

CLASS VII
MID-TERM EXAMINATION (2025-26)
HISTORY & SOCIAL POLITICAL LIFE
SET- B1/B2
MARKING KEY

SET B1	SET B2	VALUE POINTS	MARKS
1.		Which of the following statements best describe the key differences between Janapadas and Mahajanapadas? 1. Janapadas were smaller tribal settlements, while Mahajanapadas were larger kingdoms with centralized administration. 2. Janapadas had well-developed taxation systems, whereas Mahajanapadas did not collect any taxes. 3. Mahajanapadas had fortified capitals and standing armies, unlike most Janapadas. 4. Janapadas were ruled by elected assemblies, whereas Mahajanapadas had no clear leadership structure. Choose the correct option: A. Only 1 and 3 -ANSWER B. Only 2 and 4 C. Only 1, 2, and 3 D. All of the above	1
	1	During a museum visit, Aman sees ancient coins made of silver and copper with symbols stamped on them. The guide explains that these were used for trade and issued by different regions. Which innovation is being described? A. Use of barter system B. Introduction of coinage-ANSWER C. Development of writing D. Use of seals for administration	1
2.	2	In a country called Navdesh, people gather every five years to vote for their leaders. They choose representatives who make laws and take decisions on their behalf. If the government doesn't perform well, people have the right to replace them in the next election. Based on this situation, what type of government does Navdesh have? A. Non-democratic government B. Military government C. Democratic government-ANSWER D. Monarchy	1

3.	3	Read the following statements about the roles and responsibilities of a government. Choose the option that includes only the correct statements. Statement P: The government is responsible for national defence. Statement Q: It provides essential services like education, healthcare, and infrastructure. Statement R: It works for the welfare of people and aims to improve their quality of life. Statement S: It does not manage relationships with other countries. Which of the above are the correct statements? OPTIONS: A. Statement P, Q ,S B. Statement R & S C. Statement S D. Statement P, Q, R- ANSWER	1
4.	4	 Observe the mural above, displayed at the Library of Congress, USA. It reflects a powerful democratic ideal articulated by the 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. Which of the following best represents the form of government described in his iconic statement? A. A monarchy where the ruler governs with the consent of the people. B. A government led by officials appointed by the military. C. A government of the people, by the people, for the people.- ANSWER D. An oligarchy where governance is reserved for the wealthy elite	1

5.	5	Two statements are given in the question below as Assertion (A) and Reasoning (R). Read the statements and choose the appropriate option. Assertion (A): In a democracy, power is transferred through elections. Reason (R): In a monarchy, power is usually inherited through birthright. OPTIONS: 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.-ANSWER C. A is true, but R is false. D. A is false, but R is true.	1									
6.	6	Complete the table below by highlighting the key features of the Varna and Jati systems. <table><tr><th>PARAMETERS</th><th>VARNA</th><th>JATI</th></tr><tr><td>BASED ON</td><td>A ----- System based on position in society.</td><td>Occupation</td></tr><tr><td>EXAMPLES</td><td>Kshatriyas, shudras</td><td>B ----- ● Jatis of farmers ● Jatis of metal-workers ● Jatis of artisans etc.</td></tr></table>	PARAMETERS	VARNA	JATI	BASED ON	A ----- System based on position in society.	Occupation	EXAMPLES	Kshatriyas, shudras	B ----- ● Jatis of farmers ● Jatis of metal-workers ● Jatis of artisans etc.	1+1
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7.		While reading her history book Exploring Society: India and Beyond, Meera comes across the term ‘Second Urbanisation’. It refers to a period that came after the decline of the Indus Valley Civilization. Based on Meera’s reading, what does the term ‘Second Urbanisation’ mean in the context of early Indian history? ANS: 1. ‘Second Urbanisation’ refers to the rise of new cities in the Ganga plains and other regions around 600 BCE. 2. Urban centres developed due to agriculture, trade, use of iron tools, and stable political systems.	2									
	7.	Situation: In a history class, the teacher explains that in ancient times, rulers did not make decisions alone. Instead, they consulted a group of elders in assemblies which discussed matters of the clan. Based on the above given situation, enlist any two early democratic traditions followed in Janapadas. (ANY TWO) ANS: Each janapada had a council called sabhā or samiti. ● These councils discussed matters about the clan.	2									

		● The words sabhā and samiti come from the Vedas (ancient Indian texts). ● Most members of the council were likely elders of the clan. ● The rājā (king) was not expected to rule alone or unfairly.	
8.	8	8.1) During his civics class, Rohit reads about a nation where governance is carried out by clerics, and all state decisions must align with sacred religious teachings. People have to follow what is written in holy books. What type of government does this describe? A. Constitutional Monarchy B. Theocracy- ANSWER C. Military Dictatorship D. Federal Democracy 8.2) Cite an example of a country that follows this type government model. ANS: Islamic Republic of Iran, Afghanistan and Vatican City.	1+1
9.	9	What strategic, economic, and geographical factors contributed to the rise and sustained dominance of Magadha? Support your answer with specific historical examples. 1. ANS: Abundant Resources-Magadha was located in the resource-rich Ganga plains, with fertile land, abundant forests for timber, and elephants. 2. The use of iron-transformed agriculture and warfare & proved crucial for the expansion of the kingdom. 3. Agriculture-The use of iron ploughs to till the land increased agricultural produce. 4. Weapons-lighter and sharper iron weapons strengthened the capabilities of the army. 5. Powerful kings- such as Ajātaśhatru, played a crucial role in establishing Magadha as a dominant centre of power. 6. The Ganga and Son rivers-provided a geographical advantage for trade, as they could be used for transportation & contributed to Magadha's rise. OR Ashoka's Dhamma was a set of moral and ethical principles aimed at promoting harmony and welfare among his people. Based on this statement, explain any three key features of Ashoka's message of Dhamma and ways of spreading it to people. ANS: ● Dhamma has been derived from the Prakrit word-Dhamma meaning duty. ● It was a code of conduct based on moral and ethical values.	3 3

		● It encouraged kindness, honesty, non-violence, and respect for all living beings. ● Ashoka promoted religious tolerance and harmony among different communities. ● Special officers called Dhamma Mahamattas were appointed to spread the message of Dhamma & Buddhism across Thailand, Sri Lanka.	
10.	10	Read the passage given below and answer the following: A dictatorship is a form of government in which one person, or a small group possesses absolute power — they do not have any limits imposed on them by a constitution or law. The 20th century witnessed many examples of dictators who created extremely difficult circumstances for the people. Adolf Hitler was appointed Chancellor of Germany in 1933, he passed laws that gave him full power and eliminated the opposition. He was now a dictator. Convinced of the superiority of his people, he believed that Germany should rule the world and dominate ‘inferior races’. He was responsible for the killing of at least six million Jews (this is known as the ‘Holocaust’) as well as hundreds of thousands of Roma and other groups of people. In fact, he was the cause for World War II in the years 1939–1945, 10.1- Which of the following best defines a dictatorship? A. A government where citizens elect their leaders through voting B. A system where power is shared among various branches of government C. A form of government where one person or a small group holds absolute power without constitutional limits-ANSWER D. A government that strictly follows democratic principles and laws 10.2 - Out of the given options below, which one is NOT the correct key feature of Dictatorship. I. No freedom of expression. II. Citizens elect lawmakers. III. No elections are held. IV. The government is based on religious principles. OPTIONS: A. I & IV B. II & IV- ANSWER C. III Only D. I & III 10.3 - ‘Democracy is considered to be a better form of government than others’. In the context of the given statement, give two reasons to justify the statement.	1 1 2

		(ANY 2) 1. It respects individual freedom and rights. 2. People have the right to choose their leaders. 3. It promotes equality and accountability. 4. It ensures participation in decision-making. 5. It is the government of the people, for the people and by the people.	
11.	11	What are the fundamental principles that form the foundation of a democratic government? Briefly explain any five with suitable examples. ANSWER- (ANY 5) • Equality- in a democracy means that every person has the right to be treated equally. It also means that everyone should have equal access to facilities like education and health, and that everyone is equal before the law. • Freedom- in democracy means that citizens have the right to make their own choices and express their opinions. • Representative participation- means that every person has a right to choose and elect their representatives. This is done through the process of elections. • Universal adult franchise-grants every citizen (above a certain age) the right to vote to choose their representative. • Fundamental rights- of a citizen, such as — right to equality, right to freedom of speech and expression, and right against exploitation — are all provided and protected in a democracy. • Independent judiciary- ensures that every citizen's fundamental rights are protected, and that laws are followed by the citizens and also by all the parts of the government. OR Riya reads in the newspaper that a new road safety law has been made. First, some leaders made the law. Then, government workers started putting up traffic signs and making sure people follow the new rules. Later, a judge punished someone who broke the law. Based on this story: A. Name the three main parts (organs) of the government involved. B. What did each part do in this situation? ANS: 1. Legislature - The legislature is the body of the government which is responsible for making laws. 2. Executive -The executive is the organ of the government which is responsible for implementing the law made by the legislature. 3. Judiciary -The judiciary ensures that everyone follows the rules. It deals with settling disputes and delivering justice.	5 3+2

12.	12	Kautilya, also known as Chanakya, was a renowned political thinker and advisor in ancient India. What were some of the key ideas proposed by him for the effective establishment, administration, and consolidation of a kingdom? Illustrate your answer with relevant examples from his work. ANS: ● Kautilya (Chanakya) outlines his vision for governance in his famous book 'Arthashastra' - ● According to him the administration must consist of SAPTANGA or the SEVEN PARTS. 1. RAJA-The ruler should be well-trained and wise. 2. AMATYAS- Councillors and advisors of the king must guide the king right. 3. TERRITORIES-The king must protect its kingdom's people and territories. 4. FORTIFICATION- Cities & towns must be fortified to protect them from attacks 5. SPIES- Spies and intelligence must be maintained. 6. TAXES & TRADE-The state must collect taxes to maintain order, security and control trade and economy. 7. ALLIES-The state must maintain cordial relations with its allies to be united in need.	5
13.	13	In the given political map of India, Identify & locate A and identify and label B with the help of the clues given below. A. IDENTIFY- One of the major Mahajanapadas - Gandhara B. LOCATE: Magadha on the map. -	2

