

IASbaba's Daily Prelims Test [Day 56]

TOPIC: MEDIEVAL HISTORY & CULTURE

1. Which of the following major works deals with temple architectures?

1. Mayamata
2. Manasara
3. Shilparatna
4. Kashyapashilpa

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 3 and 4 only
3. 2, 3 and 4 only
4. All the above

Ans: (4)

Explanation:

Prominent 'shilpashastras' that deals with the subject of temple architecture are,

1. Mayamata
2. Manasara
3. Shilparatna
4. Kashyapashilpa
5. Kamikagama
6. Ishanagurudevapaddhati

2. Match the following terms used in revenue administration of sultanate during 13h century with their correct meaning.

Revenue terms	Meaning
1. Khalisa	i. Land revenue
2. Kharaj	ii. New cesses
3. Abwab	iii. Agricultural loans
4. Sondhar	iv. Crown land

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

1. 1-iv, 2-iii, 3-ii, 4-i
2. 1-iv, 2-i, 3-ii, 4-iii
3. 1-ii, 2-i, 3-iv, 4-iii
4. 1-i, 2-ii, 3-iv, 4-iii

Ans: (2)

Explanation:

Khalisa was the crown land whose land revenue was reserved for sultan's treasury.

3. Which of the following events are associated with Muhammad bin Tughlaq?

1. Transfer of Capital from Delhi to Devagiri (Daulatabad).
2. Introduction of a token currency.
3. Increased land revenue on the farmers of Doab (land between Ganges and Yamuna rivers).
4. Launch of a scheme by which *takkavi* loans (loans for cultivation) were given to the farmers to buy seed and to extend cultivation.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1, 2 and 3 only
3. 1, 2 and 4 only
4. All the above

Ans: (4)

Explanation:

Muhammad bin Tughlaq wanted to make Devagiri his second capital so that he might be able to control South India better. In 1327 he made extensive preparations for the transfer of royal household and the ulemas and Sufis from Delhi to Devagiri, which was renamed as Daulatabad.

In 1329-30 Muhammad bin Tughlaq introduced a token currency. There was a shortage of silver throughout the world in the fourteenth century. Kublai Khan issued paper money in China. In the same manner, Muhammad bin Tughlaq issued copper coins at par with the value of the silver *tanka* coins.

The failure of these two experiments affected the prestige of the Sultan and enormous money was wasted. In order to overcome financial difficulties, Muhammad bin Tughlaq increased the land revenue on the farmers of Doab (land between Ganges and Yamuna rivers). It was an excessive and arbitrary step on the farmers. A severe famine was also ravaging that region at that time. It had resulted in a serious peasant revolts.

However, the Sultan realized later that adequate relief measures and the promotion of agriculture were the real solution to the problem. He launched a scheme by which *takkavi* loans (loans for cultivation) were given to the farmers to buy seed and to extend cultivation.

4. Consider the following statements regarding the teachings of Ramanuja acharya.

1. Individual soul created by god out of his own essence, returns to its maker and lives with him forever but remains always distinct.
2. He did not accept that god may be exempt from form and qualities.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (3)

Explanation:

Individual soul created by god out of his own essence, returns to its maker and lives with him forever but remains always distinct. This is known as 'Vishishtadvaita' (Qualified monism).

Ramanuja did not accept that god may be exempt from form and qualities. For him salvation could be attained through devotion and Bhakti.

5. Consider the following statements regarding 'monotheistic movement' of medieval India.

1. Monotheists led a vigorous ideological assault on caste system and idolatry.
2. Monotheistic saints were ascetics.
3. They rejected authority of Brahmanas and their religious scriptures.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. All the above

Ans: (2)

Explanation:

Most of the monotheistic saints were not ascetics. They led worldly life and were married. They lived and preached among people.

6. Consider the following statements regarding Vaishnava Bhakti movement in Bengal.

1. Vaishnava Bhakti movement in Bengal was different from that of south and north India.
2. Vaishnava Bhakti movement in Bengal was influenced by Bhagavata purana, Sahajiya Buddhist and nathapanti traditions.

Which of the above statements is/are not correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (4)

Explanation:

Vaishnava Bhakti movement in Bengal was different from that of south and north India. It was influenced by Bhagavata purana (glorification of krishnalila) on one hand and Sahajiya Buddhist and nathapanti traditions on the other.

7. Sufi movement was never static. New features were emerged in Sufism especially during the period 10th-12th century. Which of the following is/are correct regarding those features?

1. Emergence Sufi poetry in Persian.
2. Appearance of Sufi literary texts which argued and codified Sufi ideas and doctrines.
3. Ulemas began to accept Sufi ideas.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

1. 1 only
2. 3 only
3. 1 and 2 only
4. 1 and 3 only

Ans: (3)

Explanation:

Ulemas continued to show their suspicion towards Sufism.

Sufi literary texts which argued and codified Sufi ideas and doctrines were appeared during this period. Eg: celebrated manual 'Kashful Mahjub' by Al-Hujwiri.

8. Consider the following statements regarding basic elements of Vijayanagara style of architecture.

1. Use of pillars for architectural as well as decorative purpose.
2. Use of huge reverse curve eaves at the cornice.
3. The shaft become a central core with which is attached an upraised animal of a super natural kind resembling a horse.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 2 and 3 only
3. 3 only
4. All the above

Ans: (4)

Explanation:

All the three statements are correct.

9. 'Zabti System' was an important part of revenue administration under Akbar. Consider the following statements regarding Zabti system.

1. It involved measurement of land.
2. Fixed cash revenue rate known as 'Dastur' for each crop.
3. All revenue collections were made in cash.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

1. 1 and 2 only
2. 1 and 3 only
3. 2 and 3 only
4. All the above

Ans: (4)

Explanation:

These three statements are the main features of zabti system.

10. Humayun's tomb is a landmark in the development of Mughal style of architecture. Consider the following statements regarding Humayun's tomb.

1. It is one of the earliest specimens of garden enclosure.
2. Tomb is octagonal in plan and is crowned by a high dome.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

1. 1 only
2. 2 only
3. Both 1 and 2
4. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (3)

Explanation:

It is one of the earliest specimens of garden enclosure and is raised on an arcaded sandstone platform.

Tomb is octagonal in plan and is crowned by a high dome, which is actually a double dome.