



1. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) The Rajarajeshvara temple was built in .....
- (b) Ajmer is associated with the Sufi saint.....
- (c) Hampi was the capital of the .....
- (d) The Dutch established a settlement at ..... in Andhra Pradesh.

Answer: (a) early 11th century  
(b) Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti  
(c) Vijayanagara  
(d) Masulipatnam

2. State whether true or false:

- (a) We know the name of the architect of the Rajarajeshvara temple from an inscription.
- (b) Merchants preferred to travel individually rather than in caravans.
- (c) Kabul was a major centre for trade in elephants.
- (d) Surat was an important trading port on the Bay of Bengal.

Answer: (a)—T, (b)—F, (c)—F, (d)—F.

3. How was water supplied, to the city of Thanjavur?

Answer: Water supply for the city of Thanjavur came from wells and tanks.

4. Who lived in the 'Black Towns' in cities such as Madras?

Answer: Merchants, artisans (such as weavers), native traders and craftspersons lived in the 'Black Towns'.

5. Why do you think towns grew around temples?

Answer: The following factors are responsible for the growth of towns around temples :

- (a) A large number of priests, workers, artisans, traders, etc. settled near the temple.
- (b) They catered to the various needs of the people as well as of pilgrims who flocked to the temples. By and by towns grew, which came to be known as temple towns.

6. How important were craftspersons for the building and maintenance of temples?

Answer: Craftspersons played an important role in the building and maintenance of temples :

- (i) The Vishwakarma community consisting of goldsmith, bronzesmiths, blacksmiths, masons and carpenters were essential to the building of temples.
- (ii) Weavers such as the Saliyar or Kaikkolars were prosperous communities and they made ample donations to temples.
- (iii) The craftspersons of Bidar were skilled in their inlay work in copper and silver. They were also important for the building and maintenance of temples in their own way.

7. Why did people from distant lands visit Surat?

Answer: People from distant lands visited Surat because of the following reasons:

- (i) Surat was the gateway for trade with West Asia via the Gulf of Ormuz.
- (ii) Surat has also been called the gate to Mecca because many

pilgrim ships set sail from here.

(iii) There was a big market for cotton textiles. One could find several retail and wholesale shops selling cotton textiles.

(iv) The textiles of Surat were famous for their gold lace borders, Le. zari and had a market in West Asia, Africa and Europe.

(v) There were ample rest-houses for the visitors. Magnificent buildings and innumerable pleasure parks attracted people of far-off places.

8. In what ways was craft production in cities like Calcutta different from that in cities Wee Thanjavur?

Answer: The craft production in Thanjavur was in form of inlay work in copper and silver while in Calcutta it was in the form of cotton textiles, jute textiles and silk textiles.

9. Compare any one of the cities described in this chapter with a town or a village with which you are familiar. Do you notice any similarities or differences?

Answer: Attempt yourself.

#### Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. What do temple towns represent? [Imp.]

Answer: Temple towns represent a very important pattern of urbanisation.

2. Why did the rulers endow temples with grants of land and money?

Answer: They did so in order to carry out elaborate rituals, feed pilgrims and priests and celebrate festivals.

3. How did pilgrims contribute to the temples?

Answer: They made donations.

4. What is bronze?

Answer: Bronze is an alloy that contains copper and tin.

5. What is bell metal?

Answer: Bell metal contains a greater proportion of tin than other kinds of bronze. This produces a bell like sound,

6. How did temple authorities use their wealth?

Answer: They used their wealth to finance trade and banking,

7. What did the Indian traders bring from Africa?

Answer: They brought gold and ivory from Africa.

8. Name a few Indian spices which became an important part of European cooking.

Answer: Pepper, cinnamon, nutmeg, dried ginger.

9. What were craftspersons of Bidar famous for?

Answer: They were famous for their inlay work in copper and silver.

10. What do the ruins of Hampi reveal?

Answer: The ruins at the Hampi reveal a well-fortified city.

11. Why has Surat been called the gate to Mecca? [V. Imp.]

Answer: Surat has been called the gate to Mecca because many pilgrim ships set sail from here.

12. What were the textiles of Surat famous for?

Answer: The textiles of Surat were famous for their gold lace borders Le. zari.

13. What was special with the Surat hundis? [V. Imp.]

Answer: The Surat hundis were honoured in the far-off markets of Cairo in Egypt, Basra in Iraq and Antwerp in Belgium.

14. Why did the Dutch and English East India Companies attempt to control Masulipatnam?

Answer: Because Masulipatnam became the most important port on the Andhra coast,

15. How did the European Companies gain control of the sea trade?

Answer: They gained control of the sea trade by using their naval power,

16. What was the system of advances?

Answer: Under the system of advances the weavers had to weave cloth which was already promised to European agents.

17. Name the residence meant for the white rulers in Madras.

Answer: Fort St. George.

18 Name the residence meant for the white rulers in Calcutta.

Answer: Fort St. William.

19. Mention some articles of trade on which temple authorities collected taxes.

Answer: Sugar and jaggery, dyes, thread, and cotton, coconut, salt, areca nuts, butter, sesame oil and cloth.

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