

<p>Abhijnan Hazarika NAME</p>	<p>[REDACTED] Mobile No.</p>	<p>[REDACTED] (a) g.mah.k.com Email ID</p>
--	---	---

Start Time:

End Time:

ANSWER SHEET
(FULL TEST II- MEDIEVAL INDIA)

Copyright © by SELFSTUDYHISTORY.COM

Time Allowed: 180 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 250

=====

There are EIGHT questions in this paper.

Candidate has to attempt FIVE questions in all.

Question No. 1 and 5 are compulsory and out of the remaining, THREE are to be attempted.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

=====

Comments after evaluation

Marks:

Comments for improvement:

Q.1
Q.1(a)

SECTION A

Answer the following in about 150 words each: 10x5=50

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

How Akbar and Tansen contributed towards the development of music in Mughal India? Discuss with examples. [10 Marks]

Akbar was the ruler of the Mughal empire from 1556-1605 and Tansen was the most prominent musician patronised by him

Contribution towards music's development

* Akbar

- Fazl says Akbar saw music both as a source of amusement and study
- Patronised large number of musicians - 36 as per Fazl
- Notable - Tansen, Baba Ram Das, Surdas
- Shikhar and Puran Khan played Rabab
- Akbar was himself a learned musician - Vocals under lake Kalwant
- Fazl says he made a island inside a pool in Fatehpur Sikri for musical performances

* Tansen

- initially in the court of Man Singh Tomar in Gwalior and later under Akbar
- famed dhruwad singer
- ^{invented} ragas - Malhar, Mian Ki Todrik
- also, an instrumentalist - improved the plucked sahar
- played veena, sitar etc.
- Fazl says that India has not seen such a musician in the last 2000 yrs (such fame)

Liberal arts including music flourished under the liberal patronage of the Mughals before music being eventually banished by Aurangzeb after 10 years of reign.

Q.1 (b)

What observations did Ibn Battuta make on Indian cities? Explain with examples. [10 Marks]

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Ibn Battuta was a Moroccan traveller and historian who adorned the court of Mohammad Bin Tughlaq from 1334-45 as a Ghazi

Observations of Battuta on cities

- Source - Kitab-i-Rihla
- talks that cities were highly populated and prosperous
- cities were full of bright lights and colour
- details about Delhi
 - ↳ very populous and prosperous
 - ↳ had a fine cemetery
 - ↳ there were twenty-eight entrance gates of which Budaun Darwaza was the finest

→ also provide information on Daulatabad

↳ easily rivalled Delhi in size

↳ talks about market place
called Tasebad - full of dancers
and singers who used to sing
in the streets

→ talks about Delhi being repopulated
of its people - due to changing
of capital by Mohmd Bin Tughlaq.

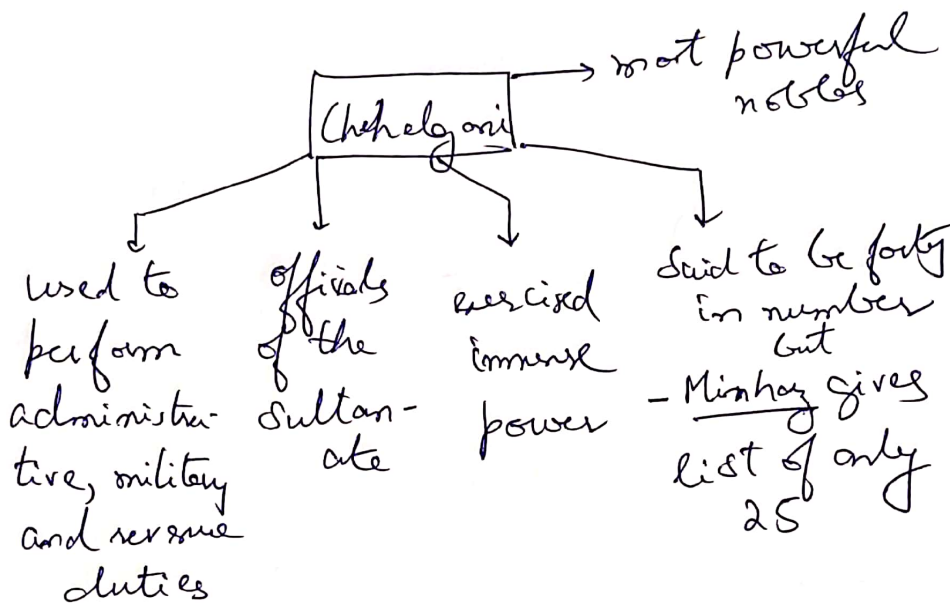
Ibn Battuta provides great
insight into the Indian cities of 14th
century AD alongwith about the rules
and the ruled.

Q.1 (c)

What was 'Chehelgani'? What relation they had with the Sultans? [10 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

Chehelgani or Turkani-Chehelgani (Circle of Forty) was an institution established by Iltutmish which consisted of his most trusted slaves.



* Relations with Sultans

Iltutmish → served the kingdom loyally
 → performed both civilian roles of revenue collection and military as iqta-dars

Post-Iltutmish → become very powerful
 → emerged as the king maker

↳ raised ~~to~~ Ruknuddin Firuz to the throne despite Iltutmish saying selecting Raziya [Mirhaj says]

↳ virtual monopoly after Raziya's overthrow till Nasiruddin's time

↳ later one Balban among them became king

Ghiyathuddin Balban

↳ completely destroyed the institution as he was wary of its power

↳ junior officials were raised to Chhalgani's rank uprooting Shamri nobles

↳ many sent to far away expeditions - on failure executed, dismissed

↳ publicly humiliated many @ Malik Dargah (Budaur's Gov) for killing slaves etc

The Turkani-i-Chhalgani ceased to exist after Balban's time.

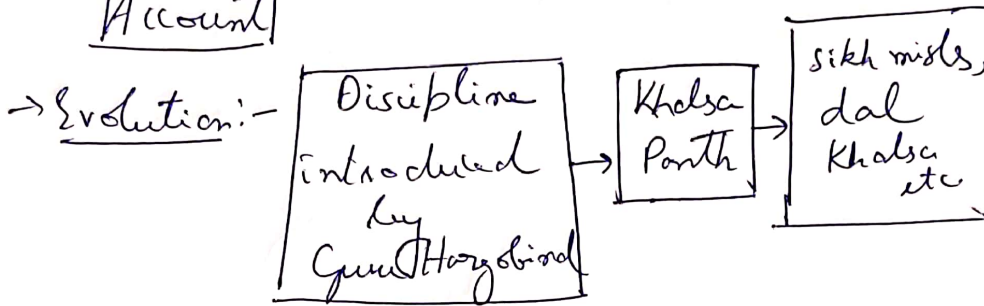
Q.1 (d)

Give an account of the Khalsa Panth and its various principles. [10 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

The Khalsa as an institution was established in 1699 under the leadership of the Tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Govind Singh

Account



- militarised the Sikh movement
- formed to defend the Sikh people - after execution of Guru Teg Bahadur by Aurangzeb

Principles

- The institute of Guruship ended - the Guru Granth Sahib became the authority
- organisation of Sikh people into a militia led by a leader

- aimed to defend the Sikh empire
 - ↳ against hill rajas, Mughals etc.
- institutionalisation of 5K's of Sikh faith including kirpan
- further developed under Banda Singh Bahadur
 - introduced own coinage as Saccha Padshah
 - collection of revenue and protection to the people.

The institution of Khalsa later evolved into the Sikh misls, dal Khalsa, the united Sarbat Khalsa and eventually a Sikh state under Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Q.1(e)

Briefly mention the tripartite struggle between the Gurjar Pratihars, Palas and the Rashtrakutas with their causes and consequences. [10 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

The tripartite struggle lasted between the 3 major dynasties of the time between 8th century AD and 10th century AD

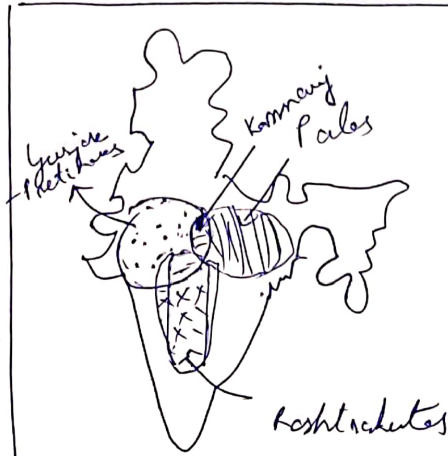


Fig:- Tripartite struggle and causes

Causes

1. Imperialistic tendencies - to occupy more territories
2. For Occupation of Kannauj
 - strategically, economically and prestige-wise important
 - power vacuum in Kannauj - ruled by weak Yaudheyas
3. Revenge and counter rivalries - in region

Struggle

Ph I → Dhruva II (Rashtrakuta) defeated both
Pala (Dharmapala) and ^{Gurjara-}Pratihara (C-P)

Ph II → Govinda III (Rash.) successful against
Nagabhata II (C-P) but later had to move

Ph III → Dudhade's (Pala) victory over Rasa-
Ishadra (C-P)

Ph IV → Mihir Bhoja and Mahendrapala's (C-P)
rule over Kannauj

Consequences

→ Huge loss of man and material

→ central authority remained weak
in North India

→ focus of North Indian dynasties
remained toward's South - neglect
of North-West

→ sapped out vitality of kingdoms
It eventually simplified the way
in rise of the Islamic rule in India

Q.2 (a)

Discuss the Balban's theory of kingship which was based on prestige, power and justice.

What was the governmental expressions of his theory of kingship. [20 Marks]

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Balban entered imperial service as a khassadar (personal attendant) of Iltutmish before become deputy sultan under Nasimuddin and sultan from 1266-1287

Balban's theory of kingship

1. Based on prestige

→ traced descent from mythical Persian hero Afrasiyab of Firdausi's Shahname

→ focused on divine origin of monarchy

⊕ Zillat (God's representative on earth)

→ maintained considerable distance from other people ⊕ Bosni says he cut off ^{social} links with courtiers

→ focus on pomp and show in his court ⊕ celebrating Nawruz

2. Based on power

- Policy of Blood and iron - very strict treatment of opposition and enemies
- maintained strict discipline in court (or) enforced practices like Sijda and Paibos
- increased control of crown over the iqbalas

3. Based on justice

- theory of 'kingship knows no kinship' - punished everyone irrespective of position
- improved judicial system - by implementing Islamic law

Governmental expression of his theory of kingship

1. Destruction of the Uchhalgarh
 - Some like Sheer Khan Sungr executed
 - Some dismissed
2. To demonstrate divine origin
 - gave name of mythical superheroes to his grandchildren - Kaigabad, Kayumas
3. Mongol policy was devised
 - old forts repaired, new forts built
 - best of commanders like J Khelji posted
 - cavalry of 30 thousand raised
4. Impartial justice
 - (11) Governor Malik Bagbak was publicly flogged for killing a servant
5. Blood and iron

- Mawatis were finished
- the whole family of rebel Tughil Beg along with friends, relatives etc. were massacred

6. Administration

- frequent transfers of iqbaladars
- khujaya appointed to collect arasy

Limitations that resulted in downfall of
Ballbon's dynasty

- Racialism (a) Kamal Mohiya not appointed only because he was son of a Hindu convert
- when personal interest involved, then no heed to justice
- Poor ethical-moral principles (a) destruction of Chahalgani
Within 3 years of death, the Khaj's rose to power.

Q.2 (b)

Give various estimates of population of Mughal India given by historians. [15 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

The population in Mughal India has not been directly provided in Ain-i-Akbari or other contemporary sources.

Estimates of population

1. Mowland

*a) Considerations



considering arazi as the gross cropped area (info from Ain)

considering equivalence between cropped area and population in Mughal India (16th century) and now.

Estimate - Multan to Manghyr (30-40 million)

b) In Vijaynagar area

- considering ^{soldier} ~~civilian~~ civilian ratio of 1:30

Estimate - 20 million in Deccan

Total → Mughal empire - around 60 million
→ Total subcontinent - 100 million

Candidates must not write on this margin

Limitations → arazi also includes ^{current} fallow and cultivable and uncultivable wasteland

→ average landholding between now and 16th century not equal

→ civilian: soldier ratio random

2. Moorvi

Advancements → average landholdings considered 100% more compared to late 15th century

→ amount of land under cultivation but at 50-55% of 1st decade of 16th century

→ made adjustments in arazi for fallow and wasteland

Estimates → Mughal India - around 100 million (under Akbar)

3. Dafon Habibi

- calculated population in cities

to be around 15%.

4. City estimates

Source → Tabaqat-i-Akbari by N Ahmad (1953)

says 120 big towns and 2200 small townships in Mughal empire

- using Mosini's total population and Habib's 15% urban population

- Estimate - around 5000 population in each city

India's population and urban population quite large even in Mughal period (comp and to world population).

Q.2 (c)

Give an estimate of Krishnadevaraya as a ruler. [15 Marks]

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Krishnadevaraya was the most celebrated
Vijaynagara ruler from 1509-1529 AD
in which it reached its zenith

Estimate of Krishnadevaraya as a ruler

1. Military achievement

- defeated Pratapendra Gajapati of Odisha
- defeated Bijapur rulers
- entered deep into the Reddy territory
on the Krishna-Godavari delta

2. Statesmanship

- great capacity of organisational skills
and efficient leadership
- love for his people - himself surveyed
battlefield after war to check that
everyone got proper treatment

3. Diplomatic

- great relationship with Portuguese - Paes, Barbosa and other flocked to cities
- got houses from the Portuguese

4. Art and architecture

- expanded Vimpeksha temple - built the eastern Gopuram and mandap in front of main shrine
- built Hazara Rama Temple

5. Literature

- Telugu literature reached zenith - Ashtadiggajis → Adesari Peddanni, Teluchi Rama etc
- Sanskrit, Kannada, Tamil patronised
- Himself a writer (in) Amuktamalyada

6. Economy

- Irrigation - wells, oncuts etc - built tanks (in) Koonalapuram

↳ Markets encouraged (ii) Laes says full of grains, stocks etc.

Limitations

- Did not pay focus to navy
- Could not completely wipe out the successors of Bahmani kingdom
 - caused Vijaynagar at Talikota, 1565
- could not ensure continuation of his dynasty
- less focus on secular architecture

Robert Sewell says that Krishna-
devaraya's reign culminated ⁱⁿ the reasons
for which the kingdom was established.

Q.4 (a)

"The religious policies of Aurangzeb were controversial in nature and were guided by his puritanical mind." Critically analyse by giving proper examples. [20 Marks]

Aurangzeb ascended the throne after winning the succession battles most notably against Dara Shikoh and ruled from about 1658-1707 AD

Religious policies giving controversial in nature and guided by puritanical mind

1. Reversed secular policies of predecessors
 - (ex) Jizya was reimposed in 1679
2. Strict restrictions on practices of Hindus
 - (ex) public celebration of festivals banned in 1668
3. Demolition of old temples - from 1658 and also new temples (1668-69)
 - Mathura etc. ^{orders}
4. Deccan policy of conquest
 - one reason was the Shiite nature of Golconda and Bijapur leading to

annexation in 1686

5. Minimalism

- removing golden curtains of palace
- whitewashing paintings of Akbar's tomb at Sikandra
- closing down music's practice and banishing musicians

Controversies of nature

1. Religious bigotry and zealosity

- wanted to impose Sharia law, orthodox Sunni Islam

(opinion by JN Sarkar, Jahangir Prasad)

- ④ jizya imposed as opportunity to suppress Hindus after death of Jajwant Singh

- Censoring of morals - department established for the same

→ suppressing mystiques (21) killing of Sarnand

→ himself a devout Muslim - called Zinda Pir (living saint)

2. Not a bigot

→ patronised temples

(21) Umananda at Guwahati

→ temples destroyed only during wartime

→ felt temples centres of internal subversion and rebellion

→ Audrey Tuschke - with increasing rebellions felt legitimate even to destroy long standing temples

3. Religious policies guided by other reasons

→ Fiscal compulsions (21) for imposition

of jizya (S Chandra)

→ To gain support of the Ulamas - as
helped in succession battle
(liberals supported Dara Shukoh)

→ state facing numerous challenges -
support for orthodox 'Gani and Twarei' required

→ lack of capable Rajput commanders

- after death of Jai Singh and Jaswant
Singh forced reorientation in relation

. Jadunath Sarkar feels that Aurang-
zeb's policies particularly religious
were responsible for downfall of

Mughal empire.

Q.4 (b)

Describe Tuzuk-i-Babari as a source of history of Medieval India. [15 Marks]

Tuzuk-i-Babari was composed by Babur in Chaghatai Turkic language as an auto-biography

Tuzuk-i-Babari as a source of ^{India} medieval

1. Information on battles - of Panipat that ^{he said} he won comfortably because of superior artillery
2. Talks about invitation from Daulat Khan Lodi and Rana Sangha and Sangha later retreating
3. Describes about hills, mountains, rivers etc of India
4. Tells that was surprised to see that whole revenue department was managed only by Hindus
5. Political nature - talks about 5

Deccan Muslim states and two Hindu kingdoms

6. Social practices - vivid description of Jauhar committed by ladies of Medini Rai in Chandni, 1528

7. Talks about life of people

↳ survived on Khichri

↳ no surplus, little furniture and

nothing on body

8. Talks about construction activities undertaken at Delhi, Agra etc. (2)

Hoshli-Bishist garden

9. Talks that he was not impressed by Indian architecture - lacked symmetry

Limitations as a source

1. Incomplete geography - does not mention

Kashmir, Jindh, Orissa and Khandesh

2. Don't give details of atrocities committed by him (as) in village of Saeedpur
 3. Numerous constructions mentions have no traces (only two mosques at Panipat and Sambhal survive)
 4. Negativity towards Indians (as) architecture, people etc.
 5. Looks from the eyes of a foreigner
- Nevertheless, it was one of the most authentic and important sources of early Mughal rule testified by Stanley Lane Poole who calls him as 'the Prince of Autobiographers'

Candidates must not write on this margin

Q.4 (c)

How far the market regulations and land revenue measures of Alauddin Khalji were aimed at fulfilling his political aims? [15 Marks]

Alauddin Khalji ruled from 1296-1316 and one of the most powerful, innovative rulers ~~was~~ of the Delhi Sultanate

Market regulations

→ Established four markets — Mandi for food grains
 — Sarai — All
 one for slaves, cattle other commodities sugarcane and clothes

→ Institutionalised (en) shahna-i-mandi, rais pawan etc.

→ Price controlled by various measures

(en) compensation to foreign traders etc.

Land revenue measures

→ To fulfil political aims

1. Raise a large army at low cost (KSL, Infon, Habils)

— as prices were fixed

↳ by providing fixed salaries

(en) 78 tankas to one soldier

↳ to counter the Mongol invasions
 - repeatedly → Qutlugh Khwaja (1259)
 ↳ Tardi Beg (1303)
 6 in total

↳ aims of world conquest (or) took
 title of Sikandar-i-Sani

For other aims → To punish ^{the} ~~people~~ of Delhi
Hindu traders
 (Baroni in Ta'rikh-i-Firoz Shahi)

↳ Philanthropic measures

[M Habibi; Fatwa-i-Jahandari
 of Baroni]

- to help people of Delhi by
 providing goods at low cost

Land revenue measures

1. Took away free grants allotted earlier
2. Converted ~~jagirs~~ ^{igars} into khalisa land
 (or) Doab, Rohilkhand etc.

3. Huge land revenue burden

↳ introduced market system

↳ tax at 50% of produce

4. Intermediaries removed

fulfilling political aims → cut off revolts and rebellions
- as one cause was less money

→ increase power of sultan
- by reducing powers of iqbalas

other goals → augment financial resources
(Bani - treasury always upto brim)

→ concentrate power in his hands

Market regulations and land revenue measures aided in establishing a strong empire.

Q.5
Q.5 (a)

SECTION B

Answer the following in about 150 words each: 10x5=50

Discuss the advancement made in building construction technology under the Delhi Sultans. [10 Marks]

Delhi Sultans beginning from Iltutmish to the Lodhis and Sultans made huge advancements in building construction technology

Advancements made

- Materials used - red sandstone used extensively, grey stone under Tughlaqs
- ↳ white marble use increased @ dome of Ghias Tughlaq's tomb
- began use of lime mortar for plastering
- gypsum and bitumen used to make walls water proof
- use of arch and dome technology
 - ↳ true arch - started from Balban's tomb
 - ↳ true dome - from Alai Darwaza

Candidates must not write on this margin

- ↳ enabled making of huge buildings
- header and stretcher technique
 - under Khaljis
- combination of arch and beam - mostly under Tughlaqs
- use of battering walls - under Tughlaqs
- newer techniques in tombs

- ↳ Drum in dome
 - to increase height

- ↳ stalactite pendentives etc.

- ↳ double dome

- improve acoustics and size

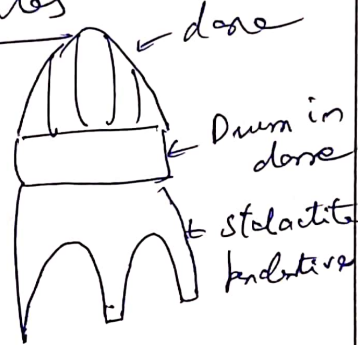


Fig: - Tomb architecture

The advancements further continued and reached zenith under the Mughals.

Q.5 (b)

"The Hindus believe that there is no science like theirs." In the light of this statement, give a critical analysis of Al Beruni's account of Indian science. [10 Marks]

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Al Beruni was an Arabic scholar who came to India along with Mahmud Ghazni in 11th century AD.

Al Beruni's account of Indian Science

* Praise

- Indians as having rich scientific knowledge among people of the size
- credits for discovery of decimal system and for first understanding use of zero
- praises astronomy as close to them and talks about Arjashastra, Varahmihira etc.
- ~~Al~~ talks about chemical science and

Nagarjuna
does not
→ mention Sushruta Samhita but mentions
Charak Samhita

→ praises India's weights and measures system

All Banani criticises

- superiority complex of Hindus believing that there is no science like theirs
- compares alchemy to witchcraft and Indians as soothsayers
- talks about Indians as good mathematics and excellent philosophers but considers himself superior
- talks about present stagnation

Issues with account on science → Barriers

- language - Sanskrit very different
- Insularity - beliefs and practices very different

→ Doesn't refer other accounts on science (e.g. Jainism, Buddhism etc)

SAA Rizvi points out that he was one of the foremost scholars to visit India

Q.5 (c)

Evaluate the chief features of the Bhakti Movement in Medieval India. [10 Marks]

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

The Bhakti movement although emerged in ancient India as Vaishnava Bhakti during Gupta age but spread rapidly during medieval India

* Chief features

1. Egalitarianism (a) Ramanda's disciples contained Ravides-cobblers, women etc.
2. Belief in humanism - about good in all
3. Tolerance spread (a) Kabir said Hindu-Muslims pots of same clay
4. Against caste discriminations (a) lingayat
5. Against rituals and practices (a) Kabir criticised practices like shaving head, pilgrimages etc.
6. Mass based (a) Shankardera travelled among masses establishing Neo-Vaishnavism
7. Promoted rational thinking

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

8. Focus on improving lives of women (ca)
Ramanuja opened temples at many places
for women
9. Contributions to vernacularisation (Sheldon
Pollock (ca) Narsi Mehta - Gujarati literature
Surdas, Tulsidas - Hindi etc.
10. Need of a guru or preceptor - for guidance
11. Emphasised direct connection between
God and the devotee - no need for
temples, rituals, scriptures etc.

limitations → could not create considerable
change in attitude towards women,
lower castes etc

→ most incorporated within Brah-
manical fold → Kabirpanthi

→ sectarian tendencies → Dadupanthi

Bhakti movement, however, was able
to create a more humane religion at least to
some extent

Q.5 (d)

"Kabir's teaching was to preach love for unification of all castes and creeds." Explain. [10 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

Kabir was one of the foremost Nirguna Bhakti saints of the medieval Bhakti movement

Preaching love for unification of all castes and creeds

1. Unity of God - said the God was one, praised by people as Ram or Allah
2. Focus on inner purification - said that we can find God not in temples or mosque but in the heart of a devotee
3. Focus on unity of religions - said Hindus Muslims are pots of the same clay
4. Criticised caste system of the Hindus - promote unity of all the castes
5. Against practices of religion
 (a) said 'Pavon Pya Hai Mile To Me

Raja Pahari - if one can get grain by
worshipping idols, then I can worship a
whole mountain

6. Against ritualistic practices of different
religions (a) shaving head, pilgrimages^{etc}

7. Had disciples from all castes and
creeds

8. Faith in formless (Nirguna) ~~good~~ God
- without attributes and for all

Kabir's liberal teachings paved
an atmosphere of tolerance and unity
among all as seen of cultural assimilation
between Hindus and Muslims -

Q.5 (e)

Give an account of the development of Hindi literature during reign of Akbar. [10 Marks]

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Akbar was a great patron of literature and other fine Arts including Hindi literature

Development of Hindi literature

- Patronised many writers (i) Nasir-i-Sahai who was given title of Mohapatra
- Devotional literature developed
 - (ii) Surdas wrote Sursagar and Kavitavali
 - Tulsidas wrote Ramcharitmanas
- Development in Awadhi dialects
 - (iii) Kutubon wrote Mrigavati
Maulana Daud - Chandayan
- Books in praise of Krishna
 - (iv) Ras Khan wrote Prem Vatika
- Books on music written
 - (v) Tansen - Sangeetsara, Rajmala

Q.6 (a)

"The zamindars formed a powerful class and were present in practically every part of the Mughal Empire and held the most significant position in the agrarian structure of Mughal India." Elaborate. [20 Marks]

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

The zamindars were the most powerful persons in Indian agrarian structure since ancient times but the term was first used by Ziauddin Barani

* Powerful class

→ classified into three categories by J Habibe and B.R. Grover

1. Semi-autonomous zamindars - very powerful

↳ old rulers or vassals like rais, raris, rones etc.

↳ own armies, palaces

↳ Fazl says combined cavalry of

384 Laks and army of 42-77 Laks

which was much more than total

Mughal force

2. Intermediate zamindars

- no direct proprietary rights but traditional rights of share of agri produce
- had own armies, police etc.
- most did not pay revenue on own land, ~~and~~ collected revenues for state with share and also levied other fees like Kismet-i-khata

3. Khudkhatas in villages - at top of peasant hierarchy
- not much powerful

→ Zor-talab areas - of powerful, recalcitrant zamindars where even jagirdars feared to go

* Every part of Mughal empire

→ Some scholars - only vassal chiefs who accepted Mughal suzerainty

→ refuted by Grover and Habib
- present in all areas including

Khalisa, jagir and pailanji lands

↳ present even outside Mughal empire

→ different names in different places

(ex) Khut/mugaddam - Doab
satehi/ kisi - Awadh

* Most significant position in agrarian structure

1. At top of the hierarchy - in peasant society

2. Very important for the state - as state dependent on land revenue and zamindars had direct relations with peasants

3. Helped in agriculture expansion

↳ providing tools and implements for agriculture expansion

↳ provided capital to farmers

4. Helped in maintaining law and order

- powerful zamindars could break

off discontent among peasants

5. Enjoyed support of the peasants in most occasions - could challenge Mughal empire

Zamindar's role in decline of Mughals

→ Aggravated agrarian crisis (Athar Ali)

- faujdar powers to zamindars increased exploitation (under Aurangzeb) and hampered state resulting in rebellions ex) of Jats

→ Moratha revolt - as zamindar rebellion (Athar Ali)

- weakened Mughals

Zamindars played a significant role in Mughal India both in its consolidation and decline

Q.6 (b)

"Sher Shah's rule saw immense development in the areas of trade and commerce and agricultural." Elaborate with example. [15 Marks]

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Sher Shah ruled ^{at} the throne of Delhi only for a brief period of five years from 1540-1545 but as Janungo points out he was second to none only except Akbar among medieval rulers.

Development in areas of trade and commerce

1. Developed coinage system
 - standardised silver rupiya and copper dam
2. Revenue reforms implemented for ease of trade
 - only cesses abolished and only two kept → one at time of entry and another at the time of final consumption
3. Construction of roads (trade routes)

Candidates must not write on this margin

(a) Grand Trunk Road
from Sonargaon to Peshawar

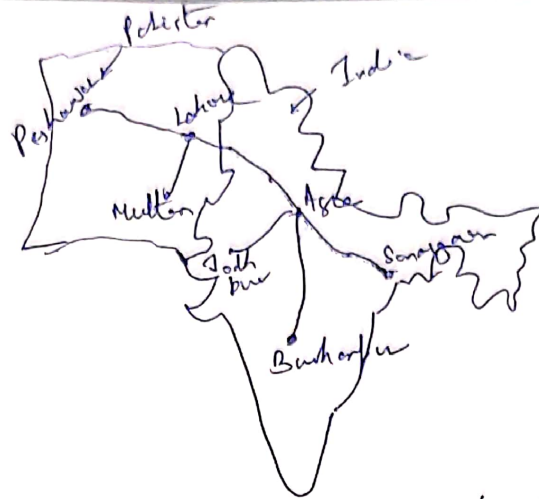


Fig:- major roads constructed by Sher Shah Suri

4. Measures for ease of merchants and traders

- rest houses made at regular intervals
- wells dug, trees planted for ease of travel
- Dak chaukis established

5. Development of industries - aided trade
(a) textile, oil industry, sugar industry

Development in field of agriculture

1. Modified Masahat system of Alauddin Khilji
2. New land revenue system - Zabti introduced

↳ land divided into three parts good, middle and bad

↳ reduction of land revenue to 30% of produce

↳ provisions of patte and qabuliyat

3. Encouraged growth of agriculture

↳ providing security during emergency through taccari loans

4. Reduced discretion of officers (or) Shah's

Shah's Ray (price list) for conversion

of kind into cash

limitations in agriculture → land revenue burden still very high

↳ delays in measurement
- led to loss of crops etc.

Shah Shah's developments nevertheless

laid way for the enlightened rule of Akbar.

Q.6 (c)

Discuss Mansabdari system with changes brought by various Mughal Emperors. What was its significance. [15 Marks]

Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Mansabdari system is the collective system for the officials in Mughal era first mentioned by Abul Fazl in the developments of 1567

* Features of Mansabdari system

1. Comprised ^{all} officials of the Mughals
2. Integrative in nature - as combined both civilian and military posts
3. Hierarchical - starting from 2000 to 10000 ranks as mentioned by Fazl
4. Progressive - as officials promoted on the basis of their service
5. Secular - appointed people from all religions, castes etc.
6. Dual ranking system - of zat and sawar

7. Could be paid through jagirs or through
cash naqdi - so, ~~the~~ Mughal jagirdar
was also a mansabdar

8. Non-hereditary

9. Regular transfers - were done

10. Provisions for emergencies - sawar
rank was increased by Mushrut system

Changes by various emperors

→ Akbar (in later part)

- Dah-Bishti system - in which a
group of ten soldiers had to maintain
twenty horses

→ Jahangir

- introduced Du Aspa Si Aspa system
- a section of sawar rank was raised
for emergencies - one soldier and two
horses

→ Shah Jahan

- introduced monthly scale and

partial ranking which reduced responsibilities of mansabdars

* Significance

- Positives → led to cultural assimilation
- helped in centralisation of administration
 - as directly responsible to centre
 - helped in territorial expansions
 - helped in collection of revenue, maintaining law and order
 - assimilated heterogeneous group of people in a heterogeneous whole

Negatives

- role in weakening Mughal empire due to mistakes by rulers
 - ↓
 - improbable high mansabs (key Shah Jahan)
 - led to war of succession
 - large number of mansabs by Aurangzeb
 - precipitated Jagirdari crisis
- Despite it, role of mansabdari was immense in providing good administration under Mughals