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Start Time: 10:55
a.mEnd Time: 12:30
p.m

ANSWER SHEET

(SECTIONAL TEST II- ANCIENT INDIA)

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Time Allowed: 90 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 130

समय: 90 मिनट

अधिकतम अंक: 130

There are FOUR questions in this paper.
इस प्रश्नपत्र में 4 प्रश्न हैं।

Candidate has to attempt THREE questions in all.
उम्मीदवार को सभी में 3 प्रश्नों का प्रयास करना होगा।

Question No. 1 is compulsory and out of the remaining, TWO are to be attempted.
प्रश्न सं 1 अनिवार्य है और शेष में से कम से कम 2 का प्रयास किया जाना है।

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
किसी प्रश्न / भाग के अंकों की संख्या उसके विरुद्ध इंगित की गई है।

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ भी निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाना चाहिए।

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.

प्रश्नों के प्रयासों को क्रमबद्ध रूप से गिना जाएगा।

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Comments after evaluation

Marks:

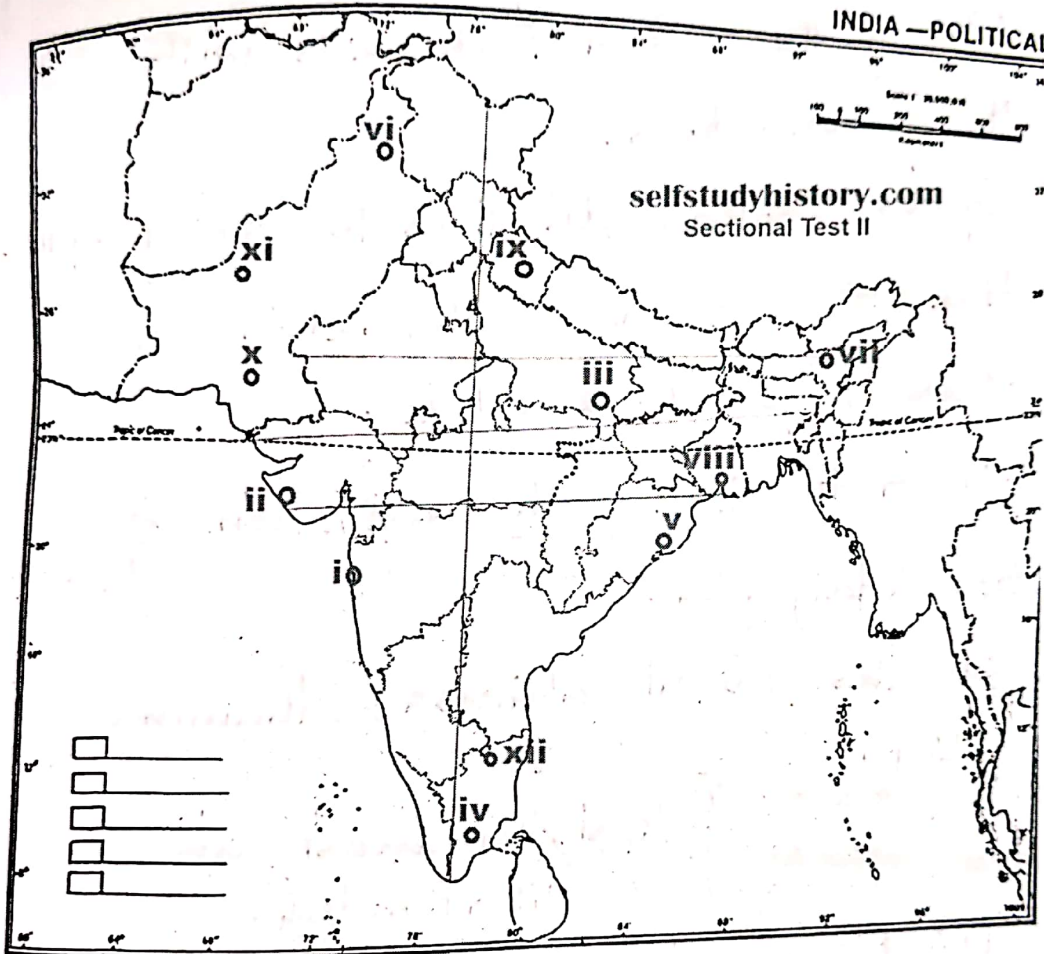
Comments for improvement:

Q.1
Q.1(a)

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. [12x2.5= 30 Marks]

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आपको दिए गए मानचित्र पर चिह्नित निम्नलिखित स्थानों को पहचानें और उनमें से प्रत्येक पर अपनी प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में लगभग 30 शब्दों का एक संक्षिप्त नोट लिखें। मानचित्र पर चिह्नित प्रत्येक स्थान के लिए स्थान संबंधी संकेत क्रमवार नीचे दिए गए हैं। [12x2.5=30 अंक]



(i) World Heritage Site

विश्व धरोहर स्थल

Elephanta caves near Mumbai.

(a) 6 metres tall trimurti statue is found.

(b) Arthanaadeswara statue carved in rock is found.

(c) Shiva linga with madapam carved in rocks are excavated.

(d) Well-documented site.

(ii) Major rock edicts of Ashoka

अशोक के प्रमुख शिलालेख

} Girnar in Gujarat.

(a) One of the major Rock edicts with 14 informations.

(b) Gives Asoka's directives to the people.

(c) Has the same information as other Major Rock edicts.

(d) Near to Junagadh inscription of Skandagupta.

(e) Speaks about ahimsa, dhamma policy.

(iii) Cultural and political centre

सांस्कृतिक और राजनीतिक केंद्र

} Kasi / Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh.

(a) Hindu pilgrimage centre.

(b) Hiuen Tsang mentioned about decline in Buddhism in Kasi.

(c) Capital of mahajanapada.

(d) Evidence of forts are found.

(e) Ancient educational centre.

(iv) Ancient capital city

प्राचीन राजधानी शहर

Madurai ^{Uzaiyur} Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu.

(a) Capital of the Cholas.

(b) A major trade centre - cotton.

(c) Mentioned in the 'Periplus of the erythraean sea'.

(d) A cultural centre - dravidian temple were constructed here.

(v) Ancient Jaina Caves

प्राचीन जैन गुफाएँ

Udayagiri - Kandagiri caves, in Odissa.

(a) Has 33 caves.

(b) largest being Rani gumpa caves.

(c) Small dwelling rock caves with stone beds are found.

(d) Also houses evidences of buddhism.

(e) Statues of elephant, two-storey building are found.

(vi) Ancient commercial and educational centre

प्राचीन व्यापारिक एवं शैक्षणिक केन्द्र

Taxila, Rawalpindi, Pakistan.

(a) Chanakya is said to have learnt in Taxila.

(b) Along the ancient silk route, so had significant commercial activity.

(c) One of the capital of Mahajanapada.

(d) Hiuen Tsang visited it.

(vii) Architectural remnants of an ancient temple

एक प्राचीन मंदिर के स्थापत्य अवशेष

Dah Parbatija temple, Guwahati, Assam.

(a) Shiva temple built during the Guptan period.

(b) Worship of Saivism and Shaktivism are found.

(c) One of the cultural site and festivals are continued today too.

(d) Later became part of the Ahom kingdom.

(viii) Centre of emporium of ancient trade

प्राचीन व्यापार के एम्पोरियम का केंद्र

Tamralipti in West Bengal.

(a) Ancient port and trade centre.

(b) Good connectivity with the Chinese

and west Asia.

(c) Roman coins and Chinese silk were traded.

(d) Chandraketugarh terracotta are also found.

(ix) Prehistoric cave painting site

प्रागैतिहासिक गुफा चित्रकला स्थल

Lakhudiyar caves, Kumaon district, Uttarakhand.

(a) Paintings of dancing, eating and proto family are found.

(b) Colours extracted from natural elements - flowers, minerals and rocks.

(c) Animals like horse, bull and hunting and gathering are depicted.

(d) Band society with 50-100 men and women.

(x) Mature and Late Harappan site

परिपक्व एवं उत्तरकालीन हड़प्पा स्थल

Amri / Chanhudaro, Sindh province of Pakistan.

(a) Evidence of Rice and Barley (Yava).

(b) Coloured pottery with graffiti.

(c) Urban settlement.

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- (d) Usage of burnt bricks .
 (e) Construction of canals and drainage networks.

(xi) Neolithic and Chalcolithic site } Mehargarh, in Pakistan.
 नवपाषाण और ताम्रपाषाण स्थल

- (a) Earliest cultivation of Barley (Yava).
 (b) Pottery sherds were found here.
 (c) Village initially later urban plannings were found.
 (d) Sun burnt bricks, wheels and usage of terrakotta toys were excavated.

(xii) Megalithic site } Paiyampalli, Thirupattur district
 महापाषाण स्थल } in Tamil Nadu.

- (a) Usage of iron .
 (b) Evidence of Red and Black pottery.
 (c) Early marshy site which later converted into drained plains.
 (d) Urn burials are characteristics of megalithics.

Q.2 (a)

"Roots of the concept of Ashoka's Dhamma can found in Vedic—Upanishadic literature."
Discuss. [15 Marks]

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"अशोक के धम्म की अवधारणा की जड़ें वैदिक-उपनिषदिक साहित्य में पाई जा सकती हैं।" चर्चा करें।
[15 अंक]

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Q.2 (b)

In the realm of religious doctrines and practices, the period c. 200 BCE to 300 CE reflects several continuities with the earlier centuries, but also some striking new developments. Comment. [15 Marks]

धार्मिक सिद्धांतों और प्रथाओं के क्षेत्र में, अवधि सी। 200 ईसा पूर्व से 300 ई.पू. पिछली शताब्दियों के साथ कई निरंतरताओं को दर्शाता है, लेकिन कुछ आश्चर्यजनक नए विकासों को भी दर्शाता है। व्याख्या करें। [15 अंक]

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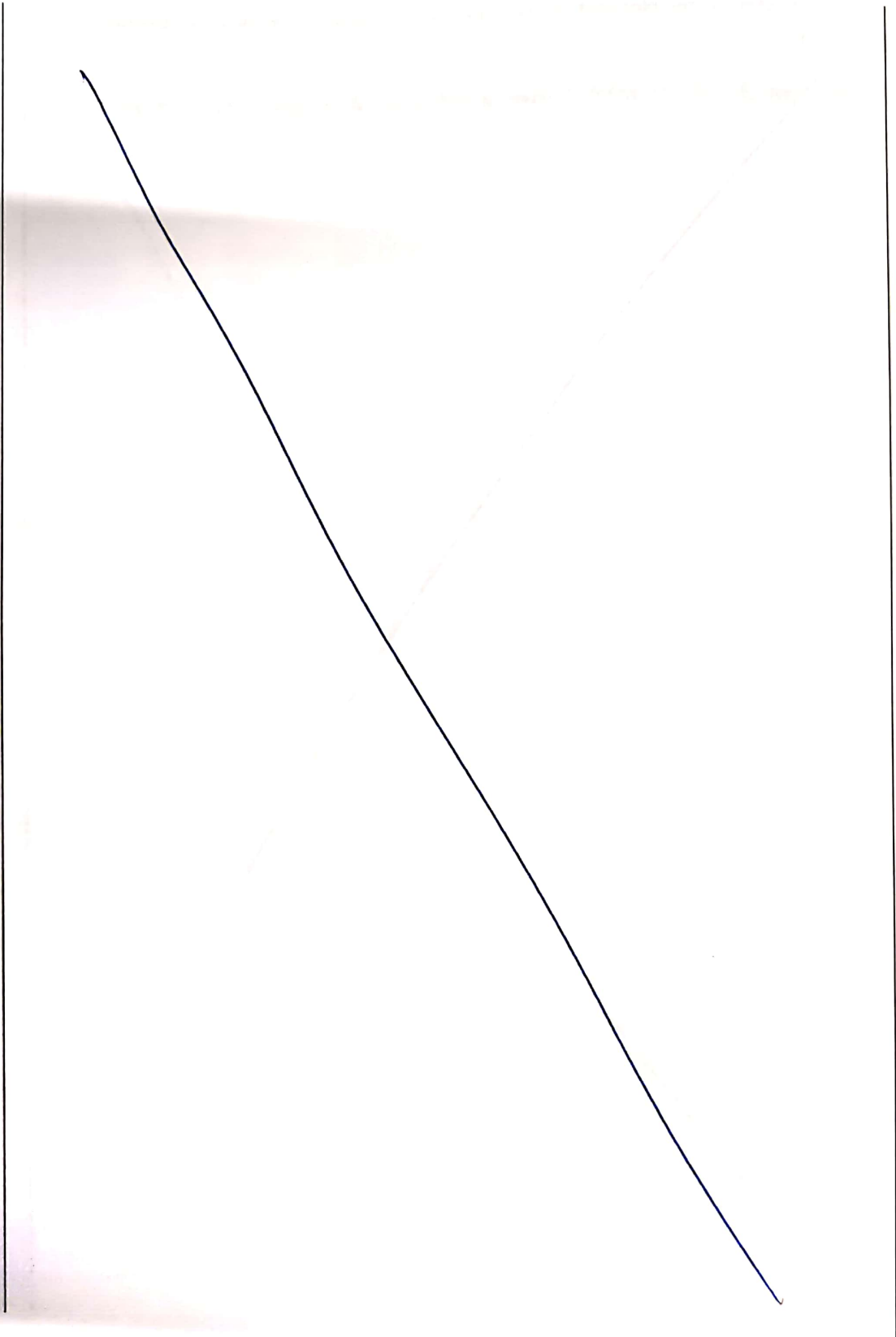
1.2 (c)

"The monasteries and temples contributed as centres of education in early India." Elucidate.
[20 Marks]

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"प्रारंभिक भारत में मठों और मंदिरों ने शिक्षा के केंद्रों के रूप में योगदान दिया।" स्पष्ट करें। [20 अंक]

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3(a) "The advent of the Mauryan dynasty marks the passage from darkness to the light for the historians." Explain the perspective of the historian V.A. Smith. [15 Marks]

"मौर्य वंश का आगमन इतिहासकारों के लिए अंधकार से प्रकाश की ओर जाने का प्रतीक है।"
इतिहासकार वी.ए. स्मिथ का दृष्टिकोण स्पष्ट करें। [15 अंक]

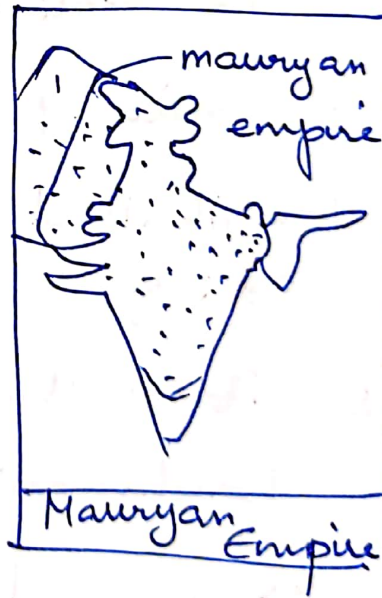
The Mauryan dynasty was established by Chandragupta Maurya in the 4th century B.C along with the help of Chanakya. Its capital is Pataliputra.

Historian V. A. Smith regards Mauryan dynasty as a passage from darkness to light :-

(1) Political stability :-

(a) Vast empire building activity after the Mahajanapadas.

(b) Nanda's (Dhanananda) was weak yet the Chandragupta Maurya was strong.



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(c) V. A. Smith also compared Ashoka to Napoleon, arguing about the conquest and his valour.

(II) Economical impacts :-

(a) Golden era as peace prevailed.

(b) Increase in money circulation.

(c) V. A. Smith noted that strong ruler invariably led to the increase in productivity than earlier period.

(III) Societal causes :-

(a) The religious tolerance and the rise of buddhism and jainism contributed to rise of egalitarian society.

(b) It challenged the earlier brahmanical authoritarianism as argued by him.

(c) Position of women improved -
appointment of Persian women
bodyguard.

Yet, they were significant deviations

(1) The over exaggerated about
the achievements and did not know
the ground realities,

(2) Did not understand the societal
conditions (similar to Megasthenes),

(3) Had bias towards European
conquest → He was much in
appreciation for Alexander's conquest.

(4) Economy was not good as
12 year famine occurred during
Chandra Gupta Maurya period.

With collaboration with the
literary texts of Megasthenes and
Romila Thapar, facts can better be
understood.

Q.3 (b)

What were the factors responsible for the Arab conquest of the Sindh? What was its historical significance? [15 Marks]

सिंध पर अरबों की विजय के लिए जिम्मेदार कारक क्या थे? इसका ऐतिहासिक महत्व क्या था? [15 अंक]

In the early 8th century A.D, the commandar of Basra, Mohammed bin Qasim conquered Sindh, after defeating the King Dahir.

Factors responsible for the Arab conquest of Sindh:-

(I) Political instability :-

- (1) Dahir, the ruler was not liked by the people.
- (2) It was exented for his pompous life and luxurious adventures.
- (3) His poor military preparedness.

(II) Betrayals :- In Rawar war,

- (1) A brahmin betrayed the king and a buddhist monk helped

in conquering Sindh.

(III) Economic austerity :-

(A) desert condition with drought,
hence no productivity.



Poor revenue collection



Low maintenance of army.

(IV) Preparedness of Mohammad Bin Qasim :-

(1) He prepared huge army of
50,000 men.

(2) Religious enthusiasm among the
army as death while fighting
for religion → help them reach
heaven.

(3) Was supported by fellow
muslim rulers.

(4) He planned the attack strategy
before hand.

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Historical significance :-

- (1) First time, establishment of an Islamic empire near Indian Subcontinent.
- (2) Usage of desert cultivation and camel breeding/rearing.
- (3) Spread of Islamic religion.
- (4) Connected to central Asian trade route.
- (5) Military advancement by usage of arab horses.

Yet, limitations existed,

- (a) No political significance.
- (b) Rise of Rajputs.
- (c) Decline in trade after roman empire disintegration.

Nevertheless, the Sindh conquest established the foundation for future conquests.

Q.3 (c)

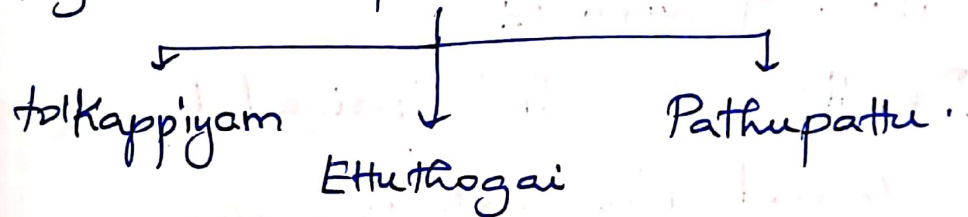
How did the Sangam literature act as a window into the social and cultural traditions of ancient South India? Discuss. [20 Marks]

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संगम साहित्य ने प्राचीन दक्षिण भारत की सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक परंपराओं में एक खिड़की के रूप में कैसे काम किया? चर्चा करें। [20 अंक]

The Sangam period started in South India has unique social and cultural traditions.

Sangam means 'assembly' - an assembly of Tamil poets who came together to produce literature.



These texts give insights into social and cultural traditions :-

(1) Religious conditions :- Manimegalai and Silapatikaram mentions about the tensions between buddhism and Jainism respectively.

(2) Rite of rituals :- Mentions of Sanskrit rituals conducted by

King can be found in Madurai
Kanchi.

(3) Varma system:- Existed in diluted

form as,

(a) Ariasar — King.

(b) Velaiakaran — King's guard.

(c) Vellalar — ~~Brahmin~~ Agriculturists.

(d) Anganar — Brahmin.

(e) Kadaiyiar — Sudras.

(4) Position of women:-

(a) Practise of sati 'tipaiyadal' can be found in text like mani megalai.

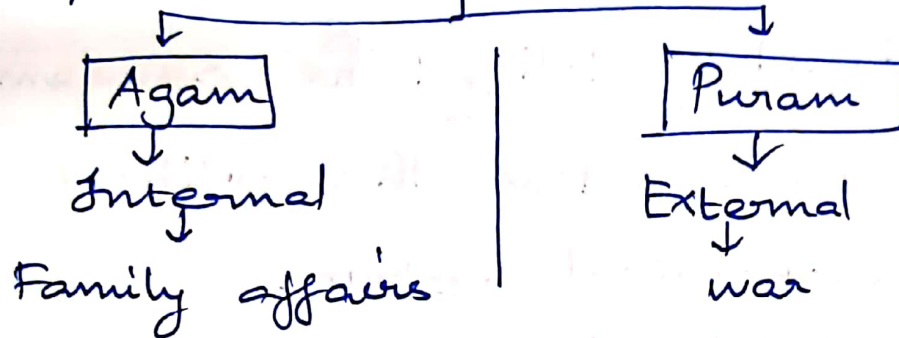
(b) child marriage, widowhood norms exists as mentioned in Pattupattu.

(5) literature:- 'Tolkappiyam' is the earliest contribution to grammar in tamil literature.

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(6) Slave position :- Forced labour existed.

(7) Societal classification :-



(8) Puram :- Practice of glorifying war deaths, as found in veerakal and many poems ⊕ 'Vatakirukal' by Kings.

(9) Agam :- Love poems and family relationships are also found. 5 classifications of agam - 'tinai'.

(a) Neithal - Coastal region.

(b) Paalai - Desert/arid region.

(c) Marutham - Plain region.

(d) Kurunji - Mountain region.

(e) Mullai - Pastoral land.

(10) charity institutions - Kavandi in

Manu Megalai ⊕ Renunciation tradition,

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Yet Chempakalakshmi found significant challenges:-

- (1) Rudimentary polity :- The Sangam text exaggerated the political and economical system.
- (2) Sanskritisation continued with Sati and child marriage prevalent among lower varna groups.
- (3) The kings patronaged the poets for fame.
- (4) Looting and dacoity rather than trade based economy.

Yet, Sangam texts mentions about the 1st hand experience of the societal conditions by the poets themselves, which is an important source for history.

Q.4 (a)

"Diverse factors caused the disintegration of the mighty Gupta empire." Elaborate. [15 Marks]

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"विभिन्न कारकों के कारण शक्तिशाली गुप्त साम्राज्य का विघटन हुआ।" विस्तार में बताएं। [15 अंक]

The Guptan empire was established by the Chandra Gupta I and reached its zenith during the reign of Samudra Gupta.

Yet, various factors contributed to the decline of mighty Guptans.

(I) Political factors :-

(1) Weak successors :- R.S. Sharma mentions about weak rulers like Purugupta which led to decline.

(2) External invasions :- The Bhitari inscription of Skandagupta mentions about the Huna invasion.

(3) Partition of territory :- among the successors led to disintegration.

(4) Samanta system :- the Allahabad inscription mentions about Land grants which led to feudalism.
 ↓
 Led to disintegration.

(II) Economic factors :-

(1) Low monetary circulation :- can be seen in cowrie shell usage during harsha's reign.

(2) Decline in trade :- with the roman empire due to decline as found by Upinder Singh.

(III) Cultural factors :-

(1) Though issued large number of gold coins, it is of low intrinsic value.

(2) Rise of regional kingdoms :-

Maukhari's and Chalukya's etc.,

Yet, they are not so weak initially :-

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- (1) Skandagupta resisted the Hun invasion.
- (2) Building of forts and military advancements took place during Samudra Gupta period.
- (3) Vast empire building activity after the Mauryan empire.
- (4) Largest gold coin circulation and silver coin usage.

However, with their decline, Harsha's reign started with the Kannauj as their capital. With rising feudalism and land grants, the empire disintegrated leading to invasions and decline.

Q.4 (b)

"Ashoka was a great humanitarian monarch". In the light of this statement, review the humanitarian works of Ashoka. [15 Marks]

"अशोक एक महान मानवतावादी सम्राट थे"। इस कथन के आलोक में अशोक के मानवतावादी कार्यों की समीक्षा करें। [15 अंक]

Ashoka, the Mauryan king came to be known as humanitarian monarch because of his policies. 'Buddhacharita' mentions him as Sudra, yet his policies outweighed his disadvantages after Kalinga war.

Ashoka, a great humanitarian monarch :-

(1) Dhamma policy :- The policy of being Non-violent as mentioned in 1st M.R.E says about his compassion.

(2) Paternalistic state :- "Sarve muni Pajama" → All people are my children.

(3) Public works :- 2nd MRE speaks about road construction and medical

missions to Keralaputras and Satyaputras.

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(4) Release of prisoners :- The pillar edicts of Sarnath give details about prisoner release on auspicious days

(5) Appointment of dhammamahatras to maintain peace and law and order in society.

(6) Humane treatment of prisoners of war mentioned in the Hathigumpha inscription of King Kharavela.

(7) Renounced war :- mentioned in 13th MRE :- changed from bherighosa to dhamma ghosa.

Yet R.S. Sharma found deviations in this claims :-

(1) He used military action against Taxila and forest revolt.

- (2) He did not dissolve his army that led to drain of wealth.
- (3) He used the officers to suppress revolt - Satavahana revolt.
- (4) The dhamma mahamatras interfered with the lives of the people → created resentment among them.
- (5) Buddha charita says he killed his brothers to come to power.
- (6) Killing of prisoner of wars after the Kalinga war, 261 B.C.

Never the less, Ashoka became a ruler through his welfare state policy which even inspired contemporary government policies to improve lives of people.

Q.4 (c)

'Harsha owes his greatness largely not to any real achievements but to the accounts of two famous men'. Explain. [20 Marks]

'हर्ष की महानता का श्रेय किसी वास्तविक उपलब्धि को नहीं बल्कि दो प्रसिद्ध व्यक्तियों को जाता है। व्याख्या करें। [20 अंक]

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After the decline of the Gupta's an empire building activity started in the North India under the Harsha. By merging Pushyabhuti's of Thaneswar and Maukhari's of Kannauj, he set up a strong empire.

His achievements were exaggerated by 2 famous men :-

↓ ↓

| | |
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| <u>Banabhatta,</u> his court poet, | <u>Hieun Tsang,</u> a chinese traveller. |
|---------------------------------------|---|

(1) Banabhatta in his book 'Harsha Charita' made Harsha the greatest King with strong military and good economic condition.

(2) Hieun Tsang in his book 'Fu Kuki'

exaggerated Harsha as the most benevolent ruler of that time, undisputed leader.

Yet, they were exaggeration :-

- (1) Harsha did not fight against the gauda - Sasanga after rescuing his sister 'Rajyeshri' - This shows deviation from Banabhatta's claims.
- (2) In the Kannauj assembly, Harsha used capital punishment to the brahmins for setting fire against Hsien Tsang's claim of benevolence.
- (3) Hsien said 'India is full of honey' yet during Harsha's time, cowrie shell is used showing decline in economic condition.
- (4) Bana argued Harsha had 60,000 elephants → this is mere

exaggeration!

(5) Greatest ruler yet he did not win against the Chalukyan ruler Pulakesin II in the battle of Nasuada.

(6) Hiuen Tsang influenced Harsha towards buddhism, so, he made Harsha 'the great'.

(7) Bana bhatta is Harsha's childhood friend, so he made Harsha's rule the mightiest.

(8) Manipulation of source by Hiuen as he wrote Fuku Ki after 2 to 3 years of his return to China.

Yet, Harsha indeed contributed few achievements :-

(1) The last major empire building

- activity after the Guptan empire.
- (2) His benevolence of giving away his assets to the monks, and poor in 'Prayaga assembly'
 - (3) He resisted the Chalukyan invasion to the north.
 - (4) Patronaged the literary circle in his court. Eg) Mayura, Divakara and Banabhatta.
 - (5) Harsha himself made several literary contributions - Nagananda, Priyadharsika and Ratnavalli.
- though, Banabhatta and Hiuen Tsang made Harsha great. Harsha through his own benevolence contributed to make his great.