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Name

Reg. No.....

FIRST SEMESTER M.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION, JANUARY 2009

History (Main)

Paper III—FORMATION OF STATE AND SOCIETY IN ANCIENT INDIA

(2004 admissions)

Maximum : 80 Marks

Time : Three Hours

Part A

*Answer **all** questions.
Each question carries 1 mark.*

1. In which of the Rock Edicts of Asoka is the Kalinga war described ?
(a) X. (b) XI.
(c) XII. (d) XIII.
2. _____ was the exponent of the Central Asian homeland theory of the origin of Aryans.
(a) P. Giles. (b) Phillippo Sassetti.
(c) Max Muller. (d) B.G. Tilak.
3. Where did Buddha attain Nirvana ?
(a) Gaya. (b) Vaisali.
(c) Saketa. (d) Kusinagara.
4. Who was the most prominent God of the Rig Vedic period ?
(a) Soma. (b) Indra.
(c) Varuna. (d) Rudra.
5. King Kharavela ruled around
(a) 200 B.C. (b) 150 B.C.
(c) 100 B.C. (d) 50 B.C.
6. _____ was the economy represented by the later Vedic culture.
(a) Pastoral. (b) Industrial.
(c) Mixed pastoral and agricultural. (d) Agricultural.
7. Nagarjuna was a great teacher of
(a) Brahmanical Hinduism. (b) Buddhism.
(c) Jainism. (d) Ajivika Sect.

Turn over

8. Fahien's account describes the conditions of the period of
 (a) Chandragupta I. (b) Samudragupta.
 (c) Chandragupta II. (d) Kumaragupta.
9. _____ was the author of Mudrarakhsha.
 (a) Kalidasa. (b) Visakhadatta.
 (c) Shudraka. (d) Bharavi.
10. Late stage of Mature Harappan culture continued until about
 (a) 2000 B.C. (b) 1700 B.C.
 (c) 1200 B.C. (d) 1000 B.C.

(10 x 1 = 10 marks)

Part B

*Answer any **eight** questions.
 Each question carries 5 marks.*

11. How do you characterise the Harappan state. Substantiate your answer with suitable arguments.
12. Account for the rise of Heterodox sects in the post Vedic period.
13. Write a note on the subsistence patterns of the Vedic Aryans.
14. Discuss the transition from tribalism to Varna based social order.
15. What is an oligarchy ? Discuss the features of the polity of oligarchical formations.
16. Evaluate the contributions of the Buddhists to religions and philosophical literature.
17. Write a note on the nature and features of the Mauryan State.
18. What role did the industry and long distance trade play in the Mauryan economy ?
19. Discuss the constitution and functions of the Srenis.
20. Examine the statue of the Shudras in ancient India.
21. Give an account of the monasteries and their importance in Buddhist order.
22. What is common between Varna and Jati orders ? In what matters do the two differ ?

(8 x 5 = 40 marks)

Part C (Essay)

*Answer any **two** questions.
 Each question carries 15 marks.*

23. Discuss the problems in understanding the Harappan religion and polity.
24. Write an essay on the process of state formation in the Gangetic region.
25. What led to the expansion of agriculture and trade in early historical India ? What were the impacts ?
26. Examine the nature of State and polity in South India as reflected in early Sangam literature.

(2 x 15 = 30 marks)