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Start Time:

End Time:

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# ANSWER SHEET

## SECTIONAL TEST- III

### (MEDIEVAL INDIA)

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Time Allowed: 90 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 130

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There are FOUR questions in this paper.

Candidate has to attempt THREE questions in all.

Question No. 1 is compulsory and out of the remaining, TWO 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.

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Comments after evaluation

Q.1 Answer the following in about 150 words each: 10x3=30

Q.1 (a) Describe the evolution of tomb architecture with addition of new features under successive Delhi Sultans. [10 Marks]

The establishment of Delhi Sultanate had a deep impact on the architectural milieu of India which further evolved during successive rulers with addition of new features.

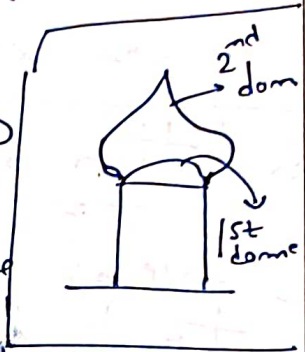
### Evolution of Tomb architecture

1. Several new architectural forms were introduced — Arches, Domes, Brick and mortars ⇒ collectively called Arcuate style.
2. Iltutmish Tomb — features a carbel arch and several hindu motifs (lotus etc) as decorative items. The squinches and pendantives are beautifully decorated.
3. Balban's Tomb — features the first true arch and is very simple in design.
4. Khalji architecture saw use of horse-shoe arch at Alai Darwaza.

5. Tughlaq Tomb - had batter (sloping) walls placed on a high plinth. Red sandstone was used as building material.

(Eg.) Tomb of Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq

6. Lodhi Tomb - saw the use of double dome architecture for the first time. The structure was placed amidst a garden.



(Eg.) Tomb of Sikandar Lodhi

The Indo-Islamic architecture established during the Sultanate was carry forwarded by Swiss and Mughals which reached apogee under them.

Q.1 (b) Describe the social changes caused by the foundation of Delhi Sultanate. [10 Marks]

The foundation of Delhi Sultanate by Qutub-ud-Din Aibak in the 13<sup>th</sup> century had wide politico-socio-economic ramifications

### Social changes

- ① Introduction of foreigners in the Indian society on a large scale, mostly from Central Asia.
- ② Breaking of Brahman-Kshatriya Alliance  
As per Max Weber, the Islamic invasion broke the Brahman-Rajput alliance paving way for Bhaktism.
- ③ Loss of patronage to Sanskrit, thereby providing impetus to regional languages.
- ④ Formation of new social hierarchy —

the turks, tajiks stood at top, while hindus, Indian muslim converts at the bottom.

⑤ Instances of religious intolerance - such as existing temples of hindus, buddhist, jains were destroyed or converted into islamic structures.

(Eg.) Ashai din ka jhopra.

However, the majority of changes were at the top tier while the main society had little social changes with the rural agrarian relation between farmers and zamindars being intact.

Q.1 (c) In what way international trade supported urbanisation in North India during the 13-14th century CE? [10 Marks]

The establishment of Delhi Sultanat led to opening of India to the Islamic world giving, in turn, huge impetus to international trade and urbanization of North India.

International trade supporting urbanization

- ① Development of cities as a major trade centre.  
(Eg.) Delhi, Multan, Agra
- ② Increasing craft specialization — development of new techniques of textile manufacturing, metallurgy etc.
- ③ Technological advancement — introduction of charkha, Dhunia in textile industry, paper was introduced in this time period.

④ Deepening of money economy - the stable currency system of Tankas, jital helped in expansion of trade and urbanism.

⑤ Cultural development - development of Persian literature, sufism. The scholars from West Asia arrived in India through this trade routes.

Thus, with advent of Islamic turks, the stagnation of the India society ended and a new Indo-Islamic syncretic culture started developing.

Q.2 (a) "With the best intentions, excellent ideas, but no balance or patience, no sense of proportion, Muhammad Tughluq was a transcendent failure". Elaborate. [20 Marks]

Muhammad Bin Tughluq (MBT) embarked on a series of socio-economic and political reforms which despite good intentions failed miserably or remained inconclusive.

### Reforms and results of MBT

#### ① Capital Shifting from Delhi to Daulatabad

a) started in 1328, daulatabad was made the 2<sup>nd</sup> capital of sultanate.

b) Intention - Daulatabad lay at the centre of empire - better management.

↳ familiarity of terrain and atmosphere

c) Result - led to huge resentment in the population of Delhi

↳ also large scale burden on state ~~exchequer~~ <sup>exchequer</sup>

↳ Death of many while travelling in hot summer months

↳ Law and order situation in Delhi deteriorated

d) Finally, due to rebellion and loss of territory capital reshifted to Delhi.

## ② Token Currency

a) MBT issued coins of copper and brass freely exchangeable with gold and silver.

b.) Intention - to tide over scarcity of silver.

↳ To hire a large army at low cost.

↳ Expansion of money economy and trade

c.) Result - Rampant counterfeiting of currency

↳ Barani → "house of every hindu became a mint"

↳ huge confusion among common people

↳ As per Satish Chandra, the surplus coins reduced its value to nothingness.

d.) Finally, the sultan withdrew the coins and exchanged it with gold and silver.

## ③ Khurasan expedition

a.) MBT hired a large corp of army and

awarded them iqtas.

b) However, Barani says that no effort was taken to assess swordsmanship of soldiers or quality of horses.

c) Intention — was to lead an expedition to Khurasan to get rid of Mongol menace.

d) Result — finally due to lack of terrain knowledge, the army was disbanded after an year.

#### ④ Agricultural reforms

a) MBT established Diwan-i-kohi and extended Sondhar (loans) for digging wells and building canals.

b) Intention — to increase cropping area and improve cropping patterns

c) Result — Large scale corruption by officials rendered the programme useless.

Thus despite best intentions, and logical reasoning, his policies failed to bear fruits due to lack of planning and hasty withdrawal.

Q.2 (b) How did various irrigation works facilitate expansion of agriculture in early medieval India?  
[15 Marks]

Firoz Shah Tughlaq in the second half of 14<sup>th</sup> century undertook a series of irrigation related works in the Indo-gangetic divide which greatly benefited agriculture.

Irrigation works undertaken

- ① He commissioned the work on a canal to bring water from Yamuna and Sutlej to Hissar.
- ② He also founded the city of Ferozabad and Hissar-Firuz in this process.
- ③ He also constructed various dams, bunds on the rivers to divert water into the fields.
- ④ He extended loans (Sondhar) for digging wells, canals for expanding irrigation.

- ⑤. For all the work done, he imposed an additional cess of 10%  $\Rightarrow$  haqq-i-Sharh

## Expansion of agriculture

- ①. As per Barani and Alif, there was large scale expansion of irrigated and cultivated area.
- ②. Barani mentions 'villages every 4 kos' depicting prosperity.
- ③. The relatively barren hissar was converted into heavily cultivated areas.
- ④. Now 2 cropping seasons - kharif and rabi was possible.
- ⑤. Also, there were a large number of qasbas (villages with market) coming further expanding trade and agriculture

However, such reforms were limited to in and around Delhi and majority of the empire still dependent on rain for irrigation.

Q.2 (c) "The social life under the Vijayanagar Empire was well developed." Elaborate. [15 Marks]

The Vijayanagar empire, which flourished between 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> century in the South India, was frequented by various foreign travellers (Paes, Nikitin, Nuniz, Razzak) who provided details about the social life in the empire.

### Social life under Vijayanagar empire

① Royalty — lived a life of opulence, luxury and exaggeration.

a.) Paes mentions the large palace of the king which employed several servants, slaves etc.

b.) Nuniz talks about the power and influence of the Raya (king).

② Common man — lived in thatched roof house and walked barefooted.

a) Nikitim - describes the misery of the lower class people.

### 3. Caste hierarchy 'Manucharitra'

a) Allasani Peddama in his book, gives details of 4 fold caste system.

b) Brahmanas were highly respected and also held military, civilian post

c) Kshatriya - was the ruling class.

d) Vaisya - were trader-merchant class

e) Shudra - were segregated and discriminated

### 4. Position of women

a) Women of higher class were given education in literature, art, music, dance.

b) Women were employed as slaves, servants, concubines in royal palace.

c) Several social evils like Sati, Devdasi, child marriage prevailed as recounted by Paes and Nuniz

5. City life - Razzak gives a vivid description of the city market.

a) Barbosa mentions of shops and segregated nature of settlement in cities

6. Amusement and Pasttime

a) Festivals like Diwali were celebrate.

b) Cock fighting, wrestling were other pasttimes.

c) Even king Krishnadeva Raya participated in wrestling.

Thus, ~~the~~ <sup>social</sup> life was well established and developed in Vijayanagar kingdom.

Q.3 (a) "Zain ul Abedin was a great king of Medieval India." In the light of the given statement, discuss the contributions of Zain ul Abedin as a ruler of Kashmir. [20 Marks]

The long and stable reign of Zain-ul-Abedin in the 15<sup>th</sup> century provided huge impetus to the socio-economic development of Kashmir and finds mention ~~by~~ in Rajatarangini by Tomaraja

### Contributions of Zain-ul-Abedin

- ① Establishing peace in Kashmir - the narrow and bigoted policies of Sikandar Shah created instability in the region. Abedin with his liberal policies brought peace to the kingdom.
- ② Religious tolerance - allowed hindus to come back to the valley, and allowed reconversion back to hinduism of the converts. Also, repaired some of the temples broken during his predecessor's reign.

### 3. Economic development

- a) Undertook construction of dams and canals for expanding cultivation
- b) Provided impetus to major industries like — paper making, shawl making, musket making.
- c) He also encouraged apple industry of Kashmir.

### 4. Development of literature

- a) He himself was proficient in Sanskrit, Kashmiri, Persian etc.
- b) ~~Undertook~~ oversaw translation of major books including Mahabharata and Rajatarangini.

5. He also created an artificial island on Wular lake and create a new Zaina lake.

Thus, for his wide ranging contribution, he was regarded as Bud Shah by the local people.

Q.3 (b) "Firoz Shah Tughluq was an enlightened and humane ruler and his administration is noted for the humanitarian measures that conducted to the prosperity and happiness of his people."  
Examine. [15 Marks]

'Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi' by Barani and Alif provided a glimpse into the humanitarian and welfare based administration of Firoz, albeit, with isolated instances of intolerance.

### Humanitarian measures by Firoz

1. Firoz in his book Fatihat-i-Firoz Shahi expresses displeasure towards cruel punishment — limb, eye, ear mutilation and talks about banning them.
2. He forgave all officials convicted of corruption during his predecessor's rule.
3. He redistributed iqtas and idrar to all the nobles, confiscated during reign of Alauddin Khilji.

- ④ He carried out new valuation (jama) of revenue and removed several cesses inconsistent with sharia.
- ⑤ He undertook reparation of mosques, madrassas, tombs of iltutmish and Alaudin Khalji and Kankhas.
- ⑥ He raised the allowances of the ulemmas and students.
- ⑦ He pacified mobs and army by making post hereditary and relaxation in dakh.
- ⑧ He provided grants to the family of girls for marriage, widows, handicapped.  
↳ established a separate department — 'Diwan-i-Khairat'

9. He also opened a hospital expenses of which were borne by Khalisa land.

However, towards the end of his reign, he became increasingly intolerant and bigot—

a) Razing of hindu temples and execution of brahmins.

b) Re-imposition of Jiziya as a separate tax

c) Prohibition on women from visiting sufi saint graves.

Thus his reign was a mixed bag of welfare based on humanism as well as narrow religious policies towards the end.

Q.3 (c) Why Babur was able to defeat Ibrahim Lodi in the first battle of Panipat? [15 Marks]

The 1<sup>st</sup> battle of Panipat fought between Babur and Ibrahim Lodi was a landmark moment in India's history whose results were decided before as well as on the battle field.

### Causes of Babur's victory

- ① Experience of Babur - he fought a number of wars against uzbeqs from a very young age.
- ② Strategic planning - the choosing of battle location, reconnoitering all contributed to his victory.
- ③ Timurid idea of kingship - professes complete loyalty of beys towards the king minimizing chances of betrayal.

④ Baluer learning from past experiences

a) Adopted new techniques — Araba,  
Tulghuma from the uzbeqs.

b) Employed ottoman gunners in his  
army which provided huge advantage.

⑤ Inexperience of Ibrahim Lodhi —

he barely participated in any  
battle — Babur in his tuzuk calls  
him unproved brave.

⑥ Lack of strategic insight and  
lax attitude

Lodhi took no effort gain insight into  
enemy, slow movement of his  
entourage towards battlefield.

↳ He also was not able to understand  
tactics of Babur in the battlefield.

⑦ Cruel policies of I. Lodhi — killed his brothers, rude behaviour with nobles led to his alienation.

⑧ Algham theory of Kingship — strong tribal sense of independence.

⑨ Eg. Daulat Khan Lodhi (Punjab governor) invited Babur for invasion.

Thus a host of factors decided the outcome of the battle paving way for Mughal dominance in North India and subsequently over entire India.