

TEST No. 60

TOPIC: Maurya

SUBJECT: INDIAN HISTORY

Explanation:

Question 1

Answer D

Explanation: Bindusara is said to have conquered the Deccan up to Mysore. Taranatha, the Tibetan monk states that Bindusara conquered 16 states comprising 'the land between the two seas'. The Sangam Tamil literature also confirms the Mauryan invasion of the far south. Therefore, it can be said that the Mauryan Empire under Bindusara extended up to Mysore. Bindusara received Deimachus as ambassador from the Syrian king Antiochus I. Bindusara wrote to Antiochus I asking for sweet wine, dried figs and a sophist. The latter sent all but a sophist because the Greek law prohibited sending a sophist. Bindusara supported the Ajivikas, a religious sect. Bindusara appointed his son Asoka as the governor of Ujjain and taxila

Question 2

Answer C

Explanation: The Ceylonese Chronicles, Dipavamsa and Mahavamsa state that Asoka captured power after killing his ninety nine brothers including the elder brother Susima. The youngest brother Tissa was spared. But according to Taranatha of Tibet, Asoka killed only six of his brothers.

Question 3

Answer D

Explanation: The manuscript of Arthashastra was first discovered by R. Shama Sastri in 1904. The Arthashastra contains 15 books and 180 chapters but it can be divided into three parts: the first deals with the king and his council and the departments of government; the second with civil and criminal law; and the third with diplomacy and war. It is the most important literary source for the history of the Mauryas.

The Mudrarakshasa was written during the Gupta period, but it describes how Chandragupta with the assistance of Kautilya overthrew the Nandas. It also gives a picture on the socio- economic condition under the Mauryas.

Question 4

Answer C

Explanation: The II and XIII rock edicts mention the southern kingdoms of Chola, Pandya, Satyaputra, Keralaputra and Tambapanni.

Question 5

Answer D

Explanation: The Mudrarakshasa ("The Signet of the Minister"), a historical play in Sanskrit by Vishakhadatta (4th century CE) narrates the ascent of the king Chandragupta Maurya to power in Northern India.

Question 6

Answer A

Explanation: Alexander (Greek, 326 B.C.E.); Sakas (90 B.C.E.); Kushanas (45 C.E.)

Question 7

Answer A

Explanation: Milindapanho wasn't written by one person. It is the collected dialogue between the Indo-Greek king Milinda (or Meander) and the Buddhist sage Nagasena.