



# Ancient History

## Previous Years Questions Compilation

### UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2020

1. Which of the following phrases defines the nature of the 'Hundi' generally referred to in the sources of the post-Harsha period?

- (a) An advisory issued by the king to his subordinates
- (b) A diary to be maintained for daily accounts
- (c) A bill of exchange**
- (d) An order from the feudal lord to his subordinates

2. Who among the following rulers advised his subjects through this inscription?

"Whosoever praises his religious sect or blames other sects out of excessive devotion to his own sect, with the view of glorifying his own sect, he rather injures his own sect very severely."

- (a) Ashoka**
- (b) Samudragupta
- (c) Harshavardhana
- (a) Krishnadeva Raya

3. With reference to the period of the Gupta dynasty in ancient India, the towns Ghantasala, Kadura and Chaul were well known as

- (a) ports handling foreign trade**
- (b) capitals of powerful kingdoms
- (c) places of exquisite stone art and architecture
- (d) important Buddhist pilgrimage centres



## UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2019

1. Which one of the following is not a Harappan site?

- (a) Chanhudaro
- (b) Kot Diji
- (c) Sohgaora**
- (d) Desalpur

2. With reference to forced labour (Vishti) in India during the Gupta period, which one of the following statements is correct?

- (a) It was considered a source of income for the State, a sort of tax paid by the people.**
- (b) It was totally absent in the Madhya Pradesh and Kathiawar regions of the Gupta Empire.
- (c) The forced labourer was entitled to weekly wages.
- (d) The eldest son of the labourer was sent as the forced labourer.

UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2018

With reference to Indian history, who among the following is a future Buddha, yet to come to save the world?

- (a) Avalokiteshvara
- (b) Lokeshvara
- (c) Maitreya**
- (d) Padmapani



## UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2017

With reference to the difference between the culture of Rigvedic Aryans and Indus Valley people, which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (1) Rigvedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare whereas the people of Indus Valley Civilization did not leave any evidence of using them.
- (2) Rigvedic Aryans knew gold, silver and copper whereas Indus Valley people knew only copper and iron.
- (3) Rigvedic Aryans had domesticated the horse whereas there is no evidence of Indus Valley people having been aware of this animal.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

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



## UPSC CSE PRELIMS 2020

1. Which one of the following books of Ancient India has the love story of the son of the founder of the Sunga Dynasty?

- (a) Swapnavasavadatta
- (b) **Malvikagnimitra**
- (c) Meghadoota
- (d) Ratnavali

2. In the context of the history of India, consider the following pairs:

<b>Term</b>	<b>Description</b>
1. Eripatti	Land, revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank
2. Taniyurs	Villages donated to a single Brahmin or a group of Brahmins
3. Ghatikas	Colleges generally attached to the temples

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

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