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CODE NO: 34159

Set 5

1. Attempt any two of the following:

A) Evaluate the achievements of Chandragupta Maurya as the founder of the Mauryan empire.

Answer: Chandragupta Maurya – Introduction – sources – Background of Chandragupta – his meeting with Alexander – unpopularity of Greek rule – liberation of India from Greek rule – overthrow of Nanda rule – expansion into western India – war against Selucus – extent of his empire – last days and evaluation – conclusion.

B) Explain the nature of Mauryan administration.

Answer: Mauryan administration – Introduction – sources – polity – the king – council of ministers – bureaucracy – income and expenditure – provincial administration – municipal administration – espionage – judicial administration – military organization – conclusion.

C) Trace the political history of the Kushanas.

Answer: Kushanas – introduction – sources – their origin – Kadphises I – Vima Kadphises – Kanishka – conquests of Kanishka – indianization of rulers – Fourth Buddhist Council – patronage to Buddhism – promotion of art and architecture administration

2. Attempt any two of the following:

A) Describe the campaigns of Samudragupta.

Answer: Rise of the Gupta power – early kings – Samudragupta – conquests – Ganga-Yamuna doab – eastern Himalayas – Central India – Deccan – foreign campaigns – extent of kingdom – transformation into empire – conclusion.

B) Review the military administration of the Guptas.

Answer: Samudra Gupta- Introduction- sources – accession to throne- imperial expansion – north campaign – expedition to south – subjugation of tribes – his empire – his estimate – Indian Napoleon –arguments for and against – conclusion.

C) Examine why the Gupta period is known as the Classical Age of Ancient India.

Answer: Gupta Golden age / Classical age – introduction – sources – social conditions – economic prosperity – progress in language and literature – secular and religious literature – Kalidasa – Bhasa – Shudraka – Smritis – epics – Jain literature – Buddhist literature – literature on science development of science and technology – mathematics – Aryabhata – astronomy Varahamihira, Brahmagupta – medicine - Sushruta – metallurgy – pillar at Mehrauli – conclusion

3. Attempt any two of the following:

A) Bring out the achievements of Harshavaradhana as a conqueror and administrator.

Answer: Political disintegration after the Guptas – brief background of the Pushyabhutis – Prabhakarvardhana – marriage of daughter Rajyashri to Maukhari ruler – war with later Guptas – death of Prabhakarvardhana – succession of Rajyavardhana – conspiracy of Shashanka – death of Rajyavardhana – accession of Harshavardhana – rise of Harshavardhana to power – imperial expansion – conquests – extent of empire –

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administration – central – benevolent despot – provincial, judicial, revenue, military - patronage of religions

B) Trace the rise and growth of Rajput power in Ancient India.

Answer: Origin of the Rajputs – important clans – Gurjara-Pratiharas of Ujjain – conflict with Rashtrakutas for supremacy over Central India, rise of the Solankis of Gujarat, Chandelas of Kalinjar, Bundelkhand, Paramaras of Malwa, Gahadavalas of Kanauj, Chauhans of Ajmer and Tomaras of Delhi – expansion into central India and the Gangetic plains

C) Comment on the conditions of Sind on the eve of the Arab invasion and state the importance of the invasion.

Answer: Brief background of Arab invasion – causes of invasion – rise of Islam – desire for expansion – capture of trade routes – piracy in the seas – nature of invasion – effects – ‘triumph without results’ – more military than political and administrative – imposition of jiziya – demolition and reconstruction of temples – inter-marriage with Hindu women – progress in trade and commerce – significance – adoption of Arab numerals – Indian subjects studied by Arab scholars – translation of Indian works into Arabic – Buddhist aspects adopted by Sufis – Indian cultural links with Arab and European world established

4. Attempt any two of the following:

A) Describe the contribution of Pulakeshin II in the history of the Chalukyan dynasty.

Answer: Introduction of the Chalukyas of Badami – period of Pulakeshin II's rule – life sketch – consolidation of power – imperial expansion – eastwards expedition – wars with the Pallavas – other military campaigns – diplomatic missions – war with Harshavardhana – defeat by Mahendravarman – death – estimate

B) Discuss the main features of the Pallava art and architecture.

Answer: Rise of the Pallava dynasty – important kings – contribution to art and architecture – features – different styles – rock-cut cave temples, structural stone temples – Mahabalipuram style – 5 Rathas – structural temples at Kanchipuram – later Pallava art and architecture – conclusion

C) Write a detailed note on the spread of Indian culture in Myanmar, Cambodia and Champa.

Answer: Contact with south-east Asia since the beginning of Christian era – trade and commerce – religious interactions – impact on south-east Asia – Myanmar – Suvarnabhumi – migration from India from 1<sup>st</sup> Century A.D. – influence on religion, culture and language – developed style of Pali and Sanskrit – Theravada form of Buddhism – influence of Hinduism – temples and pagodas – Cambodia (Kamboja) – and Champa – Sanskrit inscriptions – literary works – social structure – 4 ashramas – Angkor Wat temple – provinces in Champa (Annam) – religious beliefs – Dharmashastras – caste system - conclusion

5. Write notes on any two of the following:

a) Gautamiputra Satakarni

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Post – Gupta period – rise of Satavahanas – Gautamiputra Satakarni – extent of kingdom – conflict with Nahapana – successors

- b) Development of Science during the Gupta period  
Gupta Golden age / Classical age – development of science and technology – mathematics – Aryabhatta – astronomy Varahamihira, Brahmagupta – medicine - Sushruta – metallurgy – pillar at Mehrauli – conclusion
- c) Expeditions of Mohammed Bin Kasim  
Brief background of Arab invasion – causes of invasion – expeditions of Muhammed bin Kasim – attempted conquests of Thana – expeditions to Broach, Makran, Sind – nature of invasion – attack on Debal – war against Dahar. – victories of Muhammed bin Kasim
- d) Rashtrakutas  
Brief background and rise of the Rashtrakutas – founder of the dynasty – Dantidurg – successors – Krishnal, Govinda and Dhruva – achievements of Govinda III and Amoghavarsha – later rulers – imperial expansion – contribution to political achievements, economic development, religion, socio – cultural aspects – literature, education, art and architecture