

**SPECTRA PRACTICE PAPER (2025-2026)**

**CLASS-XII<sup>th</sup>**

**SUBJECT: HISTORY**

**Time 3 Hrs.**

**MARKS 80**

**General Instruction:**

1. Question paper comprises five Sections – A, B, C, D and E. There are 34 questions in the question paper. All questions are compulsory.
2. **Section A** – Question 1 to 21 are MCQs of 1 mark each.
3. **Section B** – Question no. 22 to 27 are Short Answer Type Questions, carrying 3 marks each. The answer to each question should not exceed 60 - 80 words.
4. **Section C** - Question no 28 to 30 are Long Answer Type Questions, carrying 8 marks each. The answer to each question should not exceed 300 - 350 words
5. **Section D** – Question no.31 to 33 are Source based questions with three sub - questions and are of 4 marks each
6. **Section - E** - Question no. 34 is Map based, carrying 5 marks that include the identification and location of significant test items. Attach the map with the answer book.
7. 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 has to be attempted.
8. In addition, separate instructions are given with each section and question, wherever necessary.

**SECTION - A**

1. Why was Awadh referred to as the 'Nursery of the Bengal Army' during the 1850's?
  - a) Major recruiting ground for the Bengal Army
  - b) Centre for British military training
  - c) Known for strong resistance to British rule
  - d) Base for British military leaders
2. Who lived in Rajmahal Hills?
  - a) Paharias
  - b) Bengals
  - c) Singhal
  - d) Rajputs
3. Which of the following is not correctly matched in respect of Buddha's life?
  - a) Where he gave his first sermon - Sarnath
  - b) Where he attained enlightenment - Sursen
  - c) Where he was born - Lumbini
  - d) Where he attained nibbana - Kusinagara

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4. Identify the officer with the help of the following information:

- He was an officer in the mint of the English East India Company.
- He was able to decipher the ancient Brahmi and Kharosthi scripts.

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| a) James Princep        | b) R.E.M. Wheeler |
| c) Alexander Cunningham | d) John Marshall  |

5. The land which was annually cultivated for each crop in succession was called \_\_\_\_\_ in the Mughal Empire.

- |            |           |            |          |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|
| a) Chachar | b) Banjar | c) Parauti | d) Polaj |
|------------|-----------|------------|----------|

6. Consider the following statements regarding the Lotus Mahal:

1. Lotus Mahal of the most beautiful buildings in the royal centre is the Lotus Mahal, so named by British travellers in the nineteenth century.
2. One suggestion, found in a map drawn by Mackenzie, is that Lotus mahal may have been a council chamber, a place where the king met his advisers.
3. Lotus Mahal had nine towers – a high central one, and eight along the sides.

Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| a) i and ii  | b) Only i       |
| c) i and iii | d) All of these |

7. **Assertion (A):** Lingayats did not practise funerary rites.

**Reason (R):** Lingayats believed that on death the devotee will be united with Shiva and will not return to this world.

- 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.

8. Identify the category of bhakti tradition with the help of the given information.

- This tradition encompassed the worship of various specific deities, including Shiva, Vishnu, and their avatars.
- The deities in this tradition were often depicted in anthropomorphic forms.

- |            |           |            |           |
|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| a) Advaita | b) Saguna | c) Nirguna | d) Dvaita |
|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|

9. Consider the following statements related to the cause of the 1857 revolt and select the right one.

- a) the Indian sepoys were treated with contempt by their European officers
- b) the sepoys were sent to distant parts of the empire but were not paid any extra allowance
- c) All of these
- d) It was a great disparity in salaries between the Indian and European soldiers

10. Which one of the following pairs is correctly matched?

(Travellers who visited Vijayanagara)	(Their Country/Region)
(A) Nicolo de Conti	Italy
(B) Abdur Razzaq	Qandahar
(C) Afanasii Nikitin	Portugal
(D) Domingo Paes	Spain

- a) Only (C)                      b) Only (A)  
c) Only (B)                      d) Only (D)

11. Identify the term which defines the given below statement and give the correct answer.

The stupa originated as a sample semi - circular mound of earth

- a) Anda                              b) Pradakshinapath  
c) Amalka                          d) Marmika

12. Which one of the following languages was suggested by Gandhiji to be the national language of India?

- a) Hindi                              b) Sanskrit  
c) Urdu                               d) Hindustani

13. Match the following:

LIST I	LIST II
(a) Kula	(i) For the larger network of kinfolk.
(b) Jnati	(ii) To denote lineage
(c) Vamsha	(iii) Named after a Vedic seer
(d) Gotra	(iv) To designate families

- a) (a) - (i), (b) - (iv), (c) - (iii), (d) - (ii)  
b) (a) - (ii), (b) - (iii), (c) - (iv), (d) - (i)  
c) (a) - (iii), (b) - (ii), (c) - (iv), (d) - (i)  
d) (a) - (iv), (b) - (i), (c) - (ii), (d) - (iii)

14. The word **Kalibangan** means

- a) Black mound                      b) Black seals  
c) Black pottery                      d) Black bangles

15. \_\_\_\_\_, which had once mocked Gandhiji's physical size and seemingly non - rational ideas, now compared his martyrdom to that of \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) The Washington Post, Nelson Mandela  
b) The New York Times, George Washington  
c) The Guardian, Martin Luther King Jr.  
d) Time magazine, Abraham Lincoln

16. Why was the task of defining rights was difficult in the Constituent Assembly?

- a) Different groups have different demands regarding rights.  
b) Rights of people in Princely states was ambiguous.  
c) British do not want to include it in constitutional frame work.  
d) Gandhiji opposed the idea of special rights for some sections.

17. Who wrote Ain - i - Akbari?

- a) Abul Fazal
- b) Abdur Razzaq
- c) Ibn Battuta
- d) Al - Biruni

18. In the Harappan era, \_\_\_\_\_ were used to facilitate long distance communication.

- a) letters
- b) seals and sealings
- c) birds
- d) weapons

19. Damin - i - Koh was formed for \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) Zamindari
- b) British
- c) Santhals
- d) Paharias

20. Read the following statements carefully and identify the military commanders from the given options.

1. They were given territories for governing purposes by the Rayas.
2. They collected taxes and other dues from peasants, craftspersons and traders in the area.

- a) Ulamas
- b) Lingayats
- c) Shari'a
- d) Amara - nayakas

21. The janapada which was inhabited by the cousins Pandavas and Kauravas was that of

- a) Kurus
- b) Sakyas
- c) Mallas
- d) Shurasenas

### SECTION - B

22. Explain how you will prove that the text of Mahabharata was a dynamic one.

**OR**

The Dharmasutras and Dharmashastras also contained rules about the ideal occupations of the four categories of varnas. Critically examine the statement.

23. Describe factors that accounted for the constant expansion of agriculture during the 16th and 17th centuries.

24. How did Jotedars of Bengal show more power than Zamindars in the Permanent Settlement System? Explain.

25. Discuss the extent to which religious beliefs shaped the events of 1857.

26. Analyse the factors that led the rulers of the Vijayanagara empire to choose the site of Vijayanagara as their capital.

27. Explain how burials help in understanding the social and economic differences amongst the people in Harappan civilization.

**OR**

List the raw materials required for craft production in the Harappan civilisation and discuss how these might have been obtained.

### SECTION - C

28. Examine how did Al - Biruni compared the caste system in India with other societies and also write the chief features of his book Kitab - Ul - Hind.

**OR**

Examine Bernier's perceptions about ownership of landed property in Mughal India.

29. Who was James Princep? How did his discovery give a new direction for studying early Indian history?

**OR**

Explain the main features of the Mauryan administration and explain the principles of Ashoka's **Dhamma** .

30. Examine the contribution of Mahatma Gandhi towards nation building after the independence of India.

**OR**

Explain three different kinds of sources through which we can know about Gandhiji. Give any two problems faced while interpreting them.

### SECTION - D

31. Read the following excerpts carefully and answer the questions that follow.

Rules for Monks and Nuns :

These are some of the rules laid down in the Vinaya Pitaka:

When a new felt (blanket/rug) has been made by a bhikkhu, it is to be kept for (at least) six years. If after less than six years he should have another new felt (blanket/rug) made regardless of whether or not he has disposed of the first, then - unless he has been authorized by the bhikkhus - it is to be forfeited and confessed.

In Case a bhikkhu arriving at a family residence is presented with cakes or cooked grain - meal, he may accept two or three bowlfuls if he so desires. If he should accept more than that, it is to be confessed. Having accepted the two or three bowlfuls and having taken them from there, he is to share them among the bhikkhus. This is the proper course here.

Should any bhikkhu, having set out bedding in a lodging belonging to the sangha - or having had it set out - and then on departing neither put it away nor have it put away or should he go without taking leave, it is to be confessed.

1. Name any two Buddhist texts in which the rules for the monks have been laid down.
2. Why were these rules framed?
3. What was the sangha? Explain.
4. State any three rules mentioned in the passage, for the bhikkhus.

32. Read the following text carefully and answer the questions that follow: **The One Lord**

Here is a composition attributed to Kabir: Tell me, brother, how can there be No one lord of the world but two? Who led you so astray? God is called by many names: Names like Allah, Ram, Karim, Keshav, Hari, and Hazrat. Gold may be shaped into rings and bangles. Is n't it gold all the same? Distinctions are the only words we invent... Kabir says they are both mistaken. Neither can find the only Ram. One kills the goat, the other cows. They waste their lives in disputation.

1. How did Kabir describe the Ultimate Reality in Islamic traditions? (1)
2. Identify the terms he drew from Vedantic traditions to refer to the Ultimate Reality. (1)
3. Kabir's poems have survived in several languages and dialects. Name two special languages used by him. (2)

33. Read the given source carefully and answer the questions that follow: **"There cannot be any divided loyalty"**

Govind Ballabh Pant argued that in order to become loyal citizens people had to stop focusing only on the community and the self:

For the success of democracy one must train himself in the art of self - discipline. In democracies one should care less for himself and more for others. There cannot be any divided loyalty. All loyalties must exclusively be centred round the State. If in a democracy, you create rival loyalties, or you create a system in which any individual or group, instead of suppressing his extravagance, cares nought for larger or other interests, then democracy is doomed.

1. Why did G.B. Pant emphasize the importance of self - discipline in democracies?
2. What does loyalty mean?
3. What according to him is the key to the success of democracy?

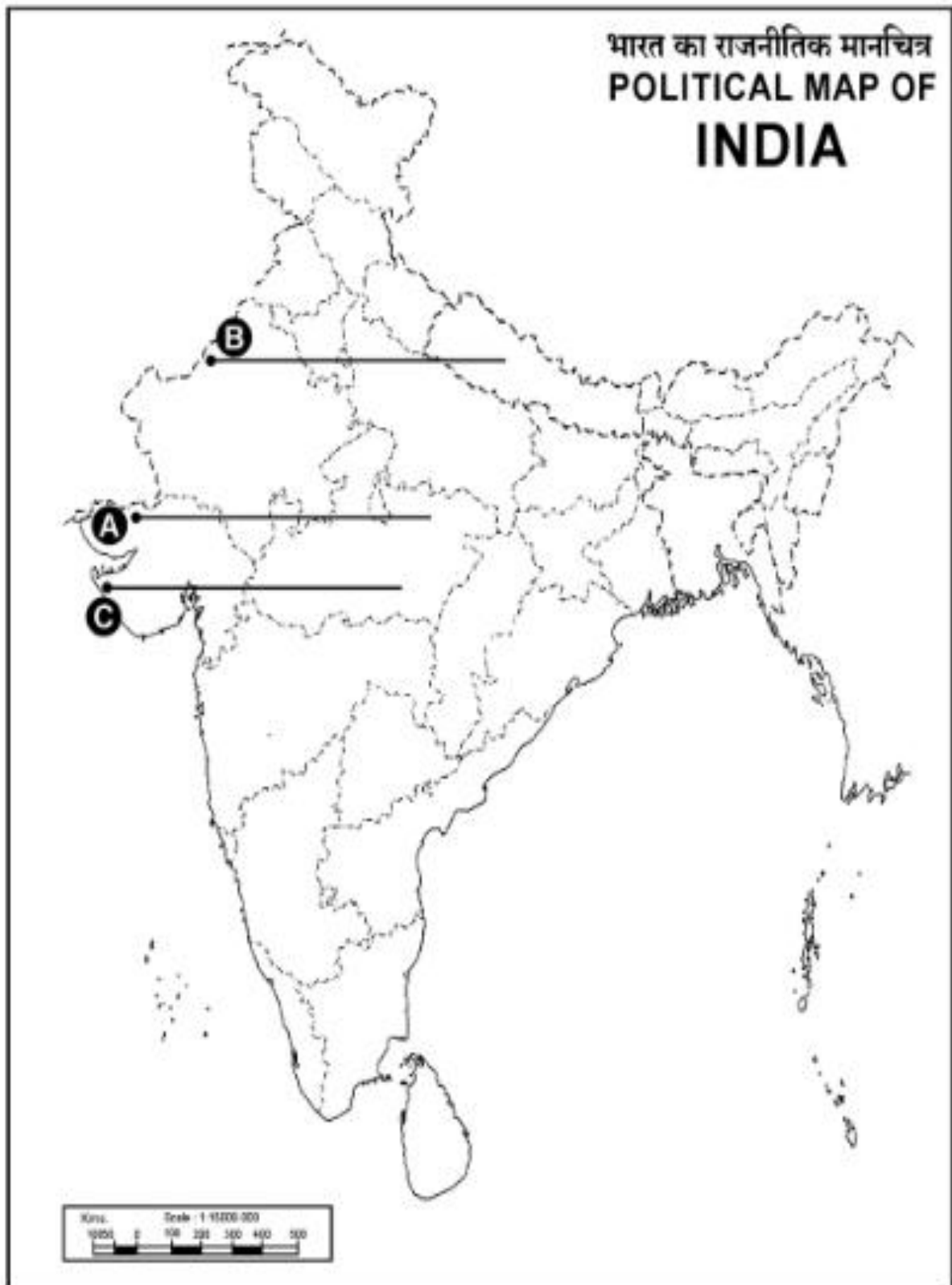
#### **SECTION - E**

34. On the given Political outline map of India locate and label any **three** from the following with appropriate symbols:

- a. Amritsar - an important centre of National Movement.
- b. Chauri - Chaura - The place where Gandhiji called off Non - Cooperation Movement.
- c. Vijaynagara - City ruled by Tuluva dynasty.
- d. Agra - A territory under Babur.
- e. Gwalior - a centre of the Revolt of 1857.

On the same outline map, three places related with Matured Harappan sites have been marked as A, B and C.

Identify them and write their correct names on the lines marked near them.



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