

**J B ACADEMY**  
**HALF YEARLY EXAMINATION 2023-24**  
**SUBJECT HISTORY, CLASS-XII**

**Time—3 hrs**

**Marks--80**

**General Instructions:**

- (i) Question paper comprises five Sections – A, B, C, D and E. There are 34 questions in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.
- (ii) Section A – Question 1 to 21 are MCQs of 1 mark each.
- (iii) Section B – Question no. 22 to 27 is Short Answer Type Question, carrying 3 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 60-80 words.
- (iv) Section C – Question no 28 to 30 are Long Answer Type Questions, carrying 8 marks each. Answer to each question should not exceed 300-350 words
- (v) Section D – Question no.31 to 33 are Source based questions with three sub questions and are of 4 marks each
- (vi) Section E – Question no. 34 is Map based, carrying 5 marks that includes the identification and location of significant test items. Attach the map with the answer book.
- (vi) There is no overall choice in the question paper.
- (vii) In addition to this, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.

**Section - A**

**Answer the multiple choice questions**

**(1x21)**

1. Assertion : Brahmans were considered superior.  
Reason : The normative Sanskrit text of the Hindus described that they were created from the thigh of **Brahma** .  
i) A is true and R is false      iii). Both A and R is true and R is the correct explanation of A.  
ii). R is true and A is false      iv). Both A and R is true and R is not the correct explanation of A.
2. Which of these foreign travellers was attacked while in India?  
A) Francois Bernier      B) Al-Beruni      C) Domingo Paes      D) Ibn Battuta
3. Which was the most important tank built in the early years of the 15th century?  
A. Hiriya canal      B. kamalapuram tank      C. Tungabhadra tank      D. Hazara canal  
A. Only B  
B. Only C  
C. Both B and C  
D. Both A and D

4 Identify the structure.

It is

- A. From Lotus Mahal
- B. From Hazara Rama temple
- C. From MahanavamiDibba
- D. From Audience Hall



Fig. 1

5. Lotus Mahal was probably used by the King to meet his advisors 'who made this statement?

- A. AbdurRazzaq
- B. Colin Mackenzie
- C. Domingo Paes
- D. Duarte Barbosa

6. Consider the following statements:

(A) Rig Veda consists of hymns in praise of Krishna, Rama, Shiva etc.

(B) Many of these hymns were chanted when sacrifices were performed.

Choose the correct option:

- I. Only (A) is correct
- II. Only (B) is correct
- III. Both (A) and (B) are correct
- IV. Neither (A) nor (B) is correct

7. Which of these were instructions given by Buddha to the clansmen for Samanas and Brahmanas?

- (i) Being affectionate in act and speech
- (ii) Being regular in payment of salaries
- (iii) By assigning them work according to their strength
- (iv) All of these

8. What was the Sangha? Find the most appropriate option.

- (i) Institution to keep a check on activities of monks and nuns.
- (ii) Institution to organise religious gatherings of Buddhists.
- (iii) Institution to teach Dhamma
- (iv) Institution to encourage more and more people to follow Buddhism.

9. Indicate which of the following options is NOT correct

- (A) Mahabharata is written in simple Sanskrit than used in Vedas and Prashastis.
- (B) During Mahabharata time, polyandry was practised.
- (C) The Mahabharata, like any major epic, contains vivid descriptions of battles, forests, palaces and settlements
- (D) When analysing Mahabharata, they examined whether it was written in Urdu, Sign language or English.

10. Identify the character of Mahabharata with help of following information:

- Ruler of Hastinapur
- Pre-mature death
- Brother of Dhritrashtra

Option:

- A. Dronacharya
- B. Duryodhan
- C. Pandu
- D. Yudhishtir

11. Lion capital structure was found in

- A. Sanchi Stupa
- B. Ashokan pillar
- C. Shravasti temple
- D. Bodhgaya

12. Assertion: Lingayat did practice funerary rites such as cremation prescribed in Dharmashastra.

Reason: They believed that the devotee will be united with Shiva and will not return to this world.

- i) A is true and R is false
- ii). R is true and A is false
- iii). Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- iv). Both A and R are true and R is not the correct explanation of A.

13. Assertion: Scholars doubt about the performances, elaborate rituals celebrated at MahanavamiDibba.

Reason: There was no adequate space for elaborate processions of armed women and large number of animals around MahanavamiDibba .

- i) A is true and R is false                      iii) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A  
ii) R is true and A is false                      iv) Both A and R are true and R is not the correct explanation of A

14. The poet is a Nirgun type. He/she points at the Ultimate reality underlying all religions. He/she also used his /her ideas from Vedic traditions. Identify the poet/poetess

- A. Mirabai                      B. Raidas                      C. Kabir                      D. Gurunanak

15. Before his depiction in human form the chief events of Buddha's life were represented through symbols

- i) An empty seat for his meditation                      iii) A Stupa for his meditation  
ii) Shalbhajika as an auspicious symbol                      iv) Wheel for first sermon of the Buddha

Choose the correct statement /s

- A) i, ii ,iv                      B) i, iii, iv                      C) Only i, iv                      D) Only ii

16. Arrange the following in a chronological order.

- i) Discovery of Amaravati stupa                      iii) Sanchi declared a World Heritage site  
ii) Critical edition of Mahabharat                      iv) Hampi declared a World Heritage site by UNESCO

- A. i, ii ,iv ,iii  
B. i, iii,iv,ii  
C. iii,ii,iv,i  
D. iii,ii,i,iv

17. Which of the following is not a constituent of stupa

- A) Anda                      B) Haramika                      C) Chatri                      D) Pitha

- i). A, B  
ii). B, C  
iii) Only B  
iv) Only D

18. Arrange the following in the chronological order

- I) Nandas                      II) Shungas                      III) Mauryas                      IV) Gupta's

- A) I,III,II,IV  
B) II,III,I,IV  
C) IV,I,II,III  
D) II,I,III,IV

19. The achievements of Samudragupta are described in

- A) Hathigumpha inscription                      C) Girnar inscription  
B) Allahabad pillar inscription                      D) Sarnath inscription

20. Which of the following towns were near the coast

- A) Mathura                      B) Patliputra                      C) Ujjaini                      D) Puhar

21. Which principle distinguishes Jainism from Buddhism?

Q 22. What were the reasons for Practice of eight fold path.

- A. Rejection of infallibility of Vedas.  
B. Attribution of a soul to all beings and things.  
C. Believe in rebirth.

**SECTION - B**

**3x6=18**

Q 22. Why were there clashes between Vijaynagar rulers and Sultans? (3)

Q 23. Why Bhakti and Sufi thinkers adopted a variety of language? Explain with examples. (3)

Q 24. How did Al-Beruni disapprove the notion of caste pollution ? (3)

Q 25. How were the water requirements of Vijayanagar met? (3)

Q 26. What were the advantages and disadvantages of in closing agriculture land within the fortified area of the city? (3)

Q 27. 'Architecture of mosque in the subcontinent reflects a combination of universal ideas and local traditions . Explain with help of examples. (3)

**SECTION - C**

**8x3=24**

Q 28. Describe the contributions of John Marshall ,Director General of ASI to Indian archaeology (8)

Q 29. Throw light on the economic life and craft production of Harappan people. (8)

Q 30. 'Amara-Nayaka system was a major political innovation of the Vijayanagar Empire'. Discuss. (8)

**SECTION - D**

**Q 31. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. 4x3= 12**

Krishnadeva Raya (ruled 1509-29), the most famous ruler of Vijayanagara, composed a work on statecraft in Telugu known as the Amuktamalyada. About traders he wrote: A king should improve the harbours of his country and so encourage its commerce that horses, elephants, precious gems, sandalwood, pearls and other articles are freely imported.

He should arrange that the foreign sailors who land in his country on account of storms, illness and exhaustion are looked after in a suitable manner. Make the merchants of distant foreign countries who import elephants and good horses be attached to yourself by providing them with daily audience, presents and allowing decent profits. Then those articles will never go to your enemies.

- (i) Who was the most famous ruler of Vijayanagara and why was he popular? (1)  
(ii) Mention the name of articles that can be freely imported. (1)  
(iii) Why do you think the king was interested in encouraging trade? Explain. (2)

**Q 32. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**

**Buddhism in Practice**

This is an excerpt from the SuttaPitaka, and contains the advice given by the Buddha to a wealthy householder named Sigala :

In five ways should a master look after his servants and employees ... by assigning them work according to their strength, by supplying them with food and wages, by tending them in sickness, by sharing delicacies with them and by granting leave at times ...

In five ways should the clansmen look after the needs of samanās (those who have renounced the world) and Brahmanas : by affection in act and speech and mind, by keeping open house to them and supplying their worldly needs.

There are similar instructions in Sigala about how to behave with his parents, teacher and wife.

- i) What advice was given by Buddha to Sigala regarding relationship between a master and his servants and employees? (1)  
ii) List the instructions given by Buddha to clansmen for samanās and Brahmanas. (1)  
iii) According to you, what suggestion Buddha would have advocated for parents and teachers. (2)

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

**Q 33. Life in a Small Village**

The Harshacharita is a biography of Harshavardhana, the ruler of Kanauj, composed in Sanskrit by his court poet, Banabhatta (c. seventh century CE). This is an excerpt from the text, an extremely rare representation of life in a settlement on the outskirts of a forest in the Vindhya:

The outskirts being for the most part forest, many parcels of rice-land, threshing ground and arableland were being apportioned by small farmers ... it was mainly spade culture ... owing to the difficulty of ploughing the sparsely scattered fields covered with grass, with their few clear spaces, their black soil stiff as black iron.

There were people moving along with bundles of bark ... countless sacks of plucked flowers,... loads of flax and hemp bundles, quantities of honey, peacocks' tail feathers, wreaths of wax, logs and grass. Village wives hastened on route for neighbouring villages, all intent on thoughts of sale and bearing on their heads baskets filled with various gathered forest fruits.

- (i) Who was the author of Harshacharita? (1)  
(ii) Describe the outskirts of a forest in the Vindhya. (1)  
(iii) Describe the activities of the people of that area. Mention two main activities of farmers of that time. (2)

**SECTION - E**

**1x5=5**

- Q. 34.** (i) On the given political map of India, identify the sites marked as 1, 2, 3  
(ii) Mark and name any two Harappan sites presently in Pakistan.