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Class 7th

Subject History

Ch Rulers and Buildings

Read the following question and answer throughly and try to understand and Write down in your H.W.Copy

Long type question answer

Question 1.

Why were the temples destructed by the invaders?

Answer:

Kings built temples to demonstrate their devotion to God and their power and wealth.

When they attacked one another's kingdoms, they often targeted these buildings.

In the early ninth century when the Pandyan king Shrimara Shrivallabha invaded Sri Lanka and defeated the king, Sena I (831-851) it is believed that "he removed all the valuables.... the statue of the Buddha made entirely of gold in the Jewel Palace and the golden images in the various monasteries'.

The blow to the pride of the Sinhalese ruler had to be avenged. The next Sinhalese ruler, Sena II, ordered his general to invade Madurai, the capital of the Pandyas.

His expedition made a special effort to find and restore the gold statue of the Buddha.

In the same way in the early eleventh century, when the Chola King Rajendra I built a Shiva temple in his capital he filled it with prized statues which he seized from defeated rulers.

An incomplete list included.

A Sun-pedestal from the Chalukvas.

A Ganesha statue and several statues of Durga.

A Nandi statue from the eastern Chalukyas.

An image of Bhairava (a form of Shiva) and Bhairavi from the Kalingas of Orissa.

A Kali statue from the Palas of Bengal.

Question 2.

What did Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni do with Temples?

Answer:

Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni was a contemporary of Rajendra I.

During his campaigns in the subcontinent he attacked the temples of defeated kings and looted their wealth and idols.

Sultan Mahmud was not an important ruler at that time.

But by destroying temples especially the one at Somnath—he tried to win credit as a great hero of Islam.

In the political culture of the Middle Ages most rulers displayed their political might and military success by attacking and looting the temples of defeated rulers.

SUBJECT TEACHER MUKESH KUMAR