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# ANSWER SHEET

## SECTIONAL TEST- IV

### (MEDIEVAL INDIA)

Time Allowed: 105 Minutes

Maximum Marks: 150

There are FOUR questions in this paper.

Candidate has to attempt THREE questions in all.

Question No. 1 is compulsory and out of the remaining, TWO are to be attempted.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

Attempts of questions shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

MEDIEVAL INDIA SECTIONAL TEST- IV  
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Comments after evaluation for Improvement

**SECTION A**

Q.1 Answer the following in about 150 words each: 10x5=50

Q.1 (a) "Peasants during the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century were highly stratified and divided by the inequalities of wealth and social status." Elaborate. [10 Marks]

During the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century Indian economy was highly dependent on the agricultural activities. Source like Ain-i-Akbari of Abul Fazel, Travels of Francis Bernier, and foreign travellers like Paes, Nuniz, Manucci in South India etc. provide well round about the peasants and agriculture.

Inequalities of wealth

→ Zaminders and big land lords were very rich peasants. Tenants worked under them.

→ On the other hand, small and marginal

→ peasants were not even self-sustainable and had very little to survive.

→ Irrigation facilities and alluvial soil were high in demand, which pocketed by rich peasants, this also increased inequality.

→ Vijayanagara had high inequalities.

### Social status

→ land ownership and revenue rights became a social status during 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> c.

→ ownership of land defined the social status of a person.

→ Shudras, basically had no land ownership.

Due to centralized form of govt. or rule, this inequalities ~~and~~ in wealth &

social status increased.

Q.1 (b) Delineate the features of Mughal paintings with outside influence. [10 Marks]

Mughal emperors took a keen interest in the art of paintings. Babur had Abdul Samad in the court. Alcbar had Daswant and Besawary as painter of high skill in his court. Under the rule of Jahangir, Mughal paintings reached its zenith.

Features with outside influence.

(i) Central Asian and Persian influence

↳ Mughal paintings were based on Persian and Turkish themes and colors in earlier period.

(ii) Regional impact ⇒ Rajasthani and Pahari paintings influenced it a lot.

Miniature painting is the example of it. Features like dark colour uses were adopted from Rajasthan.

(iii) European influence of Jahajir took keen interest in European paintings and fresco paintings, use of halo, and natural background etc. were adopted from European painting.

Although Jahajir didn't like oil paintings of Europeans,

Aurangzeb banned the paintings in his court as he considered it anti-Islamic and with his Mughal paintings glorious history took a downturn.

Q.1 (c) Give a brief account of the literature written in Hindi in Mughal India. [10 Marks]

Persian was the court language of the Mughal Empire. Although rulers like AKBAR, Jahangir and Shah Jahan were very tolerant and promoted other languages as well but Persian remained the main language.

Hindi literature in Mughal India, Hindi or Hindavi language first developed during the Amir Khusro in 14th century. After that saints of Bhakti movement like Rabir, Tulsidas, Mirabai etc. promoted

and wrote in Khadi boli or  
Hindi language.

Kabir's Bijak, Tulsi Das's Ramcharit  
maner, Mir's writings are some of  
the earliest Hindi writings.

Writers like Bhadreshwar and Chandur  
worked in translation department  
of Mughal court.

Hindi is a language was in  
nascent age and without much  
official support, it didn't reach  
to new heights.

Q.1 (d) How music developed under in Mughal court under different Mughal emperors? [10 Marks]

Mughal empire was epicentre of art and cultural activities during the medieval age. Music, painting, architecture, dance etc. developed in various forms during this age.

Music development under different Mughal emperors =

(i) Babur and Humayun didn't get much time to focus on extra curricular activities as they were more concerned about safety and security of empire.

(ii) The age of AKBAR saw the development

of music. Mir Tansen was a famous musician. Akbar himself took keen interest. Religious music also promoted.

(iii) During the age of Jahangir and Shahjahan promotion of music continued. They permitted the musicians in their courts. They used to sing early morning and late evening as mentioned in various sources.

(iv) ~~Akbar~~ Aurangzeb himself was a good veena player, but he didn't promote music in court, as he considered it against Islamic tradition.

Later rulers like Muhammad Shah Rangzeb etc. promoted music but till then Mughal empire was in decline.

Q.1 (e) Discuss the region-centric approach of the decline of the Mughal Empire. [10 Marks]

This approach was mainly prepared or analysed by Chetan Singh.

In this region centric approach, historians discussed about reason of Mughal empire from the point of view of different regions.

In this method (theory) reasons of decline were :-

- (i) Rise of Marathas and other central southern states contributed to decline of Mughals.
- (ii) Revolt of Jatts, Sikhs etc. also hastened the process of decline.

(iii) many independent states like Awadh, Bengal and Hyderabad etc. emerged and power of central authority declined.

(iv) Zamindari system in different region also collected which led to decline.

Although this method or theory of region centre approach was countered - by central centric approach by historians like Satish Chandra and Bhambhani.

Only region centric approach can't fully justify the decline of Mughal empire.

Q.2 (a) Critically examine different views related to the rise of Marathas as a major power in Deccan towards the middle of the 17th century? [20 Marks]

Rise of Marathas in Deccan towards the middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> century was attributed to several reasons.

Different historians have put forward different theories about the rise of Marathas power;

(i) Hindu reaction against Aurangzeb's policies.

Historians like Jadunath Sarkar and A.C. Sivasthane termed rise of Marathas as a Hindu response ~~from~~ to orthodox policies of Aurangzeb.

→ This view is not true because Marathas had many Muslim soldiers and they also attacked Hindu states.

(ii) National movement for independence.

↳ Historians like M G Ranade and R G Bhandarkar termed Marathe rise as Indian national movement.

→ This view also does not hold ground because there was nothing like Indian state in 17th c.

(iii) Ability of powerful kings like Shahji, Shivaji and Sambhaji. Many historians like Shireen Moosvi termed rise of Marathe to capable rulers.

(iv) Guerilla warfare and its success.

↳ Many historians termed rise of Marathe to guerilla warfare method, which they were master of.

→ This also defined the loss in 1761.

(v) social-political and geographical factors, historians like Satish chandra and Bhimsen termed rise of Marethe - to social and political conditions. social conditions of poverty with youth forced them to form army and fought wars. Harsh geography of Vidarbha and Marethwade region also a reason of solid foundation.

No single factors can define the rise of Marethe power. Factors like social, political and geographical condition is the most acceptable theory in modern day history pretext.

Q.2 (b) "The art of building was carried to the highest degree of perfection under Shahjahan." ✓  
 Illustrate by giving architecture details of two of his most celebrated buildings. [15 Marks]

Mughal rulers like Akbar and Jahangir took keen interest in art of building but it reached its zenith of development during the age of Shahjahan in the first half of 17<sup>th</sup> c. The age of Shahjahan is considered as the golden age of Mughal art of building.

The world class monuments like Red Fort, Jama Masjid (Both in Delhi), Tajmahal (Agra) were built under his rule. He supported the building activities with keen interest and finance.

(i) Taj Mahal

- It was built in the memory of his wife in Agra. It built near the river Yamuna, as water source was an important component of this period in building activity.
- White Marble with pietra dura technique is used in Taj Mahal. Pietra dura is defined as the floral and calligraphic design in Marble itself.
- four Minarets in four corner-side of main building also expressed the Mughal architecture.
- Arch and dome method was followed.
- Indian innovation like Jali, Cornices,

Jharokhe etc. can also be seen in Tajmahal.

## (ii) Red Fort

↳ It is in Delhi and made of Red sandstone.

↳ Charbagh style was not followed and Garden was shitted into one side.

→ Jali work and calligraphic designs in Red Fort are very beautiful.

→ For cooling, water fountains were also there.

Many emperors tried to copy the art of building of Shahjahan but rarely someone succeeded. This speaks high volume of his building activities.

Q.2 (c) On the basis of contemporary sources evaluate the system irrigation of the Vijayanagar kingdom. [15 Marks]

Vijayanagar kingdom ruled over the southern part of India for around 200 years. Art and architecture reached to high level under able rulers like Haribharya, Bukka, Krishnadevaraya etc.

Contemporary sources like Anuktamalyada of Krishnadevaraya, writing of court poets like Pamph; foreign travelers like Pals, Bernier, Nuniz provide vital information about the all aspects of vijayanagar kingdom.

Agriculture and irrigation facilities were an important aspect of kingdom.

## System of irrigation

- Contemporary written sources of travelers like Nizami and Paes talked in detail about irrigation.
- Canals were built to bring water to winterland areas from rivers like Cauvery, Krishna etc.
- Wells and tanks were also developed.
- ~~The~~ under the Telugu ruler of Krishna Devaraya, irrigation facilities reached its peak.
- Reservoir were also built to store water from river during monsoon and to use it in irrigation.

## ~~Ev~~ Evaluation

- Although system of irrigation was highly developed and led to high agricultural produce. But these facilities were limited to central area of empire.
- Rest of villages in hinterland, were not provided same irrigational facility.
- Permanent system of irrigation were not developed.

Vijaynagar Kingdom was very advanced in irrigation facilities in that age with comparison to other empire even like Mughals.

Q.4(a) "An important feature of Non-Agricultural Production in Mughal India has been the various types of craft production." Illustrate by giving examples. [20 Marks]

During Mughal period, various types of craft production were produced in Karkhanas through putting out (dadni system). Although agriculture was the main source of revenue yet emperors promoted various craft and technologies in the empire.

Reasons for increase in craft production

- (i) Stability in political field (Mughal dynasty)
- (ii) increase in external and internal trade.
- (iii) Demands of Mughal rulers and other regional states.

All these factors promoted non-agricultural

activities.

Karkhanas were the epicentre of various craft production. Two types of karkhanas were there.

(i) Royal Mughal Karkhanas

(ii) Private Karkhanas,

In royal karkhanas, crafts like textiles, household products, ammunition etc. were produced for royal use and labour remained under the watch of Mir-i-Saman.

In private karkhanas, crafts like iron tools, textiles, etc. produced on the basis of demand and supply rule.

Coin minting system in various factories which were authorised by Mughal

officially was very liberal. Anybody could bring his metal and take coin by paying labour charges.

→ Agricultural tools were in high demand and craft was very advanced.

→ Printing technology was also in high demand and produced large no. of papers.

Although agricultural activities were dominant and main source of revenue yet cities and towns complemented the agriculture through various type of craft production.

Q.4 (b) While delineating its features, describe the formation of Mughal's foreign policy in Northwest under different Mughal rulers. [15 Marks]

Mughal followed a very practicable and sustainable foreign policy in north-west.

### Importance of North-west

- (i) It worked as scientific frontier to save Delhi from any attack.
- (ii) Connection to silk route for external trade.

The safety and security of north-west was essential for stable and peaceful Mughal rule in India. Mughals maintained relationship with Safavid empire, Ottoman empire in north-west.

### Features of Mughal foreign policy

(i) to maintain scientific frontier of the buffer state of Kabul and Qandhar region. For this Mughals didn't much involved in ways of other 3 central Asian empire.

They maintained friendly relations with sefevids except on Qandhar issue.

(ii) Diplomacy over religion.

→ Mughals were friend sefevids inspite of religious differences. Mughals were very practical in this sense.

(iii) Emotions of homeland of Mughals belonged to Fargana and once Shahjahan planned to extend his empire to Fargana but he pulled out of it and rightly so.

(iv) They exchanged embassies with Ottoman

to maintain healthy trade relations.  
As Mughal empire was an net  
exporter in trade.

(v) Mughals built forts and kept army  
in readiness to safeguard north-west  
frontier.

Mughal followed the policy of might  
and kind to safeguard frontier  
and maintain healthy trade relations.  
Mughals were by and large very  
successful in maintaining their  
foreign policy.

Q4 (c) Trace the various experiments and evolution of the land revenue system under Akbar. [15 Marks]

Land revenue was the main source of income for the Mughal empire. The success of this system defined the success of empire. Akbar was the first Mughal ruler who paid attention to land revenue system.

In earlier years Akbar followed the land revenue system of sterislah which was based on annual measurement of land cultivated and crops grown. Later he found that annual measurement on time is not feasible, so developed the system of Delhi-Salt i.e. 10 year system. In this system he

took the average of last ten year of product (1568-78) - initially; and on the basis of which annual land revenue was decided,

land was divided into 4 parts i.e.

Polaj → cultivated every year

Parati → not cultivated for 2 year

Chechar → not cultivated for more than 5 year.

Banjar → uncultivable

Peasants had the option to choose any system of land revenue like crop sharing like Batai, Kharej, or cash and kind.

Akbar maintained officials like Patwari to keep record of Zabti system.

→ Mansabdari and Jamindari system was also based on land revenue system. Strong and efficient system of land revenue kept Mughal empire in good health.

Akbar learnt from past rulers Alauddin Khelji and Sher Shah along with his own practical approach.

Todar Mal played a critical role in land revenue system model formation during the period of Akbar.