

Class – 7

Sub- History

Ch- Tracing Changes through A Thousand Years

1. Assertion (A): Historians today are cautious while using terms from the past.

Reason (R): Words often change their meanings depending on historical context.

2. Assertion (A): Al-Idrisi's map of India closely resembles modern maps.

Reason (R): Medieval cartography was based on satellite imagery.

3. Statement I: The term 'Hindustan' in the 13th century referred to the entire Indian subcontinent.

Statement II: Babur used the term 'Hindustan' to describe the geography and culture of the region.

4. Statement I: During 700–1750, only kings and rulers were considered politically important.

Statement II: Groups like Rajputs, Jatis, and Kayasthas gained importance over time.

5. What can be inferred from the increasing use of paper and growth in manuscripts during this period?

- (a) Education became more expensive.
- (b) Oral traditions completely vanished.
- (c) Documentation and record-keeping became more widespread.
- (d) Only rulers were allowed to read.

6. Why is it difficult for historians to rely on medieval manuscripts?

- (a) The manuscripts were always written in English.
- (b) They were printed using modern machines.
- (c) Scribes often introduced changes while copying them.
- (d) Historians do not consider them reliable at all.

7. I was used to improve agricultural irrigation. I was introduced during the medieval period along with new crops. Who am I?

- (a) Persian Wheel

(b) Spinning Wheel

(c) Compass

(d) Manuscript

8. Which one of the following is NOT the correct reason for the emergence of new social and political groups during 700–1750?

(a) Introduction of new technologies and crops.

(b) The decline in manuscript writing.

(c) Increased mobility and search for opportunities.

(d) Formation of jatis and their role in administration.

9. Explain how the term “Hindustan” was understood by different historical figures such as Minhaj-i-Siraj, Babur, and Amir Khusrau.

Ans-

Minhaj-i-Siraj (13th century):

- Used the term “Hindustan” for the areas of Punjab, Haryana, and lands between the Ganga and Yamuna.
- Saw it as a political term, related to the Delhi Sultanate.
- Did not include south India in “Hindustan”.

Babur (early 16th century):

- Used the term to describe geography, fauna, and culture of the subcontinent.
- Had a broader, more inclusive understanding.

Amir Khusrau (14th century):

- Used the word “Hind” to refer to the cultural aspects of the land.
- Recognized regional linguistic and cultural diversity.

10. How do the maps made by Al-Idrisi and the French cartographer differ from each other, and what do these differences tell us about the historical context in which they were created?

Ans-

Al-Idrisi’s map (1154 CE):

- i. South India is shown at the top.
- ii. Place names are marked in Arabic.
- iii. Map lacks accurate geographic proportions and details.

- iv. Reflects the knowledge and perception of the Arab world at the time.

French cartographer's map (1720s):

- i. North is shown at the top, like modern maps.
- ii. Coastal areas are more detailed and accurate.
- iii. Reflects European interest in sea routes and trade.
- iv. Was used by sailors and merchants for navigation.

11. With the rise of new technologies and migration patterns, medieval Indian society saw the emergence of new social groups and shifts in power structures. Describe the role of Rajputs, jatis, and scribes in the changing political and social landscape of India between 700 and 1750.

Ans-

Rajputs:

- ❖ Originally a term for “Rajaputra” (son of a ruler).
- ❖ Became a group of warriors claiming Kshatriya status.
- ❖ Served as soldiers, commanders, and rulers.
- ❖ Valued for bravery and loyalty, as praised by poets and bards.

Jatis:

- ✓ Were sub-castes based on occupation and background.
- ✓ Had their own rules and regulations, enforced by jati panchayats.
- ✓ Became part of larger societies, often paid taxes and offered services to lords.

Scribes and Kayasthas:

- Gained importance as record-keepers and secretaries.
- Played key roles in administration.