

**ICSE Board**  
**Class VII History & Civics**  
**Sample Paper – 1 Solution**

**Answer 1**

- a) Nasir-ud-din Mahmud
- b) Dohas
- c) Abbey
- d) Sher Shah
- e) Portugal
- f) Shahjahanabad
- g) Thousand Pillars
- h) Goa
- i) Shivaji
- j) 712

**Answer 2**

Column A	Column B
(a) Iqtas	(9) Provinces into which the empire was divided
(b) Mecca	(4) Prophet Muhammad
(c) Token currency	(10) Introduced by Muhammad bin Tughlaq
(d) Amir Khusrau	(1) Persian poet who invented Indian sitar
(e) Mahmud's War in 1001 CE	(7) Against Jaipal
(f) Disintegration of Bahmani kingdom	(8) 1527 CE
(g) Gospels	(2) First four books of the New Testament
(h) Sulk-i-kul	(5) Universal peace and harmony
(i) Ashta Pradhan	(3) Maratha Council of Ministers
(j) Nur Jahan	(6) Mehr-un-Nisa

**Answer 3**

- a) (ii) Mahmud of Ghazni
- b) (iv) 1398 CE
- c) (ii) Agriculture
- d) (iii) Villages
- e) (i) Malwa
- f) (iii) Guru Arjun Dev
- g) (ii) Michelangelo
- h) (i) Raja Jai Singh of Amber
- i) (iii) Pharisees
- j) (iv) Kissing the feet of the king

**Answer 4**

- a) Babur was an excellent military general. He kept himself informed of all the technological advancements which were made in the military field. He was perhaps the first ruler to use artillery in India. He defeated large armies with his superior military skills. He not only defeated Ibrahim Lodi but also the Rajputs and the Afghans.

Babur was an exceptional writer. He wrote his memoirs in Turkish, which form an invaluable source of the history of that period.

Though Babur was an orthodox Sunni Muslim, he was not a fanatic. He limited the powers of the ulemas and followed a policy of religious tolerance towards the people of other religions.

He was the founder of the Mughal rule in India. He annexed many territories in India. However, he was not able to consolidate his territories and failed to set up an efficient administrative system.

- b) The Bhakti movement began in India in the 7<sup>th</sup> Century CE. Its main features were:
- i. It stressed on the idea of personal devotion to God.
  - ii. It challenged the domination of priests over religion and society.
  - iii. The Bhakti movement rejected rituals, dogmas and superstitions which were existent in the Indian society.
  - iv. The movement stressed on the principles of equality and universal brotherhood
  - v. During this time, many ancient texts written in Sanskrit were translated into local languages.
  - vi. It was believed that through knowledge, under the guidance of a guru or a teacher, one can experience the presence of God.

c) The following reasons can be attributed to the Turkish success in India:

- India in the early medieval period was divided into various political states which were fighting with each other to gain supremacy in their own region. The absence of political unity in the country enabled the Turks to establish their empire in India.
- The Turks had superior military skills. Also, the use of elephants slowed the mobility of the Indian armies. On the other hand, the Turks were able to quickly mobilise their armies as they used horses in the battlefields.
- Apart from political unity, Indians also lacked social unity as the society was divided into various castes, sub-castes and tribes.
- The kings in India did not have strong centralised armies and chiefly depended on the governors and nobility to provide them with armies. This reduced the power of the kings.

d) Persian, Urdu and Sanskrit were three prominent languages during the Sultanate period:

Due to the accession of Persian kings on the throne, **Persian** became the official language during this period. Amir Khusrau was a notable writer of this period.

**Urdu** developed as a result of the fusion between Persian and Hindi. It was known as 'camp language' as it developed in army camps. Later, it became one of the prominent languages of the Indian subcontinent.

**Sanskrit** was an important language of this time. It was largely spoken by the learned men and Brahmins. Many Sanskrit works were translated into Arabic and Persian.

Many regional languages also developed during this period. Oriya, Tamil, Telugu, Punjabi, Kannada etc. were regional languages which also began to develop.

e) The term 'mansab' means an office or rank, and a person who occupied this office or held the rank came to be known as a 'mansabdar'. A mansabdar maintained horsemen or soldiers depending on his rank in the court.

Some of the important features of the mansabdari system were:

- An official in the royal service was given a rank or a mansab depending on the nature of his work. While a mansabdar of a lower level could maintain up to ten horsemen, a mansabdar of the highest level could keep seven thousand horsemen.
- The mansabdars were appointed by the king. The king had the power to promote or dismiss them.
- The king paid his mansabdars in the form of jagirs. The revenue collected from the jagir could be used to pay the horsemen.
- Mansabdars had the right to collect only a fixed amount of revenues from their jagirs and had no power to administer them.

- f) The five main principles of Islam are:
- (a) There is only one God and Allah is his name.
  - (b) Muslims must say their prayers (*Namaz*) five times in a day.
  - (c) Muslims must fast from dawn to dusk during the holy month of *Ramzan*.
  - (d) The followers of Islam should give a small portion of their wealth as charity to the poor and needy. This custom is known as *zakat*.
  - (e) Muslims should make a pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in their lifetime.
- g) Muhammad bin Tughlaq is criticised for his failed experiment with the token currency. The scarcity of silver and abundance of copper and bronze prompted the sultan to issue copper coins bearing the same value as the silver coins. However, these new copper coins did not have any complicated design and could be easily forged. Hence, people started minting coins in their houses. The forged copper coins flooded the markets, and soon traders and merchants refused to accept these coins. Thus the economy came to a standstill. Realising his folly, Muhammad bin Tughlaq issued genuine silver coins instead of copper coins. This drained the royal treasury. This experiment of Muhammad bin Tughlaq was not new. It was far ahead of its times and the people were not able to understand it. The absence of complicated designs on the currency led to its failure. This scheme of Muhammad bin Tughlaq failed, not because the idea was wrong but because it was not properly implemented and executed.

**Answer 5**

- i) The temple in the picture is the famous Somnath temple.
- ii) It is located in the state of Gujarat.
- iii) Mahmud of Ghazni was an invader who raided the temple in the eleventh century.
- iv) The local people made a brave attempt to save the temple from Mahmud of Ghazni. The fighting continued for three days after which the entire army of 50,000 locals lay dead in front of the temple. The locals were unable to match the superior military skills and tactics of Mahmud's army. After defeating the local army, Mahmud of Ghazni plundered the Somnath temple.

**PART II – Civics****Answer 1**

- a) Writs
- b) Union Parliament
- c) 86<sup>th</sup>
- d) 26<sup>th</sup> November 1949
- e) Arch

**Answer 2**

- a) (ii) Irish Constitution
- b) (iv) All of the above
- c) (iii) Indian Penal Code
- d) (i) The Governor
- e) (iv) Secular

**Answer 3**

- a) The Lok Sabha or the House of the People is also known as the Lower House of the Parliament.

**Composition**

- The maximum strength of the Lok Sabha is 552 members.
  - A maximum of 530 members are elected directly by the people of India from different constituencies.
  - Not more than 20 members are allowed to represent the union territories.
  - Two members from the Anglo-Indian community can be nominated by the President if he feels that they are not properly represented.
- b) As the elected head of the country, the Prime Minister performs the following functions:
    - He acts as the link between the people, the President and the Parliament.
    - He formulates various policies of the government.
    - On the advice of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, the President makes major appointments.
    - He and his Cabinet members coordinate and carry out the entire administration of the country.
    - He is a vital link between the President and the Vice-President and coordinates the working of various departments.

- c) The fundamental rights bring equality among the people of the country in the following manner:
- **Article 14 (Equality before Law):** This Article guarantees that all citizens are equally protected by the law of the country and that there is no discrimination on the basis of caste, creed colour and sex.
  - **Article 15 (Prohibition of Discrimination):** This Article guarantees that no person is discriminated on the basis of caste, creed, colour, sex and religion. Every individual has equal rights to access public places such as public wells, bathing ghats, museums, temples etc. However, the State can make some special arrangements for women and children or for the development of any socially or educationally backward class, scheduled caste or scheduled tribe.
  - **Article 16 (Right to Equality of Opportunity):** This Article guarantees that every individual is treated equally in the matters of opportunity relating to education and employment or appointment to an office under the State. However, the State can reserve some seats for the scheduled castes and tribes.
  - **Article 17 (Abolition of Untouchability):** This Article abolished the practice of untouchability in India. This practice has been declared as a crime and is punishable under law. The Untouchability Offences Act of 1955, previously known as the Protection of Civil Rights Act of 1976, provides punishments for not allowing a person to enter a place of worship or from taking water from a well or tank.
  - **Article 18 (Abolition of Titles):** This Article prohibited the State from conferring any kind of titles. This was done in order to remove inequality from society and to bring about social equality. Titles such as Raja or Rai Bahadur etc. are abolished, however, only military (Colonel, Brigadier, Major) and academic titles (Doctor, Padmashree Bharat Ratna) can be awarded and used before names.