

Chapter 5: Rulers and Buildings



Important Questions

Multiple Choice Questions :

Question 1. Humayun's tomb was built:

- (a) Between 1571 and 1671
- (b) Between 1545 and 1556
- (c) Between 1562 and 1571

Question 2. Kandariya Mahadeva temple built in:

- (a) 1000
- (b) 999
- (c) 1099

Question 3. Qutb Minar has:

- (a) 2 storeys
- (b) 5 storeys
- (c) 7 storeys

Question 4. The Kandariya Mahadeva temple dedicated to:

- (a) Ganesh
- (b) Shiva
- (c) Ram

Question 5. World famous Taj Mahal was built by:

- (a) Shah Jahan
- (b) Akbar
- (c) Babur

Question 6. The Rajarajeshvara temple located in

- (a) Thanjavur
- (b) Pondicherry
- (c) Agra

Question 7. Akbar's architects were inspired from:

- (a) Babur
- (b) Alauddin Khilji
- (c) Taimur

Question 8. Chahar Bagh was not constructed in:

- (a) Kashmir
- (b) Jaipur and Lucknow
- (c) Agra and Delhi

Question 9. Which one was not built by Shah Jahan?

- (a) Taj Mahal and Moti Masjid in Agra
- (b) Red Fort and Jama Masjid in Delhi
- (c) Qutb Minar

Question 10. Qutb Minar built by Iltutmish in the year:

- (a) 1229
- (b) 1250
- (c) 1300

Question 11. How did kings win the praise at their subjects?

- (a) By making structure for their use.
- (b) By distributing wealth
- (c) By distributing grains and foods
- (d) None of these

Question 12. Who had constructed Hauz-i Sultani?

- (a) Sultan Iltutmish
- (b) Raziyya
- (c) Qutubuddin Aybak
- (d) Ghiyasuddin Balban

Question 13. The Agra fort was built by whom?

- (a) Shah Jahan
- (b) Akbar
- (c) Jahangir
- (d) Babar

Question 14. Why were the baolis constructed?

- (a) To provide a place for bathing for royals
- (b) To fulfil the water demands
- (c) For rain water harvesting

(d) For entertainment of royals.

Question 15. The Qutub Minar was constructed by whom?

- (a) Shah Jahan
- (b) Jahangir
- (c) Humayun
- (d) Qutbuddin Aybak

> Fill in the blanks:

- **1.** Large stepped-wells were known as ______
- **2.** destroyed Somnath temple.
- **3.** The Agra fort was built by _____.
- 4. The Kandariya Mahadeva temple was constructed by ______
- **5.** Dhangadeva belongs to _____ dynasty.

Very Short Questions :

- 1. What were havelis?
- 2. When was Humayun tomb constructed?
- 3. How did Persian court chronicles describe sultan?
- **4.** Explain the term mahamandapa.
- **5.** What is a superstructure?
- **6.** Who built Jami Masjid?
- **7.** Who built Rajarajeshvara temple?
- **8.** What is a shikhara?
- 9. What is pietra-dura?
- 10. Who constructed kandariya mahadeva temple and when?

Short Questions :

- 1. Which style was used in the construction between the eighth and thirteenth centuries?
- 2. Why were temples destroyed?
- 3. Who built Qutb Minar?
- **4.** What types of architects found between seventh and tenth centuries?
- **5.** How is the "trabeate" principle of architecture different from the "arcuate"?

> Long Questions:

- 1. Construction of Rajarajeshvara temple was not easy. Give reason.
- 2. Write about shah Jahan audience hall.
- 3. Write a short note on the Kandariya Mahadeva temple?
- **4.** An inscription in Shah Jahan's diwan-i khas in Delhi stated: "If there is Paradise on Earth, it is here, it is here, it is here." How was this image created?
- **5.** What is gothic architecture?

ANSWER KEY –

> Multiple Choice Answer:

- 1. (c) Between 1562 and 1571
- **2.** (b) 999
- **3.** (b) 5 storeys
- **4.** (b) Shiva
- 5. (a) Shah Jahan
- 6. (a) Thanjavur
- 7. (c) Taimur
- 8. (b) Jaipur and Lucknow
- 9. (c) Qutb Minar
- **10.** (a) 1229
- **11.** (a) By making structure for their use.
- 12. (a) Sultan Iltutmish
- **13.** (b) Akbar
- **14.** (c) For rain water harvesting
- 15. (d) Qutbuddin Aybak

Fill in the blanks:

- **1.** Baolis.
- 2. Sultan Mahmud.
- 3. Akbar.
- **4.** Dhangadeva.
- 5. Chandela.

Very Short Answer :

wottens

- **1.** Large mansions of merchants were called havelis.
- 2. Tomb of Humayun, constructed between 1562 and 1571.
- **3.** Persian court chronicles described the Sultan as the "Shadow of God".
- **4.** It refers to the main hall of the temple where dances were performed.
- **5.** Superstructure refers to the part of a building above the ground floor.
- **6.** Jami Masjid was built by Shah Jahan in his new capital at Shahjahanabad.
- 7. It was built by King Rajarajadeva for the worship of his god, Rajarajeshvaram
- **8.** Shikhara, a Sanskrit word translating literally to "mountain peak", refers to the rising tower in the Hindu temple architecture of North India.
- **9.** Pietra-dura refers to coloured, hard stones placed in depressions carved into marble or sandstone creating beautiful, ornate patterns.
- **10.** The Kandariya Mahadeva temple dedicated to Shiva was constructed in 999 by the king Dhangadeva of the Chandela dynasty.

> Short Answer:

- 1. Between the eighth and thirteenth centuries the trabeate style was used in the construction of temples, mosques, tombs and in buildings attached to large stepped-wells (baolis).
- 2. Temples were destroyed because kings built temples to demonstrate their devotion to God and their power and wealth. It is not surprising that when they attacked one another's kingdoms they often targeted these buildings.
- 3. The first floor was constructed by Qutbuddin Aybak and the rest by Iltutmish around 1229. Over the years it was damaged by lightning and earthquakes and repaired by Alauddin Khalji, Muhammad Tughluq, Firuz Shah Tughluq and Ibrahim Lodi.
- **4.** Between the seventh and tenth centuries architects started adding more rooms, doors and windows to buildings. Roofs, doors and windows were still made by placing a horizontal beam across two vertical columns, a style of architecture called "trabeate" or "corbelled".
- 5. In "trabeate" principle of architecture roofs, doors and windows were made by placing a horizontal beam across two vertical columns.
 - In "arcuate" principle of architecture the weight of the superstructure above the doors and windows was sometimes carried by arches.

> Long Answer:

1. The Rajarajeshvara temple at Thanjavur had the tallest shikhara amongst temples of its time. Constructing it was not easy because there were no cranes in those days and the 90 tonne stone for the top of the shikhara was too heavy to lift manually. So the

architects built an inclined path to the top of the temple, placed the boulder on rollers and rolled it all the way to the top. The path started more than 4 km away so that it would not be too steep. This was dismantled after the temple was constructed.

2. Shah Jahan's audience halls were specially constructed to resemble a mosque. The pedestal on which his throne was placed was frequently described as the qibla, the direction faced by Muslims at prayer, since everybody faced that direction when court was in session. The idea of the king as a representative of God on earth was suggested by these architectural features. The construction of Shah Jahan's audience hall aimed to communicate that the king's justice would treat the high and the low as equals creating a world where all could live together in harmony.

3. Kandariya Mahadeva Temple:

- The Kandariya Mahadeva temple dedicated to Shiva was constructed in 999 by the king Dhangadeva of the Chandela dynasty.
- An ornamented gateway led to an entrance, and the main hall (mahamandapa) where dances were performed.
- The image of the chief deity was kept in the main shrine (garbhagriha). This was the place for ritual worship where only the king, his immediate family and priests gathered.
- 4. Shah Jahan's audience halls were specially constructed to resemble a mosque. The pedestal on which his throne was placed was frequently described as the qibla, the direction faced by Muslims at prayer, since everybody faced that direction when court was in session. The idea of the king as a representative of God on earth was suggested by these architectural features. Construction of diwan-i-khas reflected the image of paradise in itself.
- 5. From the twelfth century onwards, attempts began in France to build churches that were taller and lighter than earlier buildings. This architectural style, known as Gothic, was distinguished by high pointed arches, the use of stained glass, often painted with scenes drawn from the Bible, and flying buttresses. Tall spires and bell towers which were visible from a distance were added to the church. One of the best-known examples of this architectural style is the church of Notre Dame in Paris, which was constructed through several decades in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.