

Online Internal Examination - CC3 [Mauryan & Gupta Empire]

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
JHARGRAM RAJ COLLEGE
SEMESTER 2 (HISTORY)

* Required

1. Email *

Candidate's Details

2. Name in CAPITAL letters: *

3. Registration No. (Please don't write registration year): *

4. Registration Year: *

Mark only one oval.

2020-2021

2019-2020

2018-2019

2017-2018

2016-2017

5. Class Roll No.: *

6. Session: *

Check all that apply.

2021

Questions

Time allowed: 40 minutes.
This paper consists of 20 multiple-choice type of questions.
Each question has 4 alternative responses.
You have to choose the correct response against each question.
Answer all the questions.
All questions carry equal marks.
There is no negative marks for incorrect answers.

7. Which of the following indicate that Indo-Greek coins were adjusted to the requirements of the region of their circulation? (1) Indo-Greek coins contained rulers' portraits on the obverse. (2) Images of local gods were usually found on the reverse. (3) Coins that were found south of the Hindukush were often square in shape. (4) Bilingual legends were used. 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- 2,3,4
 1,2,3,4
 1,3,4
 2,4

8. Sangam literature constitutes rich source of the history of _____. 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- Tamil Nadu
 Karnataka
 Andhra Pradesh
 Kerala

9. Which of the following cities was not a base from which the Indo-Greeks ruled in India? 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- Bactria
- Peshawar
- Sakala
- Taxila

10. In 1905, a pandit of Tanjore district handed over a manuscript to R. Shamashastry, librarian of the Mysore Government Oriental Library. This Sanskrit text was soon identified as Kautilya's 'Arthashastra'. In the context of the above identify the false statement/s: (1) The text contains 15 'adhikaranas'. (2) The entire discussion of statecraft is from the point of the 'vijigishu'. (3) Thomas R. Trautmann is of the view that Kautilya is the author of the entire text. 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- 3
- 1,2,3
- 1,2
- 2

11. Arthashastra does not contain any references to the (1) Mauryas (2) Ajivikas (3) ganasanghas (4) Pataliputra (5) Chandragupta Maurya (6) Mauryan empire 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- 1,4,5,6
- 4,5,6
- 2,3,4,5
- 1,2,4

12. Consider the following statements: (1) Megasthenes' 'Indica' has not survived, but parts of it are preserved in later Greek and Latin works. (2) Later Graeco-Roman writers differed in their opinion on Indica's reliability. (3) Later writers selected from Megasthenes' book the bits they thought would interest their audience the most, and left out what they considered were the boring parts. Which of the following is/are false? 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- 1,2,3
- 2,3
- 2
- None of the above

13. Discoveries in history are full of coincidences and the finding of the famous chauri-bearer statue is surely one of the most fortunate ones. The statue is 5'2" tall on a pedestal of 1'7 ½" made of Chunar sandstone finished to an incredible mirror-like polish. The discovery was made the same year as the official establishment of the Patna Museum – 1917. Reports on how the statue was found, vary. A Patna Museum publication describes how in the letter of Honourable E.H.S. Walsh, then Commissioner of Patna, credit is given to a man by the name Ghulam Rasul, who saw the base sticking out from the muddy banks by the riverside near Didarganj. Rasul then proceeded to dig up the ground to find the statue. The statue today is popularly known as 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- Didarganj Yakshi
- Parkham Yaksha
- Lohanipur Male torso
- Bharhut Yakshi

14. The State Emblem of India is an adaptation from the Sarnath Lion Capital of Asoka which is preserved in the Sarnath Museum. The Lion Capital has four lions mounted back to back on a circular abacus. The frieze of the abacus is adorned with sculpture in high relief of an elephant, a galloping horse, a bull and a lion separated by intervening Dharma Chakras. The abacus rests on a bell-shaped lotus. (Source: The State Emblem of India [Prohibition of Improper Use] Act, 2005). In the context of the above passage select the correct option: (1) The elephant of the Sarnath Lion Capital symbolizes the Buddha-to-be, who is supposed to have entered his mother's womb in the form of a white elephant. (2) The elephants at Dhauri, Kalsi, and Girnar have been seen as a Buddhist symbol by some art historians. 0 points

Mark only one oval.

- 1
- 2
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

15. In 1837, James Prinsep deciphered the Asokan edicts and in 1901, Vincent Smith published one of the earliest histories on the subject titled, "Asoka: the Buddhist Emperor of India". Since then, the Mauryas, dated between 317 and 186 BC, have maintained their central position in ancient Indian historiography. Nor has this attraction diminished with the passage of time. On the contrary, the legacy of Asoka has entered its latest and modern phase. (Source: 'Interpreting the Mauryan Empire: Centralized State or Multiple Centres of Control?', Himanshu P. Ray). In the context of the above choose the correct option: (1) Research on Ashoka by later historians have proved the title of Smith's book to be unsuitable. (2) Historians now stress that in order to properly understand Ashoka's dhamma one has to move beyond his inscriptions, and look into the sculptural motifs associated with the Ashokan pillars. (3) In her initial research on the Mauryas, Romila Thapar presented the Mauryan empire as a new form of government marked by centralized control and planning. 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- 1,2,3
- 3
- 1,3
- 1,2

16. In the Mauryan period, 'Udaka bhaga' was a 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- land tax
- customs duty
- cess on irrigation
- excise duty

17. Consider the following statements: (I) Pushyamitra Shunga is accused in the Buddhist 'Divyavadana' of destroying Buddhist viharas. (II) There is epigraphic evidence to support the fact that the Bharhut Stupa and its gates and railings were built in the Shunga period. 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- I is true
- II is true
- Both I and II are true
- Neither I nor II are true

18. 'Shankha Jataka' tells the story of a Brahman named Sankha, who was financially ruined due to his spending habits. Deciding to revive his sunken fortunes through trade enterprise, he built a ship and loaded it with cargo. He then set sail for Suvarnadipa (Southeast Asia). Incidents like this one, described in the Jataka stories need not necessarily represent historical facts, but the characters and situations in the stories do tell us about certain aspects of ancient India. What does this story tells us? 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- There may be instances of Brahmanas engaged in trading activities in the post-Mauryan period.
- The Indian subcontinent had trading relationship with Southeast Asia in post-Mauryan times.
- The Jatakas can be used as an important source for the construction of economic and social history of post-Mauryan India.
- All of the above.

19. Bratindranath Mukherjee in his 'The Economic Factors in Kushana History' 1 point

Mark only one oval.

- states that the motive for Kushana expansion into the Indus delta region was not only political, but economic.
- says that Kanishka's conquest of Akara was probably due to the existence of diamond mines there.
- views that with the decline of the Indo-Roman trade the Kushana empire started disintegrating.
- suggests all of the above.

20. Below is the image of Licchavi Queen Kumaradevi and King Chandragupta I, depicted on a coin of their son Samudragupta, 350-380 CE. Such numismatic evidence indicates that (1) Ganasangha as form of political system still survived during the times of the Imperial Guptas. (2) the Imperial Guptas entered into matrimonial alliance with the Lichhavis. (3) the Lichhavis were still of some political significance. (4) The Imperial Guptas politically defeated several ganasanghas.



Mark only one oval.

- 1,2,3,4
- 1,2,3
- 1,2,4
- 2,3,4

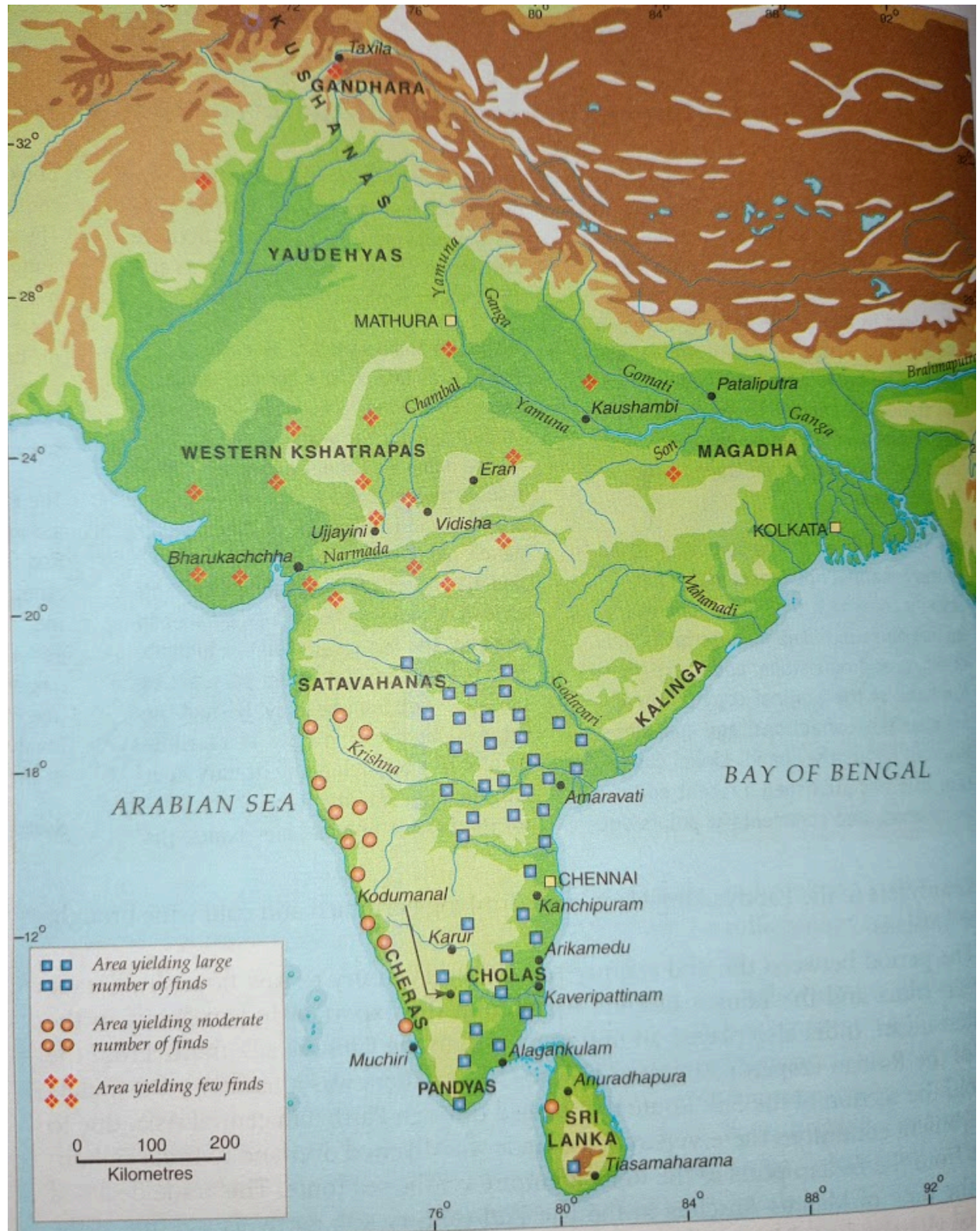
21. Which of the following is true of the administrative structure of the Maurya Empire?

1 point

Mark only one oval.

- 'litthihakka-mahamatyas' were in charge of women's welfare at the royal palace.
- Arthashastra gives details of the function of 'agronomoi'.
- 'Dronamukha' was an administrative unit of 200 villages.
- 'Dharmasthas' were responsible for revenue collection in rural areas.

22. Given below is a map of distribution of Roman coins in post-Mauryan India. What can we get to know from the map? (1) The period between the 2nd century BCE and 2nd century CE saw flourishing trade between India and the Roman Empire. (2) Greater number of Roman coins were found in the Chola regions than the areas that were under the Cheras. (3) Kushana regions yielded lesser coins than the Satavahana kingdom. (4) Roman coins may have been melted down in the Kushana and Satavahana regions. 1 point



Mark only one oval.

- 1,2,3
- 1,2,3,4
- 2,3
- 1,4

23. Identify the false statement about the Satavahanas.

1 point

Mark only one oval.

- Historians are confused about the identity of the Satavahana king mentioned in Kharavela's Hathigumpha Inscription.
- Gautamiputra Satakarni was probably defeated by a Kshaharata ruler.
- Hala authored the 'Gatha Sattasati', a collection of poems in the Maharashtri Prakrit dialect.
- Satavahanas lost their territories to a Kardamaka king.

24. The subject of decline of the first empire in the subcontinent has attracted 1 point scholarly attention. Which of the following have been put forward by historians as the probable cause of the decline of the Mauryas?

Mark only one oval.

- Asoka's long rule marked by only one military campaign in the early years may have adversely affected the preparedness of the army, and this may have been a factor responsible for the success of the Greek invasion.
- As long as the Maurya empire was considered a centralized political system, a weak ruler at the centre could be held responsible for its decline. However, if the empire was not centralized as once believed, then this argument becomes irrelevant.
- It is quite evident that the end of the Maurya dynasty was not the result of a 'Brahmanical revolution'.
- All of the above.

25. The Tillya Tepe graves contained the first examples of nomadic art (see the image below) to be found in Afghanistan. These nomads took iconography from Greece, Rome, China, India, even as far away as Siberia, and put it together into their own unique and highly refined art style. In the grave of a chieftain, turquoise-studded daggers and sheaths and a braided gold belt with raised medallions that bear the image, some say, of Dionysus, the Greek god of wine, riding sidesaddle on a panther, were uncovered. Near the chieftain's rib cage, excavators found an Indian medallion that, according to an archaeologist, bears one of the earliest representations of Buddha. Such fabulously rich grave goods indicate (1) that the Yuezhis got many of those artefacts from long distance trade with Rome. (2) that the Silk route, which passed through major parts of Afghanistan had been an area of intense cultural interactions. (3) the immense riches of the Kushana rulers.

1 point



Mark only one oval.

1,2,3

2 2,3 1,3

26. Point out the wrong one:

1 point

Mark only one oval.

The Eran Stone Pillar Inscription dated 510 CE records instances of Sati custom during the Gupta age.

'Mrichchakatika', written by Shudraka, contains reference of Sati custom during the Gupta era.

'Kumarasambhava' by Kalidasa refers the Sati custom through the portrayal of the character of Rati.

Dandin, a writer from the Gupta period, rather had given importance on austere livelihood of widows than sacrificing her life on the pyre of her husband.

27. Ancient Indian 'dharmashastra' texts discuss the issue of 'stridhana' rights of women. In this context, find out the incorrectly matched pair.

1 point

Mark only one oval.

Adhyavahanika = What she receives when leaving her father's house for her husband's.

Pritidatta = What is given to her through affection.

Adhyagni = What is given to her at the time of marriage before the nuptial pyre.

Soudayika = What is given to her after the birth of her first (male) child.

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