

Social, Cultural, Political, Religious, Administrative, Economic life & River System of Ancient Bengal

Administration:

1. There was no significance administrative system before the Gupta Dynasty.
2. Kauma Society & Panchayat system existence.
3. Mahamatya administrative system was introduced during the Maurya Dynasty period.
4. Bhukti, Bishoy, Mandal, Bithi systems were the form of administrative region.
5. Dynasty was depended on Samanta & Mahasamanta system during the Gupta regime.
6. During the Pala regime central to rural, state officials, monarchy, province system, central administration of King were highly significance.
7. Prime Minister, Crown Prince, Judiciary, Central government, Military, Infantry Cavalry, Warships, Official Coins, Tax system, Spies etc. could be seen during the Pala Dynasty rule.
8. The Pala administrative system was followed by Sena & others.

Social Life:

1. Concept & philosophy of Sanatan Dharma (Hinduism) like Reincarnation, Karmafala, Yoga could be seen.
2. Serving the guests with betel leaves and nuts, singing for the Lord Shiva, saffron ceremony etc. were the common practices.
3. Four Caste Brahmins, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra could be seen.
4. No putting on veils for girl & education for all women
5. Satidaha, Polygamy, no rights to the properties for women
6. Dhuti Saree & ornaments as dressing
7. Rice, Fish, Vegetables were the common food habit
8. Chess & Pasha (Dice), Musical instruments were the medium of entertainment
9. Annoprashana, Nabanno, Holi, Janmasthami, Durga Puja etc. were the popular rituals and social occasions.
10. Bullock carts, Boats, Elephants, Horses, Palki etc. were the main form of transportation
11. Brahmins holds the supreme power of the society

Economical Life:

1. Economy was mainly based on agriculture.
2. Rice, Jutes were the main crops; in fruits Jackfruits, Mangoes, Palms, Coconuts etc.; domestic animals like Cow, Goat, Sheep etc.
3. Earthenware, iron made products like water bottle, arrows, swords for war purposes.
4. Gold items, gems & pearls used for luxury
5. Highly admirable woodwork could be seen
6. Abundance of agricultural & craft items
7. Markets, port trade, land & waterways and foreign trade could be seen
8. Coins & cowrie were used for exchanging products

Cultural Life:

- *Architecture:*

1. Testimonies of architecture, sculpture, temples, viharas & Buddhist stupa
2. Buddhist monk used to get educational enlightenment from those Vihara like Sompura Vihara, Shalbon Vihara etc.
3. In those temples idols were made from 'Ashtadhatu, streck-palte, gold and silver'
4. Wari Bateshwar one of the oldest localities of Bengal around two and a half thousand years ago relics discovered
5. In the birth place of Buddhist preacher Atish Dipankar a monastery has been discovered
6. Terracotta Arts were found in Mainamati & Lalmai

- *Painting:*

1. During the Pala regime Viharas & Temples used paintings for beautification
2. Manuscripts were written on palm leaves & paper
3. A puthi named 'Astasahasrika Prajnaparamita' was composed during the reign of King Rampala

Religious Life:

1. Vedic Dharma practices, Brahma Puja
2. Dhan-chara, Amrapallva etc.
3. Worshipping of Gods & Goddesses
4. Predominantly Sanatan Vedic Dharma, Buddhism & Jainism.