

Important Questions, Class:- 12 History, Chapter :-2 Kings, Farmers and Towns (Early States and Economies)

2 marks

Question 1.

Why was Mauryan empire regarded as a major landmark in the early Indian history?

Answer:

The Mauryan empire was regarded as a major landmark in the early Indian history because for the first time Chandragupta Maurya founded a vast empire which extended to far North West to Afghanistan and Baluchistan. Moreover, historians think that the messages on Asoka inscription were very different from the other contemporary rulers.

Question 2.

Why is the 6th century BCE often regarded as a major turning point in the early Indian history.

Answer:

The 6th century BCE is regarded as a major turning point in early Indian history for the following reasons:

- It is an era associated with early states, cities, the growing use of iron, the development of coinage, etc.
- This era witnessed the growth of diverse system of thoughts like Buddhism and Jainism.

Question 3.

Why is James Prinsep's contribution considered as the historic development in the Indian epigraphy?

Answer:

James Prinsep was an officer in the mint of the East India Company. He contributed a lot in the Indian epigraphy by deciphering two scripts, viz, Brahmi and Kharosthi in the earliest inscriptions and coins.

Question 4.

How were the coins used in the 1st century CE? Give two examples.

Answer:

The Kushana rulers issued the first gold coins in the 1st century. For example:

- The wide spread use of gold coins indicates that the enormous value of the transactions was taking place.
- Hoards of Roman coins were found in South India which indicates that trade was extended beyond political boundaries.

Question 5.

How did Kushana rulers exemplify themselves with the high status?

Answer

The Kushana rulers wished to project the notions of kingship in their coins and sculpture.

Colossal statues of Kushana rulers have been found installed in a shrine at Mat near Mathura and in Afghanistan. Many Kushana rulers adopted the title 'Devaputra' or 'Son of God'.