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**Medieval History Part 1**

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1. Who was the father of Dara Shikoh?

दारा शिकोह के पिता कौन थे?

- a) Shah Jahan/शाह जहाँ
- b) Aurangzeb/औरंगजेब
- c) Akbar/अकबर
- d) Humayun/हुमायूँ

Ans: a

Solution:

**Dara Shikoh** was the eldest son of the Mughal emperor **Shah Jahan** and Nadira Bano Begum.

He is described as a "liberal Muslim" who tried to find commonalities between Hindu and Islamic traditions. He translated the Bhagavad Gita as well as 52 Upanishads into Persian.

2. The third Buddhist Council was held at \_\_\_\_\_.

तीसरी बौद्ध संगीति \_\_\_\_\_ में आयोजित की गई थी।

- a) Pataliputra/पाटलिपुत्र
- b) Vaishali /वैशाली
- c) Rajgriha/राजगृह
- d) Kashmir/कश्मीर

Ans: a

Solution:

**Third Buddhist Council:**

The third Buddhist Council was held at **Pataliputra** (250 BC).

Under the patronage of **King Asoka** and the presidency of **Moggaliputta Tissa**.

The teachings of Buddha which were under two baskets were now classified in 3 baskets as Abhidhamma Pitaka was established in this council and they were known as 'Tripitaka'. It also tried to settle all the disputes of Vinaya Pitaka. Establishment of Sthaviravada School as an orthodox school.

3. Ashtadiggajas is the collective title given to the eight scholars and poets in the court of which emperor?

अष्टदिग्गज किस सम्राट के दरबार में आठ विद्वानों और कवियों को दी गई सामूहिक उपाधि है?

- a) Chhatrapati Shivaji/ छत्रपति शिवाजी
- b) Chandragupta Maurya/ चंद्रगुप्त मौर्य
- c) Krishnadevaraya/ कृष्णदेवराय
- d) Vijayalaya Chola/ विजयालय चोल

Ans: c

Solution:

**Ashtadiggajas** is the collective title given to the **eight Telugu scholars** and **poets** in the court of **Emperor Krishnadevaraya** who ruled the **Vijayanagara Empire** from 1509 until he died in 1529.

During his reign, Telugu literature and culture reached their zenith.

In his court, eight poets were regarded as the eight pillars of his literary assembly.

4. 'Rani Ki Vav' is situated in which state of India?

'रानी की वाव' भारत के किस राज्य में स्थित है?

- a) Maharashtra/महाराष्ट्र
- b) Gujarat/गुजरात
- c) Rajasthan/राजस्थान
- d) Tamil Nadu/तमिलनाडु

Ans: b

Solution:

**Rani Ki Vav** ('The Queen's Stepwell') is a stepwell situated in the **Gujarat** state of India. It is located on the banks of the Saraswati river. Its construction is attributed to Udayamati, daughter of Khengara of Saurashtra, queen, and spouse of the 11<sup>th</sup>-century Chaulukya king Bhima I.

Silted over, it was rediscovered in the 1940s and restored in the 1980s by the Archaeological Survey of India. It has been listed as one of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites since 2014.

5. Diwan-i-Amir-Kohi was the Department of agriculture introduced by \_\_\_\_\_.

दीवान-ए-अमीर-कोही कृषि विभाग \_\_\_\_\_ द्वारा शुरू किया गया था।

- a) Firoz Shah Tughlaq/ फिरोज शाह तुगलक
- b) Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq/ गयासुद्दीन तुगलक
- c) Muhammad bin Tughluq/ मुहम्मद बिन तुगलक
- d) Alauddin Khilji/ अलाउद्दीन खिलजी

Ans: c

Solution:

**Diwan-i-Amir-Kohi** was the Department of agriculture introduced by **Muhammad bin Tughluq**. Muhammad Bin Tughlaq is known as a "Man of Ideas" and can be said one of the most striking sultans of medieval India.

He was a trained intellectual, a keen student of Persian poetry, and a philosopher, lover of science and mathematics. He is known for the idea of a **Central Capital** and experiments with a nominal **token Currency**.

These ideas were all good, but he was in hurry and impatient about the slow adoption of his measures. All those who could not keep pace with his imagination became victims of his wrath and were punished severely. The result was that Muhammad Bin Tughlaq, as a sultan proved himself a complete failure before the history of forces toppled him.

6. Who was the author of the book 'Si-yu-ki'?

पुस्तक 'Si-yu-ki' के लेखक कौन थे?

- a) Fahyaan/ फाह्यान
- b) Asvaghosa/ अश्वघोष
- c) Hiuen-Tsang/ ह्वेन त्सांग
- d) Moggaliputtatissa/ मोग्गलिपुत्ततिसा

Ans: c

Solution:

**Hiuen-Tsang** wrote the book "**Si-yu-ki**". It is related to Buddhism and has Buddhist Records in the Western World.

Hiuen-Tsang was a Foreign envoy who visited India during the time of **Harshavardhana**. He reached India through the Tashkent and Swat valley.

7. Who was the founder of the Satavahana Dynasty?

सातवाहन वंश का संस्थापक कौन था ?

- a) Satkarni-I/ सातकर्णी-I
- b) Hala/हाला
- c) Dantidurga/दंतीदुर्ग
- d) Simuka/ सिमुका

Ans: d

Solution:

**Simuka** was the founder of the **Satavahana Dynasty** and he is believed to have destroyed the Shunga Power. He did so with the aid of the Rathikas and Bhojakas. He reigned for around 23 years and was beheaded by his brother Kanha, who succeeded him.

8. The 'Vijayalaya' was the king of which dynasty?

'विजयालय' किस वंश का राजा था?

- a) Chola dynasty/ चोल वंश
- b) Pandya dynasty/ पांड्य वंश
- c) Chera dynasty/ चेरा राजवंश
- d) Pallava dynasty/ पल्लव वंश

Ans: a

Solution:

The first medieval **Chola ruler** was **Vijayalaya** who in 848 AD re-established the Chola rule. His capital was **Thanjavur**. Vijayalaya was a Pallava feudatory and because of his victory, the Cholas became powerful and Vijayalaya wiped out both the Pandyas and Pallavas from the Thanjavur area. Vijayalaya renovated Thanjavur and built solesvara temple at Padukottai. The rise of the Chola power miffed both the Pallavas and Pandyas

9. Ziauddin Barani remarks "The Sultan sometimes used to run naked in the court". This statement of Barani was written for which of the following ruler of Delhi Sultanate?

जियाउद्दीन बरनी की टिप्पणी "सुल्तान कभी-कभी अदालत में नग्न दौड़ते थे"। बरनी का यह कथन दिल्ली सल्तनत के निम्नलिखित में से किस शासक के लिए लिखा गया था?

- a) Mubarak Shah Khalji/ मुबारक शाह खिलजी
- b) Allauddin Khalji/ अलाउद्दीन खिलजी
- c) Muhammad bin Tughlaq/ मुहम्मद बिन तुगलक
- d) Malik Kafur/ मलिक काफूर

Ans: a

Solution:

**Sultan Mubarak Shah Khalji** was the son of **Allauddin Khalji**. He replaced the 'blood and iron' policy of Allauddin Khalji, and introduced the policy of "forgive and forget". People took a sigh of

relief in the reign of Mubarak Shah and his popularity increased but his giving them a long rope made the people pleasure-seeking and immoral.

It is said that he often used to come to court in a woman's attire and insulted the nobles in the company of prostitutes and his flatterers. The character of the nobles and the public, in general, was also affected by the character of their Sultan, and all of them were gradually given to immorality, intoxication, luxury, and debauchery.

**Ziauddin Barani** remarks, "The Sultan sometimes used to run naked in the court".

10. Portuguese mission under the leadership of Vasco Gama succeeded in reaching Calicut via the Cape of Good Hope in which of the following year?

वास्को गामा के नेतृत्व में पुर्तगाली मिशन निम्नलिखित में से किस वर्ष केप ऑफ गुड होप के माध्यम से कालीकट पहुंचने में सफल रहा?

- a) 1498
- b) 1449
- c) 1598
- d) 1549

Ans: a

Solution:

**Portuguese** patronized numerous ambitious sailing missions. One such mission by **Vasco de Gama** succeeded in reaching Calicut via the Cape of Good Hope in **May 1498**. He was favorably received by the local ruler **Zamorin**.

In 1500 Portuguese sent the second mission under Pedro Alvares Cabral. *Hence, the Portuguese Company became the first European trading company to establish its trade posts in India.* They established their trading settlements at Cochin, Goa, Daman and Diu, Salsette, Bassein, and Bombay.

11. Which of the following region was known as Avantika in ancient times?

निम्नलिखित में से किस क्षेत्र को प्राचीन काल में अवंतिका के नाम से जाना जाता था?

- a) Kashmir/कश्मीर
- b) Malwa/मालवा
- c) Awadh/अवध
- d) Bagelkhand/बघेलखंड

Ans: b

Solution:

**Avanti** or **Avantika** was an ancient Indian Mahajanapada, roughly corresponding to the present-day **Malwa** region.

According to the Buddhist texts, the Anguttara Nikaya, Avanti was one of the solasa mahajanapadas (sixteen great realms) of the 6th century BCE.

12. Fa-Hien visited India during the reign of which ancient ruler of India?

फा-हियान भारत के किस प्राचीन शासक के शासनकाल में भारत आया था?

- a) Srigupta/ श्रीगुप्त
- b) Chandragupta Maurya/ चंद्रगुप्त मौर्य
- c) Chandragupta II/ चंद्रगुप्त II
- d) Chandragupta I/चंद्रगुप्त I

Ans: c

Solution:

**Fa-hien**, a Chinese pilgrim, visited India during the reign of **Chandra Gupta II**. His primary aim was to visit the Buddhist religious places and to take with him the copies of the Buddhist religious texts. He, therefore, travelled through the Gupta Empire and also wrote down his impressions about India. As his main interest was religion, we know nothing about the political condition of India from his account.

13. The principal deity of the Chola temples is \_\_\_\_\_.

चोल मंदिरों के प्रमुख देवता \_\_\_\_\_ हैं।

- a) Rama/राम
- b) Krishna/कृष्णा
- c) Shiva/शिव
- d) Lakshmi/लक्ष्मी

Ans: c

Solution:

The **Chola rulers** were great builders and during their reign, the most magnificent temples were built in South India. **The principal deity of the Chola temples is Lord Shiva.**

Vijayalaya Temple was built by Vijayalaya Choleswar, the founder of Chola dynasty in 9th century CE. This temple is west facing temple is situated within a square courtyard and dedicated to Lord Shiva. RajRaja I has constructed a Shiva temple at Polanuruva at Sri Lanka in the same pattern of Chola architecture.

Brihadeshwar Temple of Tanjore built during the later phase of Chola architecture is dedicated to Lord Shiva, the temple complex is known as Raja Rajeshwaram and Peruvudaiyaar.

14. Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq was proficient in which of the following skill?

मुहम्मद-बिन-तुगलक निम्नलिखित में से किस कौशल में कुशल था?

- a) Art/ कला
- b) Calligraphy/ हस्तलिपि
- c) Music/संगीत
- d) Sports/खेल

Ans: b

Solution:

**Muhammad Tughluq** was a scholar versed in logic, philosophy, mathematics, astronomy and physical sciences. He had knowledge of medicine and was skillful in dialectics. He was also a **calligrapher**.

15. Which of the following ruler was contemporary of Krishna Deva Raya?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा शासक कृष्णदेव राय का समकालीन था?

- a) Babur/बाबर
- b) Akbar/अकबर
- c) Aurangzeb/औरंगजेब
- d) Bahadur Shah I/ बहादुर शाह I

Ans: a

Solution:

Krishna Deva Raya was the contemporary of the Mughal Emperor **Babur**.

Krishna Deva Raya was Vijayanagara Empire's medieval Indian emperor from **1509 to 1529**. He was Tuluva dynasty's third ruler. After the fall of the Delhi Sultanate, he ruled the largest empire in India. He defeated the sultans of Bijapur, Golconda, the Bahmani Sultanate, and the Gajapatis of Odisha to become the dominant ruler of the peninsula, and he was one of India's most powerful Hindu rulers.



16. Which Khilji ruler killed Jalal ud din Firuz Khilji to ascend the throne of Delhi?

किस खिलजी शासक ने दिल्ली के सिंहासन पर बैठने के लिए जलाल उद दीन फिरोज खिलजी की हत्या कर दी?

- a) Mubarak Shah/ मुबारक शाह
- b) Ala-ud-din Khilji/ अलाउद्दीन खिलजी
- c) Ghiyas - ud-din/ घियास - उद-दीन
- d) Qutb-ud-din Aibak/ कुतुबुद्दीन ऐबक

Ans: b

Solution:

**Allauddin Khilji** sat on the throne of Delhi Sultanate in 1296 AD after killing his uncle Jalal ud din Firuz Khilji. Allauddin Khilji was known as the most powerful ruler of Delhi sultanate. He expanded the territory of Delhi Sultanate to down south.

During his time the empire extended from Indus to Bengal and from Himalayas to Vindhyas. He defeated the ruler Raja Ramchandra and forced him to flee to hills.

17. Which of the following kingdom ruler founded the city of Dhillika (Delhi) in 736 C.E.?

निम्नलिखित में से किस साम्राज्य के शासक ने 736 C.E. में ढिल्लिका (दिल्ली) शहर की स्थापना की थी?

- a) Pratiharas/ प्रतिहार
- b) Chalukya/ चालुक्य
- c) Tomars/ तोमर
- d) Seuna (Yadava)/ सेउना (यादव)

Ans: c

Solution:

In the Haryana region the **Tomara Rajputs** (Tomara dynasty), originally feudatories of the Gurjara-Pratiharas, founded the city of Dhillika (modern Delhi) in 736 C.E.

18. Which of the following Nawab of Bengal shifted his capital from Murshidabad to Munger?

निम्नलिखित में से बंगाल के किस नवाब ने अपनी राजधानी को मुर्शिदाबाद से मुंगेर स्थानांतरित किया था?

- a) Mir Jafar/ मीर जाफर
- b) Mir Qasim/ मीर कासिम
- c) Shujaudaula/ शुजाउद्दौला

d) Shah Alam II/ शाह आलम II

Ans: b

Solution:

**Mir Qasim (1760-64):**

Mir Qasim ceded Burdwan, Midnapore, and Chittagong. He shifted his capital from Murshidabad to Munger.

Mir Qasim soon revolted as he was angry with the British for misusing the dastak (free duty passes). However, having been defeated by the British, he fled to Awadh, where he formed a confederacy with Awadh ruler Shujauddaula and Mughal emperor Shah Alam II.

The Battle of Bux-ar (1764):

- Mir Qasim, Shujauddaula, and Shah Alam II were defeated by Munro.
- Mir Jafar was again placed on the throne.
- Clive concluded two separate treaties of Allahabadi with Shah Alam II (12 August 1765) and Shujauddaula (16 August 1765).

19. "Muruj-Al-Zehab", was written by \_\_\_\_\_.

"मुरुज-अल-जहाब", \_\_\_\_\_ द्वारा लिखा गया था।

- a) Al-Masudi/ अल मासुदी
- b) Al-Biruni/ अल बिरूनी
- c) Ibn Battuta/ इब्न बतूता
- d) Amir Khusrow/ अमीर खुसरो

Ans: a

Solution:

**Muruj-Al-Zehab**, written by **Al-Masudi (895-957 CE)**, was a famous manuscript in which many details about Ancient India are depicted.

Al-Masudi details many things during his travel through India in Muruj-Al-Zehab.

The first part of the book begins with a history of the world's creation, followed by chapters on the social lives, religious practices, history, and geography of non-Islamic countries such as Greece, Rome, and India.

20. 'Uraiyur' city is an ancient city, which was the capital city of \_\_\_\_\_.

'उरैयूर (Uraiyur)' शहर एक प्राचीन शहर है, जो \_\_\_\_\_ की राजधानी थी।

- a) Chalukya dynasty/ चालुक्य वंश
- b) Chola dynasty/ चोला वंश
- c) Maurya dynasty/ मौर्या वंश
- d) Lohara dynasty/ लोहरा वंश

Ans: b

Solution:

**Uraiyur city** is an ancient city and it is near **Tiruchirapalli, Tamil Nadu**. The city was the capital of the early **Cholas**, who were one of the three main kingdoms of the ancient Tamil country.

Uraiyur was an active Buddhist center during the advent of Buddhism in the south.

Buddhism was popular in the region of modern-day Tamil Nadu around the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BCE during the rule of Asoka. Uraiyur was the most important location for Buddhism.

21. Ajmer Sharif Dargah is associated with which Sufi saint?

अजमेर शरीफ दरगाह का संबंध किस सूफी संत से है?

- a) Salim Chishti/ सलीम चिश्ती
- b) Nizamuddin Auliya/ निजामुद्दीन औलिया
- c) Qutb-din Bakhtiyar Kaki/ कुतुबदीन बख्तियार काकी
- d) Moinuddin Chisti/ मोइनुद्दीन चिश्ती

Ans: d

Solution:

The Ajmer Sharif Dargah is situated in Ajmer, Rajasthan. It was built in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. It is the Dargah of the Sufi saint, **Hazrat Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti**.

22. Who was the last sultan of the Delhi Sultanate?

दिल्ली सल्तनत का अंतिम सुल्तान कौन था?

- a) Ibrahim Lodi/ इब्राहिम लोदी
- b) Khizr Khan/ खिज़्र खान
- c) Khusrau Khan/ खुसरो खान
- d) Sikandar Lodi/ सिकंदर लोदी

Ans: a

Solution:

**Ibrahim Lodi** was the **last sultan of the Delhi Sultanate**. He was defeated by Babur in 1526 AD.

The Delhi Sultanate was an Islamic Empire that ruled over India from 1206 until 1526 A.D. There were five successive dynasties associated with the Delhi sultanate, namely those of the Sunni Islam Mamluk, Khilji, Tughlaq, Sayyid, and Lodi.

**23.** The term "Tol" was used for which of the following during the 18<sup>th</sup>-century India?

18वीं सदी के भारत में निम्नलिखित में से किसके लिए "तोल" शब्द का प्रयोग किया गया था?

- a) Schools/विद्यालय
- b) Hospitals/अस्पताल
- c) Cantonments/ छावनियों
- d) Stables/ अस्तबल

Ans: a

Solution:

Nadia was founded by one of the Sena kings of Bengal in 1063. The city passed under Mohammedan rule in 1203 A.D. Numerous educational institutions (**tols and chatupathis**) flourished here and scholars or repute used to teach in these institutions.

A new school of Smriti (law) was also founded at Nadia by Raghunandan Bhattacharya in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and a school of astronomy was added in 1718 by Ramarudra Vidyanidhi. The Gita, the Bhagavata, and other Hindu scriptures were also taught at Nadia. The position of Nadia as a seat of Hindu learning was next only to that of Varanasi during the Mughal period.

This tradition of learning continued at Nadia during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, and the **tols at Navadwipa** and Santipur were patronized by the Maharajas of Nadia during this period. The number of students in tols of Navadwipa was about 4,000 and that of teachers approximately 600 in the year 1860.

**24.** Who among the following Sikh Guru is known as 'Hind Ki Chadar'?

निम्नलिखित में से किस सिख गुरु को 'हिंद की चादर' के नाम से जाना जाता है?

- a) Guru Angad/गुरु अंगद
- b) Guru Gobind Singh/गुरु गोबिंद सिंह
- c) Guru Ram Das/गुरु राम दास
- d) Guru Tegh Bahadur/गुरु तेग बहादुर

Ans: d

Solution:

**Guru Tegh Bahadur** was born in 1621 at Guru Ke Mahal, Amritsar, Punjab. He was the youngest son of Guru Hargobind, the sixth Sikh guru.

He is known as '**Hind Ki Chadar**' (India's Shield) because he sacrificed his life to save Kashmiri pandits and Hindu religion. For this, he was executed in 1675 in Delhi on the orders of Aurangzeb. His 115 hymns are included in Sri Guru Granth Sahib.

25. The \_\_\_\_\_ lake in Gujarat was an artificial reservoir built during the rule of the Mauryas.

गुजरात में \_\_\_\_\_ झील मौर्य शासन के दौरान बनाया गया एक कृत्रिम जलाशय था।

- a) Lonar/लोनर
- b) Loktak/लोकतक
- c) Sudarshana/सुदर्शन
- d) Pushkar /पुष्कर

Ans: c

Solution:

The most famous of the irrigation works of the early Maurya period is the **Sudarshan lake** of Kathiawar, constructed by **Pushyagupta the Vaisya**, an officer of Chandragupta Maurya, and provided with supplemental channels by the Yavanaraja Tushaspha in the days of Ashoka.

26. The ruins of the ancient city of Hampi - capital of Vijayanagara - is located in which present-day Indian state?

विजयनगर की राजधानी - हम्पी के प्राचीन शहर के खंडहर - वर्तमान किस भारतीय राज्य में स्थित है?

- a) Karnataka/कर्नाटक
- b) Haryana/हरयाणा
- c) Bihar/बिहार
- d) Telangana/तेलंगाना

Ans: a

Solution:

The group of monuments at Hampi comprise mainly the remnants of the Capital City of Vijayanagara Empire (14th-16th Cent CE), the last great Hindu Kingdom. It is also a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The property encompasses an area of 4187, 24 hectares, located in the Tungabhadra basin in Central **Karnataka**, Bellary District.

27. Who was the Peshwa when the Treaty of Bassein was signed?

बेसिन की सन्धि के समय पेशवा कौन था ?

- a) Bajirao I/बाजीराव I
- b) Balaji Biswanath/ बालाजी विश्वनाथ
- c) Madhavrao I/ माधवराव I
- d) Bajirao II/ बाजीराव II

Ans: d

Solution:

The Treaty of Bassein was signed in the year **1802**. It was signed between the British East India Company and **Bajirao II**. By signing this treaty, Peshwa came under the control of the British.

28. The Tomb of Aurangzeb, the last influential Mughal emperor, is located in which city?

अंतिम प्रभावशाली मुगल बादशाह औरंगजेब का मकबरा किस शहर में स्थित है?

- a) Lahore/लाहौर
- b) Delhi/दिल्ली
- c) Agra/आगरा
- d) Khuldabad/खुल्दाबाद

Ans: d

Solution:

The Tomb of Aurangzeb, the last influential Mughal emperor, is located in **Khuldabad**, Aurangabad district, Maharashtra, India.

29. During the Mughal period, who was called 'Zinda Pir'?

मुगल काल में 'जिंदा पीर' किसे कहा जाता था?

- a) Jahangir/जहाँगीर
- b) Aurangzeb/औरंगजेब
- c) Dara Shikoh/दारा शिकोह
- d) Shah Jahan/शाह जहाँ

Ans: b

Solution:

**Aurangzeb** was also known as '**Zinda Pir**' or the 'Living Saint'. He was the last of the great Mughal Emperors of India, from 1658 to 1707.

**30.** In India, where did the Dutch establish their earliest factory?

भारत में डचों ने अपना पहला कारखाना कहाँ स्थापित किया था?

- a) Karaikal/ कराईकल
- b) Masulipatnam/ मसूलिपटनम
- c) Pulicat/ पुलिकट
- d) Kasimbazar/ कासिमबाजार

Ans: b

Solution:

The Dutch East India Company was created in 1602 as "United East India Company" and its first permanent trading post was in Indonesia.

In India, they established the first factory in **Masulipattanam** in 1605, followed by Pulicat in 1610, Surat in 1616, Bimilipattam in 1641 and Chinsura in 1653.

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