

■ **INDIAN HISTORY**

ANCIENT INDIA:

Pre- Historic Period-

Palaeolithic Period:

- Homo sapiens appear at the end of this phase.
- Primarily a hunting and gathering lifestyle.
- First stone tools made of Quartzite.
- Divided into three phases:
 1. Lower Palaeolithic
 2. Middle Palaeolithic
 3. Upper Palaeolithic

Mesolithic Period:

- Domestication of animals, particularly dogs.
- Use of characteristic tools called microliths.
- Bhimbetka in Madhya Pradesh depicts ancient cave art.

Neolithic Period:

- Knowledge of fire and the wheel.
- Burzahom is a significant site.

Chalcolithic Period:

- Use of Copper and Stone tools.
- Practice of agriculture and veneration of Mother Goddess.
- Worship of the bull.

Indus Valley Civilisation-

- One of the earliest civilizations globally.
- Radiocarbon dating places its initiation around 2500-1750 BC.
- Systematic town planning based on a grid system.
- Burnt bricks used for construction.
- Well-managed drainage system.
- Fortified Citadel.
- The Great Bath (Mohenjodaro) used for religious bathing.
- Six granaries in a row found in the Citadel at Harappa.
- Towns divided into Citadel (Upper Part) and Lower Part.
- Ruled by a merchant class; no evidence of weapons.
- Agriculture based on a flood-risk schedule (sowing in November, reaping in April).
- Crops included wheat, barley, rai, peas, sesame, rice, and mustard.
- First to produce cotton, known as Sindon to the Greeks.

Trade:

- Well-developed internal and external trade.

- Barter system was prevalent.

Iron Absence:

- Iron was not known to the people.

Weights and Measures:

- Indus people used weights and measures in multiples of 16.

Religious Practices:

- Earth worship as fertility Goddess.
- Phallic (lingam) and yoni worship.
- Unicorn was a highly worshipped animal.
- Worship of trees (pipal), animals (bull), birds (dove, pigeon), and stones.
- No evidence of temples found.

Burial Practices:

- Dead bodies placed in North-South orientation.

Pashupati Seal:

- Seal depicts Pashupati with elephant, tiger, rhinoceros, and buffalo.
- Two deers at the feet of Pashupati.

Beliefs in Ghosts and Evil Forces:

- Use of amulets for protection against ghosts and evil forces.
- Fire altars found at Lothal and Kalibangan.

Artistic Achievements:

- Seals made of steatite were the greatest artistic creations.
- Harappan script pictographic and remains undeciphered.
- Boustrophedon style of writing (right to left in the first line, left to right in the second).

Occupations:

- Spinning, weaving, boat-making, goldsmithing, pottery, and seal-making.

Possible Causes of Decline:

- Invasion of the Aryans.
- Recurrent floods.
- Social breakdown of Harappans.
- Earthquakes.

Geographical Boundaries:

- North: Mandu (Jammu & Kashmir).
- South: Daimabad (Maharashtra).
- East: Alamgirpur.
- West: Sutkagendor

Indus Valley Sites

Site	Location	Discoverer	Excavation Year	Notable Findings
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Site	Location	Discoverer	Excavation Year	Notable Findings
Harappa	River Ravi, Montgomery district, Punjab (Pakistan)	Daya Ram Sahni	1921-23	Stone dancing Natraja, Cemetery-37
Mohenjodaro	River Indus, Larkana district, Sind (Pakistan)	RD Bannerji	1922	Great Bath, Great Granary, Collegiate Building, Assembly Hall, Dancing Girl, Pashupati Mahadeva/proto Shiva seal, Fragment of woven cotton
Chanhudaro	River Indus, Sindh (Pakistan)	NG Majumdar	1931	Only Indus site without citadel, Bronze figurines of bullock cart and ekkas, Small pot suggesting an ink pot
Lothal	River Bhogava, Gujarat	SR Rao	1954	Citadel, Lower town, Dockyard, Evidence of rice
Kalibangan	Ghaggar river, Rajasthan (Black Bangles)	BB Lal	1961	Ploughed field, Wooden furrow, Seven fire-altars, Bones of camel, Evidence of circular and rectangular graves
Dholavira	River Luni, Kachchh district, Gujarat	JP Joshi	1967-68	Unique water management system, Three parts division, Largest Harappan inscription, Stadium
Sirkotada	Gujarat	JP Joshi	1972	Evidence of horse, Oval grave, Pit burials, Seemingly a port city
Hanawali	River Saraswati, Haryana	RS Bisht	1973	Evidence of both pre-Harappan and Harappan culture, Lacked systematic drainage system, Evidence of good quality barley
Rakhigarhi	Haryana	Not specified	Not specified	Largest Indus Valley site

Vedic Period-

Rig Vedic Period (1500-1000 BC):

- Vedic civilization began with the migration of Aryan people to Northwestern India.
- Aryans were semi-nomadic pastoral people, believed to have originated in the Steppes from Southern Russia to Central Asia.
- The region where Aryans settled in India was called the Land of 7 Rivers or Sapta Sindhawa (Indus and its tributaries, including Saraswati).
- Dasrajan War (Battle of 10 kings) against Sudas, with Sudas emerging victorious.

Political Organization:

- Tribal system with strong military elements.
- Tribe called Jana, and its king called Rajan.
- King's post was hereditary, with traces of election by tribal assembly (Samitis).
- Other tribal assemblies mentioned were Sabha, Vidatha, and Gana.
- Villages headed by Gramani, and day-to-day administration assisted by Purohita, Senani, and Gramani.

Society:

- Loyalty to the tribe (Jana).
- Women enjoyed freedom and respect.

Religion:

- Worshiped Nature, with Indra as the most important divinity.
- Soma considered the God of plants.
- Worship for Praja, Pashu, food, health, and wealth; no temple or idol worship noted.

Economy:

- No regular revenue system; maintained by voluntary tribute (bali) and booty from battles.
- Main occupation was pastoral, with agriculture as a secondary occupation.
- Cow was a standard unit of exchange.
- Gold coins: Nishka, Krishnal, Satmana.
- Staple crop: Yava (barley).

Rigvedic Terms:

- Dasyus: Original inhabitant of India.
- Ayas: Copper/bronze.
- Vajrapati/Kalapas: Officer enjoying authority over a large tract of land.
- Gramini: Head of the village.
- Gavisthi: Fighting hordes, search for cows/war for cows.

Rigvedic Rivers:

- Indus (Sindhu), Kurram (Krumu), Jhelum (Vitasta), Chenab (Asikni), Ravi (Parushini), Beas (Vipas), Sutlej (Sutudri), Gomati (Gomal), Saraswati, Ghaggar (Drishadavati).

Later Vedic Period (1000-500 BC):

- Aryans expanded from Punjab to the whole of Western Uttar Pradesh in the Ganga-Yamuna Doab.

Political Organization:

- King (Samrat) became more powerful; tribal authority tended to become territorial.
- King's position strengthened by rituals like Ashwamedha and Vajapeya Yajnas.

Society:

- Society divided into four varnas: Brahmana, Kshatriya, Vaishya, and Shudra.
- Position of women deteriorated.

- Institution of Gotra appeared.

Economy:

- Beginning of town and settled life.
- Agriculture main livelihood; wheat and rice became staple crops.
- New occupations like ironsmith, coppersmith, and jewel work emerged; weaving reserved for women.

Religion:

- Prajapati became the supreme God, followed by Rudra and Lord Vishnu.
- Idolatry began; Pushana, 'God of Shudras,' looked after cattle.
- Sacrifices more important than prayers.

Vedic Literature:

- Vedas: Rigveda, Samaveda, Yajurveda, Atharvaveda.
- Brahmanas explain Vedic hymns.
- Aranyakas for hermits and students in the jungle.
- Upanishadas, philosophical texts.
- Smritis explain Vedic life rules.
- Vedangas: Shiksha, Kalpa, Vyakaran, Nikrukta, Chhanda, Jyotish.
- Puranas: Deals with world creation, genealogies, and royal dynasties.
- Darshana: Six schools of Indian philosophy.
- Upavedas: Dhanurveda, Gandharva-veda, Shilpaveda, Ayurveda.

Epics: Mahabharata (Vyasa) and Ramayana (Valmiki)

Mahajanapada	Location	Capital(s)
Gandhara	Between Kabul and Rawalpindi	Taxila
Anga	Bhagalpur and Munger in Bihar	Champa
Magadha	Patna and Gaya district, Bihar	Girivraj, Rajagriha (Bimbisara); Patliputra (Udayin); Vaishali (Shishunaga); Patliputra (Ashoka)
Kashi	Varanasi district, UP	Varanasi
Vajji	Vaishali district, UP	Vaishali
Malla	South of Vaishali district, UP	Kusinagara and Pava
Chedi	River Ken, Bundelkhand area	Sothivati-nagar or Shuktimati
Vatsa	River Yamuna, Allahabad and Mirzapur district in UP	Kaushambi
Kosala	Eastern UP	Sravasti and Ayodhya (Saket)
Kuru	Ganga-Yamuna doab, Delhi-Meerut region	Hastinapur and Indraprastha
Panchala	Ganga-Yamuna doab, Rohilkhand	Ahichhatra and Kampilya
Matsya	Jaipur-Bharatpur-Alwar district	Viratnagar/Bairath

Mahajanapada	Location	Capital(s)
Surasenans	Mathura region	Mathura
Asmaka	River Godavari (Near Paithan in Maharashtra)	Patna or Patali
Avanti	Malwa	Ujjain (Northern capital), Mahismati (Southern capital)
Kamboja	Hazara district of Pakistan	Rajapur or Hataka

JAINISM AND BUDDHISM-

Jainism:

1. Foundation and Tirthankaras:

- Jainism came into existence around 600 BC as a reaction against the dominance of Brahmanas and the spread of agricultural economy in the North-East.
- Rishabhadeva, born in Ayodhya, is considered the founder of Jainism. There were 24 Tirthankaras, with Mahavira being the 24th.

2. Mahavira:

- Mahavira, born in 540 BC near Vaishali, was the 24th Tirthankara.
- He became an ascetic at the age of 30, attained Kaivalya outside the town of Jimbhikgrama at 42, and died at the age of 72 in 468 BC in Pavapuri.

3. Jain Doctrines and Principles:

- Jainism emphasized five main principles: Ahimsa (non-violence), Asteya (non-stealing), Aparigraha (non-possession), Satya (truthfulness), and Brahmacharya (celibacy).

4. Triratnas and Salvation:

- The Triratnas of Jainism are right knowledge, right faith, and right conduct.
- Jainism holds that salvation is possible only through practices such as abandoning possessions, fasting, self-mortification, study, and meditation.

5. Jainism and Society:

- Jainism recognized the existence of God but considered it lower than Jina.
- Unlike Buddhism, Jainism did not condemn the varna system.
- Jainism admitted both men and women, and Jain monastic establishments were called basadis.

6. Patronage and Sects:

- Kharavela, the king of Kalinga, patronized Jainism.
- Chandragupta Maurya became a disciple of Bhadrabahu and spread Jainism in the South.
- Jainism split into two sects during the reign of Chandragupta Maurya: Svetambaras (wearing white dresses) and Digambaras (naked).

7. Councils:

- The first council was held at Pataliputra around 300 BC under Sthulbhadra, where Jaina Canons were compiled.
- The second council took place at Vallabhi in the 5th century AD under Kshamasramana, where 12 Angas and 12 Upangas were compiled in Ardha Magadhi language.

Buddhism:

- **Founder:**

- Gautama Buddha, also known as Siddhartha, Sakyamuni, or Tathagata.
- Born in 563 BC in Lumbini, Nepal, in the Shakya Kshatriya Clan.

- **Family and Upbringing:**

- Father: Suddhodana, a Shakya ruler.
- Mother: Mahamaya of the Kosalan dynasty, died early.
- Brought up by stepmother Gautami.
- Married to Yashodhara and had a son named Rahul.

- **Triratnas (Three Jewels):**

- Buddha: The founder.
- Dhamma: His teachings.
- Sangha: Order of Buddhist monks and nuns.

- **Sects:** Hinayana and Mahayana.

- **Phases of Buddha's Life and Symbols:**

- **Birth:** Lotus and Bull.
- **Mahabhinishkraman (Renunciation):** Horse.
- **Nirvana (Enlightenment):** Bodhi Tree.
- **Dharmachakra Pravartana (First Sermon):** Wheel.
- **Mahaparinirvana (Death):** Stupa.

- **The Dhamma:**

- **Four Great Truths:**

1. The world is full of sorrow and misery.
2. The cause of all pain and misery is desire.
3. Pain and misery can be ended by killing or controlling desire.
4. Desire can be controlled by following the Eight-Fold Path.

- **The Eight-Fold Path:**

1. Right Understanding.
2. Right Thought.
3. Right Action.
4. Right Livelihood.
5. Right Efforts.
6. Right Speech.
7. Right Mindfulness.
8. Right Concentration.

- **Madhya Marga (The Middle Path):**

- Advocates avoiding both extremes, i.e., a life of comforts and luxury and a life of severe asceticism.

- **Buddhist Literature:**

- In Pali language, known as Tripitakas (threefold basket).
- **Vinaya Pitaka:** Rules of discipline in Buddhist monasteries.
- **Sutta Pitaka:** Collection of Buddha's sermons and teachings (largest among all three pitakas).

- **Abhidhamma Pitaka:** Explanation of the philosophical principles of Buddhism.
- Mahavamsa and Dipavamsa are other Buddhist texts of Sri Lanka.
- **Causes of Decline of Buddhism:**
 - Use of Sanskrit (language of intellectuals) instead of Pali (language of the common people).
 - Revival of Hinduism.
- **Buddhist Councils:**
 - **First Council (483 BC):** Rajagriha, chaired by Mahakashyapa, patronized by Ajatashatru.
 - **Second Council (383 BC):** Vaishali, chaired by Sabakami, patronized by Kalashoka.
 - **Third Council (250 BC):** Patliputra, chaired by Mogaliputta Tissa, patronized by Ashoka.
 - **Fourth Council (AD 72):** Kundalvana, chaired by Vasumitra and Ashwaghosa, patronized by Kanishka.

DYNASTIES OF ANCIENT INDIA-

Haryanka Dynasty:

- **Founder:** Bimbisara
- **Significant Rulers:** Ajatashatru, Udayin
- **Capital:** Rajgir
- **Noteworthy Events:** Bimbisara expanded Magadha by annexing Anga; Udayin founded Pataliputra.

Shishunaga Dynasty:

- **Founder:** Shishunaga
- **Significant Ruler:** Kalashoka
- **Achievement:** Destruction of Avanti

Nanda Dynasty:

- **Founder:** Mahapadma Nanda
- **Noteworthy:** Non-Kshatriya dynasty; Alexander attacked during Dhana Nanda's reign.

Mauryan Dynasty:

- **Significant Rulers:** Chandragupta Maurya, Bindusara, Ashoka
- **Notable Events:** Chandragupta defeated Seleucus; Ashoka's conversion to Buddhism after the Kalinga War.

Sunga Dynasty (185-73 BC):

- **Founder:** Pushyamitra Sunga
- **Characteristics:** Brahminical revival, Bharhut stupa, Patanjali's 'Mahabhasya.'

Kanva Dynasty (73-28 BC):

- **Establishment:** After the murder of Devabhuti (last Sunga ruler) by Vasudeva.
- **Successor:** Replaced by the Satavahanas.

The Indo-Greeks-

- **Notable Ruler:** Menander (Milinda)
- **Significance:** Converted to Buddhism; issued coins attributing to the king; introduced Hellenistic art.

Shaka (Scythian) Dynasty-

- **Notable Ruler:** Rudradaman I
- **Achievements:** Defeated Satavahanas twice; Vikramaditya's victory led to the Vikram Samvat in 57 BC.

Kushana Dynasty-

- **Notable Ruler:** Kanishka
- **Contributions:** Saka Era (AD 78); issued gold coins widely; patronage of scholars like Nagarjuna and Charak.

Satavahana Dynasty-

- **Founder:** Simuka
- **Notable Events:** Cutting of rock-cut chaityas and viharas; official language was Prakrit; issued coins of lead.

Sangam Age-

- **Dynasties:** Cheras, Cholas, Pandyas
- **Significance:** Flourishing Tamil literature; Sangam assemblies; famous work - 'Kural' by Tiruvalluvar.

Gupta Period-

- **Key Ruler:** Chandragupta I
- **Achievements:** Strengthened Gupta through matrimonial alliances; acquired the title of Maharajadhiraja

Gupta Dynasty:

1. Samudragupta (AD 335-380)

- **Title:** Napoleon of India
- **Conquests:** Detailed in Allahabad pillar inscription.
- **Titles:** Kaviraj and Vikrama.
- **Notable:** Granted permission for a Buddhist temple at Gaya; court poet Harisena composed inscription.

2. Chandragupta II (AD 380-414)

- **Inscription:** Mehrauli Iron Pillar near Qutub Minar.
- **Court Adorned:** By Navratnas, including Kalidasa and Amarsimha.
- **Visit:** Fa-hien, Chinese Pilgrim.
- **Victory:** Over Saka Kshatrapa Rudrasimha III; issued silver coins in memory.
- **Marriage:** Married widow Dhruvadevi after killing Ramagupta.

3. **Kumaragupta I (AD 415-455)**

- **Successor:** Son of Chandragupta II.
- **Notable:** Founded Nalanda Mahavihara.

4. **Skandagupta (AD 455-467)**

- **Last Great Ruler:** Faced Huna invasions.
- **Title:** Assumed 'Vikramaditya' after repelling Hunas.

Pushyabhuti Dynasty (AD 606-647)-

- **Harshavardhana (606-647)**
 - **Capital:** Shifted to Kannauj.
 - **Visit:** Hieun Tsang visited during his reign.
 - **Cultural Contributions:** Established Nalanda monastery; Banabhata and Harsha wrote literary works.

Regional Dynasties-

1. **Rashtrakutas:**

- **Founders:** Dantidurga and Krishna I.
- **Significant Rule:** Amoghavarsha, compared to Vikramaditya.
- **Cultural Contributions:** Built Kailasha temple at Ellora; contributed to Elephanta cave shrine.

2. **Gangas (Orissa):**

- **Notable Ruler:** Narsimhadeva.
- **Architectural Feats:** Constructed Sun Temple at Konark; built Jagannath Temple at Puri; Lingaraja Temple at Bhubaneswar.

3. **Pallavas (Kanchi):**

- **Founder:** Simhavishnu.
- **Greatest King:** Narsimhavarman.
- **Architectural Contributions:** Mamallapuram (Mahabalipuram) town, rock-cut rathas, pagodas.

4. **Palas:**

- **Capital:** Monghyr.
- **Key Figure:** Dharmapala.
- **Educational Contributions:** Founded Vikramashila University; revived Nalanda University.

Other Notable Dynasties and Contributions-

- **Pratiharas:**
 - *Greatest Ruler:* Bhoja (Mihir, Adivraha).
 - **Chandellas (Bundelkhand):**
 - *Architectural Legacy:* Khajuraho temples.
 - **Chalukyas of Vatapi:**
 - *Founder:* Jayasimha.
 - *Contemporaries:* Lived during the time of Harshavardhan.
 - **Rajputs:**
 - *Clans:* Pratiharas (S Rajasthan), Chauhans (E Rajasthan), Chalukyas/Solankis (Kathiawar), Parmaras (Malwa).
1. **Founder:** Vijayalaya, Capital: Tanjore.
 2. **Aditya I:**
 - Eliminated Pallavas.
 - Weakened Pandyas.
 3. **Purantaka I:**
 - Captured Madurai.
 - Defeated by Rashtrakuta ruler Krishna III at Battle of Takkolam.
 4. **Rajaraja I (AD 985-1014):**
 - Led naval expedition against Shailendra empire.
 - Conquered Northern Sri Lanka.
 - Constructed Rajarajeshwari (Brihadeshvara) Shiva temple at Tanjore.
 5. **Rajendra I (AD 1014-1044):**
 - Annexed entire Sri Lanka.
 - Titled Gangaikonda.
 - Founded Gangaikonda Cholapuram.
 6. **Dancing Figure of Shiva (Nataraja):**
 - Belongs to the Chola period.
 7. **Local Self-Government:**
 - Existed during Chola rule.

MEDIEVAL INDIA:

Mohammad bin Qasim (AD 712)-

- Invaded India, conquered Sindh.

Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni-

- Led 17 expeditions in India.
- Attacked and raided Somnath temple in 1025.

Delhi Sultanate Foundation-

- Mohammad Ghori invaded.
- Defeated Prithviraj Chauhan in Second Battle of Tarain (1192).
- Ghori considered the 'founder of Muslim rule' in India.

Ilbari Dynasty (AD 1206-1290)-

- **Qutub-ud-din Aibak:**
 - Founded Slave dynasty.
 - Built Qutub Minar, Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque.
- **Iltutmish:**
 - Introduced Iqta system.
- **Razia Sultan (AD 1236-1240):**
 - First Muslim woman ruler.
- **Balban (AD 1266-1286):**
 - Introduced Sijdah and Paibos.
 - Declared king as deputy and shadow of God.

Khalji Dynasty (AD 1290-1320)-

- **Jalaluddin Firuz Khalji:**
 - Reviewed India as a totally Islamic state.
- **Alauddin Khalji:**
 - Conquests in Gujarat, Ranthambhor, Chittor, Malwa.
 - Abolished Zamindari in Khalisa land.
 - Implemented market reforms.
 - Adopted the title Sikandar-i-Sani.

Tughlaq Dynasty (AD 1320-1413)-

- **Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq:**
 - Founded Tughlaqabad.
- **Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq:**
 - Introduced experiments like Daulatabad shift and token currency.
 - Set-up Diwan-i-kohi for agriculture.
- **Firoz Shah Tughlaq:**
 - Built new towns and repaired Qutub Minar.

Sayyids and Lodhis-

- **Sayyids:**
 - Founded by Khizr Khan.
- **Lodhis:**
 - Bahlol Lodhi founded the dynasty.
 - Sikander Lodhi introduced Gaz-i-Sikandari.
 - Ibrahim Lodhi defeated by Babur (1526).

Provincial Kingdoms-

- **Gujarat:**
 - Broke away from Delhi in AD 1397.
 - Ahmedshah I founded Ahmedabad.
- **Kashmir:**
 - Ruled by Hindu rulers until Shamsuddin Shah (AD 1339).
- **Mewar:**
 - Rajput rule restored by Rana Hamir.
 - Rana Kumbha built Vijay Stambh at Chittor

Vijayanagara Kingdom (AD 1336-1565)-

- **Founders:** Harihara I and Bukka I.
- **Dynasties:** Sangam, Saluva, Tuluva, Aravidu.
- **Notable Ruler:** Krishnadeva Raya, a great patron of literature.
- **Famous Visitors:** Nicolo de Conti, Nikitin, Portuguese Dominigo Paes, Barbosa.
- **Fall:** Defeated at the Battle of Talikota (AD 1565).

Bahmani Kingdom-

- **Founder:** Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah.
- **Capital Shift:** Ahmad Shah Wali moved it from Gulbarg to Bidar.
- **Fragmentation:** Split into Nizamsahis, Adilsahis, Imadsahis, Qutubsahis, Baridsahis.
- **Architectural Marvels:** Gol Gumbaz at Bijapur, Charminar at Hyderabad.

Mughal Empire (AD 1526-1707)-

1. Babur (AD 1526-1530):

- A) Founded the Mughal Empire after defeating Ibrahim Lodhi.
- B) Declared Jihad and adopted the title Ghazi.
- C) Introduced gunpowder in India.

2. Humayun (AD 1530-1556):

- A) Built Dinpanah at Delhi.
- B) Defeated by Sher Shah Suri, went into exile, returned in 1555.
- C) Died in AD 1556, leaving behind Humayun-nama.

3. Akbar (AD 1556-1605):

- A) Conquered Malwa, Gujarat, Mewar, and more.
- B) Introduced Todar Mal Bandobast and Mansabdari System.
- C) Abolished Jaziyah, promoted Sulh-i-Kul, and created Din-i-Ilahi.
- D) Known for the Navratnas, including Birbal and Tansen.

4. Jahangir (AD 1605-1627):

- A) Executed Guru Arjan Dev.
- B) Married Nurjahan, established Zanjir-i-Adal for royal justice.
- C) Attracted European visitors like Captain Hawkins and Sir Thomas Roe.

5. Shahjahan (AD 1628-1658):

- A) Annexed Ahmadnagar, secured Kandahar.
- B) Built Moti Masjid, Taj Mahal, Jama Masjid, and Red Fort.
- C) Considered the Golden Age of Mughal architecture.

6. Aurangzeb (AD 1658-1707):

- A) Won in the brutal war of succession.
- B) Annexed Marwar, Bijapur, and Golconda.
- C) Imposed Jaziya, executed Guru Tegh Bahadur, and expanded territorial rule.
- D) Contributed to the fall of the Mughal Empire.

Sur Dynasty-

- **Founder:** Sher Shah (Farid).
- **Achievements:** Introduced the Rupaya and Dam coins.
- **Architectural Legacy:** Built a tomb at Sasaram and a new city in Delhi.

Causes behind the Fall of Mughal Empire:

- Weak and incompetent successors.
- Wars of succession.
- Aurangzeb's policies in Deccan, religion, and with the Rajputs.
- Jagirdari crisis.
- Rise of regional powers like the Marathas.
- Foreign invasions by Nadir Shah (1739) and Abdali.

Later Mughals-

- **Bahadur Shah I (1707-12):**
 - Original name: Muazzam; Title: Shah Alam I.
- **Jahandar Shah (1712-13):**
 - Ascended with Zulfikar Khan's help.
 - Abolished Jizya.
- **Farrukhsiyar (1713-19):**
 - Reign marked by the rise of the Sayyid Brothers.
 - Farrukhsiyar lacked ruling abilities.

- **Muhammad Shah (1719-48):**

- Peacock Throne and Kohinoor diamond taken by Nadir Shah.
- Witnessed the invasion of Nadir Shah.

- **Ahmed Shah (1748-54):**

- Ceded Punjab and Multan to Ahmed Shah Abdali.

- **Alamgir (1754-59):**

- Delhi occupied by Ahmed Shah Abdali.
- Plundered by Marathas.

- **Shah Alam II (1759-1806):**

- Couldn't enter Delhi for 12 years.

- **Akbar II (1806-37):**

- Pensioner of East India Company.
- Gave the title 'Raja' to Ram Mohan Roy.

- **Bahadur Shah II (1837-57):**

- Last Mughal Emperor.
- Premier during the 1857 Revolt.

Literature of Mughal Period

Author	Work
Babur	Tuzuk-i-Babari
Abul Fazal	Ain-i-Akbari, Akbarnamah
Jahangir	Tuzuk-i-Jahangir
Hamid Lahori	Padshahnama
Darashikoh	Majma-ul-Bahrain
Mirza Md Qasim	Alamgirnama

Marathas (AD 1674-1818)

Shivaji (AD 1627-80):

- Born at Shivner, son of Shahji Bhonsle and Jijabai.
- Treaty of Purandar (AD 1665) with the Mughals.
- Coronation at Raigarh (AD 1674), assumed title of Haindava Dharmadharak.

Peshwas (AD 1719-1818):

- **Balaji Vishwanath:** First Peshwa, recognized by Mughal emperor Farukh Siyyar.

- **Baji Rao:** Expanded Maratha power, defeated Siddis of Janjira, conquered Bassein and Salsette.
- **Balaji Baji Rao (Nana Sahib):** Third Battle of Panipat (AD 1761) against Ahmed Shah Abdali.

Sikh Gurus-

- **Guru Nanak Ji (1469-39):** Founded Sikh religion.
- **Guru Angad (1539-52):** Invented Gurmukhi.
- **Guru Amardas (1552-74):** Struggled against sati and purdah systems.
- **Guru Ramdas (1574-81):** Founded Amritsar.
- **Guru Arjan Dev (1581-1606):** Founded Golden Temple.
- **Guru Hargobind Singh (1606-44):** Established Akal Takht, fortified Amritsar.
- **Guru Gobind Singh (1675-1708):** Last Guru, founded the Khalsa.

MODERN INDIA

European Advent in India-

Portuguese:

- **Vasco-da-Gama (1498):** Reached Calicut during the reign of the Zamorin.
- **Settlements:** Daman, Salsette, Chaul, Bombay, San Thome, Hooghly.
- **Alfonso de Albuquerque (1509):** Second Governor, captured Goa in 1510.

Dutch:

- **Dutch East India Company (1602):** Formed.
- **Defeat by English (1759):** Agreement gave Dutch control over Indonesia, British over India, Sri Lanka, Malaya.
- **Settlements:** Masulipatnam, Pulicat, Chinsura, Patna, Balasore, Naga Pattanam, Cochin, Surat, Karaikal, Kasimbazar.

English:

- **East India Company (1600):** Formed under Queen Elizabeth.
- **Factory at Surat (1613):** Farman granted by Jahangir to Captain William Hawkins.
- **Calcutta (1698):** Founded by Job Charnock; Fort William set up in 1700.
- **Magna Carta of the Company (1717):** Farrukhsiyar granted large concessions.
- **Battles:** Plassey (1757), Buxar (1764).

Danes:

- **Danish East India Company (1616):** Formed.
- **Tranquebar:** Danish colony on the Coromandel Coast.
- **Settlements:** Serampur, Tranquebar, sold to the English in 1845.

French:

- **French East India Company (1664):** Formed by Colbert.
- **First Factory (1668):** Established at Surat by Francois Caron.
- **Settlements:** Defeated by English in Battle of Wandiwash (1760).

Governor-Generals of Bengal-

Warren Hastings (1774-85):

- **End of Dual Government (1773):** Regulating Act.
- **Pitt's India Act (1784):** Clear demarcation of jurisdiction.
- **Wars:** Rohilla War (1774), First Maratha War (1775-82), Second Mysore War (1780-84).
- **Institutions:** Asiatic Society of Bengal (1784).
- **Translations:** English translations of Bhagavad Gita by Charles Wilkins (1785).

Lord Cornwallis (1786-93):

- **Third Mysore War (1790-92):** Treaty of Seringapatnam (1792).
- **Permanent Settlement (1793):** Introduced in Bengal and Bihar.
- **Father of Civil Services:** Separated revenue and judicial administration.
- **Abhigyan Shakuntalam:** Translated into English by William Jones in 1789.

Sir John Shore (1793-98):

- **Permanent Settlement:** Played a key role.
- **Battle of Kharda (1795):** Between Nizams and Marathas.

Lord Wellesley (1798-1805):

- **Subsidiary Alliance (1798):** First alliance with Nizam of Hyderabad, followed by others.
- **Treaty of Bassein (1802):** Precursor to the Second Maratha War.

George Barlow (1805-07):

- **Vellore Mutiny (1806):** Occurred during his tenure.

Lord Minto I (1807-13):

- **Treaty of Amritsar (1809):** Concluded with Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
- **Charter Act of 1813:** Passed during his tenure.

Lord Hastings (1813-23):

- **Anglo-Nepal War (1814-16):** Treaty of Sagauli (1816).
- **Third Maratha War (1817-18):** Dissolution of Maratha confederacy, creation of Bombay Presidency.
- **Pindari War (1820):** Establishment of Ryotwari System by Thomas Munro.

Lord Amherst (1823-28):

- **First Burmese War (1824-26):** Treaty of Yandaboo (1826).
- **Capture of Bharatpur (1826):**

Governor-Generals of India-

Lord William Bentinck (1828-35):

- **Charter Act of 1833:** Passed; Made first Governor General of India.
- **Social Reforms:** Prohibition of Sati (1829), elimination of thugs (1830).
- **Education:** English made medium of higher education.

Lord Metcalfe (1835-36):

- **Press Freedom:** Known as liberator of the press.

Lord Auckland (1836-42):

- **First Afghan War (1838-42):** A disaster for the English.

Lord Ellenborough (1842-44):

- **End of Afghan War:** Brought an end to the Afghan war.
- **War with Gwalior (1843):** Annexation of Sind by Charles Napier (1843).

Lord Hardinge (1844-48):

- **First Anglo-Sikh War (1845-46):** Treaty of Lahore (1846).
- **Employment Preference:** Gave preference to English educated persons.

Lord Dalhousie (1848-56):

- **Doctrine of Lapse:** Annexation of Satara, Jaitpur, Sambhalpur, Baghat, Udaipur, Jhansi, Nagpur, and Awadh.
- **Infrastructure:** First railway line between Bombay and Thane (1853), Telegraph line, Postal reforms.
- **Social Reforms:** Widow Remarriage Act (1856), started Engineering College at Roorkee.
- **Charter Act, 1853:** Introduced competitive examination for Civil Service.
- **Summer Capital:** Made Shimla the summer capital of India.

Viceroy of India-

Lord Canning (1856-62):

- **First Viceroy:** Last Governor-General and first Viceroy.
- **Reforms:** Withdrew the Doctrine of Lapse; Indian Penal Code 1860.
- **Significant Events:** Revolt of 1857 (Mutiny); Act of 1858 ended East India Company rule.

Lord Elgin (1862):

- **Wahabi Movement:**

Lord John Lawrence (1864-69):

- **Institutions:** Established High Courts; Indian Forest Department.
- **Infrastructure:** Telegraphic communication to Europe.

Lord Mayo (1869-72):

- **Surveys:** Organized Statistical Survey of India; First census in 1871.
- **Financial Decentralization:** Started process; Established Department of Agriculture and Commerce.

Lord Northbrooke (1872-76):

- **Rebellions:** Kuka Rebellion in Punjab; Famine in Bihar.

Lord Lytton (1876-80):

- **Titles and Acts:** Royal Titles Act (1876); Assumption of 'Empress of India' title; Vernacular Press Act; Arms Act.
- **Known For:** 'Viceroy of Reverse Character.'

Lord Ripon (1880-84):

- **Reforms:** First Factory Act (1881); Repealed Vernacular Press Act; Local Self-Government (1882).
- **Education:** Appointed Education Commission (1882).
- **Controversy:** Ilbert Bill (1883).

Lord Dufferin (1884-88):

- **Wars:** Third Burmese War (1885-86).
- **Political Development:** Indian National Congress founded in 1885.

Lord Lansdowne (1888-94):

- **Legislation:** Factory Act of 1891; Indian Councils Act of 1892.
- **Borders:** Defined Durand Line (1893).

Lord Elgin II (1894-99):

- **Events:** Southern uprisings (1899); Great famine of 1896-1897.

Lord Curzon (1899-1905):

- **Reforms:** Indian Universities Act (1904); Ancient Monuments Preservation Act (1904).
- **Establishments:** Archaeological Survey of India; Agricultural Research Institute at Pusa.
- **Controversial:** Partition of Bengal in 1905.

Lord Minto (1905-10):

- **Movements:** Swadeshi Movement (1905-08); Formation of Muslim League (1906); Morley-Minto Reforms (1909).

Lord Hardinge (1910-16):

- **Shift of Capital:** From Calcutta to Delhi (1911); Partition of Bengal canceled.
- **Movements:** Founding of Hindu Mahasabha (1915).

Lord Chelmsford (1916-21):

- **Movements:** Champaran Satyagraha (1917); Khilafat Movement (1919-20); Non-Cooperation Movement (1920-22).
- **Reforms:** Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms (1919).

Lord Reading (1921-26):

- **Events:** Repeal of Rowlatt Act; Formation of RSS (1925); Suppression of Non-Cooperation Movement.
- **Incidents:** Chauri-Chaura incident; Kakori Train Robbery (1925).

Lord Irwin (1926-31):

- **Commissions:** Simon Commission (1927).
- **Movements:** Dandi March (1930); Civil Disobedience Movement (1930).
- **Conferences:** First Round Table Conference (1930); Gandhi-Irwin Pact.

Lord Willingdon (1931-36):

- **Conferences:** Second and Third Round Table Conferences.
- **Acts:** Government of India Act (1935); Communal Awards (1932).
- **Protests:** Gandhiji's epic fast against Communal Awards.

Lord Linlithgow (1936-43):

- **Movements:** Quit India Movement (1942).
- **Leagues:** Lahore Resolution (1940) by Muslim League.
- **War:** Outbreak of World War II (1939).

Lord Wavell (1943-47):

- **Plans:** Cabinet Mission Plan (1946); Shimla Conference (1945).
 - **Constitution:** First meeting of the Constituent Assembly (1946).

Lord Mountbatten (March-August, 1947):

- **Partition:** Decided by 3rd June Plan; Indian Independence Act (1947).
- **Retirement:** Succeeded by C. Rajagopalachari, the first Indian Governor-General.

Political Developments and Movements-

Communal Differences:

- Communal differences escalated between Hindus and Muslims.

Demand for Swaraj (Calcutta Session 1906): INC, led by Dadabhai Naoroji, adopted 'Swaraj' (self-government) as the goal.

Surat Session (1907):

- INC split into Extremists (Lal, Bal, Pal) and Moderates (GK Gokhale) due to differences on the nature of the Swadeshi Movement.

Morley-Minto Reforms (1909):

- Introduced separate electorates for Muslims.
- Lord Minto earned the title "Father of Communal Electorate."

Ghadar Party (1913):

- Formed in San Francisco by Lala Hardayal, Taraknath Das, and Sohan Singh Bhakna.
- Named after the Ghadar newspaper, commemorating the 1857 Revolt.

Home Rule Movement (1916):

- Initiated by BG Tilak in Poona and Annie Besant and S Subramania Iyer in Adyar.
- Aimed at self-government within the British Empire.
- Tilak's slogan: "Swaraj is my Birth Right and I shall have it."

Lucknow Pact (1916):

- Agreement between INC and Muslim League.
- Joint demand for dominion status for India.
- Congress accepted separate electorates for Muslims.

August Declaration (1917):

- British policy announced post-Lucknow Pact.
- Aimed at increasing Indian participation in administration for the gradual realization of responsible government.
- Led to the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms (1919).

Rowlatt Act (18th March 1919):

- Granted powers to arrest and imprison suspects without trial.
- Suspended the right of Habeas Corpus.
- Rowlatt Satyagraha initiated against the act.

Jallianwala Bagh Massacre (13th April 1919):

- General Dyer fired on a gathering in Amritsar.
- Led to public outrage; Rabindra Nath Tagore returned his knighthood.
- Sardar Udham Singh assassinated Michael O' Dwyer in 1940.

Khilafat Movement (1920): Protest against British treatment of Turkey in the post-World War I treaty. Led by Ali brothers (Mohd Ali and Shaukat Ali) and supported by the Congress.

Non-Cooperation Movement (1920):

- Resolutions passed in the Calcutta Session of Congress (September 1920).
- Mass-based political movement initiated by Gandhiji.
- Envisaged resignation from nominated offices and posts in local bodies.

Non-Cooperation Movement Consequences:

- Refusal to attend government durbars and boycott of British courts by lawyers.
- General public abstained from military and government jobs and boycotted foreign goods.

Chauri-Chaura Incident (1922):

- Decision at the Congress Session in Allahabad to launch Civil Disobedience.
- Clash at Chauri-Chaura resulted in the burning of 22 policemen.
- Gandhiji withdrew the Non-Cooperation Movement on February 12, 1922, in response.

Swaraj Party (1923):

- Formed by Motilal Nehru, CR Das, and NC Kelkar (Pro-changers).
- Advocated ending the boycott of Legislative Councils and participating to expose them.

Simon Commission (1927):

- Constituted by John Simon to review India's political situation and propose further reforms.
- Indian leaders opposed it for lacking Indian representation; "Simon Go Back" protests ensued.
- Lala Lajpat Rai was fatally injured in a lathi-charge during protests in Lahore.

The Nehru Report (1928):

- Political parties formed a committee chaired by Motilal Nehru to determine principles for India's constitution.

Lahore Session (1929):

- INC declared Poorna Swaraj (complete independence) as its ultimate goal.
- Tri-coloured flag adopted, and January 26, 1930, fixed as the First Independence Day, later celebrated as Republic Day.

Dandi March (1930):

- Also known as Salt Satyagraha.
- Gandhiji's march from Sabarmati Ashram to Dandi on March 12, 1930, to break the Salt Law.
- Inaugurated the Civil Disobedience Movement.

Civil Disobedience Movement:

- Countrywide mass participation, including women.
- Garhwal soldiers at Peshawar refused to fire on the people.

First Round Table Conference (1931):

- Arranged between the British and Indians as equals on November 12, 1930, to discuss the Simon Commission.
- Hindu Mahasabha and Muslim League participated, but the absence of INC led to its failure.

Gandhi Irwin Pact (1931):

- Signed on March 5, 1931, between Lord Irwin and INC represented by Gandhiji.
- INC called off the Civil Disobedience Movement and agreed to join the Second Round Table Conference.

Religious Institution

Religious Institution	Founder	Ideas
Brahmo Samaj (1828)	Raja Ram Mohan Roy	- Propagated monotheism - Opposed sacrifices, idolatry, superstition, and sati
Young Bengal Movement (1826-31)	Henry Louis Vivian Derozio	- Opposed societal vices - Believed in truth, freedom, and right
Tattavabodhini Sabha (1839)	Debendranath Tagore	- Propagated Brahmo Samaj ideas - Founded Adi Brahmo Samaj (1866)
Dharma Sabha (1820), Rohilkhand	Radhakant Deb	- Emerged to counter Brahmo Samaj - Propagated orthodoxy
Wahabi Movement (1820), Rohilakhand	Syed Ahmed of Rai Bareilly	- Popularized the teachings of Waliullah - Stressed the role of individual conscience in religion
Namdhari or Kuka Movement (1841-71)	Bhai Balak Singh and Baba Ram Singh	- For political and social reforms among Sikhs
Paramhans Mandali (1849)	Dadoba Pandurang	- Emphasized the unity of God - Against caste rules
Rahnumai Mazdayasanan Sabha (1851)	SS Bengali, Dadabhai Naoroji, etc.	- Improve social conditions of Parsis - Restore the purity of Zoroastrianism
Prarthana Samaj (1867), Bombay	Atmaram Pandurang	- Monotheism - Upliftment of women – Abolition of caste discrimination
Indian Reform Association (1870), Calcutta	Keshab Chandra Sen	- Opposed child marriage - Advocated widow remarriage and inter-caste marriages
Arya Samaj (1875), Bombay	Dayanand Saraswati (Mulshankar)	- Slogan: Go Back to the Vedas - Denounced rites, idolatry, Brahmin supremacy, etc.
Aligarh Movement (1875)	Syed Ahmed Khan	- Emphasized the principle of equality in religion

Religious Institution	Founder	Ideas
The Theosophical Society (1875), New York	Madam HP Blavatsky, Col HS Olcott	- Inspiration from Upanishads, Vedanta, and transmigration of the souls
Deccan Education Society (1884), Pune	MG Ranade, VG Chiplinkar, GG Agarkar	- Contribution to education and culture in Western India - Established Fergusson College, Pune (1885)
Seva Sadan (1885), Bombay	Behramji M Malabari	- Against child marriages and forced widowhood
Deva Samaj (1887), Lahore	Shiv Narain Agnihotri	- Favored a code of conduct against bribery, gambling, etc.
Servants of Indian Society (1905), Bombay	Gopal Krishna Gokhale	Famine relief – Improving tribal conditions
Bharat Stri Mahamandal (1910), Calcutta	Sarlabai Devi Chaudhrani	Women’s education – Women’s emancipation
Social Service League (1911)	NM Joshi	- Improving the condition of the masses
Women’s Indian Association (1917), Madras	Annie Besant	- Upliftment of Indian women

Crematorium of Famous Persons

Crematorium	Famous Person(s)
Raj Ghat	Mahatma Gandhi
Shanti Van	Jawaharlal Nehru
Vijay Ghat	Lal Bahadur Shastri
Shakti Sthal	Indira Gandhi
Kisan Ghat	Chaudhary Charan Singh
Abhay Ghat	Morarji Desai
Veer Bhumi	Rajiv Gandhi
Samata Sthal	Jagjivan Ram
Ekta Sthal	Giani Zail Singh, Chandra Shekhar
Karma Bhumi	Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
Uday Bhoomi	K.R. Narayanan
Mahaprayan Ghat	Dr. Rajendra Prasad

Newspapers and Journals

Name	Published by
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Name	Published by
Bengal Gazette	JA Hickey
Kesari	BG Tilak
Maratha	BG Tilak
Amrita Bazar Patrika	Sisir Kumar Ghosh and Motilal Ghosh
Vande Mataram	Aurobindo Ghosh
Yugantar	Bhupendranath Dutta and Barinder Kumar Ghosh
Bombay Chronicle	Firoz Shah Mehta

Books and Authors

Book	Author
Ghulam Gori	Jyotiba Phule
Pather Panchali	B. Bhushan Bannerji
Satyarth Prakash	Swami Dayanand
Anand Math	Bankim Chandra Chatterji
Unhappy India	Lala Lajpat Rai
India Divided	Rajendra Prasad
The Discovery of India	Jawaharlal Nehru

ART AND CULTURE

Classical Dancers of India

Dance	Dancer(s)
Bharatanatyam	Bala Saraswati, CV Chandrasekhar, Leela Samson, Mrinalini Sarabhai, Padma Subramanyam, Rukmini Devi, Sanyukta Panigrahi, Sonal Mansingh, Yamini Krishnamurti
Kathak	Bharti Gupta, Birju Maharaj, Damayanti Joshi, Durga Das, Gopi Krishna, Kumudini Lakhia, Sambhu Maharaj, Sitara Devi
Kuchipudi	Josyula Seetharamaiah, Vempathi Chinna Sathyam
Manipuri	Guru Bipin Sinha, Jhaveri Sisters, Nayana Jhaveri, Nirmala Mehta, Savita Mehta
Odissi	Debaprasad Das, Dharendra Nath Patnaik, Indrani Rahman, Kelucharan Mahapatra, Priyambada Mohanty
Kathakali	Mrinalini Sarabhai, Guru Shankaran, Namboodripad, Thottam Shankaran, Kutti Nayyar, Shankar Kurup, KC Pannikar, TT Ram Kulti
Mohiniattam	Protima Devi, Sanyukta Panigrahi, Sonal Mansingh, Pankaj Charan Das, Kelucharan Mahapatra, Madhvi Mudgal, etc

State and Folk Dances

State	Dances
Andhra Pradesh	Kuchipudi, Ghantamardala, Ottam Thedal, Veedhi Natakam
Assam	Bihu, Bichhua, Natpuja, Maharas, Kaligopal, Bagurumba, Khel Gopal, Canoe,
Bihar	Jata-Jatin, Bakho-Bakhain, Panwariya, Sama-Chakwa, Bidesia
Gujarat	Garba, Dandiya Ras, Tippani Juriun, Bhavai
Haryana	Jhumar, Phag, Daph, Dhamal, Loor, Gugga, Khor, Gagor
Himachal Pradesh	Jhora, Jhali, Chharhi, Dhaman, Chhapeli, Mahasu, Nati, Dangi
Jammu and Kashmir	Rauf, Hikar, Mandjas, Kud Dandi Nach, Damali
Karnataka	Yakshagan, Huttari, Suggi, Kunitha, Karga, Lambi
Kerala	Kathakali (Classical), Ottam Thulal, Mohiniattam, Kaikottikali
Maharashtra	Lavani, Nakata, Koli, Lezim, Gafa, Dahikala Dasavtar or Powada
Odisha	Odissi (Classical), Savari, Ghumara, Painka, Munari, Chhau
Paschim Banga	Kathi, Gambhira, Dhali, Jatra, Baul, Marasia, Mahal, Keertan
Punjab	Bhangra, Giddha, Daff, Dhaman, Bhand, Naqual
Rajasthan	Ghumar, Chakri, Ganagor, Jhulan Leela, Jhuma, Suisini, Ghapal, Kalbeliya
Tamil Nadu	Bharatanatyam, Kumi, Kolattam, Kavadi
Uttar Pradesh	Nautanki, Raslila, Kajri, Jhora, Chappeli, Jaita

Instruments and Vocalists

Genre	Vocalists/Instrumentalists
Carnatic	MS Subbalakshmi, Balamuralikrishna, Bombay Jaishri, HK Raghavendra, Aryakudi Ramanujan Iyengar, Venkataram, Sitarajam, Mani Krishnaswamy, Akhil Krishnan, ML Vasanthakumari, MD Ramanathan, GN Balasubramaniam
Dhrupad	Ustad Rahim Fahim-ud-din Dagar, Zahir-ud-din Dagar, Wasif-ud-din Dagar, Bundecha Bandhu, Pt Abhay Narayan Mallick, Pt Ritwik Sanyal, Uday Bhawalkar
Thumri	Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan, Ustad Mazhar Ali Khan, Ustad Zawad Ali Khan, Poornima Chaudhary, Shanti Heerananda, Naina Devi, Rita Ganguly

Musical Instruments and Instrumentalists

Instruments	Instrumentalists
Stringed Instruments	
Been	Asad Ali Khan, Zia Moin-ud-din Khan
Santoor	Shiv Kumar Sharma

Instruments	Instrumentalists
Sarod	Buddhadev Dasgupta, Ali Akbar Khan, Amjad Ali Khan, Bahadur Khan, Sharan Rani, Zarin S Sharma
Sarangi	Ustad Binda Khan
Sitar	Ravi Shankar, Hara Shankar Bhattacharya, Nikhil Banerjee, Vilayat Khan, Mustaq Ali Khan
Surbahar	Sajjad Hussain, Annapurna
Veena	Doraiswamy Iyengar, Chittibabu, Emani Sankara Shastri, Dhanammal, S Bala Chandran, KR Kumaraswamy
Violin	Gajanan Rao Joshi, MS Gopal Krishnan, TN Krishnan, Baluswamy, Dikshitar, Dwaran Venkataswamy Naidu Lalyuli G Jayaraman, Mysore T Chowdiah, VG Jog
Wind Instruments	
Flute	TR Mahalingam, N Ramani, Hari Prasad Chaurasia, Pannalal Ghosh
Nadaswaram	Sheikh Chinna Moula, Neeruswamy Pillai, Rajaratanam Pillai
Shehnai	Bismillah Khan
Percussion Instruments	
Mridangam	Palghat Mani Iyer, Karaikudi R Mani, Palghat Raghu
Pakhawaj	Pt Ayodhya Prasad, Gopal Das, Babu Ram Shanker Pagaldas
Tabla	Zakir Hussain, Nikhil Ghosh, Kishan Maharaj, Alla Rakha Khan, Pandit Samta Prasad, Kumar Bose, Latif Khan
Kanjira	Pudukkottai Dakshinamurthi Pillai

Cultural Institutions

Institutions	Headquarters
Anthropological Survey of India, 1945	Kolkata
Archaeological Survey of India, 1861	New Delhi
Asiatic Society, 1784 (Sir William Jones)	Kolkata
Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, 1985	New Delhi
Lalit Kala Akademi (National Academy of Fine Arts), 1954	New Delhi
National Archives of India, 1981	New Delhi
National School of Drama, 1959	New Delhi
Sahitya Academy, 1954	New Delhi
Sangeet Natak Academy, 1953	New Delhi
Library of Tibetan Works and Archives	Dharmashala
Science City	Kolkata
Victorial Memorial Hall	Kolkata

Institutions	Headquarters
Birla Industrial and Tech Museum	Kolkata
Central Institute of Buddhist Studies	Leh
Nava Nalanda Mahavihara (Birla)	Nalanda
National Gallery of Modern Art	New Delhi

MCQ

- 1. In which year was the archaeological site of Harappa, located near the Ravi River in Montgomery, Pakistan, discovered?**
 - A) 1921
 - B) 1922
 - C) 1931
 - D) 1952-55
- 2. Who is credited with the discovery of Mohenjo-daro, situated near the Indus River in Larkana, Pakistan, in 1922?**
 - A) Dayaram Sahney
 - B) Rakhal Das Banerjee
 - C) N.G. Mazumdar
 - D) Yagyadatta Sharma
- 3. Chanhudaro, located near the Indus River in Sindh, Pakistan, was discovered in which year?**
 - A) 1921
 - B) 1922
 - C) 1931
 - D) 1952-55

4. The archaeological site of Alamgir, situated near Meerut in Uttar Pradesh, was discovered in which years?
- A) 1921
 - B) 1922
 - C) 1952-55
 - D) 1979
5. Ropar, located near the Sutlej River in Punjab, was discovered in the year:
- A) 1921
 - B) 1953
 - C) 1961
 - D) 1979
6. The archaeological site of Rangpur, situated near the Bhabar River in Kathiabar, Gujarat, was discovered in which year?
- A) 1921
 - B) 1922
 - C) 1953
 - D) 1967
7. Who is associated with the discovery of Kotdigi, located near the Indus River in Sindh, Pakistan, in 1953?
- A) Yagyadatta Sharma
 - B) Madho Swaroop
 - C) Fazal Ahmed Khan
 - D) Rang Nath Rao Vatsa
8. Lothal, situated near the Bhogwa River in Ahmedabad, Gujarat, was discovered in the year:
- A) 1921
 - B) 1954
 - C) 1961
 - D) 1979
9. Kalibanga, located near the Ghaggar River in Ganganagar, Rajasthan, was discovered in which year?
- A) 1953
 - B) 1954
 - C) 1961
 - D) 1979
10. Who is credited with the discovery of Surkotada, situated near the Ghaggar River in Kutch, Gujarat, in 1967?
- A) Rakhil Das Banerjee
 - B) Yagyadatta Sharma
 - C) Ravindra Singh d
 - D) Rang Nath Rao Vatsa
11. Who declared, "Swarajya is My Birthright"?

- A) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
- B) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- C) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- D) Mahatma Gandhi

12. Which freedom fighter proclaimed, "Give me blood, I shall give you freedom"?

- A) Bhagat Singh
- B) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- C) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
- D) Lal Bahadur Shastri

13. The slogan "Inqalab Zindabad" is associated with which revolutionary figure?

- A) Mahatma Gandhi
- B) Bhagat Singh
- C) Subhash Chandra Bose
- D) Jawahar Lal Nehru

14. Who coined the phrase "Saare Jahan Se Achcha, Hindustan Hamara"?

- A) Rabindranath Tagore
- B) Dr. Mohammed Iqbal
- C) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
- D) Jawahar Lal Nehru

15. The rallying cry "Dilli Chalo" was famously given by which leader?

- A) Mahatma Gandhi
- B) Subhash Chandra Bose
- C) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- D) Lal Bahadur Shastri

16. Who expressed the sentiment "Sarfaroshi ki tamanna, Ab Hamare Dil Mein Hai"?

- A) Ram Prasad Bismil
- B) Bhagat Singh
- C) Subhash Chandra Bose
- D) Lala Lajpat Rai

17. Which Indian leader declared, "I am socialist by nature"?

- A) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- B) Mahatma Gandhi
- C) Subhash Chandra Bose
- D) Lal Bahadur Shastri

18. The phrase "Go to Vedas" is associated with the teachings of which reformer?

- A) Swami Dayanand
- B) Swami Vivekananda
- C) Rabindranath Tagore
- D) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee

19. Who stated, "Aaram Haram Hai"?

- A) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- B) Mahatma Gandhi
- C) Subhash Chandra Bose
- D) Lal Bahadur Shastri

20. The slogan "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan" is associated with which Indian leader?

- A) Atal Behari Vajpayee
- B) Lal Bahadur Shastri
- C) Jawahar Lal Nehru
- D) Subhash Chandra Bose

21. Who defeated the king of Kalinga in the Battle of Kalinga (261 B.C.)?

- A) Ashoka
- B) Muhammad Gori
- C) Prithviraj Chauhan
- D) Babar

22. In the Second Battle of Tarain (1192 A.D.), who defeated Prithviraj Chauhan?

- A) Muhammad Gori
- B) Ashoka
- C) Babar
- D) Akbar

23. Who defeated Ibrahim Lodi in the First Battle of Panipat (1526 A.D.)?

- A) Rana Sanga
- B) Muhammad Gori
- C) Babar
- D) Shershah Suri

24. In the Battle of Khandawa (1527 A.D.), who defeated Rana Sanga?

- A) Akbar
- B) Shershah Suri
- C) Babar
- D) Humayun

25. Who defeated Humayun in the Battle of Chausa (1539 A.D.) and became the ruler of Delhi?

- A) Shershah Suri
- B) Babar
- C) Akbar
- D) Rana Sanga

26. In the Second Battle of Panipat (1556 A.D.), who defeated Hemu?

- A) Shershah Suri
- B) Babar
- C) Rana Sanga
- D) Akbar

- 27. The Battle of Talikota (1565 A.D.) saw the defeat of the King of Vijay Nagar by the allied forces of which states?**
- A) Bijapur, Bidar, Golkunda, and Ahmadnagar
 - B) Maratha, Awadh, Mughal Empire, and Mir Quasim
 - C) Punjab, Bengal, and French
 - D) China, Sikh rulers, and Pakistan
- 28. In the Battle of Haldighati (1576 A.D.), some historians believe it was indecisive, while others say Rana Pratap was defeated by whom?**
- A) Muhammad Gori
 - B) Shershah Suri
 - C) Babar
 - D) Akbar
- 29. British forces defeated the Nawab of Bengal, Sirajudoulla, in the Battle of Plassey (1757 A.D.). Who led the British forces?**
- A) Babar
 - B) Muhammad Gori
 - C) Ashoka
 - D) Not mentioned
- 30. In the Third Battle of Panipat (1761 A.D.), Marathas were defeated by whom?**
- A) Ahmad Shah Abdali
 - B) Mir Quasim
 - C) Tipu Sultan
 - D) Shershah Suri
- 31. The British forces defeated the combined forces of Mir Quasim, Shah Alam of the Mughal Empire, and the Nawab of Awadh in the Battle of Buxar (1764 A.D.). What was the outcome of this battle?**
- A) Marathas were conclusively defeated
 - B) British forces annexed Punjab from Sikh rulers
 - C) China attacked India unilaterally
 - D) British forces defeated the Nawab of Bengal
- 32. In the Third Anglo-Maratha War (1792 A.D.), Marathas were conclusively defeated by whom?**
- A) Ahmad Shah Abdali
 - B) Akbar
 - C) Muhammad Gori
 - D) British forces
- 33. In the Fourth Anglo-Mysore War (1799 A.D.), Tipu Sultan died fighting against whom?**
- A) British forces
 - B) Marathas
 - C) Ahmad Shah Abdali
 - D) Muhammad Gori

34. In the Second Anglo-Sikh War (1848 A.D.), British forces annexed which region from Sikh rulers?

- A) Bengal
- B) Punjab
- C) Mysore
- D) Vijay Nagar

35. In the Indo-China War (1962 A.D.), which country attacked India unilaterally and annexed some areas?

- A) Pakistan
- B) China
- C) Bangladesh
- D) Nepal

36. During the Indo-Pak War (1965 A.D.), which country attacked India but had to suffer severe setbacks?

- A) China
- B) Nepal
- C) Pakistan
- D) Bangladesh

37. In the Indo-Pak War (1971 A.D.), Pakistan declared war against India. What was the outcome of this war?

- A) India suffered severe setbacks
- B) Pakistan annexed Indian territories
- C) Bangladesh gained independence from Pakistan
- D) China intervened and established peace

38. Who brought an end to dual government in Bengal and founded the Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1784?

- A) Lord Cornwallis
- B) Warren Hastings
- C) Lord Wellesley
- D) Lord Dalhousie

39. During which governor-general's tenure was the permanent settlement introduced in Bengal and Bihar in 1793?

- A) Lord Cornwallis
- B) Lord Wellesley
- C) Lord Dalhousie
- D) Lord Ripon

40. Who implemented the system of Subsidiary Alliance in 1798?

- A) Warren Hastings
- B) Lord Cornwallis
- C) Lord Wellesley
- D) Lord Hastings

41. Under whose governance did the Maratha Power come to an end in 1818?

- A) Lord Dalhousie
- B) Lord William Bentinck
- C) Lord Ripon
- D) Lord Hastings

42. Which governor-general prohibited Sati in 1829 and introduced English as the medium of instruction in 1835?

- A) Charles Metcalf
- B) Lord Dalhousie
- C) Lord William Bentinck
- D) Lord Ripon

43. Who earned the title "Liberator of the Press" by freeing the Indian press from restrictions in 1835-36?

- A) Lord Dalhousie
- B) Charles Metcalf
- C) Lord Cornwallis
- D) Lord Wellesley

44. Which governor-general applied the 'Doctrine of Lapse,' annexed Punjab and Awadh, and introduced the Railway, Telegraph, and Postal System?

- A) Lord Canning
- B) Lord Mayo
- C) Lord Dalhousie
- D) Lord Lytton

45. During Lord Canning's tenure (1856-57), which significant event occurred in 1857?

- A) Revolt of 1857
- B) Foundation of the Indian National Congress
- C) Partition of Bengal
- D) Introduction of the Permanent Settlement

46. Who was the Viceroy during the organisation of the Statistical Survey of India, and unfortunately, got assassinated in Andamans in 1872?

- A) Lord Lytton
- B) Lord Mayo
- C) Lord Dufferin
- D) Lord Curzon

47. Which Viceroy introduced the Vernacular Press Act, Arms Act, and assumed the title of 'Empress of India' in 1876?

- A) Lord Mayo
- B) Lord Ripon
- C) Lord Lytton
- D) Lord Curzon

48. Lord Ripon's tenure (1880-84) saw the introduction of Local Self-Government, the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, and the controversy related to which bill in 1883?

- A) Bill

- B) Rowlatt Act
- C) Indian University Act
- D) Ancient Monuments Preservation Act

49. Which Viceroy initiated the Partition of Bengal in 1905 and passed the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act in 1904?

- A) Lord Curzon
- B) Lord Ripon
- C) Lord Dufferin
- D) Lord Harding

50. Who was the Viceroy when the capital was changed from Calcutta to Delhi, and the Bengal division was taken back?

- A) Lord Mayo
- B) Lord Lytton
- C) Lord Harding
- D) Lord Curzon

51. During Lord Chelmsford's tenure (1916-21), what significant event occurred in March 1919?

- A) Lucknow Pact
- B) Rowlatt Act
- C) Jallianwalla Bagh Massacre
- D) Simon's Commission

52. Who was the Viceroy during the Simon's Commission boycott in 1927 and the first Round Table Conference in 1930?

- A) Lord Irwin
- B) Lord Linlithgow
- C) Lord Wavell
- D) Lord Mountbatten

53. Under which Viceroy's rule did the provincial elections take place in 1937, and the Quit India Movement started in 1942?

- A) Lord Linlithgow
- B) Lord Wavell
- C) Lord Mountbatten
- D) Lord Dufferin

54. Who was the last British Governor-General of India responsible for the independence and division of India in 1947?

- A) Lord Mountbatten
- B) Chakrawarti Rajgopalachari
- C) Lord Wavell
- D) Lord Linlithgow

55. Who served as the first and last Indian Governor-General of India from 1948 to 1950?

- A) Chakrawarti Rajgopalachari
- B) Lord Mountbatten
- C) Lord Wavell
- D) Lord Irwin

56. Who is associated with the establishment of the Bengal Gazette in 1780, considered the first newspaper in India?

- A) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- B) Dada Bhai Naurojee
- C) James Augustus Hickey
- D) Karie, Marshman

57. In 1818, which publication in Bengali is credited to Karie, Marshman?

- A) Bengal Gazette
- B) Samachar Darshan
- C) Sambad Kaumudi
- D) Bombay Times

58. Who founded Sambad Kaumudi in 1921-22?

- A) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- B) Dada Bhai Naurojee
- C) Karie, Marshman
- D) Raja Raghavachari

59. The Bombay Times, now known as the Times of India, was established by which company between 1838 and 1861?

- A) Benett Coleman and Company
- B) Motilal Ghosh, Shishir Kumar Ghosh
- C) Robert Knight, Sunanda Dutta Ray
- D) Veer Raghavachari

60. Dada Bhai Naurojee was associated with the founding of which newspaper in 1861?

- A) Sambad Kaumudi
- B) Bombay Times
- C) Spat Gofar
- D) Hindu Patriot

61. In 1853, Harishchandra Mukherjee was associated with which newspaper?

- A) Samachar Darshan
- B) Hindu Patriot
- C) Amrit Bazar Patrika
- D) Statesman

62. Amrit Bazar Patrika, established in 1868, is credited to which individuals?

- A) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- B) Dada Bhai Naurojee
- C) Motilal Ghosh, Shishir Kumar Ghosh
- D) Robert Knight, Sunanda Dutta Ray

63. Who founded Statesman in 1875?

- A) Robert Knight, Sunanda Dutta Ray
- B) Veer Raghavachari
- C) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- D) K.M. Pannikar

64. Veer Raghavachari is associated with the establishment of which newspaper in 1878?

- A) Statesman
- B) Maratha, Kesari
- C) Hindustan Times
- D) Hindu

65. Bal Gangadhar Tilak founded which newspapers in 1881?

- A) Dawn Maratha, Kesari
- B) Hindustan Times
- C) Maratha, Kesari
- D) Independent

66. K.M. Pannikar is linked to the establishment of which newspaper in 1922?

- A) Hindustan Times
- B) Vande Mataram
- C) Dawn d. Hindu
- D) None of these

67. Which newspaper is associated with Mohammed Ali Jinnah?

- A) New India
- B) Independent
- C) Dawn
- D) Vande Mataram

68. Who was associated with the newspaper "Independent" in 1919?

- A) Motilal Nehru
- B) Annie Besant
- C) Mahatma Gandhi
- D) Aurobindo Ghosh

69. Annie Besant founded which newspaper in 1914?

- A) Dawn
- B) New India
- C) Vande Mataram
- D) Al-Hilal

70. Aurobindo Ghosh was associated with the newspaper "Vande Mataram" in which year?

- A) 1906
- B) 1912
- C) 1914
- D) 1921-22

71. Which newspaper is associated with Maulana Azad in 1912?

- A) Vande Mataram
- B) Al-Hilal
- C) Dawn
- D) Young India

72. Mahatma Gandhi was associated with which newspapers during 1919-33?

- A) Dawn
- B) Independent
- C) Young India, Harijan
- D) New India

73. During which period did the Indus Valley Civilization flourish?

- A) 563-483 B.C.
- B) 2500-1500 B.C.
- C) 327-326 B.C.
- D) 273-232 B.C.

74. In what year was Gautam Buddha born, and when did he attain Nirvana?

- A) 483 B.C., 563 B.C.
- B) 540 B.C., 463 B.C.
- C) 563 B.C., 483 B.C.
- D) 468 B.C., 540 B.C.

75. During which years did Alexander invade India?

- A) 273-232 B.C.
- B) 327-326 B.C.
- C) 320-500 A.D.
- D) 58 A.D.

76. Who ruled during the period of 273-232 B.C. known as Ashoka's Reign?

- A) Gautam Buddha
- B) Alexander
- C) Mahavir
- D) Ashoka

77. In which year did the Vikrama Era begin?

- A) 58 A.D.
- B) 273 A.D.
- C) 327 B.C.
- D) 320 A.D.

78. During which years did the Gupta Dynasty mark the golden age of Hindu India?

- A) 58 A.D.
- B) 273-232 B.C.
- C) 540-468 B.C.
- D) 320-500 A.D.

79. When did the Chinese traveler Fahien visit India?

- A) 327-326 B.C.
- B) 405-411 A.D.
- C) 606-647 A.D.
- D) 320-500 A.D.

80. Harsh Vardhana's reign and the visit of the Chinese traveler Hiuen-Tsang occurred during which years?

- A) 320-500 A.D.
- B) 405-411 A.D.
- C) 606-647 A.D.
- D) 540-468 B.C.

81. In what year did Mahmud of Ghazni make the first invasion of India?

- A) 1001 A.D.
- B) 327-326 B.C.
- C) 405-411 A.D.
- D) 58 A.D.

82. Mohammad Ghori defeated Prithviraj Chauhan at Tarain in which year?

- A) 1001 A.D.
- B) 327-326 B.C.
- C) 1192 A.D.
- D) 606-647 A.D.

83. When was the sea route to India discovered by Vasco-da-Gama?

- A) 1192 A.D.
- B) 1526 A.D.
- C) 1498 A.D.
- D) 327-326 B.C.

84. In which year was the Moghul Empire founded by Babar after the First Battle of Panipat?

- A) 1526 A.D.
- B) 1498 A.D.
- C) 327-326 B.C.
- D) 1192 A.D.

85. On what date was the East India Company established?

- A) December 31, 1498
- B) December 31, 1526
- C) December 31, 1192
- D) December 31, 1600

86. What marked the beginning of the end of the Mughal Empire in 1659?

- A) Battle of Buxar
- B) Third Battle of Panipat
- C) Macaulay's recommendation for English instruction

D) Reign of Aurangzeb

87. Which year saw the Third Battle of Panipat?

- A) 1761
- B) 1764
- C) 1857
- D) 1835

88. In 1835, what significant recommendation did Macaulay make regarding education in India?

- A) Introduction of railways
- B) English to be the medium of instruction
- C) Formation of Kolkata, Bombay, and Madras Universities
- D) Birth of Mahatma Gandhi

89. Which year saw the opening of the first railway line in India?

- A) 1835
- B) 1853
- C) 1869
- D) 1885

90. What event is associated with the year 1857 in Indian history?

- A) Birth of Mahatma Gandhi
- B) First Railway Line opened
- C) Indian Mutiny for Independence
- D) Foundation of Kolkata, Bombay, and Madras Universities

91. In 1869, who was born, becoming a key figure in India's struggle for independence?

- A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- B) Mahatma Gandhi
- C) Subhash Chandra Bose
- D) Sardar Patel

92. Which year saw the founding of the Indian National Congress?

- A) 1869
- B) 1885
- C) 1905
- D) 1919

93. In 1889, which prominent leader and future Prime Minister of India were born?

- A) Mahatma Gandhi
- B) Sardar Patel
- C) Jawaharlal Nehru
- D) Subhash Chandra Bose

94. What event is associated with the year 1905 in Indian history?

- A) Partition of Bengal
- B) Jalianwala Bagh Tragedy

- C) First Five Year Plan
- D) Non-cooperation Movement

95. Which movement was started by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920?

- A) Simon Commission boycott
- B) Non-cooperation Movement
- C) Purna Swaraj resolution
- D) Jalianwala Bagh Tragedy

96. Which significant event occurred on May 18, 1974, in India?

- A) Emergency declared
- B) Sikkim became a state
- C) India's first nuclear device explosion
- D) Launch of the first Indian satellite

97. What was declared on June 26, 1975, due to internal disturbances in India?

- A) First Indian satellite launch
- B) Sikkim's statehood
- C) Emergency
- D) Formation of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh as Union Territories

98. In 1977, what significant political development occurred in India?

- A) Congress routed in the 6th General Elections
- B) Janata Party founded
- C) High denomination currency demonetized
- D) Mrs. Gandhi forms Congress (I)

99. Which year saw the massive win of Congress-I in the Mid-term polls, with Mrs. Gandhi becoming the Prime Minister again?

- A) 1978
- B) 1984
- C) 1982
- D) 1980

100. In 1984, who became the first Indian to go into space through a joint Indo-Soviet Space Mission?

- A) Rakesh Sharma
- B) Indira Gandhi
- C) Atal Behari Bajpayee
- D) None of these

101. What significant event occurred on December 6, 1992, in Ayodhya?

- A) INSAT-2C launched
- B) Structure of Babri Masjid demolished
- C) OBC job quota implemented
- D) Narasimha Rao elected Congress President

102. In 1994, what new policy allowed privatization for basic telephone services in India?

- A) Panchayati Raj Act
- B) OBC job quota
- C) New telecom policy OBC job quota
- D) None of these

103. Which year saw the launch of INSAT-2C into orbit and IRS-1C put into orbit?

- A) 1995
- B) 1996
- C) 1997
- D) 1998

104. Who became the Prime Minister of India in 1996 after the resignation of the Bajpayee government?

- A) Atal Behari Bajpayee
- B) P. V. Narasimha Rao
- C) I.K Gujral
- D) Rajiv Gandhi

105. What significant event took place on May 11 and 13, 1998, marking India's nuclear capabilities?

- A) PM Vajpayee's bus trip to Lahore
- B) Formation of National Security Council
- C) Launch of INSAT-3B
- D) India conducts Nuclear Tests

106. In 1999, what was the purpose of PM Vajpayee's bus trip to Lahore on Feb 20?

- A) Nuclear tests
- B) Operation Vijay in Kargil
- C) Missile test (AGNI-II)
- D) Signing of a peace treaty

107. Which satellite was launched on Mar 22, 2000, from Kourou?

- A) INSAT-3E
- B) INSAT-3B
- C) GSLV-D1
- D) AGNI-II

108. What significant event occurred on Dec. 13, 2001, in India?

- A) GSLV-D1 launched
- B) Earthquake Tsunami
- C) Terrorist attack on Parliament
- D) Rural job Bill passed

109. In 2002, what event resulted in the death of 58 people in Gujarat?

- A) Mob attack on a train
- B) India, US nuclear deal
- C) GSLV-D2 launched
- D) Metro train service started in New Delhi

110. Who won India's first individual silver in Athens Olympics on Aug. 17, 2004?

- A) Abhinav Bindra
- B) RS Rathore
- C) Manmohan Singh
- D) A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

111. What significant event occurred on Dec. 26, 2004, in South Coastal India?

- A) INSAT-3E launched
- B) Earthquake Tsunami
- C) Rural job Bill passed
- D) India, France Scorpene deal

112. In 2006, what major agreement was signed between India and the United States?

- A) India signs nuke MoU with Japan
- B) Moon Mission Chandrayan I
- C) Taj Mahal voted as one of the New Seven Wonders
- D) Nuclear deal

113. Which iconic monument was voted as one of the New Seven Wonders of the World on July 7, 2007?

- A) Taj Mahal
- B) Parliament
- C) Qutub Minar
- D) Gateway of India

114. On August 11, 2008, who won the Olympic Gold medal for the 10-metre air rifle event in Beijing?

- A) Abhinav Bindra
- B) RS Rathore
- C) Manmohan Singh
- D) A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

115. In 2016, what initiative did PM Modi inaugurate in Mumbai on Feb. 13?

- A) Demonetization
- B) Make in India center
- C) Surgical strike
- D) Moon Mission Chandrayan-2

116. What significant event occurred on Nov. 8, 2016, as part of Modi's initiative against black money?

- A) Launch of Make in India
- B) Demonetization
- C) Pravasi Bharatiya Divas
- D) Swearing-in of President Ram Nath Kovind

117. Which city hosted the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in 2017 from Jan. 7-9?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Delhi
- C) Kolkata

D) Bengaluru

118. On July 25, 2017, who was sworn in as the 14th President of India?

- A) M. Venkaiah Naidu
- B) Narendra Modi
- C) Ram Nath Kovind
- D) Pranab Mukherjee

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- C) Ram Nath Kovind
- D) Pranab Mukherjee

122. In 2018, what did ISRO successfully launch on April 12?

- A) Navigation satellite IRNSS-1I
- B) Moon Mission Chandrayan-2
- C) GST
- D) Rural job Bill

123. Which state came under Governor rule on June 20, 2018?

- A) Jharkhand
- B) Jammu and Kashmir
- C) Gujarat
- D) Rajasthan

124. On Feb. 26, 2019, what did India carry out in response to the Pulwama attack in Pakistan?

- A) Citizenship Amendment Act
- B) Moon Mission Chandrayan-2
- C) Bombing Jaish Camp in Balakot
- D) Art. 370 scrapped

125. When did Homo sapiens first appear in the Palaeolithic Period?

- A) Beginning of the phase
- B) Middle Palaeolithic
- C) Upper Palaeolithic
- D) Towards the end of the phase

126. What was the primary source of subsistence in the Palaeolithic Period?

- A) Agriculture
- B) Gathering
- C) Fishing
- D) Trading

127. What material were the first stone tools made up of in the Palaeolithic Period?

- A) Granite
- B) Marble
- C) Obsidian
- D) Quartzite

128. How many phases is the Palaeolithic period divided into?

- A) Two
- B) Five
- C) Four
- D) Three

129. What characteristic tools were used in the Mesolithic Period?

- A) Flint tools
- B) Microliths
- C) Bronze tools
- D) Iron tools

130. Which site in Madhya Pradesh is known for ancient caves with depictions of birds, animals, and humans from the Mesolithic Period?

- A) Ajanta Caves
- B) Ellora Caves
- C) Bhimbetka
- D) Elephanta Caves

131. What did Neolithic people know about in terms of technology?

- A) Iron tools
- B) Fire and wheel
- C) Bronze tools
- D) Writing

132. Which site, meaning 'the place of birch,' is associated with the Neolithic Period?

- A) Harappa
- B) Mohenjodaro
- C) Burzahom
- D) Lothal

133. What materials were tools made of in the Chalcolithic Period?

- A) Bronze and Stone
- B) Iron and Wood
- C) Copper and Stone
- D) Silver and Gold

134. What was worshipped during the Chalcolithic Period?

- A) Mother Goddess and Bull
- B) Sun God
- C) River Goddess
- D) Elephant God

135. When can the initiation of the Indus Valley Civilisation be dated according to radiocarbon dating?

- A) 1000-500 BC
- B) 1500-1000 BC
- C) 2500-1750 BC
- D) 3000-2000 BC

136. What was the systematic town planning based on in the Indus Valley Civilisation?

- A) Radial system
- B) Grid system
- C) Circular system
- D) Random layout

137. What were burnt bricks used for in the construction of houses in the Indus Valley Civilisation?

- A) Houses
- B) Temples
- C) Roads
- D) Wells

138. What was the purpose of the Great Bath in Mohenjodaro?

- A) Cooking
- B) Religious bathing
- C) Entertainment
- D) Storage of grain

139. What were the towns in the Indus Valley Civilisation divided into?

- A) East and West
- B) Rural and Urban
- C) Upper and Lower
- D) Citadel and Lower Part

140. Where did the Vedic civilisation start with the migration of Aryan people?

- A) Southern Russia
- B) Central Asia
- C) North-Western part of India

D) Southern India

141. What was the original homeland of the Aryans before their migration to India?

- A) Southern Russia
- B) Central Asia
- C) Arabian Peninsula
- D) Eastern China

142. What was the region in which the Aryans first settled in India called?

- A) Land of 5 Rivers
- B) Brahmaputra
- C) Land of Ganges
- D) Land of 7 Rivers or Sapta Sindhawa

143. What was the Dasrajan War (Battle of 10 kings) fought over in Vedic times?

- A) Territory dispute
- B) Water rights
- C) Leadership struggle
- D) Religious differences

144. What was the political system mainly in the Vedic period?

- A) Monarchy
- B) Democracy
- C) Tribal system
- D) Feudalism

145. What were the tribal assemblies mentioned in the Rigveda?

- A) Sabha, Vidatha, and Panchayat
- B) Samitis, Sabha, and Gana
- C) Rajan, Gramani, and Purohita
- D) Vidatha, Gramani, and Panchayat

146. Who headed the villages in the Vedic political system?

- A) Gramani King
- B) Purohita
- C) King
- D) Senani

147. What assisted the king in day-to-day administration in the Vedic political system?

- A) Sabha
- B) Vidatha
- C) Purohita
- D) Gana

148. What were the people loyal to in the Vedic society?

- A) King
- B) Territory

- C) sabha (assembly)
- D) Jana (tribe)

149. Who enjoyed freedom and respect in the Vedic society?

- A) Priests
- B) Warriors
- C) Women
- D) Elders

150. Who was the most important divinity worshipped in the Vedic religion?

- A) Agni
- B) Varuna
- C) Indra
- D) Soma

151. What was considered the God of plants in the Vedic religion?

- A) Varuna
- B) Agni
- C) Soma
- D) Yama

152. What were the main reasons for worshipping divinities in Vedic religion?

- A) Power and control
- B) Praja (children), Pashu (cattle), food, health, and wealth
- C) Territorial expansion
- D) Political dominance

153. What was notably absent in the Vedic religion in terms of worship?

- A) Temples
- B) Idols
- C) Priests
- D) Sacrifices

154. During the mentioned period, where did the Aryans expand from and cover in the Indian subcontinent?

- A) Southern India
- B) Gangetic Plain
- C) Deccan Plateau
- D) Western Uttar Pradesh

155. What term was used for the powerful king in this period?

- A) Maharaja
- B) Samrat
- C) Raja
- D) Rajadhiraja

156. How did the king's position get strengthened during this period?

- A) Military conquests
- B) Economic policies
- C) Rituals like Ashwamedha and Vajapeya Yajnas
- D) Political alliances

157. How many varnas did the society get divided into during this period?

- A) Two
- B) Four
- C) Three
- D) Five

158. What were the four varnas in the divided society during this period?

- A) Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra, Adivasi
- B) Brahmana, Shudra, Jati, Kshatriya
- C) Brahmana, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra
- D) Varna-Ashram, Brahmana, Kshatriya, Vaishya

159. What new institution appeared for the first time in society during this period?

- A) Jati
- B) Gotra
- C) Sabha
- D) Purohita

160. How did the position of women change during this period?

- A) Improved
- B) Remained the same
- C) Deteriorated
- D) Became equal to men

161. What marked the beginning of settled life during this period?

- A) Agriculture
- B) Nomadic lifestyle
- C) Trading routes
- D) Industrial revolution

162. Which crops became the staple during this period?

- A) Maize and barley
- B) Wheat and rice
- C) Millet and sorghum
- D) Rye and oats

163. What new occupations emerged during this period?

- A) Teaching and writing
- B) Merchants and traders
- C) Ironsmith, coppersmith, and jewel work
- D) Farmers and shepherds

164. Which occupation was reserved for women?

- A) Agriculture
- B) Merchants
- C) Ironsmith
- D) Weaving

165. Who became the supreme God during this period?

- A) Vishnu
- B) Prajapati
- C) Rudra
- D) Indra

166. What marked the beginning of idolatry in this period?

- A) Rituals like sacrifices
- B) Introduction of temples
- C) Worship of Nature
- D) Worship of animals

167. Which deity was known as the 'God of Shudras'?

- A) Vishnu
- B) Rudra
- C) Indra
- D) Pushana

168. What became more important than prayers in the religious context during this period?

- A) Meditation
- B) Pilgrimages
- C) Sacrifices
- D) Charity

169. What was the capital of Gandhara, located between Kabul and Rawalpindi?

- A) Varanasi
- B) Taxila
- C) Ujjain
- D) Banaras

170. Which Mahajanapada covered the areas of Bhagalpur and Mungher in Bihar?

- A) Anga
- B) Magadha
- C) Kashi
- D) Vatsa

171. Who founded the Servants of Indian Society and advocated for famine relief and improving tribal conditions?

- A) Annie Besant
- B) Gopal Krishna Gokhale

- C) NM Joshi
- D) Sarlabai Devi Chaudhrani

172. Which movement, founded by Raja Ram Mohan Roy, propagated monotheism and opposed sacrifices, idolatry, superstition, and sati?

- A) Dharma Sabha
- B) Wahabi Movement
- C) Brahmo Samaj
- D) Young Bengal Movement

173. Who emphasized the unity of God and opposed caste rules through the Paramhans Mandali in 1849?

- A) Dadoba Pandurang
- B) Bhai Balak Singh
- C) Syed Ahmed of Rai Bareilly
- D) Atmaram Pandurang

174. Which famous crematorium is associated with Mahatma Gandhi?

- A) Shanti Van
- B) Raj Ghat
- C) Veer Bhumi
- D) Karma Bhumi

175. Who founded the Indian Reform Association in 1870 and opposed child marriage, advocating widow remarriage and inter-caste marriages?

- A) Dadabhai Naoroji
- B) Keshab Chandra Sen
- C) Dayanand Saraswati
- D) Syed Ahmed Khan

176. Which institution, founded in 1884 in Pune, contributed to education and culture in Western India and established Fergusson College in 1885?

- A) The Theosophical Society
- B) Deccan Education Society
- C) Seva Sadan
- D) Deva Samaj

177. Who is the founder of the Brahmo Samaj and played a key role in propagating monotheism and opposing societal vices?

- A) Debendranath Tagore
- B) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
- C) Radhakant Deb
- D) Henry Louis Vivian Derozio

178. Who founded Buddhism and is also known as Siddhartha, Sakyamuni, or Tathagata?

- A) Mahavira
- B) Gautama Buddha
- C) Ashoka
- D) Ajatashatru

179. In which year and place was Gautama Buddha born?

- A) 563 BC in Pataliputra
- B) 563 BC in Lumbini
- C) AD 72 in Vaishali
- D) AD 72 in Rajagriha

180. What are the Triratnas in Buddhism, representing its three pillars?

- A) Karma, Dharma, Sangha
- B) Buddha, Dhamma, Sangha
- C) Samsara, Nirvana, Jiva
- D) Ahimsa, Satya, Brahmacharya

181. Which two main sects did Buddhism divide into?

- A) Vajrayana and Theravada
- B) Shaivism and Vaishnavism
- C) Hinayana and Mahayana
- D) Jains and Buddhists

182. What symbols represent the phases of Buddha's life, respectively?

- A) Elephant and Conch Shell
- B) Bodhi Tree and Lotus
- C) Bull and Stupa
- D) Wheel and Horse

183. What are the Four Great Truths of Buddhism?

- A) Karma, Dharma, Samsara, Nirvana
- B) Right Understanding, Right Thought, Right Action, Right Livelihood
- C) Birth, Death, Rebirth, Moksha
- D) Sorrow, Cause of Sorrow, End of Sorrow, Path to End Sorrow

184. Which language are the Buddhist texts, commonly referred to as Tripitakas, written in?

- A) Sanskrit
- B) Pali
- C) Prakrit
- D) Ardhamagadhi

185. What does the Eight-Fold Path in Buddhism emphasize?

- A) Material Prosperity
- B) Renunciation of the World
- C) Right Understanding, Right Thought, Right Action, etc.
- D) Asceticism

186. Which dynasty did Bimbisara belong to, and what was its capital?

- A) Haryanka Dynasty; Rajgir
- B) Gupta Dynasty; Ujjain
- C) Maurya Dynasty; Patalipur

D) Sunga Dynasty; Magadha

187. Who was the contemporary of Buddha and the founder of the Haryanka Dynasty?

- A) Ashoka
- B) Bimbisara
- C) Ajatashatru
- D) None of these

188. Who founded the Shishunaga Dynasty, and who convened the Second Buddhist Council during this dynasty's rule?

- A) Chandragupta Maurya; Bindusara
- B) Shishunaga; Kalashoka
- C) Pushyamitra Sunga; Devabhuti
- D) Mahapadma Nanda; Alexander

189. Who founded the Nanda Dynasty, and which foreign invader attacked India during Dhana Nanda's reign?

- A) Chandragupta Maurya; Alexander
- B) Bimbisara; Cyrus
- C) Mahapadma Nanda; Alexander
- D) Shishunaga; Porus

190. Who was the first ruler of the Mauryan Dynasty, and who aided him in overthrowing the Nanda dynasty?

- A) Bindusara; Chanakya
- B) Ashoka; Chandragupta Maurya
- C) Chandragupta Maurya; Chanakya
- D) Ashoka; Bindusara

191. Who is known as the "Iron Man" of India?

- A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- B) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- C) Subhash Chandra Bose
- D) Lal Bahadur Shastri

192. Which dance form is associated with the dancer Birju Maharaj?

- A) Bharatanatyam
- B) Kathak
- C) Kuchipudi
- D) Odissi

193. Who is known for the quotation "Swarajya is My Birthright"?

- A) Mahatma Gandhi
- B) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- C) Jawaharlal Nehru
- D) Subhash Chandra Bose

194. Which state is associated with the dance form "Bihu"?

- A) Kerala
- B) Assam
- C) Rajasthan
- D) Punjab

195. Who is known for the quotation "Give me blood, I shall give you freedom"?

- A) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose
- B) Bhagat Singh
- C) Jawaharlal Nehru
- D) Mahatma Gandhi

196. Which musical instrument is associated with Ustad Bismillah Khan?

- A) Santoor
- B) Sitar
- C) Shehnai
- D) Tabla

197. Where is the headquarters of the National School of Drama located?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Kolkata
- C) New Delhi
- D) Chennai

198. Which classical dance form is associated with Leela Samson?

- A) Bharatanatyam
- B) Kathak
- C) Kuchipudi
- D) Odissi

199. Where is the headquarters of the Archaeological Survey of India located?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Kolkata
- C) New Delhi
- D) Hyderabad

200. Who is known as the "Father of the Indian Constitution"?

- A) Subhas Chandra Bose
- B) Jawaharlal Nehru
- C) Sardar Patel
- D) B.R. Ambedkar

ANSWER KEY

Q	Ans								
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Q	Ans								
51	C	61	B	71	B	81	A	91	B
52	A	62	C	72	C	82	C	92	B

1	A	11	B	21	A	31	B	41	D
2	B	12	C	22	A	32	D	42	C
3	C	13	B	23	C	33	A	43	B
4	C	14	B	24	C	34	B	44	C
5	B	15	B	25	A	35	B	45	A
6	C	16	A	26	D	36	C	46	B
7	C	17	A	27	A	37	C	47	C
8	B	18	A	28	D	38	B	48	A
9	C	19	A	29	D	39	A	49	A
10	C	20	A	30	A	40	C	50	C

53	B	63	A	73	B	83	C	93	C
54	A	64	D	74	C	84	A	94	A
55	A	65	C	75	B	85	D	95	B
56	C	66	A	76	C	86	D	96	C
57	B	67	C	77	B	87	A	97	C
58	A	68	A	78	A	88	B	98	B
59	A	69	B	79	B	89	B	99	D
60	C	70	A	80	C	90	C	100	A

Q	Ans								
101	B	111	B	121	C	131	B	141	B
102	A	112	D	122	A	132	C	142	D
103	A	113	B	123	B	133	C	143	C
104	C	114	B	124	C	134	A	144	C
105	D	115	B	125	D	135	C	145	B
106	B	116	B	126	B	136	B	146	A
107	B	117	C	127	D	137	A	147	C
108	C	118	D	128	B	138	B	148	D
109	A	119	B	129	B	139	D	149	C
110	B	120	C	130	C	140	C	150	C

Q	Ans								
151	C	161	A	171	B	181	C	191	B
152	B	162	B	172	C	182	B	192	B
153	A	163	C	173	A	183	D	193	B
154	D	164	C	174	B	184	B	194	B

155	B	165	B	175	B	185	C	195	A
156	C	166	A	176	B	186	A	196	C
157	B	167	B	177	B	187	B	197	C
158	C	168	C	178	C	188	B	198	A
159	B	169	B	179	A	189	C	199	C
160	C	170	A	180	B	190	C	200	D

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