

CBSE Class – VII Social Science
NCERT Solutions
History Chapter 04
The Mughal Empire

Question 1. Match the following:

Mansab	Marwar
Mongol	governor
Sisodiya Rajput	Uzbeg
Rathor Rajput	Mewar
Nur Jahan	Jahangir
<i>subedar</i>	rank

Solution:

Mansab	rank
Mongol	Uzbeg
Sisodiya Rajput	Mewar
Rathor Rajput	Marwar
Nur Jahan	Jahangir
<i>subedar</i>	governor

Question 2. Fill in the blanks:

- (a) The capital of Mirza Hakim, Akbar's half-brother, was_____.
- (b) The five Deccan Sultanates were Berar, Khandesh, Ahmadnagar,____and_____.
- (c) If zat determined a mansabdar's rank and salary, sawar indicated his_____.
- (d) Abul Fazl, Akbar's friend and counsellor, helped him frame the idea of____so that he could govern a society composed of many religions, cultures and castes.

Solution:

- (a) The capital of Mirza Hakim, Akbar's half-brother, was Kabul.
- (b) The five Deccan Sultanates were Berar, Khandesh, Ahmadnagar, Bijapur and Golconda.
- (c) If zat determined a mansabdar's rank and salary, sawar indicated his number of cavalrymen.
- (d) Abul Fazl, Akbar's friend and counsellor, helped him frame the idea of sulh-i kul so that he could govern a society composed of many religions, cultures and castes.

Question 3. What were the central provinces under the control of the Mughals?

Solution:

The central provinces under the control of the Mughals were Delhi, Sindh, Kabul, Mewar, Marwar, Gujarat, Bihar, Bengal, Chittor, Orissa and Deccan.

Question 4. What was the relationship between the mansabdar and the jagir?

Solution:

A jagir was a revenue assignment for the mansabdars. The mansabdars had the right to collect revenue from a jagir but they could not reside in or administer the jagir. They only had rights to the revenue of their assignments which was collected for them by their servants while the mansabdars served in some other part of the country.

In Akbar's reign, these jagirs were carefully assessed so that their revenues were roughly equal to the salary of the mansadar.

By Aurangzeb's reign, the actual revenue collected was often less than the granted sum. Moreover, a huge increase in the number of mansabdars meant a long wait before they received a jagir. These and other factors created a shortage in the number of jagirs. As a result, many jagirdars tried to extract as much revenue as possible while they had a jagir. These factors during Aurangzeb's reign led to the peasantry's suffering and loss.

Question 5. What was the role of the zamindar in Mughal administration?

Solution:

- The zamindars in the Mughal administration collected revenue from the peasants. They acted as intermediaries between the rulers and the peasants.
- They collected tax on the produce of the peasantry which was a source of income for the Mughal rulers.
- In some areas, the zamindars exercised a great deal of power and sometimes zamindars and peasants of the same caste allied in rebelling against Mughal authority.

Question 6. How were the debates with religious scholars important in the formation of Akbar's ideas on governance?

Solution:

- Akbar was interested in the religious and social customs of different people. It made him realize that religious scholars who emphasized on ritual and dogma were often bigots. Their teachings created divisions and disharmony amongst his subjects.
- This led Akbar to the creation of the idea of "sulh-i-kul" or "universal peace". This system focused on ethics and the values of honesty, justice, peace that were universally applicable.
- Abul Fazl helped Akbar in framing a vision of governance around this idea of "sulh-i-kul" and later, Jahangir and Shah Jahan followed this principle of governance as well.

Question 7. Why did the Mughals emphasise their Timurid and not their Mongol descent?

Solution: The Mughals emphasized on their Timurid and not their Mongol descent because Ghengiz Khan's memory was associated with the massacre of innumerable people. They took pride on the fact that Timur had captured Delhi in 1398. Each ruler got a picture made of Timur and himself.

Question 8. How important was the income from land revenue to the stability of the Mughal Empire?

Solution:

- The income from land revenue was the main source of income for the Mughal rulers and hence it was very important.
- The salaries of soldiers were paid and the welfare for the general public was conducted using the income from land revenue.
- In order to run the administration and law and order, the income from land revenue was required.

Question 9. Why was it important for the Mughals to recruit mansabdars from diverse backgrounds and not just Turanis and Iranis?

Solution:

It was important for the Mughals to recruit mansabdars from diverse backgrounds and not just Turanis and Iranis because the empire had expanded to encompass different regions and provinces. By recruiting mansabdars from diverse backgrounds, the Mughals won the trust of the common people and created a balanced administration.