

<b>NAME</b> YISHNUPRIYA	<b>Mobile No.</b>	<b>Email ID</b>
----------------------------	-------------------	-----------------

Start Time: 2:00 pm End Time: 5:00 pm

## ANSWER SHEET (FULL TEST I- ANCIENT 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 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.

=====

---

Selfstudyhistory.com

Contact: 9717510106, 8210076034 9718593510

Email ID: selfstudyhistory@gmail.com

**Comments after evaluation**

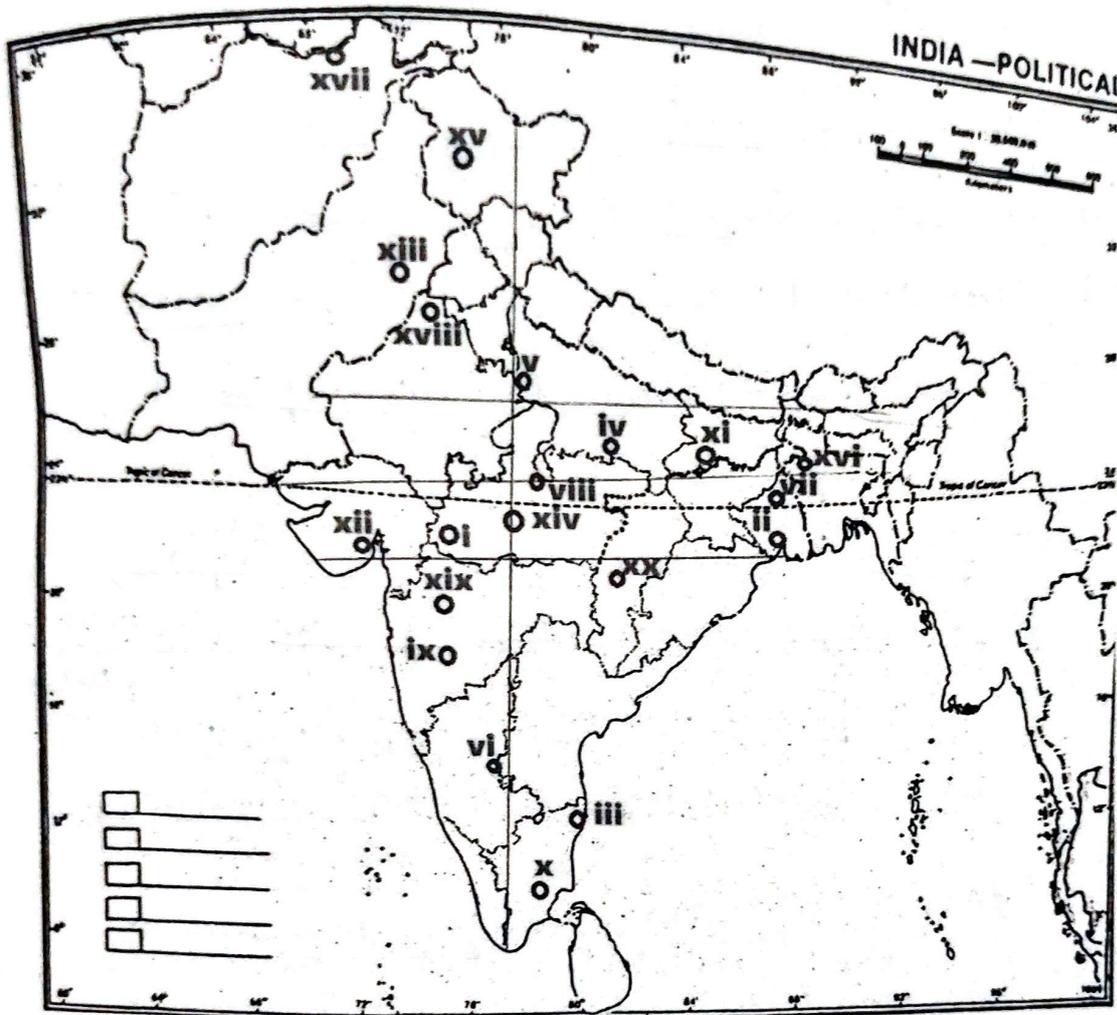
**Marks:**

**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]

Candidates must not write on this margin



(i) Ancient cave site

Bagh caves

- located on the eastern margin of madhya Pradesh
- In the Dhar district
- Important site on banks of the Narmada river

- Buddhist & Jain pilgrimage site
- Satavahana & Rastrakuta period cave architecture
- Cavings of Bodhi trees, Hindu gods, godesses, geometrical patterns founds

(ii) Ancient Port

Tamralipti port, West Bengal

- Important Gupta, Mauryan port
- Connected to the Ganga river system.
- on the route connecting Uttarapatha & Dakshinapatha

- Important trade with Srivijaya empire, Ratnadwipa, Swarnadwipa, Uormuz, central Asia
- Items of trade - ivory, pepper, muslin, silk, copper, imports in wine, glass etc.

(iii) UNESCO World Heritage site

Mahabalipuram group of monuments

- ① contain Classical architecture under Pallava Narasimhavarman (Mamalla)
- ② called Mamallapuram also - also important port of Pallavas
- ③ shore temple, Arjuna's penance, Panchasatha temple main important sites.
- ④ monolithic cave architecture - meditating cat,

descent of the Ganges, Bodhisattvas, Ardhanareeshwara, Nataraja depicted.

→ Centre of development of art (eg) Bharatnatyam

(iv) Ancient capital site

### Kaushambi

→ Capital of the mahajanapada of Vatsa

→ site of PGW, <sup>NBPW</sup> → red ware, buff ware found

→ Also important neolithic - chalcolithic sites

→ Chariots, blades, tools, Fe objects

→ Lays at the banks of the Ganga river, Yamuna

→ connection to the mahajanapada of Kosala, Magadha, etc; Buddhism, Jainism etc

→ Acted as monarchy - King Udayana mentioned in the play of Bhasa (playwright)

(v) Ancient political and commercial centre

### Mathura - site of 2<sup>nd</sup> Jain Council

→ Located in the western UP

→ Is the capital (later) of the Kushanas

→ Mathura school of art → important derivative of the Gandhara school of art

→ contains important Sonkh temple nearby

→ Lies in the Ganga valley, fertile alluvial soil

→ Also centre of Jainism & Hinduism (worship of Lord Krishna, Kankali Tila of Jains).

(vi) Megalithic site

Candidates must not write on this margin

Brahmagiri

- Also found to be the contemporaneous with Fe age - Fe implements, tools found
- Munkirs, captones, stone circles identified
- Belief in afterlife - grave goods, pottery, ornaments, domestication of animals found
- Crops like rice, millet, wheat remains found
- BRW found at different contexts

## (vii) Neolithic and Chalcolithic site

Baridih (Jharkhand)

- Important tool implements like microliths, burins, scrapers, handaxes found.
- Copper implements discovered, stone & metal working remains found.
- wattle & Daub houses remains
- Domestication & bones of animals like Cattle, dog, sheep found.
- Rely on agriculture, - millet, rice etc cultivated.

## (viii) Famous inscription site

Eran inscription

- Important inscription of Samudragupta of Gupta dynasty.
- In sanskrit language and Brahmi script

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

- Important Buddhist religious centre
- 1<sup>st</sup> mention of sati
- Has also the sakha & sunga king present mentioned
- Has a important Carvings of Peacock, Varaha

(ix) Chalcolithic site

Inamgaon

- situated on banks of the Godavari river
- located in Pune district
- Contain contemporary Jorwe culture
- only contain child burials
- Use of copper & stone tools - handaxes, scraper, beads
- sourced copper & gold from Khetri & Kolar fields to cast weapons & artefacts
- Burials - fractional, urn, mixed burials obscured with grave goods.

(x) Ancient Jain site

Sittanavasal, Pudukottai district

- Important Jain painting site.
- Also a petroglyph & rock painting sites
- Depictions ~~of~~ by Pallava king Mahendravarman I.

- Paintings such as lotus pond, dancing figures, praying, ~~sist~~
- Megalithic burials - cairn circles, dolmens, religious significance, grave goods found
- Jain Basadi - depiction of Parshvanath, Adinath etc.

(xi) Ajivika cave site

Barrabar caves

- Gifted to the Ajivika sect by Mauya king Ashoka
- Important caves such as the Lomas rishi, ~~Babar~~ Vihvarkarma cave lie within
- Pictorial representation of Bodhiattvas, Phanasa, Padmapani etc.
- Also endorsed by Ashoka's son Dasharatha
- Centre of Lokayata doctrine, Chaityas, Viharas

(xii) Ancient education centre

Vallabhi

- Important centre for the study of Theravada Buddhism, Jainism
- Visited by Huan Tsang, I Tsing etc
- Ancient capital city of the Maitrakas
- Also important Hindu religious site
- Library established by senapati Bhattaraka

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

→ 2<sup>nd</sup> Jain Council held here

## (xiii) Harappan site

Harappa

- 1<sup>st</sup> discovered by James Prinsep - named Harappa, called, Meluha, trade with Mesopotamia
- Studied extensively by A.V. Alexander - 1<sup>st</sup> discovered site, banks of the Indus river.
- Citadel & lower town; grid based pattern found
- Granaries, burnt brick used to construct.
- Shell working, metal working, seals - rectangular, cylindrical of steatite, precious stone, chalcedony

## (xiv) Mesolithic site

Bhimbetka, Raisen hills, MP

- Also an important petroglyph & rock art site
- Contain 16 shades of natural colour - white for lime, red from ochre
- 'x-ray style' of depiction & painting
- drawing people with headgear, buller forms of women, hunting scenes
- Also a UNESCO world heritage sites

## (xv) Neolithic site

Buzakorn

- In the Jammu & Kashmir
- Important pit dwelling site with fired walls

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

- tools, scrapers, stone tools found
- Was not primarily agriculture based - but hunting & fishing
- Mixed burials, urn burials, evidence of animal domestication seen
- Handmade pottery & later sophistication through wheel turned pottery

(xvi) Buddhist Mahavihara

Somapura

- Present day Bayladesh district
- Patronised by the Pala kings (Dharmapala)
- Destroyed by Bhaktiyar Khalji
- Important centre of mahayana & Vajrayana Buddhism
- Also associated by Tantrism & shakti cult
- Contain Chaityas Viharas; Is UNESCO WHL.

(xvii) Ancient trading post

Shoatujai

- located present day Afghanistan
- Coins of Indo-greeks, shakas, kushanas found
- Gold & copper mining centre
- Part of the ancient silk route + connect to Central Asia, China

- Also an Indus Valley site
- Village site with connection to ~~the~~ Harappan, Mohenjodaro network of irrigation canals
- terracotta cart, toys, shell bangles, Lapis lazuli stones

(xviii) Pre-Harappan and Harappan site

Kaligasthi Kalibangan

- Is the ~~largest~~ pre Harappan & Harappan site
- Contains citadel, lower town, grid like planning
- Contains fire altar - religious working tasks
- Ploughed field, terracotta cart model - agricultural significance, use of Copper
- mud & burnt brick structures, steatite cylindrical, square seals, Harappan pottery

(xix) Buddhist and Jain cave site

Ellora caves, Amravati district

- Also centre of Kailasanathor temple - Hindu
- Patronised by Satavahana, Rashtrakuta, Chalukya - kings
- Constructed by Krishna III of Rashtrakuta.
- Free standing monolithic, multistoreyed structure, Nataraja, Ramayana depicted
- Inscription of Dantidurga - grant
- Murals of the walls - use of Fresco seco like that of Ajanta

(xx) Megalithic site

### Dhanora

- Found metals, cap stones, cist burials
- Contemporary with the iron age
- Pottery & copper object found in the burials.
- Practice of grave goods implies belief in afterlife - cultural significance
- Absence of skeleton - possible cremation

Q.2 (a)

To what degree have the urban planning and cultural practices of the Indus Valley Civilization influenced contemporary urban development? Discuss. [15 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

The IVC (3900 BCE - 1700 BCE) was marked by state system centralisation, marked standardised innovation & urban planning that has affected contemporary planning & society.

Urban planning modern day - influence

<u>IVC</u>	<u>Modern day</u>
① <u>Citadel &amp; middle &amp; lower town</u>	② <u>Urban metropolitan cities &amp; periphery</u> eg: <u>Chennai</u>
③ <u>House-grid like pattern of streets</u>	Grid planning eg: <u>French Colony, Pondicherry</u>
④ <u>House-courtyard, door to street - EW alignment (east-west)</u>	Traditional Kerala houses - <u>Vastu shastra (E-W alignment)</u>
④ <u>Irrigation system</u> eg: <u>Dholavira</u>	⑤ <u>Dam irrigation</u> eg: <u>Narmada - Sardar Sarovar dam.</u>

⑤ Sewage pipes Eq: <u>Mohenjodaro</u>	→	⑤ Sewage treatment, Effluent treatment plants (STP, ETP)
⑥ Green, scenic urban spaces Eq: <u>Banawali</u>	→	⑥ Xenoscapy, <u>Miyawaki forestry</u>
⑦ Materials in construction Eq: Lime, Mortar, <u>Burnt brick</u>	→	Burnt brick, cement, mortar - structure Eq: Modern houses, <u>Bangalore</u>

But certain  
new features  
also exist

- (a) Urban cramming/  
sprawl Eq: Dharavi shums
- (b) 8-13 storey building  
Eq: Delhi

- (c) Climate change - Urban heat
- (d) Parks, recreational spaces
- (e) Gothic, French style of buildings  
Eq: Theme parks

Cultural Practices - contemporary urban  
development

Candidates must not write on this margin

IVC

Urban lifestyle.

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p>① Relaxed way of life<br/>Eq: Harappa.</p>                                      | → | <p>Clubs, reading, interactive spaces.</p>                                   |
| <p>② <u>Cult worship</u><br/>Eq: Tree spirit, Pashupati seal</p>                   | → | <p>Religious worship of Shiva, Shakti, spirits.<br/>Eq: Lingarath temple</p> |
| <p>③ <u>Women - division of labour - ploughing, spinning</u></p>                   | → | <p>Equality of status of women - IT sector (36% women)</p>                   |
| <p>④ <u>Technological innovation - plough, spinning etc</u></p>                    | → | <p>④ <u>AI, IOT, ML etc</u><br/>New technologies</p>                         |
| <p>⑤ Burial - cremation practices - <del>urn</del> urn, Sarcophagus - Banawali</p> | → | <p>⑤ Crematorium, Burial of Christians, Muslim etc.</p>                      |

- Novel features
- (a) Globalization
  - (b) Urban Consumerism Eq: McDonald
  - (c) New dressing style Eq: Gen-2, Gen-α

Thus, though the IVC has affected culture & urban town planning, major changes occurred through other factors like Industrial Revolution, Colonialism etc.

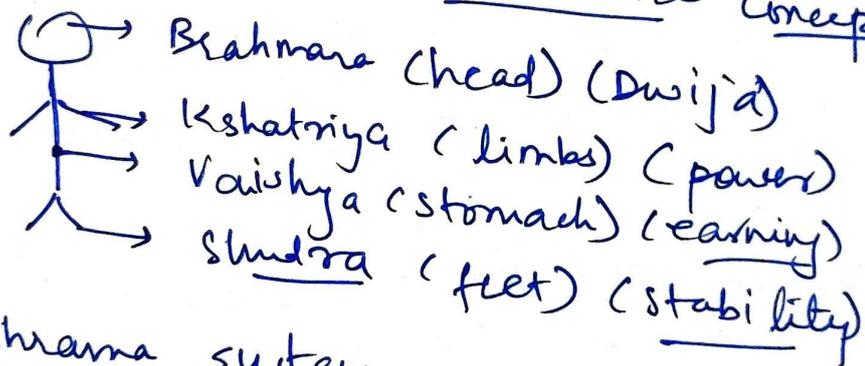
Q.2 (b)

The copious references to the preservation of Varnashrama system by the kings eulogized in inscriptions are mere reflection of the Smriti tradition. Discuss. [15 Marks]

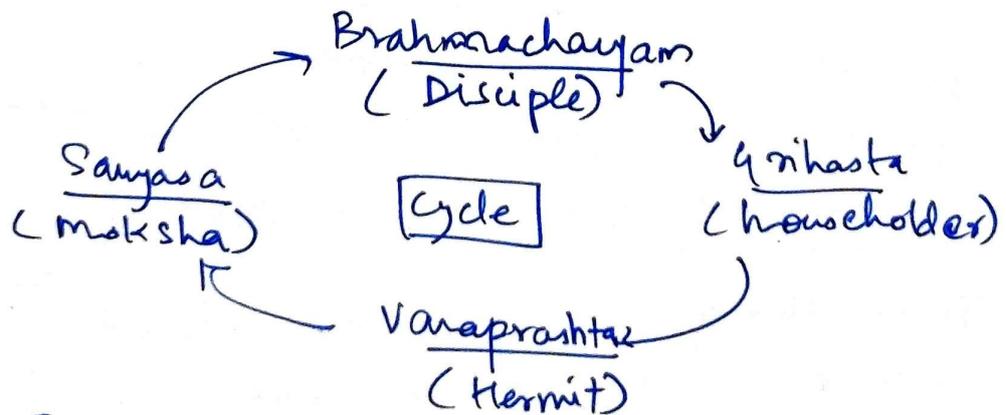
The Smriti tradition is reflected in the Later Vedic texts such as the Samaveda, Yajurveda, Atharvaveda, Puranas, Itihasas (Ramayana, Mahabharata) & the Upanishads.

Smriti tradition - Varnashrama systems

① Purushasukta - chaturvarna concept



② Ashrama system



③ Brahmade - Dwija (twice born)

- ④ Performance of Yajnas (sacrifices, like Ashwamedha, Vajapeya)
- ⑤ Low status of women - considered Shudra
- ⑥ Untouchability  
↳ Eg: Antyaja, Chandala (not part of the varna system)
- ⑦ Ritual purity: only Brahmanas could perform yajnas.
- ⑧ Social mobility: Instances of flexible caste Eg: Brahmana → Kshatriya.

### Inscriptions by kings - preservation of Varna system

- ① Mahajanapadas → Eg: Magadha - performance of Vajapeya.
- ② Mauryan → Junagadh inscription - Kshatriya status
- ③ Gupta → Allahabad & Fran prashasti  
↳ Hindu lineage, varna system, practise of Sati.

Candidates must not write on this margin

- ④ Satavahanas - Nashik, Naneghat inscription - mention of Chandala.
- ⑤ Kharavela - Hathigumpha inscription - Heterodox sects, Banayna, Mahastarata
- ⑥ Aihole inscription - Pulakeshin II of Chalukya - Dwijia status
- ⑦ Chola, Chera, Padya - Mamandur inscription - feeding of Mahabharata war tribes are daimed.

But there were new trends

① → eg: Chandragupt's adoption of Jainism

② → eg: Ashoka's edict - 'Dhamma' & Buddhism

- ③ → eg: Udayagiri - Khandagiri : Jain worship.
- ④ → New trends eg: Matronym by Satavahana
- ⑤ → Pala - Persian influence eg: Sulaiman
- ⑥ → Kushana - Greek influence eg: Gandhara art

Thus, The kings not only copied the ~~the~~ Varna system; but tried to legitimise the rule through cultural syncretism.

Q.2 (c)

Examine India's interactions with the external world during the post-Mauryan period (c. 200 BCE - 200 CE). What were the consequences of these interactions for India? [20 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

The period of 300 - 200 CE was the period after decline of the Mauryan empire & rise of regional kingdoms like Shakas, Kushanas, Indo-greeks etc.

### Interaction with external world

#### ① Cultural interaction

↳ Adoption of Buddhism Eg: Mathura  
Eg: Kanishka's 4th council.

② New cults - Shainism, Shaktism, Vaishnavism emerged.

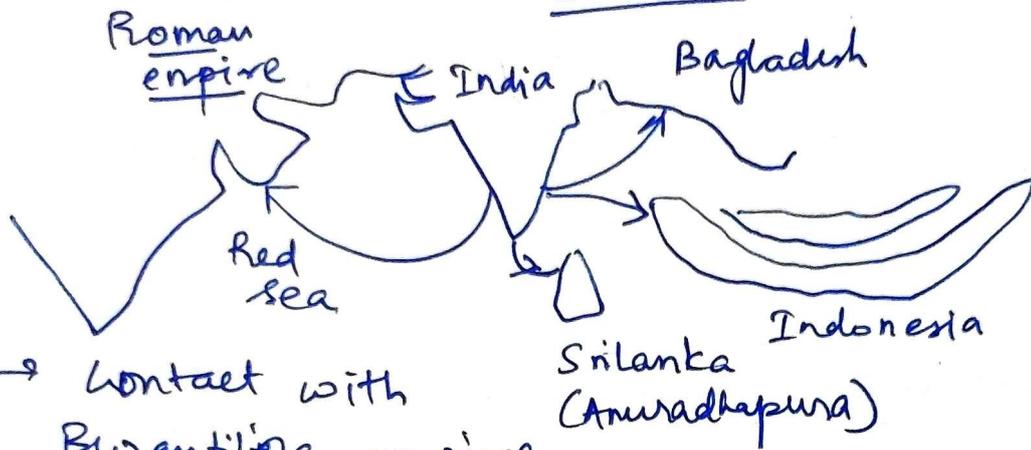
Eg: Worship of Herakles

③ New political system. Eg: Meridarch, Satrap system (military governorship)

#### ④ Trade links

↳ Eg: Periplus of Erythraean sea mentions Bharuch, Sopara, Tamralipti

⑤ Boost in external trade China  
silk route



→ Contact with Byzantine empire, Suvarnadwipa, Ratnadwipa (Sri Lanka, South East Asia) - trade.

→ Import - muslin, glass, wine

→ Export - cotton, silk, pepper, opium etc.

⑥ Numismatics - Gold coin of Kushanas  
 (Puny's drain of gold concept)

⑦ Growth of guilds eg: streni - sarthavaha, Nagarastreshthin

⑧ Art → Adoption of Gandhara art →  
 affect on Mathura art & later  
 on  Gupta art

## Consequences of these interactions on India

- ① Growth of economy → 'Golden age' during  Gupta.
- ② Monetised system Eg: Pliny's drain of gold → Kushana punch marked coins (Dinaras)
- ③ Decentralisation → guilds - monetary, charity, political functions.  
Eg: silk weaver guild built sun temple
- ④ Land revenue system : Eg: Sangam age - Tholkappiyam - Tinai lands
- ⑤ Influence of Buddhism, Jainism  
Eg: Manimekalai, Silappadikaram
- ⑥ International influence  
Eg: Spread of Buddhism, Jainism to South East Asia  
Eg: Amradhapura

- ⑦ Combined art - Gandhara art - influence  
- Bodhi stupa, Abhaya mudra, Bhumi-  
spashta mudra
- ⑧ Satrap system → Decentralisation Eg:  
Menander, Kanishka
- ⑨ Led to the growth of Guptas: Eg:  
Snigupta's rise at Pataliputra.
- ⑩ New practices Eg: Yavanas (theatres),  
trade → Yavanapriya (pepper trade)
- ⑪ Graeco-Roman settlements in  
India Eg: Kerala, Kochi.

Thus, the (300 - 200) period led  
to the Gupta empire & 3rd urbanisation  
period characterised by centralised  
economy and polity & specialised  
crafts.

Q.3 (a)

How do you justify the view that the level of excellence of Gupta numismatic art is not at all noticeable in later times? [15 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

The Gupta age followed the spirit of trade & money economy in the period (300 BCE - 300 CE) and is known as the 'golden age' of Indian history.

### Excellence of Numismatic Art

- ① Gold coins (Dinara), Silver coins (Karshapana), Nikka weights.
- ② Rarity of Copper, Lead coins
- ③ Punched marked style - sophisticated technology  
Eg. Bhita, Basarh hoards
- ④ Obverse → Kings - Samudragupta, Kumaragupta.  
Reverse → Gods - Ardoksho (Lakshi)  
Ganuda (Gupta symbol)  
Peacock etc.

- ⑤ Depiction of art: Eg. Samudragupta playing Veena, flute.
- ⑥ Type of coinage  
↳ Archer type, Lion, Rhino-killer, tiger-killer, king & queen type etc. - sophisticated art
- ⑦ centralised minting - Eg: sannidhatri (treasurer), Panyadhyaksha
- ⑧ Tax system: Kara, Bhaga, Shulka (Toll tax) etc.

How it declined in later times

- ① Scarcity of coins.
- ② Decline in quality Eg: Skandagupta's reign.  
90% → 75%
- ③ Decline of minting sites
- ④ Shift to Barter system - cowrie seeds, weights etc used

⑤ Discontinuity in level → Shrawasti,  
Varanasi - showed decline.

Theories - regarding decline

View 1: was due to internal political  
struggle eg: Threat of Mihirakula

View 2: Huna invasions & Skandagupta - fight -  
decline of empire.

View 3: Decline of trade - caused fall  
of money currency

View 4: Land grants & Temple grants -  
led to feudalism, ruralisation of  
the economy: eg: Agrahara land

View 5: No decline. eg: Shrinoli  
view  
Pataliputra resisted decline

(eg: R.S. Sharma,  
D.D. Kosambi  
View)

The fall of the Gupta empire  
created political vacuum in North  
India that led to "Confederacies" &  
Tripartite struggle & ultimately Turkish  
invasions.

Q.3 (b)

Outline the key aspects of imperial ideology as demonstrated during the Mauryan period.  
[15 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

The Mauryan empire (3<sup>rd</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> cent BCE) was the culmination of the period of Mahajanapadas with capture of Nandas by Chandragupta Maurya (Mudraraksasa)

Key aspects of imperial ideology during Mauryan period

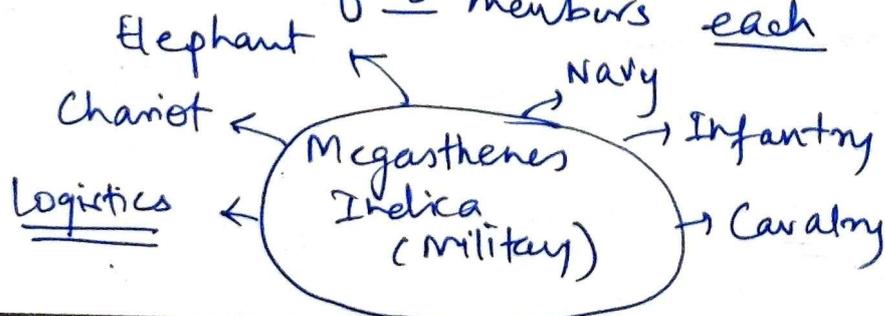
① Central authority - king (swami)

② Theory of saptangarajya (Arthashastra)

③ Council of ministers (Adhyaksha)

- ↳ swami
- ↳ Post (Durga)
- ↳ Jama (Citizen)
- ↳ Kasha (Treasury)
- ↳ etc.

④ State control of military - 6 committees of 5 members each



- ⑤ Centralised control of minting  
Eg: Panyadhyaksha.
- ⑥ Centralised Land revenue Eg: Sita-dhyaksha (Sita land)
- ⑦ Transport control Eg: Navadhyaksha
- ⑧ Toll taxes existed Eg: Shulkadhyaksha
- ⑨ Military under commanders → Ashwa, Hastadyaksha.
- ⑩ Durga - fortified settlements.
- ⑪ Paternalistic attitude of king  
Eg: Ashoka's edict - 2 - king must always be available to citizen
- ⑫ Major battles fought Eg: Kalinga by Ashoka.
- ⑬ Control over Guild → part of the royal court → Sarthavaha
- ⑭ Punishments → capital punishments, amputation

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

But Mauryan state was also not very centralised -

- ① Arthashastra - only normative - to be conqueror - (Vijigishu)
- ② No central control over villages (periphery)
- ③ Only main town was fortified. (Durga)
- ④ Autonomy of guilds Eg: \* Varikas
- ⑤ Land grants & subinfeudation  
Eg: Brahmadeya & Agrahara
- ⑥ Peaceful existence Eg: Ashoka's 'Dhammaghosa'
- ⑦ Decline of trade → Under Dashrathas, Varudeva etc..

Thus, the Mauryan state was not completely Imperial & centralised; but only so in the centre. The periphery was loosely & autonomously ruled  
Eg: Gana-sanghas

Q.3 (c) Assess the expertise of ancient Indians in the fields of crafts, science and mathematics. [20 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

The Ancient time marks development of cultural sphere with rich contribution in crafts, science, mathematics

### Expertise in crafts

① Rigveda & Later Veda

Eg: Use of Ayas (Shyama, Krishna) iron equipments.

② Pottery: OCP → PQW → BRW - NBPW

↳ perforated base, grey ware, rich decoration - humans, animals, paintings.

③ Paintings: Eg: Mural, Fresco - secco of Ajanta, Mamallapuram

④ Shell working: Eg: Banawali of Harappan civilization

⑤ Bead working Eg: Allahdino of IVC

⑥ Bronze working Eg: Dancing girl of Mohenjodaro, Nataraja of Cholas

- ① Basket weaving - Sangam literature
- ② Cotton weaving, spinning - IVC, Mauryan, Gupta empires
- ③ Trade in crafts : Eg: Shreni, Sarthavahas

### In Science

- ① Arjabhataiyam - Helio centric universe, ~~place value~~, elliptical path of earth
- ② Brahmagupta → Brahmasphuta Siddhanta (Rahu), planetary motion - Brihatsamhita - Eclipses
- ③ Varahamihira → Brihatsamhita → climatology, astrology (Jyotisha), monsoon prediction
- ④ Amarakosha by Amar Natha - scientific cropping; pest attack
- ⑤ Charaka, Sushruta Samhita → surgery, medicine
- ⑥ Alchemy Eg: Vvadi, Nagarjuna - metallurgy also

In Mathematics

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

- ① Anyabhatta - Place value, trigonometry.
- ② Varahamihira - Algebra, Quadratic equations, Geometry.
- ③ Brahmagupta - Use of 0,  $\pi$ , Area of cyclic quadrilateral.
- ④ Weights & Measures : eg: Cowrie seeds
- ⑤ Rigveda, Later Vedas → Geometry to calculate fire altar eg: Grihyasutra
- ⑥ Calculation of time, distance, angle
- ⑦ Architecture → use of weights, proportions, combinations eg: Brihadeeswarar temple angular deviation of sanctum

But certain challenges remained

- ① Brahmanistic monopoly eg: Varna system.
- ② Lack of regional literature :

dominated by Sanskrit.

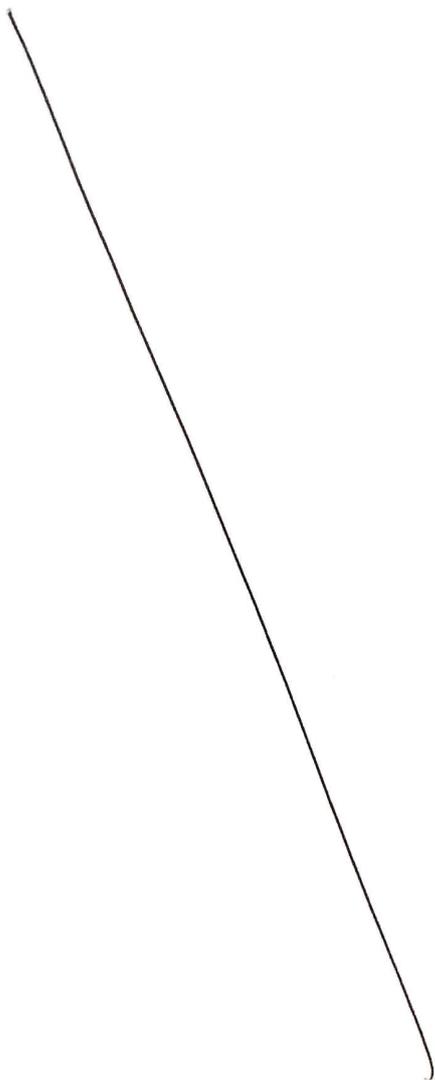
- ③ Lack of access to common man - only knew occupational jobs.
- ④ Limited to royal households, priests or rich zamindars
- ⑤ Very low contribution of women
- ⑥ Mistakes in recording Eg: Anyabhata's calculation of  $\pi$ .
- ⑦ Destroyed sources
  - ↳ on palm-leaf manuscripts - decomposed
  - ↳ Oral tradition (Shruti) - mistakes
  - ↳ Multiple authorship Eg: Lilavati

Thus, though the expertise remained high & specialised, mistakes existed.

Modern technology can be used to preserve this knowledge Eg: National Manuscript Mission.

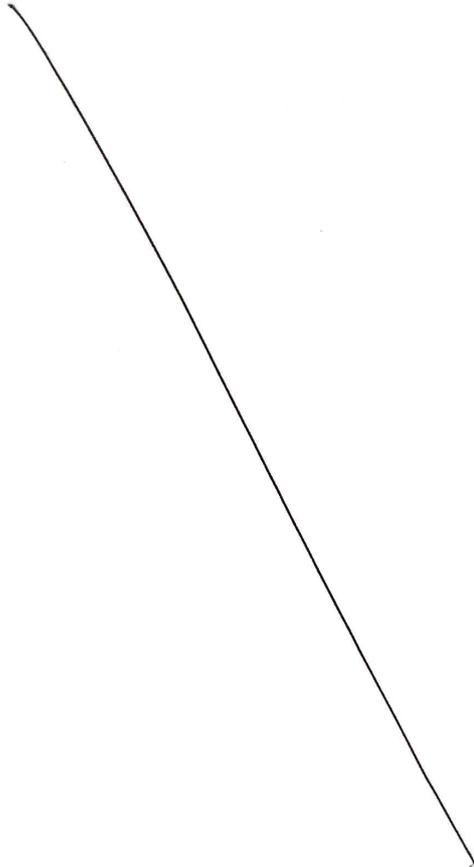
Q.4 (a) The Mesolithic rock-cut architecture of India not only provides insights into the cultural life of its era but also exhibits an aesthetic quality comparable to modern painting. Critically evaluate. [15 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin



Q.4 (b) Kalhana's Rajatarangini is the best example of history writing tradition in early India. Discuss. [15 Marks]

Candidates must write in this margin



Q.4 (c)

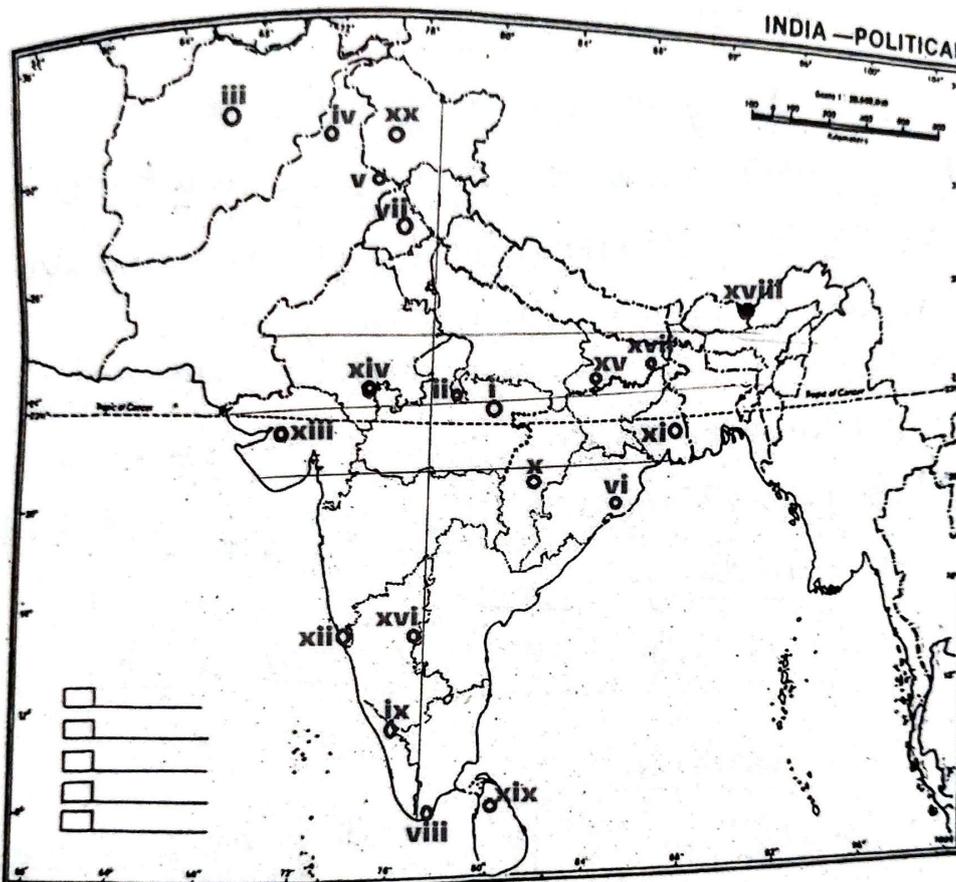
The second phase of urbanization led to the development of organized corporate activities that peaked during the Gupta era. Discuss. [20 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

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 seriatim. [20x2.5= 50 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin



(i) Palaeolithic site

Baghor

→ Paleolithic & mesolithic stone, bone tools like choppers, handaxes, cleavers found

→ Tribal clan worship of mother goddess - geometric stone patterns

- located cattle hoof marks & presence of post holes
- Presence of agricultural activity (rice, millet) & animal domestication.

## (ii) Gupta temple site

Deogarh Dasavatara temple

- Important example of Nagara architecture
- Important Vaishnavite temple site - contain reclining Vishnu (Anantashayana)
- Curvilinear Shikhara, mandapa, Garbhagriha, Prataksina Patha present.
- Gs present in the Panchayatana style with 4 subsidiary shrines
- Also an important site of Jain worship

## (iii) Buddhist site

Bamyan

- Located in the present day Afghanistan
- Important trade & cultural centre under the Kushana empire
- Centre of Gandhara school of Art
- Visited by Xuan Zang & Fa Hien
- Contains 175 feet tall sculpture of Buddha - destroyed by Taliban, but rebuilt

→ Is also a UNESCO world heritage site,

## (iv) Ancient capital city

Peshawar / Purushapura

- Is the capital of Kushana ruler Kanishka
- Ancient trade centre - connection with the silk route
- Centre of development of the Gandhara school of art
- Buddhist mahayana school - chaityas, vihasas are present
- Visited by Faxian & Xuanzang

## (v) Ancient political and commercial centre

Sakala / Sialkot

- was the ancient capital of the Indo-Greeks especially Menander
- modern day Pakistan, Peshawar district
- Lies in the Indus river basin
- Important trade centre - silk route of China
- Centre of Buddhism at the time of Menander

## (vi) Ancient fort city

Sisupalgarh, Odisha

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

Candidates must not write on this margin

- Ancient fortified capital city of the Kalinga dynasty
- Important political centre under the Eastern Ganga dynasty also.
- Mentioned in the twin edicts of Ashoka at Dhauli & Jayada
- Capital city of King Kharavela of Mahamegha - vaahana dynasty of Chedi, Roman coin hoards found

(vii) Site of Coin and Seal Moulds

### Suket

- Located in the banks of the Kuttij river
- Coin sites of Guptas (Samudragupta, Chandragupta II) & Indo-Greek, Gondopheres coins
- Also ancient coin minting sites.
- Harappan civilisational findings - terracotta models, steatite seals, pottery (wheel & handmade), beads, bone ornaments found.

(viii) Place of Second Sangam

### Kapadapuram

- mentioned in the sangam epic of Tholkappiyam
- Was the ancient capital of the Pandian kingdom other than Madurai
- Was presided by Tholkappiyar. Presently site

- got submerged under water.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> sangam attended by sages, gods, Pandian king like Mudathimaran
  - Kapadapuram - also translates to 'the city of thefts & loots' signifying Sangam subsistence styles.

(ix) Prehistoric rock cave

Edakkal caves

- located in the Wayanad district, Kerala
- contain prehistoric petroglyph, paintings
- depiction of hunting scenes, cooking, chariing etc
- Brahmi script, Tamil language depictions
- Also symbolic of the Megalithic culture - isolated menhirs, cairn, dolmen etc found

(x) Ancient religious and political site

Sirpur

- Is famous location of the Hindu Lalukhona temple
- Is also known by the name 'Sirpur' which was capital of the 'Dakshina Koshal' kingdom.

Candidates must not write on this margin

- Is important part of the Dakshinapatha
- Is Buddhist & Jain religious centre with presence of chaityas, viharas, basadis.
- Image of Adinatha (1st Jain tirthankara) found.
- Garbhagriha, ~~Amantala~~ <sup>Amantala</sup>, mandapa found.

(xi) Terracotta site

Chandsaketigauh

- Terracotta working site, objects like bangles, seals, coins etc found, toys.
- Also a neolithic, - chalcolithic site
- Silver & Copper punch marked coins
- Might have been a post town.
- Comparable precision of terracotta cut with Atichhatra / Kanhambi etc., Gupta temple remains also found.

(xii) Oldest Jesuit church

Christian church and archaeological remains of Goa

- Founded by the archbishop follower of Jesus Christ
- Construction of Gothic, Victorian church architecture
- Observable - cultural syncretism with the

- ancient hindu architecture - marble work with stone  
 - UNESCO world heritage site inlay

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

(xiii) Harappan site

Kuntasi

- Village site of Harappa
- Important port city - signs of seaborne trade
- Had boat jetty, harappan writing discovered
- connected to Desalpur, Pholavira etc
- Mesopotamia trade links in Lapis Lazuli found
- Terracotta objects like bangles, toys found.

(xiv) Ancient archaeological temple site

Nagai

- Rajasthan, Chittorgarh district
- Emergence of the Madhyamaka school of Buddhism, 2 inscriptions of Vaishnavism
- Important centre of Vaishnavite worship
- Preserved under the patronage of Rajput kings
- mention of the performance of Ashvamedha & Vajapaya sacrifice, NBPW site.

(xv) Hoard of metal sculptures

Kulbihar hoard

- In the Bodh Gaya district of Bihar
- Important site near Gupta capital Pataliputra

- found Queen-biry, rhino-slayer, archer-type coins dinar, cardamaka of the Guptas.
- Depiction of Vasaha, Gaouda, peacock on the coins
- Stupas, Chaityas, bodhisattva image, Ramayana & Mahabharata depictions can be found

(xvi) Ancient petroglyph site

Kupgal

- Is present near the Brahmajini site in Karnataka
- Abraded, incised, blasted marks on the rocks - petroglyphs, bruising
- Religious & cultic significance
- Depiction - pictorial of cattle, men mostly employed as herders of cattle
- Cattle posts are also found.
- Presence of musical rocks - that produce sounds on beating

(xvii) Ancient educational site

Vikramshila

- Was built by Para King Dharmapala in the early 9th century CE
- Clear hierarchy of teachers, acharyas, adhyakshas, students.
- Buddhist teaching - visited by Xuanzang, Fattein

→ Vajrayana & Tantra was the most important branch

→ Also taught astronomy, mathematics, medicines

→ library - rectangular present, Depiction of Bodhisattva

(xviii) Largest Buddhist Monastery Avalokiteshwara, Padmapani, Manjushri

### Tawang Monastery

→ Is located in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh

→ Important for Tibetan Natt school of Buddhism

→ Is also the 2nd largest monastery in the world

→ Mostly belongs to the Vajrayana school

→ Has residential provisions, Chaitras, stupa, relics of Bodhisattva, depiction of Manjushri, Avalokiteshwara etc; contains library

(xix) Political and religious site

### Anuradhapura

→ Important political centre of the Anuradhapura dynasty & Sriwijaya's empire of Sri Lanka

→ Had cultural & trade contact with Chola empire, Pallava, Palos etc.

→ Buddhist site with Sangamitta's founding of a sect with nuns

→ A bodhi-tree cut from Gaya & established there

→ Finds mention in the Dipavamsa & Mahavamsa

(xx) Famous Sun temple

Martand sun temple

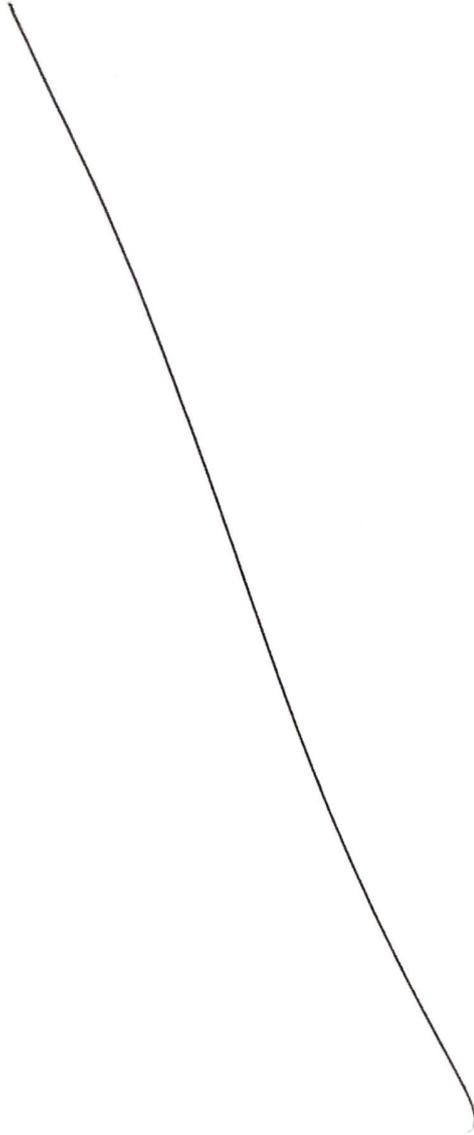
- Built in typical Kashmir architectural style
- wooden architecture with pyramidal shikhara in multiple storeys
- Built by lalitaditya of <sup>Karkota</sup>~~Utpala~~ dynasty
- Also patronised by the <sup>Utpala</sup>~~Karkota~~ dynasty of Kashmir
- Contain garbhagriha, anartala, closed mandapa.

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

Q.6 (a)

Was the Arab conquest of Sindh a great event in Indian history? Discuss. [15 Marks]

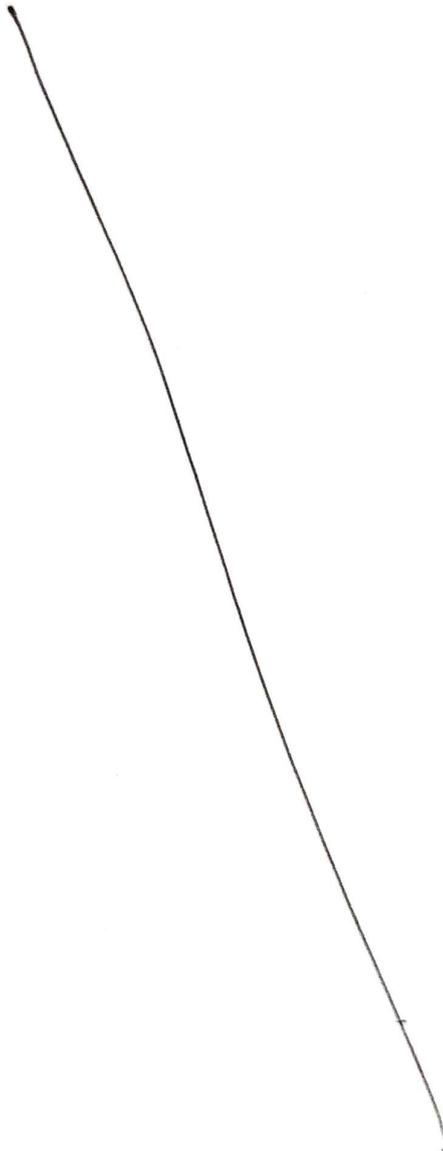
Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin



Q.6 (c)

Evaluate the status of women in the Gupta period as compared to the pre-Gupta era. [20 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin



Q.7 (a)

Though not very useful from the point of view of a connected political history of South India, the Sangam literature vividly portrays the social and economic conditions of its time.

Comment. [15 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

The Sangam society (300 BCE - 200 CE) existed mostly in the Andhra, Tamil Nadu, Kerala region and contributes richly to the cultural tradition of India

Why not useful w.r.t connected political history?

- (a) Independent origin
- (b) Low links with North
- (c) Dietical origin (q: Chairman was Shiva)
- (d) No clear political system (q: Raids)
- (e) Follow up by 250 years of Kalabhra rule

But still, Sangam literature richly portray socio-economic scenario -

Literature - social life of Sangam

① Religion : q: Maimekalai - focus on Buddhism

- ② Culture : Eg: Silappadikaram - Jaina culture ; (Varna system)
- ③ Popular dialect: use of Tamil
- ④ Importance of Cattle: Eg: Raids by Chola-Chera-Pandya (Muvendar)
- ⑤ status of women: Patriarchy, Sati mentioned.
- ⑥ Lad revenue - Tholkappiyam - Tinai lad. (Marudam, Palai, Neydal etc)
- ⑦ Tuliy tree - Kodimaram Tiger  
Cap - Bow & arrow
- ⑧ Anaku - magical forces.
- ⑨ Nannai - ~~mentioned~~ mention wooden toys, fairs ; melas.
- ⑩ Akam, Puram → Relationship (Love), Valour of kings
- ⑪ Pride → Vattakimthi practise (suicide)  
 → Veerakal to respect.

Literature - economic conditions

Candidates must not write on this margin

- ① Lad revenue - Tinai - marudam (agri culture)  
- Neydal (coast)  
- Palai (Desert etc)
- ② Cattle raids - main form of revenue
- ③ Tolls, taxes → extracted
- ④ Trade routes → Srilanka, south East Asia trade.
- ⑤ Market towns eg: Vanji, Poompuhar
- ⑥ Fortified settlements, Treasury  
eg: Madurai, Kaveripattanam.
- ⑦ Irrigation, Public works → Kallarai dam. (Posunai)
- ⑧ Coinage → through barter system, coins (Kasu, pon) etc. (Maimetkalei)

Thus, the Sangam literature gives clear idea of the society and economy of its times

Q.7 (b)

Although some concepts of Buddhism might trace their roots to Vedic-Upanishadic traditions, Buddhism emerged as a distinct religion with its own unique principles and institutions. Discuss. [15 Marks]

Buddhism emerged as a heterodox sect in India around 500 BCE with coming of Gautam Buddha of Sakya clan in Mahajanapada period

Vedic upanishadic influences

- ① Concept of Ahimsa → Rigveda focuses on compassion
- ② Concept of Nirvana → from Rigvedic concept of Samsara
- ③ Concept of Yoga-meditation (Ashtangamarga) → origin in Patanjali's Yogasutras
- ④ Concept of Brahman - Atman: Though Buddhism rejects 'Atman' but believes in transmigration of soul.

- ⑤ Status of women → saw as shudra.  
Buddhism - early texts didn't allow  
women in Sanghas - saw as distracting
- ⑥ Worship, saujices (yajnas) - later  
seen in Vajrayanisms  
↳ Idol worship in Mahayanism
- ⑦ Spirit worship Eg: Magical forces  
in vedas, Buddhism - animism  
eg: Shalabhajika

Buddhi

- ⑧ Concept of Dharma → 'duty' in vedas,  
'good action' in Buddhism

But certain novel features also existed

- ① Rejection of the varna system
- ② Rejection of Brahmanical domination
- ③ Nirvana - escape from pleasures;  
not moksha by chanting

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

- ④ Ashtagamarga - arhats, Bikkuni,  
Bikkhu - new concept.
- ⑤ Institution of Sangha, Upasaka,  
Upasika - new
- ⑥ Ashtagamarga Concept of Madhyam-  
marga → neither excess; nor deficiencies
- ⑦ Tiratna Buddha  
Dharma - Sangha
- ⑧ split of Mahayana & Hinayana
- ⑨ Buddhist councils - Chinese influence,  
idol worship - new in Mahayana.

Thus, emergence of Buddhism is  
a cultural syncretism & deviation  
from Vedic Upanishadic thought  
with own innovations.

Q.7 (c)

Assess the contribution of the accounts of the Chinese travellers as source of Ancient Indian History. [20 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

Chinese travellers came to the court of Mauvryas, Guptas, Harshanas informally & formally; that act as a relevant source of information of those times.

① Fatien's accounts

- ↳ Came to the court of Chandragupta Mauvrya
- ↳ Details of king - palace attendants, luxurious lifestyle.
- ↳ City of Pataliputra, trench to protect.
- ↳ Trade of the city - occupational groups - cobblers, carpenter etc.
- ↳ Buddhist sites eg: Sarnath, Kausambi, Lumbini
- ↳ Peaceful society, no drinking

↳ No strict punishments - (No Capital punishments)

### Problems

↳ only idolised king, Buddhist comparison with china.

↳ restricted to elite circle, language barrier.

↳ Complete peace - wrong

↳ Presence of capital punishment, amputation etc, wars, meat eating etc

### ② Xuan Zang

↳ Visited the court of Harshavardhan of Kannauj

↳ Idolised king, size of Army - 60,000 cavalry, 1000 elephants.

↳ Peace-loving king.

↳ 84000 stupas built.

↳ Prayagraj & Kannauj assembly

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin

by Harsha

- ↳ Less focus on Polity.
- ↳ Never lost any battle; captured whole India (exaggerated)
- ↳ Indians - 2 instances of stealing
- ↳ Rugged geography of India
- ↳ Society - areas nuts chewing people, barefoot, bathing rituals.
- ↳ Visited Malada, Vikramshila, Odantapuri etc.

Limitations

- ① Exaggerated size of army - 1000 elephants
- ② Aihole inscription - defeat of Harsha by Pallakushin II not mentioned
- ③ Idolised India in front of China
- ④ Restricted to royal court (elite)
- ⑤ Language barrier, wrote only after returning to China (memory problem)

③ I-Tsing

- ↳ gives details of Buddhist sites - Nalanda, Vikramshila etc.
- ↳ No much about polity.
- ↳ Instances of Thieway
- ↳ Geography - not easy to follow - Ganga, Yamuna river systems.
- ↳ Himalayan passes mentioned - Bolan pass.

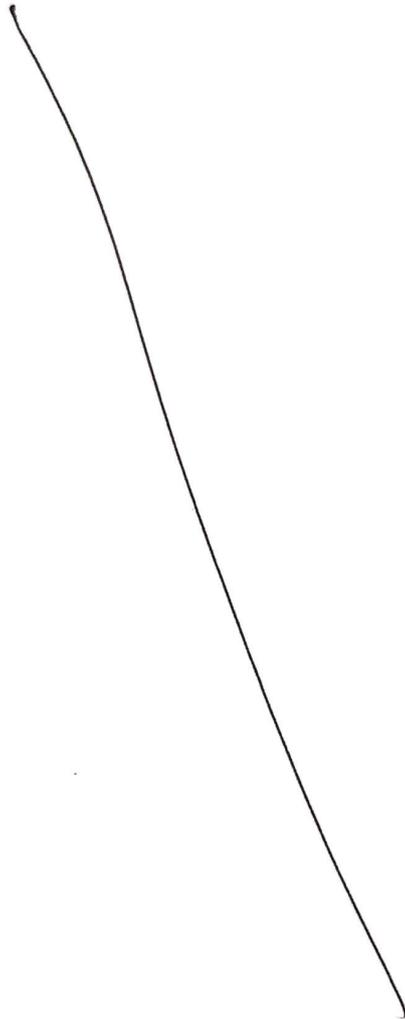
Problems → didn't stay much in India  
 → local interaction is less  
 → Took secondary reference from XuanZang & Fahien - error probability.

Thus, the Chinese accounts give clear picture of the society, polity, culture; but also are biased, must be read with caution.

Q.8 (a)

Critically analyse the theory and practise of land revenue system in ancient India. [15 Marks]

Candidates  
must not  
write on  
this margin



Q.8 (b) Taxila University, recognized as one of the world's oldest institutions, was associated with numerous distinguished scholars across various disciplines. Its strategic location contributed to its prominence, but unlike Nalanda, it is not considered as a university in the modern sense. Discuss. [15 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

Q.4 (c)

Assess the development of different art schools in the Indian subcontinent from the second century BCE to the third century CE, and examine the socio-religious factors that influenced these developments. [20 Marks]

Candidates must not write on this margin

