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Start Time: 1:30 pm End Time: 4:30 pm.

ANSWER SHEET (FULL TEST I- ANCIENT INDIA)

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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 choosing at least ONE question from each section.

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

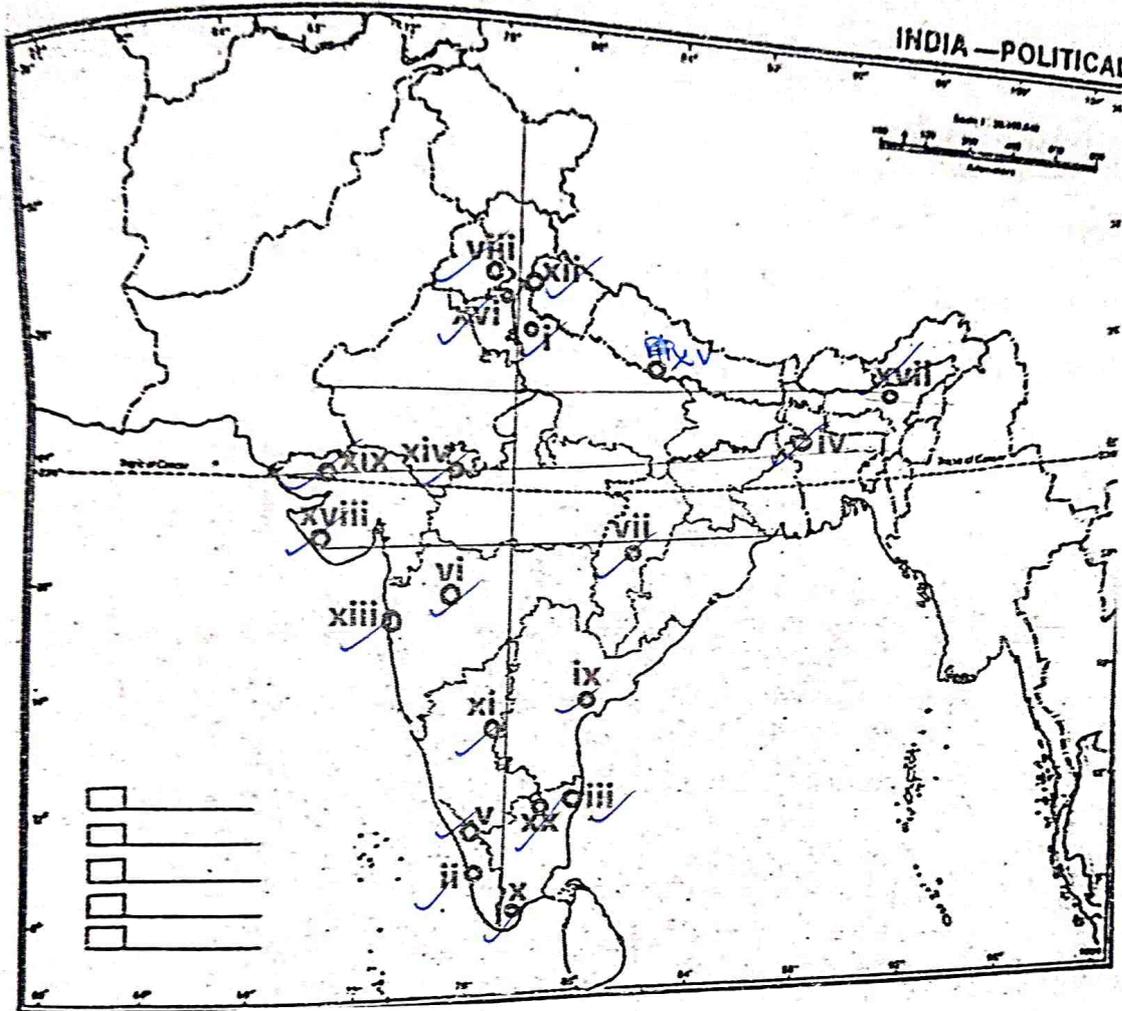
Marks:

Comments for improvement:

Q.1

Q.1 Identify the following places marked on the map supplied to you and write a short note of about 30 words on each of them in your Question-cum-Answer Booklet. Locational hints for each of the places marked on the map are given below seriatim. [25x2.5= 50 Marks]

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(i) Painted Grey Ware site

- Hastinapur
- in Meerut District, Uttar Pradesh
 - Capital of Kurus (mentioned in Mahabharata)
 - findings include terracotta objects, iron implements — cultural sequence to 4th century
 - Hindu, Jain, Buddhist site as different

- temples, artefacts are found
 → Excavations ongoing.

(ii) Ancient Port site

Muziris

- in Kerala.
- Important port of Sangam Dynasty - Cheras
- Mentioned in Periplus
- Importance in Indo-Roman trade and Indian Oceanic trade
- continued relevance from c. 200 BCE to modern centuries.

(iii) Famous cultural site

Kanchipuram

- In Tamil Nadu.
- Mentioned in Tamil Epics Manimekalai and Silappadikalam.
- Kailashnath Temple at Kanchipuram
- Centre of learning — "mathas"
- patronage under Pallavas and later Cholas.

(iv) Buddhist Mahavihara

Sompura

- in Bangladesh
- Centre of Mahayana Buddhism
- established under Pala rulers like Dharmapala. — Sompura University
- UNESCO World Heritage site
- Declined under Turkish and Khalji rule

(v) Ancient rock shelter cave site

Edakkal Caves

- in Wayanad, Kerala
- Caves among the Western Ghats
- Petroglyphs and engravings found
- Hunting-gathering-fighting scenes.
- Animals depicted in different moods.
- Stick shaped men.

(vi) Jain rock cut temple site

Ellora Caves

- in Shambaji Nagar, Maharashtra

- On ~~bank~~ gorge of Waghora River
- Images of Tirthankaras
- Kailashmathe Temple built under Rashtrakutas.
- patronage to Jainism by rulers like Amoghvarsha.

(vii) Ancient religious site

Sispur

- In Mahasamund district, Chattisgarh
- Buddhist site.
- Time period of roughly from 6th century BCE.
- Later, declined as a city in Early Medieval period.

(viii) Archaeological site

Ropar

- in Rupnagar District, Punjab
- Archaeological remains of Indus valley civilisation.

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- Pottery, terracotta findings, Copper Artefacts, Iron Implements
- Transition from BRW to PGW to NBPW

(ix) Site of ancient school of art

Amravati

- In Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh
- Ancient Dhanyakataka.
- Amravati school of Art flourished from C. 200 BCE to C. 200 AD later merged into Pallava Art.
- Buddhist stupa made of white marble by ASI on ancient stupa site.
- Relief panels.

(x) Megalithic site

Adichinallur

- In Tuticorin District, Tamil Nadu
- Megalithic dated to as late as 10th, 12th Century
- Big stones like Hat stone, Topikkal,
- Urn and fractional Burial.
- Iron implements and early settlement

(xi) Petroglyph site

Kuppally

- In Karnataka
- Rock Art site with engravings
- prehistoric paintings - Mesolithic Art
- Scene of Female Abduction
- Bones of animals, plant remains also found.

(xii) Major Ashokan rock edict

Kalsi

- in Dehradun district, Uttarakhand
- Fragments of MRE-1, 13th MRE - Kalinga War.
- Highlights extension of Ashokan Empire
- In Brahmi script, Pali language
- Details about Ashokan Dhamma, administration, etc known.

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(xiii) World Heritage site

Elephanta Caves

- On island off coast of Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Architecture began during Satavahanas, continued under Vakatakas.
- Hindu Rock cut paintings and murals.
- Example include 'Trimurti' (Shiva, Parvati and Bhairava) and image of 'Harilara'.

(xiv) Ancient inscription site

Mandsaur Inscription

- of silk weavers of Lata (Gujarat) migrating from Gujarat.
- Financing temple at Dashapura - Sun Temple
- Also details of Yashodharman of Malwa and Guptas under Skandagupta.

(xv) Ancient capital city

- Kapilavastu, Nepal
- capital of Sakya Kingdom

- Important Buddhist Centre
- Mentioned in Buddhist texts like Jatakas, Dipavamsa, Mahavamsa
- Stupa and other structures found.

(xvi) Political centre

Thanesar

- In Haryana
- Capital of Pushyabhuti and later prominent political centre under Harshvardhan (606 to 648 CE)
- Mentioned in Huan Tsang's 'si yuki' and Bana Bhatta's Harshcharita
- continued to remain important urban centre

(xvii) Ancient temple site

Kamakhya Temple

- In Assam - near Guwahati
- one of 'Shaktipeetha'
- Famous for Ambubachi Mela festival
- Recently, Maa Kamakhya Corridor being developed.

→ Important centre of Tantrism and Shakti worship.

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(xviii) Famous inscription site

Gjirnar

- In Junagadh, Gujarat
- 150 CE inscription of Shaka King Rudradaman I talks of repair of Sudarshana Lake built during Chandragupta Maurya
- Ashokan Inscription → Sudarshan Lake built under Purnadatta (Governor).

(xix) Harappan city

Dholavira

- In Kutch district, Gujarat
- City divided into 3 parts — lower middle upper (citadel)
- Fallen 'Signboard' - script
- Water Harvesting system and reservoirs found
- pillar fragments.
- UNESCO world heritage site.

(xx) Megalithic site

Paiyampalli

- In vellore district, Tamil Nadu
- Iron implements during pre-Sangam Age.
- Burial site - Menhirs, cist, dolmen etc
- habitation - wattle and daub huts
- D. Chakrabarti ~~had~~ dates starting of Iron age to c. 800 BCE.

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Q.3 (a)

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How significant are the pre/early Harappan sites/villages in Sind and Baluchistan to our understanding of the origins of the Harappan Civilization? [15 Marks]

Origins of the Harappan Civilization has been debated by historians and there are Diffusionist and Evolutionary theory.

Diffusionist Theories were given by scholars like E.J.H Mackey and Mortimer Wheeler who talked of migration of people and ideas from Sumer (Mesopotamia)

However, on the basis of pre/early Harappan sites in Sind and Baluchistan, Evolutionary theories are developed.

M.R. Mughal's analysis from site like Sindh's Amri talks of how transition was made from pre-Harappan to mature Harappan.



→ Mughal says that Pre-Harappan context in c. 3000 - 2600 BCE is actually Early-Harappan.

→ Similarly, findings at Kot Diji an Early Harappan site talks of Evolution as origin of flourishing Harappan civilisation or IVC.

Features of IVC which are seen in Early Harappan sites :-

- 1) Fortifications - often mud instead of burnt and baked bricks
- 2) Evolution of typical Harappan pottery which is wheel-made - Red pottery with painted black designs.
- 3) Subsistence Base comprising on plants like wheat barley, animals like sheep, goat, etc.

4) Pottery designs like pipal leaves.

5) crafts, shell working, beads (eg) at Atchindia.

However, these findings are challenged

1.) Sudden break at Kot Diji with burnt deposit between early and mature Harappan levels suggest transition was not smooth.

2.) No Early Harappan level at sites like Chanhudara, also in Baluchistan.

Atchindia and Atchindia writes that origin of Harappan civilisation must be seen in cultural convergence of different regional traditions (eg) at Sindh, Baluchistan.

Chakrabarti opines that regional trade, craft specialisation, agrarian surplus played important role.

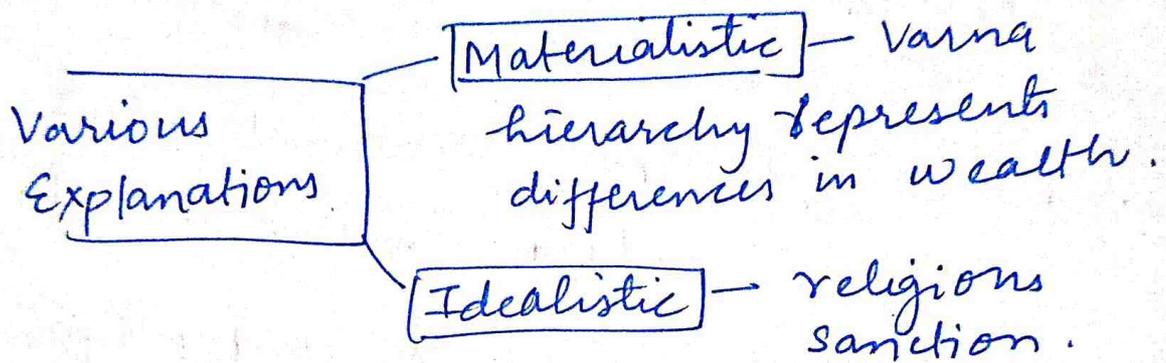
Thus, in absence of deciphered script, findings from early Harappan sites give key insights on origins of IVC.

Q.3 (b)

Explain various views about the origin of Varna system during Vedic age in Ancient India.

[15 Marks]

Varna System which became characteristic feature of Indian society emerged as a system of social stratification in later Vedic period (c. 1000 - 600 BCE).



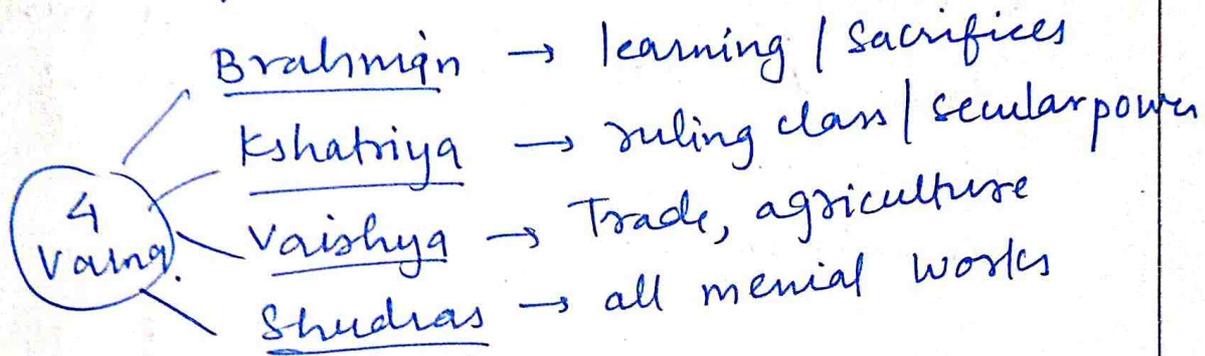
Origin of Varna System

- ⊛ Early Vedic Age speaks of Varna as colour and divides society into Arya Varna (fair-skinned) and Dasa-Varna (dark-skinned). Categories Brahman, Kshatriya are mentioned but not connected to Varna. Terms Shudras, Vaishyas not mentioned in Early Vedic text.

⑧ Later Vedic Texts talks of division of society on basis of Varna.

Purushokta hymn of Rigveda speaks of Brahman, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Sudra emerging from head, arms, lower body and foot of Brahma.

They came to associated with functions



Different Views

1) Division of Labour — as Varna system divides tasks among groups. Initially mobility was there but later it got restricted.

2) System of Hierarchy — on basis of relative positions in society. However, some texts place Brahmin over Kshatriyas while others Vice-versa.

3) Endogamy - highlighted as major reason by Jayaswal. As Varna marries among themselves. However, there were pratiloma and anuloma marriages too.

4) Assimilation of different groups - R.S. Sharma in "Who were the Shudras?" talks of incorporation of aboriginals in Varna hierarchy because of colonisation.

Varna system became more strict from Mahajanapada period however it came to compete with other institution - jati which is seen as result of varnasamkaras (inter-varna marriages).

Q.3 (c)

Identify the main features of the Mauryan Art and briefly bring out their differences with the Gupta art. [20 Marks]

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Mauryan and Gupta Art are important stages in development of Indian Art as highlighted by [Susan Huntington] in book - 'The Art of Ancient India'.

Main features of Mauryan Art (c. 326-187 BC)

Court Art

- 1.) Fort structures \rightarrow DB Spooner and Wadell's excavations at Bulandibagh and Kumrahar near Patna. Evidence of wooden fortification and pillar fragments.
- 2.) Beginning of Rock Court Art
 \rightarrow Barabar Hills \rightarrow Lomash Rishi cave, Shanli cave at Odisha.
- 3.) Pillars - containing Ashokan edicts made of chunar sandstone and well polished.

(eg) Rampurva Capital,
Allahbad - Kosam
Pillar.

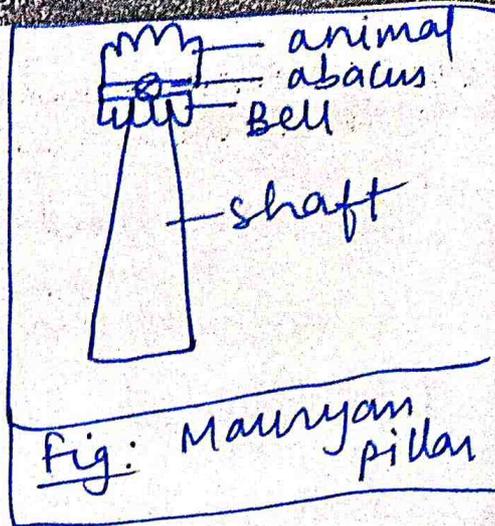


Fig: Mauryan pillar

4.) Sculptures - (eg) Grouning
Animal Lion at
Sanchi, Sarnath.
- these were mainly rock cut.

5.) Beginning of stupa Architecture

Ashoka built a
no. of stupas
(eg) Sanchi Stupa,
Bharhut Stupa

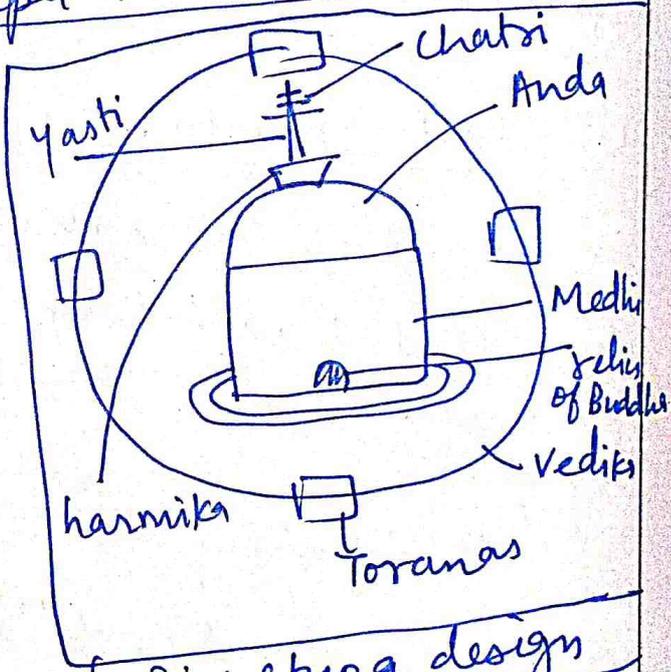


Fig: Stupa design

Popular Art

1.) Terracotta art
(eg) at centre
like Chandraketugarh
finds include → discs, toys, etc

2.) Yaksha, yakshini images
(eg) Parkham, MP → Manibhadra Yaksha

Differences with Gupta Art

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Mauryan Art

- 1) Incipient rock-cut art as seen from Dhanli caves.
- 2) Buddhist in content and characteristics
 (eg) Sanchi Stupa
- 3) Institutionalisation had not happened
 (eg) no shrines / temples built.
- 4) use of sandstone prominently
 (eg) Chunar.

Gupta Art

- 1) Rock-cut Art reached its climax with caves at Ellora, Ajanta, etc.
- 2) Patronage to puranic hinduism therefore Hindu Art however patronage continued to be given to Buddhist Art too.
- 3) Institutionalisation happened.
 (eg) Evolution of Nagara style of Temple Architecture.
- 4) Along with sandstone, metals also used
 (eg) Mehrauli Pillar.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>5) Art do not include images (eg) No Image of Buddha.</p> | <p>5) Image worship started (eg) Images of Buddha and <u>Bodhisatva</u> like Avalokitesvara.</p> |
| <p>6) <u>Mono-Style</u> art as less influences and exchange.</p> | <p>6) <u>Cultural synthesis</u> led to influences and innovation (eg) Hindu + Jain + Buddhist images at Ellora.</p> |
| <p>7) No texts on Art</p> | <p>7) Treatises like <u>Shilpastra</u></p> |

Due to remarkable progress achieved in art during Gupta period it is referred as Golden period in Indian history.

Q.4 (a)

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"The hypothesis that there was urban decay during c. 300-600 CE, can be questioned on several grounds." Elaborate. [15 Marks]

c. 300 - 600 CE marks the age of Gupta Empire in Indian history with debate over urbanisation during the period.

Urban decay during c. 300-600 CE.

① R.S. Sharma speaks of feudalism's first phase in Gupta period which saw decline of urban centres like Sravasti, Kanushambi, Varanasi, etc.

② This view is supported by Srimati who argues similar decline in Vakataka cities.

Reasons for Urban decay

- 1.) Decline in long-distance trade particularly Indo-Roman trade
- 2.) decline of states and emergence of regional states.

3) Declined monetary activity as quality and quantity of coins declined.

Questioned on several grounds

- i - Archaeological findings from sites such as Pataliputra, Hastinapur, Ujjain, etc. talk of them as urban centres.
- ii - Tamil Epics speak of flourishing urban centres of Madurai, Kanchi and of brisk trade through ports like Muziris, Puhar etc. highlighting urbanization during 300-600 CE.
- iii - Texts like Kamasutra describe urban opulence with different craft works, leisure activities, etc. for eg. 'nagaraika' story in urban scene.

iv - Temples were developing during Gupta period which highlights concentration of wealth, agricultural surplus, etc

(Eg) Nachna-Kuthara temple at MP,
Bhitargaon temple, Kanpur (UP)

v - Craft centres like Mathura, Amravati, Sarnath continued to flourish so does educational centres like Taxila, Nalanda.

vi - Account of Fa-Hien also talks of different occupations of people set in urban scene.

Thus, different sources of period 300-600 CE negates hypothesis of urban decay.

Q.4 (b)

"Various situations and circumstances led to the rise of Magadha Empire in Ancient India."
Elaborate. [15 Marks]

Magadha Empire rose in 5th-4th century BCE under dynasties like Hiranyaka, Saisunagas and finally Nandas.

Various situations and circumstances led to rise of Empire :-

1) Geographical situation

- location along fertile ganga plains - surplus.
- capital Rajgir was surrounded by hills and Pataliputra was a water fort.

2) Geoeconomic situation

- Access to Iron ores which was vital for weapons, agrarian expansion.
- large number of Elephants in forests - Help in army.

→ Minerals in Chotanagpur plateau region.

3) Trade and Commerce

→ as located on Uttarapatha - trade route
 → Centres like Mathura, Chandraguptapur,
Varanasi.

4) Ambitious Rulers - devising different strategies.

→ Matrimonial alliances ⇒ (eg) Bimbisara married daughter of Pradyota of Kosala.

→ Military campaigns ⇒ eg Ajatashatru's campaign against Lichhavis.

5) Military Technology

→ Jain texts credit Ajatashatru for discovery of weapons like gathmusla and mahasitakantaka.

6) Socio-religious situations

→ Magadhas and Kiratas were of

low social origin and being recently Vedicised, they showed more zeal in expansion.

Different socio-economic - religious circumstances led to emergence of Magadham Empire after subduing other mahajanapadas like Avanti, Kosala and ganga-sanghas like of Lichavis.

It was on this foundation that Chandragupta Maurya founded India's first sub-continental Mauryan Empire in 3rd - 2nd century BCE.

Q.4 (c)

Give an account of the spread of Indian Culture outside India through various modes in early India. [20 Marks]

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Early Indian history is one of cultural exchanges involving interactions and innovations in different cultural aspects.

Various modes in Spread of Indian Culture

1.) Political patronage by rulers.

→ Ashoka sent Buddhist missions to Sri Lanka under Mahinda and Sangamitra.

→ Harshvardhan exchanged Embassies with Taang Emperor of China.

2.) Trade and Commerce

overland

→ through Bolan and Khyber ~~passes~~ passes

overseas

→ through ports in Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal.

→ Ancient silk route under Kushans became one of the mode of spread of culture.

3) Campaigns into other regions

→ Cholas expansion to Sri Lanka, South-East Asia - Expedition to Sri Vijaya.

→ Spread of language like Sanskrit, administrative systems, art and architecture styles.

4) Foreign Travellers and Accounts

→ Fa Hien and Huan Tsang - wrote about Buddhist monastries and educational institutions in India

→ Spread of Indian philosophy, science and technology

(Eg) Greek writers like Pliny, Strabo, Arrian writing about them.

5) Indian Merchants and traders who set up their basis in other countries also worked as agents of cultural transfusion.

6.) Migration of Indians

→ Tradition in Cambodia of Brahmin named Ikaundinya.

→ Inscription from Dang Duong in Vietnam that inhabitants of region descendant of Sage Bhojig.

7.) Literary works

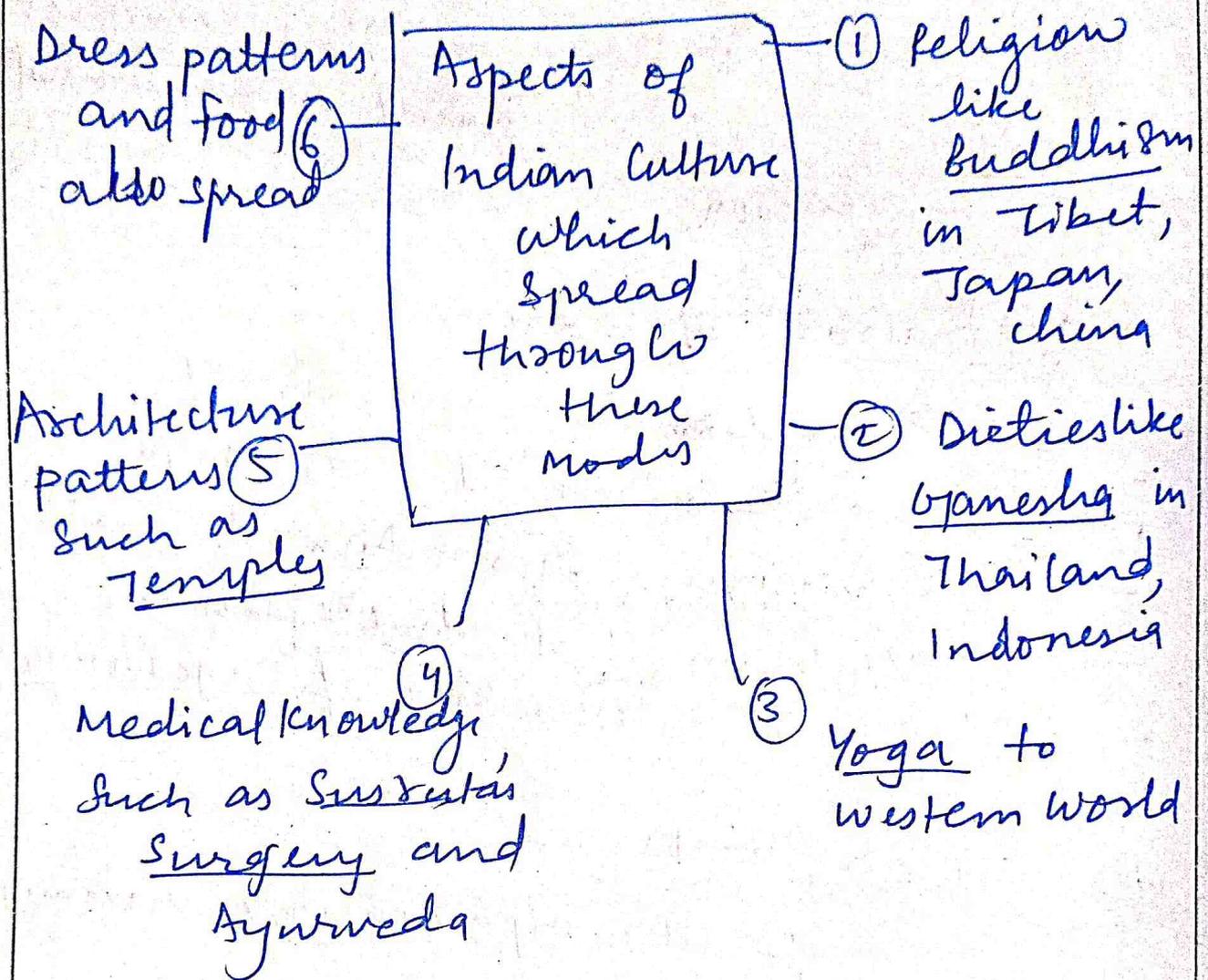
→ Texts like Dipavamsa, Mahavamsa.

→ Form of epic → Ramayana.

8.) Pilgrimage to sites

→ as a number of Chinese travellers like Huan Tsang, I-jing came to sites like

Bodhi Gaya.

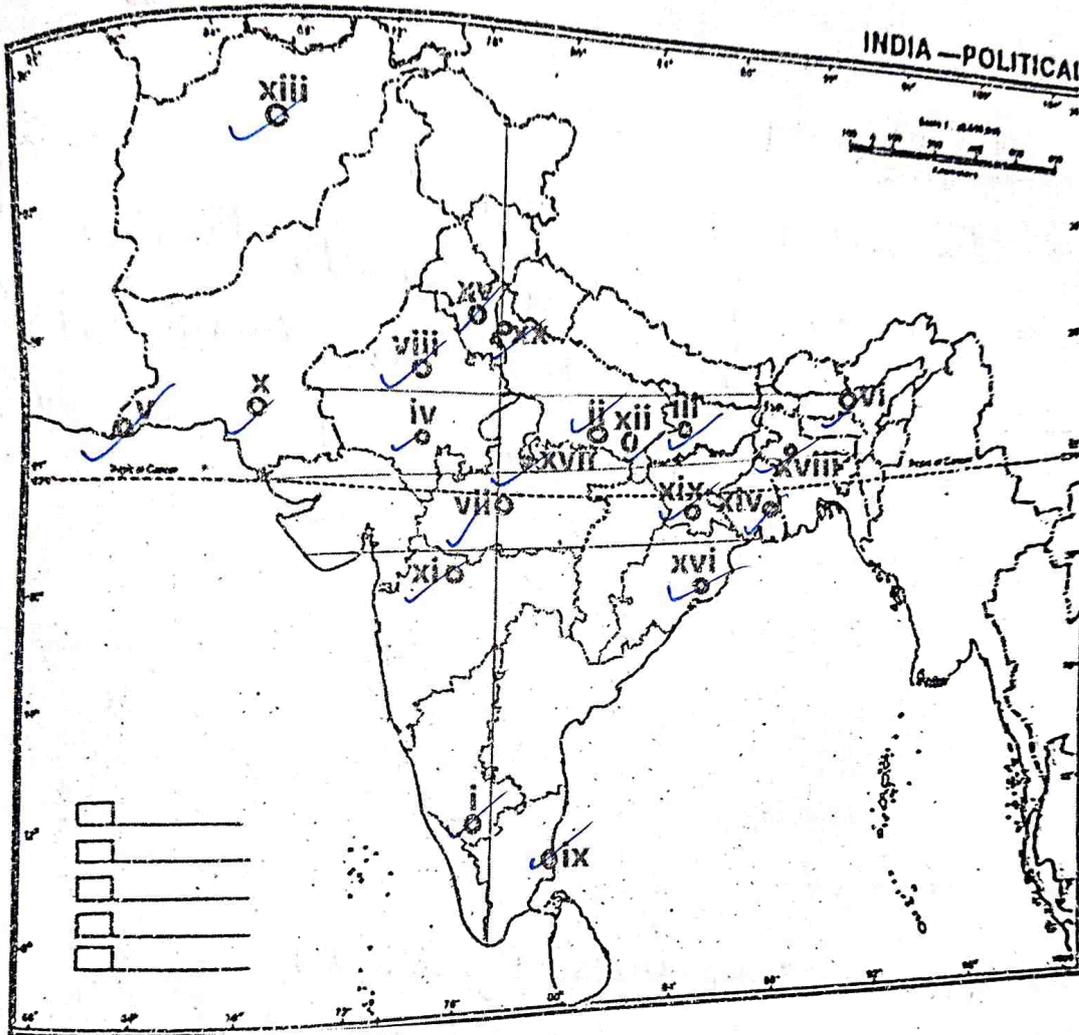


Thus, one sees different modes playing in spreading of Indian culture and traditions to different parts of world.

Q.5

Q.5 Identify the following places marked on the map supplied to you and write a short note of about 30 words on each of them in your Question-cum-Answer Booklet. Locational hints for each of the places marked on the map are given below serialim. [20x2.5= 50 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin



(i) Megalithic and Neolithic site

Brahmagiri
→ In Chitradurg district, Karnataka
→ findings include iron artefacts, pottery, polished & ground tools, etc.

- wattle and daub huts from neolithic phase -
- Ashokan Edict suggesting this was southernmost extent of his Empire.

(ii) Ancient capital city

Kausambi

- In Allahabad, UP
- capital of Mahajanapada - Vatsa.
- Mentioned in text like Angutosa Nikaya
- Ashokan pillar (Allahabad-Kosam pillar) found from site.

(iii) Neolithic and Chalcolithic site

Chisand

- In Saran District, Bihar
- findings include domesticated plant - wheat, barley remains.
- domesticated animal bones - cattle, goat, etc found
- wattle and daub huts, hearths, etc from chalcolithic period.

(iv) Chalcolithic site

Ahar

- In Rajasthan
- Part of Ahar-Banas culture
- Tools - grounded, microliths found.
- Iron finds.
- hearths have been found
- Evidence of sedentary living, plant and animal domestication.

(v) Harappan site

Sutkargendor

- On Malcran Coast in Pakistan
- westernmost site of Harappan Civilization
- Fortifications, city planning, drains, etc found.
- seal, sealings, beads also found.
- played important role in trade with Mesopotamia, Persian Gulf, Oman, etc.

(vi) Neolithic site

Sarutary

- Guwahati, Assam.

- findings include neolithic pottery, animal bones, plant remains.
- ground and polished tools made of chert, chalcedony, quartz found
- one of few neolithic sites in North East

(vii) Mesolithic site

Bhimbetka

- In Raisen district, Madhya Pradesh
- ~~Studied~~ discovered by V.S. Wakankar
- Rock Art from Mesolithic period - hunting gathering ~~scenes~~.
- permanent settlement in Rock Cut Caves
- Microliths found, Ostrich Egg shell beads
- UNESCO World Heritage site.

(viii) Palaeolithic site

Didwana

- In Nagaur district, Rajasthan
- Usanimum series date go back to 3 lakh years BP -

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- handaxes, choppers, stick tools are found.
- one of oldest lower palaeolithic site of India and habitation continued further.

(ix) Ancient lost port

Puhar (Kaveripatnam)

- In Tamil Nadu.
- Important port under Sangama Aje - Cholas
- Participation in overseas trade to South East Asia as well as to Europe via Persian Gulf and Red sea.
- Pliny describes India as sink of Roman gold - port played role in Indo-Roman trade.

(x) Early Harappan site

Amri

- In Sindh, Pakistan.
- Studied by historians like M R Mughal.
- pottery, terracotta finds suggest evolution of Harappan features from this site.
- participation in intra-regional Harappan trade.

(xi) Ancient cave painting site

Ajanta Caves

- In Sambhajinagar District, Maharashtra
- Buddhist paintings are found.
- Paintings include Bodhisatva like 'Padmapani'.
- Developed during Satavahans and then ~~Deccan~~ Vakatakas.
- UNESCO World Heritage site.

(xii) Ancient political and cultural centre

Varanasi

- In Uttar Pradesh.
- Capital of Kashi Mahajanapada.
- mentioned in texts like Jatakas.
- Sarnath - place where Buddha gave first sermon. - 'Phamek Stupa'
- oldest surviving cultural city of India

→ famous for Kashi Viswanath Temple.

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(xiii) Ancient Buddhist site

Bamyan

- In Afghanistan - Kandhar region
- Buddhist statues
- Graeco-Roman influence on Gandham Art
- Destroyed by Taliban

(xiv) Terracotta art centre

Chandraketugarh

- In West Bengal.
- Famous image of 'Panch-chuda'
- terracotta figurines, toys, dieties, pottery, etc have been found.
- One of richest terracotta art site of India.

(xv) Early and mature Harappan site

Rakhigarhi

- In Hissar district, Haryana.

- Urban features like town planning, citadel, drains, toilets found.
- Skeletal remains found from here suggest continuity in DNA (bust Aryan Invasion myth)
- Largest Harappan site in India (140 Ha).

(xvi) Ancient fort city

Sisupalgarh

- Near Puri, Odisha
- Ancient Tosali - one of province under Ashoka.
- Capital of Chedi King - Kharavela.
- Incipient fort structures found
- Recently, site facing encroachments.

(xvii) Gupta temple site

Dashavtar Temple, Deogarh

- In Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh.
- Beginning of Temple Architecture under Guptas.
- Temple is flat-roofed, with pillars and a bit raised platform.

- Evolution to modern Nagara style
- Vaishnava temple as Guptas gave patronage to Vaishnavism (10 avatars of Vishnu)

(xviii) Ancient capital city

Mahasthangarh

- In Bangladesh
- Capital of Pundra kingdom
- Ashokan inscription found - speaks of famine relief.
- Centre of Mahayana Buddhism under Pala rulers of Bengal.
- Destruction by Turks.

(xix) Neolithic site

Barudih

- In Singhbhum District, Jharkhand.
- findings include tools made out of chert, chalcedony, agate, jasper.
- Beginning of food production.
- one of few prehistoric sites in Chotanagpur plateau.

(xx) Mature and Late Harappan site

Alamgirpur

- In Uttar Pradesh.
- Easternmost extent of Harappan Civilization
- marks eastwards shift in Late Harappan period.
- town planning, Harappan artifacts like beads, seals, etc have been found.
- Excavations are ongoing.

Q.6(a)

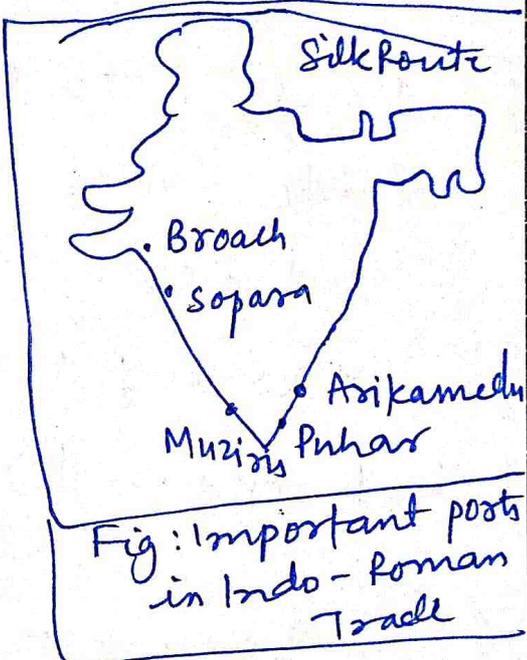
"The Rome was being drained out of its gold by India during the first century of the Christian era." Justify Pliny's perspective. [15 Marks]

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Pliny's statement about Rome being drained out of its gold by India highlights brisk Indo-Roman trade during C. 200 BC to 200 AD.

Justification to Pliny's Perspective -

1.) Demand of luxury goods in Rome from India
eg silk textiles, pearls, etc.



2) Flourishing overland trade with Byzantine empire across Silk Route under Kushana dynasty.

3.) Large number of Roman coins found at various sites in Southern

India particularly highlights Pliny's perspective.

4.) Roman pottery like Amphorae jars also occurs from various sites.



5.) Sangam Texts discuss trade with 'Yavanas' (Romans) and items like Black pepper as Yavana-priya. This trade happened through ports like Muziris, Puhar.

6.) Findings from Arikamedu - warehouse, cloth dying tank, Roman pottery, etc. Historians suggest that some foreigners might have lived here. M. Wheeler describes it as 'Yavana emporia'.

7.) Graeco-Roman Accounts like of Strabo, Arrian also describes the trade supporting Pliny's perspective.

8.) It was however not one way trade, as slave girls, precious metals and other items were imported to India also.

Thus, 1st century AD saw flourishing Indo-Roman trade, which was accelerated by discovery of monsoon winds. However, later the trade declined in c. 300 AD.

Q.6 (b)

Discuss various sources showing the presence of the Indian Republics (ganas) in the sixth-fifth centuries B.C. and factors responsible for their rise and decline. [15 Marks]

The 6th century BCE - Mahajanapada period speaks of presence of a number of gana-sanghas which were translated as Republics by early Nationalist historians.

Various sources showing their presence

1. Buddhist texts like Anguttara Nikaya list mentions about them.
2. Inscriptions (eg) Allahbad Prashasti of Samudragupta (mention of early ganas)
3. Coins - punch marked coins issued by them.
4. Relief carvings (eg) Buddha carvings where Ajatshatru visits him to find way to defeat ganas - Vajjis.
5. Dharmashastras later also talks about different aspects of ganas.

Factors responsible for decline rise

- 1.) Some rose after defeating monarchies (eg) kurus while others before any monarchical state (eg) sakyas, Mallas.
- 2.) Geographic location along foothills of Himalayas provided isolation for their growth.
- 3.) clan-based rights alongwith corporate element — seen as kshatriya families ruling overa people.
- 4.) Agroarian surplus and craft specialization gave them necessary base.
- 5.) Trade along 'Uttarapatha' also gave rise to such States.

Factors responsible for Decline

- 1.) Decision by discussions — easy to break unity (eg) Ajatshatru sent Vasakara to create disension among Lichchavis.

- 2) Lacked effective Military power and organisation against monarchies
 (eg) Ajatashatru's weapons of Rathmusala, maharajakantaka.
- 3) Rapid Expansion by monarchies with ambitious ruler.
- 4) They lacked any major resource base as presence mostly along foothills of Himalayas.

Last remaining gana-sanghas over northern India were conquered by Samudragupta in 4th century AD as seen from prayag prashasti - his humbled Arjunayana, Abhira, etc.

Q.6 (c)

"The rock-cut architecture in Ancient India culminated with Kailasa Temple built at Ellora."
Elaborate. [20 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

Rock-cut architecture saw beginning during Mauryan period, progress during Gupta period and climax during Early Medieval period under Rashtrakutas.

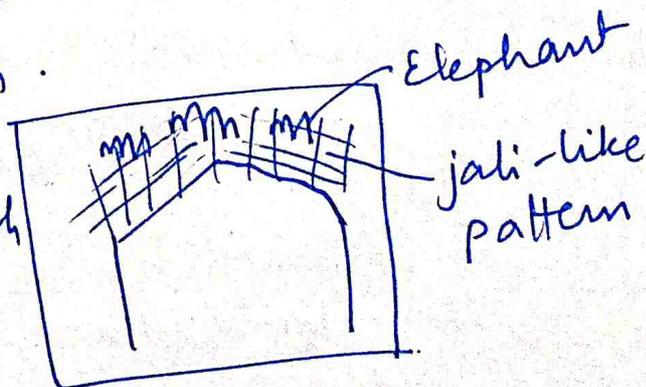
Evolution of Rock-Cut Architecture

→ Mauryan Rule :-

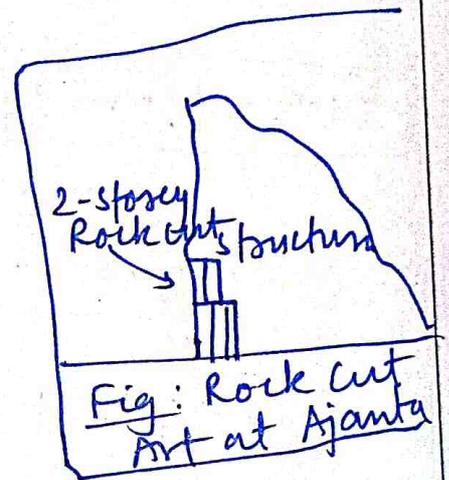
→ Incipient architecture is seen in caves like Lomash Rishi Caves, Bhauri - Rock-cut elephants.

→ Lack of much refining and polishing and sculptures are not lavish.

Fig: Lomash Rishi Cave



- Post Mauryan Rule - C. 200 BC to 200 AD
- Progress in art as during Satavahanas in Deccan - architecture in Karlar, Bhaja Caves.
- Beginnings of Rock-cut Caves at Ajanta and Elloza.
- Rocks were cut from steep side ⇒

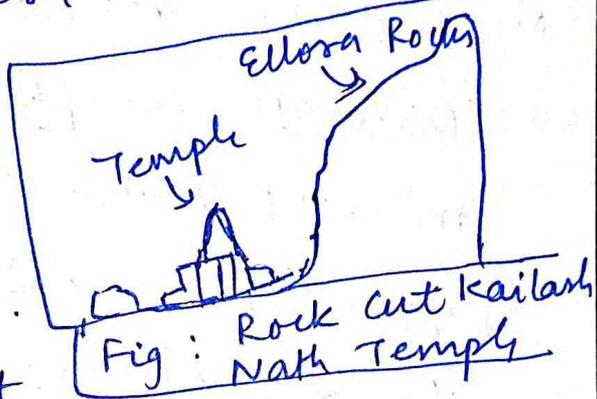


- Gupta period (300-600 AD)
- further refining and polishing of art.
- Cultural synthesis at Elloza as Hindu - Jain - Buddhist figures occur during this period.
- Beginning of temple architecture with Sikhasa, Pillars etc.

Culmination (750-900 AD)

→ In Early Medieval period, under Rashtrakuta dynasty ruler Krishna I who built famous Kailashnath Temple at Ellora.

It reached its climax as beautiful carvings are done.



→ The very fact that whole temple structure carved out of rock from cutting upside-down lends credibility to fact that it was climax period.

→ Features of temple like Sikhara, pillars, garbhagriha are well carved out. (Nagara style)

→ Proper provisioning of spaces for mandapas, ardhamandapas, etc.

→ sculptures show fine degree of art work and refining. Sculptures includes that from Hindu mythology, Yakshas, Yakshinis, etc.

Marked as UNESCO world Heritage site, Kailashnath Temple at Ellora shows climax of rock-cut architecture and speaks of great architectural abilities of ancient Indians engineers, artisans and sculptors.