. A striking feature of this architecture was the sloping walls which are called as batter.
2. The Turks used the arch and dome on a wide scale for the first time in the World, which was their new Turkish invention in India.
3. In the sphere of decoration, the Turks used only the representation of humans and animal figures in the buildings
4. The Turks added colour to their buildings by using red sandstone along with yellow sandstone or marble.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) **1 and 4 only**  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 4 only  
(d) 1 and 3 only

**EXPLANATION:**



An important feature of Tughlaq architecture was the "batter" or sloping walls. This gave the structures an effect of strength.

**So, Statement 1 is correct.**

In their buildings, the Turks used the arch and the dome on a wide scale. Neither the arch nor the dome was a Turkish or Muslim invention.

The Arabs borrowed them from Rome through the Byzantine empire, developed them and made them their own.

**So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

In the sphere of decoration, the Turks eschewed representation of human and animal figures in their buildings.

The Turks also used geometrical and floral designs, combining them with panels of inscriptions containing verses from the Quran.

**So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

The turks used only Red Sandstone and decorative marble reliefs to add colour to their buildings.

**So, Statement 4 is not correct.**

Q.3) Consider the following statements about the Mughal Kingdom.

1. All the Mughal emperors wrote their autobiographies on their own.
2. Din-i-Elahi or divine path, a new divine path introduced by Akbar, received an overwhelming response from the Public.
3. Being a part of the Mughals army, Sher Shah Suri was aware of the use of gunpowder and used it in all his battles.

4. Dhasala System was used to collect the land revenue based on the average produce of different crops over the last ten years.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) **3 and 4 only**

(b) 1 and 2 only

(c) 2 and 4 only

(d) 2 and 3 only

**EXPLANATION:**

Babur and Jahangir were the two great Mughal Emperors who wrote their own Memories titled Babarnama and Jahangirnama. However, Akbarnama was written by Abul Fazal on the Mughul emperor Akbar. **So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

In 1582, Akbar promulgated a new religion called Din Ilahi or Divine Faith. It believes in one God and contained good points of all religions with rationality. It was aimed at bridging the gulf that separated different religions. However, his new faith proved to be a failure after both Muslim clerics were opposed and unwelcomed by peoples of various religions. **So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

Babur was the first to use gunpowder in India. Sher Shah Suri who was a commander in the Mughal army under Babur and then the governor of Bihar established the Suri dynasty in 1537. Being a part of the Mughals army, Sher Shah Suri was aware of the use of gunpowder and used it in all his battles. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Dahsala System or Zabti System (land revenue system) was introduced by Raja Todarmal, who was then finance minister of Akbar. In this system, the average produce of ten years was derived. One-third of this average produce was fixed in Rupees per Bigha and fixed as a share of the state (Mal). Rest two-third share was left to the cultivators (Kharaj). **So, Statement 4 is correct.**

Q.4) Consider the following statements about the political and military system of the Rajputs:

1. The office of the ministers was non-hereditary in general.
2. The military system of any dynasty is always a direct reflection of its political organization.
3. The political system of the Rajputs was bureaucratic and feudal.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) **2 and 3 only**
- (c) 1 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

The office of the ministers was hereditary in general

**So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

The military system of any dynasty is always a direct reflection of its political organization which is the same with Rajput dynasty too.

**So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Q.5) Consider the following statements about the Pre-Historic Paintings.

1. These kinds of Paintings were found only in the south Indian states, not in the Himalayan States.
2. Three types of paintings have been reported in this period - Paintings in white, Paintings in red ochre over a white background and Paintings in red ochre.
3. The subjects depicted are bulls, elephants, sambhars, gazelles, sheep, goats, horses, stylised humans, tridents, but rarely, vegetal motifs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) **2 and 3 only**
- (d) 1 and 3 only

**EXPLANATION:**

Prehistoric paintings have been found in many parts of the world. In India, the earliest paintings have been reported from the Upper Palaeolithic times. Remnants of rock paintings have been found on the walls of the caves situated in several districts of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Bihar. Some paintings have been reported from the Kumaon hills in Uttarakhand also. **So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

There is some superimposition of paintings. The earliest are in black; over these are red ochre paintings and the last group comprises white paintings. From Kashmir, two slabs with engravings have been reported. The granite rocks of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh provided suitable

canvases to the Neolithic man for his paintings. There are several such sites but more famous among them are Kupgallu, Piklihal and Tekkalkota. Three types of paintings have been reported from here – paintings in white, paintings in red ochre over a white background and paintings in red ochre. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

These paintings generally depict animals like bison, bear, tigers, etc. They have been called the 'Zoo Rock Shelter' because it depicts an elephant, rhinoceros, cattle, snake, spotted deer, barasingha, bulls, sambhars, gazelles, etc. It also depicts stylised humans, tridents, but rarely, vegetal motifs. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Q.6) Consider the following statements about the Sangam literature:

1. They do not constitute as religious literature.
2. They speak about maritime trade with Yavanas.
3. They describe in detail about military exploits of Kings.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 3 only  
(d) **1, 2 and 3**

**EXPLANATION:**

The Sangam poems, some 30000 lines of poetry, are on the theme of love and war. They were modeled on the bardic songs of ancient times and transmitted orally for a long time before they

were compiled. They do not constitute religious literature. The poets came from all walks of life and included teachers, merchants, carpenters, goldsmiths, blacksmiths, soldiers, ministers, and kings. Due to their varied themes and authorship, they are a mine of information on the everyday life of the people of their times. They constitute a literature of the highest quality. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The Sangam literature mentions many flourishing towns such as Kaveripattinam. They also speak of Yavanas (foreigners) coming in their vessels and purchasing pepper for gold and supplying wine and women slaves to the natives. Their trade information is corroborated by archaeology and foreign accounts. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Many poems mention a king or a hero by name and describe in detail his military exploits. The gifts made by him to bards and warriors are celebrated. Maybe, these poems were recited in court. It is a possibility that the names of the kings refer to historical figures. Chola kings are mentioned as donors. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

#### Q 7.C

- The Harappans procured materials for craft production in various ways. For instance, they established settlements such as Nageshwar and Balakot in areas where shell was available.
- Other such sites were Shortughai, in far-off Afghanistan, near the best source of lapis lazuli, a blue stone that was apparently very highly valued, and Lothal which was near sources of carnelian (from Bharuch in Gujarat), steatite (from south Rajasthan and north Gujarat) and metal (from Rajasthan).
- Another strategy for procuring raw materials may have been to send expeditions to areas such as the Khetri region of Rajasthan (for copper) and south India (for gold).
- These expeditions established communication with local communities. Occasional finds of Harappan artefacts such as steatite micro beads in these areas are indications of such contact.
- There is evidence in the Khetri area for what archaeologists call the Ganeshwar-Jodhpura culture, with its distinctive non-Harappan pottery and an unusual wealth of copper objects. It is possible that the inhabitants of this region supplied copper to the Harappans.
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

#### Q 8.C

- Some of the earliest bhakti movements (c. sixth century) were led by the Alvars (literally, those who are “immersed” in devotion to Vishnu) and Nayanars (literally, leaders who were devotees of Shiva). **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- They traveled from place to place singing hymns in Tamil in praise of their gods.
- During their travels, the Alvars and Nayanars identified certain shrines as abodes of their chosen deities. Very often large temples were later built at these sacred places. These developed as centers of pilgrimage.
- The importance of the traditions of the Alvars and Nayanars was sometimes indicated by the claim that their compositions were as important as the Vedas. For instance, **one of the major anthologies of compositions by the Alvars, the Nalayira Divyaprabandham, was frequently described as the Tamil Veda, thus claiming that the text was as significant as the four Vedas in Sanskrit that was cherished by the Brahmanas. Hence statement 2 is correct.**

### Q 9.D

- The Indus people sowed seed in the flood plains in November, when the floodwater receded, and reaped their harvest of wheat and barley in April, before the advent of the next flood. They produced wheat, barley, rice, peas, sesame, mustard and rice. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Foodgrains were stored in huge granaries in both Mohenjodaro and Harappa. Probably, cereals were received as taxes from peasants and stored in granaries for the payment of wages as well as use during emergencies.
- No hoe or ploughshare has been discovered, but the furrows discovered in the pre-Harappan phase at kalibangan show that the fields were ploughed in Rajasthan in the Harappan period. The Harappans probably used the **wooden ploughshare**. We do not know whether the plough was drawn by men or oxen. Stone sickles may have been used for harvesting the crops. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- The Indus people were the earliest people to produce cotton. Because cotton was first produced in this area the Greeks called it “sindon”, which is derived from Sindh. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- Ragi or finger millet is **not known** so far to any of the Harappan sites in north India. **Hence, statement 4 is not correct.**

### Q 10.A

- The Mahājanapadas were sixteen kingdoms or oligarchic republics that existed in Northern ancient India from the sixth to fourth centuries BCE.
- Magadha (in present-day Bihar) became the most powerful mahajanapada. Various factors responsible were:
  - Magadha was a region where agriculture was especially productive.
  - **Besides, iron mines (in present-day Jharkhand) were accessible and provided resources for tools and weapons. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - **Elephants, an important component of the army, were found in forests in the region. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - Also, the Ganga and its tributaries provided a means of cheap and convenient communication.
  - Advancement in education and growth of revolutionary ideas like Buddhism and Jainism.
- **However, early Buddhist and Jaina writers who wrote about Magadha attributed its power to the policies of individuals: ruthlessly ambitious kings of whom Bimbisara, Ajatasatru, and Mahapadma Nanda are the best known, and their ministers, who helped implement their policies. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- Initially, Rajagaha was the capital of Magadha. Interestingly, the old name means “house of the king”. Rajagaha was a fortified settlement, located amongst hills. Later, in the fourth century BCE, the capital was shifted to Pataliputra, present-day Patna, commanding routes of communication along the Ganga.

### Q 11.C

- **Gupta Administration**
  - The king was assisted in his administration by a council consisting of a chief minister, a Senapati or commander-in-chief of the army, and other important officials. A high official called Sandivigraha was mentioned in the Gupta inscriptions, most probably minister for foreign affairs.
  - **The king maintained close contact with the provincial administration through a class of officials called Kumaramatyasand Ayuktas. They were important officers in the Gupta administration and were appointed by the king. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**
  - Provinces in the Gupta Empire were known as Bhuktis and provincial governors as Uparikas. They were mostly chosen from among the princes.
  - Bhuktis were subdivided into Vishyas or districts. They were governed by Vishyapatis. Nagara Sreshtis were the officers looking after the city administration. The villages in the district were under the control of Gramikas.

Q.12) With reference to the history of ancient India, ‘Nijjuttis’, ‘Bhashyas’, and ‘Churnis’ were

- (a) **Commentaries**
- (b) Playwrights
- (c) Philosophers
- (d) Jaina saints

**EXPLANATION:**

The non-canonical Jaina works are partly in Prakrit dialects, especially Maharashtri, and partly in Sanskrit, which started being used in the early centuries CE. Commentaries on the canonical works include the Nijjuttis (Niryuktis), Bhashyas, and Churnis in Maharashtri and Prakrit; the early medieval Tikas, Vrittis, and Avachurnis are in Sanskrit. The genealogical lists in the Jaina Pattavalis and the Theravalis contain very precise chronological details about the Jaina saints, but they sometimes contradict each other. **So, Option (a) is correct.**

Q.13) Consider the following statements:

1. Archaeological excavation reveals it is the site of ancient Dhanyakataka.
2. There was a citadel surrounded by a huge mud fortification.
3. It flourished from the 3rd century BCE to the 3rd century CE.

The above statements are about

- (a) Nalanda  
**(b) Amaravati**  
(c) Sanchi  
(d) Pataliputra

**EXPLANATION:**

Amaravati is another major site in the same district. It is supposed to mark the site of ancient Dhanyakataka, an important town in the Deccan and capital of the later Satavahanas, mentioned in many inscriptions. A large Buddhist establishment was located here. The six occupational periods ranged from the 2nd century BCE to the 2nd/3rd century CE. Epigraphic evidence suggests that the origins of the monastic establishment may date to the Maurya period. The citadel was surrounded by a massive mud fortification. Soak pits and drains were identified. There were remains of a navigational channel and a huge wharf, both of which underwent strengthening and embellishment in the various structural phases. The artifacts included a goldsmith's mold, glass bangles, and earrings of great variety, probably imports. Rouletted ware and terra sigillata were also found. **So, Option (b) is correct.**

Q.14) Which one of the following Ashokan pillars has an inscription giving the genealogy of the Mughal emperor Jahangir?

- (a) Topra pillar  
**(b) Kosam pillar**  
(c) Rummindeipillar  
(d) Sarnath pillar

**EXPLANATION:**

- The fact that the Allahabad–Kosam pillar refers to the mahamatas of Kaushambi suggests it was brought to Allahabad from that place at some point in time.
- Apart from the schism edict of Ashoka, it has the famous Allahabad prashasti of Gupta emperor Samudragupta. It also has an inscription giving the genealogy of the Mughal emperor Jahangir.
- This pillar, carrying three emperors' inscriptions, ranging across some 2,000 years, is unique. It also has names of various people, scratched onto its surface at different points in time.

**So, option (b) is correct.**



Q.15) The Neolith culture of which of the following regions of India is characterized by shouldered celts, small ground axes of rounded form and cord-impressed pottery, heavily tempered with quartz particles?

(a) Mid-Ganga Valley

**(b) Eastern India**

(c) South India

(d) Western Deccan

**EXPLANATION:**

- An important site in this area is Sohagaura in the Bansgaon sub-division of Gorakhpur district, at the confluence of the Rapti and Ami rivers. The village lies on a mound about 60 ha in area.
- Excavations in the 1960s and 1970s brought out a six-fold cultural sequence at Sohagaura, ranging from the Neolithic (Period I) to the medieval (Period VI). The remains of Period I included small pieces of ill-fired, handmade pottery with coarse or medium fabric, most of the sherds either rusticated or cord impressed.
- There are several Neolithic and neolithic-chalcolithic sites in the alluvial plains of north Bihar.
- Stone celts and hammerstones were made out of quartzite, basalt, and granite. Various other kinds of tools, pestles, querns, and balls were found. Microlithic blades and points were made from materials like chalcedony, chert, agate, and jasper.
- There were a large number and variety of bone and antler implements such as celts, scrapers, chisels, hammers, needles, points, borers, awls, diggers, and pins.
- Bone ornaments included pendants, earrings, bangles, discs, and combs, and there were also bangles made of tortoise bone and ivory.

**So, option (b) is correct.**

Q.16) With reference to the ancient history of India, consider the following statements:

1. Indo-Greeks issued bilingual and bi-script coins.
2. Punch-marked coins are found all over the subcontinent except South India.
3. Kushanas were the first dynasty of the subcontinent to mint large quantities of silver coins.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

**(c) 1 only**

(d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

The first coins to bear the names and images of rulers were issued by the Indo-Greeks, who established control over the north-western part of the subcontinent. They issued bilingual and bi-script coins, the name of the issuer appearing on the obverse in Greek and on the reverse in Prakrit language in the Kharoshthi script. For example, coins of the Shakas and Parthians. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The earliest known coins are punch-marked coins, which were issued first by the Magadha dynasty (Janapada) which shifted the barter system to the coinage trade system. In South India, punch-

marked coins were found especially in regions of Karnataka and Tamilnadu and were in circulation in South India until the Pallava coinage system was introduced. **So, Statement 2 is not correct.** The Kushanas were the first dynasty in the subcontinent that issued a large number of gold coins. The lower denomination was usually found in copper coins. The coins usually bore the figure, name, and title of the ruler on the obverse and the Hindu deities on the reverse and inscribed in Kharoshthi script. **So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

Q.17) Which of the following is/are the main features of feudalism that existed during the Gupta period?

1. Royal grants of land.
2. Decreased incidence of forced labour.
3. Payment of officials through land revenue assignments.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below

(a) 1 and 2 only

**(b) 1 and 3 only**

(c) 2 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

In India, Gupta's reign played a major role in the introduction and practice of feudalism. The major features of feudalism in the Gupta period were providing land grants by the rulers to various people such as the priest, prince, military officers, members of the royal family etc. Those granted land or those subjugated feudatory rulers were known as Samanta. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

In the Gupta period, Vishti or forced labour became a source of income for the state and was looked upon as a sort of taxation paid by the people. Most of the inscriptions refer to Vishti as more prevalent in the Madhya Pradesh and Kathiawar regions of the Gupta Empire. **So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

The Gupta kingdom was divided into Bhukti or Mandala (provinces), Bhoga or Valanadu (districts) which were further divided into a village known as vishya which were administered by vyshapathis. There were a number of officials from central, state and local levels to carry out the administrative work. They were paid out in both as land assignments and cash. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Q.18) Consider the following statements:

1. The emergence of the true dome with recessed arches under the squinch.
2. Use of red sandstone and decorative marble reliefs as new building materials.
3. The appearance of lotus-bud fringe on the underside of the arch.

The above are the characteristic features of the architecture of

(a) **Khiljis**

(b) Tughlaqs

(c) Lodis

(d) Mughals

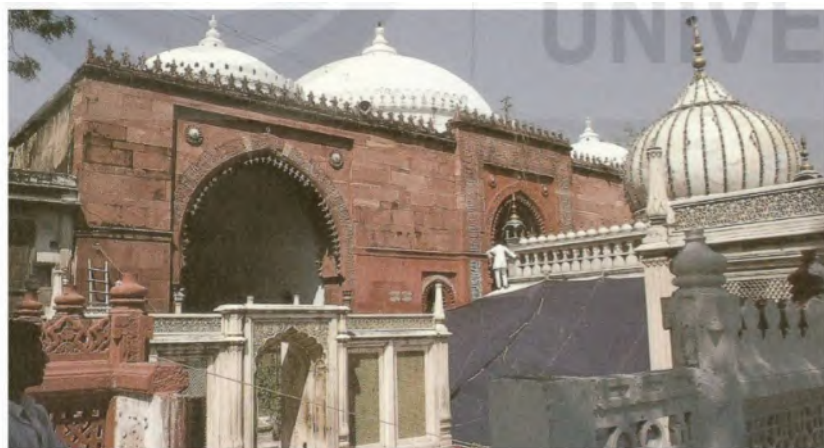
**EXPLANATION:**

In the evolution of Indo-Islamic architecture, Khilji period occupies a key position as it exhibits a distinct influence of the Seljuq architectural traditions (a Turkish tribe ruling over Central Asia and Asia Minor in 11-13 century) as also certain salient features of composition which were adopted in the succeeding styles.

The characteristic features of this phase may be listed as below:

- a) Employment of true arch, pointed horse-shoe in shape,
- b) Emergence of true dome with recessed arch under the squinch,
- c) Use of red sandstone and decorative marble reliefs as new building materials, and
- d) Appearance of 'lotus-bud' fringe on the underside of the arch – a Seljuq feature.

Eg- Jamaat Khana Mosque (built 1325) at Nizamuddin



**So, Option (a) is correct.**

Q.19) Consider the following statements about the empires during the times of the 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> century in India.

1. It was the most powerful empire during the period of the 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> century in India.
2. It acted as a bridge between the northern and southern parts of India in economies as well as cultural matters.
3. It dominated the Deccan and also controlled territory in North and South India.

Which one of the following empires is indicated in the above-given statements?

(a) Pratihara Empire

(b) **Rashtrakuta Empire**

(c) Pala Empire

(d) Chalukya Empire

**EXPLANATION:**

Rashtrakuta Empire was the most powerful empire during the period of the 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> century in India. They were originally known to be the feudatories of the Western Chalukyas of Vatapi. Dhantidurga was the founder of the Rashtrakuta dynasty and defeated Chalukyas of Badami. The period between the 8<sup>th</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> centuries saw a tripartite struggle for the resources of the rich Gangetic plains, among three empires (Pratihara Empire, Rashtrakuta Empire and Pala Empire) annexing the seat of power at Kannauj for short periods of time. At their peak, the Rashtrakutas ruled a vast empire stretching from the Ganges River and Yamuna River doab in the north to Kanyakumari in the south with architectural achievements and famous literary contributions. The early kings of this dynasty were influenced by Hinduism and the later kings by Jainism. **So, Option (b) is correct.**

Q.20) Consider the following statements about the Uthiramerur Inscription:

1. The inscriptions at Uthiramerur have details of the resolutions of the general assembly and the kudavolai system (pot ticket election procedure).
2. It speaks about the grassroots-level governance that was practised there during the Chola period in the 10th century.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) **Both 1 and 2**  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**EXPLANATION:**

Uthiramerur inscription is found in the Vaikunda Perumal Temple at Uthiramerur near Kanchipuram in Tamil Nadu. This inscription belongs to the period of the ruler Parantaka Chola -1, who ruled from 907-956 AD. It is significant, as it speaks about the democratic way of governance as early as the 10th century. Uthiramerur inscriptions have details of the resolutions of the general assembly and the kudavolai system (pot ticket election procedure) which ensures the election was held based on a voting system and had qualification and disqualification criteria as a modern system. Eg. the criminal history of a person or even family members cannot be contested in elections. **So, Option (c) is correct.**

**Q 21.A**

- During the Vedic age, the king's influence was strengthened by various rituals, such as
  - **Rajasuya Sacrifice:** Supposed to confer supreme power on him. It is a king's inaugural sacrifice. After conquering the kings of several other kingdoms and collecting tribute from the conquered land, the vanquished kings are invited to attend the Rajasuya yajna. All the vanquished kings would consider the performer of this yajna as their Emperor (King of kings). **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
  - **Vajapeya Sacrifice:** Chariot race which a royal chariot was made to win the race against his kinsmen. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
  - **Ashvamedha Sacrifice:** Unquestioned control over the area on which the royal horse ran uninterrupted. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
  - **Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.**

**Q 22.C**

- The Jataka stories are a voluminous body of literature **concerning the previous births of Buddha in both human and animal form. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Among the Jataka stories that are frequently depicted are Chhadanta Jataka, Vidurpundita Jataka, Ruru Jataka, Sibi Jataka, Vessantara Jataka and Shama Jataka.
- Jataka stories were depicted on the **railings and torans of the stupas. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Mainly synoptic narrative, continuous narrative and episodic narrative are used in the pictorial tradition. While events from the life of the Buddha became an important theme in all the Buddhist monuments, the Jataka stories also became equally important for sculptural decorations. The main events associated with the Buddha's life which were frequently depicted were events related to the birth, renunciation, enlightenment, dhammachakra- pravartana, and mahaparinibbana (death).

**Q 23.C**

- **Manipuri** is one of the main styles of Indian Art or Classical Dances that originated in the state of Manipur.
- The dance in Manipur is associated with rituals and traditional festivals, there are legendary references to the dances of Shiva and Parvati and other gods and goddesses who created the universe.
- **Lai Haraoba** is one of the main festivals still performed in Manipur which has its roots in the pre-Vaishnavite period. Lai Haraoba is the earliest form of dance which forms the basis of all stylized dances in Manipur.
- **Manipur dance has a large repertoire, however, the most popular forms are the Ras, the Sankirtana and the Thang-Ta.** There are five principal Ras dances of which four are linked with specific seasons, while the fifth can be presented at any time of the year. In Manipuri Ras, the main characters are Radha, Krishna and the gopis.
- The Kirtan form of congregational singing accompanies the dance which is known as **Sankirtana in Manipur.**
  - The male dancers play the Pung and Kartal while dancing. The masculine aspect of dance - the Choloms are a part of the Sankirtana tradition. **The Pung and Kartal choloms are performed at all social and religious festivals.**
- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q.24) Which one of the following Vedic texts gives references to the eastward movement of the Indo-Aryans?

- (a) **Shatapatha Brahmana**
- (b) Shvetashvatara Upanishad
- (c) Chandogya Upanishad
- (d) Sadvimsha Brahmana

**EXPLANATION:**

The Shatapatha Brahmana (1.4.1.10) gives the story of a king named Videgha Mathava who originally lived on the banks of the Sarasvati and crossed the Sadanira (Gandak) river with his priest Gotama Raghugana, preceded by Agni Vaishvanara. Historians have often interpreted this story as reflecting the eastward movement of the Indo-Aryans and the first agricultural 'colonization' of the eastern lands through burning down the forests.

**So, Option (a) is correct.**

Q.25) Consider the following statements about the Mahajanapadas:

1. The kings of Kosala favoured both Brahmanism and Buddhism.
2. Kashi had emerged as a cloth manufacturing centre by the time of the Buddha.
3. Magadhas performed the last rites of Buddha.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) **1 and 2 only**
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

Kosala was a prosperous Kingdom having three big cities under its control i.e. Ayodhya, Saketa and Sravasti. The Kings of Kosala favoured both Brahmanism and Buddhism.

**So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Orange brown robes of the Buddhist monks were called Kashaya in Sanskrit which was made in Kashi. This indicates that Kashi had emerged as a cloth manufacturing centre and market by the time of Buddha.

**So, Statement 2 is correct.**

The Mallas were another Kshatriya lineage referred to as Ganasamghas in ancient texts. They are supposed to have been ruled by five hundred chiefs. The Buddha died in the vicinity of Kusinagara and his last rites were performed by the Mallas

**So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

Q.26) Which one of the following statements about the Lomas Rishi cave is **not** correct?

- (a) It was built during the period of the Mauryan Empire in the 3rd century BC
- (b) It was the part of the sacred architecture of the Ajivika sect
- (c) **It contains the major edicts of Ashoka in the Prakrit language**
- (d) In the interior, one side of this cave has finely polished

**EXPLANATION:**

The caves of Sudama and Visvamisra were created in the 12th regnal year of Asoka. The ground plan of the Sudama and Lomas Rishi caves are nearly identical, and therefore, many scholars consider the latter one to be also excavated during the Asokan period, probably sometime in the last 20 years of his reign. **So, Option (a) is correct.**

All the caves of the Barabar and Nagarjuna hills were donated as dwellings to Ajivika ascetics. Lomas Rishi was one among them. Ajivika was an ancient Indian religion that however completely vanished after the 14th century. **So, Option (b) is correct.**

The Lomas Rishi cave remained unfinished and hence also contains no edict of Asoka. **So,**

**Option (c) is not correct.**

The interior of all the caves, including one side of the Lomas Rishi, has been finely polished, a typical feature that is well-known as the hallmark of Mauryan art. Visitors to the cave have remarked that the finely polished interior stone surface reflects every figure and form in front of it, almost like a mirror. **So, Option (d) is correct.**

Q.27) Consider the following statements about the Mauryan Dynasty:

1. With Pataliputra at its imperial centre, the Mauryan Empire for the first time unified most of South Asia.
2. Chandragupta Maurya controlled the plains of both the Indus and the Ganga, which stretched until the eastern and western oceans.
3. It was an extensive and efficient system of tax-collection with the well de-centralised administration in the territory.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) **1 and 2 only**
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

Chandragupta Maurya was the architect of an empire that controlled the plains of both the Indus and the Ganga, and which stretched until the eastern and western oceans. With Pataliputra at its imperial centre, the Mauryan Empire for the first time unified most of South Asia. **So, Statements 1 and 2 are correct.**

Chandragupta laid the foundations of an extensive and efficient system of centralised administration and tax-collection that formed the basis of his empire. Trade and agriculture were reformed and regulated with the building of infrastructure and standardisation of weights and measures, and provisions were made for a large standing army. **So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

Q.28) Which of the following statements about the Temples of Khajuraho are correct?

1. These are built by the Chandela rulers between 900 CE to 1130 CE.
2. These are magnificent examples of the Nagara style of temples.
3. These are completely constructed by Granite alone.
4. The temple for Buddha was absent in this group of temples.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only  
(b) **1, 2 and 4 only**  
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only  
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

**EXPLANATION:**

Khajuraho temples got the UNESCO world heritage status in 1986. These erotic sculpted temples were built during the region of Chandela rulers who ruled central India during the-10th -14th century ie (900-1130 CE). The first mention of Khajuraho temples is seen in the accounts of Abu Rihan al biruni and ibn battuta. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Khajuraho temples are the best examples of the Nagara style of temple architecture. The defining feature of the Nagara style of temple architecture includes Garbhagriha, Shikara, and Mandapa. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Most of the temples at Khajuraho were built using sandstone except four which used granite for construction. **So, Statement 3 is not correct**

The carvings at the temples were predominantly about the Hindu deities and mythology. It reflects the four goals of life of Hinduism such as Dharma, Kama, Artha and Moksha. The Temples were mostly dedicated to Shaivism, Vaishnavism, and Jainism. The temples were divided into the western group, the eastern group, and the southern group. The temple for Buddha was absent in these groups. **So, Statement 4 is correct.**

Q.29) Which of the following personality is described in the following statements?

1. Domingo Paes and Fernao Nuniz visited the empire during his reign.
2. Great Indian Mathematician Nilakantha Somayaji lived in his empire.
3. He defeated the sultans of Bijapur, Golconda and Bahmani Sultanate.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) Aurangazeb  
(b) Muhamad Ghazni  
(c) **Krishnadevaraya**  
(d) Baji Rao II



**EXPLANATION:**

Domingo Paes was a Portuguese merchant, writer, and explorer who visited India between 1520-1522 AD and gave the most detailed account of all other historic descriptions of the ancient city of Hampi under the reign of Krishnadeva Raya. Fernao Nuniz was also a Portuguese-Jewish traveler, chronicler, and horse trader who spent three years in Vijayanagar (1535-1537) during the reign of Krishnadeva Raya and he mentions the efficient administration and the prosperity of the empire under his sway.

Nilakantha Somayaji also referred to as Kelallur Comatiri was a major mathematician and astronomer of the Kerala school of astronomy and mathematics. One of his most influential works was the comprehensive astronomical treatise Tantrasamgraha completed in 1501. He postulated on the orbitals of planets and he was patronized by Krishnadeva Raya.

Krishnadeva Raya became the dominant ruler of the peninsula by defeating the sultans of Bijapur, Golconda, the Bahmani Sultanate, and the Gajapatis of Odisha, and was one of the most powerful rulers in India.

**So, Option (c) is correct.**

Q.30) Consider the following statements.

1. The Persian translation and illustrated version of the Hindu epic Mahabharata were completed under the supervision of master artist Daswant.
2. The Persian translation and illustration of the Ramayana were also carried out around this time.
3. Artists like Govardhan and Miskin were celebrated for their visuals of court scenes

The above-given activities were carried out during whose tenure in India?

- (a) Under Sher shah of the Afghan dynasty  
(b) **Under Akbar of the Mughal Dynasty**  
(c) Under Shivaji of Maratha rule  
(d) Under Allaudin of the Khalji dynasty

**EXPLANATION:**

Akbar envisioned cultural integration and commissioned the translation of several revered Hindu texts. He commissioned translation and illustration of revered Sanskrit texts into Persian. The Persian translation and illustrated version of the Hindu epic Mahabharata did during this period came to be known as Ramzi Nama. This was completed in 1589 under the supervision of master artist Daswant. This manuscript was scribed in ornate calligraphy and contained 169 paintings. The translation and illustration of the Ramayana were also carried out around this time. Artists like Govardhan and Miskin were celebrated for their visuals of court scenes. Akbar Nama, an extraordinary manuscript, containing a detailed account of Akbar's political and personal life, was one of the most expensive projects undertaken by Akbar. **So, Option (b) is correct.**

Q.31) Consider the following statements:

1. The Muraqqas individual paintings to be mounted in albums became popular under Jahangir's patronage.
2. Many celebrated religious Christian themes were also produced in the royal atelier of Jahangir.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) **Both 1 and 2**  
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**EXPLANATION:**

Jahangir's atelier gave preference to a lesser number of artists and better quality of artworks produced by a single master artist. The Muraqqas individual paintings to be mounted in albums became popular under Jahangir's patronage. The margins of the paintings were highly illuminated in gold and embellished with flora, fauna, and often poised human figures. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Many celebrated religious Christian themes were also produced in the royal atelier of Jahangir. Given this cultural and artistic exposure, European art sensibilities started making their way into the prevalent Indo-Iranian style, thereby, making the Jahangir school of art more impressive and vibrant. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Q.32) With reference to the history of ancient India, 'Pada', 'Vimshatika', and 'Trinshatika' were

- (a) **Ancient coins**  
(b) Dance forms  
(c) Cave paintings  
(d) Vedic texts

**EXPLANATION:**

- The earliest definite literary and archaeological evidence of coinage in the Indian subcontinent dates from the 6th–5th centuries BCE in the context of the emergence of states, urbanization, and expanding trade.
- Buddhist texts and the Ashtadhyayi refer to words such as kahapana/karshapana, nikkha/nishka, shatamana, pada, vimshatika, trinshatika, and suvarna/Suvarna.
- The basic unit of Indian coin weight systems was a red-and-black seed of the gunja berry (*Abrus precatorius*) known as the raktika, Ratti, or rati.
- In South India, the standard weight of coins was theoretically calculated based on the relationship between two kinds of beans—the manjadi (*Odenathera pavonina*) and the kalanju (*Caesalpinia bonduc*). The advent of coinage did not mean the disappearance of barter— both co-existed for a very long time.

**So, option (a) is correct.**

Q.33) Consider the following statements:

1. The Jaina doctrine is much older than the Buddhist one.
2. The Buddha and Mahavira were contemporaries.
3. Both the Buddha and Mahavira rejected the authority of the Veda.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 only
- (d) **1, 2 and 3**

**EXPLANATION:**

The Jaina doctrine is much older than the Buddhist one, but it is difficult to say precisely how old it is. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The great Prophet of Jainism, Mahavira (599-527 B.C.) who was the last in the great succession to give Jainism the latest form, was the older contemporary to Buddha (560-480 B.C.). **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

There are some similarities between the teachings of Buddha and Mahavira, for instance in their rejection of the authority of the Veda, their non-theistic doctrine, emphasis on renunciation and human effort as a means to attaining salvation, and establishment of a monastic order for men and women. However, there are also several marked differences in their philosophical ideas. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Q.34) Which of the following are the contemporary dynasties during the Gupta period?

1. Kadambas
2. Ikshvakus
3. Vishnukundins
4. Nagas

Select the correct answer from the codes given below

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 3 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (d) **1, 2, 3 and 4**

**EXPLANATION:**

One of the most important contemporaries of the Gupta period (319-550 CE) was the Vakatakas of Deccan which originated and diminished alongside the Gupta period. Vakatakas of Deccan had a matrimonial alliance with other contemporaries such as imperial Guptas, Nagas of Padmavati, Kadambas of Karnataka and Vishnukundins of Andhra. **So, Option (d) is correct.**

Q.35) With reference to the account of Huiyen Tsang, consider the following statements:

1. He speaks about the prosperity of Kanauj under Harsha.
2. He presents Harsha as a follower of Hinayana Buddhism.
3. He says that Harsha used to pay salaries to his ministers and officials by land grants.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) **1 and 3 only**  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) 1 only  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

Xuanzang gives a vivid description of the beauty, grandeur, and prosperity of Kanauj, the capital of Harsha's empire. Regarding the king, he tells us that he divided the day into three parts—attending to administrative duties during one, and devoting himself to religious works during the other two. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

He told, Harsha seems to have been a devotee of Shiva but was also partial towards Buddhism. He convened a great assembly at Kanauj, where Xuanzang, along with many others, gave discourses on Mahayana doctrines. **So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

He mentions Harsha making frequent tours of inspection around his kingdom. Periodic assemblies, attended by subordinate kings, reinforced the political hierarchy. Harsha is known to have made religious land grants, and Xuanzang suggests that ministers and officials may also have been paid through such grants. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Q.36) With reference to the medieval history of India, consider the following pairs:

**(Trading community) (Region)**

1. Bohras - Gujarat
2. Khattris - Rajasthan
3. Multanis - Delhi

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 3 only

**(b) 1 and 3 only**

(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

The Bohras were important merchants of 'Gujarat. They were mostly Muslims. They were an urban community mainly based in Gujarat and other western parts. Apart from Gujarat, they had some settlements in Ujjain and Burhanpur.

**So, Statement 1 is correct.**

In the region of Punjab, the Khattris were a major trading community. Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikh religion, was also a Khatri. Many of them were converted to Islam.

**So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

The Multanis were an important trading community of Delhi, parts of Punjab and Sindh in the 13-17th centuries.

**So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Q.37) With reference to medieval architecture, the four-centred arch was introduced by the

(a) Khiljis

**(b) Tughlaqs**

(c) Lodis

(d) Mughals

**EXPLANATION:**

The result of the introduction of the new technique was that the pre-Turkish forms, lintel and beam and corbelling, were replaced by true arches and vaults and the spired roofs (Shikkar) by domes (Gumbad).

Arches are made in a variety of shapes but in India the pointed form of the Islamic world was directly inherited.

The four-centred arch was introduced by the Tughlaqs in their buildings.

The pointed arch was adopted in the Islamic world quite early due to its durability and ease of construction

**So, Option (b) is correct.**

**Q 38.D**

- Jainism recognized the existence of the gods but placed them lower than Jina. Jina, in Jainism, means a great teacher who has attained liberation from karma. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- It did not condemn the varna system, as Buddhism did. According to Mahavira, a person is born in a high or in lower varna in consequence of the sins or the virtues acquired by him in the previous birth, Mahavira looks for human values even in a chandala. In his opinion through pure and meritorious life members of the lower casts can attain liberation. Jainism mainly aims at the attainment of freedom from worldly bonds. It is not necessary to use any ritual for acquiring such liberation. It can be attained through full knowledge and action. Full knowledge, action, and liberation are considered to be the three gems or ratnas. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q.39) Arrange the following potteries of India in the correct chronological order based on their development.

1. Red and Black pottery ware
2. Painted Grey ware
3. Ochre Coloured Pottery ware
4. Northern Black Polished ware

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

- (a) 1 - 3 - 2 - 4  
(b) 1 - 2 - 3 - 4  
(c) **3 - 1 - 2 - 4**  
(d) 3 - 2 - 4 - 1

**EXPLANATION:**

Ochre Coloured Pottery ware – Bronze Age Culture (2000-1500 BC)

Red and Black pottery ware – Harappan Civilization (1450- 1200 BC)

Painted Grey ware – Vedic period (1200-600 BC)

Northern Black Polished ware – Mauryan period (700-400 BC & 400-100 BC)

**So, Option (c) is correct.**

#### Q 40.B

- Folk music is music that is played or sung by ordinary people (not professional musicians). It is traditional music that people generally learn by listening to other people playing it and then copying them.
- Indian folk music is diverse because of India's vast cultural diversity. It is sung in various languages and dialects throughout the length and breadth of this vast nation and exported to different parts of the world owing to migration. Some of the prominent folk music are listed below.
- **Chhakri, Kashmir**
  - Chhakri is a group song which is the most popular form of Kashmir's folk music.
  - It is sung to the accompaniment of the noot (earthen pot) rababs, sarangi and tumbaknari (an earthen pot with high neck). **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- **Burrakatha, Andhra Pradesh**
  - Burrakatha is a highly dramatic form of ballad.
  - A bottle shaped drum (tambura) is played by the main performer while reciting a story.
  - The ballad singers, like stage actor, wear make up and a highly stylised costume. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- **Daskathia, Odisha**
  - Daskathia is a form of ballad singing prevalent in Odisha.
  - Daskathia is a name derived from a unique musical instrument called "Kathi" or "Ram Tali", wooden clappers used during the presentation.
  - The performance is a form of worship and offering on behalf of the "Das", the devotee. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

#### Q 41.B

- Translations of Sanskrit texts such as the Mahabharata and the Ramayana into Persian were commissioned by the Mughal emperors. **The Mahabharata was translated as the Razmnama (Book of Wars).**
- Akbar commissioned translation and illustration of revered Sanskrit texts into Persian. The Persian translation and illustrated version of the Hindu epic Mahabharata did this period came to be known as RazmNama. This was completed in 1589 under the supervision of master artist Daswant. This manuscript was scribed in ornate calligraphy and contained 169 paintings. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- **All books in Mughal India were manuscripts, that is, they were handwritten.** The centre of manuscript production was the imperial kitabkhana.
  - **Although kitabkhana can be translated as library, it was a scriptorium, that is, a place where the emperor's collection of manuscripts was kept and new manuscripts were produced.** Hence **statements 2 and 3 are correct.**

- Q.42) Consider the following statements about the conditions of society during the age of Gupta.
1. The first evidence of immolation of a widow after the death of her husband appears in Gupta times.
  2. Women received shares in property of land.
  3. There was no evidence of untouchability in the society in the length and breadth of the kingdom.
  4. The Sudras were now permitted to listen to the Ramayana and Mahabharata.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only  
(b) **1, 2 and 4 only**  
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only  
(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

**EXPLANATION:**

In a patriarchal setup, women were treated as items of property, so they will follow their husbands to the next world. The first example of the immolation of the widow after the death of her husband appears in Gupta times in 510 A.D. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

According to Katyayana, a lawgiver of the sixth century holds that the woman could sell and mortgage her immovable property along with her stridhana. This clearly implies that women received shares in landed property. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

During this period, untouchables increased in numbers, especially the chandalas. The chandalas appeared in the society earlier itself, but by the fifth century A.D, as they were more in number, they got attracted by the attention of Chinese traveler Fa Hein. He informs us that, they lived outside of the village and dealt with meat and flesh. whenever they enter, the upper caste people kept themselves at a distance from them because the road was supposed to be polluted by them. **So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

The position of Shudras improved in this period. They were now permitted to listen the Ramayana and Mahabharata and the Puranas. They could also worship a new god called Krishna. They were also allowed to perform some domestic rites which naturally brought fee to the priests. **So, Statement 4 is correct.**

- Q.43) Consider the following statements about the Kalpasutra.
1. It is the most widely illustrated canonical text in the Jain tradition probably put in writing around 980 years after the Nirvana (Moksha) of Mahavira and is traditionally ascribed to Bhadrabahu.



2. The conception, birth, renunciation, enlightenment and first sermon, and salvation from the lives of Tirthankaras and events leading to and around these comprise most of the Kalpasutra.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) **Both 1 and 2**
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**EXPLANATION:**

The Kalpa Sutra is a Jain text containing the biographies of the Jain Tirthankaras, notably Parshvanatha and Mahavira. Traditionally ascribed to Bhadrabahu, which would place it in the 4th century BCE, it was probably put in writing 980 or 993 years after the Nirvana (Moksha) of Mahavira. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Among the most widely illustrated canonical text in the Jain tradition is Kalpasutra. It has a section, reciting events from the lives of the 24 Tirthankaras – from their births to salvation – that provides a biographical narrative for artists to paint. The five key incidents roughly elaborated as – conception, birth, renunciation, enlightenment, and first sermon, and salvation from the lives of Tirthankaras and events leading to and around these - comprise most of the Kalpasutra. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Q.44) Consider the following statements.

- 1. Pampa, Ponna and Rana are regarded as the three gems of Kannada Poetry.
- 2. Amoghavarsha is credited with writing the first Kannada book on poetics.
- 3. Nanniah and Tikkanna were the prominent authors and translators who translated Mahabharata.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) **1, 2 and 3**

**EXPLANATION:**

In Kannada literature, Jain scholars played a major role especially “Ratnatraya” or “Three gems of Kannada literature”. Adikavi pampa wrote Vikramarjuna vijaya and Adipurana, Sri ponna wrote Shanti purana and Ranna wrote Ajithanatha purana. Among the poets' Adikavi pampa is popularly known as the “Father of Kannada”. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The famous Rashtrakuta king Nripatunga Amoghavarsha I in the 10th century wrote the Kavirajamarga. It was the earliest record on rhetoric, poetics and grammar in the Kannada language. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Nannayya was the first poet in Telugu Literature. The Telugu literature reached its zenith during the period of Vijayanagara which was considered as the “Golden age”. Kavitravam refers to the trinity of poets who translated the great epic Mahabharata into Telugu. Nannayya, Tikkana and Yerrapragada were the three major poets included in the trinity. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

**Q 45.A**

- **Phad Paintings:**
  - They are **long, horizontal, cloth scrolls painted to honour folk deities of pastoral communities inhabiting the region around Bhilwara in Rajasthan.**
  - For such communities, safeguarding their livestock is the foremost concern. Such concerns purposely reflect in their myths, legends and worship patterns.
  - Among their gods are defied cattle heroes, who are brave men who sacrificed their lives while protecting the community's cattle from robbers.
  - Designated by the broad term bhomia, these heroes are honoured, worshiped and remembered for their acts of martyrdom.
    - > Bhomias, such as Gogaji, Jejaji, Dev Narayan, Ramdevji and Pabhuji, have inspired widespread cult following among the communities of Rabaris, Gujjars, Meghwals, Regars and others.
  - Illustrating the valorous tales of these bhomias, the phads, are carried by bhopas, the itinerant bards, who travel the territory, displaying them while narrating tales and singing devotional songs **associated with these hero-deities in night-long storytelling performances.** A lamp is held against the phad to illuminate images that are being spoken about.
  - The bhopa (singing priests) and his companion perform to the accompaniment of musical instruments, such as ravanahattha and veena, and employ the Khyal style of singing.
  - Through the phads and phad banchan, the community remembers the hero as a martyr and keeps his story alive. Phads, however, are not painted by the bhopas.
  - **They have traditionally been painted by a caste called ‘Joshis’** who have been painters in the courts of the kings of Rajasthan. These painters specialised in court patronised miniature paintings. Hence, the association of skilled practitioners, bard musicians and court artists place phads higher than other similar cultural traditions. **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**
- **Puri patas** or paintings evidently acquire their claim to recognition from the temple city of Puri in Odisha. It largely comprises the pata (initially, done on palm leaf and cloth but now done on paper as well). A range of themes are painted, such as the daily and festival veshas (attires) of Jagannath, Balabhadra and Subhadra.
- **Pithoro painting** is done by Rathva Bhils of the Panchmahal region in Gujarat and Jhabua in the neighbouring State of Madhya Pradesh, these paintings are done on the walls of houses to mark special or thanksgiving occasions. These are large wall paintings, representing rows of numerous and magnificently coloured deities depicted as horse riders.
- **Basohli painting** is school of Pahari miniature painting that flourished in the Indian hill states during the late 17th and the 18th centuries, known for its bold vitality of colour and line. The colours are always brilliant, with ochre yellow, brown, and green grounds predominating. A distinctive technique is the depiction of jewellery by thick, raised drops of white paint, with particles of green beetles' wings used to represent emeralds.

Q.46) Consider the following statements about the Sijada and Paibos:

1. Sajdah means reaching out before the sultan on the ground with one's face touching the ground to acknowledge the influence of the sultan.
2. Paibos means kissing the foot of the sultan to appreciate his power.
3. Both were introduced from Persia into India by Muhammad Bin Thuqlaq of the Delhi Sultans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only  
(b) **1 and 2 only**  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) 1 and 3 only

**EXPLANATION:**



Sajdah means the act of falling down, or of bowing in humility or adoration; primarily, the act of falling on the face, but usually applied to kneeling or bowing in reverence and worship.

**So, Statement 1 is correct.**



Paibos means kissing the foot of the sultan to appreciate his power.

**So, Statement 2 is correct.**

It was Ghiyasuddin Balban who introduced and insisted on the ceremony of sijada (prostration) and paibos (kissing of the monarch's feet) in the court.

**So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

Q.47) Consider the following departments created during the times of the Delhi Sultanate.

1. Diwan-i-Rasalat for religious matters
2. Diwan-i-Risalat for Foreign Affairs
3. Diwan-i-Insha for Royal correspondent
4. Diwan-i-Arz for Agricultural development

Which of the given above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) **1, 2 and 3 only**

(b) 1, 2 and 4 only

(c) 1, 3 and 4 only

(d) 2, 3 and 4 only

**EXPLANATION:**

Diwan-i-Rasalat : Department of religious affairs headed by the chief Qazi

**So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Diwan-i-Risalat—officer-in-charge dealt with foreign affairs and diplomatic correspondence.

**So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Diwan-i- Insha: Department of royal correspondence headed by Dabir-i-Insha

**So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Diwan-i-Arz: Department of Military headed by Ariz-i-Mamalik. He was responsible for organization and maintenance of the royal army.

**So, Statement 4 is not correct.**

Q.48) Consider the following statements

1. Padshahnama or the Chronicles of the King is one of the most exuberant painting projects undertaken by Shah Jahan's court atelier.
2. Bichitr was an Indian painter during the Mughal period, patronized by the emperors Jahangir, Shah Jahan and probably Aurangzeb.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) **Both 1 and 2**
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**EXPLANATION:**

Shah Jahan encouraged the artists in the atelier to create magnificent works that were a blend of imagination and documentation. Padshahnama (The Chronicles of the King) is one of the most exuberant painting projects undertaken by his court atelier and reflects the extraordinary manuscript that presents the height that Indian miniature painting achieved. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Bichitr (17th century) was an Indian painter during the Mughal period, patronized by the emperors Jahangir and Shah Jahan and (probably) Aurangzeb. The earliest known painting of his is a mature work from c. 1615. He was possibly still active in 1660 his "court style may have been the most brilliant of all the Mughal painters", with "faultless technique and majestic formality." Influenced by his studies of European artworks, Bichitr incorporated figures with shadows, Western perspectives, and putti into his work. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Q.49) Consider the following statements about the system of Jagir during the Mughal Administration.

1. A jagir did not confer any hereditary rights on the holder or disturb any of the existing rights in any area.
2. It only meant that the land revenue due to the state was to be paid to the jagir
3. Akbar did not like the jagir system due to its inefficiency so he has done away with the system during his reign.
4. The salary due to the soldiers was added to the personal salary of mansabdar, who was paid by assigning to him a jagir.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) **1, 2 and 4 only**
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (d) 2, 3 and 4 only

**EXPLANATION:**

- The salary due to the soldiers was added to the personal salary of the mansabdar, who was paid by assigning to him a jagir. Sometimes, the mansabdars were paid in cash.
- Akbar did not like the jagir system but could not do away with it, as it was too deeply entrenched.
- A jagir did not confer any hereditary rights on the holder, or disturb any of the existing rights in the area, it only meant that the land revenue due to the state was to be paid to the jagirdar.

**So, option (b) is correct.**

Q.50) Consider the following statements about an Indian school of Philosophy.

1. According to this, one can attain salvation through the acquisition of real knowledge.
  2. In the beginning, this philosophy was materialistic and later it tended to be a spiritualistic one.
- Which one of the following schools' philosophies is rightly indicated by the given above features?

- (a) **Samkhya**
- (b) Yoga
- (c) Vaisheshika
- (d) Mimamsa

**EXPLANATION:**

Samkhya schools argued that salvation could be attained through the acquisition of knowledge. Lack of knowledge is also supposed to be the root cause for the misery of man. The Original Samkhya view is considered to be a materialistic school of philosophy, but the new Samkhya view is considered to be belonging to the spiritual school of philosophy. **So, Option (a) is correct.**

**Q 51.B**

- The theatre art form that is being described in the above passage is Tamaasha. It is a traditional Marathi folk theatre art form of Maharashtra.
  - **It has evolved from the folk forms such as Gondhal, Jagran and Kirtan.**
  - **Unlike other theatre forms, in Tamaasha the female actress is the chief exponent of dance movements in the play. She is known as Murki.**
  - **Classical music, footwork at lightning speed, and vivid gestures make it possible to portray all the emotions through dance.**
  - It is a women-dominated art form. Women are dressed in traditional saree in bright red or green worn in Maharashtrian style called 'Kachi', hair tied like a juda with flowers covering it, wearing lots of bangles and tying ghongarros (heavy anklets).
  - History reveals that this art form perhaps existed or came to be known during reign of Adil Shahi and this art form was also known as Tamashagir.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

**Q 52.D**

- By the twelfth century A.D., Buddhism practically extinct in India. It continued to exist in a changed form in Bengal and Bihar till the twelfth century, but after that, this religion almost completely vanished from the country. What were its causes? We find that in the beginning every religion is inspired by the spirit of reform, but eventually, it succumbs to rituals and ceremonies it originally denounced. Buddhism underwent a similar metamorphosis. It became a victim to the evil of Brahmanism against which it had fought in the beginning. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- To meet the Buddhist challenge the brahmins reformed their religion. They stressed the need for preserving the cattle wealth and assured women and Sudras of admission to heaven. Buddhism, on the other hand, changed for the worse. Gradually the Buddhist monks were cut off from the mainstream of people's life; they **gave up Pali, the language of the people**, and took to Sanskrit, the language of intellectuals. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- From the first century A.D., they practiced idol worship on a large scale. Devotees received numerous offerings from devotees. The rich offerings supplemented by generous royal grants to the Buddhist monasteries made the life of monks easy. Some of the monasteries such as Nalanda collected revenue from as many as 200 villages. By the seventh century A.D., the Buddhist monasteries had come to be dominated by ease-loving people and became centers of corrupt practices which Gautama Buddha had strictly prohibited. The new form of Buddhism was known as Vajrayana. The enormous wealth of the monasteries with women living in them led to further degeneration. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q.53) Consider the following pairs:

| <b>(Harappan Site)</b> |   | <b>(Known for)</b> |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. Chanhudaro          | - | Bead making        |
| 2. Balakot             | - | Cotton cultivation |
| 3. Surkotada           | - | Bangle making      |

Which of the pairs given above is/are **not** correctly matched?

- (a) 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) **2 and 3 only**
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

- Chanhudaro, this is a tiny settlement (less than 7 hectares) as compared to Mohenjodaro (125 hectares), almost exclusively devoted to craft production, including bead-making, shell-cutting, metal-working, seal-making and weight-making.
- Balakot settlements are near the coast. These were specialized centers for making shell objects – including bangles, ladles, and inlay – which were taken to other settlements.
- Harappa has also given evidence of watermelon seeds, peas, and dates. Rice occurs at Harappa, Kalibangan, Lothal, and Rangpur. Millets have been identified at Harappa, Surkotada, and Shortughai.

**So, option (c) is not correct.**

Q.54) With reference to the Early Vedic society, which one of the following is the correct sequence in descending order, in terms of size?

- (a) **Jana, Vis, Grama, Kula**
- (b) Vis, Jana, Kula, Grama
- (c) Grama, Kula, Vis, Jana
- (d) Vis, Jana, Grama, Kula

**EXPLANATION:**

The Rig Vedic polity was kinship-based.

- Kula (clan) was the basic unit of the polity. It was under a head called Kulapati.
- Several families joined together to form a Grama (village). Grama was headed by Gramani.
- A group of villages was called Vis (clan) and was headed by Vishayapati.
- Rajan was the head of the Jana (tribe) and he was addressed as Janasyagopa (guardian of the people).
- There were several tribal kingdoms (Rashtras) during Rig Vedic period (Bharatas, Matsyas, Puras).

**So, option (a) is correct.**

Q.55) Consider the following statements about the Harappan civilization:

1. It is marked by a large number of copper objects.
2. Most of the seals of the civilization were made of steatite.
3. There is no evidence of woven textiles found in this civilization.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) **1 and 2 only**
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

Copper was obtained from the Khetri copper mines of Rajasthan and Tin was possibly brought from Afghanistan. It used to make alloys such as bronze, Tin and arsenic bronze by smelting copper with other metals. Bronze and copper material was extensively used in making sculptures. For example, the bronze sculpture of a dancing girl. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Most of the seals were made of steatite, which is a kind of soft stone. A few of them were also made of terracotta, gold, agate, chert, ivory and faience. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

The Indus people were the earliest people to produce cotton. Textile impressions have also been found on several objects. Small fragments of cloth preserved in the corrosion products of metal objects show that the Harappans wove a range of grades of cotton cloth. **So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

Q.56) Consider the following statements about the Early Vedic society:

1. Society was patriarchal in nature.
2. Women were educated but had no access to assemblies.
3. There were no judicial systems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 3 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) **1 only**
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

The lowest unit of the Rig-Vedic or Early Vedic society was the patriarchal family or kula under Grahapathi. The other upper units were also held in a patriarchal manner such as Visapati, Gopa and Rajan. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Women were given equal opportunities as men for their spiritual and intellectual development. There were women poets like Apala, Viswavara, Ghosa, Lopamudra and Gargi during the Rig Vedic period. Women could even attend the popular assemblies. There was no child marriage and the practice of Sati was absent. The practice of widow remarriage and levirate remarriage were present in the Rig Vedic society. **So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

In the work of administration, the king (Rajan) consulted two bodies and acted according to their decision. Those were Sabha (a select body of elders and advised the king on administration and also functioned as a court of law and tried criminal cases) and Samiti (Popular assembly included common people and dealt with the political business of the state). **So, Statement 3 is not correct.**



Q.57) Consider the following pairs:

| <b>(Ruler)</b> |   | <b>(Kingdom)</b> |
|----------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Pradyota    | - | Vatsa            |
| 2. Udayana     | - | Kosala           |
| 3. Ajatshatru  | - | Magadha          |

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) **3 only**
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

Pradyota was a ruler of avanti and magadha. Pradyota dynasty was preceded by Brihadratha dynasty and succeeded by Haryanka dynasty of Magadha.

Udayana was most popular ruler of vatsa dynasty.

Prasenajit was famous ruler of kosala dynasty.

Ajatasatru of Haryanka dynasty ruled Magadha.

**So, Option (a) is correct.**

Q.58) Consider the following statements:

1. Stupa, Vihara and Chaitya are part of both Buddhist and Jaina monastic complexes.
2. The great stupa at Sanchi was built with bricks during the time of Ashoka.
3. The stupas were constructed over the relics of the Buddha at various places.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) **1, 2 and 3**

**EXPLANATION:**

Stupa, vihara and chaitya are part of Buddhist and Jaina monastic complexes but the largest number belongs to the Buddhist religion. One of the best examples of the structure of a stupa in the third century BCE is at Bairat in Rajasthan. It is a very grand stupa having a circular mound with a circumambulatory path. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Sanchi is a Buddhist complex famous for its Great Stupa (Stupa No.1) located in north-east of Bhopal, the capital of Madhya Pradesh. It was originally commissioned by the Mauryan emperor Ashoka the Great in the 3rd century BCE. Its nucleus was a simple hemispherical brick structure built over the relics of the Buddha. During the following centuries, especially under the Shungas and the Satavahanas, the Great Stupa was enlarged and decorated with gates and railings, and smaller stupas were also built in the vicinity, especially Stupa No.2, and Stupa No.3. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

After the parinirvana of the Buddha, his remains were cremated and the ashes were divided and buried under eight stupas (Rajagriha, Vaishali, Kapilavastu, Allakappa, Ramagrama, Pava, Kushinagar, and Vethapida) with two further mounds encasing the urn and the embers. According to Buddhist tradition, Emperor Ashoka recovered the relics of the Buddha from the earlier stupas (except the Ramagrama stupa) and erected 84,000 stupas to distribute the relics across India. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Q.59) Consider the following statements:

1. It is common for an entire temple to be built on a stone platform with steps leading up to it.
2. It does not usually have elaborate boundary walls or gateways.

3. The garbhagriha is always located directly under the tallest tower.

4. While the earliest temples had just one tower or shikhara, later temples had several.

Which one of the following styles of temple architecture is clearly explained in the above-given statements?

(a) **Nagara Style**

(b) Dravida Style

(c) Vesasra Style

(d) Vijayanagara Style

**EXPLANATION:**

The style of temple architecture that became popular in northern India is known as nagara. In North India, it is common for an entire temple to be built on a stone platform with steps leading up to it. Further, unlike in South India, it does not usually have elaborate boundary walls or gateways. While the earliest temples had just one tower or shikhara, later temples had several. The Garbhagriha is always located directly under the tallest tower. **So, Option (a) is correct.**

There are many subdivisions of nagara temples depending on the shape of the shikhara. The most common name for the simple shikhara which is square at the base and whose walls curve or slope inward to a point on top is called the 'Latina' or the Rekha-Prasada type of shikhara.

Phamsana buildings tend to be broader and shorter than Latina ones. Their roofs are composed of several slabs that gently rise to a single point over the centre of the building, unlike the Latina ones which look like sharply rising tall towers. Phamsana roofs do not curve inward, instead, they slope upwards on a straight incline. In many North Indian temples, the Phamsana design is used for the mandapas while the main Garbhagriha is housed in a Latina building.

Valabhi type buildings are rectangular buildings with a roof that rises into a vaulted chamber. The edge of this vaulted chamber is rounded, like the bamboo or wooden wagons that would have been drawn by bullocks in ancient times. They are usually called 'wagon vaulted buildings'.

**Q 60.A**

- Archaeologists have discovered thousands of seals, mostly made of steatite, and occasionally of agate, chert, copper, faience, and terracotta, with beautiful figures of animals, such as unicorn bull, rhinoceros, tiger, elephant, bison, goat, buffalo, etc. Some seals have also been found in ivory. **Hence, statements 1 and 2 are correct.**
- The realistic rendering of these animals in various moods is remarkable. The purpose of producing seals was mainly commercial.
- It appears that the seals were also used as amulets, carried on the persons of their owners, perhaps as modern-day identity cards.
- The standard Harappan seal was a square plaque 2×2 square inches and rectangular made from steatite.
- Every seal is engraved in a pictographic script which is yet to be deciphered. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q.61) Which one of the following statements about the Gol Gumbaz is **not** correct?

- (a) It is the second-largest dome ever built, next in size only to St Peter's Basilica in Rome
- (b) It was built in the zone of the Western Ghats region in peninsular India
- (c) **It is the tomb of Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah built by himself, the founder of Hyderabad**
- (d) A whispering gallery is one of the typical features of this monument

**EXPLANATION:**

Gol Gumbaz's vast dome is said to be the Second Largest dome, unsupported by pillars, in the world, after St. Peter's in the Vatican City of Rome. **So, option (a) is correct.**

Bijapur, now officially called Vijayapura, is the district headquarters of the Vijayapura district (Bijapur district) of Karnataka state of India. It is also the headquarters for Vijayapura Taluka. Bijapur city is well known for its historical monuments of architectural importance built during the rule of the Adil Shahi dynasty. Relics of the Sultanates' rule can be found in the city, including the Bijapur Fort, Bara Kaman, Jama Masjid, and Gol Gumbaz. **So, option (b) is correct.**

Gol Gumbaz is the mausoleum (tomb) of the king Mohammed Adil Shah, Adil Shahi Dynasty. Construction of the tomb was started in 1626 and was completed in 1656 and built by himself, whereas the founder of the Hyderabad was Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah (4 April 1565 – 11 January 1612) was the fifth sultan of the Qutb Shahi dynasty of Golkonda and founded the city of Hyderabad, in South-central India and built its architectural centerpiece, the Charminar. **So, option (c) is not correct.**

A particular attraction in this monument is the central chamber, where every sound is echoed seven times. Another attraction at the Gol Gumbaz is the Whispering Gallery, where even minute sounds can be heard clearly 37 meters away. **So, option (d) is correct.**

**Q 62.B**

- As warfare during these times depended upon effective cavalry, the import of horses from Arabia and Central Asia was very important for rival kingdoms. This trade was initially controlled by Arab traders. **Local communities of merchants known as "Kudirai Chettis" or horse merchants also participated in these exchanges. Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- The **amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern by the raya.** They collected taxes and other dues from peasants, craftspersons, and traders in the area. They retained part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants. These contingents provided the Vijayanagara kings with an effective fighting force with which they brought the entire southern peninsula under their control. **Hence pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- The **rulers of Vijayanagara called themselves 'rayas'.** Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.

**Q 63.A**

- **Kornish was a form of ceremonial salutation in which the courtier placed the palm of his right hand against his forehead and bent his head.** It suggested that the subject placed his head – the seat of the senses and the mind – into the hand of humility, presenting it to the royal assembly.
- **Mughal emperors frequently gave awards such as robe of honour (khilat), a garment once worn by the emperor and imbued with his benediction. One gift, the sarapa ("head to foot"), consisted of a tunic, a turban and a sash (patka). Jewelled ornaments like the lotus blossom set with jewels (padma murassa) were given on special occasions.**
- **Building plan of architects were called 'Mimars' and sometimes viewed by the emperor himself.**
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

#### Q 64.B

- **Western Ganga Dynasty:**
  - The Ganga dynasty came into being in about **340 A.D.** and they continued to rule the southern part of Karnataka, **till about 1025 A.D.** The **Gangas** were another important **contemporary of the Pallavas.**
  - They set up their **rule in southern Karnataka** around the fourth century. Their kingdom lay between that of the Pallavas in the east and of the Kadambas in the west. They are **called Western Gangas or Gangas of Mysore** in order to **demarcate them from the Eastern Gangas who ruled in the Kalinga** from the fifth century onwards. For most of the time, the Western Gangas were the feudatories of the Pallavas. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - Their **earliest capital** was located at **Kolar**, which may have helped the rise of this dynasty because of its gold mines.
  - The **Western Gangas made land grants mostly to the Jainas**; the Kadambas also made grants to the Jainas, but they favored the Brahmanas more. Pallavas also granted numerous villages free of taxes largely to the Brahmanas. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

#### Q 65.D

- Kings in the post-Mauryan period frequently tried to fill their coffers by demanding high taxes, and peasants particularly found such demands oppressive.
- **Escaping into the forest** remained an option, as reflected in the Jataka story. Meanwhile, other strategies aimed at increasing production to meet the growing demand for taxes also came to be adopted.
- One such strategy was the **shift to plough agriculture**, which spread in fertile alluvial river valleys such as those of the Ganga and the Kaveri from c. sixth century BCE. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- While the iron ploughshare led to a growth in agricultural productivity, its use was restricted to certain parts of the subcontinent – cultivators in areas that were semi-arid, such as **parts of Punjab and Rajasthan did not adopt it till the twentieth century.**
- Moreover, in some parts of the Ganga valley, the **production of paddy was dramatically increased by the introduction of transplantation.** **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Another strategy adopted to increase agricultural production was the use of irrigation, **through wells and tanks**, and less commonly, canals. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

#### Q 66.B

- Guru Nanak (1469-1539) was born in a Hindu merchant family in a village called Nankana Sahib near the river Ravi in the predominantly Muslim Punjab.
- **The message of Guru Nanak is spelled out in his hymns and teachings. These suggest that he advocated a form of nirguna bhakti.** For Baba Guru Nanak, the Absolute or “rab” had no gender or form. He proposed a simple way to connect to the Divine by remembering and repeating the Divine Name, expressing his ideas through hymns called “shabad” in Punjabi. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- He firmly repudiated the external practices of the religions he saw around him. **He rejected sacrifices, ritual baths, image worship, austerities and the scriptures of both Hindus and Muslims.** **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Guru Nanak was a contemporary of rulers like **Bahlol Lodhi, Sikander Lodhi, Ibrahim Lodhi, Babur and Humayun – first three were Sultanate rulers and the latter two were Mughal emperors.** **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 67.A

- **Ibn Battuta was born in Tangier into one of the most respectable and educated families known for their expertise in Islamic religious law or shari'a.** True to the tradition of his family, Ibn Battuta received literary and scholastic education when he was quite young.
- **Ibn Battuta's book of travels, called Rihla, written in Arabic,** provides extremely rich and interesting details about the social and cultural life in the subcontinent in the fourteenth century.
- Traveling overland through Central Asia, Ibn Battuta reached Sind in 1333. **He had heard about Muhammad bin Tughlaq, the Sultan of Delhi,** and lured by his reputation as a generous patron of arts and letters, set off for Delhi, passing through Multan and Uch. **The Sultan was impressed by his scholarship, and appointed him the qazi or judge of Delhi.**
- He traveled extensively in China, going as far as Beijing, but did not stay for long, deciding to return home in 1347. His account is often compared with that of Marco Polo, who visited China (and also India). **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

Q.68) Consider the following statements about the Shvetambara and Digambara schools:

1. Both schools accept and give prime importance to the Angas.
2. Both schools believed that women can achieve liberation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

**(a) 1 only**

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

**EXPLANATION:**

Both schools accept and give prime importance to the Angas.

The Shvetambara canon includes the 12 Angas, 12 Uvargas (Upangas), 10 Painnas (Prakirnas), 6 Cheya Suttas (Cheda Sutras), 4 Mula Suttas (Mula Sutras), and a number of individual texts such as the Nandi Sutta (Nandi Sutra) and Anugodara (Anuyogadvara).

According to Shvetambara tradition, the Angas were compiled at a council held at Pataliputra. The compilation of the entire canon is supposed to have taken place in the 5th or 6th century at a council held in Valabhi in Gujarat, presided over by Devarddhi Kshamashramana. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The Digambara Jain sect believes that women cannot achieve liberation without being reborn as men first. The Shvetambara sect disagrees with this. **So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

Q.69) Consider the following pairs:

- | <b>(Author)</b>  |   | <b>(Text)</b>    |
|------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Ashvaghosha   | - | Saundarananda    |
| 2. Bhasa         | - | Dutavakya        |
| 3. Vishakhadatta | - | Devichandragupta |

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 2 only  
(b) 1 and 3 only  
(c) 2 and 3 only  
(d) **1, 2 and 3**

**EXPLANATION:**

Ashvaghosha – Saundarananda

Bhasa – Dutavakya

Vishakhadatta – Devichandragupta

**So, Option (d) is correct.**

Q.70) With reference to ancient India, consider the following pairs:

- | <b>(Term)</b> |   | <b>(Meaning)</b>    |
|---------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Kammara    | - | Metal Smith         |
| 2. Ganana     | - | Accounting Official |
| 3. Pettanikas | - | Policemen           |

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (a) 3 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) **1 and 2 only**  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

Pettanikas from pali dictionary refers to one who lives on the fortune or power inherited from his father.

The rest two are matched correct.

**So, Option (c) is correct.**

Q.71) Consider the following statements about the Ajivikas:

1. They did not practice discrimination based on caste.
2. They had no followers from the southern parts of India.
3. Prasenajit was a patron of the Ajivika order.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) **1 and 3 only**
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

The Ajivika sect did not practice discrimination based on caste or class, and its ascetics and laity came from various sections of society. Some, for instance, a certain relative of king Bimbisara, were Kshatriyas. The ascetic Panduputta was the son of a wagon-maker (considered low in the social hierarchy). Makkhali Gosala used the workshop of a woman potter Halahala as his headquarters at Shravasti. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The Ajivika sect continued to be influential during later centuries as well. The Mahavamsa suggests that its influence had spread as far south as Sri Lanka. **So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

Prasenajit, king of Kosala, seems to have been a patron of the Ajivika order. Apart from royalty, urban and trading groups were prominent members of the laity. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Q.72) With reference to the religious history of India, the term 'Upasakas' related to

- (a) **Buddhism**
- (b) Jainism
- (c) Ajivikas
- (d) Shaivism

**EXPLANATION:**

According to tradition, the first lay followers of the Buddha were two merchants, Tapassu and Bhallika. Thereafter, the ranks of the laity expanded swiftly. The laity included male followers (upasakas) and female followers (upasikas). An upasaka/upasika was a person who had declared that he/she had taken refuge in the Buddha, dhamma, and sangha, but who had not taken monastic vows. For the laity, good conduct consisted in taking the five vows—not to harm living things, not to take that which has not been given, to avoid sexual misconduct, not to indulge in false speech, and not to consume intoxicants. **So, Option (a) is correct.**

- Q.73) With reference to the ancient history of India, the terms 'pankila', 'kachcha' and 'sharkavati' were the
- (a) Weaving communities
  - (b) Merchants
  - (c) Types of land**
  - (d) Village officials

**EXPLANATION:**

- The Amarakosha is the popular name for Namalinganushasanam, a thesaurus in Sanskrit written by the ancient Indian scholar Amarasimha. It may be one of the oldest extant koshas.
- Amarasimha (CE 375) was a Sanskrit grammarian and poet from ancient India, of whose personal history hardly anything is known. He is said to have been "one of the nine gems that adorned the throne of Vikramaditya," and according to the evidence of Xuanzang, this is the Chandragupta Vikramaditya (Chandragupta II) who flourished about CE 375.
- The Amarakosha lists 12 types of land—urvara (fertile), ushara (barren), maru (desert), aprahata (fallow), shadvala (grassy), pankila (muddy), jalaprayamanupam (wet), kachcha (adjacent to water), sharkara (full of pebbles and pieces of limestone), sharkavati (sandy), Nadimatrika (watered by a river), and devamatrika (watered by rain).

**So, option (c) is correct.**

- Q.74) Which one of the following narrates about the string of biographies of the kings of Kashmir?
- (a) Dasakumaracharita
  - (b) Rajatarangini**
  - (c) Kitab Al Hind
  - (d) Pancha Siddhantika

**EXPLANATION:**

Dashakumaracharita is a prose romance in Sanskrit, attributed to Dandin, believed to have flourished in the seventh to eighth centuries CE. However, there is some obscurity surrounding its textual tradition, the identity of the author, and the date of composition. It describes the adventures of ten young men, the Kumaras, all of whom are either princes or sons of royal



ministers, as narrated by the men themselves. **So, option (a) is not correct.**

Rajatarangini (Rājataranṅinī, "The River of Kings") is a metrical legendary and historical chronicle of the north-western Indian subcontinent, particularly the kings of Kashmir. It was written in Sanskrit by Kashmiri historian Kalhana in the 12th century CE. The work consists of 7826 verses, which are divided into eight books called Tarangas ("waves"). **So, option (b) is correct.**

Alberuni's Kitab Ul Hind is the survey of Indian life based on his study and observations on India between 1017 and 1030 and it is simple lucid. **So, option (c) is not correct.**

Varāhamihira's main work is the book Pañcasiddhāntikā ("Treatise on the Five Astronomical Canons") dated c. 575 CE, which gives us information about older Indian texts which are now lost. The work is a treatise on mathematical astronomy and it summarises five earlier astronomical treatises by five authors, namely the Surya Siddhanta, Romaka Siddhanta, Paulisa Siddhanta, Vasishtha Siddhanta, and Paitamaha Siddhanta. **So, option (d) is not correct.**

Q.75) Consider the following statements about the rule of Delhi sultans.

1. Iltutmish's appointment as Sultan was not accepted by the Turkish chiefs, Chahalgani, and he fought continuously with them.
2. Balban, also known as Ulugh Khan as well as the shadow of God, introduced the spies in every department known as barid system.
3. Alauddin Khalji had to face the severe attempts of invasion by Mongols at various times including the attempt of Changez Khan.

Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) **1 and 3 only**

**EXPLANATION:**

Corps of Forty was initially formed by Qutb al-Din Aibak and later modified by Iltutmish.

After Iltutmish's death, the balance of power shifted and the sultan became a puppet of these emirs.

They would enthrone and depose Iltutmish's children and grandchildren, often murdering them when they proved troublesome.

Therefore they were not problematic to Iltutmish whereas only to the later ruler called Balban.

**So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

Balban, also known as Ulugh Khan as well as the shadow of the God, introduced the spies in every department known as barid system (intelligence officers)

**So, Statement 2 is correct.**

The Mongol dynasty was founded in 1206 CE, when a council of Mongol tribesmen elected the warrior Temujin as their leader and conferred upon him, at the age of 44, the title of Genghis – meaning "Mighty" – Khan. In the Indian subcontinent, he is known as Changez Khan. He died in 1227 CE.

Alauddin Khilji ascended the throne of Delhi in 1296 CE {So, Chengez Khan never invaded during Khilji's rule}. Khilji, by his military brilliance, managed to defeat the Mongols not once, but five times, and avoided defeat a sixth time even when taken by surprise, as the Mongols attacked with massive forces. The first invasion attempt was carried out in 1298 CE, and involved 100,000 horsemen. Alauddin sent an army commanded by his brother Ulugh Khan

and the general Zafar Khan, and this army comprehensively defeated the Mongols, with the capture of 20,000 prisoners.

**So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

Q.76) Consider the following statements about the “Bundi School of Painting”:

1. It is an important school of the Rajasthani style of Indian miniature painting.
2. It blossomed under the patronage of Rao Chattar Sal, who was made the governor of Delhi by Shah Jahan.
3. Baramasa is a popular theme of Bundi paintings.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) **1, 2 and 3**

**EXPLANATION:**

Bundi painting, an important school of the Rajasthani style of Indian miniature painting that lasted from the 17th to the end of the 19th century in the princely state of Bundi and its neighbouring principality of Kotah (both in the present state of Rajasthan). The earliest examples (c. 1625) show Rajasthani features, particularly in the depiction of men and women, but the Mughal influence is exceptionally strong. In richness and brilliance, Bundi painting has an affinity also with the painting of the Deccan, an area with which the rulers of Bundi and Kotah were often in contact. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The Bundi school blossomed under the patronage of two rulers — Rao Chattar Sal (1631–1659), who was made the governor of Delhi by Shahjahan and played a conspicuous role in the subjugation of the Deccan; and his son Rao Bhao Singh (1659–1682), who was an enthusiastic, self-indulging patron as revealed from numerous portraits that he commissioned of himself and other dated works. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Baramasa is a popular theme of Bundi paintings, it is an atmospheric description of the 12 months by Keshav Das that is part of the tenth chapter of Kavipriya written for Rai Parbin, a celebrated courtesan of Orchha. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

**Q 77.D**

- In the field of mathematics, Indians made distinct contributions:
  - **The notational/numeral system** - The Indian notational system was adopted by the Arabs who spread it in the western world. The Indian numerals were called Arabic in English, but the Arabs themselves called their numerals as *hindsa*. We cannot establish that Indians were the first ones to use humeral system.
  - The **decimal system** - The **Indians were the first to use the decimal system**. The earliest epigraphic evidence of the use of decimal system could be traced to the beginning of 5th C A.D. Aryabhatta was acquainted with it
  - The great mathematician and astronomer of the Gupta period, Aryabhatta, is credited with: discovery of earth’s rotation on its axis; **discovery of the cause of eclipses**; approximation for the value of  $\pi$ .
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

#### Q 78.D

All three terms are related to land revenue system during the Mughal empire.

- In 1580, Akbar instituted a new land revenue system called **dahsala**. Under this system, the average produce of different crops as well as average prices prevailing over the last ten (dah) years were calculated. One-third of the average share was state's share.
- Akbar also followed the old **batai or ghalla-bakshi** system. In this system, the produce was divided between peasants and the state in a fixed proportion. The crop was divided after it has been thrashed, or when it has been cut and tied in stacks, or while it was standing in the field.
- A third system used under Akbar's reign was **nasaq**. It meant a rough calculation of the amount payable by the peasant on the basis of what he has been paying in the past.
- **Dagh system, by Allauddin Khilji**, was used for branding of horse with imperial marks.

#### Q 79.B

- King Asoka, the third ruler of the Indian Mauryan dynasty, has come to be regarded as one of the most exemplary rulers in Indian history.
- In 1837, **James Prinsep** succeeded in deciphering an ancient inscription on a large stone pillar in **Delhi** belonging to Ashokan rule. Several other pillars and rock edicts (major and minor) with similar inscriptions had been found scattered in more than thirty places throughout **India, Nepal, Pakistan and Afghanistan**.
- There are about **14 major rock edicts** providing information about Ashokan policy and his dhamma. These 14 major Rock edicts are found in ancient sites of **Kandahar** (Kandhar), **Manshera**, Shahbazgarhi, **Kalsi**, Girnar, Sopara, Sannati, Jaugada, Shishupalgarh, etc.
- The Meerut pillar (not rock edict) is now situated in Delhi. It was shifted from Meerut to Delhi by Feruz Shah and erected at a location in the northern ridge of Delhi.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

#### Q 80.D

- Music is an important component of the performing arts like dance and drama, and of rituals. Each community has its own style of music and tradition of songs.
- There are essentially two ways to make music: with the **human voice** and with an **instrument**.
- The musical instruments are classified on the basis of the **scientific principle used to create the sound** they make.
- Percussion instruments are **struck to produce sound**. Often these are used to produce the taal or beat and do not produce all the musical notes. Some of the famous percussion instruments are:
  - **Chikka** is an instrument unique to Punjab. Similar to the cane snake available in many parts of the country, the chikka is **made up of 14 wooden sticks** joint together as a lattice.
  - **Chimta** has **small metal discs** loosely attached to it which strike against each other when the arms of the chimta are struck.
  - **Mashak** is made of **leather bag** and is usually played by the Dholis of Rajasthan as an accompaniment to popular folk melodies.
  - **Kirla** is a **stick with a carved squirrel or fish** at the top. A cord fixed to the top jerks the galad up with a sharp click, while bells fixed to the bottom of the kirla jingle.
  - **Khadtaal** is made of two **similar pieces of wood with brass fittings**. One piece of it has space for a thumb, the other for four fingers, these are struck together to produce a simple percussive beat.
  - **Manjeeras** are a pair of flat metallic disks that are beaten together to produce a rhythmic metallic sound. **Hence options 1, 2, and 3 are correct.**
- Been and veena are reed wind instruments. Been is made out of a kaddu (gourd), that has been dried and hollowed out. **Hence options 4 and 5 are not correct**

**Q 81.B**

- **The reign of Chandragupta II** saw the high watermark of the Gupta empire. He extended the limits of the empire by marriage alliance and conquests.
- Chandragupta exercised indirect control over the Vakataka kingdom in central India. Chandragupta II conquered western Malwa and Gujarat, which gave Chandragupta the western sea coast famous for trade and commerce.
- Chandragupta II adopted the title of Vikramaditya. The court of Chandragupta II was adorned by numerous scholars including Kalidasa and Amarasimha.
- It was in Chandragupta's time that the Chinese pilgrim Fa-Hsien (399-414) visited India and wrote an elaborate account of the life of its people.
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q.82) Consider the following statements:

1. Purandardas was found in the Court of the Vijayanagar Empire.
2. Tansen lived in the Court of Akbar.
3. Ramdas lived in the Court of Shah Jahan.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) **1 and 2 only**  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

Purandara Daasa traveled extensively through the length and breadth of the Vijayanagara empire in Karnataka, Tirupati, Pandharapura composing and rendering soul-stirring songs in praise of God.

He spent his last years in Hampi and also sang in Krishnadevaraaya's durbaar.

Purandara Dasa systematized the method of teaching Carnatic music which is followed to the present day.

He introduced the raga Mayamalavagowla as the basic scale for music instruction and fashioned a series of graded lessons such as swaravalis, janti swaras, alankaras, lakshana geetas, prabandhas, ugabhogas, daatu varase, geeta, and kritis.

**So, Statement 1 is correct.**

Tansen also referred to as Miyan Tan Sen or Ramtanu Pande, was a prominent figure of Hindustani classical music.

In 1562, about the age of 60, the Vaishnava musician Tansen joined the Akbar's court, and his performances became a subject of many court historians.

**So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Samarth Ramdas also known as Ramdas was an Indian Marathi Hindu saint, philosopher, poet, writer and spiritual master.

He was a Contemporary of Shivaji and Sambaji but not a courtesan.

**So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

Q.83) Consider the following statements

1. Fa-Hein visited Kanchipuram during the reign of Narsimhavarman II.
2. Ranarasika was the title taken by the Vikramaditya I.
3. Mahendravarman I defeated the Pulakesin II.

Which of the statements given above is/are **not** correct?

**(a) 1 and 3 only**

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

Vikramaditya I (655–680 CE) was the third son and followed his father, Pulakeshi II on to the Chalukya throne. He restored order in the fractured kingdom and made the Pallavas retreat from the capital Vatapi. His titles indicative of his military power include Rana-Rasika ("lover of war"), Anivarita ("unopposed"), and Raja-Malla ("royal wrestler"). **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

During the reign of Mahendravarman I, the Chalukya king Pulakeshin II attacked the Pallava kingdom. Mahendravarman was succeeded to the throne by his more famous son Narasimhavarman I in 630 CE, who defeated Pulakeshin II of the Chalukya dynasty and ransacked the Chalukyan capital city of Vatapi (also known as Badami). **So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

include Bhattaraka and Maharajadhiraja ("King of great kings"). Besides, he also used the family epithets Shri-Prithvi-Vallabh, Vallabha, and Shri-vallabha.

- Pulakeshi also assumed the title Parameshvara ("Supreme Lord") after defeating Harsha, as attested by his Bijapur-Mumbai inscription.
- The Chinese traveler Xuanzang calls him Pu-lo-ki-she. The Persian historian Al-Tabari calls him Paramesa or Pharmis, probably a Persian transcription of his title Parameshvara
- Pulakeshin was a Vaishnavite, as attested by the Lohner copper-plate inscription which calls him a Parama-Bhagavata ("devotee of Vishnu"), and the Pimpalner copper-plate inscription which states that he belonged to the line of Vishnu.
- Several of his inscriptions begin with salutations to Vishnu, and bear seals with emblems that feature Varaha, an incarnation of Vishnu.
- He was tolerant of other faiths: The construction of the Shaivite shrines now called the Upper Shivalaya, the Lower Shivalaya, and Malegitti Shivalaya, started during his reign.
- The Aihole inscription of Pulakeshin states that he was generous in "bestowing gifts and honors on the brave and the learned".
- The inscription's composer Ravikiran, a court poet of Pulakeshin, describes himself as an equal of the famous Sanskrit poets Bhasa and Kalidasa.
- The most notable military achievement of Pulakeshi was his victory over the powerful northern emperor Harsha-vardhana, whose failure to conquer the Chalukya kingdom is attested by the Chinese pilgrim Xuanzang.
- In the east, Pulakeshi subjugated the rulers of Dakshina Kosala and Kalinga. After defeating the Vishnukundina ruler, he appointed his brother Vishnu-wardhana as the governor of eastern Deccan; this brother later established the independent Eastern Chalukya dynasty of Vengi.
- Pulakeshi also achieved some successes against the Pallavas in the south, but was ultimately defeated, and probably killed, during an invasion by the Pallava king Narasimhavarman I.

#### RELIGION

#### CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

#### MILITARY CONQUESTS

Q.84) During the Maratha period, 'Saranjam' is used to denote which one of the following?

- (a) **Grants for maintenance of troops**
- (b) Grants for merit
- (c) Grants for religious service
- (d) Grants for educational institutes

#### EXPLANATION:

A Saranjam is a grant of land (initially non-hereditary) for maintenance of troops or for military service

**So, Option (a) is correct.**

Q.85) Consider the following statements:

1. The iqtadari system was introduced by Iltumish.
2. The token copper currency was introduced by Muhammad Bin Tughlaq.
3. Ain-i-Akbari was written by Abul Fazl.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) **1, 2 and 3**

**EXPLANATION:**

The Iqta System or Iqtadari System was introduced by Shamsuddin Iltutmish of the Delhi Sultanate.

**So, Statement 1 is correct.**

In 1330, after his failed expedition to Deogiri, he issued token currency; that is coins of brass and copper were minted whose value was equal to that of gold and silver coins.

**So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Ain-i-Akbari the third volume of the akbarnamah, written by Abul Fazl, the court historian of Emperor akbar (1556-1605 AD).

While Akbarnamah is a book of history, Ain-i-Akbari embodies Ains or rules and regulations framed and put into effect for proper administration by Akbar.

It is regarded as an administrative manual and is like a modern gazetteer.

**So, Statement 3 is correct.**

Q.86) With reference to the religious history of India, the terms 'utsarpinis' and 'avasarpinis' are related to

- (a) Buddhism
- (b) **Jainism**
- (c) Ajivikas
- (d) Shaivism

**EXPLANATION:**

Jainism believes that time is infinite, without any beginning or end called (Kalchakras). Kalchakra is further sub-divided into two, Utsarpini is the progressive cycle or ascending order and Avasarpini is the regressive cycle or the descending order. In the ascending arc (utsarpini) humans progress in knowledge, age, stature, and happiness, while in the descending arc (avasarpini) they deteriorate. The two cycles joined together to make one rotation of the wheel of time, which is called a kalpa. **So, Option (b) is correct.**

Q.87) Which of the following person is associated with the work 'Bijak'?

- (a) Mirabai
- (b) **Kabir**
- (c) Guru Nanak
- (d) Tulsidas

**EXPLANATION:**

Bijak is the best known of the compilations of the Kabir, and as such is the holy scripture for followers of the Kabirpanthi religion. It also has a number of folk songs

**So, Option (b) is correct.**

Q.88) Which one of the following statements about the Kos Minar is correct?

- (a) It is a mini prison in the Sultan's palace to lodge the thieves
- (b) **It is a Distance marker or milestone in the shape and size of a tower**
- (c) It is a watchtower used by Delhi Sultanates to watch the public
- (d) It is a tower for calling to the prayer both public and kingdom

**EXPLANATION:**

- The Kos Minars (Mile Pillars) are medieval Indian milestones along the Grand Trunk Road in the northern Indian subcontinent, that were introduced by the 16th-century Pashtun ruler Sher Shah Suri.
- Kos Minars were erected to serve as markers of distance along royal routes from Agra to Ajmer, Agra to Lahore, and from Agra to Mandu in the south.
- Most of the Kos Minars are present in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, and Punjab by the roadsides, railway tracks, paddy fields, and in many towns and villages.

**So, option (b) is correct.**



Q.89) Which Mughal King invited the two Persian artists — Mir Sayyid Ali and Abd us Samad — to establish a studio in his court and carry out royal paintings?

- (a) **Humayun**
- (b) Akbar
- (c) Jahangir
- (d) Shah Jahan

**EXPLANATION:**

Humayun increasingly identified himself with a political and cultural agenda for his dynastic empire that was eclectic and assimilative. Impressed by the artists and with an ambition to recreate such art workshops in India, Humayun brought back with him the master artists when he regained power in India. He invited two Persian artists — Mir Sayyid Ali and Abd us Samad to establish a studio in his court and carry out royal paintings. It is important to note here that both the artists were famous and respected particularly for their skills in the art of portraiture. **So, option (a) is correct.**

Q.90) Which of the following cities was/were found by Firoz Shah Tughlaq?

1. Fetehtpur Sikri
2. Hissar
3. Jaunpur
4. Fatehabad

Select the correct answer using the code given below

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (d) **2, 3 and 4 only**

**EXPLANATION:**

Fatehtpur Sikri is a town in the Agra District was founded as the capital of Mughal Empire in 1571 by Emperor Akbar.

**So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

Feroz Shah Tuglaq founded the cities of cities around Delhi, including Jaunpur, Firozpur, Hissar, Firozabad, Fatehabad.

**So, Statements 2, 3 and 4 are correct.**

### Q 91.B

- **When Humayun, the second Mughal emperor, returned from his exile, he brought along with him two eminent Persian artists – Mir Sayyid Ali and Abd al-Samad.** Based on Humayun's instructions, these Persian artists created many famous paintings, including the 'Khamasa of Nizami'.
  - These paintings deviated from the traditional style of Persian art and hence a new style of the art form called 'Mughal Painting' was born. Mughal paintings were further developed by subsequent Mughal emperors.
- **Akbar**
  - He established an entire department devoted to paintings and scribing of his documents. He also established a formal artistic studio, Tasvir Khana where artists were hired on salary to develop their own styles. **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**
  - He had employed more than a hundred painters from different parts of the country and lavishly conferred honors on works of great excellence. He had a special admiration for the work of Hindu artists, notably **Daswanth and Basawan.**
  - Several noteworthy works were completed during Akbar's period, which includes the **illustrated stories of Hamza nama; illustrated Mahabharata called Razm-Nama and the illustrated Ramayana and Timur nama, Babur nama, and Akbar-Nama.**
- **Jahangir**
  - **During Jahangir's time, the art of painting reached its climax.** He was a naturalist and preferred the paintings of flora and fauna. He was himself a good artist and had his own private workshop although no major work by him survives.
  - Jahangir promoted calligraphy which was considered to be the foremost artist in the Islamic world. Portrait painting also came into vogue during this period.
  - Mansur, Abdul Hasan, and Bishandas were the great painters in the court of Jahangir. Jahangir has bestowed the title of Nadir-ul-Asr on Mansur. During this period, the influence of Western/European painting on the Mughal painters became more pronounced.
- **Shahjahan**
  - Painting achieved a new delicacy and romantic flavor during the reign of Shah Jahan. Love, romance, portraits, and durban scenes became the common themes.
  - The artists portrayed the romances of **Laila-Majnu, Shirin-Farhad, Kamrup- Kamlata, and Baz Bahadur-Rupmati.**
  - The chief artists of Shah Jahan's period were **Muhammad Faqirullah Khan, Mir Hashim, Muhammad Nadir, Bichitr, Chitarman, Anupchatar, Manohar, and Honhar.**
- **Aurangzeb**
  - Aurangzeb's indifference to painting compelled mainly a great artist to shift their bases to other kingdoms in **Punjab, Rajasthan, and other parts of the country,** precipitating a **decline in the Mughal painting.**
- **Other Mughal emperors**
  - Bahadur Shah, I (1707-1712 AD) tried to restore the court patronage of painting. The magnificent work of painting, Shahjahan-nama, was produced during his period.
  - Farruksiyar (1713- 1718 AD) continued the royal patronage of painting and so did Muhammad Shah Rangila (1719-1748 AD). With the **invasion of Nadir Shah in 1739 AD, the en masse exodus of artists from Delhi began and the Mughal painting gradually went into oblivion.**

### Q 92.D

- The Brahmi script is the earliest writing system developed in India after the Indus script.
  - Most scripts used to write modern Indian Languages are derived from Brahmi, the script used in most Ashokan Inscriptions.
    - > The Harappan inscriptions await decipherment, seem to have been written in a pictographic script in which ideas and objects were expressed in the form of pictures.
  - **James Prinsep deciphered the Ashokan Brahmi in 1838. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - Brahmi scripts prevailed in the whole country except for the north-western part. Greek and Aramaic scripts were employed in writing Ashokan Inscriptions in Pakistan and Afghanistan.
  - **Brahmi continued to be the main script till the end of the Gupta period. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
  - Brahmi was written from **left to right.**
- **The Kharosthi script (also known as 'Indo-Bactrian' script) was a writing system originally developed in present-day northern Pakistan, sometime between the 4th and 3rd century BCE.**
  - It was employed to represent a form of Prakrit, an Indo-Aryan language.
  - **It was written from right to left. Hence statement 1 is correct.**

### Q 93.A

- Harappan civilization is one of the most ancient civilizations of the world. It was believed to be a hub of art and culture and architecture. The discoveries made at these architectural sights give us great insight into their lives and lifestyles.
- A typical Harappan city was divided into two sections, each fortified separately.
  - Citadel: It was located on an artificially raised mound (sometimes called acropolis). It housed the important buildings of the city, like the assembly halls, religious structures, granaries and in the great bath in case of Mohenjo-Daro.
  - Lower Town: The lower section of the city was where the housing for the inhabitants was located. It was well connected with broad roads about 30 meters long which met at right angles. The houses were located in the rectangular squares thus formed.
- **Salient Features of Indus Valley Town Planning which were commonly found in most of the large and small cities.**
- **City Walls**
  - Each city was surrounded by massive walls and gateways. It was built to control trade and also to stop the flooding of city.
  - Each part of the city was made up of walled sections. Each section included different buildings such as: Public buildings, houses, markets, craft workshops, etc.
- **Grid Pattern: Hence option 2 is correct.**
  - Most of the settlements were laid out on a grid pattern where roads were laid down at right angles.
  - Streets were oriented east to west.
- **Drainage system: Hence option 1 is correct.**
  - It was carefully planned with drains laid out first and then houses built along them.
  - If domestic wastewater had to flow into the street drains, every house needed to have at least one wall along a street.
  - Drains were covered at most of the places highlighting the hygiene etiquettes of Harappa people.
- **Residential Buildings**
  - They were mainly **made up of brick** and consisted of an open terrace flanked by rooms. **Hence option 3 is correct.**
  - Standardized baked bricks, as well as sun-dried bricks, were used.
  - Some houses even had multiple stories and paved floors.
  - Most of the houses had their own wells, drains and bathrooms.
- **Some of the architectural features unique to Large cities like Harappa and Mohenjodaro**
- **Granaries**
  - It is the largest building used to store grains. It reflects a highly developed agricultural system.
  - It was well ventilated and it was possible to fill grain in from outside.
  - Great Granary was found at Mohen-jo Daro, while six small granaries were found at Harappa.
- **Great Bath: Hence option 4 is not correct.**
  - The Great Bath is part of a large citadel complex that was found in the 1920s during excavations of Mohenjo-daro, one of the main centres of the Indus civilization.
  - It was probably used for religious or ritualistic purposes.
  - It was connected to an elaborate water supply and sewer system.

Q.94) Consider the following statements about the Later Vedic period:

1. Prajapathi (The Creator) came to occupy the Supreme position.
2. The society was well advanced in iron technology and purely agrarian.
3. The Samiti became more important than Sabha during this period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only  
(b) 2 and 3 only  
(c) **1 only**  
(d) 1, 2 and 3

**EXPLANATION:**

With the advent of Iron, agriculture saw an expansion around the western Gangetic plain and the Ghaggar-Hakra valley during the later vedic period. However, Industrial work like metalwork, pottery and carpentry work also was there. **So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

Both Samiti and Sabha of early vedic period administrative controls were diminished its importance during later vedic period. **So, Statement 3 is not correct.**

Q.95) Consider the following statements about the Harappan civilization:

1. There is no evidence of interaction among the people of the Indus plains.
2. The smaller towns and villages did not have well-planned drainage systems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only  
(b) 2 only  
(c) Both 1 and 2  
(d) **Neither 1 nor 2**

**EXPLANATION:**

Harappan civilization has been noted as highly interactive both among people of Indus plains and outside regions like Mesopotamia and the Arabian peninsula through trade, transportation, language, arts and culture. **So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

The Indus Valley civilisation is well-known for its properly planned cities and even properly planned towns and villages. The streets cut each other at right angles, baked brick houses, well-planned drainage systems, water supply systems, clusters of large non-residential buildings. **So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

Q.96) Consider the following statements:

1. Most of the coins issued by Satavahanas were cast coins.
2. Satavahanas issued coins of small denominational value made of lead and potin.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) **2 only**
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**EXPLANATION:**

Most Satavahana coins were die-struck, but there are some cast coins, and a combination of techniques was also used.

The legends were generally in the Prakrit language and Brahmi script. However, the portrait coins (mostly in silver, but also in lead) use a Dravidian language and Brahmi script. Punch-marked coins continued to circulate alongside the Satavahana issues.

**So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

The Kushanas (1st–4th centuries CE) were the first dynasty of the subcontinent to mint large quantities of gold coins; their silver coins are rare.

They also issued many copper coins of low denominational value, which indicates the increasing spread of the money.

A number of coin types ranging from the 3rd century BCE to the 4th century CE, referred to by numismatists as indigenous, tribal, janapada, or local coins.

These coins are mostly cast or die-struck in copper or bronze, but there are some silver coins and a few rare examples of ones in lead and potin (an alloy of copper, lead, tin, and dross).

They include those issued by chieftains, kings, and non-monarchical states.

In the Deccan, the pre-Satavahana coinage was followed by the copper and silver coins of the Satavahana kings.

Rulers of this dynasty also issued coins of small denominational value made of lead and potin.

**So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Q.97) Consider the following statements about the Charvaka Philosophical School.

1. The materialist view received the greatest impetus from this philosophy.
2. It was also known as the Lokayata school of philosophy.
3. It rejected the notion of an afterworld, karma, liberation, the authority of the sacred scriptures, the Vedas, and the immortality of the self.
4. It emerged during the sramana movement as an anti-Vedic philosophy.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (d) **1, 2, 3 and 4**

**EXPLANATION:**

The Charvaka School was the main propounder of the materialistic view to achieving salvation. Brihaspati laid the foundation stone of this school and it was supposed to be one of the earliest schools that developed a philosophical theory. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

As it was geared towards the common people, the philosophy was soon dubbed as Lokayata or something derived from the common people. The word 'Lokayata' also meant a keen attachment to the physical and material world (Loka). **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Charvakas rejected many of the standard religious conceptions of Hindus, Buddhists, Jains, and Ajivakas, such as an afterlife, reincarnation, samsara, karma, and religious rites. They were critical of the Vedas, as well as Buddhist scriptures. **So, Statement 3 is correct.**

It emerged during the sramana movement as an anti-Vedic philosophy. It rejects the authority of Vedas or any sacred scriptures and opposed the Vaidika dharma. **So, Statement 4 is correct.**

Q.98) Consider the following statements.

1. The Mughal style of miniature painting was responsible for the amalgamation of indigenous themes and styles along with Persian and later European themes and styles.
2. The peak of Mughal painting presented a highly sophisticated blend of the Islamic, Hindu and European visual culture and aesthetics.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) **Both 1 and 2**
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**EXPLANATION:**

Mughal painting is the style of miniature painting that developed in the northern Indian subcontinent in the sixteenth century and continued till the mid-nineteenth century. The Mughal style of miniature painting was responsible for the amalgamation of indigenous themes and styles along with Persian and later European themes and styles. The arts of this period reflect a synthesis of foreign influences and indigenous flavour. **So, Statement 1 is correct.**

The peak of Mughal painting presented a highly sophisticated blend of the Islamic, Hindu and European visual culture and aesthetics. Given this diverse yet inclusive nature, the affluence of the artworks produced in India during this period surpasses the conventional and indigenous Indian and Iranian paintings of that time. The significance of this style lies in the purpose and efforts of its patrons and the unmatched skill of its artists. Together, they envisaged and expressed a congregation of tastes, philosophies and faiths by their extraordinary visual language. **So, Statement 2 is correct.**

Q.99) Consider the following statements about the “Hamza Nama painting”:

1. Aurangzeb took delight in hearing the stories of Hamza and took great interest in both pictorial narratives, as well as, the recitation of Hamza Nama.
2. It is an illustrated account of the heroic deeds of Hamza, the uncle of Prophet Muhammad
3. The painted folios of Hamza Nama are scattered all over the world and housed in various collections
4. This series of 1400 paintings on cloth may have been produced under the direction given by two Iranian master artists, Mir Sayyed Ali and Khwaja Abd-as Samad.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 4 only
- (c) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (d) **2, 3 and 4 only**

**EXPLANATION:**

Hamza Nama, an illustrated account of the heroic deeds of Hamza, the uncle of Prophet Muhammad. Akbar took delight in hearing the stories of Hamza, a character much loved in the Middle East popular and intellectual circles. Akbar took great interest in both pictorial narratives, as well as, the recitation of Hamza Nama. **So, Statement 1 is not correct and Statement 2 is correct.**

The painted folios of Hamza Nama are scattered all over the world and housed in various collections. It is recorded to have consisted of 14 volumes with 1400 illustrations and took nearly 15 years to be completed. The suggested date of this magnificent project is 1567–1582 and was completed under the supervision of two Persian masters Mir Sayyid Ali and Khwaja Abd us Samad.  
**So, Statements 3 and 4 are correct.**

Q.100) Consider the following statements

1. Sufi saints came to India only after the establishment of the Delhi Sultanate.
2. The Suhrawardi order of Sufism was more popular than the Chishti order among the masses in India.
3. There was regular interaction between the Sufi and Bhakti saints in India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) **3 only**
- (d) None of the above

**EXPLANATION:**

Al Hujwiri (1088 CE) was the earliest sufi of eminence to have settled in India (Before Delhi Sultanate). His tomb is in Lahore.

Various sufi orders , were introduced in India only after the establishment of the Delhi Sultanate in the beginning of the 13th century.

India not only provided a dew pasture ground for the propagation of sufi ideas but also became the new home of the sufis who along with other refugees fled from those parts of the islamic world, which had been conquered by the-Mongols in the thirteenth century.

**So, Statement 1 is not correct.**

Chishti originated after suhrawardi order and later went on to become the popular most amongst the masses.

Of all the orders of this period, the Chishti, emerged as the most popular, and it was also widespread. Chishti rituals, attitudes and practices made it an essentially Indian silsilah.

**So, Statement 2 is not correct.**

The interaction between the two is clear from the remarkable similarities between the two. These similarities included emphasis on monotheism, on the role of the spiritual guide (pir or guru), and on mystical union with God.

Moreover, both the bakti saints and many sufi orders were critical of the orthodox elements in Hinduism and Islam respectively.

**So, Statement 3 is correct.**