

Ancient History-UPSC Pre-2023

Q- With reference to ancient India, consider the following statements::

- 1 The concept of Stupa is Buddhist in origin.
2. Stupa was generally a repository of relics.
3. Stupa was a votive and commemorative structure in Buddhist tradition.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

- [a] Only one
- [b] Only two
- [c] All three
- [d] None

Q- In which one of the following regions was Dhanyakataka, which flourished as a prominent Buddhist centre under the Mahasanghikas, located?

- [a] Andhra
- [b] Gandhara
- [c] Kalinga
- [d] Magadha

Q- With reference to ancient South India, Korkai, Poompuhar and Muchiri were well known as

- [a] capital cities
- [b] ports
- [c] centres of iron-and-steel making
- [d] shrines of Jain Tirthankaras

Q- Consider the following pairs:

Site : Well known for

1. Besnagar : Shaivite cave shrine
2. Bhaja : Buddhist cave shrine
3. Sittanavasal : Jain cave shrine

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- [a] Only one
- [b] Only two
- [c] All three
- [d] None

Q- Souls are not only the property of animal and plant life, but also of rocks, running water and many other natural objects not looked on as living by other religious sects." The above statement reflects one of the core beliefs of which one of the following religious sects of ancient India?

- [a] Buddhism

- [b] Jainism
- [c] Shaivism
- [d] Vaishnavism

Q- With reference to ancient Indian History, consider the following pairs::

Literary work—Author

- 1.Devichandragupta—Bilhana**
- 2.ammira-Mahakavya—Nayachandra Suri**
- 3.Milinda-panha—Nagarjuna**
- 4.Nitivakyamrita—Somadeva Suri**

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

- [a] Only one
- [b] Only two
- [c] Only three
- [d] All four

Q- Which one of the following explains the practice of “Vattakirutal” as mentioned in Sangam poems?

- [a] Kings employing women bodyguards
- [b] Learned persons assembling in royal courts to discuss religious and philosophical matters
- [c] Young girls keeping watch over agricultural fields and driving away birds and animals
- [d] A king defeated in a battle committing ritual suicide by starving himself to death.