

Ch- The Making of Regional Culture

1. Assertion (A): Malayalam developed as a regional language under the Chera rulers.

Reason (R): The Cheras introduced Malayalam and its script in their inscriptions while drawing upon Sanskrit traditions.

2. Assertion (A): The Jagannatha temple became a powerful political centre in Odisha.

Reason (R): Controlling the temple helped rulers gain acceptance among local people.

3. Statement 1: Kathak developed only as a temple dance form.

Statement 2: Mughal patronage influenced the evolution of Kathak.

4. Statement 1: Miniature paintings were meant for public display.

Statement 2: Miniatures often depicted court life, battles and hunting scenes.

5. The spread of regional cultures can be best understood as a result of

- (a) rigid boundaries between regions
- (b) isolation from outside influences
- (c) interaction of local traditions with external ideas
- (d) uniform cultural practices

6. The popularity of heroic tales among common people can be linked with

- (a) royal orders alone
- (b) emotional appeal and dramatic situations
- (c) religious rituals only
- (d) written historical records

7. Identify the option which is **not** a correct reason for the growth of temple architecture in Bengal.

- (a) Improvement in economic condition of certain social groups
- (b) Recognition of local deities by Brahmanas
- (c) Influence of Mughal miniature painting
- (d) Use of thatched hut styles in temple design

8. A ruler planning to strengthen his rule chooses to associate himself with a popular religious centre. The decision reflects a strategy used in medieval India. Examine the situation.

Answer: Role of Religious Centres in Political Legitimacy

- (i) Religious centres attracted large numbers of pilgrims and followers.
- (ii) Rulers gained social acceptance by associating with popular deities.
- (iii) Control over temples strengthened political authority.
- (iv) Religious institutions influenced social and administrative life.
- (v) Such centres helped rulers integrate diverse communities.

9. A cultural form practiced in temples gradually gains royal patronage and later faces decline under colonial rule. Assess the situation with reference to Indian dance traditions.

Answer: Evolution and Survival of Kathak

- (i) Kathak originated from temple storytellers called kathakas.
- (ii) Bhakti movement helped in spreading its themes and performances.
- (iii) Mughal courts refined Kathak into a classical dance form.
- (iv) British administrators viewed it negatively during colonial times.

(v) Post-independence recognition ensured its survival as a classical dance.

10. A community adopts local food habits despite earlier restrictions imposed by religious norms. Evaluate the situation from a cultural perspective.

Answer: Adaptation of Food Practices in Bengal

- (i) Geography influenced food habits based on local availability.
- (ii) Fish became an essential part of the Bengali diet.
- (iii) Religious restrictions were relaxed due to social realities.
- (iv) Brahmanical texts adapted to regional practices.
- (v) Cultural flexibility ensured social harmony and acceptance.