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History

ANCIENT INDIA

Pre History		
Palaeolithic Age or Old stone age (500,000-10,000 BC)	Mesolithic Age or Late Stone age (10,000-4,000 BC)	Neolithic Age or New Stone age (6,000-1,000 BC)

Pre Historic Phases			
Stone Age	Primary Culture	Major Site	Importance
Lower Palaeolithic	Flakes, Chopper Chopping Culture	Kashmir, Punjab, Whole India except Sind and Kerala. Main :- Sohan(Punjab), Singrauli basin (U.P.), Chhotanagpur (Jharkhand), Assam, Narmada, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka.	- Head axe and pebble tools, Fossil of <i>Homo Erectus</i> from Hathnaura (Narmada basin) - Represented by Sohan Culture (now in Pakistan.)
Middle Palaeolithic	Scraper/Booer Culture	Navasa (Maharashtra), Didwana (Rajasthan), Bhimbetka (MP), Bankura and Purulia (West Bengal), Narmada Valley etc.	- Varieties of Blades, Points, Borer and Scraper made of Flakes. - 200 rock shelters and caves are located on Bhimbetka hills having thousands of paintings.
Upper Palaeolithic	Blade and Burin Culture	A.P. (Kumool, Chittor) Karnataka, Central MP, Jharkhan Plateau, U.P., Rajasthan, Gujrat	- The age of <i>Neanderthal Man</i> - Earlier "Homo Sapiens" - Harpoon, blade tools from Renugunta (A.P.) - Bone tools from Kumool.
Mesolithic Age	Microliths Culture or Fluting & Geometrical tools	Karnataka, Rajasthan (Bagor, Tilwara), Gujrat (Langhanj), M.P., Tamil Nadu, West Benal (Birbhanpur), U.P. (Sarai Nahar Rai)	- Microlith (a great technological development, introduction of compound tools) - Man still a savage but pottery maing (Tilwara) and permanent habitation found, still a hunder, fisher.
Neolithic Age	Polished tool culture	Kashmir (Burzahom, Gufkral), Assam (Daojili Hading), Garohill Meghalaya, Bihar (Chirand), Peninsular India, Amri, Kotdiji, Mehargarh etc	- Earlies Farming community - Kinship became the basis of social organisation - Pit dwelling houses - Food began to be cooked by fire - Evidence of dogs, circular huts made of bamboo, bone-tools, hand made pottery etc - Also called "Neolithic Revolution" - Boat making, spinning cotton and wool.



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IMPORTANT HARAPPAN SITES

Name of Sites	Year of Excavation	Excavators	Region/River	Features
Harappa	1921	Daya Ram Sahni	Montgomery district of Punjab (Now in Pak) on the left bank of Ravi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City followed grid planning 2. Row of six granaries 3. Only place having evidences of coffin burial 4. Evidence of fractional burial and coffin burial 5. Cemetery-H of alien people.
Mohenjodaro	1922	R.D.Banarjee	Larkana district in Sind on the right bank of Indus (Now in Pak)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City followed grid planning 2. A large granary and Great Bath, a college 3. Human skeletons showing invasion and massacre. 4. Evidence of Horse come from superficial level. 5. A piece of woven cotton alongwith spindle whorls and needles 6. Town was flooded more then seven times.
Chanhu-daro	1931	N. Gopal Majumdar, Mackey	Situated in Sind on the bank of Indus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The city has no citadal 2. Famous for bead makers shop 3. A small pot, possibly an inkpot 4. Foot prints of a dog chasing a cat 5. Three different cultural layers, Indus, Jhukar and Jhangar
Kalibangan	1953	A. Ghosh	Situated in Rajasthan on the Bank of Ghaggar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shows both Pre Harappan and Harappan phase 2. Evidence of furrowed land 3. Evidence of seven fire altars and camel bones 4. Many houses had their own well 5. Kalibangan stand for black bangles 6. Evidence of wooden furrow
Lothal	1953	S.R. Rao	Situated in Gujarat on Bhogava river near Gulf of Cambay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A tiled floor which bears intersecting design of circles 2. Remains of rice husk 3. Evidence of horse from a terracotta figurine 4. A ship designed on a seal 5. Beads & trade ports 6. An instrument for measuring angles, pointing to modern day compass
Banwali	1974	R.S. Bisht	Situated in Hissar district of Haryana	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shows both Pre-Harappan and Harppan phase 2. Good quantity of barley found here
Amri	1935	N.G. Majumdar	Situated in Sind on the bank of Indus	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence of antelope
Dholavira	1985-90	R.S. Bisht	Situated in Gujarat in Ramn of Kutch	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Seven cultural stages 2. Largest site 3. Three party of city 4. Unique water management
Rangpur	1953	M.S. Vats, B.B. Lal & S.R. Rao	Situated on the bank of Mahar in Gujarat	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rice was cultivated
Ropar	1953	Y.D. Sharma	Situated in Punjab of the banks of Sutlej	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence of burying a dog below the human bural 2. One example of rectangular mudbrick chamber was noticed 3. Five fold cultures - Harappan, PGW, NBP, Kushana - Gupta and Medieval
Alamgirpur	1958	Y.D. Sharma	Situated on Hindon in Ghaziabad	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The impression of cloth on a trough is discovered 2. Usually considered to be the eastern boundary of the Indus culture



MAHAJANPADS : AT A GLANCE

Mahajanpads	Places
Anga	Bhagalpur and Monghyr in Bihar
Magadha	Patna and Gaya in Bihar
Kashi	Banaras
Koshala	Oudh in Uttar Pradesh
Vajji	North Bihar
Malla	Eastern U.P.
Chedi	Bundelkhand in Madhya Pradesh
Vatsa	Allahabad
Kuru	Delhi and Meerut
Panchala	Rohilkhand division in U.P.
Matsya	Jaipur and Alwar
Surasena	Mathura in U.P.
Assaka	Godavari Valley
Avanti	Malwa and a part of Madhya Pradesh
Gandhara	Part of Afghanistan
Kamboj	Part of Kashmir and Afghanistan

- Magadha was the cradle of most of the important and powerful Indian empires.
- Soon this kingdom lost to the Nandas (361–321 BC) and finally to the Mauryas. Mahapadma Nanda was the most famous ruler of the Nanda Dynasty.
- Chandragupta Maurya, the founder and the most powerful king of the Mauryan dynasty overthrew the last Nanda ruler and established his own empire.
- He was supported by an efficient minister Chanakya who authored the Arthashastra (a political treatise) that formed the basis of political agenda practiced by most Hindu sovereigns.
- Alexander of Greece (327 BC) entered North-West India pursuing his chain of victories over Gandhara. He died on his way back to Babylon, Iraq in 323 B.C.
- Greek writers belonging to the Mauryan times stated that after Alexander's death, Seleucus Nicator ruled the eastern part of Alexander's Empire.
- Bindusara succeeded Chandragupta and further expanded the empire.

New Empires and Kingdoms

- Post-Mauryan India was a scene of struggle with one dynasty vying with another for regional dominance.
- Pushyamitra Shunga was the founder of Shungas Dynasty.
- Pushyamitra's dominions extended up to Eastern Punjab and included Jalandhar and Sakala, Magadha in east with Pataliputra as its capital and Kosala with Ayodhya as its capital and central India with Vidisa as its capital.
- **Simuka** was the founder of the Satavahan Dynasty.

Sangam Age

- The Iron Age in South India laid the foundation stone for a golden period which began in 300 BC and lasted till 300 AD. This period, popularly known as SANGAM AGE, is widely regarded as the golden age of the Tamils.
- The literature collectively produced by the ancient Tamilian poets is commonly known as the Sangam literature.
- Sangam literature makes a mention of three kingdoms—Chola, Chera and Pandiyan.

The Sakas

- The Sakas were a nomadic tribe of Central Asia who were driven out of their land by another tribe, Yeuh-Chi.
- They established many kingdoms of which the most important were those of Taxila, Mathura, Nasik and Ujjain. **Rudradaman** of Ujjain was the most powerful Saka ruler who assumed the title of 'Mahakshtrap'.

Gupta Empire

- Under the Gupta kings, India made such a progress in almost every field that it is regarded as the 'Golden Age'. This dynasty ruled for a little more than two hundred years (from 320 A.D. to 540 A.D.).
- **Chandragupta I** was the first important ruler of this dynasty.
- Chandragupta I was succeeded by his illustrious son and one of the noblest kings of ancient India, Samudragupta.
- He covered a long distance of 3,000 miles through dense forests with the same boldness as that of Alexander and Napoleon.
- The most authentic source of information about Samudragupta is the Allahabad Pillar in the Allahabad Fort. It has an inscription composed by poet Harisena.
- **Chandragupta II** the son and successor of Samudragupta, was another powerful ruler of the the Gupta dynasty. He is popularly known as Vikramaditya (or Sun of Power) and is often identified with Vikramaditya of Ujjain who patronised the famous Nav Ratnas.
- Chandragupta II was succeeded by **Kumargupta**. It was during his reign that the Hunas, a barbaric nomadic tribe of Central Asia, invaded India.
- Their first invasion was repulsed by the brave Gupta king Skandgupta. But soon after they conquered Punjab and Kashmir, their invasions shok the Gupta empire which soon broke into pieces.

Harshavardhana

- After the fall of the Gupta empire chaos and disorder prevailed everywhere. The Huna invasions created more confusion. It all led to the emergence of small kingdoms. Thanesar, near Kurukshetra, was one of them. It made great progress under **Prabhakarvardhana** and his son **Harsha**.
- Harshavardhana is regarded as the last great ruler of ancient India.
- The first task that Harsha accomplished after his accession to the throne of Thanesar was to march towards Kannauj, where first of all he saved his sister Rajyashri and then united the two kingdoms of Thanesar and Kannauj. Thereafter, he made Kannauj his capital.
- According to Hieun Tsang, a Chinese pilgrim, Harsha spent six years of his reign (606 A.D. to 612 A.D.) in conquering the Five Indies, i.e., Eastern Punjab, Kannauj, Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and many other states.

The Chalukyas

- Pulakesin I (543 – 567 A.D.) established his own sovereign state at Vatapi (or modern Badami in Bijapur district) as his capital.



- His successors also extended the Chalukya empire. But the greatest ruler of this dynasty was Pulakesin II (608–647 A.D.).

MEDIEVAL INDIA

- In India, the Medieval period is considered to be the time period between the 8th century A.D. and the 18th century A.D.

The Palas of Bengal and Bihar

- The Palas ruled over Bengal and Bihar for almost four centuries.

The Rashtrakutas (A.D. 750 – 973)

- The Rashtrakutas belonged to the Deccan. They came to power after the fall of the Chalukyas of Badami in the Deccan.
- **Dantivarman**, also known as Dantidurga, was the founder of this dynasty who rose to power in 753, in modern Maharashtra.

The Turkish Invasions of India

- The first attempt of the Muslims to enter India through Sind had failed miserably. It were the Turks who established themselves in India in the 12th and 13th centuries A.D.

Mahmud of Ghazni

- Mahmud was the first Turkish invader to invade India from the north-western side.
- He was the ruler of Ghazni. During the course of 25 years (1001 to 1025 A.D.), he carried out 17 raids on India.

Muhammad Ghori

- Towards the end of the 12th century, Muhammad Ghori, ruler of a small kingdom in Afghanistan, attacked India. In A.D. 1175, he invaded Multan and captured it. Then he moved towards Gujarat whose Rajput ruler, Bhimdev Solanki, fought bravely, giving him a crushing defeat. In subsequent years, Ghori conquered Peshawar, Sialkot and Punjab.

Society, Economy and Religion in North India

- Woman occupied a respectable position in the Rajput society. She could choose her husband in Swayamvara. She was honoured and protected by man. She was given higher education. To save their honour and chastity, they would perform Jauhar or mass sacrifice.
- Agriculture was the main occupation of the people. Trade and commerce flourished well.
- India exported silk, cotton and woollen clothes, spices, precious stones, etc. and imported wine, dates and horses.
- In the 4th century Chalukyas in Karnataka and Pallavas in Andhra Pradesh ruled for about 400 years.
- The Chola power started emerging in South India from around 8th century A.D. Vijayalaya (846–871) established his rule in the Tamil land with Tanjore as his capital in about A.D. 846. He is regarded as the founder of imperial Cholas.
- **Rajaraja I (A.D. 985–1016)**: With the accession of Rajaraja I, the Chola empire witnessed a glorious period in its history. He extended his empire both in the North and in the South.

- Under him, the Cholas became a paramount power in the South.
- Rajaraja I was a great builder. He constructed the beautiful Brihadesvara Temple of Shiva at Tanjore.

Rajendra Chola (A.D. 1016 – 1044)

- Rajendra succeeded his father Rajaraja I and carried on the aggressive policy.
- He conquered the whole of Sri Lanka. It was made a province of Chola empire and named Mummadi Cholamandalam.

The period between A.D. 1206 and A.D. 1526 in the History of India is known as the Period of the Delhi Sultans.

Rulers of Delhi : at a Glance

➤ Rajput Dynasties

Tomaras	Early twelfth century – 1165
Ananga Pala	1130 – 1145
Chauhans	1165 – 1192
Prithviraj Chauhan	1175 – 1192

➤ Early Turkish Rulers 1206 – 1290

Qutab-ud-din Aibak	1206 – 1210
Shamsuddin Iltutmish	1210 – 1236
Raziyya	1236 – 1240
Ghiyasuddin Balban	1266 – 1287

➤ Khalji Dynasty 1290 – 1320

Jalaluddin Khalji	1290 – 1296
Alauddin Khalji	1296 – 1316

➤ Tughlaq Dynasty 1320 – 1414

Ghiyasuddin Tughluq	1320 – 1324
Muhammad Tughluq	1324 – 1351
Firuz Shah Tughluq	1351 – 1388

➤ Sayyed Dynasty 1414 – 1451

Khizr Khan	1414 – 1421
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➤ Lodhi Dynasty 1451 – 1526

Bahlul Lodhi	1451 – 1489
Sikander Lodhi	1488 – 1517
Ibrahim Lodhi	1517 – 1526

- Iltutmish introduced the **Iqta system**. Under this system, land was assigned to nobles and others in lieu of salary. He also introduced silver coins called tanka and copper coins called jital. These coins were used throughout the Sultanate period.
- Iltutmish had nominated his daughter Razia as his successor because he did not think any of his sons worthy of his throne.
- Ghias-ud-din Balban, who earlier worked as Prime Minister, ascended the throne in A.D. 1266 after the death of Nasir-ud-din.
- Balban adopted a very stern policy which is generally known as the policy of Blood and Iron.
- Jalal-ud-din was the founder of the Khalji dynasty.

Ghias-ud-din Tughlaq (A.D. 1320 – 25)

- Ghazi Malik, who assumed the title of Ghias-ud-din Tughlaq, was the founder of this third dynasty of the Sultanate.

Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq (A.D. 1325 – 51)

- Muhammad-bin-Tughlaq was a learned man. He was a scholar of mathematics, philosophy, astronomy, logic, medicine and physical sciences.



The Mughal Empire

- Babur was the founder of Mughal dynasty in India.
- He was successful in his fifth expedition to India, when he defeated Ibrahim Lodi in the First Battle of Panipat on April 21, 1526.

Akbar's Religious Policies

- Akbar build an Ibadat Khana (House of Worship) at Fatehpur Sikri in 1575 to discuss religious matters of faith.
- Akbar abolished the pilgrimage tax on Hindus in 1563. Akbar abolished Jizya in 1579.
- His liberalism is reflected again in the pronouncement of Tauhid-i-Allahi or Din-i-Allahi, which propounded Sufi divine monotheism. Din-i-Allahi was viewed more as an order of people with a motto of peace with all (Suleh Kul) rather than chosen religion. Birbal, Abul Fazl and Faizi joined Din-i-Allahi.
- Ralph Fitch was the first Englishman to visit Akbar's court in 1585.
- Abul Faizi wrote Akbarnama, the appendix of which was called Aina-i-Akbari. This section deals with the laws and revenue system during the reign of Akbar.

Medieval Architecture and Culture

- Babur build two mosques, one at Kabulibagh in Panipat and the other at Sambhal in Rohilakhand.
- Humayun's tomb was built by his widow Haji Begum.
- Buland Darwaja (built after Gujarat victory), formed the main entrance to Fatehpur Sikri.
- Jahangir built Moti Masjid in Lahore and his mausoleum at Shahdara (Lahore).
- The Adhai-din- ka Jhopra at Ajmer has a beautiful prayer hall, an exquisitely carved Mehrab of white marble and a decorative arch screen.

MODERN INDIA

Advent of the Europeans in India

Portuguese

- Vasco de Gama was sent in 1498 from Lisbon to find the direct Sea-route from Europe to India.

English

- English East India Company was founded in 1600 A.D. by the merchants of London, started trade with India.
- Jahangir permitted the East India Company to establish factories at several places in the empire. Gradually the company established factories at Agra, Ahmedabad, Baroda, Broach, Bombay, Surat, Madras, Masulipatnam, and different parts of Orissa, Bihar, Bengal.

French

- The French East India Company was founded in 1664 A.D.
- The French factories established in Surat and Masulipatam and also laid the foundation at Pondicherry.

Freedom Struggle

- The second half of the 19th century witnessed the full growth of an organised National Movement in India.
- The history of the Indian Nationalist Movement can be studied under three phases:
 1. Moderate phase or early nationalist phase (1885–1905)
 2. Extremist phase (1905–1919)
 3. Gandhian phase (1919–1947)

The Revolt of 1857 : At a Glance

Centre	Date of Beginning	Date of Ending	Indian Leader	British Suppressor
Delhi	11 May, 1857	20 Sep., 1857	Bahadur Shah II 'Zafar'	John Nicholson
Kanpur	4 June, 1857	6 Dec, 1857	Nana Sahib & his loyal commander Tantiya Tope	Colin Campbell
Lucknow	4 June, 1857	21 Mar, 1858	Begum Hazrat Mahal	Colin Campbell
Jhansi	4 June, 1857	18 June, 1858	Rani Laxmi Bai	Huge Rose
Allahabad	5 June, 1857	March, 1858	Liyaaqat Ali	Colonel Neil
Jagadishpur (Bihar)	Aug., 1857	Dec., 1858	Kunwar Singh & Amar Singh	William Taylor & Vineet Eyre

Indian National Congress

The foundation of Indian National Congress in 1885 was not a sudden event. It was the culmination of political awakening. It was an all India level organisation aimed at certain basic tasks and objectives. A.O. Hume was the founder of Indian National Congress.

Partition of Bengal (1905 AD.) In Bengal the nationalist feelings and anti British movement arose. Lord curzon played the policy of Divide and Rule, to crush nationalism. The government separated East Bengal which was dominated by the muslims and merged it with Assam instead of spreading non - Bengali areas from the province of Bengal. Both radicals and moderates opposed it.

Muslim league The muslim league was founded in 1906 at Dacca. It demanded for the separate electorate for muslims. This demand was later included in the government India Act 1909.

In 1907, the congress split due to differences that arose between the moderates and extremists.

Surat session (1907) In 1907 in the Surat session the differences between the liberals and the militant nationalists.



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Government of India Act, 1919

The government of India Act of 1919 incorporated the idea of a dual form of government referred as diarchy for the major provinces.

Khilafat and Non-Cooperation Movements

During 1919-22, the British were opposed through two mass movements— The Khilafat and Non Cooperation.

The British prime minister promised the muslims that sultan of Turkey would not be humiliated after the end of Ist world war. The khilafat movement aimed against the British government received the support Mahatma Gandhi.

The Swaraj Party (1923)

The suspension of Non cooperation was not liked by the extremists. In the Gaya congress C.R. Das had resigned from the members of the congress. He started Swaraj party at Allahabad.

YEAR-WISE EVENTS; IMPORTANT DATES OF INDIAN HISTORY

BC	Events
2350-1750	Indus Valley civilization.
540	Birth of Mahavir; Nirvana in 468. BC
563	Birth of Gautam Buddha; Nirvana in 483 BC
327-26	Alexander's invasion of India and the opening of land route between India and Europe.
269-232	Ashoka's reign.
261	Battle of Kalinga.
57	Beginning of Vikrama era.
AD	Events
78	Beginning of Saka era.
320	Beginning of Gupta era.
380-413	Rule of Chandragupta Vikramaditya, age of Kalidasa, renewal of Hinduism.
606-647	Rule of Harsha Vardhana.
629-645	Hieun Tsang's visit in India.
1001-27	Repeated attacks of Mahmud of Ghazni.
1025	Sacking of Somnath temple by Mahmud.
1191	First battle of Tarain in which Prithviraj Chauhan defeated Moh Ghori.
1192	Second battle of Tarain in which Mohd. Ghori defeated Prithviraj Chauhan.
1398	Timur invaded India.
1498	Vasco da Gama landed at Calicut.
1510	Portuguese captured Goa-Albuquerque Governor.
1526	First Battle of Panipat in which Babur defeated Ibrahim Lodi and established the Mughal dynasty.
1556	Second battle of Panipat in which Akbar defeated Hemu.
1565	Battle of Talikota in which Vijaynagar empire is defeated.
1576	Battle of Haldighati in which Akbar defeated Maharana Pratap.
1600	English East India Company established.
1611	The English built a factory at Masulipatnam.
1631	Death of Shahjahan's wife Mumtaz Mahal. The building of Taj Mahal.

1699	Guru Gobind Singh created 'Khalsa'.
1739	Nadir Shah invaded India; the peacock throne and the Kohinoor Diamond taken away from India.
1757	Battle of Plassey in which the English defeated "Siraj-ud-daule, Nawab of Bengal.
1761	Third Battle of Panipat in which Ahmed Shah Abdali defeated the Marathas.
1764	Battle of Buxar in which the English defeated the tripe alliance of Nawab Mir Qasim of Bengal, Nawab Shuja-ud-daula of Awadh and Mughal emperor Shah Alam.
1828	Lord William Bentinck became Governor General; Era of social reforms; Prohibition of Sati (1829), Suppression of thugs (1830).
1853	First Indian railway from Bombay to Thane.
1857-58	First war of Indian Independence.
1858	British crown took over the Indian Government; End of East India Company's rule.
1869	Birth of M.K. Gandhi.
1885	Formation of Indian National Congress.
1905	Partition of Bengal by Lord Curzon.
1906	Formation of All India Muslim League.
1909	Minto-Morley Reforms.
1911	Delhi durbar held, partition of Bengal cancelled, capital shifted from Calcutta to Delhi.
1914	World War I started
1918	End of World War I.
1919	Rowlatt Act, Jallianwala Bagh massacre, Montague-Chelmsford reforms.
1921	Moplah rebellion in Malabar; visit of Prince of Wales.
1923	Swaraj Party formed.
1927	Simon Commission appointed.
1928	Visit of Simon Commission to India, death of Lala Lajpat Rai.
1929	Congress demanded 'Poorna Swaraj' in Lahore session.
1930	January 26 celebrated as Independence Day throughout India, Dandi Salt Satyagraha, First Round Table conference.
1931	Gandhi-Irvin Pact, Second Round Table Conference.
1932	Suppression of Congress Movement, Third Round Table Conference, Communal Award, Poona Pact.
1935	Government of India Act.
1937	Inauguration of Provincial Autonomy. Congress ministries formed in 9 (7 + 2 Coalition) out of 11 provinces.
1939	Beginning of World War II. Resignation of Congress ministries.
1942	Cripps Mission Plan, Quit India Movement, Formation of Indian National Army by SC Bose.
1945	Simla conference held and the failure of Wavell Plan, INA trials at Red Fort, Delhi.
1946	Cabinet Mission Plan, Formation of Interim Government, Direct Action Resolution by Muslim League.
1947	Mountbatten Plan of June 3 in which partition of India resolution is proposed, India divided, Pakistan created, both achieved independence, Pt Jawahar Lal Nehru became the Ist Prime Minister of India.



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History Q&A

- Where is Harappa situated, according to the present map?
(a) India (b) Pakistan
(c) Afghanistan (d) China
- Copper and bronze were used to make
(a) tools (b) weapons
(c) ornaments (d) All of them
- The first metal to be used by man was
(a) bronze (b) iron
(c) copper (d) stone
- The people of Indus Valley civilisation worshipped the female form of
(a) Mother goddess (b) Laxmi
(c) Saraswati (d) Durga
- The biggest building at Mohenjodaro was the
(a) great granary (b) rectangular building
(c) great bath (d) assembly hall
- The polity of the Indus Valley people was
(a) Oligarchy (Merchants) (b) Secular federalism
(c) Theocratic federalism (d) Theocratic unitary
- Iron was brought to many civilisation by the
(a) Turks (b) Greeks
(c) Hittites (d) Huns
- The first home of the Aryans was the
(a) Punjab (b) Gujarat
(c) Rajasthan (d) Madhya Pradesh
- Agriculture was the main occupation of the
(a) Aryans (b) Kushans
(c) Guptas (d) Kushanas
- Which one of the following gives the correct chronological order of the vedas?
(a) Rigveda, Samaveda, Atharvaveda, Yajurveda
(b) Rigveda, Samaveda, Yajurveda, Atharvaveda
(c) Atharvaveda, Yajurveda, Samaveda, Rigveda
(d) Rigveda, Yajurveda, Samaveda, Atharvaveda
- Which of the following contains the Gayatri Mantra?
(a) Yajurveda (b) Rigveda
(c) Samaveda (d) Upanishad
- What is name of the form of government which ruled Magadha?
(a) Dictatorship (b) Democratic
(c) Monarchical (d) Both 'b' and 'c'
- The modern location of some old states are given below. Which is/are correctly matched?
A. Anga - Bhagalpur and Monghyr
B. Magadha - Patna and Gaya
C. Kasala - Avadh
D. Panchala - Badawn, Bareilly
E. Matsya - Allahabad
(a) All, A, B, C, D and E (b) A, B, C and D
(c) B, C, D and E (d) A, C and D
- What is meant by Janapadas?
(a) The land where the jana set its foot and settled down.
(b) The land of shudras
(c) The land of historical monuments
(d) Museums
- Ashoka was inspired by the teachings of _____.
(a) Mahavira (b) Satyakama
(c) Buddha (d) Pannini
- After the Kalinga war, Ashoka
(a) restored all the kingdoms he had conquered
(b) abandoned the policy of physical conquests in favour of cultural conquests.
(c) renounced his kingdom and became a sadhu
(d) followed the policy of physical occupation more rigorously
- How are empires different from kingdoms?
(a) Empires are larger than kingdoms
(b) Empires need more resources than kingdoms
(c) Empires need more officials who collect more taxes than Kingdoms
(d) All of them
- Where did Ashoka send his messengers to spread ideas about 'Dhamma'. Choose the correct answer from the code given below :
(i) Syria (ii) Egypt
(iii) Greece (iv) Sri Lanka
(a) Only (i) (b) Only (ii) and (iii)
(c) Only (iv) (d) All of them
- Who wrote the biography of Harshavardhana?
(a) Aryabhata (b) Kalidasa
(c) Shaka (d) Banabhatta
- What was the name of Harshavardhana's biography?
(a) Harshacharita (b) Harshamanglam
(c) Harshamanas (d) None of them
- Allora was built by
(a) Pallavas (b) Chankyas
(c) Rastrakutas (d) None of these
- Who built town of Thanjavur?
(a) Vijayalaya (b) Rajput
(c) Rajendra Chola (d) None of these
- Which changes did take place in early medieval period?
(a) Extension of agriculture
(b) Migration of forest dwellers
(c) Emergence of peasants
(d) All of the above
- When did Delhi first become capital of a kingdom?
(a) At the time of Tomar dynasty
(b) Tuglaq dynasty
(c) Lodhi dynasty
(d) None of these



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25. What was Iqta in sultanate period?
(a) Territories of land (b) A tax
(c) A form of military (d) None of these
26. Muhammad Tuglaq Transferred his capital from Delhi to
(a) Daulatabad (b) Sahibabad
(c) Firozabad (d) None of these
27. Which sultan first did campaign in South India?
(a) Alauddin Khalji (b) Raziyya
(c) Qutabdin Aibak (d) None of these
28. Under whose rule, was Ajmer the capital?
(a) Mauryas (b) Chauhans
(c) Guptas (d) Pallavas
29. Which was the most important festival celebrated at Hampi?
(a) Shivratri (b) Diwali
(c) Mahanavami (d) Holi
30. What was the capital of Maratha kingdom?
(a) Poona (b) Nagpur
(c) Bombay (d) Nasik
31. Dual Administration was established in Bengal by
(a) Clive (b) Warren Hastings
(c) Wellesley (d) Dalhousie
32. Which of the following statements was not a feature of the Permanent Settlement Act?
(a) Zamindars were made the legal proprietor of the land
(b) Most of the landlords did not take interest in the improvement of land
(c) State was assured of a fixed income
(d) One-sixth of the produce was given to the Govt
33. Who introduced 'Permanent Settlement' in Bengal?
(a) Lord Bentinck (b) Lord Cornwallis
(c) Lord Wellesley (d) Lord Hastings
34. The English East India Company's first presidency in India was at
(a) Hooghly (b) Surat
(c) Madras (d) Masulipatnam
35. The battle of Plassey(1757) was fought between
(a) Tipu Sultan and East India Company
(b) Haider Ali and East India Company
(c) Siraj-ud-Daulah and East India Company
(d) Mir Qasim, Shiraj-ud-Daulah and East India Company
36. Which of the following was twice made the Nawab of Bengal by the East India Company?
(a) Siraj-ud-Daula (b) Sah Alam II
(c) Mir Qasim (d) Mir Jafar
37. The Supreme Court in British India was established under:
(a) The Charter Act of 1813 (b) The Charter Act of 1833
(c) Regulating Act of 1773 (d) Pitt's India Act of 1784
38. The founder of the kingdom of Awadh was
(a) Safdarjang (b) Saddat Khan
(c) Shuja-ud-daula (d) Asaf-ud-daula
39. The real founder of the British Empire in India was
(a) Chve (b) Warren Hastings
(c) Wellesley (d) Dalhousie
40. With whom was the Ryotwari Settlement made?
(a) The Zamindars (b) The Cultivators
(c) The Village communities (d) The Muqaddars
41. Raja Ram Mohan Roy favoured the banning of
(a) Child marriages (b) Caste system
(c) Sati (d) Widow exploitation
42. The Home Rule League was organised by
(a) Mahatma Gandhi (b) Dr. Annie Besant
(c) Lala Lajpat Rai (d) Sir Syed Ahmed Khan
43. William Jones founded the following society in 1789
(a) The Asiatic Society (b) The Bombay Society
(c) The Indian Society (d) Calcutta Society
44. The first Indian newspaper to be printed was
(a) The Times of India (b) Kesari
(c) Bengal Gazette (d) None of these
45. The founder of Ramakrishna mission was
(a) Vivekanand
(b) Ramakrishna Paramhansa
(c) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
(d) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
46. The founder of the Ahmediya movement was
(a) Sir Syed Ahmed Khan (b) Malviya Chirag Ali
(c) Mirza Ghulam Ahmed (d) Shaukat Ali
47. Match column I with column II and select the correct answer using the code given below the columns.
- | | Column I | | Column II |
|-----|--------------------------|---|--|
| I | Raja Ram Mohan Roy | A | Used the ancient texts to suggest that widows could remarry |
| II | Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar | B | Founded the reform association called Arya Samaj |
| III | Jyotirao Phule | C | Protested against the practice of Sati and was able to finally ban it |
| IV | Swami Dayanand Saraswati | D | Founded the association Satyashodhak Samaj to propagate caste equality |
- (a) I - C; II - A; III - B; IV - D
(b) I - A; II - B; III - C; IV - D
(c) I - C; II - A; III - D; IV - B
(d) I - D; II - C; III - B; IV - A
48. The War of Independence of 1857 failed because
(a) The revolution was not well organised
(b) It was not supported by public
(c) There were differences of opinions
(d) All of these
49. The revolt of 1857 broke out for an immediate cause
(a) a British interfered by introducing new social reforms like widow remarriage act 1856
(b) banning sati and child marriage
(c) greasing of the cartridges in the new enfield rifle with the fats of cows and pigs.
(d) banning polygamy



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50. Who was the Governor General when the 1857 revolt broke out?
(a) Canning (b) Hastings
(c) Dalhousie (d) Curzon
51. Which of the following was one of the major political causes of the revolt of 1857?
(a) The withdrawal of the pension of Nana Sahib
(b) Lord Dalhousie's policy of discriminate annexation and Doctrine of Lapse
(c) The absence of sovereignty of British rule in India
(d) After the defeat of the Sikhs and annexation of the Punjab, the properties of the Lahore, Durbar were auctioned and the Kohinoor was sent to England
52. Bengal was divided during the Governner-Generalship of
(a) Lord Warren Hastings (b) Lord Canning
(c) Lord Curzon (d) Lord Hardings
53. The Government of India Act, 1919 was based on
(a) Simon Commission
(b) Nehru's report
(c) Montagu Chelmsford Report
(d) Minto-Morley Reforms
54. The Indian National Congress was founded by
(a) Sir A.O. Hume (b) Lokmanya Tilak
(c) Gopal Krishna Gokhale (d) Mahatma Gandhi
55. The Conference in which the congress was divided into two camps-Extremist and Liberal was held in
(a) Mumbai (b) Surat
(c) Kolkata (d) Lahore
56. The way which Gandhi adopted for Non-co-operation movement was
(a) to inspire army to revolt against British Government
(b) to provoke public for violence
(c) to make people agree to surrender their titles and resign from Government jobs with peaceful means
(d) to instruct the leaders to oppose the Government in Parliament
57. The Sati Pratha was declared illegal during the Governor Generalship of
(a) William Bentinck (b) Dalhousie
(c) Canning (d) Cornwallis
58. The Civil Disobedience Movement was started with the action that
(a) the people offered themselves to be sent to jail
(b) the Government was compelled to call Round Table Conference
(c) the meeting was held against the Government
(d) Gandhiji acted against Salt Act
59. The Forward Block was formed by
(a) Subhash Chandra Bose
(b) C.R. Dass
(c) Bal Ganga Dhar Tilak
(d) Gopal Krishan Gokhale
60. The Revolutionary who threw a bomb in the Assembly was
(a) Chandra Shekhar Azad
(b) Bhagat Singh
(c) Ram Prasad Bismil
(d) Sukh Dev
61. The Swaraja Party was organised by
(a) Lala Lajpat Rai and Feroz Shah Mehta
(b) Sarojini Naidu and Annie Besant
(c) C. R. Das and Motilal Nehru
(d) C. Rajagopalachari and C.Y. Chintamani
62. The Khilafat Movement was organised to protest against the injustice done to
(a) Egypt (b) Arabia
(c) Persia (d) Turkey
63. Which one of the following is incorrectly matched?
(a) Bhagat Singh : Merrut Conspiracy Case
(b) Ram Prasad Bismil : Kakori Conspiracy Case
(c) Chandra Shekhar Azad : New Delhi Conspiracy Case
(d) Surya Sen : Chittagong Armoury Raid
64. Who among the following did not attend the First Round Table Conference?
(a) M.K. Gandhi (b) Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru
(c) Dr. Ambedkar (d) C.Y. Chintamani
65. Who led the Bardoli Satyagraha in 1928?
(a) Morarji Desai (b) M.K. Gandhi
(c) Mahadev Desai (d) Vallabhbhai Patel
66. Railway and telegraph systems were introduced in India by
(a) Lord Cornwallis (b) Lord Dalhousie
(c) Lord Wellesley (d) Lord Bentinck
67. The interim Government formed in India in 1946 was headed by
(a) C. Rajagopalachari (b) Mahatma Gandhi
(c) Jawaharlal Nehru (d) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
68. "Do or Die" was the slogan which Mahatma Gandhi gave during the
(a) Quit India Movement
(b) Non-Cooperation Movement
(c) Khilafat agitation
(d) Civil Disobedience Movement
69. Hunter Commission was appointed by the British Government to probe into
(a) Chauri Chaura incident
(b) Demolition of Kanpur Mosque
(c) Jalianwalla Bagh massacre
(d) Kakori train dacoity incident
70. The moderate congress leaders demanded
(a) no separation but representation
(b) immediate end of British rule in India
(c) end of racial discrimination
(d) introduction of English education



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71. The Lahore session of the Congress in 1929 decided to
(a) launch civil disobedience movement
(b) to struggle for freedom
(c) attainment of complete independence
(d) None of these
72. The Quit India Movement was organised on
(a) June, 1941 (b) 8 August, 1942
(c) July, 1943 (d) July 1946
73. The first split in Congress took place in 1907 in
(a) Calcutta (b) Allahabad
(c) Madras (d) Surat
74. The Muslim League demanded partition in
(a) 1906 (b) 1936
(c) 1940 (d) 1942
75. Who among the following belonged to the moderate group of the Indian National Congress?
(a) Lala Lajpat Rai (b) Bipan Chandra Pal
(c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak (d) Gopal Krishna Gokhale
76. Jallianwala Bagh massacre took place in the city of?
(a) Agra (b) Meerut
(c) Amritsar (d) Lahore
77. The slogan 'Inquilab Zindabad' was raised by
(a) Subhash Chandra Bose
(b) Bhatgat Singh
(c) Mahatma Gandhi
(d) Jawaharlal Nehru
78. What amongst the following were the main problems of India just after independence?
(I) Refugees (II) Education
(III) Princely states (IV) Poverty
(a) I and III are correct (b) II, III and I are correct
(c) Only II is correct (d) All are correct
79. Which of the following statements regarding the Nehru Report are correct?
1. It favoured Dominion Status.
2. It favoured a federal system.
3. It rejected the system of Communal Electorate.
4. It was against the setting up of a Supreme Court.
Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:
Codes:
(a) I and IV (b) I and III
(c) I, III and IV (d) I, II and III
80. Which one of the following is considered the Magna Carta of the Indian people?
(a) The Government of India Act, 1858
(b) The Ilbert Bill
(c) Indian Councils Act of a 1892
(d) Queen Victoria's Proclamation
81. During indian freedom struggle, which one of the following happened earliest?
(a) Simon Commission
(b) Gaya Session of Congress
(c) Tripuri Session of congress
(d) Gandhi-Irwin Pact
82. The Mansabdari System introduced by Akbar was borrowed from the system followed in
(a) Afghanistan (b) Turkey
(c) Mongolia (d) Persia
83. Gulf war was fought between
(a) Iran and Iraq (b) Iraq and Israel
(c) Iraq and America
(d) Iraq, America & Allied forces
84. Mention the most important social issue taken up by Gandhiji for reforms
(a) Religion (b) Cast
(c) Women's status (d) Orthodoxy in Hinduism
85. From which one of the following did Kosovo declare its independence ?
(a) Bulgaria (b) Croatia
(c) Macedonia (d) Serbia
86. With which of the following is 'Boston tea party' associated?
(a) Glorious revolution
(b) French revolution
(c) Russian revolution
(d) American war of Independence
87. In 305 BC, which Maurya ruler defeated Alexander's general Seleucus Nicator and received the territories of Kabul and Balochistan ?
(a) Bindusara (b) Ashok the Great
(c) Chandragupta Maurya (d) Dasharatha Maurya
88. In the context of the Indian freedom struggle, 16 October 1905 is well known for which one of the following reasons?
(a) The formal proclamation of Swadeshi Movement was made in Calcutta town hall
(b) Partition of Bengal took effect
(c) Dadabhai Naoroji declared that the goal of Indian National Congress was Swaraj
(d) Lokmanya Tilak started Swadeshi Movement in Poona
89. When was the first atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima?
(a) August 6, 1945 (b) August 8, 1942
(c) August 9, 1945 (d) August 9, 1944
90. Sultan Muhammad Quli Qutub Shah was the contemporary of
(a) Akbar (b) Aurangzeb
(c) Shahjahan (d) Muhammad Shah
91. The Indus Valley Civilization was famous for
(a) Well-planned cities
(b) Efficient civil organization
(c) Development of Art and Architecture
(d) All of these
92. Which one of the following began with the Dandi March ?
(a) Home Rule Movement
(b) Non-Cooperation Movement
(c) Civil Disobedience Movement
(d) Quit India Movement

93. Which one of the following settlements comprised Zamindar as middleman to collect the land revenue ?
 (a) Mahalwari Settlement (b) Ryotwari Settlement
 (c) Permanent Settlement (d) None of these
94. Consider the following statements :
 1. The discussions in the Third Round Table Conference eventually led to the passing of the Government of India Act of 1935.
 2. The Government of India Act of 1935 provided for the establishment of an All India Federation to be based on a Union of the provinces of British India and the Princely States.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?
 (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
95. The Sun Temple of Konark was built by Narasimhadeva I. To which dynasty did he belong to?
 (a) Somavamsi dynasty
 (b) Imperial Ganga dynasty
 (c) Suryavamsi Gajapati dynasty
 (d) Bhoi dynasty
96. What was the main difference between the Indus Valley Civilization and Vedic Civilization?
 (a) Indus Valley Civilization was urban, while the Vedic Civilization was rural.
 (b) "Pipal" tree was worshiped in Indus Valley Civilization, while "Burgad" tree was worshiped in Vedic Civilization.
 (c) The main emphasis in Indus Valley Civilization was on trade while in the Vedic Age was on religion.
 (d) Indus Valley Civilization believed in non-violence while Vedic Civilization had no hard and fast rules about violence.
97. Which one of the following is correctly matched?
 (a) Second Battle of Panipat - Akbar and Ibrahim Lodi
 (b) Battle of Khanwa - Akbar and Rana Sanga
 (c) Battle of Chausa - Humayun and Sher Shah
 (d) First battle of Tarian - Mahmud Ghaznavi and Prithviraj Chauhan
98. Who had demarcated the border-line between India and Pakistan?
 (a) McMohan (b) Lord Durand
 (c) Redcliffe (d) None of these
99. In Indian history, who was Abdul Hamid Lahori?
 (a) An important military commander during Akbar's reign
 (b) An official historian of the reign of Shah Jahan
 (c) An important noble and confidant of Aurangzeb
 (d) A chronicler and poet during the reign of Muhammad Shah
100. The parleys between the Prime Ministers Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Indira Gandhi, so much referred to in world politics, were held at
 (a) Manali (b) Rawalpindi
 (c) Shimla (d) Islamabad
101. Which one of the following is not related to the continuing turmoil in Bosnia?
 (a) Serbs (b) Muslims
 (c) Jews (d) Croats
102. The Gulf war of 1991 was precipitated by the Iraqi annexation of
 (a) Bahrain (b) Kuwait
 (c) Saudi Arabia (d) South Yemen
103. Who wrote 'Indian War of Independence, 1857'?
 (a) R.C Majumdar (b) V.D. Savarkar
 (c) S.B. Chaudhary (d) S.N. Sen
104. Dalhousie's worst political blunder was ___?
 (a) Annexation of Punjab
 (b) Occupation of lower Burma
 (c) Abolition of the 'Doctrine of Lapse'
 (d) Annexation of Oudh
105. The Congress is in reality a civil war without arms. The above statement was made by ___?
 (a) W. Wedderburn
 (b) Sir Saiyid Ahmad Khan
 (c) D.W. Bethune
 (d) Lord Dufferin
106. The Governor General of India at the time of foundation of Indian National Congress was ___?
 (a) Lord Chelmsford (b) Lord Dalhousie
 (c) Lord Dufferin (d) None of these
107. Which was the only session of Indian National Congress, presided by Mahatma Gandhi?
 (a) Allahabad (b) Guwahati
 (c) Belgaum (d) Kakinada
108. President of Indian National Congress at the time of independence was ___?
 (a) J. B. Kripalani
 (b) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
 (c) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
 (d) Jawahar Lal Nehru
109. The Grand Old Man of Indian politics was ___?
 (a) Bipin Chandra Pal
 (b) Dadabhai Naoroji
 (c) Surendra Nath Bannerjee
 (d) Rasbehari Bose
110. Gandhi's Dandi March is associated with which among the following movements?
 (a) Partition of Bengal
 (b) Khilafat Movement
 (c) Non-cooperation Movement
 (d) Civil Disobedience Movement



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Answer Keys

1	(b)	14	(a)	27	(a)	40	(b)	53	(c)	66	(b)	79	(d)	92	(c)	105	(b)
2	(d)	15	(c)	28	(b)	41	(c)	54	(a)	67	(c)	80	(d)	93	(c)	106	(c)
3	(c)	16	(b)	29	(c)	42	(b)	55	(b)	68	(a)	81	(a)	94	(c)	107	(c)
4	(a)	17	(d)	30	(a)	43	(a)	56	(c)	69	(c)	82	(c)	95	(c)	108	(b)
5	(c)	18	(d)	31	(a)	44	(c)	57	(a)	70	(a)	83	(d)	96	(a)	109	(b)
6	(a)	19	(a)	32	(d)	45	(a)	58	(d)	71	(c)	84	(b)	97	(c)	110	(d)
7	(c)	20	(d)	33	(b)	46	(b)	59	(a)	72	(b)	85	(d)	98	(c)		
8	(a)	21	(c)	34	(b)	47	(c)	60	(b)	73	(d)	86	(d)	99	(d)		
9	(a)	22	(a)	35	(c)	48	(d)	61	(c)	74	(c)	87	(c)	100	(c)		
10	(d)	23	(d)	36	(d)	49	(c)	62	(d)	75	(d)	88	(b)	101	(c)		
11	(b)	24	(a)	37	(c)	50	(a)	63	(c)	76	(b)	89	(a)	102	(b)		
12	(c)	25	(a)	38	(b)	51	(b)	64	(a)	77	(b)	90	(d)	103	(b)		
13	(b)	26	(a)	39	(a)	52	(c)	65	(d)	78	(a)	91	(d)	104	(d)		

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