



Chapter 6: The Age of Reorganisation

Questions and Activities

Que 1. Why was the post-Maurya era also known as the era of reorganisation?

Answer:

- After the fall of the Mauryan Empire, many new kingdoms emerged.
- There were changes in the political, social and economic systems.
- Trade and industry developed.
- New art, culture and religious activities were promoted.
- New ruling dynasties were established in different regions.
- Hence this period is called the period of restructuring.

Que 2. Write a note on the Sangam literature in 150 words.

Answer: Sangam literature is an important literature of the ancient Tamil language. It developed during the Sangam period in South India. This literature provides important information about the society, culture, politics, business, and life of the people at that time.

Poems and songs have a special place in Sangam literature. It contains beautiful descriptions of love, heroism, war, nature and social life. From this literature we also get information about the Chera, Chola and Pandya kingdoms.

The Sangam poets also gave space to the lives of common people, their emotions and daily activities in their literature. This literature is a symbol of the rich cultural tradition of South India.

Even today, the Sangam literature is considered an important source of study of Indian history and culture.

Que 3. Which rulers mentioned in this chapter included their mother's name in their title, and why did they do so?

Answer:

- Some rulers of the Satavahana dynasty included the name of the mother in their titles.
- Examples: Gautamiputra Satakarni and Vashisthiputra Pulumavi.
- This was done to show the honor and prestige of his mother.
- With this, the rulers also established the identity of their family and dynasty.

Que 4. Write a note of 250 words about one kingdom from this chapter that you find interesting. Explain why you chose it. After presenting your note in class, find out what kingdoms have been the most selected by your classmates.

Answer:

Kushan Empire

I find the Kushan Empire described in this chapter the most interesting. Its principal ruler was Kanishka, who is considered a great ruler. The Kushan Empire extended from Central Asia to North India.

Kanishka patronized Buddhism and played an important role in its propagation. Trade and cultural exchanges got a big boost during his reign. Trade relations between India, China and Rome were strengthened.

Art and architecture also flourished during the Kushan period. The Gandhara art style in particular became famous during this period. Indian and Greek influences are visible in this art.

I chose this state because it worked to connect different cultures. Its contributions to the fields of trade, religion and art enriched Indian history. Kanishka's foresight and cultural tolerance make this state special.

Que 5. Imagine you have the chance to create your own kingdom. What royal emblem would you choose, and why? What title would you take as the ruler? Write a note about your kingdom, including its values, rules and regulations, and some unique features.

Answer:

My ideal state

If I get an opportunity to establish an independent state, I will choose the Ashoka Chakra and the book as my royal emblem. The Ashoka Chakra is a symbol of justice and progress and the book is a symbol of knowledge and education.

I will choose for myself the title of "Lokhit Emperor", which means a ruler who acts in the interest of the people.

The core values of my state will be—

1. equality
2. justice
3. teaching
4. Environmental Protection
5. peace

All citizens in my State will have equal rights. Education will be free for all. Tree plantation will be promoted to protect the environment. The laws will apply equally to all.

My state will be characterized by balanced development of science, culture and moral values. Governance will be run with the participation of citizens and the welfare of all will be taken care of.

Que 6. You have read about the architectural developments of the post-Maurya era. Take an outline of the Indian subcontinent and mark the approximate locations of some of the ancient structures mentioned in this chapter.

Answer:



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