

BPSC

Modern History

DPP: 4

European Company 2

- Q1** Which European nation undertook the primary expedition in search of a maritime route to India?
(A) Dutch (B) Portugal
(C) France (D) British
- Q2** Who among the following led the first Portuguese expedition that reached India in 1498?
(A) Francisco de Almeida
(B) Alfonso de Albuquerque
(C) Vasco da Gama
(D) Nino da Cunha
- Q3** Who among the following welcomed Vasco da Gama in Calicut?
(A) Gaspar Correa
(B) Albuquerque
(C) Zamorin
(D) Don Almeida
- Q4** Which one of the following Europeans was the last to come to pre-independence India as traders?
(A) Dutch (B) British
(C) French (D) Portuguese
- Q5** Who among the following discovered the Cape of Good Hope?
(A) James Cook
(B) Columbus
(C) Ferdinand Magellan
(D) Bartholomeo Diaz



Answer Key

Q1 (B)

Q2 (C)

Q3 (C)

Q4 (C)

Q5 (D)



Hints & Solutions

Q1 Text Solution:

- The European nation that undertook the primary expedition in search of a maritime route to India was Portugal.

Key Points:

- In 1497, King Manuel-I of Portugal commissioned the explorer Vasco da Gama to lead a fleet with the goal of finding a direct sea route to India. Vasco Da Gama set sail from Lisbon on July 8, 1497, and after a long and treacherous journey, he reached the port of Calicut on India's Malabar Coast on May 20, 1498.
- Vasco da Gama's successful navigation to India marked a major achievement in European exploration and opened up a new era of trade and colonization. His expedition demonstrated that it was possible to bypass the dangerous and costly overland routes to Asia, controlled by the Ottoman Empire, by sailing around the African continent.

Q2 Text Solution:

Answer: (c)

- Vasco da Gama

Key Points:

- Vasco da Gama's journey marked the beginning of the European maritime exploration era.
- He landed in Calicut on the Malabar Coast, opening the sea route to India via the Cape of Good Hope.
- This expedition paved the way for Portuguese colonial and commercial dominance in India.

- The successful voyage was significant in establishing direct maritime trade between Europe and India, bypassing the traditional land routes controlled by the Ottoman Empire.
- Vasco da Gama's arrival in India had a profound impact on the global spice trade, significantly boosting the Portuguese economy.

Q3 Text Solution:

The first Portuguese Vasco da Gama reached Calicut, a port on the west coast of India, in 1498 AD. Zamorin, the then ruler of Calicut, welcomed Vasco da Gama. Vasco da Gama's arrival in India marked the beginning of a new era in the field of trade between the Portuguese and India.

Q4 Text Solution:

In the 16-17th century, traders from many European countries came to India from time to time for trade purposes. Among these Europeans, the first to arrive were the Portuguese in 1498 AD and the last to arrive were the French in 1664 AD. Thus, in the above-mentioned options, the French were the last to arrive among the traders who came to India.

Q5 Text Solution:

The Cape of Good Hope is a rocky headland on the Atlantic coast on the Cape Peninsula of South Africa. The Cape of Good Hope route connects East Asia and Europe with southern parts of Africa. In 1487 AD, Portuguese sailor Bartholomeo Diaz discovered the Cape of Good Hope. Earlier Cape of Good Hope was called Cape of Storm.

