

Question 12.

With which purpose did the people travel? Write any four objectives.

Answer:

The people used to travel:

- In search of work.
- To escape from natural disasters.
- To satisfy their sense of adventure.

With multi-purpose objectives as traders, merchants, soldiers, priests and pilgrims.

Question 13.

Where did Al-Biruni live? How did he reach Ghazni?

Answer:

Al-Biruni lived in Khwarizm in present-day Uzbekistan. Ghazni's Sultan Mahmud attacked Khwarizm in 1017 C.E. and took back many poets and scholars to Ghazni. Al-Biruni was one of them.

Question 14.

Give any two characteristics of the writings of Al-Biruni.

Answer:

Al-Biruni wrote in the Arabic language.

He adopted a critical approach in his writings. In each chapter, he began with a question. Then he gave a detailed description. He concluded with a comparison with other culture.

Question 15.

"Al-Biruni was capable of translating different texts in other languages." Give example.

Answer:

Al-Biruni was well-versed in many languages which is why he was capable of translating different texts in other languages. He translated many Sanskrit texts in the Arabic language including the grammar of Patanjali. He even translated accounts of a Greek mathematician for his Brahmana friends.

Question 16.

How did Al-Biruni know about the works of the Greek philosophers?

Answer:

Al-Biruni did not know the Greek language. Even then he was familiar with the works of the Greek philosophers. He had read their translations in Arabic.

Question 17.

Name the book written by Ibn-Battuta. What was his observation about female slaves in the sub-continent?

Answer:

Ibn-Battuta's book was entitled 'Rihla'. According to it, the slaves were engaged to do domestic work. He wrote in his book that not only male slaves but the Sultan also employed female slaves to keep a watch on his nobles.

Question 18.

Give a brief introduction of Francois Bernier. How long did he remain in India?

Answer:

Francois Bernier was a French traveller. He himself was a doctor, political philosopher and a historian. He remained in India for 12 years from 1656 till 1668 C.E. and was closely associated with the Mughal court.

Question 19.

Mention any two characteristics of the cities in the Indian sub-continent, as described by Ibn-Battuta.

Answer:

According to Ibn-Battuta:

- Indian cities were very prosperous.
- 1. Indian cities were densely populated.

Question 20.

Why were travels more difficult and risky in the 14th century? Give any two reasons.

Answer:

- There was a hazard of robbers on long journeys.
- The travellers could feel home-sick and also fall ill.

Question 21.

'Ibn-Battuta was an inveterate traveller.' Give an example.

Answer:

Ibn-Battuta was neither afraid of anything nor did he get tired. He travelled extensively for several years through northern Africa, western Asia, many parts of central Asia, Indian sub-continent and far off places in China. That is why he was known as an inveterate traveller.

Question 22.

Who was Jean-Baptiste Tavernier?

Answer:

Jean Baptiste Tavernier was a French jeweller. He had visited India six times. He was especially impressed by the trade activities in India. He compared India with Iran and the Ottoman Empire.

Question 23.

What was the idea of oriental despotism of the French philosopher Montesquieu? What was the base of this idea?

Answer:

The idea of oriental despotism states that rulers in Asia enjoyed absolute authority over their subjects and the subjects were kept in conditions of subjugation and poverty. The base of this idea was that all the land belonged to the king.

Question 24.

How had Bernier described a complex social reality of the artisan, under the Mughals? Give any one reason.

Answer:

1. Bernier wrote that artisans under Mughals were hardly encouraged to make their product better because their profit was appropriated by the state.

2. That is why there was a continuous decline in the level of production.

3. On the other hand, he wrote that the world's precious metal were flown into India as manufactures exported in exchange for gold and silver.

Question 25.

Name the book written by Ibn Battuta. What was his observation about female slaves in the sub-continent?

Answer:

Ibn Battuta wrote the book named 'Rihla'.

Ibn Battuta had following observation about the female slaves of Indian sub-continent:

- The female slaves excelled in music and dance and they were employed in Sultan's service,
- They were also employed by the Sultan to keep an eye on his noble's activities.