

1. Why is Sixth century BCE considered as a remarkable period in world history?

Answer:

- This was the time when Vardhamana Mahavira and Gautama Buddha in India, Saratushra in Iran, Confucius in China and Heraclitus in Greece spread new ideas.
  - In this period, drastic changes also occurred on economic and political fields across the world.
  - New political systems also came into existence.
2. The material conditions of the Ganga basin played an important role in the development of new ideas. What are the factors that shaped these material conditions?

Answer:

- Widespread use of iron tools
  - Increased agricultural production
  - Growth of trade and cities.
3. Prepare a note on the emergence of Gahapathis in the Ganga basin.

Answer:

- During the Sixth century BCE, some classes emerged outside the existing Varna system.
  - The important group among these was that of the rich Gahapathis.
  - They were engaged in trade and owned land.
  - In this way, they were in a financially higher position and thus gained better status in the society.
4. Analyse the social background that led to the emergence of new ideas in india during the 6 th century BCE.

Answer:

- During the 6th century BCE, new ideas emerged in India.
- The material conditions of the Ganga basin played an important role in the development of new ideas.
- The factors helped in the formation of these material conditions are widespread use of iron tools, increased agricultural production and growth of trade and cities.
- A socio-economic system based on agriculture and cattle had emerged in the Ganga basin.
- This was not in harmony with the Vedic practice which gave importance to rituals and animal sacrifices
- Agriculture depending on cattle was adversely affected by the widely prevailed practice of animal sacrifice and rituals.
- This forced people to think against the Vedic ritual

- The Vaishyas, who had acquired better material progress through advancement in trade, desired a suitable higher status in the society
- During this period, some classes emerged outside the existing Varna system.
- The important group among these was that of the rich Gahapathis.
- They were engaged in trade and owned land.
- In this way, they were in a financially higher position and thus gained better status in the society
- New ideological concepts like Jainism and Buddhism were also formulated under these circumstances
- These new ideas got the support of Vaishyas and Gahapathis.

5. Prepare a note about vardhamana mahavira.

Answer:

- According to Jainism vardhamana Mahavira was the 24 th tirthankara.
- Vardhamana Mahavira was born at Vaishali.
- He came to be known as mahavira and jina.
- He proposed a principle to attain moksha or salvation called trirathnas.
- That is the right belief, right knowledge and the right action.
- Mahavira shared his ideas with the people in prakrit language.
- Vardhamana Mahavira attained Nirvana at Pava near Patna.

6. What are the principles proposed by Vardhamana Mahavira for attaining 'Moksha' (salvation)?

Answer:

- Right Belief'
- Right Knowledge
- Right Action
- They are known as the 'Triratnas'

7. What are the doctrines of the jainism?

Answer :

- In this world everything has life.
- Do not harm any living being.
- Birth and rebirth are determined on the basis of Karma.

8. what are the five vows monks and nuns were supposed to observe?

Answer :

- Don't kill anything
- Don't steal
- Don't lie

- Don't own property
- Practice celibacy

9. What were the two sects formed in Jainism?

Answer:

- The two sects formed in Jainism were 'Swethambaras' and 'Digambaras'

10. Write a note about the life of Buddha ? Or Prepare a biographical sketch based on the main events in the life of Buddha.

Answer :

- Siddhartha
- Birth - Kapilavastu (Nepal)
- Enlightenment - Bodh Gaya (Bihar)
- First sermon - Sarnath .
- Nirvana – Kushinara
- According to Buddhist traditions, the historical figure Siddhartha, (Gautama Buddha, ) was born in the Lumbini gardens at Kapilavastu in Nepal.
- At the age of 35, he attained enlightenment and later he came to be known as Gautama Buddha or Sri Buddha.
- He gave his first sermon at Sarnath.
- He attained Nirvana at Kushinara a town in Uttar Pradesh.

11. what were the Buddha's Principles ?

Answer:

- Life is full of sorrows
- Desire is the cause of sorrow
- If desire is destroyed, sorrow will disappear
- To achieve this, the Eight Fold Path (Ashtangamarga) should be followed

12. prepare a note on stupas.

Answer:

- Stupas are buildings built on sites where the physical remains of the Buddha or objects used by the Buddha were buried.
- Stupas are made in a semi-circular shape.
- They are rich in carvings.
- Sanchi and Sarnath stupas are famous.

13. What were the characteristics of Sanghas of Buddhism? / “The activities of Buddhist monastic organisations were democratic.” Evaluate the statement.

Answer:

- ‘Sanghas’ of monks (monastic orders) were formed to propagate Buddhism.
- All people were admitted to the Sangha regardless of caste and gender.
- Women of the Sangha were known as ‘Bhikshunis’ and the men were called ‘Bhikshus.’
- Decisions were made in the Sangha through discussions and opinion of the majority.

14. Buddhism later split into two, what were they?

Answer :

- Mahayana and Hinayana.

15. Evaluate the democracy in the functioning of Buddhist monastic groups.

Answer :

- Everyone was included in the group, regardless of caste or gender.
- Decisions were made in the groups through discussions and majority opinion.
- The working method of the Buddhist Sangha helped develop a sense of democracy and values.

16. How did the Buddha respond to the socio-economic conditions of the 6th century BCE?

Answer :

- By the 6th century BCE, sacrifices had become complex and expensive.
- Sacrifices had become the prerogative of a select group.
- Different cults developed during this period.
- Society was divided into four varnas or castes: Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas, and Shudras.
- The social status of women at this time was low.
- The Buddha's attitude towards this kind of socio-economic conditions was completely opposed.
- The caste system was of no importance.
- Everyone was included in the Buddhist Sangha, regardless of gender and caste.
- Decisions were made in groups through discussions and majority opinion.

17. Find and list the common ideas put forward by Buddha and Mahavira.

Answer :

- Both religions believed in the cycle of birth and rebirth
- Salvation can be achieved only through Nirvana.
- Neither Jainism nor Buddhism believed in the caste system.
- They helped others and taught their values to others.

- Both religions spread in Magadha.
- Both religions emphasized the importance of non-violence.

18. What did the Buddha say about the Mahajanapada kingdom “Vajji” in his work ‘Digha Nikaya’?

Answer :

- Decisions were made through the discussions
- They worked together
- They respected, supported and listened to elders
- Women in Vajji lived freely
- There were places of worship in villages and cities.
- People of different faiths could move freely
- People were respected.
- Even if there was any change in this situation, Vajji would cease to exist.

19. How were states (mahajanapadas) formed in India in the 6 th century?

Answer :

- Tribal social system existed in the Vedic period.
- The tribes were known as ‘Jana’.
- As agriculture became widespread, these tribal communities began to settle down permanently in different places.
- These came to be known as ‘Janapadas.’
- Agricultural surplus production in the Janapadas led to the growth of trade as well as the development of towns.
- Along with trade, towns became manufacturing centres for different crafts.
- Some regulations became necessary to coordinate and regulate such diverse economic activities.
- This gave rise to the view of one's own land.
- This is how state formation became a reality.
- The Buddhist work Anguttaranikaya speaks of 16 political entities that came into being, in this way. These were known as ‘Mahajanapadas

20. The various stages of development from tribal political system to Mahajanapadas and their characteristics. Or What were the various administrative system in mahajanapadas ?

Answer :

- Contemporary works provide some information about the administrative systems of Mahajanapadas.
- An efficient tax collection system and a standing army developed during this time.
- The word ‘Bali’ found in Pali texts means tax.
- ‘Bhaga’ was another type of tax.
- Grains and cattle were mainly paid as taxes.

- Forest dwellers paid forest produce as taxes, while artisans worked for the king on fixed days.
- There were many officials for the administration.
- The work 'Shatapatabrahmana' mentions soldiers, priests and villagers who assisted the king.
- Mahajanapadas had forts and capital cities.

21. Write down for the main reasons for the growth of Magadha OR Do you think that the geographical features were the main reason for the growth of Magadha? Why?

Answer:

- Magadha was a fertile region with good rainfall.
- There were large deposits of iron ore also. Hence, the iron needed for tools and weapons was readily available.
- Elephants were an important factor in wars in those days. Elephants were available in large numbers in the forests of Magadha.
- The Ganga and its tributaries provided easy transportation of goods.
- Magadha also had efficient rulers like Bimbisara and Ajatashatru.

22. What were the Maurya Kingdom ? Write the four province and the capital of the Maurya kindom ?

Answer :

- Magadha was ruled by various dynasties.
- Chandragupta Maurya defeated Dhanananda, the last ruler of the Nanda dynasty
- In 321 BCE Chandragupta Maurya founded the Maurya Kingdom.

Capital - Pataliputra

Province - Southern province - Suvarnagiri

Western province - Ujjayini

Northern province - Takshashila

Eastern province - Tosali

23. Write a note about Ashoka and 'Asoka Dhamma' (Dharma) ?

Answer:

- King Asoka was the most important ruler of the Maurya Kingdom.
- After he invaded and conquered the Maurya kingdom expanded.
- It is recorded in the inscriptions that Asoka gave up war after the Battle of Kalinga.
- The ideas propagated by Emperor Asoka to maintain peace and coexistence among his subjects are known as 'Asoka Dhamma' (Dharma).

1 - Be tolerant to other religions

- 2 - Respect elders and teachers
- 3 - Be kind to slaves and the sick

24. What features of the present Indian administrative system can be seen in the Mauryan administrative system?

Answer:

- Empire was divided into states/ provinces.
- Secularism.
- Value based governance
- Support to the weaker sections of the society.
- Federal system of administration.
- The interference of officers in administration.

25. What were the major places where trade took place in the Mauryan Empire?

Answer :

- Suvarnagiri • Ujjayini • Tamralipti • Pataliputra • Broach • Takshashila

26. How were nations formed in Greece?

Answer:

- In Greece, villages stood together for the purpose of security and governance.
- They came to be known as city-states.
- A city-state consisted of a city and the surrounding agricultural villages.
- Hills and mountains provided natural boundaries for these city states.
- Some of the city states were islands.
- The capitals of these city-states were located on high hills
- Athens, Sparta, Corinth, and Thebes were some of the major city-states of Greece

27. The system of government that prevailed in Athens 2500 years ago resembled modern democracy. Explain.

Answer:

- All males, over the age of 30, except slaves were considered as citizens.
- These citizens formed a committee and met four times a year to take decisions on important matters.
- Women, artisans and the foreigners who worked as traders were not considered as citizens.

28. How did the Athenian system of government differ from modern democracy?

Answer:

- First, representative systems often exist in modern democracies.
- In modern democracy, people make decisions for themselves.
- In Athens, direct democracy was practiced.
- Citizens were directly involved in decision making.
- Modern democracies have checks to prevent concentration of power.
- At the same time, Athenian democracy became more valid under the influence of charismatic leaders.
- Modern democracies often have a wide franchise including women and minorities.
- Meanwhile, Athenian democracy was limited to males
- Modern democracies often incorporate constitutional elements to protect individual rights.
- Ancient Athens did not have this idea

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