

Chapter 12 Remaining.

2. Answer in brief.

F. What is winter solstice?

When the sun enters the Capricorn from the Sagittarius, this time is called Winter solstice.

G. Define the terms Kalpa and Mahakalpa.

· Kalpa: The duration of one full day (including night) in the life of Brahma, the creator god. One kalpa equals 4.32 billion human years. It consists of a thousand mahayugas, each mahayuga containing four yugas (Satya, Treta, Dvapara, and Kali).

Mahakalpa: The entire lifespan of Brahma, which includes 100 Brahma years, or 36,000 Brahma days and nights. In human years, this equals 311 trillion and 40 billion years.

H. What is Mundhum?

Mundhum is a philosophy which explains the life and universe logically. It is the storage of information compiled from the outcomes of lifestyle, research and studies of the kirant community.

3. Answer these questions.

E. Explain the knowledge about universe in the eastern civilization before establishment of scientific facts.

Knowledge about the Universe in Eastern Civilization before Scientific Understanding

Before modern scientific facts, various Eastern philosophies and religions offered interpretations of the universe:

1. Hindu Philosophy

Cyclical Time: The universe operates in **endless cycles of creation (Srishti), preservation (Sthiti), and destruction (Pralaya)**. These cycles are governed by the trinity of **Brahma (creator), Vishnu (preserver), and Shiva (destroyer)**.

Kalpa and Mahakalpa: Time is measured in **kalpas** (1 day of Brahma = 4.32 billion years) and **mahakalpas** (entire lifespan of Brahma = 311 trillion years), reflecting a sophisticated understanding of cosmic timescales.

Five Elements (Panchamahabhuta): The universe is composed of **earth, water, fire, air, and ether**, which combine to form all matter and life.

Brahman and Cosmic Unity: The universe is seen as an expression of **Brahman**, the ultimate reality, indicating that all beings and phenomena are interconnected.

Astronomical Knowledge: Ancient texts also describe celestial motions, planets, and eclipses, demonstrating early observational astronomy.

2. Buddhism

Views the universe as **beginningless, endless, and cyclical**, governed by **karma** and the principle of **dependent origination**.

3. Mundhum Philosophy

The Kirat tradition sees the universe as a **sacred, living whole**, where humans, nature, and spirits exist in **harmony**.

4. Islam

Muslim cosmology, guided by the Quran, sees the universe as **created by Allah**, orderly and purposeful, governed by divine law.

The cosmos reflects Allah's **wisdom, unity, and omnipotence**.

