

Indian History

Ancient Indian History : General Facts about Indian rulers and historical periods

The Mauryan Empire (325 BC -183 BC)

Chandragupta Maurya : In 305 BC Chandragupta defeated Seleucus Nikator, who surrendered a vast territory.

Megasthenese was a Greek ambassador sent to the court of Chandragupta Maurya by Seleucus

Bindusara: Bindusara extended the kingdom further and conquered the south as far as Mysore

Asoka : (304-232 BCE)

Facts about Mauryas

During Mauryan rule, though there was banking system in India. yet usury was customary and the rate of interest was 15% per annum on borrowing money. In less secure transactions (like sea Voyages etc) the rate of interest could be as high as 60 per annum.

During Mauryan period, the punch marked coins (mostly of silver) were the common units of transactions.

Megasthenes in his Indies had mentioned 7 castes in Mauryan society. They were philosophers, farmers, soldiers, herdsman, artisans, magistrates and councilors.

The Age of the Guptas (320 AD-550 AD)

Chandragupta I 320 - 335 AD

Samudragupta 335-375 AD

Ramagupta 375 - 380 AD

Chandragupta Vikramaditya 380-413 AD

Kumargupta Mahendraditya 415-455 AD

Skandagupta 455-467 AD

Later Guptas : Purugupta, Narasimhagupta, Baladitya. Kumargupta II, Buddhagupta, Bhanugupta, Harshagupta, Damodargupta, Mahasenagupta

Literature : Authors and Book

Bhasa -Svapnavasavdattam

Shudrak -Mrichchakatika

Amarkosh -Amarsimha

Iswara Krishna -Sankhya Karika

Vatsyana -Kama Sutra

Vishnu (Gupta -Panchatantra

Narayan Pandit -Hitopdesha

Bhattin -Ravan Vadha

Bhaivi -Kiratarjunyam

Dandin -Daskumarachanta

Aryabhatta -Aryabhattyam

Vishakha Datta -Mudura Rakshasa

Indrabhuti -nanassiddhi

Varahamihara -Panchasiddh antika, Brihad Samhita

Kalidas : Kalidas wrote a number of such excellent dramas like Sakuntala, Malavikagnimitram, Vikramorvasiyatn, epics like the Raghuvamsa, and lyric poetry like the Ritu-Samhara and the Meghaduta. II the best-known work of Kalidas is his drama Sakunatala

The Post-Gupta Period - Harshavardhana (606-647 AD)

Pallavas (560-903 AD)

There is controversy regarding the origin of Pallavas. Possibly the Pallavas were a local tribe who established their authority in the Tondamadu or the land of creepers.

They were orthodox Brahmanical Hindus and their capital was at Kanchi.

Both Chalukyas and Pallavas tried to establish their supremacy over land between Krishna and Tungahhadra.

Pallava king Narshimhavarman (630-68 AD) occupied Chalukyan capital at Vatapi in about 642 AD and assumed the title Vatapikonda.

The Chola Empire (9th-12th Century)

The founder of Chola Dynasty was Vijayalaya, who was at first a feudatory of the Pallavas. He captured Tanjore in 850 AD.

The greatest Chola rulers were Rajaraja (985-1014 AD) and his son Rajendra I (1014-1044 AD).

Raja built a temple of Rajarajeshwara at Tanjore.

Rajendra I assumed the title of Gangaikondachola and built a city called Gangaikondacholapuram)

The Chola Empire was divided into Mandalams or provinces and these in turn were divided into Valanadu and Nadu.

The arrangement of local self-government has been regarded as the basic feature of the administration of Cholas.

The style of architecture which came into vogue during this period is called Dravida e.g. Kailashnath temple of Kanchipuram.

Another aspect was image making which reached its climax in dancing figure of Shiva called Natraja.

Kambama who wrote Ramavatrama was one of the greatest figures of Tamil poetry. His Ramayana is known as Kamba Ramayana.

Pampa, Ponna and Ranna are considered as three gems of Kannada poetry

Freedom fighters of India : A short note on freedom fighters in India, General knowledge questions and answers on freedom fighter in India.

Vallabhbhai Patel : (Iron man of India)

For his role in the Bardoli Satyagraha, Patel came to be called the Sardar. Sardar Patel was a famous lawyer but gave up his practice in order to fight for the freedom of the country. After independence he became the deputy PM of India and played an important role in the integration of India by merging numerous princely states with the Indian Union.

Bal Gangadhar Tilak

Bal Gangadhar Tilak was one of the firebrand freedom fighters of India. He gave the slogan- "Swaraj is my birthright and I shall have it". To serve the cause of freedom and countrymen Tilak founded schools and published newspapers. Tilak was famous as one of the trios- Bal, Pal and Lal. People loved him and accepted him as their leaders and so he was called Lokmanya Tilak.

Ram Prasad Bismil

Ram Prasad Bismil was one of those young revolutionaries who laid down their life for the sake of the motherland. Bismil was a member of the Hindustan Republican Association and an important member of the group that was involved in the Kakori train dacoity.

Bhagat Singh

The name of Bhagat Singh is synonymous with sacrifice, courage, bravery and vision. By sacrificing his life just at the age of 30 Bhagat Singh became an inspiration and symbol of the heroism. Along with other revolutionaries, Bhagat Singh founded the Hindustan Socialist republican Association. To warn the British government of its misdeeds, Bhagat Singh threw a bomb in the Central Legislative Assembly. By embracing death at a young age Bhagat Singh became a symbol of sacrifice and courage and made a place in the hearts of every Indian for ever.

Khudiram Bose

Khudiram Bose was one of those young revolutionaries and freedom fighters whose deeds of bravery and sacrifice have become the subject of many a folk lore. He was one of those brave men who challenged the British rule in their own style. At the age of nineteen, he became a martyr, with "Vande Mataram" on his lips.

Ashfaqulla Khan

Ashfaqulla Khan was one of the firebrand and young revolutionaries, who laid down their life for the sake of the motherland. An important member of the Hindustan Republican Association, Khan, along with his associates executed the train dacoity at Kakori and was subsequently hanged by the British.

Bhikaiji Cama

Madam Cama was one of the greatest women freedom fighters of India and promoted the cause of Indian freedom movement outside India. She was the one who first unfurled India's flag at an international assembly. She discarded the life of luxury and lived an exile- to serve the motherland.

Jatin Banerjee

Jatin Banerjee is popularly known as "Bagha Jatin" for his fearlessness and courage. Jatin Banerjee's name figures among brave freedom fighters of India. His name is a symbol of fearlessness and courage to millions of Indians.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was an active member of the Indian National congress and a great freedom fighter. Maulana Azad took part in most of the important movements. He presided over the special session of Congress in September 1923 and at 35 years of age, was the youngest man to be elected the President of the Congress.

Gopal Krishna Gokhale

Gopal Krishna Gokhale was one of the moderate leaders of the Indian National Congress. He was the political Guru of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation. He also presided over the annual session of the Congress at Benaras in the year 1905. He was also opposed to the entry of the extremists in the Congress.

Jawaharlal Nehru

Pt Jawaharlal Nehru was one of the important people, who struggled for the freedom of India and became the first prime minister of free India. He was also the author of the famous book "Discovery of India". J L Nehru was extremely fond of children and was fondly called "Chacha Nehru". It was under his leadership that India embarked on the planned pattern of economic development.

Subhas Chandra Bose

Known as Netaji (leader), S C Bose was a fierce freedom fighter and a popular leader on the political horizon in pre-independence India. Bose was elected the President of the Indian National Congress in the year 1937 and 1939. He founded the Indian National Army and raised the slogan- "Delhi Chalo" and "Tum Mujhe Khoon Do main Tumhe Ajadi Doonga". For his anti- British remarks and activities, Bose was jailed 11 times between 1920 and 1941. He was the leader of the youth wing of the Congress Party.

Purushottam Das Tandon

He was also a famous freedom fighter of India who hailed from the state of Uttar Pradesh. He was of the Punjabi Khatri descent. This person is remembered widely for his contribution towards making Hindi as the official language of India. Purushottam Das Tandon was revered as Rajarshi. After getting a Law degree and an MA in history, he started to practice in the year 1906, and joined the bar of Allahabad High Court in the year 1908 as Tej Bahadur Sapru`s junior. In order to concentrate on public activity, he left practicing law in the year 1921.

Dr. Hakim Ajmal Khan

He was one of the renowned freedom fighters of India, famous physician and a well-known educationalist. He founded the Jamia Millia Islamia in Delhi. Dr. Hakim Ajmal Khan studied the Holy Quran and traditional Islamic knowledge, before studying medicine.

Jayaprakash Narayan

Another notable freedom fighter of India was Jayaprakash Narayan. He was famously called JP. He was among the very few modern Indian leaders who worked hard for independence and also participated in Indian politics actively for a long time after India secured independence. He was arrested in the year 1930, and was imprisoned for some weeks since he organized a Salt March being inspired by the earlier actions of Mahatma Gandhi.

Vinayak Damodar Savarkar

Vinayak Damodar Savarkar was a prominent freedom fighter and a Hindu nationalist leader of India. He was also called Veer Savarkar. He was a good writer, poet, orator, a historian, philosopher and also a renowned social worker who dedicated his whole life in fighting for India's Independence. Savarkar is considered to be a great revolutionary by some whereas some term him as a Machiavellian manipulator and a communalist. First war of Indian Independence Movement: 1857, written by Veer Savarkar was a great inspiration for several freedom fighters.

Bipin Chandra Pal

Bipin Chandra Pal began the Vande Mataram journal. He was among the three Extremist Indian patriots of the Indian National Congress who gave away his life fighting for the Independence of India. The other two of the trilogy were Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Lala Lajpat Rai and together, the three were called Lal-Bal-Pal. Bipin Chandra pal was jailed for six months since he refused to provide evidence against Aurobindo Ghose in the sedition case of Vande Mataram.

Mahatma Gandhi

From among the numerous freedom fighters, Mahatma Gandhi was the most famous freedom fighter of India who took the lead and ensured a free India on the 15th of August 1947. He was honoured by the Indians by making him the father of the Nation. Gandhiji was born in a Hindu family at Porbandar in the state of Gujarat in 1869. His entire life was devoted to the principles of non-violence, truth and love. Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was regarded as the architect of the freedom of India.

Surya Sen

Surya Sen was born on 22 March 1894 in Chittagong. He as a revolutionary took part in non cooperation movement. A commemorative stamp was released on him in 1977 by the Government of India. Surya Sen was a teacher by profession. One of his teachers had initiated into revolutionary ideas in the year 1916 when he was studying in the Chittagong College. Thereafter he joined the revolutionary group Anushilan . In 1929, he became the president of the Chittagong district committee of the Indian National Congress.

Thycaud Ayya (1814 -1909)

- * Guru of Ayya Vaikundan, Sri Narayana Guru , Chattampi Swamikal and Ayyankali.
- * Born in Madras
- * His original name was Subharayan.
- * First social reformer. He started "Panthibhojanam"(inter-dining) in Kerala
- * Famous saying: "intha ulakathile oru jaathi oru matham orukadavul"
- * Founder of famous □ Saiva Prakasha Sabha□ ofchalai,Trivandrum .

Ayya Vaikundar (1820-1851)

- * Worked for the upliftment of the Dalit Hindus.
- * He is referred to as Sampooranathevan (Mudi sodum Perumal), adeva (a deity) according to his followers.

- * Founder of Samathwa Samajam, a reform movement for nadar community.

Brahmananda Swami Shivayogi (1852-1929)

- * Founded the Ananda Maha Sabha and Anandamatham (religion of bliss)
- * Founded the Asramam at Alathur in Palghat district
- * Condemned caste barriers, penance, pilgrimages, idol worship etc.
- * Works: Mokshapradipam, Anandasutram

Chattampi Swamikal (1853 -1924)

- * Nair reformist
- * Born in Kannammola, Trivandrum.
- * Real name was Kunjan pillai.
- * Literary works: Advaita Chintha paddhati, Vedadikara Nirupanam, Pracheena Malayalam, Vedaantha Saaram etc
- * Sanyasi disciples: Narayana Guru , Neelakanta Theerthapada, Theerthapada Parmahansa
- * Quotation: The whole universe is one mind. Between mind and mind there is no vacuum
- * Swamikal died at Panmana, Kollam. Chattampi swami memorial is also at Panmana.

Sri Narayana Guru(1856-1928)

- * Father of Kerala Renaissance
- * Born in Chempazhanthy in an Ezhava family (Vayalvarathu Veedu).
- * The parents of Sree Narayana Guru were Madanasan and Kuttiamma.
- * He met Chattampi Swamikal at Aniyur temple near Chempazhanthy.
- * Erected a temple to Shiva at Aruvippuram in 1888. Last temple consecrated by Guru is at Kalavancode, Alappuzha.
- * S.N.D.P Yogam was founded in 1903 and Guru became the life time President and Kumaranasan as Secretary.
- * The Vavottuyogam started at Aruvippuram is considered as the predecessor of S.N.D.P. Yogam
- * □ Atmopadesh Satakam □□, □□ Nirvriti Panchakam □□, □□ Darsanamala □□, □ Jatimeemamsa , □ Ardhanareeswara Sthothram □, "Daiva Dasakam", "Gajendra moksham vanchippattu" etc are the major literary works of Guru
- * Guru founded Sarada temple at Varkala in 1915 and founded the Advaitasrama at Aluva on the banks of Periyar.
- * Tagore met Guru at his ashram in Sivagiri in November 1922. Kumaranasan was the translator of their conversation.
- * Gandhiji visited Guru at Sivagiri in 1925.
- * Consecrated a mirror, with the message □ Om shanti □, in a temple in Kalavankode.
- * His famous saying was □ One Caste, one Religion, one God for man □ (gave at Advaitasrama).
- * Anandatheertha Swamikal was the last sanyasi disciple of Swamikal.
- * Died in Sivagiri, Varkala.
- * Only Keralite whose birthday and death anniversary are observed as holidays.

Dr Palpu (1863 -1950)

- * "Political father" of Ezhavas.
- * Born in Petta , Trivandrum
- * Palpu was the third signatory to the Malayali Memorial in 1891.

Ayyathan Gopalan (1863- 1949)

- * Gopalan was born in Thalassery.
- * He started the Kozhikode branch of Brahmosamaj in 1898.
- * He also founded Chandavarkar Elementary School in Kozhikode to encourage education among Dalits.
- * He was later honored with the title 'Rao Sahib'.

Barrister G. P. Pillai (1864-1903)

- * Govindan Paramaswaran Pillai, commonly known as Barrister G. P. Pillai, was born in Pallippuram, Thiruvananthapuram, India, in an aristocratic Nair family.
- * The first person from Thiruvananthapuram to pass the Barrister examination.
- * He played a major role in the formation of Malayali Memorial in 1891.
- * He established the first English language newspaper in South India, the Madras Standard. He wrote many articles against the oppressive rule of Travancore Diwan CP Ramaswami Iyer.

Ayyankali (1866-1941)

- * Pulaya reformer.
- * Born in Venganoor, Thiruvananthapuram
- * Advocated for the right for Pulayas to walk along the public roads in Travancore
- * In 1907 he founded the Sadhu Jana Paripalana Yogam, which later became Pulaya Maha Sabha
- * Gandhiji visited Ayyankali in 1934 and called him "Pulayaraja".
- * He was nominated to Srimulam Prajasabha in 1910 and remained in office for 25 years.
- * He was the first person from depressed classes to be nominated to Travancore legislative Assembly.
- * Leader of first strike of Agriculture labourers in Travancore.

C Krishnan / Mithavadi Krishnan (1867-)

- * Started a newspaper called Mithavaadi ("Reformist") which got name as the "Bible" of the socially depressed.
- * Active leader of SNDP.
- * He was the main organiser of the Thali Road Strike against various social prejudices.
- * After converting to Buddhism, he campaigned to convert the Ezhavas to Buddhism. As part of it, he started Mahabodhi Buddha Mission in Kozhikode. He conducted Maha Buddha Conference in 1925 at Kozhikode. A Buddha temple was also built by him.
- * He was against the Indian National Congress and Mahatma Gandhi. He wanted the freedom of the oppressed classes to be attained before the nation achieved freedom.

Kumaran Ashan (1873 - 1924)

- * Got title as MAHAKAVI from Madras University. Kumaranasan was the only poet in Malayalam who became mahakavi without writing amahakavyam.
- * Disciple of Sri Narayana Guru.
- * Served as SNDP Secretary
- * Worked in Vivekodayam Newspaper.
- * Joseph Mundassery called him as "Viplavathinte Sukranaksharam".
- * Redmeer was the name of boat which caused death of Ashan

Vakkom Moulavi (1873 -1932)

- * Founder and Publisher of Swadeshbhimani, Muslim Scholar, Social leader and reformer.
- * Father of Muslim Renaissance

- * Publications: The Muslim 1906, Al-Islam (1918) and Deepika (1931).
- * Moorakkothu Kumaran (1874- 1941) started publishing an educational journal named 'Vidyalayam' and was also the first editor of 'Deepam' magazine
- * Poykayil Yohannan /Poyakayil Appachan/ Kumara Guru (1878-1939)
- * Born in Eraviperoor, Pathanamthitta.
- * Famous Dalit activist, poet and founder of Pratyaksha Raksha Daiva Sabha (PRDS): founded in 1909)

Mannathu Padmanabhan (1878 □ 1970)

- * Founded Nair Service Society in 1914
- * Born in Perunna, Changanacherry.
- * First president of Travancore Devaswam Board.
- * Involved in Vaikom Satyagraha, Guruvayoor Satyagraha, Indian National Congress and Vimochana Samaram
- * He was honored with the title Bharata Kesari by the President of India
- * Mannam Memorial is located in Changanacherry.
- * Sardar KM Panikker praised him as "Madan Mohan Malaviya of Kerala."
- * Autobiography : Ente Jeevitha smaranakal

Swami Vagbhatananda (1885-1939)

- * Founder of the Atmavidya Sangham, a group of professionals and intellectuals who sought change.
- * Born in Thiyya community.
- * Sivayoga Vilasam is the famous magazine started by Vagbhatananda.
- * ""Awake remember the creator Arise and fight against injustice"" -- was the message printed in front page of the magazine

Pandit Karuppan (1885- 1938)

- * Known as Lincoln of Kerala.
- * Born in Cheranallor, Ernakulam in Dheevara community.
- * His famous work Jaathi kummy, 'Balakalesham' and 'Udyanavirunnu' were against untouchability..
- * Kerala Varma Valiya Koi Thamburan conferred the title of "Vidwan" in 1913.
- * Kochin Maharaja gave title as "Kavithilakan".
- * Founder of Araya Samajam.

T. K. Madhavan (1885 □ 1930)

- * Social reformer, journalist and active member of Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (SNDP)
- Involved in Vaikom Sathyagraha.
- * He met Gandhi at Tirunelveli, and persuaded him to support Vaikom Sathyagraha.
- * A monument was raised in his honor at Chettikulangara.

K P Keshava Menon (1886-1978)

- * He was born in Tharoor village of Palakkad as the grandson of the Maharajah of Palghat and as the son of Bhiman Achan.
- * He was a member of the Home Rule League under Annie Besant.
- * He was the founder of Mathrubhumi, a popular daily newspaper which earned the second place in circulation in Kerala.

K Kelappan (1889-1971)

- * K. Kelappan was a founding member and president of Nair Service Society.
- * He is also known as Kerala Gandhi.
- * After independence he left the Congress Party and joined the Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party and was elected to Parliament from the Ponnani Lok Sabha seat in 1952.
- * He worked for unification of Kerala into a new linguistic state.

V T Bhattatiripad (1896 -1982)

- * Key figure in removing casteism and conservatism from the Namboothiri community.
- * Famous Work: Adukkalayil ninnum arangathekku
- * Autobiography: kannerum Kinavum.

A K Gopalan (1904-1977)

- * Ayillyath Kuttiari Gopalan , popularly known as A. K. Gopalan or AKG, was an Indian communist leader and first leader of opposition in India.
- * His autobiography In the Cause of the People has been translated into many languages. His other works include For Land, Around the World, Work in Parliament, and Collected Speeches, all in Malayalam.

P Krishnapillai (1906 - 1948)

- * Kerala's First Communist, Founder of the Communist movement in Kerala.
- * In 1931 he became the first non Namputhiri Brahmin (he was from Nair Community of Kerala) to ring the temple bell of the Guruvayoor temple.

Kuriakose Elias Chavara(1805 - 1871)

- * Born in kainakari, Kuttanad
- * Beatified 8 February 1986, Kottayam by Pope John Paul II
- * Canonized :23 November 2014, Rome by Pope Francis
- * Major shrine :St. Joseph's Syro-Malabar Dayra Church, Mannanam, Kottayam
- * He played a major role in educating the people of the lower ranks of society.
- * Founder of Nasrani Deepika 1846 from St Joseph Press, the first Malayali press.
- * In 1864, while he was serving as the Vicar General of Syrian Catholics, he ordered to start a school along with every church (palli) which was successful in making free education available for everyone. Thus schools in Kerala came to be known as pallikudam.
- * He founded an Indian religious congregation for men, now known as the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate. (CMI)
- * He founded, the Congregation of the Mother of Carmel, the first religious congregation for women in 1866 (CMC)

Mampuram Thanqal (1752-1845)

- * Yemeni Islamic scholar who settled at Mambaram
- * Inspiration behind major mophla outrages like Eranad riot (1836, 1837), Paruthan Riot

Sahodaran Ayyappan (1889-1968)

- * Followers of Sree Narayana Guru.
- * Brain behind Yukthivadi journal.
- * Founded Sahodara Sangham for Ezhavas and Vidhya Poshini.
- * Renaissance leader who became minister in Travancore -Cochin.
- * Started the concept of Misra bhojanam.

* No Caste, No Religion, No God for Human-beings is his famous quote.

Pampady John Joseph(1887-1940)

* Founder of the socio-religious movement Cheramar Mahajana sabha for Dalits.: 1921

* Joseph said Pulayars were the original inhabitants of Kerala and hence he re changed the caste name to Cheramar - which means the people of Kerala.

* Joseph initiated Sadhujan Dootan, a Magazine, in 1919, in which he wrote inspiring articles. In his famous book Cheruma Boy, Joseph questioned the Syrian Christian's discrimination against the untouchable Christians

Makthi Thangal (1847-1912)

* The first Malabar Muslim to write a book in Malayalam named Kadora Kodaram in year 1884.

* Muslim reformer; supported western education.

C V Kunjuraman (1871- 1949)

* Born in Kollam.

* Kunjuraman was a journalist, reformer, advocate and writer.

* He was an organiser of Samudaya Parishkara Sabha which took place at Paravoor in 1904.

* He also conducted Matha Parivarthana Prakshobham in 1936.

* He was also the founder of Kerala Kaumudi, one of the major newspapers in Kerala. Ragaparinamam, Ente Sreekovil, Panchavadi and India Charitra Sangraham are his major books.

Velukkutty Arayan (1894-1969)

* Founder of Araya mahajana karayogam.

* Participated in Vaikom Sathyagraham

Kuroor Neelakandan Nambhoothirippad (1896- 1981)

* He was a reformer and journalist.

* He founded the newspaper Lokamanyan in 1920.

* He was one of the founding directors of Mathrubhumi newspaper.

* He took part in Vaikom Satyagraha.

* He opened the Pavakkulam temple, which used to be managed by his family, to the untouchables during the temple entry movement.

T R Krishna swami Iyer (1890 -1935)

* Known as untouchable Brahmin.

Swami Ananda Theerthan (1905 □ 1987)

* **His real name was Ananda Shenoy.**

* **He was close to Sree Narayana Guru and worked against casteism.**

* **He assumed his new name at Sarada temple at Sivagiri in 1928.**

* **He established Sree Narayana School in Payyannur in 1931.**

* **He promoted intercast-marriage through the Jathinashini Sabha, founded in 1933**

1. The kailashnath Temple at Ellora was constructed by

Ans : Rashtrakuta king Krishna

2. Who designed the Indian parliament Building ?

Ans : Herbert Bekar

3. Thukaram belonged to

Ans : Maharashtra

4. Name the first king in the world who introduced prohibition

Ans : Ashoka

5. Which country is called constitution Research Society?

Ans : Greece

6. The custom of Johar prevailed among the women of

Ans : Rajputs

7. When did Alexander the great visited India?

Ans : 326 BC

8. Indus valley civilization period was

Ans : 3000-1500BC

9. Who were the architects of Indus Valley Civilization?

Ans : Dravidans

10. Mohenjodaro and Harappa are now in

Ans : Pakistan

11. The oldest veda is _____

Ans : Rig

12. Aryan's lived in

Ans : South India

13. Where is "Bulandh Darwaza " situated ?

Ans : Uttar Pradesh

14. The Dravidians worshipped

Ans : Sakthi -ans

15. The staple food of Indus Valley people was

Ans : Wheat and Barley

16. The brain trust of Chandra Gupta Maurya was

Ans : Kautilya

17. The modern name for Pataliputra

Ans : Patna

18. The city of modern Patna was founded by

Ans : Ajathasatru

19. The modern name for Panipat is

Ans : Kurukshetra

20. Ashvagosha lived during the _____ period

Ans : Kushana

21. Vikramaditya was

Ans : Chandra Gupta II

22. Vathapi was the capital of the

Ans : Chalukyas

23. Which battle in India gave superior status to the Britishers?

Ans : Battle of Buxar

24. Who was defeated by Ghoris Mohammed to conquer Delhi?

Ans : Prithviraj

25. Who was known as the 'Whip of the God'?

Ans : Chengizkhan

1. The statue of Gomateshwara at Sravanabelagola was built by□

A.Chandragupta Maurya

B.Kharvela

C.Amoghavarsha

D.Chamundaraya

Ans : (D)

2. □Live well, as long as you live. Live well even by borrowings, for once cremated, there is no return□. The rejection of after life is an aphorism of the□

A.Kapalika sect

B.Sunyavada of Nagarjun

C.Ajivikas

D.Charvakas

Ans : (D)

3. Which one of the following usages was a post-Vedic development ?

- A.Dharma-Artha-Kama-Moksha
- B.Brahmana-Kshatriya-Vaishya-Shudra
- C.Brahmacharya-Grihasthashrama-Vanaprastha-Sanyasa
- D.Indra-Surya-Rudra-Marut

Ans : (C)

4. The capital of the kingdom of Maharaja Ranjit Singh was□

- A.Amritsar
- B.Patiala
- C.Lahore
- D.Kapurthala

Ans : (C)

5. In the Gandhara sculptures the preaching mudra associated with the Buddha's First Sermon at Sarnath is□

- A.Abhaya
- B.Dhyana
- C.Dharmachakra
- D.Bhumisparsa

Ans : (C)

6. The name of the poet Kalidas is mentioned in the□

- A.Allahabad pillar inscription
- B.Aihole inscription
- C.Alapadu grant
- D.Hanumakonda inscription

Ans : (B)

7. Zero was invented by□

- A.Aryabhatta
- B.Varahamihira
- C.Bhaskara I
- D.An unknown Indian

Ans : (D)

8. Which one of the following important trade centres of ancient India was on the trade route connecting Kalyana with Vengi ?

- A.Tagara
- B.Sripura
- C.Tripuri
- D.Tamralipti

Ans : (A)

9. The first Indian ruler who joined the subsidiary Alliance was□

- A.The Nawab of Oudh
- B.The Nizam of Hyderabad
- C.Peshwa Bajji Rao II
- D.The king of Travancore

Ans : (B)

10. Vidhushaka, a common character in Sanskrit drama is invariably a□

- A.Brahmana
- B.Kshatriya
- C.Vaishya
- D.Shudra

Ans : (A)

11. Toramana belonged to the ethnic horde of the□

- A.Scythians
- B.Hunas
- C.Yue-chis
- D.Sakas

Ans : (B)

12. Who among the following is said to have witnessed the reigns of eight Delhi Sultans ?

- A.Ziauddin Barani
- B.Shams-i-siraj Afif
- C.Minhaj-us-siraj
- D.Amir Khusrau

Ans : (D)

13. The first Indian ruler to organize Haj pilgrimage at the expense of the state was□

- A.Alauddin Khilji
- B.Feroz Tughlaq
- C.Akbar
- D.Aurangzeb

Ans : (C)

14. Who among the following ladies wrote a historical account during the Mughal period ?

- A.Gulbadan Begum
- B.Noorjahan Begum
- C.Jahanara Begum
- D.Zebun-nissah Begum

Ans : (A)

15. The first to start a joint stock company to trade with India were the□

- A.Portuguese
- B.Dutch
- C.French
- D.Danish

Ans : (B)

16. The caves and rock-cut temples at Ellora are□

- A.Buddhist
- B.Buddhist and Jain
- C.Hindu and Jain
- D.Hindu, Buddhist and Jain

Ans : (D)

17. The significance of the Bengal Regulation of 1793 lies in the fact that□

- A.It provided for the establishment of the Supreme court
- B.It restricted the application of English law to Englishmen only
- C.It accommodated the personal laws of Hindus and Muslims
- D.It provided for the appointment of the Indian Law Commission

Ans : (C)

18. The Mansabdari system introduced by Akbar was borrowed from the system followed in□

- A.Afghanistan
- B.Turkey
- C.Mongolia
- D.Persia

Ans : (C)

19. Which one of the following monuments has a dome which is said to be one of the largest in the world ?

- A.Tomb of Sher Shah, Sasaram

B.Jama Masjid, Delhi
C.Tomb of Ghiyas-ud-
din Tuglaq, Delhi
D.Gol Gumbaz, Bijapur
Ans : (D)

20. Ashtapradhan was a Council of Ministers□
A.In the Gupta administration
B.In the Chola administration
C.In the Vijaynagar administration
D.In the Maratha administration
Ans : (D)

21. The concept of Anuvrata was advocated by□
A.Mahayana Buddhism
B.Hinayana Buddhism
C.Jainism
D.The Lokayata School
Ans : (C)

22. Which one of the following territories was not affected by the revolt of 1857 ?
A.Jhansi
B.Jagdishpur
C.Lucknow
D.Chittor
Ans : (D)

23. Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched ?
A.Battle of Buxar□ Mir Jafar Vs Clive
B.Battle of Wandiwash□French Vs East India Company
C.Battle of Chelianwala□Dalhousie Vs Marathas
D.Battle of Kharda□Nizam Vs East India Company
Ans : (B)

24. The word □Hindu□ as reference to the people of Hind (India) was first used by□
A.The Greeks
B.The Romans
C.The Chinese
D.The Arabs
Ans : (A)

25. Hughly was used as a base for piracy in the Bay of Bengal by□
A.The Portuguese
B.The French
C.The Danish
D.The British
Ans : (A)

1. The term □nishka□ which meant an ornament in the Vedic period was used in later times to denote a/an□
A. Weapon
B. Agricultural implement
C. Script
D. Coin
Ans : (D)

2. Which one of the following pairs of kings of ancient and medieval periods of Indian history and the works authored by them is correctly matched ?

- A. Krishnadevaraya : Samaranganasutradhra
- B. Mehendravarman : Mattavilasaprahasana
- C. Bhojadeva : Manasollasa
- D. Somesvara : Amuktamalyada

Ans : (B)

3. The founder of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides movement was□

- A. Charles Andrews
- B. Robert Montgomery
- C. Richard Temple
- D. Baden Powell

Ans : (D)

4. Which one of the following pairs is not correctly matched ?

- A. Dharamsastra : Works on religion and philosophy
 - B. Chaturvarnya : Four Ashrams
 - C. Shudra : Service to three varnas
 - D. Mahamatra : Superior Officials
- Manidha Naeyam

Ans : (B)

5. Chanakya was known as□

- A. Bhattasvamin
- B. Rajasekhara
- C. Vishnugupta
- D. Visakhadatta

Ans : (C)

6. A lot of details regarding the village administration under the Cholas is provided by the inscriptions at□

- A. Thanjavur
- B. Uraiyur
- C. Kanchipuram
- D. Uttaramerur

Ans : (D)

7. In Jainism □perfect knowledge□ is referred to as□

- A. Jina
- B. Ratna
- C. Kaivalya
- D. Nirvanas

Ans : (C)

8. Who among the following is NOT associated with medicine in ancient India ?

- A. Dhanvantri
- B. Bhaskaracharya
- C. Charaka
- D. Susruta

Ans : (B)

9. In Mughal paintings one notices the adoption of the principles of foreshortening whereby near and distant people and things could be placed in perspective. This was due to the influence of the□

- A. British
- B. Dutch
- C. Portuguese
- D. Danish

Ans : (C)

10. Ashokan inscriptions were first deciphered by□

- A. Buhler
- B. Robert Sewell
- C. James Prinsep

D. Codrington
Ans : (C)

11. Among the four works mentioned below which one is encyclopaedic in nature ?

- A. Amarakosa
- B. Siddhantasiromani
- C. Brhat Samhita
- D. Ashtangahrdaya

Ans : (A)

12. Consider the following passage□

In the course of a career on the road spanning almost thirty years, he crossed the breadth of the Eastern hemisphere, visited territories equivalent to about 44 modern countries and put behind him a total distance of approximately 73000 miles. The world's greatest traveller of pre-modern times to whom the above passage refers is□

- A. Megasthenes
- B. Fa Hien
- C. Marco Polo
- D. Ibn Battuta

Ans : (C)

13. The first political organisation established in India in 1838 was known as□

- A. British India Society
- B. Bengal British India Society
- C. Settlers Association
- D. Zamindary Association

Ans : (D)

14. The foundation of modern education system in India was laid by□

- A. The Charter Act of 1813
- B. Macaulay's Minutes of 1835
- C. The Hunter Commission of 1882
- D. Wood's Despatch of 1854

Ans : (B)

15. Uplift of the backward classes was the main programme of the□

- A. Prarthana Samaj
- B. Satya Shodhak Samaj
- C. Arya Samaj
- D. Ramakrishna Mission

Ans : (B)

16. The Ryotwari settlement was introduced by the British in the□

- A. Bengal Presidency
- B. Madras Presidency
- C. Bombay Presidency
- D. Madras and Bombay Presidencies

Ans : (D)

17. The Buddhist Sect Mahayana formally came into existence during the reign of□

- A. Ajatashatru
- B. Ashoka
- C. Dharmapala
- D. Kanishka

Ans : (D)

18. The last in succession of Jaina Tirthankaras was□

- A. Parsvanatha
- B. Rishabha
- C. Mahavira
- D. Manisubrata

Ans : (C)

19. The earliest rock cut caves in western India are those at□

- A. Nasik, Ellora and Ajanta
- Manidha Naeyam
- B. Junnar, Kalyan and Pitalkhora
- C. Ajanta, Bhaja and Kondane
- D. Bhaja, Pitalkhora and Kondane

Ans : (A)

20. The name by which Ashoka is generally referred to in his inscriptions is□

- A. Chakravarti
- B. Dharmadeva
- C. Dharmakirti
- D. Priyadarsi

Ans : (D)

21. Which one of the following is a monument constructed by Sher Shah ?

- A. Kila-i-Kuhna mosque at Delhi
- B. Atala Masjid at Jaunpur
- C. Barasona Masjid at Gaur
- D. Quiwwat-al-Islam mosque at Delhi

Ans : (A)

22. Which among the following cities is considered as one of the oldest surviving cities in the world ?

- A. Mathura
- B. Varanasi
- C. Hardwar
- D. Ayodhya

Ans : (A)

23. The earliest evidence of silver in India is found in the□

- A. Harappan culture
- B. Chalcolithic cultures of Western India
- C. Vedic texts
- D. Silver punch marked coins

Ans : (A)

24. Which one of the following is a language of Baluchistan but linguistically Dravidian ?

Manidha Naeyam

- A. Brahui
- B. Kui
- C. Parji
- D. Pengo

Ans : (A)

25. Which one of the following is the most fundamental difference between Mahayana Buddhism and Hinayana Buddhism ?

- A. Emphasis on ahimsa
- B. Casteless society
- C. Worship of gods and goddesses
- D. Worship of stupa

Ans : (C)
