

Ancient and Medieval period:

⑧ Describe the social, economic, administrative, cultural and religious life of the ancient Bengal.

⇒ Described below-

Administrations

- ⑧ Mahamatya administrative system was introduced during the Maurya Dynasty period.
- ⑧ There was no significant administrative system before Gupta dynasty.
- ⑧ Bhukti, Bishoy, Bitthi were the form of administrative system.
- ⑧ Prime minister, Judiciary, Military, Wardships, Tax system, Spies etc could be seen during the Pala Dynasty rule.
- ⑧ The Pala Admin system was followed

by Sena and others.

Social life:

- ① Concept and Philosophy of Samatam Dharma like Reincarnation, Karma, Yoga could be seen.
- ② No putting on veils for girls and education was allowed for all women.
- ③ Rice, fish, vegetables were the common food habit.
- ④ Serving the guests with betel leaves and nuts, singing for the lord Shiva were the common practice.
- ⑤ Four caste Brahmins, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra could be seen.
- ⑥ Brahmins held the supreme power of the society.

Economic life:

- ① Economy was mainly based on agriculture.
- ② Rice, Jutes were the main crops.
- ③ Gold items, gems and pearls were used for luxury.
- ④ Coin and cowrie were used for exchanging products.
- ⑤ Highly admirable woodwork could be seen.

Cultural life:

- ① Terracotta Arts were found in Mainamati and Lalmar.
- ② In the birthplace of Buddhist preacher Atish Dipankar a monastery has been discovered.

- ④ Buddhist monk used to get educational enlightenment from those Viharas like Sompura Vihara, Salbon Vihara.
- ④ Manuscripts were written on palm leaves and paper.
- ④ Viharas and Temples used paintings for beautification.

Religious life:

- ④ ~~Worship~~ People worshipped Gods and Goddesses
- ④ Vedic Dharma practiced Brahma Puja.
- ④ People followed Sanatan Vedic Dharma, Buddhism and Jainism.

⑨ Describe the social, cultural, administrative, religious and cultural life of the Medieval Period.

⇒ Described below -

Administration:

- ⑩ Ikhthiar Khilji occupied ~~these~~ was the most popular sultan of the age. He could keep united the vast kingdom as an able ruler.
- ⑪ The turkish ~~sub~~ rulers ruled independently.
- ⑫ Sher Khan named Awar 'Jannatabad' being mesmerized by the beauty of it.
- ⑬ The Iqta system was a unique type of land distribution and administrative system.

Social life:

- ① Sultans and rich men-women wore attractive cloths. The men wore ijar and long attire with round neck. They wore turban on their head and wore leather shoes and socks.
- ② Hindu, muslim both wore ornaments like tiara, sinthipathi on the head, kamabala etc.

Cultural life:

- ① The Hindu and muslim lived side by side.
- ② The sufis and saints began to come to Bengal to preach Islam from the 11th century.

- ④ Muslim architecture became quite developed.
- ④ The Baro Sona Masjid, The Kotwali Darwaza, 'Pakhil Darwaza' of Gaur, Shah Grambug Masjid etc was famous.
- ④ The crafts people of Bengal were skilled in making pottery, plates, knives etc.
- ④ High quality paper was made from the barks of trees.

Economy:

- ④ The 'kari' a local medium of exchange, was in use at that time.
- ④ The rulers adopted the expansion of agriculture by bringing non-cultivated area under cultivation, ~~thus~~ which helped the economy.

- ⑥ The major produced spices were - saffron, black pepper, clover, cardamom
- ⑦ India has a very well-developed system of trade and commerce, both internal and external trades

Religious life:

Many of the common Hindus and Buddhists embraced Islam at that time

⑩ Describe the difference between ancient and medieval period.

⇒ Described below:

Ancient	Medieval
① Dhukti, Bishoy, Bithi were the form of administrative system.	① The iqta was a unique type of land distribution and administrative system.
② Dhuti, Saree and ornaments were worn as dressing.	② Ijara, and Tiara, Sithipathi were worn. as dressing
③ Coins and cowrie were used for exchanging products.	③ 'Kari' was used as a local medium of exchange
④ Terracotta Arts were found in mainamati and Lalmai.	④ Muslim architecture became quite developed. For example Shah Gumbaz mosque, Adina masjid etc.

④ Manuscripts were written on palm leaves and paper.

④ High quality paper was made from bark of tree.

④ People followed Sanatan Vedie dharma, Buddhism and Jainism

④ People followed Islam and Hindu religion.