
Important Questions

CHAPTER-08

Zamindars, Peasants, States, (Agrarian society and the Mughal Empire)

2 Marks Questions

Question 1.

Mention any two steps taken by the Mughals to create the revenue as an administrative apparatus.

QUESTION 2 .

Write two functions of jati Panchayats in the 16th and 17th centuries.

QUESTION 3.

Why were women considered as an important resource in agrarian society.? Mention any two reasons.

Question 4.

Mention the major crop of Western India during 17th century. How did it come to India.

4.MARKS QUESTION

Question 5.

Describe the life of forest dwellers in the Mughal Era.

or

Describe the life led by the forest dwellers during the Mughal Era in 16th-17th centuries.

Question 6.

How were the subsistence and commercial production closely intertwined in an average peasant's holding during the Mughal period in 16th and 17th centuries? Explain.

Question 7.

Describe three factors that accounted for the constant expansion of agriculture during 16th and 17th centuries.

Question 8.

Describe the condition of an average peasant of North India during the 17th century.

Question 9.

Why were the Jati Panchayats formed during 16th and 17th centuries? Explain their functions

Question 10.

Explain why Ain-i Akbari remains an extraordinary document of its times even today.

Question 11.

Describe the results of India's overseas trade under the Mughals .

8 Marks Questions

Question 12.

“There was more to rural India than the sedentary agriculture”. Explain the statement in the context of Mughal period.

Question 13.

Inspite of the limitations, the Ain-i Akbari remains an extraordinary document of its time. Explain the

statement.

Question 14.

“The village panchayat during the Mughal period regulated rural society. Explain the statement.

OR

Describe caste and rural milieu of Mughal India. How did Jati-Panchayats wield considerable power in the rural society during Mughal period? Clarify.

OR

Assess the role played by Panchayats in the villages during Mughal period. or Explain the ways through which Mughal village Panchayats and village headmen regulated rural society.

OR

How were the Panchayats formed during 16th and 17th centuries? Explain their functions and authorities

OR

Explain the role of Panchayats in the Mughal Rural Indian Society during 16th-17th centuries.

OR

Examine the role of Panchayat as the main constituent of the Mughal village community.

Question 15.

“Revenue was the economic mainstay of the Mughal Empire”. Explain the statement in the context of agriculture and trade.

Question 16.

Analyse the role of zamindars during the Mughal period.

Question 17.

Examine the status and role played by women in the agrarian society during Mughal period. Explain the role of women in the agrarian society in Mughal India .

howed that record of petition sent by women to seek justice.

Question 18.

Explain the organisation of the administration and

army during the rule of Akbar as given in 'Ain-i Akbari'.

Source Based Question

Question 19.

The Ain on land revenue collection:

Let him (the amil-guzar) not make it a practice of taking only in cash but also in kind. The latter is effected in several ways. First, kankut: in the Hindi language kan signifies grain, and kut, estimates... If any doubts arise, the crops should be cut and estimated in three lots, the good, the middling and the inferior, and the hesitation should be removed. Often, too, the land taken by appraisement, gives a sufficiently accurate return.

Secondly, batai, also called bhaoli, the crops are reaped and stacked and divided by agreement in the presence of the parties. But in this case several intelligent inspectors are required; otherwise, the evil-minded and false are given to deception.

Thirdly, khet-batai, when they divide the fields after they are sown. Fourthly, land batai, after cutting the grain, they form it in heaps and divide it among

themselves, and each takes his share home and turns it to profit.

- 1. Explain the kankut system of land revenue.**
- 2. How was the land revenue assessed in the case of batai or bhaoli?**
- 3. Do you think that the land revenue system of the Mughals was flexible?**

Question 20.

Classification of Lands under Akbar:

The following is a listing of criteria of classification excerpt from the Ain. The Emperor Akbar in his profound sagacity classified the lands and fixed a different revenue to be paid by each.

Polaj is a land which is annually cultivated for each crop in succession and is never allowed to lie fallow.

Parauti is land left out of cultivation for a time that it may recover its strength. Chachar is land that has lain fallow for 3 or 4 years. Banjar is land uncultivated for 5 years and more. Of the first two kinds of land, there are 3 classes, good, middling,

and bad. They add together the produce of each sort, and the third of this represents the medium produce, one-third part of which is exacted as the Royal dues.

1. Explain briefly the classification of lands by Akbar.
2. How the revenue was fixed for the first two type of lands?
3. Suggest some other way as you feel better.

Map Based Question

Question 21.

On the given political outline map of India, locate and label the following appropriately.

(i) Goa-A territory under the Mughals.

Value Based Questions

Question 22.

- 1. Explain the various sources to know about the rural society during the Mughal period.**
- 2. Explain the technology used by the peasants for the cultivation during the same period.**

Question 23.

Read the following passage and answer the question that follows.

Women were considered an important resource in agrarian society also because they were child bearers in a society dependent on labour. At the same time high mortality rates among women – owing to malnutrition, frequent pregnancies, death during childbirth-often meant a shortage of wives. This led to the emergence of social customs in peasant and artisan communities that were distinct from those prevalent among elite groups. Marriages in many rural communities required the payment of bride-price rather than dowry to the bride's family. Remarriage was considered

legitimate both among divorced and widowed women.

The importance attached to women as a reproductive force also meant that the fear of losing control over them was great. According to established social norms, the household was headed by a male. Thus, women were kept under strict control by the male members of the family and the community. They could inflict draconian punishments if they suspected infidelity on the part of women.

1. Discuss the status of women in agrarian society in 17th century.

Question 24.

Read the following passage and answer the question that follows.

Although there can be little doubt that zamindars were an exploitative class, their relationship with

the peasantry has an element of reciprocity, paternalism and patronage.

Two aspects reinforce this view. First, the bhakti saints, who eloquently condemned caste-based and other forms of oppression, did not portray the zamindars (or, interestingly, the moneylender) as exploiters or oppressors of the peasantry.

Usually it was the revenue official of the state who was the object of their ire.

Second, in a large number of agrarian uprisings which erupted in north India in the seventeenth century, zamindars often received the support of the peasantry in their struggle against the state.

1. Which aspects highlight the view that zamindars were not exploitative class in the period of the Mughals?

THE END.
