

## CHAPTER-I

### INTRODUCTION: TRACING CHANGES TO A THOUSAND YEARS

#### 2MARKS QUESTIONS

**1: What changes took place during 700 and 1750?**

**Answer:** Many technologies like the Persian wheel in irrigation, the spinning wheel in weaving, and firearms in combat made their appearance. Some new foods and beverages like potatoes, corn, chilies, tea, and coffee also arrived in the subcontinent.

**2: What sources do historians use for the study of a particular period of history?**

**Answer:** The historians use sources like coins, inscriptions, architectures, and textual records for the study of a specific period.

**3: What factors contributed to a variety of developments?**

**Answer:** The new technologies and innovations came to the subcontinent with the people who came from other areas and settled here.

**4: What difference do you notice in the map drawn by al-Idrisi?**

**Answer:** In the map drawn by al-Idrisi we find a completely different view. Here south India is shown at present North India and Sri Lanka is the island at the top.

**5: Who was considered a “foreigner” in the past?**

**Answer:** In the past, a person who was a stranger or who was not a part of the society or culture was considered to be “foreigner”

1. In Hindi, a foreigner is termed as pardesi.
2. In Persian, a foreigner is called ajanbi.

**6: Who used the term Hindustan for the first time and when?**

**Answer:** Minhaj-i Siraj used the term 'Hindustan' for the first time in the thirteenth century.

**7: Who was the Chief of the village?**

**Answer:** Villages were controlled by a Chieftain. Even the smaller Jati Panchayats were bound to follow the village administration.

**8: Why did Brahmanas dominate in society during this period?**

**Answer:** Brahmanas were the only class of people who were proficient in the Sanskrit language. This was the reason that made them prominent.

**9: What was the basis of such division?**

**Answer:** Such division was made on the basis of the religion as the historians did not consider any aspect more prominent other than the developments in religions.

**10: What were the new groups of people to be prominent at this age?**

**Answer:** Rajputs , Marathas, Sikhs, Jats, Ahoms, and Kayasthas were the groups which came to be prominent in this age. They availed most of the opportunities of society.

**11: What was the stretch of Delhi Sultan Ghiyasuddin Balban's Empire?**

**Answer:** According to a Sanskrit Prashasti Delhi Sultan Ghiyasuddin Balban's empire was stretched from Bengal (Gauda) in the east to Ghazni (Gajjana) in Afghanistan in the west. It also included all of south India (Dravida)

**12: What do you mean by Jati Panchayat?**

**Answer:** Jati Panchayat was the assembly of elders that controlled the conduct of the members of their jati They had their own rules and regulations.

**13: Who were the patrons?**

**Answer:** Patrons were a group of rulers and rich class of people who provided protection and livelihood to the Brahmanas, artists, and poets.

**4 MARKS QUESTIONS:**

**1: What was the change in the religion of the time? Trace out major developments**

**Answer:** The period between 700 and 1750 witnessed major changes in religion. It was seen prominently in Hinduism. The worship of new deities, the construction of temples by royalty, and the growing importance of Brahmanas, the priests, as dominant groups in society were some of the major developments.

The idea of bhakti emerged. Merchants and migrants brought the new teachings of the 'Quran', the holy book of the Muslims. A class of patrons emerged. They were the rulers who provided shelter and protection to the ulemas—the learned theologians and jurists. Muslims were divided into two groups—Shia and Sunni. Shia Muslims believed in Prophet Muhammad's authority while the Sunnis accepted the authority of the early leaders—Khalifas.

## **2: What does time mean for historians? How does it help them?**

**Answer:** Time, for historians, doesn't mean just a passing of hours, days, or years. Instead, it reflects changes in social and economic organization, in the persistence and transformation of ideas and beliefs. In order to study historical developments historians divide the past into large segments. It makes the study convenient. The historians study different aspects of the specific period and then assess the comparative developments their impact on society and their contribution to the future generation.

## **3: In what ways has the meaning of term “Hindustan” changed over the centuries?**

**Answer:** The meaning of the term 'Hindustan' has changed over the past centuries. Today, the term 'Hindustan' is referred to denote India. But during the 13th century, the term was used by Minhaj-i-Siraj – a chronicler (in a political sense) to denote lands that belonged to the Delhi Sultan. During the 14th century, the term 'Hind' was used by Amir Khusrau to refer to the culture and people of the Indus river. Whereas, during the early 16th century, Babar used the term 'Hindustan' to describe the culture, geography and fauna of the inhabitants of the sub-continent.

#### **4: What were some of the major religious developments during this period?**

**Answer:** Some of the important and major religious developments that took place during this particular period are as follows: 1. Worship of new deities 2. Construction of temples by royalty 3. The growing importance of Brahmanas; the priests, as dominant groups in society. 4. The emergence of the idea of bhakti – of a loving, personal deity that devotees could reach without the aid of priests or elaborate rituals. 5. The appearance of many new religions occurred during this period. During the 7th century, the merchants and the migrants introduced the teachings of the Holy Quran in India.

#### **5: How were the affairs of Jatis regulated?**

**Answer:** During this period, several social and economic differences emerged among the people, which led to the introduction of Jatis or sub-castes, where people were ranked on the basis of their occupations and backgrounds. The affairs of jatis were regulated by an assembly of elders known as the jati panchayat in some areas. The jatis were required to follow the rules of their villages, which were governed by a chieftain.

### **7MARKS QUESTIONS:**

**1: Describe the major development in Hindu religious traditions during the period 700 to 1750 A.D?**

**Answer:**

- The thousand years of history between 700 and 1750 A.D. witnessed major developments in religious traditions.
- It was during this period that important changes occurred in Hinduism.
- The worship of new deities.
- The construction of temples by royalty.
- Their knowledge of Sanskrit texts earned the Brahmanas a lot of respect in society and support of new rulers or patrons searching for prestige.
- One of the major developments was the emergence of the idea of Bhakti.
- It was of a loving, personal deity that devotees could reach without the aid of priests or elaborate rituals.

**2: What did the decline of the Mughal Empire lead to in the 18th century?**

**Answer:**When the Mughal Empire declined in the eighteenth century, it led to the re-emergence of regional states.

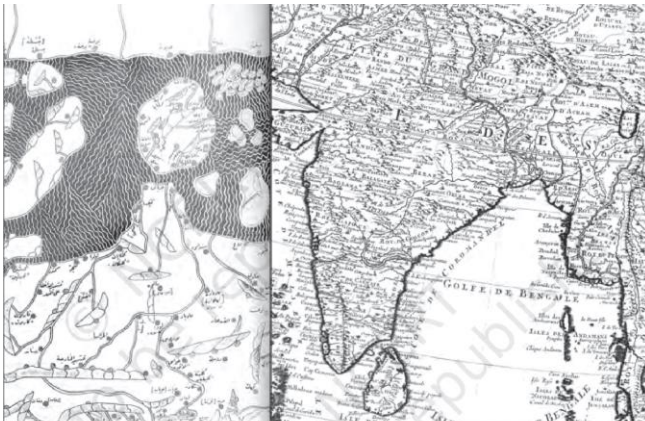
- Years of imperial, pan-regional rule had altered the character of the regions.



## CLASS-VII-HISTORY

- Across most of the subcontinent the regions were left with the legacies of the big and small states that ruled over them.
- This was clear in the emergence of many distinct and shared traditions: in the way of governance, the management of the economy, elite cultures, and language.
- Through the thousand years between 700 and 1750 A.D. the character of the different regions did not grow in isolation.
- They felt the impact of larger pan-regional forces of integration without losing their own character.

**3: Compare either Map 1 or Map 2 with the present-day map of the subcontinent, listing as many similarities and differences as you find?**



**Map1**

**Map2**

**Answer:**

Map1	Map2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Made in 1154 CE(Christian Era) by geographer Al-Idris.</li><li>• The section reproduced is a detail of the Indian subcontinent from larger map.</li><li>• In this map south India was at that place where North India is at present and Sri Lanka is the island at the top.</li><li>• Place names are marked in Arabic- Kanauj in UP is spelt as Qanauj.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Made 600 years later in 1720s by French cartographer.</li><li>• This map is more familiar to us.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Coastal areas are surprisingly detailed.</li><li>- Other inland areas are distorted.</li></ul></li><li>• Used by sailors and merchants of Europe when they were on their voyages.</li><li>• Since of map making(cartography) differed in the two periods.</li><li>• Method of information is also differed.</li></ul> <p><b>Conclusion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Present-day map of the subcontinent is more clear.</li><li>• It has been made to scale, projection and direction</li></ul>

#### **4: How do historians divide the past into periods? Do they face any problems in doing so?**

**Answer:** Indian history was divided into three different periods by British historians in the middle of the nineteenth century. The three periods were divided into “British”, “Muslim”, and “Hindu”. British Historians believed that there were no significant developments in terms of culture, society, and economy apart from the change in the religion of the rulers. Such a division by the British historians has problems. Such a division ignores the diversity of the Indian subcontinent. The eleventh and eighth centuries were completely different from the sixteenth or eighteenth centuries. Historians do not see time just as a calendar or clock showing years, days, or hours. The study of history becomes easier by dividing them into different periods or segments with similar characteristics. It reflects the similarities and changes in economic organisation, social changes, beliefs, and ideas. Historical records exist in different languages, which keep changing considerably over time. For example, modern Persian is different from Medieval Persian. The differences are not just in vocabulary and grammar but also the meanings, which keep changing over time. When Historians read texts, maps, and documents of the past, they have to be careful about the contexts and different historical backgrounds in which they were

produced, as the cartography was different in two different periods.

**5: How do historians divide the history of India into three periods? What are the drawbacks of this division?**

**Answer:**

According to historians time reflects changes in social and economic organisation, in transformation of ideas and beliefs. They do not see it as clock or calendar.

The study of time is made somewhat easier by dividing the past into large segments. They are called periods. The periods possess shared characteristics.

In the middle of the nineteenth century British historians divided the history of India into three periods.

- They are 'Hindu', 'Muslim' and 'British'.
- This division was based on the idea that the religion of rulers was the only important historical change, and that there were no other significant developments in result of the economy, society or culture.
- Such a division also ignored the rich diversity of the subcontinent. Few historians follow this periodisation today. Most look to economic and social factors to characterise the major elements of different moments of the past.

**MULTIPLE CHOICES ON INTRODUCTION:  
TRACING CHANGES TO A THOUSAND YEARS**

**Q1: Cartographer is a person who makes?**

- a) Cartoons.
- b) Caricatures
- c) Maps
- d) None of these

**Q2: In which century Babur used Hindustan to describe geography of subcontinent?**

- a) 17<sup>th</sup> Century
- b) 18<sup>th</sup> Century
- c) 16<sup>th</sup> Century
- d) None of these

**Q3: Which of the following is not the meaning of foreigner in the past?**

- a) Stranger
- b) Pardesi
- c) Ajnabi
- d) Indigenous

**Q4: Which type of people collect Manuscripts?**

- a) Poor people
- b) Wealthy people
- c) Local people
- d) None of these

**Q5: Where were the Manuscripts placed?**

- a) At home
- b) In Libraries
- c) In archives
- d) Both (b) and (c)

**Q6: Ziyauddin Barani wrote his Chronicle first in?**

- a) 13<sup>th</sup> Century
- b) 12<sup>th</sup> Century
- c) 14<sup>th</sup> Century
- d) 15<sup>th</sup> Century

**Q7: Which language was spoken during 14<sup>th</sup> Century in present Bengal region?**

- a) Awadhi
- b) Gauri
- c) Telangani
- d) Lahori

**Q8: Which is the holy book of Muslims?**

- a) Gita
- b) Adi-Puran
- c) Quran
- d) Ramayan

**Q9: Who had accepted the authority of the early Muslims Leader?**

- a) Sunnis
- b) Shias
- c) Khalifas
- d) None of these

**Q10: Prosperity in the subcontinent attract trending companies of which region?**

- a) European
- b) Australian
- c) Russian
- d) None of these

**MCQS Answers:**

<b>Q. No</b>	<b>Answer</b>
<b>Q1</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Q2</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Q3</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Q4</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>Q5</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Q6</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Q7</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>Q8</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Q9</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Q10</b>	<b>A</b>



## **FILL IN THE BLANKS:**

**1: Archives are places where \_\_\_\_\_ are kept.**

**Answer:** manuscripts

**2: \_\_\_\_\_ was a fourteenth-century chronicler.**

**Answer:** Ziyauddin Barani

**3: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ were some of the new crops introduced into the subcontinent during this period.**

**Answer:** Potatoes, corn, chillies, tea and coffee

**4: By whom the Indian history was divided into three different periods \_\_\_\_\_**

**Answer:** British historians

**5: Several villages were governed by a \_\_\_\_\_**

**Answer:** chieftain

**6: Al-Idrisi was a \_\_\_\_\_**

**Answer:** Arab cartographer.

**7: Al-Idrisi was the Arab geographer who made map in \_\_\_\_\_**

**Answer:** 1154 CE.

**8: What are the two main sects of Islam \_\_\_\_\_**

**Answer:** Shia and Sunni.

## **SUMMARY ON INTRODUCTION: TRACING CHANGES TO A THOUSAND YEARS**

- In the early 16th century, Babur used the term "Hindustan" to describe the geography, fauna, and culture of the inhabitants of the Indian subcontinent.
- The term "Hindustan" did not carry the political and national meanings we associate with it today.
- In medieval times, a "foreigner" was any stranger who did not belong to a given society or culture.
- A city-dweller might have considered a forest-dweller a foreigner, but two peasants living in the same village were not foreigners to each other, even if they had different religious or caste backgrounds.
- The Mughal Empire's decline in the 18th century led to the re-emergence of regional states and left the regions with the legacies of the big and small states that had ruled over them.
- During the period between 700 and 1750, the character of the different regions did not develop in isolation but felt the impact of larger pan-regional forces of integration.
- Major developments occurred in religious traditions during the thousand-year history explored in the text.
- Collective belief in the divine was closely connected with the social and economic organization of local communities.
- Important changes occurred in what is now called Hinduism, including the emergence of the Shia and Sunni Muslims.
- Historians do not view time as just a passing of hours, days, or years but as reflecting changes in social and economic organization and the persistence and transformation of ideas and beliefs.
- British historians in the middle of the 19th century divided Indian history into three periods based on the religion of rulers, but this division is not followed by most historians today.