

7. AN IMPERIAL CAPITAL: VIJAYANAGARA

Q. No	Question	Marks
Multiple Choice Question		
Q.90	<p>The <i>amara-nayakas</i> in the empire of Vijaynagara were given territories to govern by the <i>raya</i>.</p> <p>If the <i>amara-nayakas</i> were present in the current democratic political system of India, which of the following ministries would they be a part of?</p> <p>P: finance Q: defence R: law and justice S: labour and employment</p> <p>A. P and Q B. Q and R C. R and S D. S and P</p>	1
Q.91	<p>Colonel Colin Mackenzie was one of the archaeologists who helped discover the Vijaynagara empire. The painting shown below consists of Mackenzie accompanied by some people.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>Who were these people? How was the company of these people helpful for Mackenzie?</p> <p>A. local villagers as assistants to record the old culture and traditions of Hampi B. eye-witnesses to give accounts on details of the Vijaynagara empire</p>	1

	<p>C. local moneylenders and merchants steering trade relations</p> <p>D. labourers employed to serve as his domestic helpers</p>	
Q.92	<p>Krishnadeva Raya (1509-29), the most famous ruler of Vijaynagara composed a book in Telugu on statecraft known as '<i>Amuktamalyada</i>'.</p> <p>Listed below are some books penned by or about the ancient Indian rulers. Which of these PRIMARILY revolve around similar themes as <i>Amuktamalyada</i>?</p> <p>A. <i>Indica</i></p> <p>B. <i>Meghaduta</i></p> <p>C. <i>Akbarnama</i></p> <p>D. <i>Arthashastra</i></p>	1
Q.93	 <p>Look at the map given below and answer the questions that follow</p> <p>On the political map of India 'P' is marked as the capital of an empire founded in 1336 CE.</p> <p>Identify it among the following options</p> <p>A. Bijapur</p> <p>B. Golconda</p> <p>C. Chandragiri</p> <p>D. Vijayanagara</p>	1
Q.94	<p>On the same map, 'Q' is also marked as an important centre of <i>nayaka</i> power of the 14th-15th century BCE.</p> <p>Identify it from the following options.</p>	1

	<p>A. Kanchipuram</p> <p>B. Thanjavur</p> <p>C. Mysore</p> <p>D. Quilon</p>	
Free Response Questions/ Subjective Questions		
Q.95	Which river was the source of water for the city of Vijaynagara? State two steps that the Vijayanagara empire took to conserve water resources.	3
Q.96	Describe and evaluate the functionality of the fortification of the Vijayanagara empire in the 15th century.	3
Q.97	<p>In the early 1980s, an important project was launched to document the material remains at Vijayanagara in detail.</p> <p>Describe the steps, in three points, that were taken to map out the empire as part of this project.</p>	3
Q.98	How did the Portuguese establish themselves as important political players during the Vijayanagara empire?	2
Q.99	<p>Given below is a picture of the Kamlapuram tank built during Krishnadevaraya's rule.</p>  <p>Why were such tanks important given the geographical location of the kingdom?</p> <p>How can these ancient structures be reused now?</p>	3
Q.100	The images given below are of carvings on a temple from the sacred center of Krishnadevaraya's empire. Identify the structure and the famous Hindu epic these carvings denote.	2



Q.101	Give three examples that describe diplomatic relations between Sultans and the Rayas during the 16th century.	3
Q.102	How would the people in the Vijayanagara empire survive during a siege that lasts several months?	2
Q.103	Describe two features that the <i>amara-nayaka</i> system of the Vijayanagara empire share with the iqta system of the Delhi Sultanate.	2
Q.104	State the archaeological evidence for the following claims that were made by the archaeologists: a) The Vijayanagara architecture is influenced by the Indo- Islamic architecture. b) The Vijaynagara empire was surrounded with an elaborate systems of fortification.	2
Q.105	State one way in which the following parts of temple complexes were used in social events in the Vijaynagara Empire. a) temple chariot street b) temple halls	2
Q.106	a) List any two new distinctive features of temple architecture of the Vijayanagara Empire. b) 'These are structures of immense scale that often dwarfed the towers on the central shrines.' Identify the feature of temple architecture being described here and its significance in the Vijaynagara Empire.	4
Q.107	What arrangements were made to mitigate the nature-induced agricultural challenges in the Vijayanagar empire?	1
Q.108	The Ginjee fort built in the 13th century had granaries to store a large stock of grains within the fortified area. Why? What did the kings of Vijayanagar do in their fortified areas to address the same purpose?	2

Q.109	Explain in detail a political innovation of the Vijayanagar empire and how did it ultimately lead to the collapse of the empire?	4
Q.110	Why is there relatively little archaeological evidence of the houses of ordinary people of the Vijaynagara empire? Provide textual evidence to support this claim.	2
Q.111	Give three pieces of archaeological evidence that supports the claim that patronage of temples and cults was important for the rulers of the Vijayanagar empire.	2
Q.112	Control of the military was decentralised in the Vijayanagar empire. Justify this statement.	3
Q.113	Why was trade essential in maintaining a kingdom during the medieval times in the Indian Peninsula?	3
Q.114	Give three examples of mutual cooperation between southern Indian kingdoms with religious differences during the 15th and 16th centuries.	2
Q.115	What are the different primary sources from whom the history of the Vijayanagar empire has been reconstructed?	3
Q.116	Give one way in which the rulers of Vijayanagara drew on different traditions to create an imperial culture.	1
Q.117	a) What do the following images signify? b) Describe the steps involved in developing these maps.	5

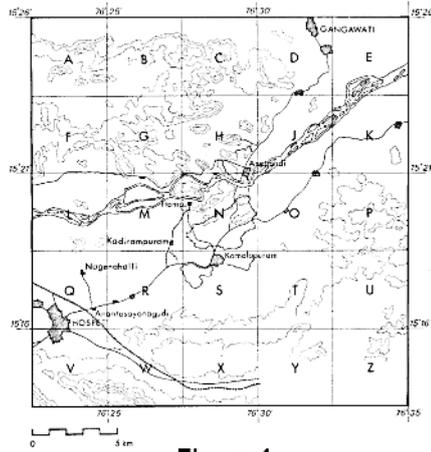


Figure 1

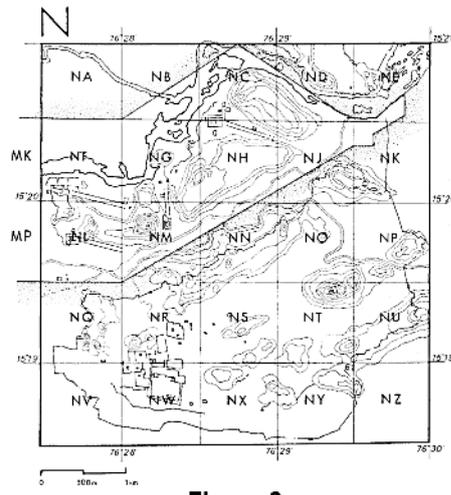


Figure 2

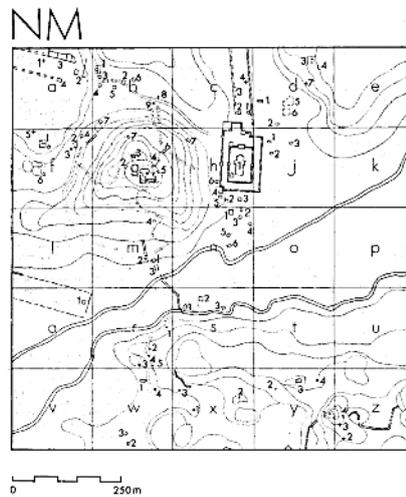


Figure 3

Q.118	Using the study of the Vijayanagara Empire ruins as an example, examine how the different sources help us understand the workings of the empire.	4
Q.119	Describe the trade during the Vijayanagara Empire and its impact on their society.	4
Q.120	'One of the most prominent features of the Vijayanagara Empire is the way in which they utilised their strategic location and access to water resources.' Discuss.	6
Q.121	<i>Mahanavami dibba</i> seems to be an epicenter of social and cultural activities and this was evident in the writings of Paes as well. Give a brief description of the structure of the dibba and the ways in which it was used.	4
Q.122	a) State three distinctive features of temple architecture that were seen during the Vijayanagar empire.	4

	b) How did they aid in displaying the power of the Vijayanagar kings?	
Q.123	Which religion did Hampi essentially follow? Explain your answer with evidence and examples.	5

Answer Key & Marking Scheme

Q. No	Answers	Marks
Q.90	A. P and Q	1
Q.91	A. local villagers as assistants to record the old culture and traditions of Hampi	1
Q.92	D. <i>Arthashastra</i>	1
Q.93	D. Vijayanagara	1
Q.94	B. Thanjavur	1
Q.95	<p>Source of water: Tungabhadra</p> <p>Steps to conserve water:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tanks were constructed that could store water that could be used for irrigation as well as royal needs. - Elaborate system to store and channel water was made through the construction of dams, water channels and canals. 	3
Q.96	<p>Award 1 mark each to the following or any other relevant point:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) There were seven lines of forts that encircled the city but also the agricultural land and forests. 2) The forts were entered through well-guarded gates and the gateways defined the structures which had regulated access. 3) All the fortification steps were well thought out and the ambassador of Persia was impressed by the fortifications. 	3
Q.97	<p>Award 1 mark each to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Divide the entire area into a set of 25 squares, each designated by a letter of the alphabet. 2) Each of the small square was further divided into a set of even smaller squares, which were further divided into further sub-sections. 	3

	3) Plot the recovered thousands of structures and traces of paths and roads on the detailed surveys.	
Q.98	- set up military and trading stations - used superior military technology, especially the use of muskets	2
Q.99	- these tanks acted as reservoirs in the arid region of the kingdom - they can still be used to store water and irrigate fields	3
Q.100	The carvings are located at Hazara Rama temple and depict scenes from the Ramayana	2
Q.101	- Krishnadeva Raya supported some people in the Sultanates to power and took pride in the title of “establisher of the Yavana kingdom.” - The Sultan of Bijapur helped resolve succession disputes in Vijayanagara following the death of Krishnadeva Raya. - The Vijayanagara kings were keen to ensure the stability of the Sultanates and vice versa.	3
Q.102	- Normally rulers tried to be prepared for such situations by building large granaries within fortified areas. - Large agricultural tracts were built inside so cultivation could be done.	2
Q.103	- The military commanders who were given territories to govern were called <i>amara-nayakas</i> . They collected taxes from peasants, craftsmen and traders in the area. - The <i>amara-nayakas</i> expressed their loyalty by sending tribute to the king annually and visiting the royal court with gifts.	2
Q.104	a) travel records by Paes and ambassador Abdur Razzaq b) a gateway on the fortification wall that has an arch and a dome on the top	2
Q.105	a) shops were set up by merchants in the chariot streets	2

	b) the temple halls served multiple purposes like the marriage of the deities, special programs of singing and dancing	
Q.106	<p>a) - mandapas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - long pillared pavilions - towering gateways - gopurams <p>(any two to be evaluated)</p> <p>b) gopuram</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - they signalled the presence of temple from a great distance - they were a reminder of the power of kings 	4
Q.107	Since Vijayanagar was situated in one of the most arid zones of the peninsula, tanks and dams had to be built to store water and canals were built to conduct it to the agricultural lands around the city.	1
Q.108	<p>-Granaries were built to ensure that there is no shortage of food grains during a siege.</p> <p>- Vijayanagara kings fortified large tracts of agricultural lands so that agriculture could be carried on even during the time of siege and there is no shortage of food grains.</p>	2
Q.109	<p>- The amara nayaka system was a political innovation of the Vijayanagar empire. The amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern and collect taxes by the raya.</p> <p>- They retained part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a stipulated contingent of horses and elephants.</p> <p>- These contingents provided the Vijayanagara kings with an effective fighting force.</p> <p>- During the course of the seventeenth century, many of the nayakas rebelled established independent kingdoms. This hastened the collapse of the central imperial structure.</p>	4
Q.110	- The houses of common people would have been made of perishable materials and thus did not leave any archaeological evidence behind.	2

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is some evidence for this as the sixteenth-century Portuguese traveller Barbosa described the houses of ordinary people as being thatched. Thatched roofs wouldn't have left any archaeological evidence of their existence as they are made of perishable material. 	
Q.111	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Around 60 temples have been found in the place designated as the royal centre indicating that the temples were a major part of the King's life. - The <i>Mahanavami dibba</i> is also found in the royal centre. Scholars have argued that this place was used in celebrating the <i>Mahanavmi</i> festival and displayed their prestige, power and suzerainty on this occasion. - It is likely that the very choice of the site of Vijayanagara was inspired by the existence of the shrines of <i>Virupaksha</i> and <i>Pampadevi</i>. In fact the Vijayanagara kings claimed to rule on behalf of the god Virupaksha. 	2
Q.112	<p>The amara-nayaka system was a foundation on which the military power of the Vijayanagar empire rested on. The amara-nayakas were military commanders who were given territories to govern and collect revenue by the king. They used part of the revenue for personal use and for maintaining a contingent of horses and elephants. These provided the Vijayanagara kings with an army. Thus we see that the amara-nayakas had autonomy and power over military which shows that the military was decentralised in the Vijayanagar empire.</p> <p>(To be evaluated as a whole)</p>	3
Q.113	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As warfare during these times depended upon effective cavalry, the import of horses from Arabia and Central Asia was very important. - Trade with the Portuguese helped the kingdoms to use their superior military technology, especially the use of muskets. - Revenue generated from trade contributed significantly to the prosperity of the state. 	3
Q.114	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Krishnadeva Raya supported some claimants to power in the Sultanates - The Sultan of Bijapur intervened to resolve succession disputes in Vijayanagara following the death of Krishnadeva Raya. - The Vijayanagara kings were keen to ensure the stability of the Sultanates and vice versa. 	2
Q.115	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Archaeological finds in the ruins of Hampi. - Inscriptions recording important events which have been discovered. - Manuscripts of several travellers who visited the kingdom and wrote about it. 	3

Q.116	The worship of the Vittala deity was introduced in Karnataka, who is a form of Vishnu generally worshipped in Maharashtra.	1
Q.117	<p>a) These images portray the process of mapping that was undertaken by the archaeologists to document the excavations at Hampi from the early 1980s.</p> <p>(b)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first step was to divide the entire area into a set of 25 squares, each designated by a letter of the alphabet. The first image shows all the division into all the alphabets. - Then, each of the small squares was subdivided into a set of even smaller squares. The second image shows the subdivision of the alphabet N. - Each of these smaller squares was further subdivided into yet smaller units. This is shown in the third image where the subdivision of the section NM is shown. - These detailed surveys show the location of the recovered and documented traces of thousands of structures. 	5
Q.118	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The buildings that have survived tell us about how the space was used, the materials and the techniques used to build this. - An example of this is that the fortification of a city can help us gauge the military preparedness and defence requirements. - Buildings also tell us about the spread of ideas and cultural influences if we compare them with buildings in other places. - They convey ideas which the builders or their patrons wished to project. This can also be used to triangulate with other sources like literature, inscriptions and popular traditions. 	4
Q.119	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Kudirai chettis</i> or horse merchants participated in the trade of horses which was crucial for warfare. - Vijayanagara was also noted for its markets that dealt in spices, textiles and precious stones. - Trade was often regarded as a status symbol for such cities, which boasted of a wealthy population that demanded high-value exotic goods, especially precious stones and jewellery. - The revenue derived from trade in turn contributed significantly to the prosperity of the state. 	4

Q.120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vijaynagara is the natural basin formed by the river Tungabhadra which flows by it. - A number of streams flow down to the river from the adjacent granite hills. - Embankments were built along these streams to create reservoirs of varying sizes. - As this is one of the most arid zones of the peninsula, huge tanks had to be built to store rainwater and carry it to the city. - A sophisticated system of canal was also built that helped in carrying the water from the tank to different locations. - A dam was also built across Tungabhadra whose water helped in the irrigation of the agricultural fields. <p>(to be evaluated as whole)</p>	6
Q.121	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mahanavami dibba</i> is a massive platform which also makes it the highest point in the city. - The base of the platform is covered with relief carvings and there is evidence that it supported a wooden structure. - Rituals associated with the structure probably coincided with Mahanavami. The Vijayanagara kings displayed their prestige, power and domain on this occasion. - It remains a question if ceremonies of this scale could be accommodated on this platform. 	4
Q.122	<p>a)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new features included structures of immense scale best exemplified by the <i>raya gopurams</i> - <i>mandapas</i> or pavilions and long, pillared corridors that often ran around the shrines within the temple complex were built during the Vijayanagara empire - hall in front of the main shrine at the Virupaksha temple, with delicately carved pillars, built by Krishnadeva Raya to mark his accession <p>b) The <i>raya gopuras</i> served as reminders of the power of kings, able to command the resources, techniques and skills needed to construct these towering gateways.</p>	4
Q.123	- Hinduism	5

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- worship of gods and goddesses like Pampadevi, Ram, Virupaksha etc.- script followed was mainly Sanskrit and other languages like Telugu, Kannada and Tamil.- architecture of sacred places- temples, gopurams and mandapas found in Hampi, Brihadishvara temple at Thanjavur and the Chennakeshava temple at Belur and many more- the 'Mahanavami Dibba' - carvings on this platform hint us about the major festivals celebrated in Hampi which were Ramnavami and Navratri. <p>(Any other relevant point)</p> | |
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