MEDIEVAL HISTORY OF INDIA – MCQ BOOKLET

INDEX OF TOPICS

Muslim Invasion of India	.1
Delhi Sultanate: Slave Dynasty	.13
Khalji Dynasty	.25
Tughluq Dynasty	.39
Lodi Dynasty	.54
Vijayanagara Empire	.58
Delhi Sultanate: Administration	.91
Delhi Sultanate: Art and Architecture	.109
Delhi Sultanate: Literature	116
Delhi Sultanate: Miscellaneous	.131
Provincial Dynasty of North India and Deccan Province	.131
Bhakti and Sufi Movement	.205
Mughal Dynasty: Babur	.251
Humayun and Sher Shah	.263
Akbar	.280
Jahangir	.316
Shah Jahan	.324
Aurangzeb	.332
Mughal Administration	.344
Music and Paintings of Mughal Period	.376
Mughal Literature	.393
Mughal Period: Miscellaneous	.405
Sikh Sect	.407
Maratha State and Confederacy	.413
Disintegration of the Mughal Empire	.430

1. Muslim Invasion of India

Administration and Socio-Economic Impact of Arab Rule in Sindh

1. During the 8th – 14th centuries, in the Sanskrit texts and inscriptions, which of the following terms were used to denote Muslims ?

- **1. Turushka**
- **2. Tajika**
- **3. Parashika**
- **4. Kardamaka**

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

A. 1, 2 and 3
B. 1, 2 and 4
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 3 and 4

Ans: A

UPSC CDS-2-2022

During the period between the 8th and 14th centuries, when Islamic rule and influence spread in various parts of India, Sanskrit texts and inscriptions frequently used terms like 'Turushka' (referring to Turks, especially Ghaznavids, Ghurids, and Delhi Sultans of Turkish origin), 'Tajika' (often referring to Arabs or people from Persian lands, including early Muslim rulers like the Rais of Sind or later groups), and 'Parashika' (specifically referring to Persians). These terms were used by Indian writers to identify and describe people of Muslim faith, often based on their ethnic or geographic origins.

2. According to Chachnama, what was the Capital of the Indus Country in the 6th and 7th century ?

A. Deval
B. Arod
C. Lodawa
D. Barmer

Ans: B

MPPSC CS Prelims-2020

The Chachnama is a primary historical source for the history of Sindh under the Chach dynasty and the Arab conquest in the early 8th century. It describes Aror (or Alor, Arod) as the capital city of Sindh under King Chach and his successors, including Dahir, who ruled before the Arab invasion led by Muhammad bin Qasim.

3. In Islam, offering prayers five times a day is called

A. Sawm
B. Zakat
C. Salat
D. Shahada

Ans: C

PPSC CS Prelims-2013

The question asks for the term used in Islam for offering prayers five times a day.

4. The Arab conquest of Sindh is depicted in

A. Akbar Namah
B. Ain i Akbari
C. Chach Namah
D. Shah Namah

Ans: C

WBCS_Main-Paper-3-2022

It provides valuable insights into the political, social, and economic conditions of Sindh before and during the Arab invasion.

5. Name the Arabie traveller who presented an account of the period of Mihir Bhoj.

A. Suleman
B. Shah Alain Neerun
C. Al Masoodi Hazzab
D. Obaidullah Hussaini

Ans: A

Sr. Teacher (Sanskrit Edu.) Comp. Exam 2022 b-2022

Suleman's observations offer valuable insights into the reign of Mihir Bhoj, a significant ruler of the Gurjara-Pratihara dynasty, who is known for his military achievements and administrative capabilities.

6. Vikramashila, a centre of learning in medieval India, was established by

A. Chandragupta Maurya
B. King Gopal
C. King Dharmapala
D. King Ashoka

Ans: C

ECONOMIC INVESTIGATOR(EO) -2019

Vikramashila was a prominent Buddhist monastic university, and its establishment is attributed to King Dharmapala.

7. Vikramshila, a centre of learning in medieval India, was established by

A. Changragupta Maurya
B. King Gopal
C. King Dharmapala
D. King Ashoka

Ans: C

ECONOMIC INVESTIGATOR(EO) -2019

King Dharmapala, a prominent ruler of the Pala Empire, founded Vikramshila, which became a major centre for Buddhist studies and monastic education.

Arab Invasion of Sindh: Causes and Context

8. India's earliest contact with Islam came through

A. Arab invasion of Sindh in the seventh century.
B. Turkish invasions of the eleventh-twelfth centuries.
C. Arab merchants of Malabar coast.
D. Sufi saints and Arab travellers.

Ans: C

WBPSC CS Prelims-2016

India had long-standing trade relations with the Arabian Peninsula. Arab traders were visiting the Malabar coast in South India well before the advent of Islam. With the rise of Islam in the 7th century CE, Arab merchants brought the new faith with them. Their interaction with the local population led to the peaceful spread of Islam in coastal areas, particularly on the Malabar coast, through trade and settlement, even before the first significant military invasions. The Arab invasion of Sindh in 712 CE marked the first major military contact and the establishment of Muslim rule in a part of India, but contact and the introduction of Islam through trade routes predate this. Turkish invasions started much later in the 11th century. Sufi saints and Arab travellers also played a role, but the earliest significant contact that facilitated the spread of Islam was through the established trade networks involving Arab merchants.

Background and Precursors: Arab Incursions into Persia and Central Asia

9. The decline of trade and commerce in North India between 7th and 10th centuries was partly due to the

- **(1) Collapse of West Roman Empire**
- **(2) Collapse of China**
- **(3) Collapse of South East Asia**
- **(4) Decline in skills of Indian artisans**

A. (1)
B. (2)
C. (3)
D. (4)

Ans: A

APPSC Group-II-Prelims-2016

The period between the 7th and 10th centuries in North India is often seen as a period of relative decline in long-distance trade and urbanization compared to earlier periods. While various internal factors contributed, external factors also played a role. The collapse of the West Roman Empire in the 5th century AD disrupted major Mediterranean trade routes which had connections, albeit indirect, with India. This long-term impact on major trading networks is considered a contributing factor to the decline of long-distance trade connecting with the west.

Causes for the Success of Turkish Invaders against Indian Kingdoms

10. North Indian powers were defeated at the hands of invaders from Central Asia because :

- **(a) Indian soldiers could not hope to get plunder.**
- **(b) There was no unity among Indian soldiers due to casteism.**
- **(c) Central Asian soldiers had more modern weapons.**
- **(d) The invading army was led by slaves.**

A. (a), (b)
B. (b), (d)
C. (c), (d)
D. (a), (c)

Ans: C

MPSC CS Prelims-2013

Statement (c) suggests Central Asian soldiers had more modern weapons. While not "modern" by today's standards, they often possessed superior military tactics and technology for their time, particularly in the effective use of cavalry (mounted archers) and mobility, which contrasted with the traditional reliance on infantry and elephants by Indian forces. Statement (d) points out that invading armies were led by slaves. The Ghurid and early Delhi Sultanate rulers often rose from slave or mamluk backgrounds based on merit and military prowess. This system of leadership promotion based on capability could foster a more disciplined and effective military force compared to systems based purely on heredity.

11. Given below are two statements, one is labelled as Assertion (A) and the othe as Reason (R). Assertion (A): Turkish invasions or India were successful. Reason (R): There was no political unity in North India. Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

A. Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A)

B. Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A)

C. (A) is true, but (R) is false

D. (A) is false, but (R) is true

Ans: A

UPPCS Prelims-2018

- Assertion (A) states that Turkish invasions of India were successful, which is historically accurate, as evidenced by the establishment of the Delhi Sultanate after the invasions led by figures like Mahmud of Ghazni and Muhammad Ghori. - Reason (R) states that there was no political unity in North India. This is also true, as North India was divided into numerous independent kingdoms (Rajput states, etc.) that often fought among themselves rather than presenting a united front against invaders.

12. Who are the four Rajput clans described in Prithviraja-Raso of Chanda Bardai, who are said to have emerged from fire-pit of Mount Abu ?

A. Pratiharas, Chahamanas, Gahadavalas, Kalachuris

B. Paramaras, Chandelas, Chahamanas, Chalukyas

C. Chahamanas, Kalachuris, Chandelas, Pratiharas

D. Pratiharas, Chahamanas, Chalukyas, Parmaras

Ans: D

UPPCS Prelims-2009

The Agnikula legend is a well-known account of the origin of certain Rajput clans, first appearing in the Prithviraj Raso. It describes how the sage Vashistha performed a yajna (fire sacrifice) on Mount Abu to fight against demons, and from the fire emerged four heroes who became the progenitors of these dynasties.

Establishment of the Delhi Sultanate: Qutb al-Din Aibak and Initial Consolidation

13. Who was the first Muslim Conqueror of Bihar?

A. Malik Ibrahim

B. Iltutmish

C. Bakhtiyar Khalji

D. Ali Mardan Khalji

Ans: C

BPSC Prelims Exam-60-62rd

Bakhtiyar Khalji's campaigns in the late 12th and early 13th centuries marked the beginning of Muslim rule in parts of Bihar and Bengal.

14. Nalanda Vihar was destroyed by:

A. Bakhtiyar Khalji

B. Qutubddin Aibak

C. Muhammad Bin Tughlaq

D. Alauddin Khalji

Ans: A

BPSC Prelims Exam-60-62rd

The destruction of Nalanda was a significant event marking the decline of Buddhism in the region and the end of a major center of learning.

15. The earliest description of Bakhtiyar Khilji's invasion of Bihar is in

A. Tarikh-i Hind

B. Tabaqat-i Nasiri

C. Taj-ul Maasir

D. Tarikh-i Mubarak Shahi

Ans: B

BPSC Prelims Exam-64th

- Tabaqat-i Nasiri is a chronological history written around 1260 AD. - Minhaj-i Siraj was a contemporary historian who served under some of the early Delhi Sultans. - The work covers the Islamic world

generally but gives significant attention to the Ghurid dynasty and the early Delhi Sultanate.

16. Who was the real founder of Turk rule in Bihar?

A. Ibn Bakhtiyar Khilji
B. Ibrahim
C. Dariya Khan Noohani
D. Malik Husamuddin

Ans: A

BPSC Prelims Exam-67th Re-Exam

Muhammad bin Bakhtiyar Khilji was a military general of Qutb-ud-din Aibak who led the conquest of Bihar and parts of Bengal in the late 12th and early 13th centuries.

17. Which Muslim general conquered Bengal in the thirteenth century?

A. Timur
B. Iqtiaruddin Bin Baktiar Khilji
C. Chenges Khan
D. Abdur Rahim Khan i Khanan

Ans: B

WBPSC CS Prelims-2021

- Bakhtiyar Khilji, a subordinate of Qutb al-Din Aibak, led expeditions into eastern India. - He is credited with conquering Nadia (Nabadwip), the capital of the Sena ruler Lakshmana Sena, around 1203 AD, and subsequently establishing Muslim rule in parts of Bengal.

18. In which year Timur captured Delhi?

A. 1397 AD
B. 1398 AD
C. 1399 AD
D. 1400 AD

Ans: B

acf -2019

Timur captured Delhi in 1398 AD.

First Battle of Tarain (1191 AD) and its Aftermath

19. The First Battle of Tarain is related to

A. The Hindu princes of north India fighting against Muhammad Ghori
B. Revolt in Gujarat kingdom against Mahmud of Ghazni
C. Land battles in Sind between Muslim princes
D. The battle between the Marathas and Rajputs

Ans: A

GPSC Prelims CSP-1-2024

In the First Battle of Tarain, Muhammad Ghori was defeated and severely injured, and his forces were routed by the Rajput army led by Prithviraj Chauhan. This victory was a significant, though temporary, check on the Ghurid expansion into North India.

20. When was the first battle of Tarain fought?

A. 1175 A.D.
B. 1191 A.D.
C. 1192 A.D.
D. 1206 A.D.

Ans: B

WBPSC CS Prelims-2020

The First Battle of Tarain was a significant conflict between the Ghurid forces led by Muhammad Ghori and the Chauhan Rajput army led by Prithviraj Chauhan III.

21. The First Battle of Tarain took place in

A. 1191 AD
B. 1176 AD
C. 1105 AD
D. 1155 AD

Ans: A

WBCS_Main-Paper-3-2022

- The First Battle of Tarain was fought between the Ghurid ruler Muhammad Ghori and the Chauhan ruler Prithviraj Chauhan III. - The battle took place