

Sub- History

Ch- Tribes, Nomads & Settled Communities

1. Assertion (A): Many tribal societies had rich oral traditions and preserved their customs through storytelling.

Reason (R): Tribal people were highly literate and maintained written records of their history.

2. Assertion (A): The Ahoms developed a strong state by using high-quality gunpowder and cannons.

Reason (R): The Ahoms imported all their weapons from Mughal rulers.

3. Statement I: The Gonds practised shifting cultivation in the forests of Gondwana.

Statement II: The Gonds were settled agriculturists who never moved from one place to another.

4. Statement I: The Banjaras were the most important trader-nomads of medieval India.

Statement II: The Banjaras only carried salt from coastal regions and never transported food grains.

5. The interaction between tribal and caste-based societies led to –

- (a) Strengthening of isolation among tribes
- (b) Both societies adapting and changing
- (c) End of tribal culture
- (d) Rise of slavery among tribes

6. Rani Durgawati's resistance against the Mughals shows –

- (a) Weak political leadership of the Gonds
- (b) Courage and administrative strength of tribal rulers
- (c) Complete surrender to the Mughals
- (d) Dependence on Brahmanas for warfare

7. Which one of the following is not the correct reason for the growth of new castes in medieval India?

- (a) Expansion of craft production and trade
- (b) Emergence of new occupational groups
- (c) Decrease in the need for skilled artisans
- (d) Integration of tribes into caste society

8. The process through which tribes were absorbed into caste-based society reflected major social changes. Evaluate how this affected both tribal and non-tribal communities.

Answer: Impact of Integration of Tribes into Caste Society

- (i) Tribal chiefs gained recognition as Rajputs under Brahmana influence.
- (ii) Common tribal members were placed in lower varnas of the caste system.
- (iii) Artisans and smiths were included as new jatis in caste hierarchy.
- (iv) Caste-based society adopted new occupations from tribal skills.
- (v) Social diversity and interdependence between tribes and castes increased.

9. The Gonds developed a centralised administration from an egalitarian system. Analyse the factors that led to this transformation.

Answer: Transformation of Gond Society

- (i) Gondwana divided into garhs and barhots for administration.
- (ii) Gond rulers like Sangram Shah and Rani Durgawati expanded their kingdoms.
- (iii) Brahmanas received land grants, creating class divisions.
- (iv) Trade in elephants and forest products increased royal wealth.
- (v) Influence of Rajput rulers inspired Gond kings to centralise power.

10. Nomadic traders like Banjaras connected regions and supported the economy. Discuss how their lifestyle contributed to medieval India's development.

Answer: Role of Banjaras in Economy

- (i) Transported grains, ghee, and wool between villages and cities.
- (ii) Supported armies by supplying food during campaigns.
- (iii) Created trade networks across long distances.
- (iv) Promoted exchange between rural and urban economies.
- (v) Helped in the spread of goods, ideas, and cultures.