

Grade VII

Lesson. 7 Tribes, Nomads and settled communities

Social

I Multiple choice questions

1. The Cheros were defeated in 1591 by:
a. Maharana Pratap b. Raja Man Singh
c. Amar Singh d. Prithviraj Chauhan
2. The Ahom tribes were migrated from:
a. Iran b. Arab c. Myanmar d. China
3. The 84 villages or Chaurasi was further subdivided into:
a. Tanda b. Barhats c. Khel d. Clan
4. The Gonds practised:
a. Shifting cultivation b. Intensive agriculture
c. Subsistence cultivation d. Plantation agriculture
5. Practising system of having many wives were called:
a. Polygamous b. Swayamvaras c. Jauhar d. Buranji
6. Ahom society was divided into clans or:
a. Paiks b. Garhs c. Khels d. Tanda
7. Who assumed the title of Sangram Shah?
a. Bir Narain b. Chaman Das c. Dalpat d. Aman Das
8. Paiks were the:
a. Landlords b. Nomads c. Itinerants d. Forced labour
9. Which tribes were influential in Punjab in 13th and 14th centuries?
a. Khokhar b. Ahoms c. Banjaras d. Gonds
10. The Ahoms were defeated by:
a. Mongols b. Mughals c. Hunas d. Tomaras



11. Rani Durgawati ruled in which region:

a. Punjab

b. Ambar

c. Bikaner

d. Garha Katanga

1. (b)	2. (c)	3. (b)	4. (a)	5. (a)	6. (c)	7. (d)	8. (d)	9. (a)	10. (b)	11. (d)
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II Multiple choice questions

1. Khokhar tribe was in.

a) Punjab

b) Agra

c) Haryana

d) none of these

2. The Chero lived in.

a) Bihar

b) Jharkhand

c) Both a and b

d) Odisha

3. The Nagas are found in.

a) North-east

b) South-east

c) West-east

d) none of these

4. Gonds are referred to their language.

a) Hindi

b) Gondi

c) Maitili

d) none of these

5. Ahoms belonged to

a) South-east Asia

b) Arabia

c) North-east Asia

d) none of these

1. a	2. c	3. a	4. b	5. a
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III Multiple choice questions

All repeated

i) Sib Singh was an important ruler of the

a) Ahoms

b) Gonds

c) Bhils

d) Kolis

i. a





IV Multiple choice questions

1. Who prescribed the 'Varna' rules?
 - a) Rulers
 - b) Jatis
 - c) Brahmanas
 - d) No one
2. Tribals obtained their livelihood from:
 - a) hunting
 - b) agriculture
 - c) herding
 - d) all of these
3. Which tribal group established a powerful kingdom in Assam?
 - a) Mundas
 - b) Ahoms
 - c) Khokhar
 - d) Gonds
4. The important tribe of Bihar is
 - a) Mundas
 - b) Ahoms
 - c) Khokhar
 - d) Gonds
5. Who used the services of Banjaras as trading nomads?
 - a) Alaudding Khalji
 - b) Jahangir
 - c) Both of these
 - d) None
6. Who were known as the rathkaras?
 - a) Chariot makers
 - b) Soldiers
 - c) Brahmanas
 - d) Carpenters
7. How many units of villages were called chaurasi?
 - a) 80
 - b) 84
 - c) 14
 - d) 24
8. A division of Gond kingdoms controlled by a particular clan was termed as
 - a) tанда
 - b) clan
 - c) garh
 - d) khel
9. The main occupation of Gond tribes was
 - a) trade
 - b) agriculture
 - c) goldsmith
 - d) blacksmith
10. Who was Bir Narain?
 - a) Ruler of Sind
 - b) Ruler of Punjab
 - c) Son of Rani Durgawati
 - d) None of these
11. The Ahom tribes migrated from
 - a) Iran
 - b) Arab
 - c) Myanmar
 - d) China
12. Paik are.
 - a) the landlords
 - b) the forced labourers
 - c) people wandering
 - d) clan in the Ahom society

1. c	2. d	3. b	4. a	5. c	6. a	7. b	8. c	9. b	10. c	11. c	12. b
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I Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ prescribed the Varna rules.
2. Mundars is an important tribe of _____.
3. Rathakas were _____.
4. 84 units of villages were called _____.
5. Ahom tribe migrated from _____.

1. Brahmanas	2. Bihar	3. Chariot-makers	4. Chaurasi	5. Myanmar
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II Fill in the Blanks

1. The new castes emerging within varnas were called _____.
2. _____ were historical works written by the Ahoms.
3. The _____ mentions that Garha Katanga had 70,000 villages.
4. As tribal states became bigger and stronger, they gave land grants to _____ and _____.
5. Emergence of _____ affected caste system.
6. Akbar's general was _____.

1. tribes	2. Buranjis	3. Akbar nama
4. Brahmins and temples	5. Bhakti movement	6. Raja Man Singh

III Fill in the Blanks

- i. The Gond society changed a lot when it emerged as a _____.
- ii. Sultan Alauddin Khalji used the _____ to transport grain to the city markets.
- iii. The large tribe of Bhils was spread across _____ and _____ India.
- iv. _____ received land grants by the Gond kings and became more influential.
- v. The large Gond tribe was divided into many smaller _____.

i. State	ii. Banjaras	iii. western, central	iv. Brahmanas	v) clans
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IV Fill in the Blanks

1. The society was divided according to the rules of _____.
2. A large number of _____ were found in the present day state of Chhattisgarh.
3. Nomadic pastoralists got the things they needed through _____ system.
4. The Cheros were defeated by _____ in 1591.
5. _____ the chief of the Gakkhars was made a noble by Akbar.
6. Historical works called Buranjis were written in _____ and Ahom language.

1. Varna	2. Gonds	3. barter	4. Raja Man Singh	5. Kama, Khan Gakkar	6. Assamese
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I Match the following

Column A	Column B
1. Bir Narain	a. Punjab
2. Paik	b. Alauddin Khalji and Jahangir
3. Ahoms	c. Son of Rani Durgawati
4. Khokhar	d. Assam
5. Banjaras as trading	e. Forced labourers

a. iii	b. v	c. i	d. iv	e. ii
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II Match the following

Column A	Column B
1. Gar h	a. Khel
2. Tanda	b. chaur asi
3. Labour er	c. car avan
4. Clan	d. Gar ha Kat anga
5. Sib Singh	e. Ahom st at e
6. Dur gawat i	f . paik
7. Mat rimonial Alliances	g. Jat i
8. Munda	h. Nort h-west I ndia
9. Balochis	i. Bihar
10. Var na syst em	j . Raj put s and Mughals

1. b	2. c	3. f	4. a	5. e	6. d	7. j	8.i	9. h	10. g
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III Match the following

Column A	Column B
i. Rat hakar as	a. Smaller cast es
ii. Bhuiyans	b. Unit of 84 villages
iii. Jat is	c. Made up of 12 villages each
iv. Chaur asi	d. Landlor ds
v. Bar hot s	e. Char iot -maker s

i) e	ii) d	iii) a	iv) b	v) c
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IV Match the following

Column A	Column B
1. Gaddi	a. Central-Western India
2. Kolis	b. Shepherd tribe
3. Bhils	c. Maharashtra - Karnataka

1. b	2. c	3. a
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I True or False

1. Akbar Nama mentions the Gond Kingdom of Garha Katanga that had 70,000 villages.
2. Ahom society was divided into clans/ khels.
3. Most of the tribes kept written records.
4. Rani Durgawati of Garha Katanga was widow of Sangram Shah.
5. Banjar a-caravans were called Tanda.

1. True	2. True	3. False	4. False	5. True
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II True or False

1. Tribal societies had rich oral traditions.
2. There were no tribal communities in the north-western part of the subcontinent.
3. The chaurasi in Gond states contained several cities.
4. The Bhils lived in the north-eastern part of the subcontinent.
5. Arghun was an important tribe in Sindh.
6. Pastoral tribes reared animals.

1. True	2. False	3. False	4. False	5. True	6. True
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III True or False

- i) Garha Katanga was not a very rich state.
- ii) Rani Durgawati began to rule after the death of her husband, Dalpat.
- iii) The Ahom society encouraged theatre.
- iv) The Mughals defeated the Gonds but they could not capture any wealth.
- v.) Many large tribes lived in forests, hills, deserts and places difficult to reach.

i. False	ii. True	iii. True	iv. False	v. True
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IV True or False

1. Tribes were not divided into numerous unequal classes.

i. True

Very Short Answer Questions

1. **On what basis society was divided?**

Society was divided according to the rules of Varna, prescribed by the Brahmanas.

2. **Name any two tribes which lived in the extreme South.**

Vetars and Maravars are the tribes which lived in the extreme South.

3. **Who were Ahoms?**

The Ahoms were the important tribal group which established a powerful kingdom in Assam. They were defeated by the Mughals.

4. **Who were Gonds?**

Gonds were the tribal group of central India.

5. **What is the meaning of Gondwana?**

Gondwana means the country inhabited by Gonds.

6. **What made Brahmanas more influential in the Gond Society?**

The Gond raja began to grant land to Brahmanas. This made them influential.





7. What do you mean by 'Paiks and Bhuiyans?'

Paiks were the labourers who were forced to work in Ahom state. Bhuiyans were the landlords.

8. What made Garha Katanga a rich state?

Garha Katanga earned huge wealth by trapping and exporting wild elephants to other kingdoms. This made it a rich state.

9. What are the main occupations of Gonds?

They use oral traditions and rich customs of the tribal people to write their histories.

Short Answer Questions

1. Write in brief about the fall of Garha Katanga.

- (i) Garha Katanga was a rich state and earned much wealth by trapping and exporting wild elephants to other kingdoms.
- (ii) When the Mughals defeated the Gonds, they captured huge booty of precious coins and elephants.
- (iii) They annexed part of the kingdom and granted the rest to Chandra Shah, an uncle of Bir Narain.
- (iv) Despite the fall of Garha Katanga, the Gond kingdoms survived for some time.
- (v) However, they became much weaker and later struggled unsuccessfully against the stronger Bundelas and Marathas.

2. Mention in brief the administrative system of the Gonds.

- (i) The administrative system of the Gonds kingdom was centralized.
- (ii) The kingdom was divided into **garhs**. Each garh was controlled by a particular Gond clan.
- (iii) This was again divided into units of 84 villages called **chaurasi**. The chaurasi was subdivided into **barhots** which were made up of 12 villages each.





3. Mention the changes which took place along with the rise of the Rajputs.

- (i) Along with the rise of Rajputs, many tribes became part of caste system with the help of Brahmanas.
- (ii) Only the leading tribes could join the ruling class. Majority of them joined lower jatis.
- (iii) Various dominant tribes of Punjab, Sind and North-West Frontier adopted Islam and rejected the caste system. The unequal social order of orthodox Hinduism wasn't acceptable to them.

4. Describe the life of nomads in brief.

- (i) Nomadic pastoralists moved over long distances along with their animals.
- (ii) They lived on milk and other pastoral products.
- (iii) They also exchanged wool, ghee, etc. with settled agriculturists, for grain, cloth, utensils and other products.
- (iv) They bought and sold these goods as they moved from one place to another. They carried them on the back of their animals.

5. Why is less information available about tribes?

Tribal people were found in almost every region of the subcontinent.

Contemporary historians and travellers give little information about the tribes because the tribal people mostly did not keep written records.

They preserved their customs and oral traditions which were passed on from generation to generation and these were used to write their histories.



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Long Answer Questions

1. Write a detailed note on the life of the Banjaras as described by the English trader Peter Mundy.

The life of Banjaras:

Peter Mundy, an English trader who came to India during the early seventeenth century, has described the Banjaras.

- (i) In the morning we met a tанда of Banjaras with 14,000 oxen.
- (ii) They were all laden with grains such as wheat and rice.
- (iii) These Banjaras carry their household, wives and children, along with them. One tанда consists of many families. Their way of life is similar to that of carriers who continuously travel from place to place. They own their oxen. They are sometimes hired by merchants. They buy grain where it is cheaply available and carry it to places where it is cheaply available and carry it to places where it is dearer. From there, they again reload their oxen with anything that can be profitably sold in other places.
- (iv) In a tанда there may be as many as 6 or 7 hundred persons. They do not travel more than 6 or 7 miles a day that, too, in the cool weather. After unloading their oxen, they turn them free to graze as there is enough land here, and no one is there to forbid them.

2. Describe the Ahom Society in detail.

- (i) Almost all adult males served in the army during war.
- (ii) They were also engaged in building dams, irrigation system and other public works.
- (iii) The Ahoms also introduced new method of rice cultivation.
- (iv) Ahom society was divided into clans or khels.
- (v) There were very few castes of artisans, so they came from the adjoining kingdoms.
- (vi) A khel often controlled several villages.
- (vii) The peasant was given land by his village community.
- (viii) Even the king could not take it away without the community's consent.
- (ix) In the beginning the Ahoms worshipped their own tribal gods.





- (x) During the first half of the seventeenth century, they were influenced by Brahmanas. Temples and Brahmanas were granted land by the king. In the reign of Sib Singh (1714-1744), Hinduism became their major religion.
- (xi) The Ahom kings did not completely give up their traditional beliefs after adopting Hinduism.
- (xii) Ahom society was very sophisticated. Poets and scholars were given land grants. Theatre was encouraged. Important works of Sanskrit were translated into the local languages. Historical works, known as buranjis, were also written first in the Ahom language and then in Assamese.

3. Enlist the major features of the tribal societies.

Major Features of the Tribal Societies:

- (i) Members of each tribe were united by kinship bonds.
- (ii) Many tribes obtained their livelihood from agriculture.
- (iii) Others were hunter-gatherers or herders.
- (iv) Some tribes were nomadic and moved from one place to another.
- (v) A tribal group controlled land pastures jointly, and divided these amongst households according to its own rules.
- (vi) Many large tribes evolved in different parts of the subcontinent. They usually lived in forests, hills, deserts and places difficult to reach. Sometimes they clashed with the more powerful caste-based societies.
- (vii) The tribes retained their freedom and preserved their separate culture.



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