



1. Match the following

subadar	a revenue farmer
faujdar	a high noble
ijaradar	provincial governor
misl	Maratha peasant warriors
chauth	a Mughal military commander
kunbis	A band of Sikh warriors
umara	tax levied by the Marathas

Answer:

subadar	provincial governor
faujdar	a Mughal military commander
ijaradar	a revenue farmer
misl	A band of Sikh warriors
chauth	tax levied by the Marathas
kunbis	Maratha peasant warriors
umara	a high noble

2. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) Aurangzeb fought a protracted war in the
- (b) Umara and jagirdars constituted powerful sections of the Mughal
- (c) Asaf Jah founded the Hyderabad state in
- (d) The founder of the Awadh state was

Answer: (a) Deccan

(b) administration

(c) 1724

(d) Burhan-ul-Mulk Sa'adat Khan

3. State whether true or false:

- (a) Nadir Shah invaded Bengal.
- (b) Sawai Raja Jai Singh was the ruler of Indore.
- (c) Guru Gobind Singh was the tenth Guru of the Sikhs.
- (d) Poona became the capital of the Marathas in the eighteenth century.

Answer: (a)—False, (b)—False, (c)—True, (d)—True

4. What were the offices held by Sa'adat Khan?

Answer: Sa'adat Khan held the combined offices of subadari, diwani and faujdar. In fact, he was responsible for managing the political, financial and military affairs of the province of Awadh.

5. Why did the Nawab of Awadh and Bengal try to do away with the jagirdari system?

Answer: The Nawabs of Awadh and Bengal tried to do away with the jagirdari system in order to reduce the influence of the Mughals in their states.

6. How were the Sikhs organised in the eighteenth century?

Answer: During the 17th century the Sikhs got organised into a political community. This led to the regional state-building in Punjab. Guru Gobind Singh fought many battles against the Rajputs as well as Mughal rulers, both before and after the institution of the Khalsa in 1699. After the death of Guru Gobind Singh in 1708, the Khalsa revolted against the Mughal authority under the leadership of Banda Bahadur and declared their sovereign rule. Banda Bahadur was captured in 1715 and executed in 1716. In the 18th century, the Sikhs organised themselves into a number of bands called jathas and later on rorhals. Their well-knit organisation enabled them to put up successful resistance to the Mughal governors first and then to Ahmad Shah Abdali. Who had seized the rich province of the Punjab and the Sarkar of Sirhind from the Mughals.

7. Why did the Marathas want to expand beyond the Deccan?

Answer: The Marathas wanted to expand beyond the Deccan in order to decrease the Mughal influence. By the 1720s, they seized Malwa and Gujarat from the Mughals and by the 1730s, the Maratha king was recognised as the overlord of the entire Deccan peninsula.

8. What were the policies adopted by Asaf Jah to Strengthen his position?

Answer: After being the actual ruler of the Deccan, Asaf Jah began to adopt some policies in order to strengthen his position :

- He brought skilled soldiers and administrators from northern India who welcomed the new opportunities in the south.
- He appointed mansabdars and granted jagirs.
- He ruled independently without Mughal interference. The Mughal emperor merely confirmed the decisions already taken by Asaf Jah.

9. Do you think merchants and bankers today have the kind of influence they had in the eighteenth century?

Answer: During the 18th century merchants were more influential than the bankers. They used to provide more loan opportunities at higher interest rates. But now, with the spread of education people prefer banks which provide loans and other financial assistance at cheaper rates. Bankers also provide subsidy on the interest rate. They have different scopes of loans for different purposes. So they are more influential today than the merchants.

10. Did any of the Kingdoms mentioned in this chapter develop in your state? If so, in what ways do you think life in the state would have been different in the eighteenth century from what, it is in the

twenty-first century?

Answer: I live in Delhi. None of the Kingdoms mentioned in the chapter developed in this region.

If any of the students live in any of the regions where the kingdoms mentioned in the chapter developed they should consult their history teacher and prepare their answer.

11. Find out more about the architecture and culture associated with the new courts of any of the following Awadh, Bengal or Hyderabad.

Answer: For self-attempt.

12. Collect popular tales about—rulers from any one of the following groups of people: the Rajputs, Jots, Sikhs or Marathas.

Answer: For self-attempt.

Very Short Type Questions

1. What was the effect of Aurangzeb's long war in the Deccan? [V. Imp.]

Answer: The military and financial resources of his empire got depleted,

2. Which parts of India were associated with peasant and zamindari rebellions?

Answer: Northern and western parts of India.

3. Name the three states that were carved out of the old Mughal provinces in the 18th century. [Imp.]

Answer: Awadh, Bengal and Hyderabad.

4. What was the ambition of the Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah?

Answer: He wished to control the rich textile producing areas of the Coromandal coast in the east.

5. Why was his ambition not fulfilled?

Answer: Because the British began to gain power in his region.

6. What was the geographical and economic importance of Awadh? [V. Imp.]

Answer: Awadh was a prosperous region, controlling the rich alluvial Ganga plain and the main trade route between north India and Bengal.

7. Name the new social groups that developed in Awadh to influence the management of the state's revenue system ?

Answer: Moneylenders and bankers.

8. Why did zamindars of Bengal borrow money from bankers and moneylenders?

Answer: They borrowed money to pay the revenue in cash.

9. Where did Sawai Raja Jai Singh found his new capital?

Answer: He founded his new capital at Jaipur

10. Why was a system called rakhi introduced?

Answer: This system was introduced to give protection to cultivators on the payment of a tax of 20% of the produce.

11. Who was Shivaji?

Answer: Shivaji was the founder of the Maratha Kingdom

12. How were peasant-pastoralists important for Shivaji? [V. Imp.]

Answer: Peasant-pastoralists provided the backbone of the Maratha army. Shivaji used these forces to challenge the Mughals in the peninsula.

13. What was chauth? [V. Imp.]

Answer: 25% of the land revenue claimed by zamindars was known as chauth.

14. What was sardeshmukhi? [V. Imp.]

Answer: 9-10% of the land revenue paid to the head revenue collector in the Deccan was known as sardeshmukhi.

15. Under whose leadership the Jats became powerful?

Answer: The Jats became powerful under the leadership of churaman.

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