



1000+ MCQs ON INDIAN HISTORY

- ✓ Coverage of Ancient, Medieval & Modern History
- ✓ Detailed Error-free Explanations
- ✓ Question Hacks for Strategic Guessing
- ✓ Structured & Systematic Arrangement of Content
- ✓ Practice & Revision-Friendly Book

FOR UPSC CSE & STATE PCS EXAMS

From the Founder's Desk

Dear Aspirants,

With utmost gratitude and appreciation for your unwavering support towards our previous publications, we embark on yet another exciting chapter of our journey in the realm of competitive exam preparation. It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that we present to you the latest addition to our collection, "Indian History 1000+MCQs."

The foundation of this book lies in understanding the concerns aspirants face while preparing for competitive exams, especially in the domain of Indian History, which includes subjects such as Ancient Indian history, Medieval Indian History, Indian Art & Culture, the Struggle for Independence, and more. We acknowledge the pivotal role of practicing and comprehending Multiple-Choice Questions (MCQs) in achieving mastery over the subject and excelling in various competitive examinations, including UPSC CSE, State PCS, and other similar exams. However, the availability of reliable and comprehensive MCQ resources remains a challenge for many aspirants.

Special Features of This Book

- **Comprehensive Coverage:** The book spans across various periods of Indian history and delves into the diverse forms of art and culture that have enriched our heritage.
- **Error-free Explanations:** Each MCQ is accompanied by a detailed and accurate explanation, facilitating a deeper comprehension of historical events and cultural nuances.
- **Relevant and Updated Content:** Our content is regularly updated to incorporate the latest research and discoveries in Indian History and Art and Culture.
- **Structured Organization:** The book is thoughtfully divided into sections, making it convenient for you to navigate through different eras.
- **Practice and Revision-Friendly:** Designed to aid both practice and revision, our book ensures a solid grasp of historical facts and cultural significance.

As a team, we are devoted to providing you with a reliable and authoritative source for your exam preparation. Our ultimate goal is to create a seamless, efficient, and effective learning experience for every aspiring scholar and competitive exam candidate.

We extend our best wishes to all the readers and sincerely hope that "Indian History 1000+MCQs" will serve as a valuable asset in your journey towards academic excellence and career success.

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Co-Founder, Study IQ Education,
Mentoring UPSC CSE Aspirants for past 8 years

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SAMPLE PAGES

Pre-History and Proto-History

1. With reference to the Harappan Civilization, consider the following statements:
1. Harappan script was an exact replica of Egyptian and Mesopotamian script, indicating their cultural links.
 2. The usage of standard weights and measurements throughout the civilization represented the uniformity of the Harappan culture.
 3. The Harappan pottery was mostly hand made as they were unaware of potter's wheel.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two
(c) All three (d) None

2. Consider the following statements regarding the Harappan sites of Nageshwar and Balakot:

1. Both of them were specialized centres for making shell objects.
2. As these sites were inland, thus, shells were brought from coastal cities like Lothal to make shell objects here.

Which of the statements given above is/are not correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

3. In which one of the following Harappan cities, remains of both pre-Harappan and mature Harappan cultural phase have been found and which also happens to be the one without a citadel?

- (a) Lothal (b) Chanhudaro
(c) Banawali (d) Dholavira

4. Which of the following Western Archaeologists are associated with the study on Indus Valley Civilization?

1. George Dales 2. John Marshall
3. R.E.M. Wheeler 4. Robert Bruce Foote
5. Alexander Cunningham

Select the correct answer using the correct code:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 2, 4 and 5
(c) 1, 3, 4 and 5 (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

5. With reference to the Lower Palaeolithic age, consider the following statements:

1. The lower palaeolithic age started around 5,00,000 BCE and continued up to 50,000 BCE.
2. During this period, Homo erectus started using tools made of bone.
3. People of Lower Palaeolithic period were engaged in cultivation of crops and domestication of animals.
4. Lower palaeolithic period witnessed end of Pleistocene epoch and beginning of Holocene epoch which in turn marked the end of ice age.

How many of the statements given above are **not** correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two
(c) Only three (d) All four

6. With reference to the economy of Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC), consider the following statements:

1. IVC economy was completely dependent on trade and commerce.
2. They neglected internal trade and were mostly involved in external trade with other contemporary civilizations outside India.
3. The art of bronze-casting using lost wax technique was practised on a wide scale by the Harappans.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 3 only

7. Which of the following was the principal tool used during Middle palaeolithic age?

- (a) Flake tools
(b) Bone tools
(c) Choppers and cleavers
(d) Blade tools

8. With reference to Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC), consider the following statements:

1. R.E.M. Wheeler was one of the proponents of Theory of foreign Origin for IVC.
2. Amalananda Ghosh propounded the theory of Indian origin for IVC.
3. Walter A. Fairervis argued that the IVC was a highly centralised empire ruled by autocratic priest-kings from the twin capitals of Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa.
4. As per George F. Dales, decline of external trade was the major cause for decline of IVC.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 4 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 3 and 4 only

9. Consider the following statements regarding Upper palaeolithic age:

1. The upper Palaeolithic sites are found in all parts of India except foothills of Himalayas.
2. The Upper palaeolithic people primarily used blades and bone tools.
3. This period marks the appearance of modern humans (Homo sapiens sapiens) for the first time.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two
(c) All three (d) None

Answer Key: Pre-History and Proto-History

1. (a)	2. (b)	3. (b)	4. (a)	5. (c)	6. (d)	7. (a)	8. (c)	9. (b)	10. (a)
11. (a)	12. (a)	13. (c)	14. (b)	15. (b)	16. (a)	17. (a)	18. (c)	19. (c)	20. (b)
21. (d)	22. (d)	23. (c)	24. (c)	25. (d)	26. (a)	27. (c)			



the Uttarapatha which connected Tamralipti (Bengal) to Purushpur (Peshawar).

- Agra to Burhampur.
- Jodhpur to Chittor.
- Lahore to Multan.

Statement 3 is incorrect: Sher Shah also introduced other reforms to promote growth of trade and commerce. For instance, in his entire empire, merchants paid customs duty only at two places:

- Goods produced in Bengal or imported from outside paid customs duty **once at the border** of Bengal and Bihar at Sikrigali, and goods coming from West and Central Asia paid customs duty at the Indus.
- The duty was paid a **second time at the time of sale**.

Statement 4 is correct: Sher Shah Suri directed his amirs to treat merchants and travellers well in every way, and not to harm them at all. If a merchant died, they were not to seize his goods as if they were unowned. In fact, he made the local village headmen (muqaddams) and zamindars responsible for any loss that the merchant suffered on the roads.

18. Answer: (d)

Statements 1 and 2 are incorrect: Akbar's 'Tauhid-i Ilahi/ Din-i-Ilahi' is a significant measure of his reign. Historian R.P. Tripathi stated that Akbar must have felt that it was neither possible to melt all religions down into one, nor to launch a new religion which would have added one more to others. But he felt to propagate his ideas among those who cared to listen to them. **Thus Din-i-Ilahi was not a religion and Akbar never intended to establish a new religion. It was formed not to propagate ideas of Islam but to promote universal peace and brotherhood.** Moreover, there were no sacred books or scriptures, no priestly class, no place of worship or rituals and ceremonies associated with Din-i-Ilahi except the initiation ceremony.

Akbar neither forced anyone nor employed money to enlist disciples. It was entirely a personal matter, not between the Emperor and the subjects, but between Akbar and those who chose to regard him as their pir or guru.

Statement 3 is incorrect: The tauhid-i-Ilahi virtually died with Akbar though the practice of enrolling murids and giving them a shast was continued for some time by Jahangir.

19. Answer: (d)

Statement 1 is incorrect: Humayun's half-sister, Gulbadan Begum, wrote Humayun-nama. Whereas, Humayun's tomb is called the prototype of the Taj Mahal, and was built by his widow Haji Begum.

Statement 2 is incorrect: At Battle of Chausa, near Buxar, 1539 CE, Humayun was defeated by Sher Khan, who adopted the title of Sher Shah. Humayun barely escaped

with his life from the battle field, swimming across the river with the help of a water carrier. Moreover, after the defeat at Chausa, Humayun again along with both his younger brothers, Askari and Hindal, fought valiantly at Battle of Bilgrama/Battle of Kannauj in 1540 CE. But Humayun was still thoroughly defeated by Sher Shah Suri. Battle of Kannauj was decisive in nature which decided the issue between Sher Shah and the Mughals in India. This paved the way for the establishment of the second Afghan empire in India. Humayun had to flee from Delhi, becoming an exile for the next fifteen years i.e, 1540 C.E to 1555 CE. Bairam Khan, one of his faithful officers, helped him come back to India. In 1555 CE, Humayun defeated the Afghans and recovered the Mughal throne but this happened after the death of Sher Shah Suri.

20. Answer: (b)

Pair 1 is correctly matched: Alamgirnamah is the court history of Emperor Aurangzeb (1658-1707) written by Mirza Muhammad Kazim. Following the tradition of the Mughal emperors from the time of Akbar, Aurangzeb ordered his court historian Mirza Muhammad Kazim to record and compile the history of his reign. Mirza Kazim wrote the history up to the tenth year of the reign of Aurangzeb.

Pair 2 is incorrectly matched: Muntakhab-ut-Tawarikh is a general history of the Muslim world written by Abdul Qadir Badayuni a court historian of Emperor Akbar. It covers the history of the Muslim rule in India from the Ghaznavids to the 40th year (1595-96) of the reign of Akbar.

Pair 3 is incorrectly matched: Padshahnamah is an official history of the reign of Shahjahan. Padshahnama was written by Abdul Hamid Lahori. He was a traveller and historian during the period of Mughal period.

Pair 4 is correctly matched: Surr-i-Akbar is a version of the Upanishads authored by the Mughal-Shahzada Dara Shukoh. It was translated from Sanskrit into Persian.

21. Answer: (d)

Statement 1 is correct: Karkhana was manufacturing centre under state supervision during the Sultanate and Mughal periods and now a common term for a place of manufacture or assembling. Muhammad bin tughlaq established many such karkhanas. His successor Sultan firoz shah tughlaq turned these karkhanas into centres of vocational training as well. Many of such karkhanas were established during Mughal rule also such as karkhanas to manufacture material for royal household, for nobles etc.

Statement 2 is correct: The mir saman was the officer in-charge of the royal karkhanas. He was also known as khan saman. He was the chief executive officer

Visual Arts

1. Consider the following Medieval Architecture:

1. Panch Mahal 2. Hawa Mahal
3. Rang Mahal 4. Hindola Mahal

If a tourist wants to visit the above medieval architecture, which of the following will be the correct sequence of his visit moving from north to south?

- (a) 1-2-3-4 (b) 2-3-4-1
- (c) 3-1-2-4 (d) 4-1-2-3

2. Consider the following pairs:

	Temple Architecture	Unique Features
1.	Solanki school	The presence of step-tanks in the proximity of the temple.
2.	Khajuraho school	Both the interior and exterior temple walls were lavishly decorated with carvings.
3.	Odisha school	Roofs were almost vertical which suddenly curved inwards sharply.

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- (a) Only one pair (b) Only two pairs
- (c) All three pairs (d) None of the pairs

3. With reference to Indian painting and sculpture making tradition, consider the following statements:

1. While tempera paintings are done on wet plaster, frescoes are mostly done on dry plaster.
2. Nimat Nama is one of the finest examples of illustrated manuscripts of the Mughal period.
3. The 'lost wax' method of sculpture-making, which is considered to be as old as the Indus Valley civilization was also used in the famous Nataraja sculpture of the Chola period.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 3 only (b) 1 and 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

4. Which one among these created the famous 'Bharat Mata' painting?

- (a) Nandlal Bose (b) Abanindranath Tagore
- (c) Raja Ravi Verma (d) Amrita Shergill

5. The 'Shalabhanjikas' have been depicted in ancient Indian sculpture in various poses. With reference to the 'Shalabhanjika', consider the following statements:

1. The image is usually of a woman in sculpture standing near the tree having stylised feminine features and holding a branch.
2. 'Shalabhanjikas' sculpture can be found on the toranas (gateway) of the Sanchi Stupa.
3. Unlike other images of ancient India which are depicted in tribhanga pose, Shalabhanjikas image are mostly depicted in abhanga pose.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) Only one (b) Only two
- (c) All three (d) None

6. Which one of the following statements is **not** correct with reference to the Ancient Indian schools of Art?

- (a) In the Mathura School of art, Buddha's images were predominantly carved in Abhaya mudra.
- (b) In the Gandhara School, depictions of Buddha had Hellenistic features, whereas in Mathura school Buddha was modelled on earlier Yaksha images.
- (c) The Sarnath School developed out of Mathura school of architecture in Eastern India.
- (d) Blue-grey mica schist was the dominant material used in Amravati school as it was easily available in the region around Amravati.

7. Which of the following statements is not correct regarding the developments in art and culture in the 19th century India?

- (a) Artistic works like paintings were being produced mostly for the open market.
- (b) This period marked the introduction of easel painting and oil paints to India.
- (c) During this phase, gradually the artist (Shilpi) became distinct from the artisan (Karigar).
- (d) Photography reached India in the nineteenth century, soon after its invention in Europe.

8. With reference to Central Vista, consider the following statements:

1. Rajpath, which extends from the Rashtrapati Bhawan to the India Gate has been renamed as Kartavya Path.
2. After the transfer of capital to Delhi in 1911, the government buildings in Delhi were made in Indo-Gothic style.
3. Neo roman style of colonial architecture was marked by circular buildings and upturned domes.
4. The statue of Subhas Chandra Bose has been installed under the grand canopy at India Gate in front of the Amar Jawan Jyoti.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 4 only (d) 2, 3 and 4 only