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4:00pm

5:30 PM

Start Time:

End Time:

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:

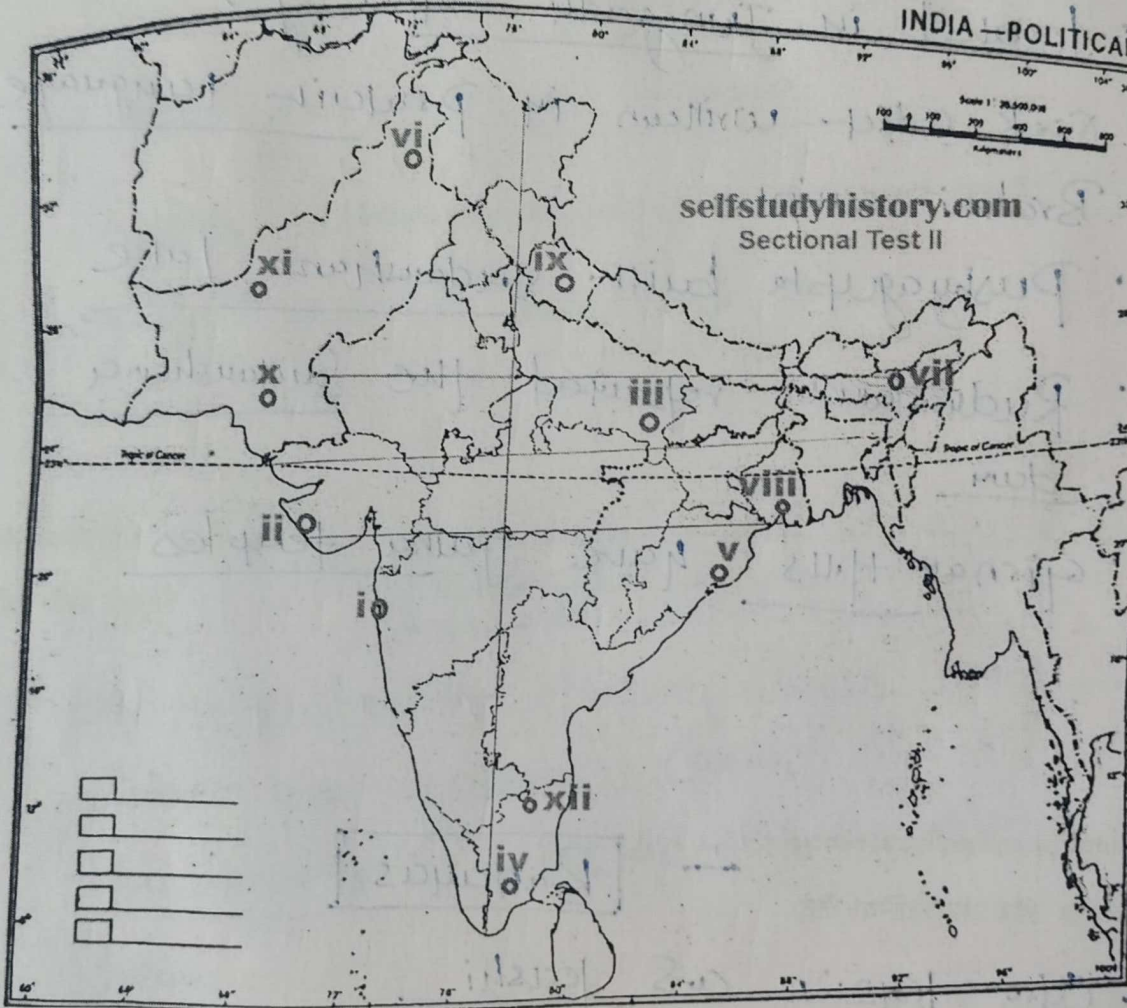
SECTIONAL TEST II- ANCIENT INDIA

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]

Candidates must not write on this margin

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 cave

located in Elephanta island near

Mumbai

Portuguese first discovered this site

- Buddhist chaityas were found here.
- It was a prominent site of Buddhist and Hindu sculptures.

(ii) Major rock edicts of Ashoka

अशोक के प्रमुख शिलालेख

— Girnar

- located in Jungadh district, Gujrat
- rock edict written in Prakrit language
Brahmi script
- Pushyagupta built Sudanshana Lake
- Rudradaman repaired the Sudanshana dam
- Girnar Hills have Jaina temples

(iii) Cultural and political centre

सांस्कृतिक और राजनीतिक केंद्र

— Banaras

- Also known as Kashi
- located on the south bank of Ganga
- important Hindu pilgrimage site
- Kashi Vishwanath Jyotirling is located here
- one of the oldest city of the world

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(iv) Ancient capital city

प्राचीन राजधानी शहर

→ Madurai

- Capital of pandyas
- located on the bank of vaigai river
- known for its temples
- famous for Minakshi temple
- Sangam literature mentions about Madurai as a bustling city

(v) Ancient Jaina Caves

प्राचीन जैन गुफाएँ

→ Udaygiri - Khandgiri

- Kharvela built these caves and some are natural caves
- Hathigumpha inscription is found here.
- provide insights into the Chanda reigns and relation with Magadha

(vi) Ancient commercial and educational centre

प्राचीन व्यापारिक एवं शैक्षणिक केन्द्र

Taxila

- Established by Raja Tax in 6th cent. B.C.
- prominent educational centre - Taxila University
- Capital of Gandhara Junpade
- Gandhara school of art flourished here
- located on trade route.

(vii) Architectural remnants of an ancient temple

एक प्राचीन मंदिर के स्थापत्य अवशेष

— Dab pauratiya

- located in Tejpur district, Assam
- ancient Shiva temple is found here.
- other sculpture of Ganga, Vishnu and gods were also found
- flourished during Ahom period
- it was built by Ahom King

(viii) Centre of emporium of ancient trade

प्राचीन व्यापार के एम्पोरियम का केंद्र

— Tamrilipti

- Also known as Tamluk
- Part of Uttarambith route - Peshwar to Tamrilipti

- ancient trading port of Mauryan period.
- Trade with South east Asia was also carried out

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(ix) Prehistoric cave painting site

प्रागैतिहासिक गुफा चित्रकला स्थल

— Lakhudiyon cave

- located in Almora district, Uttarakhand
- Inhabited by humans during Mesolithic period.
- Scenes → Community life, hunting scenes, family life were shown.
- Red colour was used → natural colour
- Shows the material culture of Prehistoric people

(x) Mature and Late Harappan site

परिपक्व एवं उत्तरकालीन हड़प्पा स्थल

— Mohenjodaro

- One of the biggest city of Indus valley civilisation
- Great Bath, town planning, multiple room house were notable features

- Metropolitan city with citadel
- It was an important trading centre and seat of power.

(xi) Neolithic and Chalcolithic site

नवपाषाण और ताम्रपाषाण स्थल

— Mehangarh

- one of the oldest neolithic site
- Evidence of rice cultivation found
- post-holes shows human habitation
- Domestication of animals evidence —
Bones of cattle, goat, sheep found here

(xii) Megalithic site

महापाषाण स्थल

— Paiyampalli

- Shows Sedentary evidence
- Menhirs and circular cairn is found.
- Pit burial is also discovered
- Shows evidence of Iron and Human settlement

Q.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]

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"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]

Mauryan dynasty was founded by Chandragupta Maurya by overthrowing Nandas of Magadh in 322 B.C.

The advent of Mauryas is regarded as new phase in history, as the region saw rapid consolidation, territorial integration and creation of a great pan-india empire.

Advent of Mauryas - the passage from darkness to light

① Pre-Mauryan period → territorial fragmentation of Mahajanapadas, Kashi, Kosala, Magadha, fought with each other.

• Hence historians see emergence of Magadha as first power kingdom having powerful monarchy, state

apparatus and economic power.

② Mauryan period gives ample of historical evidence to historians

- ↳ Ashokan inscription tells us the geographical extent of the kingdom.
- Megasthenese account provides a foreigner's perspective of India.
- Asthasastra tells about the Statecraft and policy.

③ Mauryan dynasty started the political consolidation of north india.

- ↳ Mauryans defeated smaller kingdoms, and also conquered frontier areas.
- Greek and aramic inscription of Ashoka shows the presence of multicultural society in the kingdom.
- It shows passage into light from

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darkness in the history of India

④ Economic integration

• Arthashastra mentions about adhyakshyas and Mauryan bureaucracy which have extensive control over state resources

⑤ Religion and social life flourished during Mauryas

↳ • Buddhism and 62 kinds of Heterodox sects were present

• Social life was marked by Varna consolidation, growth of urban centre and trade centre

• Hence all these factors led to journey toward light from darkness, However Pre-Mauryan period was not dark, it was marked by sub-intellectual revolution and 2nd phase of urbanisation emerged during that phase, which provided a base for the establishment of Mauryan empire.

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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]

Arab conquest India started in 712 A.D. when Muhammad Bin Qasim attacked Sindh to extend frontier of Islamic empire.

Factors responsible for Arab conquest

① Political reason → to extend the frontier of Islamic kingdom into India.

② Cultural reasons → Sindh was located on the boundary between Hindu kingdoms and Islamic empire of west Asia. Expansion of Islam will lead to cultural proliferation of Islamic ideology.

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③ Immediate Cause → immediate cause was the seizure of arab ships in the delul. by the king Dahir, it angered Arabs and Mohammad - Bin Qasim led conquest in Sindh.

Historical Significance of Arab Conquest

↳ Chachnama mentions about the Arab conquest Sindh.

① Political Significance

• Although Arab rule lasted for years, it opened the gate for Muslim conquest in India. later by Gazni (1027) and Ghori (1191, 1192) AD.

• It led to establishment of Islamic Kingdom, they imposed Jaziya (on non-Muslims) which also continued in later times.

② Social Significance

- Conversion to Islam started, Chachnama mentions about destruction of Sindh, and temples were destroyed.
- Muslim rule established over non-Muslim population.

③ Cultural Significance → Sindh language was enriched with Arabic, Suiy was developed.

- Sindh culture mixed with Muslims.

④ Technological Significance → Desert Cultivation, irrigation techniques, leather tanning was introduced by Arabs.

- Indian Science, Chauli Sankhya, Mathematics, Panch-sikhastika, Lilavati was translated into Arabic, there was cultural exchange of philosophy.

→ Hence Arab invasion significance was far seen later in as the Muslim conquest further started in India.

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]

Sangam literature was composed around 300 BC - 200 AD and was an important source of history for understanding Sangam society.

Sangam literature . Silpathikaram

• Manimekalai epics.

• anthologies, → ettupattu

• Puranuru, Agathiyarai etc.

It was composed during Sangam age and is divided into two forms:

Akasa literature → Provides insights into inner field of society that deals with intimate human relations, love and emotions of the people.

Puram literature

• It shows about the outer field, where Valour, Courage, are praised. It provides insights into political and social structure.

Social traditions in Sangam literature

① Society

↳ Society knows about the varna classification. There were descriptions about vellalars (farmers), adimai (slaves) it shows division of the society.

• Society lived in different zones, palai, neyyatal, mulai, manikkal, kurunjii and practised different mode of subsistence.

↳ • Position of women → There were descriptions of women and different type of marriage.

Sati was prevalent, women were limited to domestic chores, also they participated in local assemblies.

- Craft traditions → Metallurgy, oil pressing etc. were prevalent.
- Society was also classified on the basis of their occupation — varnas class were mentioned.

② Culture of Sangam age

↳ There were practice of erecting memorial stone for dead. also called as Natural.

- Natural means enacting the scenes of battle where king sacrifice his life.
- varnas class were honored.
- Concept of worship of Hero Stone was prevalent there.

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- Music and drama → People have different source of amusement
- Gods → Murugan, Mayon, Indira Kosuvai were worshipped
- Senguttavaru started the pattani cult in which Kannagi is worshipped as goddess.
- People practice different type of burial rites → they believe in life after death.
- they also believe in animism
- Bhuta words is mentioned in Silapadikaram.

In a nutshell, sangam literature shows glimpse of different facets of life of that period.

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]

Gupta empire emerged in the mid third century A.D and ruled till the 6th century A.D, was one of the most powerful kingdoms in the post-Mauryan era.

Disintegration of Gupta empire are debated by various historians offering multiple viewpoints.

Factors for disintegration of Gupta Empire

↳ ① political decentralisation

• Historians R.S. Sharma and D.D. Kosambi have argued that land grants to the brahmins led to emergence of small powers.

of power centre, which led to the fragmentation of the polity.

• They put the theory of feudalism responsible for Gupta disintegration, as Scyathas were exercising autonomy in their control areas.

② Economic disintegration

• R.S. Sharma argued the decline of Indo-Roman trade, led to economic challenges. He cites example of Lack of Roman coin in this period.

• de-urbanisation was also considered as the reason.

• there were debasement of gold coins. Samudragupta (95% purity)
Skandagupta (70-75% purity) of coins.

• it shows decline in trade and commerce & prosperity of the empire.

② Weak Successors after Skandgupta

↳ later gupta rulers like Purugupta, Baudhgupta unable to control their feudal lands, they proclaimed independence.

The system of land grants have further weakened the imperial authority in the periphery.

However historians such as Romila Thapar and Upinder Singh have argued that land grants were used as integrative tool to extend the frontier of empire in the virgin land.

However all the above factors were responsible for the disintegration of Guptas and Guptas were limited to Magadh in later period.

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 after the Kalinga war abandoned the path of violence and embarked on the journey to become a humanitarian monarch.

Ashoka a great humanitarian monarch

↳ ① Inculcated "Dhamma" in the state policy

'Dhamma' principle of non-violence, good social conduct, social responsibility was emphasised.

② appointed 'Dhamma-matras' to propagate the message of Dhamma in the frontier areas.

③ Gave primacy to the welfare of his subjects.

Humanitarian work of Ashoka

- ↳ • Rock edit 13 XIII mentions about Ashoka abandoning violence.
- He also mentioned about importance of Social Harmony against religious bigotry.
- Ashoka ordered for the construction of Roads, viharas, for the monks.
- He also ordered planting of trees around the road.
- In the Saukya inscriptions - Ashoka entered into Buddhist Sangha and recommended Buddhist texts.
- He built, chityas, viharas and donated generously for the monks.

- He ordered officers to visit interior areas every five years and listen to their demands.
- He built public monuments, Carvings for ajivikas, Stupas, etc.
- In the Lumbini inscriptions it is mentioned that Ashoka exempted the people of Lumbini village to pay Bhaga tax.

Ashoka through his policy of 'Dharma' gave priority to the citizen welfare and was considered as a great humanitarian monarch.

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]

Harsha (606-647 AD) was the powerful ruler of the Pushyabhuti dynasty and his reign was considered as significant period of ancient India.

Harsha's greatness mentioned by Banabhatta → wrote Harshacharita

• Hien Tsang → Chinese traveller visited during Harsha's reign in the 7th century. (Si-yu-ki Book)

• Harsha himself wrote books Nagnanda, Ratnavali and Pryadashika, all this

exalt his virtues.

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Hausha's greatness in Hauscharitra

- ↳ • Barabhatta gave depiction of Hausha's early life. → His rise to power, in Kannauj.
- Hausha's brother was killed and his sister Rajshri was captured by Shashanka, Hausha attacked Gurjara kingdom to avenge this.
- Hausha's empire extended from Assam to North west and in the South to the Malwa.
- Barabhatta mentions about Hausha's literary genius & his books.
- He mentions that Barabhatta's inscription is signed by Hausha.
- He extolls the size of Hausha's army.
- also shows Hausha's fitte as

Lead of Sakal Utharpala and Silabinga

- He also mentioned about Kanauj and Prayagraj assembly.
- and gave details about Harsha's Courage and Virtue.

Hien-Tsang account of Harsha's
reign

↳ He Eulogized Harsha's reign as Harsha patronised Buddhism

- He mentioned that Punishments were Mild, empire was rich.
- He also mentions about the affluence of Kanauj.
- He mentions that Harsha didn't sleep and eat and work tirelessly for people.
- He also mentions about generous nature of Harsha.

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However Barbhatta and Hien Tsang has been criticized for their biased Judgements.

↳ Barbhatta was childhood friend of Harsha. he only eulogized his Patron.

- He didn't mentioned about Harsha's defeat against Pulakeshin II.
- Harsha's literary achievement seems to be exaggerated.
- His extollation of army is exaggerated.
- Hien Tsang eulogized Harsha's as he patronised Buddhism, his award is for foreigner perspectives and hence lacked Critical Judgement.

V.A Smith Hence although Harsha was a great ruled, but much of his greatness is attributed to work of Barabhatta & Hien Tsang.