

SOCIAL STUDY
STD -VI
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS (300 to 700 A.D.)

ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS:-

Q1. What is the importance of Allahabad prashasti?

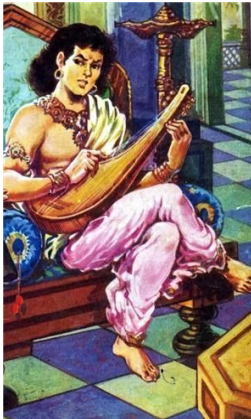
Ans. The Allahabad prashasti bears a long list of rulers who fought against Samudragupta and were defeated. So it is very important.

Q2. Mention any three qualities of Samudragupta as a ruler.

Ans. Three qualities of Samudragupta:-

- He was a good ruler.
- Samudragupta was a warrior, scholar, musician and a poet.
- He was a Hindu but was tolerant towards Buddhism and Jainism.

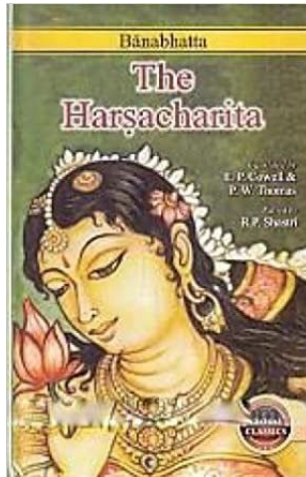
*He returned the conquered areas if the ruler agreed to pay tributes.



Q3. Name two sources of information about Harsha's reign.

Ans. Two sources of information about Harsha's reign are:-

- Harsha's biography HARSHACHARITA written by Banbhatta.
- A Chinese pilgrim Hsuan Tsang, wrote in details on Harsha's administration and court life.



Q4. Why did rulers have prashastis inscribed?

Ans. Rulers had prashastis inscribed because:-

- Prashastis were the literary works in praise of rulers.
- There were detailings about the rulers' power, strength and military achievements.

Q5. How did rulers extend agriculture to wastelands? Why was this done?

Ans. Rulers extended agriculture to wastelands as :-

- Irrigation was given a lot of importance.
- Agriculture was the main source of revenue so rulers extended agriculture to wastelands by making grants of these lands.

Q6. What is meant by bhakti?

Ans. Bhakti means:-

- The worshippers of Vishnu were called Bhagvatas.
- Everyone, irrespective of caste, sex or wealth was allowed to worship Vishnu.
- This worship was called Bhakti means the individual's faith and devotion.



Q7. What advantage did Chandragupta II gain by defeating the Shakas?

Ans. After defeating Shakas Chandragupta did :-

- He defeated Shakas of Gujarat, Saurashtra, and Malwa and annexed their territories.
- He thus won control over the busy trading ports of Broach and Combar.
- He made the trading towns of Ujjain his second capital.
- This further strengthened his control over trade.

* He had a centrally located capital now.

Q8. What were the advantages of Kannauj as a capital?

Ans. Harsha united the Kingdoms of Thanesar and Kannauj because:-

- Kannauj was relatively safe from foreign invasions as it was not very close to the north-west frontier.
- The Gangetic plains could also be better supervised.

Q9. Who were known as samantas? Why did rulers have samantas?

Ans. A defeated ruler was sometimes made a samanta, that is a chief who held land on the condition that he would supply soldiers to the king when required.

Q10. Briefly describe how an Indian kingdom was administered around the fifth century AD.

Ans. Administration of Indian Kingdom around fifth century AD:-

- The king was assisted by a council of ministers.
- A kingdom was usually divided into provinces, district and villages.
- Graded groups of officials carried out the task of province.
- Important posts gradually became hereditary.
- Merchants and bankers had a lot of influence on administration.
- Agriculture was the chief source of revenue.
- A council of village elders headed by the village headman administered the village.
- A city was administered by a council consisting of the head of the city corporation, representatives of the various guilds of merchants and artisans and the chief scribe.

Q11. Write about local assemblies under the Pallavas.

Ans. Under the Pallavas, local administration was controlled by three kinds of assemblies:-

- Sabha - A Sabha was a Brahmin assembly found in villages, where all the land was owned by Brahmin.
- Ur - A village assembly which included all classes of people who owned land within the village was called ur.
- Nagaram - The assembly of an area inhabited mainly by traders was called nagaram.

