

Class- 7

Sub- History

Ch- 18th Century Political Formation

1. Assertion (A): The authority of the Mughal Empire weakened rapidly after Aurangzeb's death.
Reason (R): Later Mughal emperors failed to control powerful mansabdars and provincial governors.
2. Assertion (A): The Marathas emerged as a major political power in the eighteenth century.
Reason (R): The Marathas avoided direct confrontation with fortified Mughal centres and disrupted supply lines.
3. Statement I: Rajput rulers enjoyed complete independence under Mughal rule.
Statement II: Rajput rulers were allowed autonomy in their watan jagirs in return for Mughal suzerainty.
4. Statement I: The Sikhs organised themselves into misls and a combined force called the dal khalsa.
Statement II: The Sikh political organisation weakened Mughal control in Punjab.
5. The decline in revenue remitted to the Mughal capital mainly resulted in:
 - (a) Strengthening of central authority
 - (b) Growth of provincial autonomy
 - (c) Reduction in peasant rebellions
 - (d) Expansion of imperial bureaucracy
6. The system of *rakhi* introduced by the Sikhs primarily aimed at:
 - (a) Collecting land revenue for the Mughal emperor
 - (b) Providing protection to cultivators
 - (c) Organising trade routes
 - (d) Recruiting soldiers into the Mughal army
7. Identify the option which is not a correct reason for the weakening of Mughal authority is required.
 - (a) Continuous wars in the Deccan
 - (b) Rise of powerful provincial governors
 - (c) Efficient control over mansabdars
 - (d) Peasant and zamindari rebellions

8. A situation of a Mughal governor gradually becoming independent from imperial control is presented. Explain the factors that enabled this change.

Answer: Factors behind the rise of provincial autonomy

- (i) Weak Mughal emperors failed to supervise mansabdars effectively.
- (ii) Subadars controlled revenue and military administration locally.
- (iii) Decline in revenue transfer strengthened provincial finances.
- (iv) Peasant and zamindari rebellions weakened central authority.
- (v) Economic resources of regions were seized by local rulers.

9. A situation of repeated invasions from the northwest affecting imperial stability is presented. Analyse their impact on the Mughal Empire.

Answer: Impact of foreign invasions on the Mughal Empire

- (i) Nadir Shah's invasion led to massive plunder of Delhi.
- (ii) Immense wealth including the Peacock Throne was carried away.
- (iii) Administrative order collapsed further after invasions.
- (iv) Afghan raids by Ahmad Shah Abdali weakened military strength.

(v) Political authority of the Mughals declined sharply.

10. A situation where a regional power expands rapidly through military campaigns is presented. Explain the Maratha expansion strategies.

Answer: Reasons for the success of Maratha expansion

- (i) Highly mobile peasant-pastoralists formed the army backbone.
- (ii) Guerrilla warfare avoided strong Mughal forts.
- (iii) Chauth and sardeshmukhi strengthened revenue resources.
- (iv) Efficient administration followed military conquest.
- (v) Trade and agriculture were encouraged in conquered areas.