



CLASS NOTES-ANSWERS

Let's recall.

1) Who was considered a "foreigner" in the past?

Answer: The term 'foreigner' is used in the sense of a person who is not an Indian. In the medieval period, it was applied to any stranger who appeared in a given village, someone who was not a part of that society or culture. In this sense, a forest-dweller was a foreigner to a city-dweller. But two peasants living in the same village were not foreigners to each other, even though they may have had different religious or caste backgrounds.

2) State whether true or false:

Answer:

- a) We do not find inscriptions for the period after 700. **False**
- b) The Marathas asserted their political importance during this period.
False
- c) Forest-dwellers were sometimes pushed out of their lands with the spread of agricultural settlements. **True**
- d) Sultan Ghiyasuddin Balban controlled Assam, Manipur and Kashmir.
False

3) Fill in the blanks.

- a) Archives are places where manuscripts are kept.
- b) Ziauddin Barani was a fourteenth-century chronicler.
- c) Potatoes, com, chillies, tea, and coffee were some of the crops



introduced into the subcontinent during this period.

4) List some of the technological changes associated with this period.

Answer:

Some of the technological changes associated with this period are:

- 1) Persian wheel in irrigation.
- 2) Spinning wheel.
- 3) Firearms in combat.

5) What were some of the major religious developments during this period?

Answer: Some of the major significant religious developments occurred in Hinduism. The new changes were the worship of new deities, the construction of temples by royalty, and the growing importance of Brahmanas, the priests, as dominant groups in society. Brahmanas' importance grew due to their knowledge of the Sanskrit language. The emperors patronised them. The idea of bhakti emerged among people. The merchants and migrants brought the teachings of the Quran, the holy book of Muslims.

Let's understand

6) In what ways has the meaning of the term "Hindustan" changed over the centuries?

Answer: The meaning of the term 'Hindustan' has changed over the centuries in the following manner:

- a) In the thirteenth century Minhaj-I-Siraj used the term 'Hindustan'. He meant areas of Punjab, Haryana, and the lands between Ganga and Yamuna. He used this term in a political sense that was a part of the



dominions of the Delhi Sultanate. The term never included South India.

- b) In the sixteenth-century, poet Babur used the term 'Hindustan' to describe the geography, the fauna, and the culture of the inhabitants of the subcontinent.
- c) In the fourteenth-century, poet Amir Khusrau used the term 'Hind' in the same sense as Babur did in the sixteenth century.
- d) 'Hindustan' did not carry the political and national meanings as the term 'India' does today.

7) How were the affairs of Jatis regulated?

Answer: The affairs of jatis were regulated in the following way:

- a) Jatis formed their own rules and regulations.
- b) There was an assembly of elders called jati panchayat.
- c) It enforced the rules and regulations.
- d) Jatis were also directed to follow the rules of the village.
- e) A chieftain governed several villages.

8) What does the term pan-regional empire mean?

Answer: The term 'pan-regional' was used in the areas of empires spanning diverse regions. The dynasties like Cholas, Khaljis, Tughluqs, and Mughals extended their empires pan-regional. Though, not all these empires were equally stable or successful. But pan-regional rules altered the character of the regions. Most regions across the subcontinent were left with the legacies of the big and small states that had ruled over them. The emergence of many distinct and shared traditions in governance, the



economy elite cultures and languages were some of the prominent factors that took place due to pan-regional rules.

Let's discuss

9) What are the difficulties historians face in using manuscripts?

Answer: Historians faced many difficulties while using manuscripts because:

- a) There was no printing press in the 13th and 14th centuries. Scribes in those days made manuscripts by hand.
- b) To copy was a challenging exercise. Scribes could not read the handwriting of the other writers.
- c) They were forced to guess. So there were small but significant differences in the copy of the scribed.
- d) These small words or sentences here and there grew over centuries of copying.
- e) The manuscripts of the exact text became a great extent, different from the original.

10) How do historians divide the past into periods? Do they face any problems in doing so?

Answer: Historians divide the past into periods based on continuity. This continuity is further based on the following:

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| a. Coins | c. Architecture |
| b. Inscriptions | d. Textual Records |

But they face difficulties in doing so as discontinuity exists.

- 1) Textual records increased tremendously.



2) They gradually displaced other types of available information.

Thousand years of human history (or of any country or region) have witnessed several changes. After all, India's ancient history differs from that of the other two periods, i.e., the medieval period and the modern period. Therefore, describing the entire period as one historical unit is a challenging task.

Let's do

11) Compare either Map 1 or Map 2 with the present-day map of the subcontinent, listing as many similarities and differences as you can find.

Answer: Map 1 and Map 2 given in the NCERT Textbook represent two different times. Map 1 was made in 1154 CE by al-Idrisi, an Arab geographer. This section details the Indian subcontinent from his larger map of the world. Map 2 was made by a French cartographer in 1720. Both maps are pretty different from each other, even though they represent the same area. In Map 1, we find south India where we would expect to find north India, and Sri Lanka is the island at the top. The place names are in Arabic. Some familiar places like Kanauj in Uttar Pradesh have been spelt as Qanauj. In comparison, Map 2 was made nearly 600 years later than Map 1, and by then, information about the subcontinent had changed a lot. This map is more familiar to us. The coastal areas, particularly, are more detailed.



12) Find out where records are kept in your village or city. Who writes these records? Is there any archive? Who manages it? What kinds of documents are stored there? Who are the people who use it?

Answer:

- a) Records are kept in our city at the archives. The officials of the Revenue Department wrote these records.
- b) The in charge of the Archives/ Deputy Director of Archives manages these records.
- c) Rare manuscripts, government records, and other valuable books etc. are stored there.
- d) Scholars, researchers, and government officials use them.

