

Theme- 4

**Thinkers Beliefs and Buildings Cultural Developments
(C. 600 BCE-600CE)**

Key concepts in nutshells

- Buildings of Sanchi are the most wonderful ancient buildings in the state of Bhopal.
- Buddhist, Jain and Brahmanical text, monument and inscription are the some of the important historical sources of the age of 600 BCE - 600 CE.
- Many were provided by rulers of Bhopal, Shahjahan Begum and her successor Sultan Jahan Begum to preserve the ancient sites.
- The Rigveda is a collection of hymns, Prais of many deities like Agni, Indra, Soma etc.
- The basic philosophy of Jainism already existed in north India. Even before the birth of Vardhamana Mahaveera.
- The Buddha was the most influential teachers of his times.
- Two traditions were included in modern Hinduism - Vaishnavism and Shaivism

V. S. A. (2 Marks)

Q.1 What were the main Principles of Jainism?

Ans.

- The entire world is animated
- The cycle of birth and rebirth is shaped through karma.

Q.2 What do you know about Tirthankars?

Ans.

- Those who guide men and women across the river of existence.

Q.3 What do you understand of early Vedic Tradition?

Ans.

- Early Vedic tradition known from the Rig-Veda compiled between c. 1500 and 1000 B.C.E.
- The Rig-Veda consists of human in praise of a variety of deities, especially Agni, Indra, and soma.

Q.4 What is Tripitaka?

Ans.

- After Buddha's Death his teachings were compiled by his disciples at a council of elders or senior monks at Vaishali
- These compilations were known as Tripitaka

Q.5 What is the Jaina philosophy on Birth and rebirth?

Ans.

- According to Jainism the Cycle of Birth and Rebirth is shaped through karma.
- Asceticism and Penance are required to free oneself from this cycle. This can be achieved only by renouncing the world.

Q.6 How do we know about the Buddha's Teachings?

Ans.

- These have been reconstructed by carefully editing, translating and analysing the Buddha's texts mentioned earlier.
- Historians have also tried to reconstruct details of his life from hagiographies.

Q.7 What do you mean by Dharma Chakra Pravartana?

Ans.

- Dharma Chakra Pravartana means setting in motion the wheel of Dharma the first religious discourse of sermon delivered by Mahatma Buddha after attaining.

Q.8 Describe Hinayana and Mahayana-

Mahayan: by the first century C.E. there is evidence of changes in Buddhist way of thinking was called Mahayana. Idol of Buddha was worshipped.

Hinayana: Those who adopted the older tradition were known as Hinayana.

Q.9 What is vaishnavism and shaivism?

Ans. Vaishnavism is from Hinduism within which Vishnu was worshipped as the principal deity.

Shaivism- A tradition within which shiva was regarded as the chief god.

Q.10 What do you mean by the kutargarashala.

Ans. Teachers Travelled from Place to Place trying to convince one another as philosophy or the way they understand the world. Debates took place in the kutargarashala. Literally a hut with a pointed roof.

S. A. (4 Marks)

Q.1 Write Causes for the popularity of Buddhism.

Ans.

- Many people dissatisfied with existing religious practices and confused by the rapid social changes taking place around them.
- The importance to conduct and values rather than claims of superiority based on Birth.
- Younger and weaker than one self were ideas that men and women to Buddhism were trained.

Q.2 Discuss the Role of the begums of Bhopal in preserving the stupa of Sanchi.

Ans.

- Sahajan Begum and Sultan Jahan Begum provided money for the preservation of the ancient site.
- Sultan Jahan Begum funded the museum that was built
- Guest house was provided where John Marshal wrote the volume.
- She also funded the publication of the volumes.

Q3 Describe the unique features of the early temples.

- The First Temples to House images of gods and goddesses were also being built.
- The early temples were a small square room called the garbhagriha.

- A Tall structure, known as the shikhara.
- Temple walls were after often decorated with sculpture.

Q.4 Why is the mid first millennium BCE is regarded as a turning point in world history?

Ans.

- This time emergence of Zarathustra in Iran, Kongzi in china, Socrates, Plato and Aristable in Greece
- Manavira and Gautama Buddha among many others in India, tried to understand the mysteries of existence and the relationship between human beings and the cosmic order.

L. A. (8 Marks)

Q.1 Describe the factors that led to the growth of Puranic Hinduism in India During 6th century BCE.

Ans.

- Savior was not to Buddhism we find similar Ideas being developed in Hinduism.
- These included Vaishnavism and Shaivism.
- In such worship the bond between the devotee and the god was visualized as one of love and devation or bhakti.
- Vaishnavism cults developed around the various avators.
- Recognizing each of these local deities as a form of Vishnu.
- Shiva for instance was symbolized by the linga.
- To understand the meanings of sculptures. Historians have to be familiar with the stories.
- Women and shudras who did not have access in Vedic learning.
- Much of what is contained in the puranas evolved through interaction.

PASSAGE BASED QUESTIONS

Q.1 Read the given passage carefully and answer the Questions that follows-

Why were sputa's built This is an excerpt from the Mahaparinibbama Sutta Part of sutta pitaka As the Buddha lay dying Amanda asked him what are we to do Lord with remains of the Tathagata (another name for the Buddha)? The Buddha replied, "Hinder not yourselves Ananda by honoring the remains of the Tathagata. Be zealous, be intent on your own good" But when pressed further, the Buddha said At the four crossroads they should erect a stupa (Pali for stupa) to the Tathagata And whosoever shall there place garlands or perfume or make a salutation there become in its presence calm of heart, that shall long be to them for a profit and joy.

- Q.1 What are the stupas? Who advised Ananda to build the stupa? 1
- Q.2 From which chapter has this excerpt been taken? It is a part of which book. 2
- Q.3 Who was the Tathagata? What had he told about the Importance of the stupa? 2
- Q4. Name any three Places where the stupas have been built. 2

Ans.The Stupa was the sacred place. They preserved the relics of Buddha Such as his bodily remains or the objects used by him all these things were buried in the stupas.

Ans. This excerpt has been taken from the Mahaparnibbhana Sutta." It was a part of the "Sutta Pitaka:

Ans. Tathagata was another name for the Buddha. He told Ananda that the honor to his worldly remains is not important. He laid stress on the importance of one's good deeds. The stupas should be erected on the holy places if anybody placed garlands of perfume or saluted them, he will not only get the peace of mind but also profit and joy.

Ans. The stupas were built at many places. The most important stupas existed at Bharhut, Sachi and Sarnath.

Question Bank

2 Marks Questions

- 1- Why were Buddhist Texts Prepared and Preserved?
- 2- What were stupas?
- 3- How was the structure of stupas?
- 4- What are the main principles of Jainism?
- 5- What do you know about the followers of Buddha?

4 Marks Questions

- Q.1 Explain the spread of Jainism in different parts of India.
- Q.2 Describe the impact of Buddhism on India Society.
- Q.3 Compare and contrast the views of Mahavira and Buddha with those of Brahmins.
- Q.4 Summarise the Journey of Buddha from his birth to the attainment of enlightenment

8 Marks Questions

- Q.1 "The Principle of ahimsa and renunciation emphasised by Jainism has left its Marks" Support the statement with Lord Mahavira's message.