

Tracing Changes Through a Thousand Years

III. Short Answer Type Questions:

Q1. How does geography influence the history of a region?

Ans. 1:- Geography influences the history of a region in following ways:

- (i) Development:- Geography determines the development of a particular area. The areas with appropriate location, rich in natural resources, good relief features are highly developed.
- (ii) Effect on Population:- The area where environment is favourable are densely populated. In the areas with unfavourable environment are sparsely populated.
- (iii) Effect on Culture:- In the areas with dense population, their cultures are also affected by outside influences or foreign travellers. The culture that develops in sparsely populated areas is not much affected by outside influences.

Q2. Describe any two archeological sources of the Medieval Period in India.

Ans. 2:- The archeological sources of the Medieval Period in India are:

- (i) Buildings or Monuments:-
 - (a) Any building that has historical significance is considered to be a monument.
 - (b) The buildings maybe in the form of temples, forts, palaces, etc.
 - (c) For example: Red Fort, Qutb Minar, Buland Darwaza, Taj Mahal, etc.
- (ii) Paintings and other Artefacts:-
 - (a) Paintings tell us about the customs, food habits, dresses and ornaments of a particular period.
 - (b) Other artefacts include sculptures, pottery, ornaments, etc. which give valuable information about a time period.

(c) Painting of court of Akbar from Akbarnama.

Q3. Describe some important chronicles of history during the Medieval Period in India.

Ans. 3:- Some important chronicles of Medieval Period in India are as follows:

- (i) Rajatarangini, a Sanskrit composition by Kalhana. This comprises history of the kings of Kashmir.
- (ii) Tarikh-i-Firoz Shahi by Zia-ud-Din Barni. It comprises the history of the Sultans of Delhi.
- (iii) Khazain-ul-futuh and Tughluqnama by Amir Khusrau.

Q4. "The Medieval Period was marked by significant changes in religious conditions of India." Discuss.

Ans. 4:- The significant changes in religious condition of India during the medieval period were as follows:

- (i) The emergence of the idea of Bhakti was one of the major changes.
- (ii) Bhakti did not require any middle man or a priest and elaborate rituals.
- (iii) Bhakti movement attracted people of all sections of society.
- (iv) During this period a new religion, Islam appeared in the sub-continent.
- (v) Later Muslim community split into two major sects - Shia and Sunni.