

9/04/19

Chapter - 1 Tracing Changes through a thousand years

Short notes:-

- 1) Cartographer - A person who make maps.
- 2) Hindustan - The term 'Hindustan' today we understand it as 'India', the modern nation-state. When the term was used in the thirteenth century by 'Minhaj-i-Siraj', a chronicler who wrote in Persian, he meant the areas of Punjab, Haryana and the lands between the Ganga and Yamuna.
- 3) Archives - A place where documents are kept and manuscripts are stored. Today all national and state governments have archives where they keep all their old official records and transactions.
- 4) Manuscripts - Hand written books are called manuscripts.
- 5) Scribe - The person who copied manuscripts is called scribe.
- 6) Sources by which we know about medieval history or period —
 - i) A coins.
 - ii) Inscriptions.



(iii) Architecture.

(iv) Textual records.

7) Innovation - Persian wheel in irrigation, spinning wheel in weaving

Fire arms in combat

New food and beverages — potatoes, corn, chillies, tea and coffee.

Social Groups

1) Rajputs - They were known for their bravery and royalty.

2) Marathas.

3) Sikhs

4) Jats

5) Khons.

6) Kayasthas (a caste of scribes)

Answer the following questions:-

Ques:1 Who was considered a "foreigner" in the past?

who appeared say in a given village, someone who was not a part of that society or culture. In Hindi, the term 'pardesi' might be used to describe such a person and in Persian, 'ajnabi'.

Ques:2 List some of the technological changes associated with this period.

Ans:2 At different moments in this period new technologies made their appearance — like the Persian wheel in irrigation, the spinning wheel in weaving, and firearms in combat.

Ques:3 What were some of the major religious developments during this period?

Ans:3 Major religious developments of this period are the inclusion of new deities in Hinduism, an emergence of Bhakti and the introduction of Islam.

Ques:4 In what ways has the meaning of the term "Hindustan" changed over the centuries?

Ans:4 The term "Hindustan" today we understand it as 'India', the modern nation-state. When the term was used in the thirteenth century by Minhaj-i-Siraj, a chronicler who wrote in Persian, he meant the areas of Punjab, Haryana and the lands between the Ganga and Yamuna.



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Ques: How were the affairs of jatis regulated?

Ans: The affairs of jatis were regulated by an assembly of elders which was also known as jati panchayat in some areas.

Ques: What does the term pan-regional mean?

Ans: The term pan-regional ~~mean~~ empire stands for an empire that encompasses several regions. The ~~ex~~ example of pan-regional empire include the Mughal empire, the Chola empire, the Tughlucks and Khajiro empire.

Ques: What are the difficulties historians face in using manuscripts?

Ans: There was no printing press in medieval period so scribes copied manuscripts by hand. As scribes copied manuscripts they also introduced small changes - a word here, a sentence there. These small differences grew over centuries of copying until manuscript of the same text became substantially different from one another. This is a serious problem because we rarely find the original manuscript of the author today. As a result, historians have to read different versions of the same text to guess what the author had originally written.

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