



Grade : VI

Subject : Social science

Chapter: 7. Ashoka, The Emperor Who Gave Up War

Objective Type Questions

I. Multiple choice questions

1. A very big kingdom is known as:
a. Empire b. State c. Hotel d. Resort
2. Arthashastra was written by:
a. Ashoka b. Kautilya c. Chandragupt d. Vishvamitra
3. Which was a gateway to the North-West?
a. Pataliputra b. Ujjain c. Taxila d. Rupnath
4. What did people provide to Mauryan officials?
a. Elephants b. Timber c. Honey and wax d. All of these
5. Kalinga is the ancient name of:
a. Coastal Karnataka b. Coastal Odisha c. Coastal Goa d. Coastal Maharashtra

1. a	2. b	3. c	4. d	5. b
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I. Fill in the blanks

1. The most famous _____ ruler was Ashoka.
2. _____ is the ancient name of coastal Orissa.
3. _____ is the Prakrit word for the Sanskrit term Dharma.
4. Ashoka's _____ did not involve worship of a god, or performance of a sacrifice.
5. The empire that Ashoka ruled was founded by his grandfather _____ more than 2300 years ago.
6. Chandragupta was supported by a wise man named _____ or _____.
7. Many of Chanakya's ideas were written down in a book called the _____.



8. _____ was a gateway to the northwest.
 9. The area around _____ was under the direct control of the emperor.

1. Mauryan	2. Kalinga	3. Dhamma	4. Dhamma	5. Chandragupta Maurya
6. Chanakya, Kautilya	7. Arthashastra	8. Taxila	9. Pataliputra	

I. Match the following

1. Provisional Capital	i) Chandragupta
2. Founder of Mauryan Empire	ii) A Prakrit word
3. Ashoka	iii) Taxila
4. Dhamma	iv) Script used for inscription
5. Brahmi	v) Buddhist

1. iii	2. i	3. v	4. ii	5. iv
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I. True or False

- Ashoka gave up war after losing in Kalinga.
- The 'dhamma' also reached other countries.
- The Lions on the currency notes come from the Rampurwa bull capital.
- Royal princes were sent as governors to provinces.
- Ashoka founded the Mauryan empire.
- Ashoka himself went from place to place to preach 'dhamma'

1. False	2. True	3. False	4. True	5. False	6. False
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Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. What do you mean by an empire?

Large kingdom where different types of people live in different parts of the kingdom is known as an empire.

2. What are provinces?

Big cities of an empire are called provinces. Empires were divided into provinces to administer them efficiently.

3. Who wrote Arthashastra?

Chanakya wrote Arthashastra.

4. What was important about South India during the Mauryan period?

South India was important for its gold and precious stones.

5. Who was Megasthenes?

Megasthenes was an ambassador who was sent to the Court of Chandragupta by the Greek ruler Seleucus Nicator.

6. Which language and script was used for Ashoka's inscriptions?

Ashoka's inscriptions were in Prakrit and were written in the Brahmi script.

7. Define the term Dynasty?

When members of the same family become rulers one after another, the family is often called a dynasty.

8. Explain the term Tribute.

Tributes were the payments that were not collected regularly, but at times, when it was possible. Tribute could be in the form of a variety of things.

9. Why did Ashoka give up wars?

Ashoka fought a famous war called Kalinga. Although he had won the war, the violence and bloodshed of the war made him restless. So, he decided to give up wars.

Short Answer Type Questions

1. What was Ashoka's Dhamma?

Ashoka's Dhamma was not a new religion. Ashoka was inspired by the teachings of Buddha and his Dhamma contained mostly the teachings of Buddhism. He considered that it was his duty to solve the problems of his subjects by instructing them. So, he appointed Dhamma Mahamatta to teach people about Dhamma.

2. How are empires different from kingdoms?

- i) Empire is a large area, whereas kingdom is smaller than it.
- ii) Empire is ruled by an emperor whereas a kingdom is ruled by a king.
- iii) An empire needs more officials and resources to manage it, but a kingdom needs less resources for it.

3. Who was Kautilya?

Chandragupta Maurya was supported by a wise man named Chanakya or Kautilya. Many of Chanakya's ideas were written down in a book called 'Arthashastra'

4. Why were the cities of Taxila and Ujjain important?

There were several cities in the Mauryan Empire. These included the capital Pataliputra, Taxila and Ujjain. Taxila was the gateway to the Northwest, including Central Asia, while Ujjain was on the route from North to South India. Merchants, officials and crafts persons probably lived in these cities.

5. What impact did the war of Kalinga have on Ashoka?

Kalinga is the ancient name of coastal Odisha. Ashoka fought a war to conquer Kalinga. However, he was so horrified when he saw the violence and bloodshed that he decided not to fight any more wars. He is the only king in the history of the world who gave up conquest after winning a war.

6. Write a few lines on Ashoka.

- i) The empire that Ashoka ruled was founded by his grandfather, Chandragupta Maurya, more than 2300 years ago.

- ii) He was the first ruler who tried to spread his message to the people through inscriptions. Most of Ashoka's inscriptions were in Prakrit and were written in Brahmi script.
- iii) He is only king in the history of the world who gave up conquest after winning a war.

Long Answer Type Questions

1. What were the problems that Ashoka wanted to solve by introducing Dhamma?

There were a number of problems that troubled Ashoka and he wanted to resolve them, like-

- i) People in the empire followed different religions which sometimes led to conflict.
- ii) Animals were sacrificed.
- iii) Slaves and servants were ill-treated.
- iv) Besides, there were quarrels in families and amongst neighbours.

2. How was the empire ruled by the Mauryas?

As the empire was very large, different parts were ruled differently by various Mauryans.

- i) The area around Pataliputra was under the direct control of the emperor. The officials were appointed to collect taxes from farmers, herders, crafts persons and traders who lived in villages and towns in the area. Officials also punished those who disobeyed the ruler's orders.
- ii) There were other areas or provinces. Each of them was ruled from a provincial capital such as Taxila or Ujjain and there was some amount of control from Pataliputra. Royal princes were often sent as Governors.
- iv) There were also the forested regions. People living in these areas were more or less independent, but were expected to provide elephants, timber, honey and wax to the Mauryan officials.

3. Write about the administration of Ashoka.

- i) **Administration:** During Ashoka's time, the king was the head of the state and was assisted by 'mantriparishad'-teh council of ministers. His empire was divided into provinces and the provinces were divided into districts. Villages were the smallest units. City was the basic trade centre.
- ii) **Pataliputra:** The capital city was administrated by the Chief-Nagarika with the City Council of 30 members, who, in turn, had 6 boards, each board incharge of various functions. All the cities were administered like Pataliputra.
- iii) **Education:** It was fairly widespread and teaching was mainly the job of the Brahmins, Buddhist monasteries were the educational institutions. Famous educational centres were established in Taxila, Ujjain and Varanasi.
- iv) **Revenue:** The income for the empire came through taxes which were both in cash and kind, levied on land holding and trade. Tax collection was hardly very strict.
- v) **Army:** The army was very huge and functioned under senapati who directly reported to the king. The Soldiers were well equipped with swords, bows and arrows and spears and were looked after very well. Army was divided into six branches. They were: Cavalry, Infantry, Chariots, Elephants, Transport and Navy.
- vi) **Economy:** The administrators helped villagers by clearing forest area and starting new settlements. They also helped people start agriculture and animal husbandry.

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