

KOTHARI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, NOIDA
ANNUAL EXAMINATION-SESSION-2025-26
GRADE: 11 SUBJECT: HISTORY (027)
SET A

DAY & DATE: FRIDAY- FEBURARY 6, 2026

MAXIMUM MARKS: 80

NAME: _____

TIME ALLOTTED: 3 HOURS

ROLL NO: _____

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- i). This Question Paper is divided into FIVE sections A, B, C, D, and E. There are 34 questions in the paper. All questions are compulsory.*
- ii). Section A (Q1 to Q21) are MCQ questions each carrying 1 mark.*
- iii). Section B (Q22 and Q27) are Short Answer Type Questions, carrying 3 marks each. The answer to each question should not exceed 60-80 words.*
- iv). Section C (Q28 to Q30) is a Long Answer Type Question, carrying 8 marks each. The answer to each question should not exceed 300-350 words.*
- v). Section D (Q31-Q33) is Source-based questions with four sub-questions and are of 1 mark each.*
- vi). Section E - Question no. 34 is Map-based, carrying 5 marks that include identifying and locating significant test items. Attach the map with the answer book.*
- vii). There is no overall choice in the question paper. However, an internal choice has been provided in a few questions. Only one of the choices in such questions must be attempted.*
- viii). In addition, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.*
- ix). This paper consists of 8 pages which include 1 MAP.*

SECTION A -(21X1=21 MARKS)

- Q1** While researching the Harappan civilization, which of the following was not a method archaeologists used to map social stratification? (1)
- (a) Studying architectural structures in different parts of the city
 - (b) Analysing how they disposed of their dead
 - (c) Classifying essential and luxury artefacts
 - (d) Identifying prevalent food grains
- Q2** Which of the following signified a shift from the Mature to the Late Harappan period? (1)
- (a) change in burial patterns
 - (b) drying up of water bodies
 - (c) abandonment of the Citadels
 - (d) the disappearance of distinct artefacts
- Q3** The following two statements are given below, marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Read the statements and choose the correct option. (1)
- Assertion (A): Some historians believe that there was a central state in the Harappan civilization that had considerable power over some activities.
- Reason (R): The consistency of planning and similarity of decision-making in a large

Civilization points to a singular authority.

- (a). A is true, and R is false.
- (b). A is false, and R is true.
- (c). Both A and R are true, and R explains A.
- (d). Both A and R are true, and R does not explain A.

- Q4** Which of the following is NOT one of the sixteen Mahajan padas? (1)
- (a) Vajji
 - (b) Avanti
 - (c) Koshala
 - (d) Ayodhya
- Q5** Ashoka is mentioned by which titles in his inscriptions? (1)
- (a) Ashoka, Piyadassi
 - (b) Masattuvan, Ashoka
 - (c) Devanampiya, Piyadassi
 - (d) Devaputra, Piyadassi
- Q6** Which of these are provincial centres of the Mauryan Empire (1)
- (a) Taxila and Ujjayini
 - (b) Lumbini and Gaya
 - (c) Tosali and Suvarangiri
 - (d) Sopara and Sannati
- (i) A only
 - (ii) A and C
 - (iii) B and D
 - (iv) C and D
- Q7** What is the primary reason why the chandalas were considered untouchables and forced to live outside the city? (1)
- (a) Their religious customs
 - (b) Their occupation
 - (c) Their food habits
 - (d) Their skin colour
- Q8** Assertion-(A) Consider the following statements regarding the critical edition of Mahabharata: (1)
- I. A team comprising dozens of scholars initiated the task of preparing a critical edition of the Mahabharata.
- II. Initially, it meant collecting Sanskrit manuscripts of the text, written in a variety of scripts, from different parts of the country.
- III. The team worked out a method of comparing verses from each manuscript.
- Which of the following statements is/are correct?
- (a) Only I
 - (b) I and II
 - (c) I and III
 - (d) Only II

- Q9** Buddhism grew rapidly both during the lifetime of the Buddha and after his death as- (1)
 (a) Buddha and his disciples taught in Sanskrit.
 (b) Importance was given to rituals in Buddhism.
 (c) People were dissatisfied with existing social and religious practices.
 (d) Only men were allowed into the Sangha.

- Q10** Match Column I with Column II and choose the correct option: (1)

Column-1(Traveler)	Column-2(Author)
1. Abul Fazl	(i) Travels in the Mughal Empire
2. Ibn Battuta	(ii) Kitab-Ul-Hind
3. Al Biruni	(iii) Rihala
4. Francois Bernier	(iv) Ain -i-Akbari

Options:

- (a) 1-(iv),2-(iii),3-(ii),4-(i)
 (b) 1-(iii),2-(ii),3-(i),4-(iv)
 (c) 1-(ii),2-(i),3-(iv),4-(iii)
 (d) 1-(i),2-(iii),3-(ii),4-(iv)
- Q11** Assertion- (A) The Sanchi Stupa survived while the Amaravati did not. (1)
 Reason- (R) Sanchi stupa was discovered in 1818, when scholars understood the importance of such findings, while Amaravati, which was discovered in 1796, was removed from its site.
 (a) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A.
 (b) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
 (c) A is true, but R is false
 (d) A is false, but R is true

- Q12** What was/were the chief differences between Vaishnavism and Shaivism? (1)
 (a) Vaishnavism was related to Hinduism, and Shaivism has its roots in Buddhist ideology.
 (b) In Vaishnavism, Vishnu was worshiped as a principal deity, while in Shaivism, Shiva was regarded as the chief God.
 (c) Vaishnavism was popular in North India While Shaivism is popular in South India.
 (d) Vaishnavism and Shaivism were prevalent in central India.

- Q13** One of the best-known writers who visited South India in 1440s was- (1)
 (a) Abdur Razzaq Smarqandi
 (b) Francois Bernier
 (c) Mirza Abu Talib
 (d) Al-Biruni

- Q14** Assertion (A): - The travellers who visited the Indian subcontinent wrote about its social customs. (1)
 Reason (R): - They wanted to compare their findings with that of their own land
 (a) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are correct, and R is correct explanation of A
 (b) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are correct, but R is not the explanation of A
 (c) Only Assertion (A) is correct
 (d) Only Reason (R) is correct

- Q15.** According to Bernier, one of the evil effects of the crown's ownership of land was: (1)
1. Presence of ownership of land to the farmers
 2. Absence of ownership of land by the farmers
 3. Poor agricultural production
 4. Large amount of investment
- Which among the above options are correct?
- (a) 1 & 2
 - (b) 2 & 3
 - (c) 3 & 4
 - (d) 2 & 4
- Q16** Al-Biruni was familiar with the translations of the three languages of India, whose texts were in Arabic language. (1)
- (a) Sanskrit, Pali, and Prakrit
 - (b) Hindi, Sanskrit, and Tamil
 - (c) Hindi, Urdu, and Sanskrit
 - (d) Sanskrit, Telugu, Malayalam
- Q17** The language in which al-Biruni's work Kitab al-Hind was originally written was? (1)
- (a) Arabic language
 - (b) Sanskrit language
 - (c) Greek
 - (d) Hebrew language
- Q18** Who composed kirtan-ghosha? (1)
- (a) ShankarDevaa
 - (b) Sur Das
 - (c) Kabir Das Sundar Murti
 - (d) Ramdas
- Q19** Karaikal Ammaiyar was a devotee of (1)
- (a) Krishna
 - (b) Rama
 - (c) Shiva
 - (d) Brahma
- Q20** Which of the following is not a pillar of Islam: (1)
- (a) Hajj
 - (b) Fasting during Ramzan
 - (c) Praying five times daily
 - (d) Idol worship

- Q21** “Nalayira Divya Prabandam” is composed by_____. (1)
(a) Nayanars
(b) Alvars
(c) Buddhists
(d) Pandya’s

SECTION-B (6X3=18 MARKS)

- Q22** The distinctive features of the drainage system of Mohenjo-Daro tell us about the urban planning of the Harappan cities. Justify the statement. (3)

OR

How do archaeologists trace socio-economic differences in Harappa's society? What are the differences that they notice?

- Q23** Describe the Important changes in agriculture during the period between 600 BCE and 600 CE. (3)

- Q24** Evaluate the limitations of Ibn Battuta's *Rihala* as a primary source for assessing the economic vibrancy of the Delhi Sultanate, by analyzing potential biases, cross-referencing with contemporary accounts, and contextualizing against archaeological and other historiographical evidence. (3)

- Q25** “The Dharma sutras and Dharma shastras also contained rules about the ideal occupations of the four categories of varnas.” Critically examine the statement. (3)

- Q26** Nath, Jogi, and Siddha movements challenge Brahmanical dominance and contribute to social mobility for lower castes and artisans during the medieval period or were they merely adapting tantric traditions for broader appeal. Validate the statement. (3)

- Q27** Al-Biruni's identified barriers—language, religion, and local insularity—limit the accuracy of his observations on Indian society, and how did reliance on Brahmanical texts like the Vedas and Manu smriti shape his biased perspective? (3)

SECTION-C (8X3=24 MARKS)

- Q28** Using specific episodes from the Mahabharata, evaluate how effectively it reflects social values like patriliney, caste rigidity, and patriarchy in ancient India, considering its multi-layered composition over 1000 years. (8)

- Q29** "If by worshipping stones one can find God, I shall worship a mountain. Bring out the teachings of Kabir considering the above statement. (8)
- Q30** To what extent was Bernier's claim of crown-owned land in Mughal India an accurate depiction versus a Eurocentric critique projecting European property ideals onto a complex revenue system? (8)

SECTION-D(4X3=12MARKS)

- Q31** Al-Biruni's account of the system of varnas: The highest caste is the Brahmana, of whom the books of the Hindus tell us that they were created from the head of Brahman. And as the Brahman is only another name for the force called nature, and the head is the highest part of thebody, the Brahmanas are the choice part of the whole genus. Therefore, the Hindus consider them as the very best of mankind. The next caste is the Kshatriya, who were created, as they say, from the shoulders and hands of Brahman. Their degree is not much below that of the Brahmana. After them follow the Vaishya, who were created from the thigh of Brahman. The Sudra who were created from his feet. Between the latter two classes, there is no very great distance. Much, however, as these classes differ from each other, they live together in the same towns and villages, mixed in the same houses and lodgings. (4)

Answer the following Questions:

31.1: Explain Al-Biruni's account of the system of varnas. (1)

31.2: Do you consider this type of division justified? Explain with reasons. (1)

31.3: How was the system not quite rigid in real life? Explain. (2)

- Q32** Here is an excerpt of a mantra from the Rigveda, which was probably inserted in the text c. 1000 B.C.E. to be chanted by the priest while conducting the marriage ritual. It is used in many Hindu weddings even today. I free her from here but not from there. I have bound her firmly there so that through the grace of Indra She will have fine sons and be fortunate in her husband's love. Indra was one of the principal deities, a god of valour, warfare, and rain. "Here" and "there" refer to the father's and husband's house, respectively. (4)

Answer the following questions.

32:1 In the context of the mantra, discuss the implications of marriage from the point of view of the bride and groom (1)

32:2 Are the implications of the mantra identical, or are there differences? (1)

32:3. Who was Indra? What did the people pray to him for? (2)

- Q33** **What did the king's officials do?** (4)

Here is an excerpt from the account of Megasthenes:

Of the great officers of state, some ... superintend the rivers, measure the land, as is done in Egypt, and inspect the sluices by which water is let out from the main canals into their branches, so that everyone may have an equal supply of it. The same persons have charge also of the huntsmen and are entrusted with the power of rewarding or punishing them according to their deserts. They collect the taxes, and superintend the occupations connected with land; as those of the woodcutters, the carpenters, the blacksmiths, and the miners.

Answer the following questions:

33.1 Explain the duties of the officers of state. (2)

33.2: Explain the role of the sub-committees for coordinating military activities. (2)

SECTION-E (5X1=5 MARKS)

(5)

Q34

On the political Map of India, mark the mature Harappan sites

a: Rakhigarhi

b. Dholavira.

On the same Map of India:

B. Identify the Buddhist site mark with the number C given in the following map.

C. Identify the Buddhist site mark with the number A given in the following map.

D. Identify the Buddhist site where Buddha attained Nirvana in the following map.

