GSSCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

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TEST COPY

MUKUND SINGH CHAHAR

AIR - 273

(CSE 2022)

HISTORY OPTIONAL

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HISTORY TEST SERIES 2020

TEST - 02

85/250

HISTORY

Time Allowed: 3 Hrs. *Max. Marks: 250*

Instructions to Candidate

- Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions
- There are SIX questions, printed in **ENGLISH**.
- Candidate has to attempt **FIVE** questions in all.
- Question No. 1 is compulsory and out of the remaining, any **FOUR** are to be attempted
- The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission certificate which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-cum-Answer (QCA) booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.
- Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.
- Attempts of questions shall be counted in chronological 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 answer book must be clearly struck off.

Name Mukund Singh Chahar

Mobile No. _____

Date _____

Signature _____

1. *Invigilator's Signature* _____

2. *Invigilator's Signature* _____

Roll No._____

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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. (2.5×20 = 50 Marks)

(i) Mesolithic factory site

(ii) Paleolithic Site

(iii) Ash mound site

(iv) Pit dwelling site Burzahom.

(v) Political and Cultural centre Madurai

(vi) Trade centre Pandalas

(vii) Late Harappan site

(viii) A cultural site

(ix) Painted Grey Ware site

(x) Chalcolithic site Ahar.

(xi) Early agricultural centre

(xii) Early Harappan site Chanhudaro.

(xiii) An ancient temple

(xiv) Political and Cultural centre Uraiyur.

(xv) An ancient sea port

(xvi) Buddhist centre

(xvii) Inscriptional site

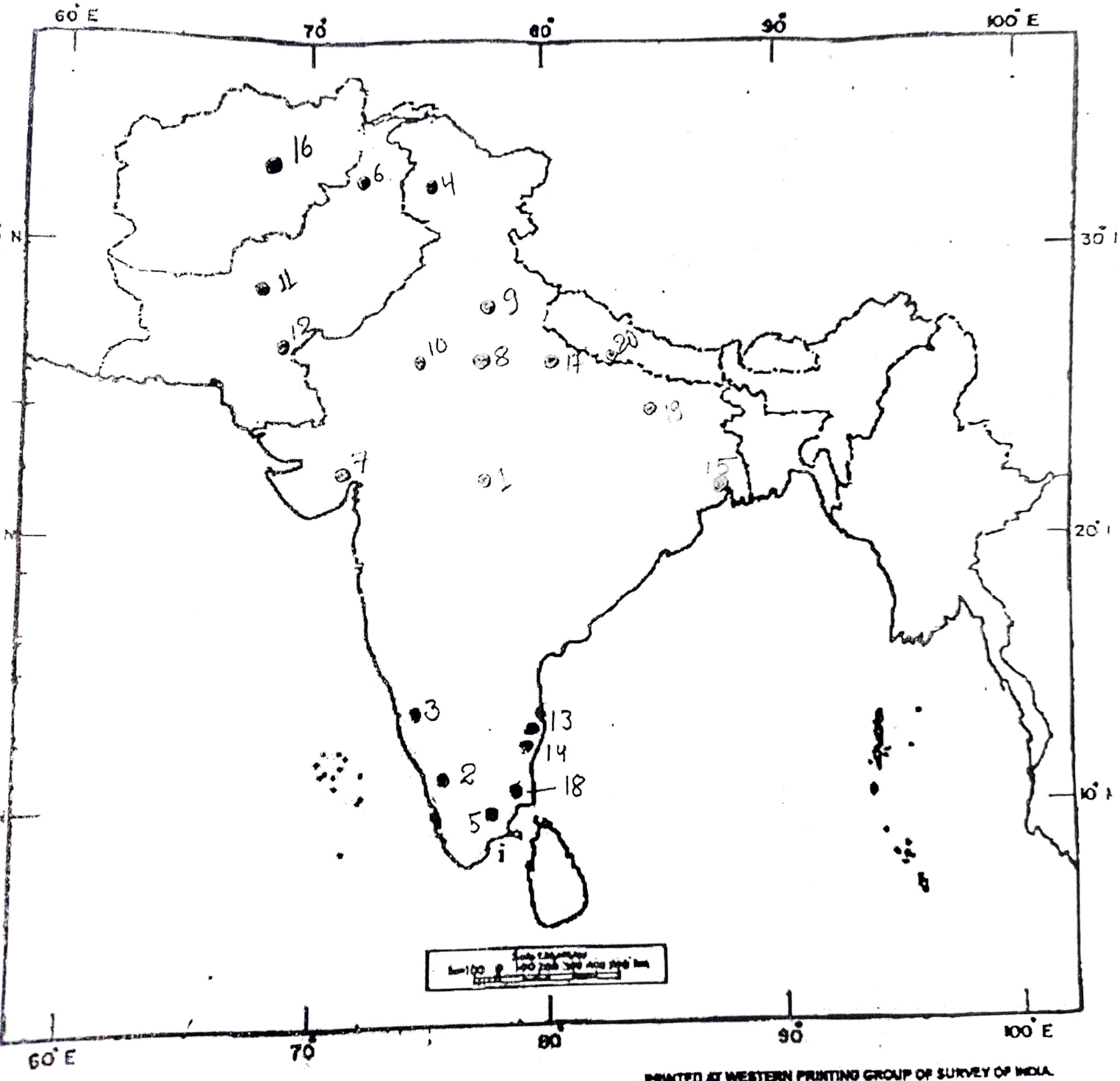
(xviii) An ancient capital

(xix) A Jaina centre

(xx) A NBPW site

Remarks

Map-Test: 2



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This territorial wards of India extend into the sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles measured from the appropriate base line

iv) Burzahom :

→ In present day Jammu Kashmir.

→ Known for its unique collection of bone tools instead of stone tools.

→ Presence of pits (probably utilized as residential areas).

v) Madurai :

→ Served as the capital for Pandyas.

→ Served as the centre of Sangama literature where various illuminaries of the Sangama period united to create artistic literature.

vi) Qandahar :

→ Served as an important trade centre connecting India to Central Asia.

→ Also known as an important fort for the northwest frontiers of the Indian empires.

vii) Dholavira

→ Known for its effective water storage systems.

→ Presence of three tier ~~extend~~ society also manifested through the constructions in Dholavira.

x) Ahar:

→ Known as one of the most famous chalcolithic sites, mostly due to the presence of widespread copper implements.

→ Surrounded by other important sites such as Gilund, it formed a crucial region in the chalcolithic period.

xii) Chanhudaro:

→ In present day Pakistan, it is widely known for its advances in making beads and other related items.

xiv) Uraiyur:

→ An important Political and cultural centre, it served as the centre of cotton trade in Southern India and thus was crucial for foreign trade during the period.

Remarks

2. (a) Give an account of regional specificities in the field of architecture as gleaned from the developments in eastern India during the medieval period. (10 Marks)

(b) Political dynamics within the Delhi Sultanate largely determined changes in the Iqta system. Comment. (20 Marks)

(c) Do you subscribe the view that Alauddin's market regulations successful in reorganising the economy? Discuss. (20 Marks)

a) Indian architecture is considered by scholars across the globe as a manifestation of magnificence. During the medieval ~~architecture~~ period, Indian architecture attained heights which were hitherto unobserved.

During the Sultanate and later in Mughal rule, Architecture in North and eastern India saw unprecedented advances in both artistic & technological aspects. From the tomb of Sasaram, to the fort of Chunar, Architecture in Eastern India prospered significantly during this period.

The medieval period also saw the rise of provincial kingdoms, such as Ahoms and Independent Mughal governor principalities. In Odisha, the Gajapati's reigned supreme, and under all these provincial kingdoms, architecture saw a relatively different way of development, which was unlike the developments observed under the Mughal Empire.

Remarks

Thus, it can be concluded that Eastern India saw a rise of unique architecture which had an imprint of the provincial kingdoms of the contemporary period, and thus it gained its distinct identity and emerged as a refreshing alternative to architecture in the rest of India.

lack of facts

Work in detail -
Bengal
Assam
Jaunpur

Write the examples and special feature

30

Remarks

b) Iqta system played a crucial role in the rise of Delhi Sultanate in early thirteenth century. It bolstered their capabilities in the face of their Rajput challenges and positioned them in a situation to dominate Northern India.

Based on granting revenue bearing lands in lieu of troops, the Iqta system provided the Delhi Sultanate with a massive army that was unparalleled in the contemporary times. However, this system did not see a uniform application, and political dynamics within the Delhi Sultanate largely determined the changes in it.

good aspect

Under the administration of strong rulers, the owners of Iqta were thoroughly dominated to avoid any insurgencies. Along with this, it was also ensured that the best lands were kept solely for the usage of "Khalisa" (whose revenue was directly appropriated by the central treasury).

However, frequently under the weaker rulers, we saw periods of enhanced autonomy where the owners of Iqta exercise considerable independence in their

Structure is good

Remarks

GS SCORE

respective Iqtas. This was accompanied by demands of nobles and commanders for better lands under their Iqtas, to gain more revenues and benefits.

Thus, it can be fairly concluded that the Iqta system saw a swing in its fate like a pendulum, where the swing was decided by the capabilities and centralizing tendencies of the Sultan.

18

↳ Write properly the modification under various Sultan

↳ Correlate with → Mughal Mansabdari System.

Remarks

Q.) Alauddin Khalji is largely recognized as one of the most impactful Sulthans of the Delhi Sultanate. His calculative strategies paved the way for unprecedented expansion of the Mughal Empire. And one of the most strategic devices to achieve this expansion was his market regulations.

Alauddin envisaged a thorough reorganization of the Sultanat economy. His objective was to amass a massive army to counter the Mongol challenge, and for that he needed to control the prices to reduce the cost of maintaining an army. He achieved this through a variety of market regulations:

i) He established three separate markets for cloth, foodgrains and slaves. He ensured stable supplies in these markets to control the rise in prices.

ii) He introduced the office of "shahna", who was authorised to regulate the prices in these markets.

iii) To control the prices of other commodities, he paid the Multani traders to procure costly sultans.

iv) He utilized the extensive links of Banjaras to provide supplies in far flung areas.

good facts and analysis

Remarks

v) He introduced severe measures to curb hoarding of items and introduced strict punishments for violators.

Thus, by introducing a wide range of market regulations he managed to control the price to a certain extent. However there were various drawbacks to these regulations, including thorough subjugation of merchants and peasants & excessively strict punishments affecting ease of trade.

Hence, it can be concluded that though his market regulations managed to meet his requirements for a short period, in the longer run his methods were simply not sustainable enough to reorganize the economy thoroughly.

(10)

Mention properly the name of Source

Opinion of different historians

Answer should be Multidimensional

Remarks

3. (a) Examine the increasing importance of maritime trade of India during thirteenth to fifteenth centuries. (20 Marks)

(b) Architecture under the Delhi Sultanate reflects a different level of technological and stylistic attainment. Discuss. (20 Marks)

(c) Identify the main factors that sustained the expansion of urban economy in the Delhi Sultanate. (10 Marks)

(a) During the thirteenth to fifteenth centuries, it can be suggested that India was a trading powerhouse. A significant portion of India's prosperity was a direct consequence of its well established trading capabilities.

To adequately assess the importance of maritime trade of India during this period, a lasting assessment of India's political scenario is a must. This period saw Delhi Sultanat's rise as the foremost power in India. However, it seems that their priorities lied in the overland trade across the well established trade routes connecting India and central Asia. Across the Deccan and South India, the rise of Vijayanagar and Bahmani empires saw an increase in maritime trade as well. Soon, well established trade links were formed along the Indian Ocean with South east Asia as well as West Asia. While India exported exquisite items such as textiles (calicoes), spices, handicrafts etc, it also received luxury

obstacle in this route → increased for importance of sea trade

Remarks

imports such as silk (China), ivory (Africa) etc. This trade was not only practiced across Southern ports such as Arikamedu, but was also seen across western ports (Vallabhi) as well as across the Bengal region.

Thus, it would be fair to say that maritime trade found a unique appreciation in the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries in India. This appreciation paved the way for the astronomical rise in trade during the Mughal period which resulted in establishing India as the centre of the world trade, which controlled almost a quarter of the trade volume in the world.

(8)

- lack of Specific facts/examples
- Avoid to write generalistic answer

draw Map for better presentation

Remarks

3(b) Architecture under Delhi Sultanate reflects a different level of technological and stylistic attainment, and this can be assessed by evaluating the architectural development in each sub-period of the Sultanate rule:

i) Initial stage: (Iltutmish, Qutb Aibak):
The arrival of Sultanat rulers saw an urgent requirement of buildings for residential and religious purposes. Thus transformation of pre-established buildings resulted in creation of "Adhai Din Ka Jhopra" and "Quwat ul Islam Masque".

However, soon Sultanat rulers began leaving their imprints on Indian Architecture by creating structures of their own. A prime example is manifested in "Qutb Minar", with its sophisticated use of red sandstone and marble, it also displayed advanced architectural knowledge (ex: balconies linked with the main central building).

ii) Khalji period:
Though mostly known for his conquests and market reforms, Alauddin Khalji also contributed in creating a beautiful gateway for Qutb minar. He also creating a city complex named "Siri", which was a strategic as well as artistic

Remarks

achievement at that time.

iii) Tughlaq period:

The arrival of Tughlaqs saw the use of greystone instead of red sandstone, and thus intricate carvings are missing in their architecture. However, the use of sloping walls accompanied allowed them to bestow their buildings with unique stability. They were also builders of city complexes such as "Tughlaqabad".

iv) Lodhi period: Their major achievements include creating beautiful tombs in the midst of pleasing gardens (ex: Lodhi Garden, Delhi)

Thus, to summarize, Sultanat period contributed profusely in both enhancing artistic & technological aspects of Indian architecture.

through:

- use of "Arabesque" technique: decorating with verses of Quran stylistically.
- use of "domes" instead of pillars, thus providing a pleasing skyline + solidity.

Artistic aspects.

- also utilized Hindu motifs, but eschewed use of flowers in decoration
- contrasting color schemes through using red & white sandstone.

Technological aspects

- use of arches, beams and lintels to provide enhanced stability to buildings.

Remarks: 11

Good facts and Way of presentation

c) The factors involved in expanding urban economy in the Delhi Sultanate were

i) A unified North Indian Empire:
With the arrival of Delhi Sultanate, North India was unified, which helped in prospering of trade thus paving the way for a new urban economy based on trade.

ii) Agrarian surplus:
Due to strict measures of Alauddin Khalji as well as irrigation advances during Firuz Tughlaq, this period saw rise in agrarian surplus, which aided in rise of towns.

iii) Establishing Law & order:
The Sultans were incredibly stringent in ensuring law and order, which can be seen through examples such as Balban's "Blood & Iron policy". The establishment of law created peaceful conditions for trade to prosper.

iv) Improved trade & commerce:
The establishment of Sultanate saw an exponential rise in trade and commerce across India. Merchant guilds became stronger and complex inter-regional trade linkages were formulated. All these factors enhanced the size of trade and provided a solid foundation for trade and expansion of urban economy.

Remarks

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good articulation

Thus it can be concluded that various factors culminated in allowing expansion of the urban economy during the Sultanat period.

5

good facts and conceptual clarity

Add

Examine the impact of expansion of Urban Economy

Remarks

4. (a) Analyse the articulation and organisation of political authority in the Vijayanagara kingdom, with special reference to the Nayankara system. (10 Marks)

(b) Is, the 'agrarian crisis' an adequate explanation of crisis facing the Mughal Empire towards the close of 17th century? Elucidate. (20 Marks)

(c) By 'dining into the ears of his maliks and amirs most of whom were the quondam colleagues, again and again that kingship was something divinely ordained, he wanted to wash off the stigma of being a regicide and impress upon their minds that it was divine will that had brought him to the throne and not the poisoned cup and the assassin's daggers'. (KA Nizami).

In the light of above statement, bring out the concept of kingship as expounded by Balban. How did it get modified under later Sultans. (20 Marks)

4) a) The rise of Vijayanagar Empire saw an era of prosperity that was unprecedent in ~~the~~ Deccan India. Founded by Harihara and Bukka, the Vijayanagar empire was led by illustrious rulers such as Deva Raya I and Krishna Deva Raya. However, these central rulers had to divide their powers strategically on the basis of an intricately developed system called "Nayankara".

Unlike the central ruler enjoyed supreme authority in the Vijayanagar empire, his authority was frequently challenged by rebellious factions exerting their autonomy. Based on requirement of maintaining troops in lieu of receiving revenue, the Nayankara system gradually morphed into a system where autonomous rulers frequently posed a challenge to the ruler. Under Krishna Deva Raya, the centralising powers temporarily curbed the disruptions of Nayankaras

Remarks

but his demise saw a lack of worthy successors. This was followed by a crushing defeat in Battle of Bannihati (1565), thus ending the glory of the Vijaynagar Empire.

Thus, it can be concluded that the Vijaynagara empire was a precariously organised polity, where individual autonomous stakeholders always waited in the wings to topple the central authority.

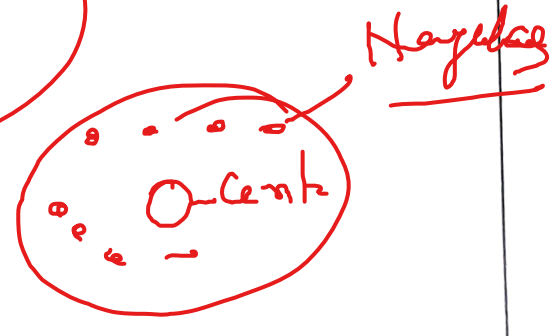
Answer should be found on

Nayaka System

Source to Know

opinion of different Historians

diversity the way of presentation



b) The Mughal Empire's glorious reign which started in mid 16th century fizzled out gradually towards the close of 17th century. Though "agrarian crisis" is considered by many as a deciding factor for its demise, there were many other factors which deserve a mention:

i) Lack of worthy successors:
Aurangzeb's demise was followed by a string of sub-par rulers who failed to consolidate the massive Mughal empire and simply submitted in the face of challenges facing the empire.

ii) Aurangzeb's religious policies:
While it is true that Aurangzeb extended the boundaries of Mughal empire to unprecedented limits, it is also true that his orthodox and biased religious stance served to alienate Rajputs and Marathas, two erstwhile all weather friends of the Mughal empire.

iii) The Deccan Debacle:
The worthless pursuit of expansion in Deccan drained the Mughal empire of its resources. At the same time, the geographical limitations related to such an expansion simply strained the Mughal troops to such an extent that their efficiency declined drastically.

Remarks

iv) Rebellions :

The constant rebellions posed a massive challenge for the Mughal Empire, which finally broke its back. The rise of Jats and Satnamis near Agra and Mathura, the plunders of Afghans in North-West and the Sikh rebellions created massive hurdles for the Mughals.

However, despite presence of all these factors, various scholars (prominently Irfan Habib) suggest the presence of "agrarian crisis" as the major factor behind the fall of Mughal Empire. This theory suggests that a "lack of jagirs" (due to control of Deccani nobles) created discontent among the nobles and resulted in the failure of the jagirdari system, which formed the foundation of the Mughal empire. While this crisis certainly posed an insurmountable threat to the Mughal empire, it was accentuated by various above mentioned factors which finally broke the proverbial "camel's back".

good conceptual clearly

good Context Content

10

Remarks

c) The rise of Balban in the mid 13th century saw the Delhi Sultanate attaining new heights. Though he was known for his various contributions like his "Blood and Iron policy", his most unique contribution was probably the concept of "Divine Kingship".

However, before assessing his concept of kingship, a brief analysis of his journey to the throne is essential. A conqueror who did not have royal blood, Balban faced insurmountable odds to reach the throne. Through tactful diplomacy as well as outright deceit, Balban displaced the royal family to gain the throne.

Thus, it was of paramount importance for Balban to justify his position as a ruler, as he faced a powerful "chahalgani". For this, he looked up to the Persian ideals of divine kingship and mimicked them readily. He focussed on creating an illustrious facade of a magnanimous ruler, a ruler who was ordained to rule the populace by the order of god himself.

To establish this theory, he tactically organized glorious court rooms and palaces. He further utilized the practices such as paibos (kissing the monarch's feet) and

Remarks good → Conceptual clearly

Sijda (bowing in front of the monarch). Through these ~~ingenious~~ genius methods, Balban emphasized his superiority over the rest and managed to create a glorious facade of him being a mythical divine ruler. Empowered by the undying faith of the populace in his divine kingship, he then went on to vanquish the Chahalgani once and for all, thus quashing any challenges in future.

The later sultans smartly utilized the legacy of Balban to further boost their authority. Thus it can be concluded that Balban played a crucial role in enhancing the centralized authority of Delhi Sultanate, thus bestowing it with longevity.

8

This part be 40% of answer

So Keep in mind

Part and Ratio of answer

Remarks

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6. (a) 'The temples of South India acted as a urban nuclei resulting in a socio-economic process that marks acceleration of urbanization and integrative state formation'. Comment. (20 Marks)

(b) 'Court paintings essentially represent imperial ideology and royal vision of the Mughul state'. Discuss. (20 Marks)

(c) What factors contributed to the growth of Bhakti movement in north India during the Saltanate period? (10 Marks)

6)a) The history of South India is imprinted with indelible marks of temples and their role in socio-economic scenarios of that period. An analysis of socio economic development and rise of integrative state formation would be incomplete without evaluating the roles of temples in it.

underline the main point

Though South Indian temples are widely known for their unique "Dravida" architecture, it is also true that their contributions went way beyond architectural beauty. The temples of South India were powerful entities which controlled the society of South Indian states. They exercised control over land, education and socio-economic structure of the contemporary period. In short, they acted as a urban nuclei which hosted various elements that paved the way for acceleration of urbanization and integrative state formation.

Remarks

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In South India, temples were not just places of worship. Instead they were a complex socio-economic entity which controlled a significant number of social and economic activity. They served as a urban nuclei along which urban elements grew gradually.

Thus, it can be concluded that urbanization forces grew along the periphery of the temples in South India, which gradually paved the way for integrative state formation.

(8)

Complete property

Write property

↳ (1) how accelerate the process of Urbanization

(2) Integrative State formation

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b) The art of painting recieved a significant impetus with the arrival of Mughal empire in India. The art loving Mughal rulers patronized a number of artists which saw the rise of an era of glorious paintings.

The earliest significant patron of paintings in Mughal India was Akbar. Under his patronage, artists such as ~~Dasawan~~ Dasawan took court paintings to new heights. Scenes of courts, battles and the chase were frequently presented in these court paintings, thus providing us with a glimpse of the imperial ideology of the contemporary period. Illustration of translated Persian works was also a common feature during this period.

The art of painting reached its pinnacle under the watchful patronage of Jahangir. A lover of arts, Jahangir especially patronized the art of painting portraits. This period saw an enhanced impetus on court paintings, thus representing widespread prosperity of the Mughal empire.

The later periods of the Mughal empire saw the rise of Aurangzeb, whose orthodox beliefs led him to oppose many forms of art, thus effectively ending the

What substantiate with facts

Remarks

patronage to court paintings during this period. The court painters now shifted to peripheries of the Mughal empire, thus promoting the rise of painting in various provincial empires.

Thus it can be concluded that Court paintings essentially represent imperial ideology and royal vision of the Mughal state. While the scenes of battles and illustrious courts present an apt picture of the splendour and conquering spirits of the Mughal empire, the virtual absence of court painting in later stages also portrays an orthodox stance of later Mughal rulers.

9½

Substantiate with proper examples

Your articulation is good

Requires facts

c) The factors involved in the growth of Bhakti movement in North India during the Sultanate period are:

i) Lost Rajput prestige:
With the losses endured by the Rajputs in their battles against the Sultanate rule, the Rajput-Brahman combination faced a setback. The general populace saw an erosion of their beliefs in the traditional social structure dominated by the upper two varnas, and consequently the ritualistic Brahmanism also lost prestige.

ii) Islamic ideas of Brotherhood & equality:
The ideas of egalitarianism promoted by the Islamic religion soon pervaded the common populace during the Sultanate rule. Soon people demanded a renewed religion free of hierarchy and inequalities and instead focused on equality for all.

iii) Rise of prominent Bhakti saints:
The Sultanate rule also saw the rise of various prominent Bhakti saints who now promoted the cause of love for god. They emphasized on the importance of individual relationship between individual and the god. Devotion became the

Remarks

GS SCORE

Key component in the songs and hymns of "Nayanars" and "Alvars" in South India. Such various regions followed suit and Bhakti pervaded the common life in many regions.

Nicely mention the impt. factors

In brief ~~write~~ the spread of Bhakti movement

Remarks