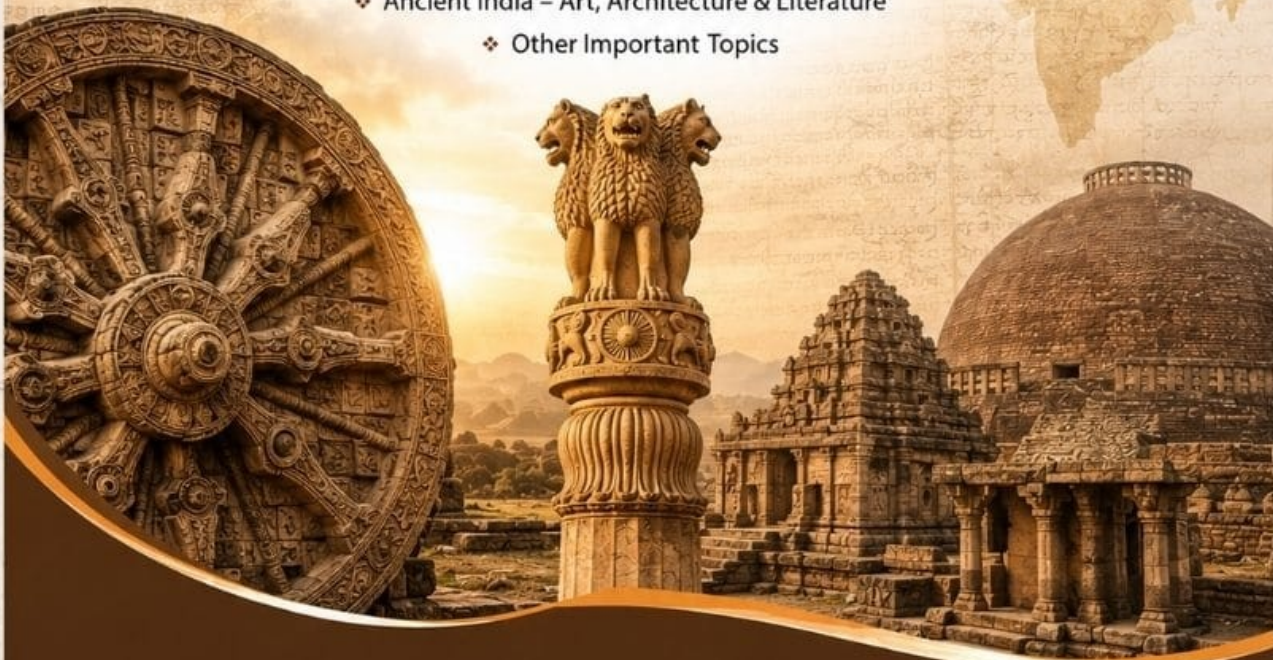


— OBJECTIVE —

ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY

MCQS

- ❖ Prehistoric India ❖ Indus Valley Civilization ❖ Vedic Period
- ❖ Mahanjanapadas ❖ Rise of Magadha ❖ Mauryan Empire
- ❖ Post Mauryan Age ❖ Gupta Age
- ❖ Ancient India – Art, Architecture & Literature
- ❖ Other Important Topics



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All Major Competitive
Examinations



UPSC



STATE PCS



SSC



RAILWAYS



BANKING



& OTHER
EXAMS



Ancient Indian History MCQs

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1. Prehistoric India

1. Which valley has the earliest evidence of rice cultivation in India?

- [A] Central Ganga Valley
- [B] Belan Valley
- [C] Gomai Valley
- [D] Bolan Valley

Answer: Belan Valley

Belan Valley is located in Uttar Pradesh, India. Archaeological excavation at Mahagara and Koldihwa in the Belan Valley found evidence of rice cultivation dating back to around 7000–6000 BCE. Charred grains of domesticated rice were discovered at these sites. This discovery predates rice findings from other Indian regions.

2. Who among the following is known as father of Indian Pre-History?

- [A] Robert Bruce foote
- [B] Sir William Jones
- [C] E.J.H Mackey
- [D] Sir John Marshall

Answer: Robert Bruce foote

Robert Bruce Foote (1834-1912) was a British geologist and archaeologist, known as father of India's prehistory. While being employed by Geological Survey of India, he conducted surveys of prehistoric locations in India, including parts of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh. In 1863, he discovered Paleolithic tools at Pallavaram, Chennai. The tools are now preserved at the Chennai Museum. He served in Baroda for two years after retiring in 1892 and was also invited to Mysuru by the Maharaja.

3. Which among the following was the main occupation of Palaeolithic (Old stone) people?

- [A] Agriculture
- [B] Farming
- [C] Hunting
- [D] Fishing

Answer: Hunting

Hunting animals and gathering wild fruits, vegetables and plants were the main occupations of Palaeolithic hunter-gatherers. They did not practice organized agriculture and were nomadic, moving from place to place for sustenance. Stone tools found at sites like Hunsgi Valley, Kurnool

Caves, and Bhimbetka were probably used for skinning animals and cutting meat.

4. At which of the following sites, all the Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic sites have been found in sequence?

- [A] Sarai Nahar Rai
- [B] Kurnool Valley
- [C] Belan Valley
- [D] Ahar

Answer: Belan Valley

In the Belan valley (Uttar Pradesh), all the three phases, the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic, have been found in sequence.

5. The Gufkral prehistoric site is in which Indian state/UT?

- [A] Jammu & Kashmir
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Uttarakhand

Answer: Jammu & Kashmir

Gufkral, in Pulwama district of Jammu & Kashmir, is a Neolithic-Chalcolithic site known for pit dwellings and early human settlements dating back to around 3000 BCE.

6. The oldest evidence in human history for the drilling of teeth in a living person was found in which of the following cultures?

- [A] Ahar banas
- [B] Mehrgarh
- [C] Sohn Valley
- [D] Malwa

Answer: Mehrgarh

In April 2006, Nature journal announced that the earliest evidence of drilling holes in human teeth while the person was still alive was found at the Mehrgarh neolithic site in Balochistan, Pakistan dating around 7,500 BCE to 9,000 BCE. Eleven drilled molar crowns were discovered here revealing the first known instance of proto-dentistry practiced anywhere in the world. This indicates advanced medical knowledge and skills amongst the early farming communities of Mehrgarh.

7. The earliest evidence of domestication of animals has been provided by Adamgarh. In which of the following states is located Adamgarh



?

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Madhya Pradesh
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Maharashtra

Answer: Madhya Pradesh

The earliest evidence of domestication of animals has been found in *Adamgarh* in Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh and Bagor in Bhilwara district of Rajasthan.

8. What is the number of prehistoric rock shelters in Bhimbetka?

- [A] 221
- [B] 243
- [C] 268
- [D] 289

Answer: 243

The Bhimbetka group of rock shelters contains 243 prehistoric rock shelters. The Bhimbetka Rock Shelters are located in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. The site is spread over 10 km in length and about 3 km in width. The Bhimbetka Rock Shelters are renowned for their prehistoric rock shelters and paintings. The paintings date back to approximately 30,000 years and provide valuable insights into early human civilization. The Bhimbetka Rock Shelters are a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

9. Which among the following age marks a very distinct growth in population of Human beings compared to other ages?

- [A] Lower paleolithic age
- [B] Upper Paleolithic Age
- [C] Mesolithic age
- [D] Neolithic Age

Answer: Mesolithic age

There are several reasons why the population may have grown during the Mesolithic age. One reason is that the development of new technologies, such as the creation of new tools and weapons, made it easier for people to hunt and gather food. This would have helped them to sustain larger populations. Additionally, the use of fire to cook food would have made it more nutritious and easier to digest, which would also have allowed people to support larger

populations. Finally, the transition from a nomadic lifestyle to a more settled one may have allowed people to establish larger, more stable communities that could support more people.

10. In which state / UT of India, the first Paleolithic site was discovered?

- [A] Jammu & Kashmir
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Karnataka

Answer: Karnataka

The first evidence of the Stone Age culture in India surfaced in Karnataka as early as in 1842 when Dr. Primrose discovered polished stone knives and arrow heads at Lingsugur in Raichur district of Karnataka.

11. At which of the following sites, largest variety of food grains in the Chalcolithic age has been found?

- [A] Navdatoli
- [B] Gilund
- [C] Adamgarh
- [D] Banahali

Answer: Navdatoli

At Navdatoli, located near Maheshwar town in Madhya Pradesh in Narmada valley, several varieties of food grains like rice, jowar, ragi etc. have been found.

12. At which among the following sites, first evidence of cultivation of cotton has been found?

- [A] Piklihal
- [B] Hathonora
- [C] Mehrgarh
- [D] Ghaligai

Answer: Mehrgarh

First evidence of cotton growing has been found at Mehrgarh (now in Pakistan).

13. Which among the following is the correct location of an ancient site Deh Morasi Ghundai?

- [A] Northern Pakistan
- [B] Eastern Persia
- [C] Modern Turkey
- [D] Afghanistan

Answer: Afghanistan

Deh Morasi Ghundai, located in Kandhar province of Afghanistan is the first prehistoric site to be



excavated in Afghanistan.

14. World's first oil paintings have been found in which of the following countries?

- [A] India
- [B] Pakistan
- [C] Afghanistan
- [D] Iran

Answer: Afghanistan

In 2008, oil paintings were discovered in caves near the village of Bamiyan in central Afghanistan. The paintings have been radiocarbon dated to more than the 5th century CE, making them the oldest known oil paintings in the world.

15. Which among the following can best define the Neolithic Revolution ?

- [A] Green Revolution
- [B] Technology Revolution
- [C] Milk Revolution
- [D] Agricultural Revolution

Answer: Agricultural Revolution

The Neolithic Revolution or Neolithic Demographic Transition, sometimes called the Agricultural Revolution, was the world's first historically verifiable revolution in agriculture. It was the wide-scale transition of many human cultures from a lifestyle of hunting and gathering to one of agriculture and settlement which supported an increasingly large population. Archaeological data indicates that various forms of plants and animal domestication evolved in separate locations worldwide, starting around 12,000 years ago.

16. Which site has given the earliest evidence of pottery in the Indian subcontinent?

- [A] Brahmagiri
- [B] Chirand
- [C] Mehrgarh
- [D] Burzahom

Answer: Mehrgarh

Mehrgarh, located in the Kacchi Plain of Balochistan, Pakistan, is one of the earliest sites with evidence of farming and herding in South Asia. Dated back to around 7000 – 5500 BCE, it is also known for its significant contribution in unearthing one of the earliest instances of

pottery making.

17. Jorwe culture, a Chalcolithic culture, was first discovered in which of the following states of India?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Jammu & Kashmir

Answer: Maharashtra

Jorwe is a village and an archaeological site located on the banks of the Godavari River in Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra. This site was first excavated in 1950-51 under the direction of Hasmukh Dhirajlal Sankalia and Shantaram Bhalchandra Deo.

18. The Neolithic sites Kuchai and Golbai Sasan are located in which Indian state?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Bihar
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Madhya Pradesh

Answer: Odisha

The Neolithic sites in Odisha include Kuchai in Mayurbhanj district, and the recently excavated site of Golbai Sasan on the banks of Mandakini River.

19. Which among the following site has yielded the cultural remains from Neolithic to Harappan era?

- [A] Dholavira
- [B] Mohenjo-Daro
- [C] Harappa
- [D] Mehrgarh

Answer: Mehrgarh

Mehrgarh is the oldest agricultural settlement in the Indian subcontinent Agriculture-based Neolithic settlements. Despite being the agriculture settlement, it used only stone tools, so is why placed in Neolithic Era. It flourished in the seventh millennium B.C. Mehrgarh is located on the Bolan River, a tributary of the Indus, at the eastern edge of the Balochistan plateau overlooking the Indus plain.

20. In which state of India is located the ancient trading depot of Bharukaccha?

- [A] Rajasthan



[B] Gujarat

[C] Maharashtra

[D] Karnataka

Answer: Gujarat

Bharuch derives its name from the great sage Bhrigu and the original name of Bharuch was 'Bhrigukachchha'

21. Which of the following places is known for painted rock shelters belonging to Paleolithic and Mesolithic ages ?

[A] Utnur

[B] Uyyur

[C] Bhimbetka

[D] Bairath

Answer: Bhimbetka

The Bhimbetka rock shelters are an archaeological site in central India that spans the prehistoric paleolithic and mesolithic periods, as well as the historic period. It exhibits the earliest traces of human life on the Indian subcontinent and evidence of Stone Age starting at the site in Acheulian.

22. In which of the following age human shifted from food gathering stage to food producing stage ?

[A] Paleolithic age

[B] Neolithic age

[C] Mesolithic age

[D] None of the above

Answer: Neolithic age

The Neolithic Age in India spanned from around 7,000 B.C. to 1,000 B.C. was the last and third part of the Stone Age. The Neolithic Age is mainly characterized by the development of settled agriculture and the use of tools and weapons made of polished stones. It shows the shifting from food gathering stage to food producing stage.

23. Giak & Kiari are located in which of the following ?

[A] Ladakh

[B] Odisha

[C] Kuchh

[D] Assam

Answer: Ladakh

Giak and Kiari are Neolithic sites located in

Ladakh. The sites are on the left bank of the Indus River, about 13,000 feet above sea level. They are about 10 km apart. In the early 1990s, a team of Japanese archaeologists led by Dr Masato Ota excavated the sites.

24. Which of the following era / communities represent Jorwe culture?

[A] Vedic Era

[B] Chalcolithic Era

[C] Palaeolithic Era

[D] Later vedic Era

Answer: Chalcolithic Era

Jorwe culture was a Chalcolithic archaeological culture mostly spread in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

25. In which of the following modern area "Amri Culture" developed?

[A] North East States of India

[B] Sindh and Balochistan of Pakistan

[C] Eastern Iraq

[D] South India

Answer: Sindh and Balochistan of Pakistan

Amri culture refers to the Amri archaeological sites in Sindh and Balochistan provinces of Pakistan. It flourished in the 4th and 3rd millennia BC.

26. The evidences of 'pit-dwelling' have been discovered from which of the following ancient Indian sites?

[A] Lothal and Kalibangan

[B] Burzahom and Gufkral

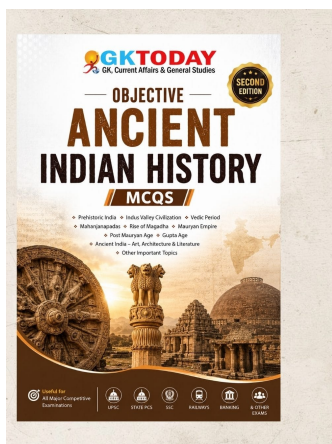
[C] Ropar and Rangpur

[D] Kalibangan and Surkotada

Answer: Burzahom and Gufkral

The ancient Indian sites of Burzahom and Gufkral have evidence of pit-dwellings. These sites are located in the Kashmir Valley. The pits were circular or oval in shape and were dug into the ground. The pits were wide at the ground and narrow near the opening. The pits were plastered with soil. The sites also have evidence of early agriculture, pottery, stone tools, and animal bones. The excavations at Burzahom reveal four phases of cultural significance between 3000 BC and 1000 BC.

27. Which of the following was most probably the



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