

Class 6 History Chapter 7 Ashoka, The Emperor Who Gave Up War Important Questions

1. Fill in the blanks.

- (i) Officials collected _____ from the area under the direct control of the ruler.
- (ii) Royal princes often went to the provinces as _____.
- (iii) The Mauryan rulers tried to control _____ and _____ which were important for transport.
- (iv) People in forested regions provided the Mauryan officials with _____.
- (v) The Arthashastra tells us that the north-west was important for _____.
- (vi) Ashoka was inspired by the teachings of _____.

Answer:

- (i) taxes
- (ii) governors
- (iii) roads and rivers
- (iv) elephants, timber, honey and wax.
- (v) blankets.
- (vi) Buddha.

2. Write True/False against each of the following statement

- (i) Ujjain was the gateway to the north-west.
- (ii) Chandragupta's ideas were written down in the Arthashastra.
- (iii) Kalinga was the ancient name of Bengal.
- (iv) Most Ashokan inscriptions are in the Brahmi script.
- (v) The Arthashastra tells us that south India for its gold and precious stones.
- (vi) The empire that Ashoka ruled was founded by his father.
- (vii) Ashoka appointed special officials who were known as the Dhamma Mahamatta.

Answer:

- (i) False
- (ii) True
- (iii) False
- (iv) True
- (v) True
- (vi) False
- (vii) True

Answer each of the following questions

1. How did Ashoka convey his message to the people?

Answer: He conveyed his message to the people through inscriptions.

2. Who built Great Wall of China?

Answer: Emperors in China built the Great Wall.

3. Who wrote Arthashastra?

Answer: Chanakya wrote Arthashastra.

4. What is the ancient name of coastal Orissa?

Answer: Kalinga is the ancient name of coastal Orissa.

5. Name some cities of Mauryan Empire.

Answer: Pataliputra, Taxila, and Ujjain.

6. Name the book in which the ideas of Kautilya were written down.

Answer: Chanakya's ideas were written down in a book called the Arthashastra.

7. What is dhamma?

Answer: 'Dhamma' is the Prakrit word for the Sanskrit term 'Dharma'.

8. Name the provincial capital of Mauryan Empire.

Answer: Taxila or Ujjain

9. Who was Seleucus Nicator?

Answer: He was a Greek ruler of West Asia.

10. Which the region that was popular for the production of blanket during Maurya period?

Answer: north-west

11. Who was Chanakya?

Answer: Chandragupta was supported by a wise man named Chanakya or Kautilya.

12. Why was the Great Wall of China made?

Answer: It was built to protect the northern frontier of the empire from pastoral people.

13. Which script was used in the Ashoka's inscriptions?

Answer: Most of Ashoka's inscriptions were in Prakrit and were written in the Brahmi script.

14. Who founded the Mauryan Empire?

Answer: Mauryan Empire was founded by Chandragupta Maurya more than 2300 years ago.

15. Name the capital of Mauryan Empire. In which current state of India is it located?

Answer: Pataliputra (modern Patna) in Bihar

16. Name some countries where Ashoka propagated 'Dhamma'.

Answer: Ashoka sent messengers to spread ideas about dhamma to other lands, such as Syria, Egypt, Greece and Sri Lanka.

17. Where did the lions on the currency come from?

Answer: The lions that we see on our notes and coins have a long history. They were carved in stone, and placed on top of a massive stone pillar at Sarnath.

18. Make a list of the occupations of the people who lived within the Mauryan Empire?

Answer: Merchants, officials, farmers, herders and crafts persons probably lived within the Mauryan Empire.

19. Who was sent to the court of Chandragupta as an ambassador by the Greek ruler of West Asia, Seeucus Nicator?

Answer: Megasthenes was sent to the court of Chandragupta as an ambassador by the Greek ruler of West Asia, Seeucus Nicator.

20. Explain the term tribute.

Answer: Unlike taxes, which were collected on a regular basis, tribute was collected as and when it was possible from people who gave a variety of things, more or less willingly.

21. Explain the term the Brahmi Script.

Answer: Brahmi is the modern name given to one of the oldest writing systems used in Ancient India. Most modern Indian scripts have developed from the Brahmi script over hundreds of years.

22. Why did Ashoka decided to give up wars?

Answer: Ashoka fought a war to conquer Kalinga. However, he was so horrified when he saw the violence and bloodshed that he decided not to fight any more wars.

23. What is Rampurwa bull and where it has been placed now?

Answer: The Rampurwa bull is finely polished stone sculpture. This was part of a Mauryan pillar found in Rampurwa, Bihar, and has now been placed in Rashtrapati Bhavan. It is an example of the skill of the sculptors of the time.

24. What were the things given as tribute by the people living in the forested areas?

Answer: People living in the forested areas were more or less independent, but may have been expected to provide elephants, timber, honey and wax to Mauryan officials.

25. What was Ashoka's dhamma?

Answer: Ashoka's dhamma did not involve worship of a god, or performance of a sacrifice. He felt that just as a father tries to teach his children, he had a duty to instruct his subjects. He was also inspired by the teachings of the Buddha.

26. How are empires different from kingdoms?

Answer: Empires are different from kingdoms in the following ways:

- Emperors need more resources than kings because empires are larger than kingdoms, and need to be protected by big armies.
- So they also need a larger number of officials who collect taxes.

27. What does Dynasty mean?

Answer: When members of the same family become rulers one after another, the family is often called a dynasty. The Mauryas were a dynasty with three important rulers — Chandragupta, his son Bindusara, and Bindusara's son, Ashoka.

28. When did Ashoka's inclination towards Buddhism developed?

Answer: After the Battle of Kalinga, he was so horrified when he saw the violence and bloodshed that he decided not to fight any more wars. He slowly became the follower of the Buddhist religion and adopted the path of non-violence.