



Drishti IAS Presents...

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Detailed
Explanation

Answers

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1. Ans: C

Exp:

About Konyaks:

- The **Konyak are the largest tribe**, followed by Ao, Tangkhul, Sema, and Angami in Nagaland. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Other Naga tribes include Lotha, Sangtam, Phom, Chang, Khiemnungam, Yimchungre, Zeliang, Chakhesang (Chokri), and Rengma.
- The term 'Konyak' is believed to have been derived from the words 'Whao' meaning 'head' and 'Nyak' meaning 'black' translating to 'men with black hair'.
- They can be grouped into two groups, namely 'Thendu', which means the 'Tattooed Face' and 'Thenthoh', meaning the 'White face'
- The three most significant festivals were Aolingmonyu, Aonyimo and Laoun-ongmo.
 - ◆ **Aolingmonyu** is celebrated in the first week of April after sowing of seeds, and this marks the beginning of a new year. Its religious significance is to appease God for a prosperous harvest. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The Aonyimo is celebrated in July or August after the harvest of the first crops such as maize and vegetables.
 - ◆ The **Laoun-ongmo** is a thanks-giving festival and is celebrated after all agricultural activities are completed.

2. Ans: A

Exp:

Jagannath Temple:

- temple is believed to have been constructed in the 12th century by **King Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva** of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Jagannath Puri temple is called 'Yamanika Tirtha' where, according to the Hindu beliefs, the power of 'Yama', the god of death has been nullified in Puri due to the presence of Lord Jagannath.
- This temple was called the "**White Pagoda**" and is a part of Char Dham pilgrimages (Badrinath, Dwaraka, Puri, Rameswaram). **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ The **Sun Temple of Konark was once called the Black Pagoda** by the sailors because it was supposed to draw ships into the shore and cause shipwrecks.

- There are four gates to the temple- Eastern 'Singhdwara' which is the main gate with two crouching lions, Southern 'Ashwadwara', Western 'Vyaghra Dwara' and Northern 'Hastidwara'. There is a carving of each form at each gate.
- In front of the entrance stands the Aruna stambha or sun pillar, which was originally at the Sun Temple in Konark.



3. Ans: B

Exp:

Ancient Civilizations and their Locations:

- **Maya Civilization- Mexico. Hence option B is Correct.**
- The Incan Civilization- Ecuador, Peru, and Chile
- The Aztec Civilization- Mexico
- The Roman Civilization- Rome
- The Persian Civilization- Iran
- The Ancient Greek Civilization- Greece
- The Chinese Civilization- China
- The Ancient Egyptian Civilization- Egypt
- The Indus Valley Civilization- Northeast Afghanistan to Pakistan and northwest India
- The Mesopotamian Civilization- Iraq, Syria, and Turkey

4. Ans: B

Exp:

Guru Gobind Singh:

- The **last of the ten Sikh Gurus**, Guru Gobind Singh was born on 22nd December 1666 in Patna, Bihar. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- His birth anniversary is based on the Nanakshahi calendar.
- He became the Sikh guru at the age of nine, following the demise of his father, Guru Tegh Bahadur, the ninth Sikh Guru. He was assassinated in 1708.
- He is known for his significant contributions to the Sikh religion, including the introduction of the turban to cover hair.
- He also **founded the principles of Khalsa** or the Five 'K's.

◆ The Five K's are kesh (uncut hair), kanga (wooden comb), kara (iron or steel bracelet), kirpan (dagger) and kachera (short breeches). **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

◆ These were the five articles of faith that a Khalsa must always adorn.

- He also laid down many other rules for the Khalsa warriors to follow like abstaining from tobacco, alcohol, halal meat, etc. The Khalsa warrior was also duty-bound to protect innocent people from persecution.
- He named Guru Granth Sahib, the religious text of the Khalsas and the Sikhs, as the next Guru of the two communities.

5. Ans: D

Exp:

Kathak:

- The word Kathak has been derived from the word Katha which means a story. It is primarily performed in Northern India.
- It was **primarily a temple or village performance** wherein the dancers **narrated stories from ancient scriptures**. It is one of the classical dances of India. **Hence Statement 1 is correct.**
- **Kathak began evolving into a distinct mode of dance** in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries **with the spread of the Bhakti movement**. **Hence Statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The legends of Radha-Krishna were enacted in folk plays called rasa lila, which combined folk dance with the basic gestures of the kathak story-tellers.
 - ◆ Under the Mughal emperors and their nobles, Kathak was performed in the court, where it acquired its present features and developed into a form of dance with a distinctive style.
 - ◆ Under the patronage of Wajid Ali Shah, the last Nawab of Awadh, it grew into a major art form.

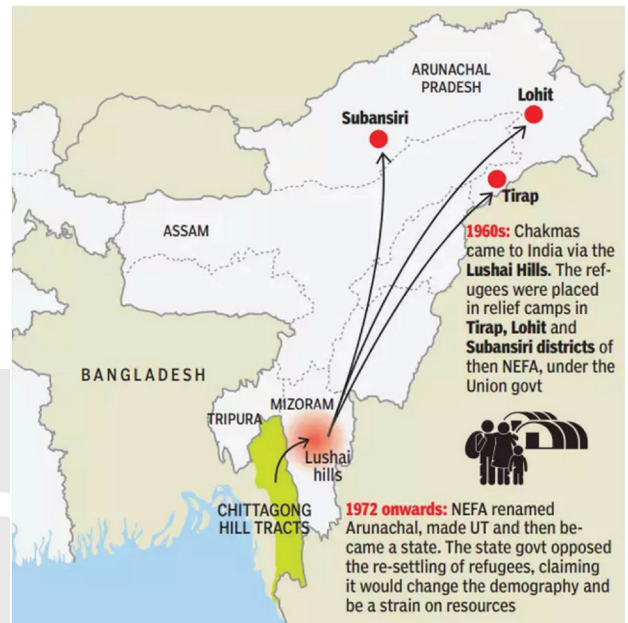
6. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Chakmas and Hajongs:**
 - ◆ Mizoram and Tripura have a sizable population of the **Buddhist Chakmas** while the **Hindu Hajongs** **mostly inhabit the Garo Hills of Meghalaya** and adjoining areas of Assam. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ The Chakmas and Hajongs of Arunachal Pradesh are migrants from the Chittagong Hill Tracts of erstwhile East Pakistan, now Bangladesh. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

◆ Displaced by the Kaptai dam on the Karnaphuli River in the 1960s, they sought asylum in India and were settled in relief camps in the southern and south-eastern parts of Arunachal Pradesh from 1964 to 1969.

- A majority of them live in the **Changlang district of the State (Arunachal Pradesh)** today.



7. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Anglo-Mysore Wars** was a series of four military confrontations in India between the British and the rulers of Mysore.
 - ◆ The British saw Haidar and Tipu as ambitious, arrogant and dangerous – rulers who had to be controlled and crushed.
- Four wars were fought with Mysore.
 - ◆ **1767-69: Treaty of Madras.**
 - ◆ **1780-84: Treaty of Mangalore. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ 1790-92: Treaty of Seringapatam.
 - ◆ 1799: Subsidiary Alliance.
- **Only in the last – the Battle of Seringapatam – did the Company ultimately win a victory.** Tipu Sultan was killed defending his capital Seringapatam. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Mysore was placed under the former ruling dynasty of the Wodeyars and a subsidiary alliance was imposed on the state.

8. Ans: D

Exp:

- Hindi got its name from the Persian word **Hind**, meaning 'land of the Indus River'. Turk invaders in the early 11th century named the language of the region Hindi, 'language of the land of the Indus River'.
 - ◆ It is the official language of India, English being the other official language.
- Hindi is also spoken in some countries outside India, such as in Mauritius, Fiji, Suriname, Guyana, Trinidad & Tobago and Nepal.
- Hindi in its present form emerged through different stages, during which it was known by other names. The **earliest form of old Hindi was Apabhramsa**.
- In 400 AD Kalidas wrote a romantic play in Apabhramsa called Vikramorvashyam.
- The modern Devanagari script came into existence in the 11th century.
- Hence option D is correct.

9. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Hoysala architecture** is the building style developed under the rule of the Hoysala Empire between the 11th and 14th centuries, mostly concentrated in southern Karnataka.
- Hoysala temples are **sometimes called hybrid or vesara as their unique style** seems neither completely Dravida nor Nagara, but somewhere in between.
 - ◆ The Hoysala temples have a **basic Darvidian morphology** but show strong influences of the **Bhumija mode widely used in Central India**, the **Nagara traditions** of northern and western India, and the **Karnata Dravida modes favored by the Kalyani Chalukyas**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The Hoysala temples, instead of consisting of a simple inner chamber with its pillared hall, contain **multiple shrines grouped around a central pillared hall** and laid out in the shape of **an intricately-designed star (stellate-plan)**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

10. Ans: B

Exp:

- Ramanujacharya was born in 1017 in Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu. He is revered as a **Vedic philosopher and social reformer**. Hence, statement 1 is correct
- He travelled across India, advocating equality and social justice.
- He **revived the Bhakti movement**, and his preachings inspired other Bhakti schools of thought. He is **considered to be the inspiration for poets like**

Annamacharya, Bhakta Ramdas, Thyagaraja, Kabir, and Meerabai. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

- He is famous as the **chief proponent of Vishishtadvaita subschool of Vedānta**. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

11. Ans: C

Exp:

Maharaja Surajmal:

- He ruled in the **18th century** and was the son of the Jat chieftain Badan Singh.
- He was a **great leader, a great fighter, a great diplomat and a great statesman** of his time.
- He was described as **"the Plato of the Jat people"** and by a modern writer as the **"Jat Odysseus"**, because of his political sense, steady intellect and clear vision. Hence statement 1 is correct.
- He united various factions of Hindus and Muslims and kept them together.
- He took care of the **historical monuments built by the kings of other religions** and employed people according to their abilities in higher posts, irrespective of their races.
- He believed that **humanity is the only religion of man**.
- He visualised **"India as one nation"** and devoted his life in forging national integration.
- Maharaja Surajmal considered **farmers as the most important section** of the society and had a lot of respect for them.
 - ◆ He personally **identified the problems of the farmers** and introduced reforms to rectify them.
- Some institutions that have been named after him include the **Maharaja Surajmal Institute of Technology and Maharaja Surajmal Brij University, Bharatpur**.
- It is believed that the **Maharaja died in battle in December of 1763** beside the Hindon river, after being ambushed by the army of Mughal chief Najib-ad-Dawlah.
- The **Third Battle of Panipat** was fought between the Marathas and the invading armies of Afghan general Ahmed Shah Abdali in 1761.
 - ◆ Maharaja Surajmal was among those who played key roles in the battle. Hence statement 2 is correct.

12. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Paikas were a class of military retainers** who had been recruited since the 16th century by kings in Odisha from a variety of social groups to **render martial services in return for hereditary rent-free land (nishkar jagirs) and titles**.

- The **Paika Bidroha** (Paika Rebellion) of 1817 **took place nearly 40 years before the first sepoy mutiny.**
 - ◆ **Bakshi Jagabandhu Bidyadhar Mohapatra Bharamarbar Rai**, the **highest-ranking military general of Mukund Dev II**, and erstwhile holder of the lucrative Rodanga estate, led an army of Paikas to join the uprising of the Kondhs. They confronted the British on 2nd April 1817.
- Recently, the Centre has said that the Paika rebellion cannot be called the first War of Independence.
 - ◆ It has also been suggested that it would be included as a case study in the Class 8 National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) history textbook.
 - ◆ For the first time in 2017, the **Odisha state cabinet** had passed a proposal to **formally urge the centre to declare the Paika rebellion as the first war of Independence.**
- Hence, **option C is correct.**

13. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, several tribal outfits in Tripura have joined hands to push their demand for a separate state, Greater Tipraland for indigenous communities in the region.
 - ◆ Among the political parties that have come together for the cause are TIPRA Motha (Tipraha Indigenous Progressive Regional Alliance) and IPFT (Indigenous People's Front of Tripura).
- **Tripura was a kingdom ruled by the Manikya dynasty from the late 13th century until the signing of the Instrument of Accession with the Indian government in 1949. Hence, option B is correct.**
- The joint forum has also pointed out that the indigenous people have not only been reduced to a minority, but have also been dislodged from land reserved for them by the penultimate king of the Manikya dynasty Bir Bikram Kishore Debbarman.

14. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj** was born on 19th February, 1630 at Shivneri Fort in District Pune in the present-day state of Maharashtra.
- **Early Life:**
 - ◆ He displayed his military zeal for the first time in 1645 when as a teenager, he successfully **got control of the Torna Fort** which was under Bijapur.

- ◆ He also **acquired the Kondana Fort. Both these forts were under Adil Shah of Bijapur. Hence, option C is not correct.**
- **Important Battles:**
 - ◆ **The Battle of Sangamner, 1679 fought between the Mughals and Marathas was the last battle in which the Maratha King Shivaji fought. Hence, option A is not correct.**
 - Battle of Sinhagad, 1670 was fought between Tanaji Malusare, a commander of Maratha ruler Shivaji Maharaj and Udaybhan Rathod, fortkeeper under Jai Singh I who was a Mughal Army Chief.
- **Important Treaty:**
 - ◆ In June 1665, the Treaty of Purandar was signed between Shivaji and Raja Jai Singh I (representing Aurangzeb). Hence, option B is not correct.
 - As per this treaty, many forts were relinquished to the Mughals and it was agreed that Shivaji would meet Aurangzeb at Agra. Shivaji also agreed to send his son Sambhaji as well.

● **Granted Title:**

- ◆ He took on the titles of Chhatrapati, Shakakarta, Kshatriya Kulavantas and Haindava Dharmodhhaarak. Hence, option D is correct.

15. Answer: A

Explanation:

- Guru Tegh Bahadur was the **ninth Sikh Guru**, often venerated as the '**Protector of Humanity**' (**Srisht-di-Chadar**) by the Sikhs.
 - ◆ He is **known as a great teacher**, Guru Tegh Bahadur was also an **excellent warrior, thinker, and poet**, who wrote detailed descriptions of the nature of God, mind, body, and physical attachments among other things spiritual.
 - ◆ His writings are housed in the sacred text, '**Guru Granth Sahib**,' in the form of 116 poetic hymns.
 - ◆ He was also an avid traveler and played a key role in setting up preaching centers throughout the Indian subcontinent.
 - ◆ During one such mission, he founded the **town of Chak-Nanki** in Punjab, which **later became a part of Punjab's Anandpur Sahib.**
 - ◆ In the year 1675, Guru Tegh Bahadur was executed in Delhi under the **orders of the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb.**
 - ◆ Hence, **option A is correct.**

16. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, **Durga Puja** in Kolkata has been inscribed on the UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity.
 - ◆ It is the **first festival in Asia to achieve recognition as UNESCO ICH of Humanity**.
- Durga Puja is a five-day festival which begins on the fifth night of the nine-day Navratri festival and ends on the tenth day, which is Dashami.
 - ◆ During this time, people collectively worship and invoke Goddess Durga, who is regarded as the feminine energy of the cosmos, also known as 'Shakti'.
 - ◆ It is one of the largest cultural carnivals and street art festivals of the country.
- Hence, option A is correct.

17. Ans: B

Exp:

Animal Sports in India:

- **Jallikattu:** Jallikattu, also known as 'eruthazhuvuthal', is a bull-taming sport played in **Tamil Nadu** as part of the Pongal harvest festival. Hence, Pair 1 is not correctly matched.
- **Kambala:** Kambala is a **traditional buffalo race** in paddy fields filled with slush and mud which generally takes place in **coastal Karnataka** (Udupi and Dakshina Kannada) from November to March. Hence, Pair 2 is correctly matched.
- **Camel Race:** The race is all about Camels, in which people ride and participate in the race.
 - ◆ It is also a part of many fairs and festivals in Rajasthan, India such as Pushkar Fair, Bikaner Camel Festival, etc.
- **Bulbul Fights:** It is organised in the state of **Assam during Bihu (harvest festival)** in the Hayagriva-Madhava Temple in Hajo near Guwahati, Assam. Hence, Pair 3 is correctly matched.
 - ◆ Often bulbuls are fed intoxicants to make them aggressive.
- **Cock-fights:** Cockfight or the Rooster fight is not indigenous to India. It is a sport that exists across the world. In India, cock-fight is not just a sport but a gambling game.
- Hence, option B is correct.

18. Ans: B

Exp:

Animal Sports in India:

- **Jallikattu:** Jallikattu, also known as 'eruthazhuvuthal', is a bull-taming sport played in Tamil Nadu as part of

the Pongal harvest festival. Hence, Pair 1 is not correctly matched.

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19. Answer: A

Explanation:

- About Chalcolithic Period
 - ◆ The end of the **Neolithic period** saw the use of metals. Several cultures were based on the use of copper and stone implements.
 - ◆ Such a culture is called **Chalcolithic** and as the name indicates, during the **Chalcolithic (Chalco = Copper and Lithic = Stone) period**, both **metal and stone** were utilised for the manufacture of the equipment in day-to-day life.
 - ◆ It is the first metal age, copper and its alloy bronze which melted at low temperature were used for the manufacture of various objects during this period.
 - ◆ The **specialty** of the Chalcolithic culture was **wheel made pottery mostly of red and orange colour**.
- The Malwa culture was a Chalcolithic archaeological culture which existed in the Malwa region of Central India and parts of Maharashtra in the Deccan Peninsula.
 - ◆ Sites of the Malwa Culture include Daimabad, Inamgaon, Kayatha, Nagda, Vidisha, Eran, Mandsaur, and Navdatoli (near Maheshwar).
- Hence, option A is correct.

20. Ans: C**Exp:**

- Recently, the Minister of State for Education, released the **Hindi translation of Tolkāppiyam and the Kannada translations of 9 books of Classical Tamil literature.**
- Tamil literature **goes back to the Sangam Era**, named after the assembly (sangam) of poets.
- The period roughly between the **3rd century B.C. and 3rd century A.D.** in South India (the area lying to the south of river **Krishna and Tungabhadra**) is known as **Sangam Period.**
 - ◆ It has been named after the **Sangam academies** held during that period that flourished under the royal patronage of the **Pandya kings** of Madurai. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Sangam literature includes Tolkappiyam, Ettutogai, Pattuppattu, Pathinenkilkanakku, and two epics named – Silappathikaram and Manimegalai .
 - ◆ **Tolkappiyam** was authored by Tolkappiyar and is considered the earliest of Tamil literary work.
 - Though it is a work on Tamil grammar, it **also provides insights on the political and socio-economic conditions** of the time. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - It is a unique work on grammar and poetics, in its three parts of nine sections each, deals with Ezhuttu(letter), Col (word) and Porul (subject matter).
 - Almost all levels of the human language from the spoken to the most poetic lie within the purview of Tolkappiyar's analysis as he treats in exquisitely poetic and epigrammatic statements on phonology, morphology, syntax, rhetoric, prosody and poetics.

21. Ans: C**Exp:**

- The Sangam literature includes Tolkappiyam, Ettutogai, Pattuppattu, Pathinenkilkanakku, and two epics named – Silappathikaram and Manimegalai .
 - ◆ **Pathinenkilkanakku:** It contains eighteen works about ethics and morals.
 - The most important among these works is **Tirukkural authored by Thiruvalluvar**, the tamil great poet and philosopher. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
 - ◆ **Tamil Epics:** The two epics **Silappathikaram** is written by **Elango Adigal** and **Manimegalai** by **Sittalai Sattanar.** **Hence, pair 2 and 3 are correctly matched.**

- They also provide valuable details about the Sangam society and polity.

22. Ans: D**Exp:**

- The Apatani weave comes from the **Apatani tribe** of **Arunachal Pradesh** living at Ziro, the headquarters of lower **Subansiri district.** **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The Apatani community weaves its own textiles for various occasions, including rituals and cultural festivals.
- The woven fabric of this tribe is known for its **geometric and zigzag patterns** and also for its **angular designs.** **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ The tribe predominantly weaves shawls known as jig-jiro and jilan or jackets called supuntarii.
- The people here use different **leaves and plant resources for organic dyeing** the cotton yarns in their traditional ways.
 - ◆ **Only women folk** are engaged in weaving.
- The **traditional handloom** of this tribe is a type of **loin loom**, which is called Chichin, and is similar to the traditional handloom of the **Nyishi tribe.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ It is portable, easy to install and operated by a single weaver, especially the female members of the community.

23. Ans: A**Exp:**

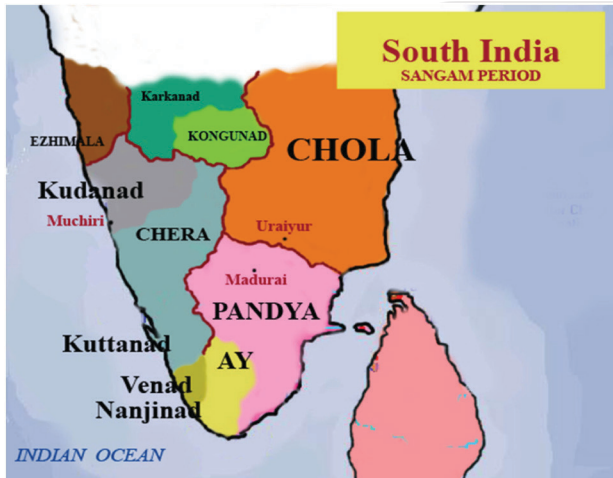
- **About Konark Temple:**
 - ◆ Konark Sun Temple, located in **East Odisha near the sacred city of Puri.**
 - ◆ Built in the 13th century by **King Narasimhadeva I (AD 1238-1264)** and is dedicated to the **Sun God.**
 - ◆ It marks the highest point of achievement of **Kalinga architecture.**
 - ◆ It was declared a **UNESCO world heritage site** in 1984.
 - ◆ The temple is designed in the shape of a **colossal chariot.**
 - There are two rows of **12 wheels on each side of the Konark sun temple.**
 - Some say the wheels represent the **24 hours in a day** and others say the 12 months.
 - The seven horses are said to **symbolise the seven days of the week.**
 - ◆ Sailors once called this Sun Temple of Konark, the **Black Pagoda** because it was supposed to draw ships into the shore and cause shipwrecks.
- **Hence, option A is correct.**

24. Ans: C

Exp:

Sangam Period:

- The **period roughly between the 3rd century B.C. and 3rd century A.D. in South India** (the area lying to the south of river Krishna and Tungabhadra) is known as Sangam Period.
- It has been named after the Sangam academies held during that period that flourished under the royal patronage of the Pandya kings of Madurai.
 - ◆ At the sangams, eminent scholars assembled and functioned as the board of censors and the choicest literature was rendered in the nature of anthologies.
- These literary works were the earliest specimens of Dravidian literature.
- **South India, during the Sangam Age, was ruled by three dynasties-the Cheras, Cholas and Pandyas.**
- Hence, option C is correct.



25. Ans: D

Exp:

UNESCO's List of Intangible Cultural Heritage:

- This coveted list is made up of those intangible heritage elements that help demonstrate diversity of cultural heritage and raise awareness about its importance.
- According to UNESCO cultural heritage does not end at monuments and collections of objects.
 - ◆ It also includes traditions or living expressions inherited from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants, such as **oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.**
- Hence, option D is correct.

26. Ans: B

Exp:

- According to Sikh tradition, **Sikhism** was established by Guru Nanak (1469–1539) and subsequently led by a succession of nine other Gurus.
- The **development of Sikhism** was influenced by the Bhakti movement and **Vaishnava Hinduism. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The **Sikhs call their faith Gurmat** (Punjabi: "the Way of the Guru").
 - ◆ The Khalsa upholds the highest Sikh virtues of commitment, dedication and a social conscience.
 - ◆ The **Khalsa are men and women who have undergone the Sikh baptism ceremony** and who strictly follow the Sikh Code of Conduct and Conventions. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- **Sikhism condemns blind rituals such as fasting, visiting places of pilgrimage, superstitions, worship of the dead, idol worship etc. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ It preaches that people of different races, religions, or sex are all equal in the eyes of God.
- The Adi Granth is believed by Sikhs to be the abode of the eternal Guru, and for that reason it is known to all Sikhs as the Guru Granth Sahib.
- Hence, option B is correct.

27. Ans: A

Exp:

Matrilineal System of Inheritance:

- The three tribes of Meghalaya — **Khasis, Jaintias, and Garos** — **practise a matrilineal system of inheritance. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ In this system, lineage and descent are traced through the mother's clan.
- In other words, children take the mother's surname, the husband moves into his wife's house, and the **youngest daughter (khatduh)** of the family is **entrusted the full share of the ancestral - or the clan's - property. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The khatduh becomes the "custodian" of the land, and assumes all responsibility associated with the land, including taking care of aged parents, unmarried or destitute siblings.
- This inheritance tradition applies only to ancestral or clan/community property, which has been with the family for years. The self-acquired property can be distributed equally among siblings.

- In this traditional set-up, if a couple does not have any daughters, then the property goes to the wife's elder sister, and her daughters. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.

◆ If the wife does not have sisters, then the clan usually takes over the property.

28. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the Prime Minister has unveiled a 12-foot statue of Adi Shankaracharya at Kedarnath (Uttarakhand).
- **Adi Shankaracharya**, also known as Adi Shankara, was born in 788 AD, at Kaladi near Kochi, Kerala. He took Samadhi at the age of 33, at Kedar tirth.
 - ◆ He was a devotee of Shiva.
 - ◆ **Propounded the Doctrine of Advaita** (Monism) and wrote many commentaries on the Vedic canon (Upanishads, Brahma Sutras and Bhagavad Gita) in Sanskrit. Hence, statement 1 is correct
 - ◆ He was opposed to Buddhist philosophers. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
- **Major Work:**
 - ◆ **Brahmasutrabhasya** (Bhashya or commentary on the Brahma Sutra).
 - ◆ Bhajagovinda Stotra. Hence, statement 4 is correct.
 - ◆ Nirvana Shatakam.
 - ◆ Prakaran Granths.
- **Other Contributions:**
 - ◆ Was responsible for reviving Hinduism in India to a great extent when Buddhism was gaining popularity.
 - ◆ **Established four Mathas** in the four corners of India at Shingeri, Puri, Dwaraka and Badrinath—for propagation of Sanathana Dharma. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

29. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** designated Srinagar as a part of **UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)**.
- After Mumbai, Chennai, **Hyderabad, Varanasi and Jaipur, Srinagar is the sixth Indian city** to achieve this distinction.
- Hence, option D is correct.

30. Ans: A

Exp:

About Guru Nanak:

- Guru Nanak Dev Jayanti is observed **on the full-moon day in the month of Katak** to celebrate the birth of Guru Nanak Dev (1469-1539).

- He advocated the '**Nirguna**' form of **bhakti**. He rejected **sacrifices, ritual baths, image worship**, austerities and the scriptures of both Hindus and Muslims.

- He **set up rules for congregational worship (sangat)** involving collective recitation.

- He appointed one of his disciples, Angad, to succeed him as the preceptor (guru), and this practice was followed for nearly 200 years.

- The **fifth preceptor, Guru Arjan, compiled Baba Guru Nanak's hymns** along with those of his four successors and also other religious poets, like Baba Farid, Ravidas (also known as Raidas) and Kabir, in the **Adi Granth Sahib**.

◆ These hymns, called 'Gurbani', are composed in many languages.

- Kartarpur gurudwara is the revered shrine about 4km across the border where Guru Nanak Dev spent the last 18 years of his life.

- Hence, option A is correct.

31. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, **Pochampally village in Telangana** was selected as **one of the Best Tourism Villages** by United Nations World Tourism Organisation (**UNWTO**). Hence, statement 3 is correct.

◆ The award will be given on the occasion of the 24th session of the UNWTO General Assembly in December 2021 in Madrid, Spain.

- **Pochampally** in Nalgonda district is **often referred to as the silk city of India** for the exquisite sarees that are woven through a unique style called Ikat. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

◆ This style, **Pochampally Ikat**, received a **Geographical Indicator (GI Status)** in 2004. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

○ Pochampally's unique weaving styles and patterns received special focus through the Prime Minister's mantra of Vocal 4 Local as a part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat.

- The village is also known as Bhoodan Pochampally to commemorate the Bhoodan Movement that was launched by Acharya Vinobha Bhave from this village on 18th April, 1951.

32. Ans: D

Exp:

- In 321 BC, Chandragupta Maurya, with the help of Chanakya (author of Arthashastra) founded the Mauryan dynasty after overthrowing the Nanda Dynasty.

- The **Mauryan Empire was the first most powerful Indian empire** to bring the entire Indian subcontinent under a single rule. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ The Mauryan empire under **Chandragupta Maurya** spread its boundaries **into Central Asia and Persia.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Chandragupta Maurya was succeeded by his son **Bindusara in 298 BC who expanded the kingdom over most of present-day India**, except Kalinga. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ Bindusara's kingdom was inherited by his son Ashoka the Great in 274 B.C.
 - During the invasion of Kalinga, Ashoka renounced bloodshed and adopted the policy of Ahimsa and adopted Buddhism.

33. Ans: B

Exp:

Alexander Invasion of India:

- In 326 BC, Alexander invaded India, after crossing the river Indus he advanced towards Taxila.
- He then challenged king Porus, ruler of the kingdom between the rivers Jhelum and Chenab. **The Indians were defeated in the fierce battle (Battle of Hydaspes).**
 - ◆ Alexander captured Porus and, like the other local rulers he had defeated, allowed him to continue to govern his territory.
 - ◆ Alexander remained in India for 19 months (326-325 B.C.), which were full of fighting in July 325 BC Alexander and his army returned westward for home.
- **Hence, option B is correct.**

34. Ans: D

Exp:

- Major Initiatives of **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO):**
 - ◆ Man and Biosphere Programme
 - ◆ World Heritage Programme
 - ◆ **Global Geopark Network**
 - ◆ **Network of Creative Cities**
 - ◆ **Atlas of World Languages in Danger**
- **Hence, option D is correct.**

35. Ans: C

Exp:

- There is evidence of the existence of proto forms of democracy and republicanism in ancient India. The Vedas describe at least two forms of republican governance:

- ◆ **Monarchy:** The first would consist of elected kings. This has always been seen as an early form of democracy.
- ◆ **Republics:** The second form is that of rule without a monarch, with power vested in a council or sabha.
 - The membership of such sabhas was not always determined by birth, but they often comprised people who had distinguished themselves by their actions.
 - There is even a hint of the modern bicameral system of legislatures, with the sabha often sharing power with the samiti, which was made up of common people.
 - The **vidhaata**, or the **assembly of people for debating policy, military matters** and important issues impacting all, has been mentioned more than a hundred times in the **Rig Veda. Both women and men took part in these deliberations.**
 - **Hence, both statements 1 and 2 are correct.**

36. Ans: D

Exp:

- In Chapter 107/108 of Mahabharata's Shanti Parva, there is a detailed narration about the features of republics (called ganas) in India.
- The Buddhist Canon, both in Sanskrit (in which much of Mahayana Buddhist literature was written) and in Pali (in which much of Hinayana literature was written) has extensive reference to republics in India, e.g. the Lichchavi city of Vaishali.
 - ◆ It also describes in detail Vaishali's rivalry with neighbouring Magadha, which was a monarchy. Had the Lichchavis won, the trajectory of governance may well have been non-monarchical in the Subcontinent.
- The **Mahanibbana Sutta** (Pali Buddhist work) and the **Avadaana Shatak** (a Sanskrit Buddhist text of the second century A.D) also mention that certain areas were under a republican form of government.
- Other sources appear in the Ashtadhyayi of Panini, the Arthashastra of Kautilya, etc.
 - ◆ **Elements of State by Kautilya:** Any state is thought of as composed of seven elements. The first three are swami or the king, amatya or the ministers (administration) and janapada or the people.
 - ◆ The king must function on the advice of the amatyas for the good of the people.

- ◆ The ministers are appointed from amongst the people (the Arthashastra also mentions entrance tests).
- ◆ As per the **Arthashastra**, in the happiness and benefit of his people lies the happiness and benefit of the King.

● Hence, option D is correct.

37. Ans: B

Exp:

- Gautam Buddha was born into the royal family of the Shakya clan who ruled from Kapilvastu, in **Lumbini which is situated near the Indo-Nepal Border**.
 - ◆ He left his home at the age of 29 years to live a life of an ascetic which is known as **Mahabhinishkramana (the great departure)**.
 - ◆ He **attained enlightenment at Gaya in Magadha (Bihar)** under a pipal tree, was known as Gautama Buddha and Tathagata (he who has attained the truth).
 - ◆ Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- Buddha gave his first sermon in the village of Sarnath, near the city of Benares in UP. This event is known as **Dharma-Chakra-Pravartana (turning of the wheel of law)**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- He died at the age of 80 in 483 BCE at a place called Kushinagara, a town in UP. The event is known as **Mahaparinibban**. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

38. Ans: D

Exp:

- The 'Buddha Path' also refers to the Eight Great Places of Buddhist Heritage (referred in Pali as **Atthamahāthānāni**). They are:
 - ◆ Lumbini (Nepal)- Buddha was born.
 - ◆ Bodh Gaya (Bihar)- Attained enlightenment.
 - ◆ Sarnath (Varanasi, U.P.)- First sermon.
 - ◆ Kushinagar (Gorakhpur, U.P.)- Buddha died.
 - ◆ **Rajgir (Bihar)**- Where the Lord tamed a mad elephant.
 - ◆ **Vaishali (Bihar)**- Where a monkey offered honey to him.
 - ◆ **Sravasti (U.P)**- The Lord took his seat on a thousand petaled lotus and created multiple representations of himself.
 - ◆ **Sankasya (Farrukhabad, Uttar Pradesh)**- He descended from heaven.
- Hence, option D is correct.

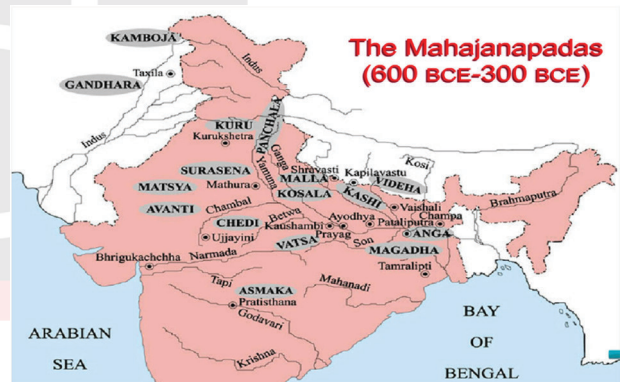
39. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the Kushinagar Airport in Uttar Pradesh became the latest entrant in India's list of international Airports.
 - ◆ The airport is expected to provide seamless connectivity to people from South east and East Asian countries for **Buddhist Pilgrimage Tourism**.
- The inauguration of Kushinagar International airport is set to be a landmark in the **India-Sri Lanka relations**.
- **Spread of Buddhism in Sri Lanka**
 - ◆ **Buddhism was first brought to Sri Lanka** by a mission sent out from eastern India **during the reign of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka (c. 273–232 BCE)**.
 - ◆ The leader of the mission to Sri Lanka, Mahendra (Mahinda), is described as Ashoka's son.
- Hence, option A is correct.

40. Ans: A

Exp:



- Buddhist and Jain texts list **16 powerful states or mahajanapadas** of ancient India.
 - ◆ Mahajanapadas: Anga, Assaka, Avanti, Chedi, Gandhara, Kamboja, Kashi, Kosala, Kuru, Magadha, Malla, Matsya, Panchala, Surasena, Vajji and Vatsa or Vamsa.
- Hence, option A is correct.

41. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Gaudiya Vaishnavism** is a **Vaishnava Hindu religious movement** inspired by **Chaitanya Mahaprabhu**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - ◆ Here, "Gaudiya" refers to the Gaura or Gauda region of Bengal with Vaishnavism meaning "the worship of Vishnu".

- The focus of Gaudiya Vaishnavism is the devotional worship (known as bhakti-yoga) of **Radha and Krishna, and their many divine incarnations** as the supreme forms of God, Svayam Bhagavan. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- Most popularly, this worship takes the form of singing Radha and Krishna's holy names, such as "Hare", "Krishna" and "Rama", most commonly in the form of the Hare Krishna (mantra) also known as kirtan and dancing along with it.

42. Ans: D

Exp:

- **The Panj Piare** is the term used for the **Five Beloved: the men who were initiated into the khalsa** (the special group of Sikh warriors) **under the leadership of Gobind Singh**, the last of the ten Gurus.
 - ◆ They are deeply revered by Sikhs as symbols of steadfastness and devotion.
- Guru Gobind Singh established the institution of Panj Piare while founding the Khalsa on the day of Baisakhi in 1699.
 - ◆ To preserve the culture, Guru Gobind Singh asked for five men willing to surrender their lives for him and the cause. With great reluctance by nearly everyone, eventually, five volunteers stepped forward.
 - ◆ Guru Gobind Singh himself got baptised from them at the same stage to tell the Sikhs that Panj Piaras have higher authority and decision making power than anyone in the community.
- The original five beloved Panj Piare who played a vital role in shaping Sikh history and defining Sikhism are:
 - ◆ **Bhai Daya Singh** (1661 - 1708 CE) from Lahore
 - ◆ **Bhai Dharam Singh** (1699 - 1708 CE) from Hastinapur
 - ◆ **Bhai Himmat Singh** (1661 - 1705 CE) from Jagannath Puri
 - ◆ **Bhai Muhkam Singh** (1663 - 1705 CE) from Dwarka
 - ◆ **Bhai Sahib Singh** (1662 - 1705 CE) from Bidar
- Hence, option D is correct.

43. Ans: D

Exp:

- Guru Gobind Singh **established the Khalsa order** (meaning 'The Pure'), soldier-saints. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The **Khalsa upholds the highest Sikh virtues** of commitment, dedication and social consciousness. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- The **Khalsa are men and women who have undergone the Sikh baptism ceremony** and who strictly follow the Sikh Code of Conduct and Conventions. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

- They wear the prescribed physical articles of the faith (5K's: Kesh (uncut hair), Kangha (a wooden comb), Kara (an iron bracelet), Kachera (cotton underpants) and Kirpan (an iron dagger).

44. Ans: D

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45. Ans: C

Exp:

- The **Thamirabarani civilisation** in Tamil Nadu is at least 3,200 years old, reveals carbon dating done on organic material retrieved from archeological excavations in Sivakalai, Thoothukudi district.
- The **Thamirabarani or Tamraparni or Porunai** is a perennial river that **originates from the Agastyarkoodam peak of Pothigai hills of the Western Ghats**, above Papanasam in the Ambasamudram taluk. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ It flows through Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi districts and empties at Korkai (Tirunelveli district) into the **Gulf of Mannar (Bay of Bengal)**. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ **Thamirabarani River** is the shortest river in the state (Tamil Nadu).

46. Ans: B

Exp:

- Hindi, written in the Devanagari script, was adopted as the **official language of the Republic of India on 14th September, 1949.**
 - ◆ The first Hindi Day was celebrated in 1953.

- Besides Hindi, English is the **other official language (Article 343 of the Constitution)**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- Hindi is also included in the eighth schedule of the Indian Constitution.
 - ◆ The Eighth Schedule to the Constitution consists of the following 22 languages: Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Santhali, Maithili and Dogri. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- Article 351 pertains to 'Directive for development of the Hindi language'.
- Currently there are six languages that enjoy the 'Classical' status in India:
 - ◆ Tamil (declared in 2004), Sanskrit (2005), Kannada (2008), Telugu (2008), Malayalam (2013), and Odia (2014).
- All the Classical Languages are listed in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.
- Hindi is not a classical language. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

47. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Shankhalipi Script**, also called "**shell-script**", is found in inscriptions across north-central India and dates to between the **4th and 8th centuries**.
 - ◆ Both **Shankhalipi and Brahmi are stylised scripts** used primarily for names and signatures.
 - ◆ The inscriptions consist of a **small number of characters**, suggesting that the shell inscriptions are **names or auspicious symbols** or a combination of the two.
- It was **discovered in 1836** on a brass trident in Uttarakhand's Barahat by English scholar **James Prinsep**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ **Prominent sites with shell inscriptions:** Mundeshwari Temple (Bihar), the **Udayagiri Caves** (Madhya Pradesh), Mansar (Maharashtra) and some of the cave sites of Gujarat and Maharashtra.
 - These **inscriptions are also reported in Indonesia's Java and Borneo**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

48. Ans: B

Exp:

Lord Nataraja Idol:

- **Nataraja (Lord of the Dance)**, the **Hindu god Shiva** in his form as the **cosmic dancer**, is represented in metal

or stone in many Shaivite temples, particularly in South India.

◆ It is an **important piece of Chola sculpture**.

- The **matted and flowing locks** of Shiva represent the **flow of river Ganges**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- A **snake** is twisted around the arm of Shiva. The snake symbolises the **kundalini power**, which resides in the human spine in the dormant stage. If aroused, one can attain true consciousness. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- The Nataraja is surrounded by a **nimbus of glowing lights** which symbolises the **vast unending cycles of time**. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

49. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Qutub Minar is a five-storeyed red sandstone tower** (72.5 m high) **built by Muslim conquerors** in the thirteenth century to **commemorate their final triumph over the Rajput rulers of Delhi** (Qutub means victory). Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ It also serves as a tower from where muezzins (criers) call for prayer at the Quwwatu'l-Islam mosque nearby.
 - ◆ A 7 m-high iron pillar stands in the courtyard of the mosque.
- Its surrounding contains Alai-Darwaza Gate, the masterpiece of Indo-Muslim art (built in 1311).
- The building process of Qutub Minar took about 75 years. Its **construction was started by Qutub-ud-din Aibak** (1206-1210) in 1193 and **finished by Iltutmish (1211-1236)**. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
 - ◆ In 1368, it was repaired by the rulers of the day, Muhammad-bin-Tughluq (1325-51) and Firuz Shah Tughluq (1351-88).
- The minar (tower) is engraved with fine arabesque decorations on its surface, mainly verses from the Quran.
- Qutub Minar and its monuments were **declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1993**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.

50. Ans: C

Exp:

- According to Historians, the Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple dates back to the 8th century but the present structure was built in the 18th century by the then Travancore Maharaja Marthanda Varma.
- The temple was initially made of wood but later it was constructed with granite.

- The temple is built in the **unique Chera style of architecture**, and its main deity is **Lord Vishnu who is found in the Anantha Shayana posture** (reclined posture of eternal yoga) on Adishesha or king of all serpents. B
- It is known to be one of the 108 holy temples associated with Vaishnavism in India.

51. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the **official length of Mammoth Cave has been extended to 420 miles**.
 - ◆ The **additional mileage (8 miles) was mapped and documented by the Cave Research Foundation**.
- **Mammoth Cave National Park**, located in the state of **Kentucky (US)**, has the **world's largest network of natural caves and underground passageways**, which are characteristic **examples of limestone formations (karst topography)**. Hence, statements 1 and 2 are correct.
 - ◆ It is a **World Heritage Site** (designated in 1981).
 - ◆ It became an **International Biosphere Reserve in 1990**. Hence, statement 3 is correct.

52. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the Prime Minister has released a special commemorative coin of Rs 125 to mark the 125th birth anniversary of ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness) founder **Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada**.
- Born **Abhay Charan De (1st September 1896 in Calcutta)**, was an **Indian spiritual teacher and the founder of the ISKCON**.
 - ◆ He is especially **respected as the world's most prominent contemporary authority on bhakti-yoga, devotional service to the Supreme Person, Krishna**, as taught by the ancient Vedic writings of India.
 - Swami ji also established over a hundred temples and wrote several books, teaching the path of Bhakti Yoga to the world.
 - ◆ In his later years, as a travelling Vaishnava monk, he **became an influential communicator of Gaudiya Vaishnava sampradaya's theology to India** and specifically to the West through his leadership of ISKCON.
- Hence, option B is correct.

53. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Bhil** are one of the largest tribal groups, living in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, **Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ They are the **biggest tribe** in Rajasthan. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
 - ◆ They are **classified as scheduled tribes** in Rajasthan. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
- Bhil women wear traditional saris while men are dressed in long frocks and pyjamas. The woman put on heavy ornaments made of silver, brass along with rosaries of beads and silver coins and earrings.
- Other Tribes in Rajasthan
 - ◆ Sahariyas: Sahariyas are one of the most backward Rajasthan tribes.
 - ◆ Minas: **Minas is the second biggest tribe in Rajasthan**.
 - They are known to be the inhabitants of Indus Valley Civilization.
 - ◆ Gadiya Lohars: Gadiya Lohars are known to be a small Rajput Rajasthan tribe.
 - ◆ Garasias: Garasias are another small Rajput Rajasthan tribe.

54. Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Maharaja Ranjit Singh** was the founder of the **Sikh Empire by overthrowing Misl**.
 - ◆ that time, Punjab was ruled by powerful chieftains who had divided the territory into Misl.
 - **Misl** refer to the **sovereign states of the Sikh Confederacy** that rose during the **18th century in the Punjab region** in the northern part of the Indian subcontinent after the collapse of the **Mughal Empire**.
 - ◆ He ruled the **northwest Indian subcontinent** in the early half of the **19th century**.
- He combined the **strong points of the traditional Khalsa army** with western advances in warfare to raise Asia's most powerful indigenous army of that time.
 - ◆ He also **employed a large number of European officers**, especially French, to train his troops.
 - ◆ He appointed a French General to **modernize his army**.
- Hence, option D is correct.

55. Ans: D**Exp:**

- Shankaracharya was also known as Adi Shankara. Born in Kaladi, Kerala in 788 CE.
 - ◆ **Propounded the Doctrine of Advaita (Monism)** and wrote many commentaries on the Vedic canon (Upanishads, Brahma Sutras and Bhagavad Gita) in Sanskrit. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- Major Works of Shankaracharya:
 - ◆ **Brahmasutrabhasya** (Bhashya or commentary on the Brahma Sutra).
 - ◆ **Bhagovinda Stotra. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Nirvana Shatakam.
- He was **responsible for reviving Hinduism in India** to a great extent **when Buddhism was gaining popularity. Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ Established four Mathas in the four corners of India and the tradition continues to this day.

56. Ans: D**Exp:**

- Dravidian languages, a family of some 70 languages spoken primarily in South Asia. They are spoken by more than 215 million people in India, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
- The Dravidian languages with the most speakers are (in descending order of number of speakers) Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam, all of which have long literary traditions.
 - ◆ Smaller literary languages are Tulu and Kodava.
- There are also a number of Dravidian-speaking Scheduled Tribes, such as the Kurukh in Eastern India and Gondi in Central India. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
 - ◆ Kurukh, also spelt Oraon, are a Dravidian ethnic group inhabiting the Indian states of Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha and Chhattisgarh.
- Dravidian place names along the Arabian Sea coasts and Dravidian grammatical influence such as clusivity in the Indo-Aryan languages, namely, Marathi, Gujarati, Marwari, and Sindhi, suggest that Dravidian languages were once spoken more widely across the Indian subcontinent.

57. Ans: C**Exp:**

- Sanskrit is considered to be one of the oldest languages in the world.
 - ◆ It is an old Indo-Aryan language in which the most ancient documents, Vedas, are composed in what is called Vedic Sanskrit.

- Classical Sanskrit, a language close to late Vedic as then used in the northwest of the subcontinent, was elegantly described in one of the finest grammars ever produced, the **Aṣṭādhyāyī ("Eight Chapters") composed by Pāṇini** (c. 6th–5th century BCE). **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Important Authors and Works in Sanskrit:
 - ◆ Bhāsa (for example, his Svapnavāsavadatta - Vāsavadatta in a Dream), who is assigned widely varying dates but definitely worked prior to Kālidāsa, who mentions him.
 - ◆ Kālidāsa, dated anywhere from the 1st century BCE to the 4th century CE, whose works include Śakuntalā, Vikramorvaśīya, Kumārasambhava and Raghuvaṃśa.
 - ◆ Śūdraka and his Mṛcchakatika ("Little Clay Cart"), possibly dating to the 3rd century CE. **Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
 - ◆ Ashvaghosha's Buddhacarita is one of the finest examples of Buddhist literature. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**
 - ◆ Bhāravi and his Kirātārjunīya ("Arjuna and the Kirāta"), from approximately the 7th century.

58. Ans: D**Exp:**

- The **site of Hampi** comprises mainly the remnants of the capital city of the Vijayanagara Empire (14th-16th century CE), the last great Hindu Kingdom.
- It encompasses an area of 4187, 24 hectares, **located in the Tungabhadra basin in Bellary District, Central Karnataka.**
 - ◆ Hampi's spectacular setting is dominated by river Tungabhadra, craggy hill ranges and open plains with widespread physical remains.
- One of the unique features of **temples at Hampi is the wide chariot streets flanked by the row of pillared mandapas.**
 - ◆ Its Famous places include Krishna temple complex, Narasimha, Ganesa, Hemakuta group of temples, Achyutaraya temple complex, Vitthala temple complex, Pattabhirama temple complex, Lotus Mahal complex, etc.
- The old city of Hampi was a prosperous, wealthy and grand city.
 - ◆ By 1500 CE, **Hampi-Vijayanagara was the world's second-largest medieval-era city after Beijing**, and probably India's richest at that time, attracting traders from Persia and Portugal.

- The Vijayanagara Empire was defeated by a coalition of sultanates; **its capital was conquered, pillaged and destroyed** by sultanate armies in 1565 (**Battle of Talikota**), after which Hampi remained in ruins.

● Hence, option D is correct.

59. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Sree Narayana Guru** became one of the greatest proponents and re-evaluators of **Advaita Vedanta**, the principle of non-duality put forward by Adi Shankara. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- He wrote various books in different languages. Few of them are: Advaita Deepika, Asrama, Thevarappathinkangal, etc.
- **Contribution to National Movement:**
 - ◆ **Against the Societal ills:**
 - A remarkable social reformer, he was in the forefront of the movement for universal temple entry and against the societal ills like the social discrimination of untouchables.
 - ◆ **Impetus for Vaikom Agitation:**
 - He provided the **impetus for Vaikom agitation** which was **aimed at temple entry in Travancore for the lower castes**. It drew nationwide attention and appreciation from **Mahatma Gandhi**. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - ◆ **Unity through his Poems:**
 - He captured the essence of Indianness in his poems which highlighted the unity that lies beneath the world's apparent diversity.
- **Contribution to Science:**
 - ◆ Emphasized the practice of ideals of cleanliness, promotion of education, agriculture, trade, handicrafts and technical training.
 - ◆ His **Adyaropa darsanam (Darsanamala)** explains the creation of the universe.
 - ◆ **Daivadasakam and Atmopadesa satakam** are a few examples of how the mystic reflections and insights closely resemble recent advances in physics.

60. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Hari Singh Nalwa** was a legendary Sikh commander who tamed the turbulent forces at play in Afghanistan and earned the reputation of the most feared Sikh warrior there.

- He was a **commander in Maharaja Ranjit Singh's force**.

- ◆ He remained **Governor of Kashmir**, Hazara and Peshawar.

- Hari Singh Nalwa defeated various Afghans and established control over various regions along the boundary of Afghanistan.

- ◆ He **prevented Afghans from ravaging the North-West Frontier** for the first time **by taking control over several regions along the Afghanistan border and Khyber pass**.

- He, thus, prevented Afghans from entering Punjab through Khyber Pass, which was the main route to enter India by the foreign invaders from 1000 AD till early 19th century.

- In the 1807 **Battle of Kasur** (now in Pakistan, he **defeated Afghani ruler Kutab-ud-din Khan**.

- In the 1818 **Battle of Peshawar**, Nalwa **took control over Jamrud in 1837**, a fort at the entryway to Afghanistan through Khyber Pass.

- ◆ Historians maintain that if Maharaja Ranjit Singh and his commander Hari Singh Nalwa would have not won Peshawar and the North West Frontier, which is part of Pakistan now, then this area could have been part of Afghanistan and the invasions of Afghans into Punjab and Delhi would have never stopped.

- Hence, option A is correct.

61. Ans: A

Exp:

- Chakmas and Hajongs are ethnic people who lived in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, most of which are located in Bangladesh.

- ◆ **Chakmas are predominantly Buddhists**, while **Hajongs are Hindus**. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

- ◆ They are found in northeast India, West Bengal, Bangladesh and Myanmar.

- They **fled erstwhile East Pakistan** (now Bangladesh) in 1964-65 and **came to India and settled in Arunachal Pradesh**. Hence, statement 1 is correct.

- ◆ **Reasons:**

- Chakmas lost their land to the development of the Kaptai Dam on the Karnaphuli River, Bangladesh.

- Hajongs faced religious persecution as they were non-Muslims and did not speak Bengali.

- For a very long time local people have been protesting against Chakmas and Hajongs because of their differing ethnicity.

- ◆ In 2015, the Supreme Court directed the Centre to grant citizenship to Chakma and Hajongs who had migrated from Bangladesh in 1964-69.
- However, these communities **do not directly come under the ambit of the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 (CAA)** because Arunachal Pradesh is among the states exempted from the CAA since it has an **Inner Line Permit to regulate entry of outsiders. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

62. Answer: D

Explanation:

- **Dara Shikoh (1615-59)** was the **eldest son of Shah Jahan**. He is described as a “**liberal Muslim**” who tried to find commonalities between Hindu and Islamic traditions.
- He is known as a **pioneer of the academic movement for interfaith understanding** in India. He had a deep understanding and knowledge of major religions, particularly Islam and Hinduism.
- His most important works, **Majma-ul-Bahrain** (Mingling of Two Oceans) and **Sirr-i-Akbar** (Great Mystery) are devoted to the cause of establishing connections between Hinduism and Islam.
- He **translated the Upanishads** and other important sources of Hindu religion and spirituality from Sanskrit to Persian. Through these translations, he was **responsible for taking the Hindu culture and spiritual traditions to Europe** and the West.
- Hence, **option D is correct.**

63. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Indus Valley Civilization** is the earliest known urban culture of the Indian subcontinent.
 - ◆ It is also called Harappan Civilization..
 - ◆ It covered the areas of Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Western Uttar Pradesh.
- **IVCs have their language roots in Proto-Dravidian**, which is the ancestral language of all the modern Dravidian languages. **Hence, option A is not correct.**
 - ◆ The basic vocabulary items of a significant population of the IVC must have been proto-Dravidian, or that ancestral Dravidian languages must have been spoken in the Indus Valley region.
- **Agriculture:**
 - ◆ **The first civilization to cultivate cotton. Hence, option B is correct.**
 - ◆ Animals were domesticated like sheep, goats, and pigs.

- ◆ Crops were wheat, barley, cotton, ragi, dates, and peas.
- ◆ Trade was conducted with the Sumerians (Mesopotamia).
- **Metal Products:**
 - ◆ These were **produced including those with copper, bronze, tin, and lead**. Gold and silver were also known. **Hence, option C is correct.**
 - ◆ Iron was not known to them.
- **Religious Beliefs:**
 - ◆ **No structures like temples or palaces have been found.**
 - ◆ **The people worshipped male and female deities. Hence, option D is correct.**
 - ◆ A seal which was named ‘Pashupati Seal’ has been excavated and it shows an image of a three-eyed figure.

64. Ans: A

Exp:

- **Sanskrit** is considered to be one of the oldest languages in the world. It is an **old Indo-Aryan language** in which the most ancient documents, Vedas, are composed in what is called Vedic Sanskrit. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Classical Sanskrit, a language close to late Vedic as then used in the northwest of the subcontinent, was elegantly described in **one of the finest grammars ever produced, the Aṣṭādhyāyī** (“Eight Chapters”) composed by Pāṇini (c. 6th–5th century BCE).
 - **The only Sanskrit newspaper in the world is called ‘Sudharma’.** The newspaper has been published since 1970 from Mysore in Karnataka and is also available online. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

65. Ans: B

Exp:

- Vijayanagara or “city of victory” was the name of both a city and an empire.
- The empire was founded in the fourteenth century (1336 AD) by **Harihara and Bukka of Sangama dynasty. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ They made Hampi as the capital city. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- It **stretched from the river Krishna in the north to the extreme south of the peninsula. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**
- Vijayanagar Empire was ruled by four important dynasties and they are:

- ◆ Sangama
- ◆ Saluva
- ◆ Tuluva
- ◆ Aravidu

- Krishnadevaraya (ruled 1509-29) of the Tuluva dynasty was the most famous ruler of Vijayanagar.
 - ◆ He is credited with building some fine temples and adding impressive gopurams to many important south Indian temples.
 - ◆ He composed a work on statecraft in Telugu known as the Amuktamalyada.

66. Ans: D

Exp:

- The Garos, who call themselves Achiks, are the second largest tribe in Meghalaya.
- The Garos have a strong tradition that they have come from Tibet.
 - ◆ They have a number of dialects and cultural groups.
 - ◆ Each of them originally settled at a particular area of the Garo Hills and outlying plain lands.
- However, the **culture of the modern Garo community has been greatly influenced by Christianity**. Nokpantes are the glory of the past and all children are given equal care, rights and importance by the modern parents. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- The **Garo marriage is regulated by two important laws, viz., Exogamy** and A Kim belongs to the same clan. **Marriages are not allowed within the same clan. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

67. Ans: D

Exp:

- The Adi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh is believed to have come from southern China in the 16th century.
 - ◆ They are the **Tibeto-Burman language speaking population. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
- They reside in the far north inhabiting East Siang and Lower Dibang Valley districts of Arunachal Pradesh.
 - ◆ The Adis are experts at making cane and bamboo items.
- Solung (harvesting festival where animal sacrifices and rituals are performed) and Aran (a hunting festival where all the male members of the family go for hunting) are two major festivals of the Adi tribes.
- It is a **Scheduled Tribe in Arunachal Pradesh. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

68. Ans: B

Exp:

Bhil Tribes:

- The Bhil are one of the largest tribal groups, living in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan.

- They are the **biggest tribe in Rajasthan. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- They are classified as scheduled tribes in Rajasthan.
- The Bhil are known to be **excellent archers coupled with deep knowledge about their local geography.**
 - ◆ Traditionally, **experts in guerrilla warfare**, most of them today are farmers and agricultural labourers. They are also skilled sculptors. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- They have exercised significant influence in the Mewar region and throughout the past, the Rajput rulers of the region have forged alliances with the tribal group.

69. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Bru or Reang is a community indigenous to Northeast India, living mostly in Tripura, Mizoram and Assam. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - ◆ In Tripura, they are recognised as a **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- In Mizoram, they have been targeted by groups that do not consider them indigenous to the state.
 - ◆ In 1997, following ethnic clashes, nearly 37,000 Brus fled Mamit, Kolasib and Lunglei districts of Mizoram and were accommodated in relief camps in Tripura.
- In June 2018, community leaders from the Bru camps signed an agreement with the Centre and the two state governments, providing for repatriation in Mizoram. But most camp residents rejected the terms of the agreement.
- In January 2020, the Centre, the governments of Mizoram and Tripura and leaders of Bru organisations signed a quadripartite agreement.
 - ◆ Under the pact, the Home Ministry has committed to incur the whole expenditure of settlement in Tripura.

70. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Kalbeliya dances** are an expression of the **Kalbelia community's** traditional way of life.
 - ◆ It is **associated with a Rajasthani tribe** of the same name. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It was included in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations (**UNESCO**) **list of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) in 2010. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The dance form consists of swirling; graceful movements that make this dance a treat to behold.

- ◆ The movements associated with the Kalbelia also make it one of the most sensuous forms of folk dance in India.
- It is generally performed for any joyous celebration and is considered to be an integral part of the Kalbeliya culture.
 - ◆ Another unique aspect of the Kalbelia dance is that **it is only performed by women** while the men play the instruments and provide the music. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

71. Ans.: A

Exp.:

- **Silambam** is an ancient weapon-based martial art that emerged in Tamilakam, which is now **Tamil Nadu region of India**. It is one of the oldest martial arts in the world. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- Kalaripayattu is practiced in **Kerala**. **Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.**
- Mardani Khel is a martial art form of **Maharashtra**. **Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
- Thag Ta is a martial art form of **Manipur state**. **Hence, pair 4 is not correctly matched.**
- **Other Martial arts and state they belong:**
 - ◆ Gatka- Punjab
 - ◆ Paika- Odisha
 - ◆ Choliya- Uttarakhand
 - ◆ Pang Lhabso- Sikkim
 - ◆ Musti Yudha- Uttar Pradesh
 - ◆ Pari Khanda- Bihar

72. Ans: C

Exp:

- Jagannath Temple is believed to have been constructed in the **12th century by King Anatavarman Chodaganga Deva of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Jagannath Puri temple is called 'Yamanika Tirtha' where, according to the Hindu beliefs, the power of 'Yama', the god of death has been nullified in Puri due to the presence of Lord Jagannath. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- This temple was called the "White Pagoda" and is a part of Char Dham pilgrimages (Badrinath, Dwaraka, Puri, Rameswaram). **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

73. Ans: D

Exp:

- Tipu Sultan was born in November 1750. He was Haidar Ali's son and a great warrior, also known as the Tiger of Mysore.

- Mysore had grown in strength under the leadership of powerful rulers like Haidar Ali (ruled from 1761 to 1782) and his famous son Tipu Sultan (ruled from 1782 to 1799).
- Tipu introduced a **number of administrative innovations** during his rule, including his coinage, a **new Mauludi lunisolar calendar**, and a new land revenue system which initiated the growth of Mysore silk industry. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Embracing western military methods like artillery and rockets alongside traditional Indian weapons including war elephants, he ensured his forces could overwhelm his Indian rivals and match the British armies sent against him.
- He organised his army on the European model with Persian words of command.
 - ◆ Though he took the help of the French officers to train his soldiers, he never allowed them (French) to develop into a pressure group.
 - ◆ He was well aware of the importance of a naval force.
 - In 1796, he set up a Board of Admiralty and planned for a fleet of 22 battleships and 20 large frigates.
 - He established three dockyards at Mangalore, Wajedabad and Molidabad. However, his plans did not fructify.
- In 1767, Tipu commanded a corps of cavalry against the Marathas in the Carnatic (Karnataka) region of western India, and he fought against the Marathas on several occasions between 1775 and 1779.
- He was also a patron of science and technology and is credited as the 'pioneer of rocket technology' in India.
 - ◆ He wrote a **military manual (Fathul Mujahidin)** explaining the operation of rockets. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Tipu was a great lover of democracy and a great diplomat who gave his support to the French soldiers at Seringapatam in setting up a Jacobin Club in 1797.
 - Tipu himself became a **member of the Jacobin Club** and allowed himself to be called Citizen Tipu. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - He planted the Tree of Liberty at Seringapatam.

74. Ans: B

Exp:

- The ancient city of Dholavira is an archaeological site at Kachchh District, in the state of Gujarat, which dates from the 3rd to mid-2nd millennium BCE.

- ◆ After **Mohen-jodaro, Ganweriwala and Harappa in Pakistan and Rakhigarhi in Haryana of India, Dholavira is the fifth largest metropolis of Indus Valley Civilization (IVC). Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- Dholavira's location is on the **Tropic of Cancer. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Recently, **UNESCO has announced the Harappan city of Dholavira in Gujarat as India's 40th world heritage site.**

- ◆ It is the first site of Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC) in India to be included on the coveted list. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

75. Ans: B

Exp:

- Traditionally, the **Kanjeevaram is a sari** that is usually **handwoven in mulberry silk and has pure gold or silver zari** that renders it a festive quality.
- **Originating from the village 'Kanchipuram' in Tamil Nadu**, Kanjeevaram is considered the queen of silk sarees.
- The temple architecture of South India and especially around Kanchipuram has historically served as a **mood board for design inspiration for the traditional Kanjeevaram motifs.**
 - ◆ One can spot motifs such as the **mythical creature called the Yali (an elephant-lion fusion), the Ganda Berunda** (a two-headed majestic mythical bird) and the ubiquitous temple border called reku.
- Tracing its long and rich history from the Chola Dynasty, Kanchipuram sarees today are considered as one of the oldest and rich legacies of the Indian textile industry.
- Kanchipuram silk has also received **Geographical indication (GI Tag) in 2005-06.**
- Hence, option B is correct.

76. Ans: D

Exp

- Geographical indication (GI Tag) is an indication used to identify goods having special characteristics originating from a definite geographical territory. Some GI Tagged Sarees include:
 - ◆ **Tamil Nadu:** Kanjeevaram Silk Saree, Kandangi Saree, Thirubuvanam silk sarees, Kovai Kora Cotton Sarees
 - ◆ **Uttar Pradesh:** Banaras Brocade
 - ◆ **Telangana:** Gadwal Saree, Pochampally Ikat (logo). **Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**

- ◆ **Madhya Pradesh:** Chanderi Saree, Maheshwar Sarees

- ◆ **Odisha:** Odisha Ikat, Bomkai Saree, Habaspuri Saree. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

- ◆ **West Bengal:** Santipore Saree, Baluchari Saree, Dhaniakhali Saree. Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.

- Hence, option D is correct.

77. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II (1693-1744)** was a great warrior and astronomer. He came to power at the age of 11 on the death of his father **Maharaja Bishan Singh.**
- He was **feudatory of the Mughals** and **Aurangazab** conferred the title of Sawai to Jai Singh, meaning one and a quarter, a title that all of Jai Singh's descendants kept. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- He was trained by the best teachers and scholars in **art, science, philosophy and military affairs.**
- Jai Singh's lineage can be traced back to the **Kucchwaha Rajput clan who came to power in the 12th century. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- He built **Astronomy Observatories** at Delhi, Jaipur, Varanasi, Ujjain and Mathura known as the **Jantar Mantar.**
 - ◆ **Jaipur** gets its name from him. Recently it has been declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site.**

78. Ans: A

Exp:

- The ancient city of Dholavira is an archaeological site at Kachchh District, in the state of Gujarat, which dates from the 3rd to mid-2nd millennium BCE.
 - ◆ Dholavira's location is on the Tropic of Cancer.
- It is located on Khadir bet island in the **Kachchh Desert Wildlife Sanctuary in the Great Rann of Kachchh. Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Unlike other Harappan antecedent towns normally located near to rivers and perennial sources of water, the location of **Dholavira in the island of Khadirbet. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ This was strategic to harness different mineral and raw material sources (copper, shell, agate-carnelian, steatite, lead, banded limestone, among others).
- It also facilitated internal as well as external trade to the Magan (modern Oman peninsula) and Mesopotamian regions.
- Dholavira entered a phase of severe aridity due to climate change and rivers like Saraswati drying up.

- Due to a drought-like situation, people started migrating toward the Ganges valley or towards south Gujarat and further beyond in Maharashtra.
- Further, the Great Rann of Kutch, which surrounds the Khadir island on which Dholavira is located, used to be navigable, but the sea receded gradually and the Rann became a mudflat.

79. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Kesaria Buddha stupa** is said to be the **tallest and the largest Buddhist stupa in the world**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ It is located in Kesariya, at a distance of 110 kilometers from Patna, in the East Champaran district of Bihar.
- The first construction of the Stupa is dated to the 3rd century BCE. The **original Kesaria stupa probably dates to the time of Ashoka (circa 250 BCE)**, as the remains of a capital of a Pillar of Ashoka were discovered there. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
 - ◆ The **current stupa dates to the Gupta Dynasty between 200 AD and 750 AD** and may have been associated with the 4th century ruler Raja Chakravarti.
- In ancient times, Kesaria was under the rule of the Mauryas and the Licchavis.
- Two great foreign travelers, Faxian (Fahien) and Xuan Zang (Hsuan Tsang), had visited this place in ancient times and have left interesting and informative accounts of their travels.

80. Ans: B

Exp:

- Tulu is a Dravidian language spoken mainly in two coastal districts Dakshina Kannada and Udupi of Karnataka and Kasaragod district of Kerala.
 - ◆ The Tulu speakers, mainly in Karnataka and Kerala, have been requesting the governments to give it official language status and include it in the eighth schedule to the Constitution. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- **Eighth Schedule of the Constitution:** The Constitutional provisions relating to the Eighth Schedule occur in **Article 344 (1) and 351** of the Constitution. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

81. Ans: A

Exp:

- The Mughal Architecture flourished in northern and central India under the patronage of the Mughal emperors from the mid-16th to the late 17th century.

- ◆ It was a **blend of Indian, Persian, and Turkish architectural style**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

- It contains diverse forms of architecture including different types of buildings, such as majestic gates (entrances), forts, mausoleums, palaces, mosques, sarais, etc.
- Mostly, **red sandstone and white marble were used** for building this style of architecture. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- **Special features of the Mughal Architecture** include the Charbagh style of the mausoleums, pronounced bulbous domes, slender turrets at the corners, broad gateways, **beautiful calligraphy**, arabesque, and **geometric patterns on pillars** and walls, and palace halls supported on pillars. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

82. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Ministry of Culture (MoC) and Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for 'Cooperation in Development of **National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC)**' at Lothal, Gujarat. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
- Lothal was one of the southernmost cities of the ancient Indus Valley Civilization located in Gujarat.
 - ◆ Construction of the city began around 2400 BCE.
 - ◆ According to the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Lothal had the **world's earliest known dock**, which connected the city to an ancient course of the Sabarmati river on the trade route between Harappan cities in Sindh and the peninsula of Saurashtra. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ Lothal was a vital and thriving trade Centre in ancient times, with its trade of beads, gems, and valuable ornaments reaching the far corners of West Asia and Africa.
- The Lothal site **has been nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site**, and its application is **pending on the tentative list of UNESCO**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

83. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Sant Kabir Das** was born in the city of **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**. He was a **15th century mystic poet, saint and social reformer** and a proponent of the **Bhakti Movement**.
 - ◆ Kabir's legacy is still going on through a sect known as **Panth of Kabir**, a religious community that considers him as the founder.

- His early life was in a Muslim family, but he was strongly influenced by his teacher, the Hindu bhakti leader Ramananda.
- Kabir Das' writings had a great influence on the Bhakti movement and includes titles like **Kabir Granthawali**, **Anurag Sagar**, **Bijak**, and **Sakhi Granth**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ His verses are found in Sikhism's scripture **Guru Granth Sahib**.
 - ◆ The major part of his work was collected by the fifth Sikh guru, Guru Arjan Dev. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ He was best known for his two-line couplets, known as '**Kabir Ke Dohe**'.
- Kabir's works were written in the **Hindi language** which was easy to comprehend. He used to write in couplets to enlighten people.

84. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Kalbeliya tribe people** were **once professional snake handlers**, today they evoke their former occupation in music and dance that is evolving in new and creative ways. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- They live a nomadic life and **belong to the scheduled tribes of Rajasthan**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- The largest number of the population of Kalbeliyas is in Pali district, then Ajmer, Chittorgarh and Udaipur district (Rajasthan).
- **Kalbeliya dances** are an expression of the Kalbelia community's traditional way of life. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

85. Ans: B

Exp:

- In the **Kannada region**, the Bhakti movement began by **Basavanna (1105-68)** in the 12th century. Hence, **pair 1 is not correctly matched**.
 - ◆ Basaveshwara was born in Bagevadi (of undivided Bijapur district in Karnataka) during 1131 AD. He is the founding saint of the Lingayat sect.
- In **Maharashtra**, the Bhakti movement began in the late 13th century. Its proponents were known as the Varkaris.
 - ◆ Among its most popular figures were Jnanadev (1275- 96), **Namdev (1270-50)** and Tukaram (1608-50). Hence, **pair 2 is correctly matched**.
- **Srimanta Sankardeva** (a Vaishnava saint born in 1449 AD in **Nagaon district of Assam**. He started the neo-Vaishnavite movement). Hence, **pair 3 is not correctly matched**.

- **Chaitanya** was a renowned **saint and reformer of Bengal** who popularised the Krishna cult. Hence, **pair 4 is correctly matched**.

- In Northern India from the 13th to the 17th centuries, a large number of poets flourished who were all Bhakti figures of considerable importance.

- ◆ While Kabir, Ravi Dass and Guru Nanak spoke of the formless god (nirgun bhakti), Meerabai (1498-1546) from Rajasthan composed and sung devotional verses in praise of Krishna.
- ◆ Surdas, Narasimha Mehta and Tulsidas also made priceless contributions to the canon of Bhakti literature and enhanced its glorious legacy.

86. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **Bhakti Movement** probably began in the Tamil region around the 6th and 7th century AD and achieved a great deal of popularity through the poems of the **Alvars (devotees of Vishnu)** and Nayanars (devotees of Shiva), the **Vaishnavite** and Shaivite poets.
 - ◆ The Alvars and Nayanars travelled from place to place singing hymns in Tamil in praise of their gods. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The **Nalayira Divyaprabandham** is a **composition by the Alvars**. It is frequently described as the **Tamil Veda**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- **Andal was a woman Alvar** and she saw herself as the beloved of Vishnu.
- **Karaikkal Ammaiyar was a devotee of Shiva** and she adopted the path of extreme asceticism in order to attain her goal. Her compositions were preserved within the Nayanar tradition.

87. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Humayun's Tomb**, built in 1570, is of particular cultural significance as it was the first garden-tomb on the Indian subcontinent.
 - ◆ It inspired several major architectural innovations, culminating in the construction of the Taj Mahal.
- It was built under the patronage of Humayun's son, the great Emperor Akbar.
- It is also **called the 'dormitory of the Mughals'** as in the cells are buried over 150 Mughal family members.
- It is an **example of the charbagh** (a four quadrant garden with the four rivers of Quranic paradise represented), with pools joined by channels.
- The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) **recognized it as a World Heritage Site in 1993**.
- Hence, **option B is correct**.

88. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Bhakti movement** probably began in the Tamil region around the 6th and 7th century AD and achieved a great deal of popularity through the poems of the **Alvars, devotees of Vishnu (and not Lingayats) and Nayanars, devotees of Shiva**, the Vaishnavite and Shaivite poets. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ These saints looked upon religion not as a cold formal worship but as a loving bond based upon love between the worshipped and worshipper.
- Originally, the **Bhakti movement began in South India in the 9th century with Shankaracharya** spread over all parts of India and by the 16th century was a great spiritual force to reckon with, especially after the great wave made by Kabir, Nanak and Shri Chaitanya. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- **Jagadguru Basaveshwara (and not Shankaracharya)** was an Indian 12th-century Philosopher, Statesman and a social reformer.
 - ◆ He was **Lingayat saint in the Shiva-focussed Bhakti movement**, and Hindu Shaivite social reformer during the reign of the Kalyani Chalukya/Kalachuri dynasty.
 - The Lingayats are a Hindu sect with a wide following in southern India that worships Shiva as the only deity.
 - ◆ He is **also known as Bhakti Bhandari** (literally, the treasurer of devotion), or Basaveshwara (Lord Basava). **Hence, statement 3 is not correct.**

89. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Malerkotla is former princely state and only Muslim-dominated town of Punjab.
 - ◆ Historically, Malerkotla owes its **foundations in the 15th century to Sufi saint Sheikh Sadrauddin Sadar-i-Jahan, also known as Haider Sheikh**. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ After the decline of the Mughal empire, Malerkotla's rulers exercised greater independence and at the time of the invasion of India by Ahmad Shah Abdali from Afghanistan, they aligned with him.
 - Ahmed Shah Abdali invaded India eight times from 1748 to 1767.
- In 19th century, Malerkotla became one among the cis-Sutlej states.
- Malerkotla continued under the British protection and the alliance with the neighbouring Sikh states till 1947 when it became the only Muslim majority Sikh state in East Punjab.

- After the **dissolution of the princely states in 1948, Malerkotla joined the new state of PEPSU or Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU)**. PEPSU itself was dissolved in 1954 and Malerkotla became a part of Punjab. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

90. Ans: D

Exp:

- UNESCO's Heritage Sites Related to Buddhism:
 - ◆ **Archaeological Site of Nalanda Mahavihara** at Nalanda, Bihar
 - ◆ Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi, MP
 - ◆ **Mahabodhi Temple Complex** at Bodh Gaya, Bihar
 - ◆ **Ajanta Caves** Aurangabad, Maharashtra.
- **Khajuraho monuments**, declared a **UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1986**, is an exceptional specimen of **Chandela architecture and sculpture (Not a Buddhist Site)**. **Hence, option D is correct.**

91. Ans: B

Exp:

- **Begum Sultan Jahan** was the **last Begum of Bhopal**. Ruled from 1909 to 1926 after which she was succeeded by her son.
 - ◆ **Fourth female ruler of Bhopal. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- She was a Philanthropist, Prolific writer, Feminist, Symbol of Women Empowerment, First female Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University.
 - ◆ She set up the municipality system, introduced municipal elections and constructed a walled city and a palace for herself.
 - ◆ Took steps for improving public health, sanitation, and water supply in the walled city and implemented widespread vaccination drives for its residents.
- Begum Sultan Jahan authored 41 books, translated a number of English books into Urdu.
 - ◆ She **authored a book, Dars-e-Hayat**, about the **education and parenting of young girls. Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ Started a nursing school called Lady Minto Nursing School.
 - ◆ She was the first women chancellor of AMU (Aligarh Muslim University).

92. Ans: D

Exp:

- **Rana Pratap Singh** also known as **Maharana Pratap** was born on 9th May 1540 in Kumbhalgarh, Rajasthan.

- ◆ He was the 13th King of Mewar and was the eldest son of Udai Singh II.
- He ruled the kingdom of **Mewar**, with his capital at **Chittor (and not Udaipur)**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.

- Maharana Pratap fought the **Battle of Haldighati in 1576 with Raja Man Singh** of Amber who was the **general of the Mughal emperor Akbar (and not Sher Shah Suri)**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

- ◆ Maharana Pratap fought a brave war, but was defeated by Mughal forces.
- ◆ It is said that Maharana Pratap's loyal horse named Chetak, gave up his life as the Maharana was leaving the battlefield.

93. Ans: B

Exp:

- The **HakkiPikki tribes are semi nomadic tribal people**, have four clans namely the Gujrathioa, Kaliwala, Mewara and Panwara.
 - ◆ It is a Scheduled Tribe in Karnataka (not Rajasthan). Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
 - ◆ The HakkiPikki, meaning "bird catchers" in Kannada.
- They speak many south Indian languages such as Kannada, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam along with Vagribooli which is similar to Gujarati.
- The origin of HakkiPikki tribal communities has a rich history and is said to be an **ancestral relation with the legendary Ranapratap Singh**.
 - ◆ The HakkiPikki tribal community are a **Kshatriya or warrior tribal** community who had to migrate to southern India after their defeat with Mughal kings. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.

94. Ans: A

Exp:

- The **Pulayar**, also Pulaya, or Holey or Cheramar, are one of the main social groups found in Kerala, Karnataka and in historical Tamil Nadu or Tamilakam.
 - ◆ They are a **Scheduled Caste in Kerala and Tamil Nadu**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- Pulayas are noted for their music, craftsmanship, and for certain dances which include:
 - ◆ **Kōlam-thullal, a mask dance** which is part of their **exorcism rituals**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ Mudi-āttam or hair-dance which has its origins in a fertility ritual.
- **Mahatma Ayyankali** was called as Pulaya King.
 - ◆ Ayyankali in 1893 rode an ox-cart challenging the 'ban' on untouchables from accessing public roads by caste-Hindus.

- ◆ Ayyankali became a **stated protestor for Pulayar rights**. Because of the protests led through Ayyankali, in 1907 a decree was issued to confess students from the untouchable network to government schools. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.

95. Ans: D

Exp:

- The term Lingayat denotes a person who **wears a personal linga**, the aniconic form of god Shiva, on the body, which is received during the initiation ceremony.
- The tradition of Lingayatism is known to have been **founded by social reformer and philosopher Basavanna in 12th century Karnataka** (not in vedic period). Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The Lingayats are strict monotheists. They enjoin the worship of only one God, namely, **Linga (Shiva)**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
 - ◆ The word 'Linga' does not mean Linga established in temples, but universal consciousness qualified by the universal energy (Shakti).

96. Ans: B

Exp:

- Odia is the oldest language of the eastern group of the Indo-Aryan family. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ It is derived from **Ardha Magadhi Prakrit**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- Odia is one of the six languages that got Classical Status in India.
 - ◆ It is one of the officially "scheduled" languages of the Indian constitution.
- It is also the main official language of the Indian state of Odisha.
- **Adikabi Sarala Das** was one of the great scholars of Odia literature and the first one to write his works in Odia in 15th century A.D.
 - ◆ He was best known for three Odia books, **Mahabharata**, Vilanka Ramayana and Chandi Purana. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
 - ◆ He also wrote the book Laxmi Narayana Vachanika.

97. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Gudi Padwa and Ugadi festivals** are celebrated by the people in the Deccan region including **Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The common practice in the celebrations of both the festivals is the festive food that is prepared with a mix of sweet and bitter.

- ◆ A famous concoction served is jaggery (sweet) and neem (bitter), called **bevu-bella** in the South, signifying that life brings both happiness and sorrows. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- **Gudi is a doll prepared in Maharashtrian homes.**
 - ◆ A **bamboo stick is adorned with green or red brocade to make the gudi.** This gudi is placed prominently in the house or outside a window/door for all to see. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- For Ugadi, doors in homes are adorned with mango leaf decorations called toranalu or Torana in Kannada.

98. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Indian temples are broadly divided into Nagara, Vesara, Dravida and Gadag styles of architecture.
 - ◆ However, the temple architecture of Odisha corresponds to altogether a different category for their unique representations called Kalinga style of temple architecture.
 - ◆ This style broadly comes under the Nagara style. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- In Kalinga Architecture, basically a temple is made in two parts, a tower and a hall. The tower is called deula and the **hall is called jagmohan.** Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - ◆ The walls of both the deula and the jagmohan are lavishly sculpted with architectural motifs and a profusion of figures.
 - ◆ The most repeated form is the horseshoe shape, which has come from the earliest times, starting with the large windows of the chaitya-grihas.
 - ◆ It is the deula which makes three distinct types of temples in Kalinga Architecture:
 - Rekha Deula.
 - Pidha Deula.
 - Khakhara Deula.
 - ◆ The former two are associated with Vishnu, Surya and Shiva temples while the third is mainly with Chamunda and Durga temples.
 - ◆ The Rekha Deula and Khakhara Deula houses the sanctum sanctorum while the Pidha Deula constitutes outer dancing and offering halls.

99. Ans: B

Exp:

- The Brus, also **referred to as the Reangs**, are spread across the northeastern states of Tripura, Assam, Manipur, and Mizoram. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

- In **Tripura**, they are **recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group.** **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- In Mizoram, they have been targeted by groups that do not consider them indigenous to the state
- Particularly vulnerable tribal group (PVTG) is a government of India classification created with the purpose of enabling improvement in the conditions of certain communities with particularly low development indices. 75 tribal groups have been categorized by the **Ministry of Home Affairs as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).**
- In 1973, the **Dhebar Commission** created Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) as a separate category, who are less developed among the tribal groups. In 2006, the Government of India renamed the PTGs as PVTGs. **Hence, statement 3 is correct**

100. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Mahavira was born** to King Siddhartha of Kundagrama and Queen Trishala, a Lichhavi princess in the year 540 BC **in the Vajji kingdom**, identical with modern day Vaishali in Bihar. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Mahavira belonged to the Ikshvaku dynasty.
- Lord Mahavir was named Vardhamana, which means "one who grows".
- He abandoned worldly life at the age of 30 and attained 'kaivalya' or omniscience at the age of 42.
- Mahavira taught ahimsa (non-violence), Satya (truth), asteya (non-stealing), brahmacharya (chastity) and aparigraha (non-attachment) to his disciples and **his teachings were called Jain Agamas.** **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Ordinary people were able to understand the teachings of Mahavira and his followers because they used Prakrit.
- It is believed that the Mahavira passed away and attained moksha (liberation from the cycle of birth and death) at the age of 72 in 468 BC at a place called Pavapuri near modern Rajgir in Bihar.

101. Ans: C

Exp:

- The word Jaina of Jainism comes from the term Jina, meaning conqueror.
 - ◆ Tirthankara is a Sanskrit word meaning 'Ford maker', i.e., one who is able to ford the river, to cross beyond the perpetual flow of earthly life.
- Jainism attaches utmost importance to **ahimsa** or non-violence. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- It preaches 5 mahavratas (the 5 great vows):
 - ◆ Ahimsa (Non-violence)
 - ◆ Satya (Truth)
 - ◆ Asteya or Acharya (Non-stealing)
 - ◆ Aparigraha (Non-attachment/Non-possession)
 - ◆ Brahmacharya (Celibacy/Chastity)
- Among these 5 teachings, the **Brahmacharya** (Celibacy/Chastity) was added by **Mahavira**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- Jainism is a religion of self-help.
 - ◆ There are no gods or spiritual beings that will help human beings.
 - ◆ It does not condemn the varna system. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

102. Ans: C

Exp:

- Every year, 18th April is celebrated as 'International Day for Monuments and Sites', also known as 'World Heritage Day'. The theme for the year 2021 is "Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures".
- The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) established the day in 1982 and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) approved it in 1983.
 - ◆ It is a **global non-governmental organization associated with UNESCO**. It is located in Paris, France. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
 - ◆ Its mission is to promote the conservation, protection, use and enhancement of monuments, building complexes and sites.
 - ◆ It is an **Advisory Body of the World Heritage Committee** for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention of UNESCO. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
 - ◆ As such, it reviews the nominations of cultural world heritage and ensures the conservation status of properties.
- Its creation in 1965 is the logical outcome of initial conversations between architects, historians and international experts that began in the early twentieth century and that materialized in the adoption of the Venice Charter in 1964.

103. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Lingaraj Temple**, built in the 11th century AD, is dedicated to Lord Shiva and is considered as the largest temple of the city Bhubaneswar (Odisha).
 - ◆ It is believed to have been built by the **Somvanshi King Yayati I**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

- It is built in red stone and is a classic example of **Kalinga style of architecture**.
 - ◆ This style broadly comes under the **Nagara** style. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- The temple is divided into four sections - Garbha Griha (sanctum sanctorum), Yajna Shala (the hall for prayers), Bhoga Mandap (the hall of offering) and Natya Shala (hall of dance).

104. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Navreh is the lunar new year that is celebrated in Kashmir**.
 - ◆ It is the Sanskrit word 'Nav-Varsha' from where the word 'Navreh' has been derived.
 - ◆ On this day, Kashmiri pandits look at a bowl of rice which is considered as a symbol of riches and fertility. Hence, Pair 1 is not correctly matched.
- The **Gudi Padwa and Ugadi festivals** are celebrated by the people in the Deccan region including **Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra**.
 - ◆ For **Ugadi**, doors in homes are adorned with mango leaf decorations called toranal or Torana in **Kannada**. Hence, **Pair 2 is correctly matched**.
- **Puthandu also known as Puthuvaram or Tamil New Year**, is the first day of the year on the Tamil calendar and traditionally celebrated as a festival.
 - ◆ The festival date is set with the solar cycle of the lunisolar Hindu calendar, as the first day of the Tamil month Chithirai. Hence, **Pair 3 is correctly matched**.
- **Vishu is a Hindu festival celebrated in the Indian state of Kerala**, Tulu Nadu region in **Karnataka**, Mahé district of Union Territory of **Pondicherry**, neighbouring areas of Tamil Nadu and their diaspora communities.
 - ◆ The festival marks the first day of Medam, the ninth month in the solar calendar followed in Kerala. Hence, **Pair 4 is not correctly matched**.

105. Ans: B

Exp:

- Nagas are a hill people who are estimated to number about 2.5 million (1.8 million in **Nagaland**, 0.6 million in **Manipur** and 0.1 million in **Arunachal Pradesh**) and living in the remote and mountainous country between the Indian state of **Assam**.
 - ◆ The Nagas are **not a single tribe, but an ethnic community that comprises several tribes** who live in the state of Nagaland and its neighbourhood. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.

- Nagas belong to the Indo-Mongoloid Family. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
 - ◆ There are also Naga groups living in Myanmar.
- There are nineteen major Naga tribes, namely, Aos, Angamis, Changs, Chakesang, Kabuis, Kacharis, Khain-Mangas, Konyaks, Kukis, Lothas (Lothas), Maos, Mikirs, Phoms, Rengmas, Sangtams, Semas, Tankhuls, Yamchumgar and Zeeliang.

106. Ans: B

Exp:

- The semi-nomads are those who are on the move but return to fixed habitations once a year, mainly for occupational reasons.
 - ◆ Denotified tribes are those that were notified under the Criminal Tribes Acts enforced during British Rule, whereby entire populations were branded criminals by birth. Hence, statement 1 is not correct.
 - ◆ In 1952, the Act was repealed and the communities were de-notified.
- Dr. Ambedkar Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (DNTs). Hence, statement 2 is correct.
 - ◆ It was launched in 2014-15 for the welfare of those DNT (Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes) students who are not covered under SC, ST or OBC.
 - ◆ The scheme is implemented through State Governments/UT Administrations. The expenditure is shared between the Centre and the States in the ratio of 75:25.

107. Ans: A

Exp:

- There are eight Classical Dances of India: Bharatnatyam (Tamil Nadu), Kathak (North India), Kathakali (Kerala), Mohiniyattam (Kerala), Kuchipudi (Andhra Pradesh), Odissi (Odisha), Sattriya (Assam) and Manipuri (Manipur). Hence, statement 1 is correct.
- The Kalladikodan shailee is one among the three major styles of Kathakali. The other two are Vettathu and Kaplingadu. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.
 - ◆ The Kalladikodan style gives equal importance to the three aspects of nritya (the dance movements in their basic form), nritya (expressional component i.e. mudras or gestures) and natya (the dramatic element of the dance i.e. the imitation of characters).

- Guru Chemancheri Kunhiraman Nair was a Kathakali maestro. Hence, statement 3 is not correct.
 - ◆ He studied at Kalladikkodan school of Kathakali and was specialised in "Kalladikodan" style.

108. Ans: C

Exp:

- Anangpal II, popularly known as Anangpal Tomar, belonged to the Tomar dynasty.
 - ◆ He was the founder of Dhillika Puri, which eventually became Delhi. Hence, statement 3 is correct.
 - Evidence about the early history of Delhi is inscribed on the iron pillar of Masjid Quwaatul Islam, adjacent to Qutub Minar.
 - ◆ Multiple inscriptions and coins suggest Anangpal Tomar was the ruler of present-day Delhi and Haryana in between the 8th-12th centuries. Hence, statement 1 is correct.
 - He had built the city from ruins and under his supervision, Anang Tal Baoli and Lal Kot were constructed.
 - ◆ Anangpal Tomar II was succeeded by his grandson Prithviraj Chauhan.
 - Delhi Sultanate was established in 1192 after Prithviraj Chauhan's defeat in the Battle of Tarain (present-day Haryana) by the Ghurid forces. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.

109. Ans: D

Exp:

- UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity is a coveted list made up of those intangible heritage elements that help demonstrate diversity of cultural heritage and raise awareness about its importance.
- The list was established in 2008 when the Convention for Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage came into effect.
- From India the Intangible Cultural Heritages added into this list include:
 1. Tradition of Vedic chanting
 2. Ramlila, the traditional performance of the Ramayana
 3. Kutiyattam, Sanskrit theatre
 4. Ramman, religious festival and ritual theatre of the Garhwal Himalayas.
 5. Mudi yettu, ritual theatre and dance drama of Kerala
 6. Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan
 7. Chhau dance

8. Buddhist chanting of Ladakh: recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh region, Jammu and Kashmir.
 9. Sankirtana, ritual singing, drumming and dancing of Manipur
 10. Traditional brass and copper craft of utensil making among the Thatheras of Jandiala Guru, Punjab
 11. Yoga
 12. Nawruz
 13. Kumbh Mela
- The **Jallikattu** is a popular bull taming sport held in Pongal in Tamil Nadu. It is not included under UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. **Hence, option D is correct.**

110. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Lachit Borphukan** was born on 24th November, 1622. Borphukan was known for his leadership in the **Battle of Saraighat**, 1671 in which an attempt by Mughal forces to capture Assam was thwarted.
 - ◆ He was the inspiration behind strengthening India's naval force and revitalising inland water transport and creating infrastructure associated with it due to his great naval strategies.
 - ◆ It is considered as one of the greatest naval battles on a river which resulted in the victory of Ahoms over the Mughals. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The battle of Saraighat was fought on the banks of the Brahmaputra in Guwahati in 1671. Hence, statement 2 is correct.

111. Ans: C

Exp:

- Shigmo is the celebration of a '**rich, golden harvest of paddy**' by the tribal communities of Goa. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ Agricultural communities including the Kunbis, Gawdas and Velips celebrate the festival that also marks the onset of spring.
- Two Variants of the Festival:
 - ◆ Dhakto Shigmo: It is celebrated by the rural population, farmers and the labour class.
 - ◆ Vhadlo Shigmo: It is of greater importance and is celebrated by everyone.
- Shigmo celebrations last over a fortnight in the months of Phalgun-Chaitra months of the Hindu calendar that correspond with March-April every year.

- ◆ The festival begins with 'Naman' that is the invocation of the local folk deities on the village 'maand' or the village stage to the beats of percussion instruments like the Ghumat, Dhol, Mhadle and Tashe by the male folk.
 - It is called the 'romta mell' that moves from one village to another.
 - **Folk dances** like **Ghode Modni** (a dance of equestrian warriors), Gopha and Phugadi are performed during this festival. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Shigmo is celebrated all over India but in different names:
 - North India - Holi.
 - Assam and Bengal - Dolyatra.
 - South India - Kamadhan.
 - Maharashtra - Shimga.

112. Ans.: B

Exp.:

- The **Katyuri kings** were a medieval ruling clan of **present-day Uttarakhand**, India. They ruled over the region now known as Kumaon from 700 to 1200 CE. **Hence, pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- The **Chandelas of Jejakabhukti** were a royal dynasty in **Central India**. They ruled much of the **Bundelkhand region** between the 9th and the 13th centuries. **Hence, pair in is correctly matched.**
- The **Pala Empire** was an imperial power in the Indian subcontinent, which originated in the **region of Bengal**. **Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**

113. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **Khajuraho temples** are famous for their **nagara-style architectural symbolism** and their erotic sculptures. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ They are one of the nineteen identified iconic destinations in the country.
- The Khajuraho Group of Monuments is listed as a UNESCO world heritage site.
- Most Khajuraho temples were built between 885 AD and 1050 AD **by the Chandela dynasty**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

114. Ans: C

Exp:

- The Western Railway has decided to not stop the services of three trains, including the 107-year-old narrow gauge heritage train between Vaghai to Bilimora, in Gujarat permanently.

- The **Gaekwad dynasty** is Indian ruling family whose capital was at Baroda (now Vadodara) in Gujarat.
 - ◆ The state became a **leading power in the 18th-century Maratha** confederacy. The founder of the dynasty was Damaji I who had risen to power by 1740. The last Gaekwar, Sayaji Rao III, died in 1939. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The Gaekwad jurisdiction was spread across parts of Saurashtra, Mehsana in north Gujarat, and Bilimora in South Gujarat. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

115. Ans: A

Exp:

- Recently, the Prime Minister paid homage to **Pandit Bhimsen Joshi**, the classical music vocalist, on his centenary birth anniversary.
 - ◆ Pandit Bhimsen Joshi was born on February 4, 1922.
 - ◆ He received the **Bharat Ratna** in 2008. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- He is remembered for his famous ragas including Shuddha Kalyan, Miyan Ki Todi, Puriya Dhanashri and Multani etc.
- He belonged to the **Kirana Gharana**.
 - ◆ Kirana Gharana got its name from a small town called Kerana in Uttar Pradesh. It was founded by Ustad Abdul Karim Khan. Famous artists such as Abdul Wahid Khan, Suresh Babu Mane, Hira Bai Badodekar and Roshanara Begum belong to this Gharana.
 - He belonged to the school of **Hindustani classical music**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

116. Ans: C

Exp

- The Centre has withdrawn the draft heritage bylaws issued by the **National Monuments Authority (NMA) for Shree Jagannath Temple** in Puri, Odisha.
- Jagannath Puri temple is believed to be constructed in the 12th century by King Anatavarman Chodaganga Deva of the **Eastern Ganga Dynasty**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Jagannath Puri temple was called the "White Pagoda" and is a part of Char Dham pilgrimages (Badrinath, Dwaraka, Puri, Rameswaram). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

117. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, a shadow leather puppet in Kerala's famous temple art Tholpavakoothu has been animated by a robot.

- It is a **traditional temple art in Kerala** having its roots in Palakkad and neighbouring regions. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ This art is confined largely to Pulavar families from Shoranur region of Palakkad district.
- Among the ancient artforms of Kerala, tholpavakoothu or **shadow puppet play occupies a prominent place**. It is a fine example of the **integration of Aryan and Dravidian cultures**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- It is a ritual art performed during the annual festivals in the Kaali temples of Palakkad district. It is also known as Nizhalkkoothu and Olakkoothu.
- The theme of the play is **based on the Kamba Ramayana** (the Tamil version of the epic). **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

118. Ans: C

Exp:

- Shadow puppetry is considered the oldest form of puppetry in the world. It began 1,000 years ago in China and India. **Regional names of shadow puppetry in India are given below. Hence, option C is correct.**

Regional Names of Shadow Puppetry in India	
State	Name
Andhra Pradesh	Tholu Bommalata
Karnataka	Togalu gombeyaata
Maharashtra	Charma bahuli natya
Odisha	Ravanachhaya
Keral	Tholapavakkoothu
Tamil Nadu	Thol bommalata

119. Ans: D

Exp

- The Bhimbetka rock shelters are an archaeological site in central India that spans the prehistoric Paleolithic and Mesolithic periods, as well as the historic period.
- It exhibits the earliest traces of human life in India and evidence of Stone Age starting at the site in Acheulian times. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that consists of seven hills and over 750 rock shelters distributed over 10 km. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- The Bhimbetka rock shelters were found by V S Wakankar in 1957. It is located in Raisen District between Hoshangabad and Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh.
 - ◆ It is about 40 kilometres south-east of Bhopal in the foothills of the Vindhya Mountains. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

120. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Chishti Order (Chishtiya):**
 - ◆ Chishtiya Order was founded in India by **Khwaja Moin-Uddin Chishti**.
 - ◆ It emphasised the doctrine of the unity of being with God (waḥdat al-wujūd) and members of the order were also pacifists.
 - They **rejected all material goods** as distractions from the contemplation of God.
 - ◆ They **abstained from connection with the secular state**. Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- **Suhrawardi Order:**
 - ◆ It was founded by Sheikh Shahabuddin Suhrawardi Maqtul.
 - ◆ The **Suhrawardis, unlike the Chishtis, accepted maintenance grants** from the Sultans. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- **Naqshbandi Order:**
 - ◆ It was founded by the Khwaja Baha-ul-din Naqsh band.
 - ◆ In India, this order was established by Khwaja Bahauddin Naqshbandi.
 - ◆ From the beginning, the mystics of this Order stressed on the observance of the Shariat.
- **Qadiriyya Order:**
 - ◆ It was popular in Punjab.
 - ◆ Sheikh Abdul Qadir of Badaun founded it in the 14th century.
 - ◆ They were supporters of the Mughals under Akbar. Hence, **statement 3 is not correct**.

121. Ans: C

Exp:

- Raja Suheldev was the erstwhile ruler of Shravasti in Uttar Pradesh's (UP) Bahraich district, who ruled in the 11th century.
 - ◆ He is known in history for waging guerrilla warfare against Mahmud Ghazni's large army. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
 - ◆ Mohammad of Ghor was a 12th century ruler.
- Raja Suheldev finds mention in 'Mirat-i-Masudi', a 17th century Persian-language historical account.
 - ◆ 'Mirat-i-Masudi' is the biography of Salar Masud, written by Abd-ur-Rahman Chishti during the reign of the Mughal emperor Jahangir (1605–1627). Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.

120. Ans: C

Exp:

- **The Archeological Survey of India (ASI)** has unearthed a Buddhist monastery, believed to be at least 900 years old, buried under a mound in a village near Juljul Pahar of Sitagarhi Hills in Jharkhand.
- Four statues found here are of deity Tara in **Varad Mudra** (gesture of hand showing dispensing of boons). Hence, **statement 1 is correct**.
- Six statues of the Buddha discovered here are in Bhumisparsha Mudra (gesture of hand showing five fingers of right hand towards the earth symbolising the Buddha's enlightenment).
- Vajrayana means "The Vehicle of the Thunderbolt", also known as tantric **Buddhism**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- It is grounded on esoteric elements and a very complex set of rituals compared with the rest of the Buddhist schools.

123. Ans: A

Exp:

- Vijayanagara or "city of victory" was the name of both a city and an empire.
- The empire was founded in the **fourteenth century (1336 AD)** by Harihara and Bukka of the **Sangama dynasty**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
 - ◆ They made Hampi the capital city. In 1986, Hampi was declared a **World Heritage site by UNESCO**. Hence, **statement 2 is correct**.
- It stretched from the **river Krishna** in the north to the extreme south of the peninsula. Hence, **statement 3 is correct**.
- Vijayanagar Empire was ruled by four important dynasties and they are:

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| ◆ Sangama | ◆ Tuluva |
| ◆ Saluva | ◆ Aravidu |

124. Ans: D

Exp:

- The **development of the Bhakti movement took place in Tamil Nadu between the seventh and ninth centuries**. Hence, **statement 1 is not correct**.
- It was reflected in the emotional poems of the Nayanars (devotees of Shiva) and Alvars (devotees of Vishnu).
 - ◆ saints looked upon religion not as a cold formal worship but as a loving bond based upon love between the worshipped and worshipper.

- **Guru Ravidas** was a 14th century saint and **reformer of the Bhakti movement in North India**. Hence, **statement 2 is not correct**.
- He gained prominence due to his **belief in one God and his unbiased religious poems**.
- He dedicated his whole life to the abolition of the caste system and openly despised the notion of a Brahminical society.

125. Ans: A

Explanation:

- The Sentinelese are a **pre-neolithic, negrito tribe** who live in North Sentinel Island of the Andamans.
- They are **completely isolated with no contact to the outside world**. The first time they were contacted by a team of Indian anthropologists in 1991.
 - ◆ Due to no contact, the census of Sentinelese is taken through photographing the island individuals from distance.
 - ◆ has a population of about **50 to 100 on the North Sentinel Island**
- Sentinelese are also listed under **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)** by the government of India.
- They are protected under the **Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956**.
 - ◆ It declares traditional areas occupied by the tribes as reserves and prohibits the entry of all except those with authorization.
 - ◆ Photographing or filming tribe members is also an offence.
- Hence, **option A is correct**.

126. Ans: D

Exp:

- Recently, the Monpa Handmade Paper (1000-year old heritage art) of **Arunachal Pradesh** has been revived by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).
- Monpa Handmade Paper Industry: The art of making Monpa handmade paper originated over 1000 years ago. Gradually the art became an integral part of local custom and culture in Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh. Hence, **option D is correct**.

127. Ans: A

Expl:

- **Bhima-Koregaon Battle** is a **battle fought** in Bhima Koregaon between the **Peshwa forces and the British on 1st January, 1818**.
- The **British army**, which **comprised mainly of Dalit soldiers**, fought the **upper caste-dominated Peshwa army**.

- ◆ The **British troops defeated the Peshwa army**.

- The defeat of Peshwa army was considered to be a **victory against caste-based discrimination and oppression**.
- **Babasaheb Ambedkar's visit to the site on 1st January, 1927**, revitalised the memory of the battle for the Dalit community, making it a rallying point and an assertion of pride.
- Recently, the **victory pillar (also known as Ranstambh or Jaystambh)** in Bhima-Koregaon village (Pune district of Maharashtra) celebrated the **203rd anniversary of the Bhima-Koregaon battle of 1818 on 1st January, 2021**.
- Hence, **option A is correct**.

128. Ans: A

Exp:

Theatre Forms	State	Theme
Bhavai	Gujarat	Subtle social criticism laced with humour. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.
Jatra	West Bengal/ Orissa and eastern Bihar	Originated in Bengal as a result of the Bhakti movement. Initially known as Krishna jatra due to Chaitanya's (spiritual founder of Gaudiya Vaishnavism) influence. Hence, pair 2 is correctly matched.
Koodiyattam	Kerala	Oldest traditional theatre forms of India, it follows the performative principles of the ancient tradition of Sanskrit theatre. In 2001, Koodiyattam was officially recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. Hence, pair 3 is not correctly matched.
Yakshagana	Karnataka	Yakshagana is a traditional theatre form of Karnataka. It is a temple art form that depicts mythological stories and Puranas. Hence, pair 4 is not correctly matched.

129. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Basaveshwara (1134-1168)** was an **Indian philosopher, social reformer and statesman** who attempted to create a casteless society and fought against caste and religious discrimination.
 - ◆ He was born in Bagevadi (of undivided Bijapur district in Karnataka).
 - ◆ Basava Jayanthi is an annual event celebrated in the honour of the birth of Vishwaguru Basaveshwara.
 - ◆ The **tradition of Lingayatism** is known to have been founded by him. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- He gave **two more very important socio-economic principles**. They are:
 - ◆ **Kayak** (Divine work): According to this, every individual of the society should take up the job of his choice and perform it with all sincerity.
 - ◆ **Dasoha** (Equal distribution): **hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - There must be an equal income for equal work.
 - The worker (Kayakajeevi) may lead his day-to-day life by his hard earned income. But he should not preserve the money or property for tomorrow. He must utilise the
 - surplus money for society and the poor.
- Recently, the Chief Minister of Karnataka has laid the foundation stone for the **'New Anubhava Mantapa' in Basavakalyan**, the place where 12th century poet-philosopher Basaveshwara lived for most of his life.
 - ◆ It will **showcase the 12th Century Anubhava Mantapa (often referred to as the "first Parliament of the world")** established by Basaveshwara in Basavakalyan where philosophers and social reformers held debates. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**

130. Answer: A

Explanation:

- **Jagannath Puri temple** is believed to be constructed in the 12th century by **King Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva** of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty.
- It is called **'Yamanika Tirtha'** where, according to the Hindu beliefs, the power of 'Yama', the god of death has been nullified in Puri due to the presence of Lord Jagannath.
- This temple was called the **"White Pagoda"** and is a **part of Char Dham pilgrimages** (Badrinath, Dwaraka, Puri, Rameswaram).
- There are four gates to the temple- Eastern 'Singhdwara' which is the main gate with two crouching lions, Southern 'Ashwadwara', Western 'Vyaghra Dwara

and Northern 'Hastidwara'. There is a carving of each form at each gate.

- **Hence, option A is correct.**

131. Ans: A

Exp:

- Maghi Mela is held in Muktsar, Punjab every year in **January or in the month of Magh according to the Nanakshahi calendar. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - ◆ Nanakshahi calendar was designed by Sikh scholar Pal Singh Purewal to replace the Bikrami calendar, to work out the dates of gurpurab and other festivals.
 - ◆ The Bikrami calendar has been historically used by Hindus and Sikhs. The Bikrami or Vikrami calendar is named after king Vikramaditya and starts in 57 B.C.
 - It is based on twelve syndicalist lunar months and 365 solar days. The lunar new year starts on the new moon in the month of Chet.
- Maghi is the occasion when Sikhs commemorate the sacrifice of forty Sikhs, who fought for Guru Gobind Singh Ji.
 - ◆ The eve of Maghi is the common Indian festival of Lohri when bonfires are lit in Hindu homes to greet the birth of sons in the families and alms are distributed.
- The day of Maghi is observed **to honour the heroic fight of the Chali Mukte**, or the Forty Liberated Ones, **who sacrificed their own lives defending an attack by the Mughal imperial army** marching in pursuit of Guru Gobind Singh. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

132. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, archaeologists have discovered the world's oldest known cave art which is a life-sized picture of a wild pig that was painted at least 45,500 years ago in Indonesia. The picture was found in the Leang Tedongnge cave in a remote valley on the island of Sulawesi, Indonesia. **Hence, statement 1 and 2 are correct.**

133. Ans: D

Exp:

- Thiruvalluvar, also called Valluvar, **was a Tamil poet-saint.**
 - ◆ He is regarded as a cultural and moral icon for Tamils across caste and religious lines.
 - ◆ Some people consider Thiruvalluvar as a Hindu, some trace his past to Jainism while the **Dravidian groups count him as a saint, as he dismissed the caste system.**

- ◆ His primary work **Thirukkural** (contribution to Tamil Literature) contains 1330 couplets (kurals).
 - The text is divided into three parts with teachings on dharma, artha, and kama (virtue, wealth and love). **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

- The Thiruvalluvar University was established in Vellore district of Tamilnadu by the Government of Tamilnadu in October 2002.
- In 1976, a **temple-memorial called Valluvar Kottam was built in Chennai** and houses one of the largest auditoriums in Asia. **hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- In the early 16th century, a temple dedicated to Thiruvalluvar was built within the Ekambareswarar temple complex in Mylapore, Chennai.

134. Ans: C

Exp:

- Recently, the Prime Minister paid homage to **Guru Gobind Singh** on his birth anniversary. He was the last of the ten Sikh Gurus. Guru Gobind Singh was born on 22nd December, 1666 in Patna, Bihar.
- He is known for his significant contributions to the Sikh religion, including the introduction of the turban to cover hair.
- He also founded the **principles of Khalsa**. **Hence, the statement 1 is correct.**
- He fought against the Mughals in the **battle of Muktsar** in 1705. **Hence, the statement 2 is correct.**
- In the Battle of Anandpur (1704), the Guru lost his mother and two minor sons who were executed. His eldest son also died in battle.
- His literary contributions include the Jaap Sahib, Benti Chaupai, Amrit Savaie, etc.
- He also wrote the Zafarnama which was a letter to the Mughal Emperor **Aurangzeb**.

135. Ans: C

Exp:

- The State government of Tripura aims to promote **Risa** nationally as Tripura's signature garment. It is common in almost all 19 indigenous **tribal communities of Tripura**.
- **Risa** is a **handwoven cloth** used as a **female upper garment**. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
 - ◆ It is also used as a turban by men during weddings and festivals.
- Risa is a part of traditional Tripuri attire that comprises three parts - risa, rignai and rituku.
 - ◆ Rignai: It is primarily worn as the lower garment and literally translates into 'to wear'. It can be understood as an indigenous variety of the sari of mainland India.

- ◆ Rituku: It is mainly used as a wrap, or like a 'chunri' or a 'pallu' of the Indian saree. Hence, statement 2 is correct.
- Adolescent Tripuri girls are first given a risa to wear in an event called Risa Sormani, at age 12 to 14.
- It is used in religious festivals such as Garia Puja by tribal communities.
 - ◆ The **Garia Puja is a major festival in Tripura**, held on the last day of the month of Chaitra.
 - ◆ Celebrated as a **harvest festival** by the ethnic tribes - Tripuris and Reangs. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

136. Ans: C

Exp:

- **Kala Utsav** is an **initiative of the Ministry of Education (MoE)** to promote arts in education. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
 - ◆ This programme was initiated under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), which has now been merged with other schemes under 'Samagra Shiksha – an integrated scheme for school education'.
 - ◆ It is in sync with the recommendations of National Education Policy 2020 which emphasises the promotion of arts and culture through education.
- Kala Utsav aims at nurturing and **showcasing the artistic talent of school students** at the secondary stage in the country.
 - ◆ **District/State/National Level Utsav** is structured as an art festival which includes performances and display of exhibits. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- It complements the Samagra Shiksha Scheme by enhancing aesthetics and artistic experiences for secondary-level students, which play a major role in creating awareness of India's rich cultural heritage and its vibrant diversity in line with 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat'.
- Other Initiatives Taken for Promoting Arts:
 - ◆ **Kala Sanskriti Vikas Yojana (Ministry of Culture)**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
 - ◆ Scheme for Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage (Ministry of Culture).

137. Ans: C

Exp:

About Konyaks:

- The **Konyak** are the **largest** tribe, followed by Ao, Tangkhul, Sema, and Angami in Nagaland. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

- Other Naga tribes include Lotha, Sangtam, Phom, Chang, Khiemnungam, Yimchungre, Zeliang, Chakhesang (Chokri), and Rengma.
- The term 'Konyak' is believed to have been derived from the words 'Whao' meaning 'head' and 'Nyak' meaning 'black' translating to 'men with black hair'.
- They can be grouped into two groups, namely 'Thendu', which means the 'Tattooed Face' and 'Thenthoh', meaning the 'White face'
- The three most significant festivals were Aolingmonyu, Aonyimo and Laoun-ongmo.
 - ◆ **Aolingmonyu** is celebrated in the first week of April after sowing of seeds, and this marks the beginning of a new year. Its religious significance is to appease God for a prosperous harvest. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
 - ◆ The **Aonyimo** is celebrated in July or August after the harvest of the first crops such as maize and vegetables.
 - ◆ The **Laoun-ongmo** is a thanks-giving festival and is celebrated after all agricultural activities are completed.

138. Ans: C

Exp:

Ahom Kingdom:

- Chaolung Sukapha was a 13th century ruler who founded the Ahom kingdom that ruled Assam for six centuries. The Ahoms ruled the land till the **province was annexed to British India** in 1826 with the signing of the **Treaty of Yandaboo**. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- Political Setup:**
 - ◆ Ahoms created a new state by suppressing the older political system of the bhuiyans (landlords).
 - ◆ The Ahom state **depended upon forced labour**. Those forced to work for the state were called paiks. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- Society:
 - ◆ Ahom society was divided into clans or khels. A khel often controlled several villages.
 - ◆ Ahoms worshipped their own tribal gods, yet they **accepted the Hindu religion and the Assamese language**. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
 - However, the Ahom kings did not completely give up their traditional beliefs after adopting Hinduism.

139. Ans: B

Exp:

- Recently, the **Union Culture Minister** inaugurated **Devayatanam, a one-of-a-kind conference on temple architecture** of India, at **Hampi, Karnataka**.

- It is a part of the celebration under **Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav** and is being organized on 25th-26th February by the **Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)** of the Ministry of Culture.

- Hence, option B is correct.**

140. Ans: B

Exp:

Battle of Saraighat:

- The **battle of Saraighat** was fought on the banks of the Brahmaputra in Guwahati in 1671.
- It is considered as one of the **greatest naval battles on a river which resulted in the victory of Ahoms over the Mughals**.
- Lachit Borphukan was known for his leadership in the Battle of Saraighat, 1671 in which an attempt by Mughal forces to capture Assam was thwarted.
 - ◆ The Lachit Borphukan gold medal is awarded to the best cadet from the National Defence Academy.
- Hence, option B is correct.**

141. Ans: C

Exp:

- Koya tribe is the largest adivasi tribe of Telangana and listed as Scheduled Tribe in Telangana.
 - ◆ The community is spread across Telugu speaking states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.
- Koyas popularly call themselves as Dorala Sattam (Lords group) and Putta Dora (original lords). Koyas call themselves "Koitur" in their dialect, like Gonds.
- Koyas perform** a robust colourful dance called **Permakok ata (Bison horn dance)** during festivals and marriage ceremonies. **Hence, option C is correct.**

142. Ans: B

Exp:

- Muhammad bin Tughlaq** was the first Indian ruler in recorded history to **advance loans (taccavi)** to the villagers for rehabilitation following a disastrous famine.
 - ◆ He also proposed a grand scheme for improving cropping patterns and extending cultivation.
- Firoz Tughlaq created the biggest network of canals known in premodern India, **wrote off the loans granted earlier to the peasants by Muhammad ibn Tughluq**, and, more significantly, enforced a policy of fixed tax, as opposed to the former proportional one, thus guaranteeing in normal times a larger share of surplus to the intermediaries.
- Hence, option B is correct.**