



Grade : VI

Subject : Social science

Chapter: 9.Traders, kings and pilgrims

Objective Type Questions

I. Multiple choice questions

1. South India was famous for spices, especially:
a. Clover b. cardamom c. pepper d. nutmeg
2. Kanishka was a:
a. Gupta ruler b. Kushana ruler c. Maurya ruler d. Pala ruler
3. Ashvaghosha was a:
a. Piet b. King c. Soldier d. Pilgrim
4. Great Qing was a pilgrim from:
a. Rome b. Greece c. China d. Somalia
5. The idea of Bhakti is present in:
a. Ramayana b. Mahabharata c. Bhagwad Gita d. None of these

| | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1. (c) | 2. (b) | 3. (a) | 4. (c) | 5. (c) |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

I. Fill in the blanks

1. _____ is famous for gold, spices, especially pepper and precious stones.
2. There must have been quite a lot of trade as many _____ gold coins have been found in South India.
3. The word _____ like the term 'India' is derived from the river Indus.
4. _____ also spread to Western and Southern India.
5. _____ and other pilgrims spent time studying in _____.
6. Around 2000 years later a dynasty known as the _____ became powerful in Western India.



7. The most important ruler of the Satavahanas was _____.
8. Techniques of making silk were first invented in China around _____ years ago.
9. The best-known of the rulers who controlled the _____ route were the Kushanas, who ruled over _____ and North-West India around 2000 years ago.
10. The most famous Kushana ruler was _____ who ruled around 1900 years ago.
11. The Buddha's presence was shown in _____ by using certain signs.
12. The second change was a belief in _____.

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. South India | 2. Roman |
| 3. Hindu | 4. Buddhism |
| 5. Xuan Zang, Nalanda | 6. Satavahanas |
| 7. Gautamiputra Shri Satakarni | 8. 7000 |
| 9. Silk, Central Asia | 10. Kanishka |
| 11. Sculpture | 12. Bodhisattvas |

I. State True or False

1. Muvendar is a Bengali word meaning three chiefs.
2. Bodhisattvas were persons who had attained enlightenment.
3. Fa Xian started his journey back home from Nalanda.
4. The statues of Buddha were made in Mathura and Taxila.
5. Pepper, a very important spice grown in South India was known as black gold.
6. Puhar or Kaveripaltnam was the port of the Pandyas.

| | | | | | |
|----------|---------|----------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1. False | 2. True | 3. False | 4. True | 5. True | 6. False |
|----------|---------|----------|---------|---------|----------|

I. Match the following

| Column A | Column B |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Bhakti | a. A new form of Buddhism |
| 2. Mahayana | b. Wrote the biography of Buddha. |
| 3. Kushanas | c. Western India |

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 4. Ashvaghsha | d. Emphasis on devotion of deities |
| 5. Satavahanas | e. Control the silk route |

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| 1. (d) | 2. (a) | 3. (e) | 4. (b) | 5. (c) |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|

Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. What were the things for which South India was famous?

South India was famous for gold and spices, especially pepper and precious stones.

2. What was the capital of the Pandyas?

Madurai was the capital of the Pandyas.

3. Who were the best known rulers who controlled the Silk Route?

Kushanas were the rulers who were controlled the Silk Route.

4. Who are traders?

The persons who carry different kinds of things from one place to another are known as traders.

5. Who were the Kushanas?

The Kushanas were the rulers who ruled over Central Asia and North West India around 2000 years ago.

6. Why was pepper called 'Black Gold'?

Pepper was particularly much valued in the Roman Empire, due to which it was known as 'Black Gold'.

7. What do you understand by the term 'Dakshinapatha'?

'Dakshinapatha' literally means 'the route leading to the South', which was also used as a name for the entire southern region.

8. When and where was silk first invented?

Techniques of making silk were first invented in China around 7000 years ago.

9. What is Silk Route?

Some people from China went to distant lands on foot, horseback and on camels, carrying silk with them. The paths they followed came to be known as the Silk Route.

10. Who was Kanishka?

Kanishka was the most famous Kushana ruler who ruled around 1900 years ago.

11. Who was Ashvaghosha?

Ashvaghosha was a poet who composed a biography of Buddha, the 'Buddhacharita'. He lived in the Court of Kanishka and used Sanskrit language.

12. Who are pilgrims?

Pilgrims are men and women who undertake journeys to holy places in order to offer worship.

Short Answer Type Questions

1. Explain the term 'Muvendar'.

'Muvendar' is a Tamil word which means three chiefs, used for the heads of the three ruling families of South India. They were the Cholas, Cheras and Pandyas, who became powerful around 2300 years ago.

2. Who were Bodhisattvas?

Bodhisattvas were the persons who had attained enlightenment. Once they attained enlightenment, they could live in complete isolation and meditate in the place.

3. What kind of account was left by pilgrims?

The pilgrims who came to visit India left an account of their journeys. They wrote about the dangers they faced during their travels. They also had explained about the countries and the monasteries that they had visited and the books they had carried back with them.

4. Explain the term 'Hindu'.

The word 'Hindu', like the term 'India' is derived from the river Indus. It was used by Arabs and Iranians to refer to the people who lived to the East of the river and their cultural practices, including religious beliefs.

5. What were the main features of Bhakti?

The main features of Bhakti are as follows:

- (i) It emphasised the worship of a God or Goddess by an individual.
- (ii) It discarded the performance of yajna and sacrifices, etc.
- (iii) It emphasised the purity of heart.
- (iv) It grants permission to all, whether rich or poor, high or low caste, men or women to follow the path of Bhakti.



6. Which means were adopted by the traders to transport goods from one place to another?

Traders carried many goods to Rome in ships, across the sea, and by land in caravans. Traders explored several sea routes and followed the coasts. The sailors took advantage of the monsoon winds to cross the seas more quickly.

7. Who were Satavahanas?

- (i) Around 200 years later a dynasty known as the Satavahanas became powerful in Western India.
- (ii) The most important ruler of the Satavahanas was Gautamiputra Shri Satakarni. (They all) He and other were known as Lords of the Dakshinapatha.

8. Why did wearing silk becomes a fashion amongst the people of Rome?

About 2000 years ago, wearing silk became the fashion amongst rulers and rich people in Rome because:

- (i) It was very expensive, as it had to be brought all the way from China along dangerous roads, through mountains and deserts.
- (ii) People living along the route often demanded payments for allowing traders to pass through.

9. Explain the technique of making silk.

Making silk is a complicated process. Raw silk has to be extracted from the cocoons of silk worms, spun into thread and then woven into cloth. Techniques of making silk were first invented in China around 7000 years ago.

10. Why did kings want to control the Silk Route? How did traders benefit out of it?

Some kings tried to control large portions of the Silks Route because they could benefit from taxes, tributes and gifts that were brought by traders travelling along the route. In return, they protected the traders who passed through their kingdoms from attacks by robbers.

11. What were the features of the ruling period of the Kushanas?

- (i) The best-known of the rulers who controlled the Silk Route were the Kushanas, who ruled over Central Asia and North-West India around 2000 years ago.
- (ii) During there rule, a branch of the Silk Route was extended from Central Asia down to the seaports at the mouth of the river Indus, from where silk was shipped westwards to the Roman Empire.
- (iii) The Kushanas were amongst the earliest rulers of the sub-continent to issue gold coins. These were use by traders along the Silk Route.



12. State the features of Mahayana Buddhism.

- (i) Earlier, Buddha's presence was shown in sculptures by using certain signs. Now, statues of Buddha are made.
- (ii) The second change was a belief in Bodhisattvas. They were supposed to be persons who attained enlightenment and remained in the world to teach and help other people.

13. Name the places where Theravade Buddhism had a strong hold.

The places where Theravade Buddhism had a strong hold were Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand and Indonesia.

Long Answer Type Questions

1. Why do you think that the ordinary people were attracted to Bhakti?

- (i) Bhakti comes from the Sanskrit term 'bhaj', meaning 'to derive or share'. This suggests an intimate, two-way relationship between the deity and the devotee.
- (ii) Bhakti is directed towards Bhagavat, which is often translated as God but also means one who possesses and shares bhaga, literally 'good fortune' or 'bliss'.
- (iii) The devotee, known as the bhakta or the bhagavata shares his or her chosen deity's bhaga.
- (iv) Bhakti is generally understood as a person's devotion to his or her chosen deity. Anybody whether rich or poor, belonging to the so called 'high' or 'low' castes, man or woman could follow the path of Bhakti.
- (v) According to this system, that if a devotee worships the chosen deity with a pure heart, the deity will appear in the form in which he or she may desire. So, the deity could be thought of as a human being, lion, tree or any other form.

2. Name the Chinese visitors who came to India. What was their aim of visit?

The Chinese Buddhist pilgrims who visited India were:

- (i) Fa Xian, who came to the sub-continent about 1600 years ago,
- (ii) Xuan Zang who came around 1400 years ago, and
- (iii) I-Qing, who came about 50 years after Xuan Zang.



Their aim was to visit places associated with the life of Buddha as well as the famous monasteries.

3. Explain the ways through which the Chiefs use to rule South India.

- (i) The Cholas, Cheras and Pandyas were the three ruling families who became powerful in South India around 2300 years ago.
 - (ii) Each of the three Chiefs had two centres of power: one on land, and one on the coast.
 - (iii) The Chiefs did not collect regular taxes. Instead, they demanded and received gifts from the people.
 - (iv) They also went on military expeditions and collected tributes from neighbouring areas.
 - (v) They kept some of the wealth and distributed the rest amongst their supporters including members of their family, soldiers and poets.
 - (vi) Many poets whose compositions are found in the Sangam collection are poems in praise of the chiefs who often rewarded them with precious stones, gold, horses, elephants, chariots and fine cloth.
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Next Generation School

