

Government Degree College, Baramulla (Autonomous)

Term End External Examination 4th Semester (Session- July 2024)

Subject: History

Course No and Title: HSTC2422N/ Socio-Cultural History of Ancient India

Time: 2.15 hours Max Marks:100 Min. Marks:40

Section A: Objective Type Questions

Q1. Choose the appropriate Answer: (8x1.5=12)

- i. Which approach on ancient Indian society highlights the role of ordinary people and their struggles?
A National B Colonial
C Marxist D Elite-focused
- ii. The Vedic concept of "rita" refers to:
A The moral order of the universe B The cycle of birth and death
C The power of the gods D The ritual of sacrifice
- iii. What is the term for the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism?
A Arya Marg B Arya Siddhanta
C Arya Dharma D Aryasatya
- iv. What was the name of Ashoka's famous rock edict that proclaimed his policy of Dhamma?
A Edict of Pataliputra B Edict of Taxila
C Edict of Kalinga D Edict of Shahbazgarhi
- v. The worship of Kali and Durga is central to which religious tradition?
A Tantra Tradition B Shakta Cult
C Kula Tradition D Shakti Cult

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- vi. Which of the following was a key feature of the Gupta administration?
A Decentralization B Centralization
C Provincial autonomy D Centralized bureaucracy
- vii. What was the practice of sati in ancient India?
A A voluntary practice B A forced practice
C A religious practice D A social practice
- viii. Who is credited with the development of the concept of zero in mathematics?
A Aryabhata B Brahmagupta
C Bhaskara D Nilakantha Somayaji

Section-B: Descriptive Type Questions (Short Type)

Q2: Answer all the Questions (8 x 4 =32)

- i. How did the nationalist historians view the Vedic period?
- ii. What are the Upanishads?
- iii. Discuss the key principles of Buddha's teachings?
- iv. What was the purpose of Asoka's policy of Dhamma?
- v. How did the cult of Vishnu emerge in India?
- vi. How did the Gupta period impact society?
- vii. What was the contribution of India to the development of Philosophy?
- viii. Analyze the contribution of Nagarjuna to Buddhist philosophy?

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Section – C: Descriptive Type Questions (Medium Type)

Answer all the questions: (4 x 7=28)

- Q3.** Why do colonial historians often portray ancient Indian society as stagnant and backward?

OR

How did the varna system shape occupations and professions in ancient society?

- Q4.** What was Ashoka's policy of Dhamma, and how did it impact Indian society?

What are the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism, and why are they significant?

- Q5.** What were the main contributions of the Gupta period to Indian art and architecture?

OR

What were the main religious developments of the Post Gupta period?

- Q6.** Describe the status of women in Ancient Indian society?

OR

Discuss the life and achievements of Aryabhata. What were some of his major contributions to the field of mathematics?

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Section – D: Descriptive Type Questions (Long Type)

Answer any two of the following: (2 x 14=28)

- Q7.** What were the notable achievements of the Gupta dynasty during their rule in India?
- Q8.** Explain the advancements in medicine and surgery in ancient India, with focus on the contributions of Sushruta and Charka.
- Q9.** Discuss the main features of Vedic religion, and explain its significance in ancient Indian society?
- Q10.** Discuss the emergence of Buddhism and Jainism in ancient India, and explain their philosophical teachings?