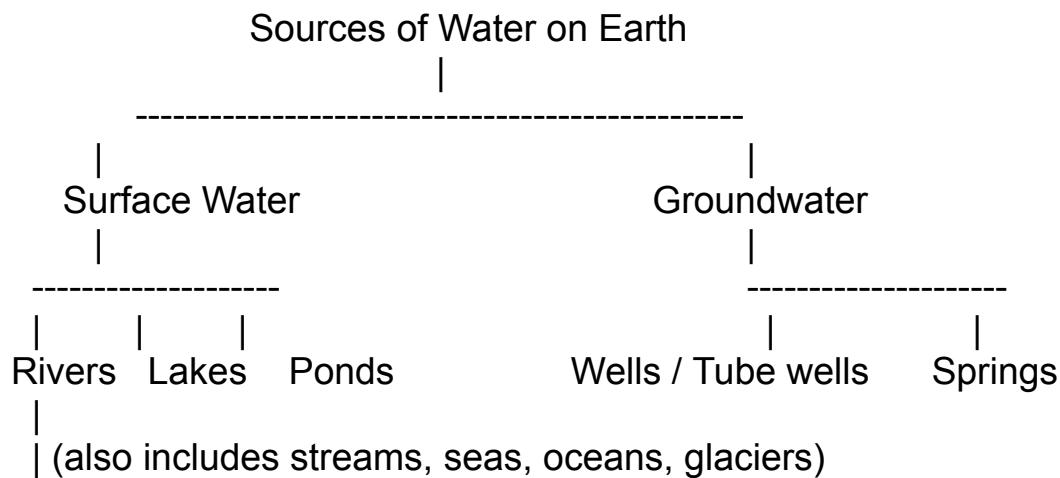


EVERY DROP COUNTS

Key words

Talab
Ghats
Stepwell(baudis)
Al-Biruni
Chabutaras (raised platforms)
Drains
Piaus
mashak(leather bag)
Copper
Brass
Glaciers

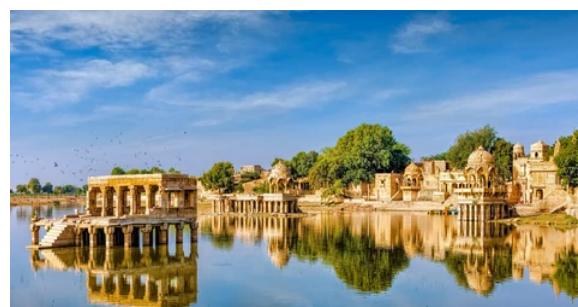


Sources of water: Lakes and Step Wells.

- **What are Lakes and Step Wells?**

- **Lakes:** Natural bodies of water surrounded by land.

Example: Ghadsisar in Jaisalmer made by king Ghadsi.



- **Step Wells:** Ancient man-made structures to store water, often with steps leading down to the water level.



Example: a. Rani ki vav, Gujarat,
 b. Modhera stepwell, Gujarat
 c. Agrasen ki Baoli, New Delhi
 d. Hampi, Karnataka

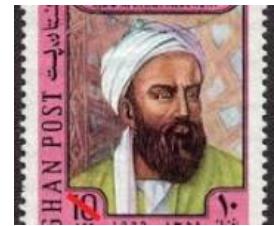
- **Purpose:**

Both were used to store and conserve water in olden times.
 Step wells helped people access water during dry seasons.

- **Importance of Stepwells**

1. Stored rainwater in dry regions.
2. Provided easy access to water through steps.
3. Served as resting and meeting places.
4. Showcased beautiful architecture.
5. Helped in water conservation and kept surroundings cool.
6. Provided water for drinking, irrigation, and daily use.
7. Acted as community gathering

Al-Biruni: renowned Persian scholar, polymath, and "founder of Indology" from Uzbekistan, who travelled to India in the 11th century and wrote the book *Kitab-ul-Hind*.



In his book he has mentioned how skilled workers in India build the ponds.

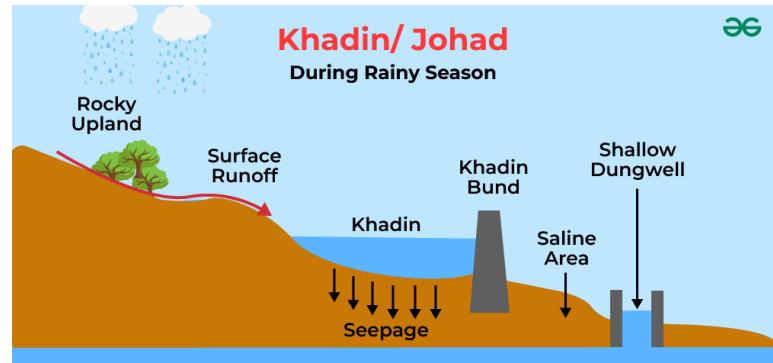
Water Harvesting (Past-Present)

- **What is Water Harvesting?**

Collecting and storing rainwater for future use.

- **Past Methods:**

- Using ponds, lakes, step wells, bavlis, johads, and traditional tanks.
- Roof water harvesting (collecting rainwater from rooftops).



- **Present Methods:**

- Modern rainwater harvesting systems with pipes and storage tanks.
- Building reservoirs.

- Recharge wells to refill underground water.

Flowchart: Water Harvesting Process

Rainwater



Collected from rooftop/ground



Directed through pipes



Stored in tanks/ponds or sent to recharge wells



Used for drinking, irrigation, or groundwater recharge

Water for travelers

Water stored in piaus, mashak (leather bag), etc

Customs Related to Water

- Many communities have special customs and rituals connected to water, showing respect and gratitude.
- In Uttarakhand the newly married bride worships the water tap.
- Examples:
Festivals in India involving water include the
 - Kumbh Mela, where bathing in sacred rivers is done
 - Pushkaram, a worship of rivers;
 - Narali Purnima, a fishermen's festival to please Lord Varuna, the god of water; and
 - Sangken, a Khamti festival of Arunachal Pradesh where water symbolizes cleansing for the New Year.

Why?

- Water is sacred and life-giving.
- Customs help protect and conserve water.
- Make people aware about the importance of water.

The Story Today (Managing Water)

- Water is limited and precious today because of increasing use and

pollution

- We need to **manage water wisely** by:

Fixing leaks.

Using water-saving devices.

Recycling water where possible.

Avoiding water pollution.

Session 6: Water Bill & Tarun Bharat Sangh

- **Water Bill:**

- A document showing how much water is used and how much to pay.
- Encourages people to use water carefully to reduce costs.

- **Tarun Bharat Sangh (TBS):**

- A non-governmental organization working to save water in India.
- Helps build small dams called “**Johads**” to collect rainwater.
- Works with villagers to revive groundwater and make farming possible.

Model Questions:

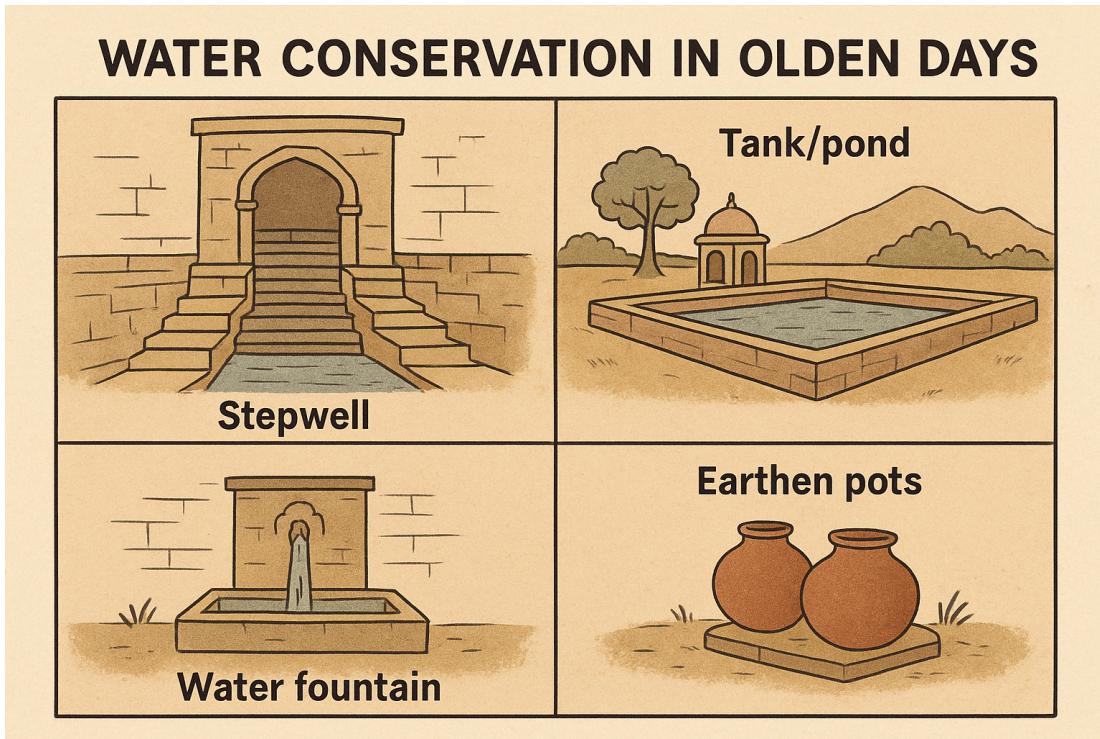
1. What are the difficulties faced by people in rural areas to get drinking water? (2 marks)
2. “Every drop counts.”(3 marks)

(i) Explain this statement in your own words.

(ii) Write two situations where you have seen water being wasted.

(iii) Suggest one way in each situation to save water.

3.



Answer the following questions.(5 marks)

- i. How was conservation of water done in the olden days?(1)
 - ii. Compare the water arrangements in olden days with today's water supply system.(2)
 - iii
- . Why do you think people used the water stored in these structures very carefully?(2)