



CLASS - VII - Social Science January Notes

8. Eighteenth-Century Political Formations

I. Technical Words :

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|---------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Autonomous | - | Independent. |
| 2. Dal Khalsa | - | A grand army of Sikhs. |
| 3. Firman | - | Royal Order. |
| 4. Ijaradar | - | A revenue-farmer. |
| 5. Khalsa | - | A Sikh order. |
| 6. Orthodoxy | - | Accepted religious belief. |
| 7. Subedar | - | A Governor. |
| 8. Watandars | - | The holders of land grants. |

II. Short answer type questions :

- 1. What do you mean by the Later Mughals? Name any two Later Mughals and their periods of reign?**

The successors to the Mughal Emperor, Aurangzeb are called later Mughals. The regimes of later Mughals saw rapid decline for the Mughal emperors as they were unable to govern the whole empire like the Great Mughals and actually became the puppets in the hands of their shrewd nobles e.g., Akbar Shah (1806-1837) and Bahadur Shah Jafar-II (1837- 1857).

- 2. Name the offices held by Sa'adat Khan.**

Sa'adat Khan was a descendent of some Persian adventurer. He was made governor or Subedar of Awadh province in 1722 by the Mughal Emperor. He held the offices of Subedari, diwani and faujdari for managing political, financial and military affairs of the kingdom.

- 3. Analyse the importance of merchants and bankers in the 18th century AD.**

Merchants and bankers had extensive business transactions with Europeans and the nawabs. They had gained new status in the new political order on account of revenue collection policies.

- 4. Who was Chhatrapati Shivaji? Who ruled on behalf of the Marathas in the 18th century AD?**

Shivaji founded the Maratha kingdom. He was the son of Shahaji Bhonsle who was a sardar under Nizamshahi rulers of Ahmednagar. Peshwa Balaji Rao ruled on behalf of the Marathas in the 18th century.

III. Long answer type questions :

1. Discuss the main causes for the decline of the Mughal Empire.

Following were the main causes for the decline of the Mughal Empire:

- **Aurangzeb's Intolerant Policies:** His policies had caused revolts in different parts of the subcontinent.
- **Long wars in the Deccan:** Due to long wars military was depleted and treasury was drained. Aurangzeb's absence created political and administrative vacuum in northern India and the symptoms of brickby-brick disintegration became visible.
- **Weak Successors:** Aurangzeb's successors were weak and unable to keep a check on powerful groups. Revenue of Mughal empire declined.
- **Competition Amongst Nobles:** Mughals rulers became puppet in the hands of powerful groups i.e., Turani and Iranis.
- **Revolt by Peasants:** Due to mounting taxes, peasants were uneasy, so they revolted.
- **Invasion by Nadir Shah:** He took away wealth and ordered a massacre of people which broke the backbone of the Mughal empire.
- **Invasion by Ahmad Shah Abdali:** He defeated Marathas in the battle and their army was ruined by him.

2. Analyse the policies adopted by Asaf Jah to strengthen his position.

Asaf Jah adopted the following policies to strengthen his position:

- He brought skilled soldiers and administrators from northern India who welcomed the new opportunities in the south.
- He appointed Mansabdars and granted jagirs.
- He worked independently of Mughal empire. He was granted title of Nizam from Mughal Emperor. His successors also took the title of Nizam.

3. The Nawabs of Awadh and Bengal tried to do away with the Jagirdari system. Give reasons.

Yes, they tried to do away with Jagirdari as they became very powerful and wanted to control the revenue. So, number of Jagirdars appointed by the Mughals were reduced. They kept a check on their accounts. They collected revenues by the way of highest bidders. Thus, Jagirdari system was discouraged by the Nawabs and Governors for revenue collection were appointed by them.

4. How were the Sikhs organised in the 18th century AD?

In the 18th century the Sikhs organised themselves into Jathas and later into 12 misls or groups. A misl was a political unit under a chief. They were united under a grand army called Dal Khalsa. They used to meet at Amritsar to take collective decision. They introduced a system of rakhi which offered protection to cultivators on the payment of a tax of one fifth of the produce in the field. They issued their coins to declare their sovereign rule, under

Ranjit Singh the sikhs succeeded in forming a sikh state in Punjab. They were serious contenders for supermacy.

5. The Marathas wanted to expand beyond the Deccan. Give reasons.

The Marathas wanted to expand beyond the Deccan. They weakened the Mughal powers in Deccan. They extended up to Bundelkhand. Balaji Rao organised Marathas Chiefs into a Maratha confederacy. The Maratha king was recognised as the overlord of the entire Deccan peninsula. Balaji reconquered the territories of Shivaji and expanded further the Maratha territory. They attacked Bengal and Hyderabad and compelled Nawab of Bengal and Nizam of Hyderabad to cede their territory. They controlled them. So, they wanted to expand but could not do so.

IV. Picture Study :

This is a picture of the founder of the state of Hyderabad. Look at the picture carefully and answer the questions that follow.



1. Identify the picture.

Nizam-ul-Mulk Asaf Jah.

2. Under the Mughals, he was the governor of which two provinces?

Awadh and Deccan.

3. He was given the title of _____ by the Mughal Emperor.

Nizam.

4. Discuss any two policies he adopted to strengthen his position.

The two policies he adopted to strengthen his position are as follows:

- He brought skilled soldiers and administrators from northern India who welcomed the new opportunities in the South.
- He appointed Mansabdars and granted them jagirs.

V. Source Based Questions:

The Maratha chiefs were known as Sardars. The chiefs like Sindhia of Gwalior, Gaekwad of Baroda and Bhonsle of Nagpur had enormous resources and powerful armies. Their land revenue was fixed upon survey and assessment of the land, but it was feudal in nature. (Land revenue was the main source of income.) They had divided their territories on the basis of revenue. The territories not under their direct control paid chauth. It was fixed at one-fourth of the revenue paid by the rulers. In return they got protection from external attacks. The territories that paid sardeshmukhi, fixed at one-tenth of the revenue, got protection against attack by other forces.

1. The Maratha kingdom was established by
 - a) Shivaji
2. Who among the following were Maratha chiefs ?
 - d) All of the above
3. Chauth amounted to _____ of revenue.
 - b) $1/4^{\text{th}}$
4. The territories not under direct control paid
5. a) Chouth

7. Market Around Us

I. Technical Words :

1. Market - A place where buyers and sellers meet and conduct buying and selling activities.
2. Wholesale Market - A Market where goods are bought and sold in large quantities.
3. Retail Market - A market from where goods are directly sold to customers.
4. Mall - An enclosed shopping place that has shops in many floors. These shops sell branded products at high process.

II. Short answer type questions :

1. What do you mean by retail markets? Explain.

Retail markets are the markets where goods are sold directly to the public usually through shops or stores. Retail marketing involves buying product in large quantities and selling them to ultimate consumers in small quantities. It is the retail market that satisfies our everyday needs.

2. Mention any three features of weekly markets.

The three features of weekly markets are as follows:

- Traders set up temporary shops for the day. They may set up the shops at a different place the next day.
- Most of the goods sold here, are not branded.
- Traders do not require much money to set up a shop in a weekly market.
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3. Discuss the main features of neighbourhood markets.

The main features of neighbourhood markets are as follows:

- Shops are near our home; and we can go there on any day of the week.

- The buyer and seller know each other. So, these shops provide goods on credit.

4. Explain the various features of a shopping complex.

The various features of shopping complex are as follows:

- Both branded and non-branded goods are available here.
- It has large showrooms for goods.
- The prices are high in a shopping complex.
- Sellers and buyers are rich people.

5. What do you mean by intermediate goods markets? Explain.

The goods that are used in production process are known as intermediate goods. The market in which such goods are bought and sold is called intermediate market.

III. Long answer type questions :

1. List the advantages of a market for us.

Advantage of a market for us are as follows:

- The market acts as a link between the producer and consumer.
- It generates employment by encouraging production activities and distribution channels. In this way, it is helpful in generating income of the people.
- It helps in improving people's standard of living by offering a wide variety of goods and services.
- As per the demands of the market the producer plans to design the products that could satisfy the needs of the people.
- In a market, consumer is the king. The market enables the consumer to make his/her own choice according to his/her purchasing power.

2. Mention various features of a wholesale market.

Features of wholesale markets are as follows:

- Goods are sold in large quantities at a time.
- The customer of a wholesaler is the retailer or a trader.
- Wholesaler usually deals in one product or only few different products
- A wholesale market is usually in big town or city where buyers and sellers from different places gather.
- Prices of goods in wholesale markets are lower than in retail markets. This is because every time the product is sold, the seller tries to make profit.
- Government laws and taxes are usually different for retailers and wholesalers.

3. “Buying and selling can take place without going to a marketplace”. Explain this statement with the help of examples.

Technology has changed the traditional way of marketing by physically presence in the market to buy or sell goods and services. Today, anyone can place orders for a variety of things through the phone or the internet and the goods are delivered at the doorstep. For example, we can place order for the dishes to any reputed restaurant on phone. They have facility to provide home delivery. So, in this way buying and selling can take place without going to a marketplace.

4. Explain the various factors that are responsible for people’s access to markets.

People’s access to markets depends upon the following factors:

- **Availability:** means availability of a wide variety of goods and services in the market that attracts the consumer.
- **Convenience:** The market in nearby area makes it accessible especially to the consumers so they can go there at their convenience.
- **Credit:** There should be availability of loans to purchase goods. This induces the consumers to purchase the goods and make the market accessible to them.
- **Quality:** undoubtedly, the consumers prefer to buy goods of high quality. High quality goods would be the centre of attraction for the consumers.
- **Price:** Every consumer wants to purchase goods at lower price.
- **Income Level of the Consumer:** If the income of the consumer is high, his capacity to purchase goods will also be high. So, the people of highincome group have more access to the market.

IV. Picture Study :

Ravi visited the neighbourhood shop to buy certain grocery and stationary items.

Look at the picture and answer the questions that follow:



1. Name two grocery and two stationary items shown in the picture.

Grocery: Oil and milk

Stationery: Registers and diaries.

2. List two advantages of neighbourhood markets.

Two advantages of neighbourhood markets are:

- Shops are near our homes; and we can go there on any day of the week according to our convenience.
- The buyers and sellers know each other. So, these shops also provide goods on credit.

3. Why do permanent shop owners in neighbourhoods keep prices of goods high?

The owners of permanent shops have to pay rent, electricity bills, phone bills, etc. for their shops. So, they keep prices of goods high.

4. Name two sellers that sell their goods in roadside stalls in such markets.

Vegetable hawkers and fruit vendors.