GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE, NANDIKOTKUR
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
SEM -II
Age of Enlightenment and State Formation in India
Question Bank

Unit-I

Short Answer Questions

1. Who were the Ajivikas, and what were their main beliefs?
2. What is Charvaka philosophy? How does it differ from other Indian philosophies?
3. Name the key principles of Jainism.
4. Briefly describe the Four Noble Truths of Buddhism.
5. What role did Jainism and Buddhism play in Indian society?

Long Answer Questions

1. Compare the philosophical foundations of Jainism and Buddhism.
2. Discuss the impact of Jainism and Buddhism on Indian culture and society.
3. Explain the rise of heterodox sects like Ajivikas and Charvakas during ancient India.
4. How did Jainism and Buddhism challenge the Vedic traditions?

Unit-II

Short Answer Questions

1. What are the Sixteen Mahajanapadas? List any four with their capitals.
2. Discuss the factors that led to the rise of Magadha.
3. Who were the Nandas, and what was their contribution to Indian history?
4. What was the impact of Darius I's invasion on India?
5. What were the consequences of Alexander’s invasion of India?

Long Answer Questions

1. Discuss the political and economic factors responsible for the emergence of the Sixteen Mahajanapadas.
2. Analyze the reasons behind the rise of Magadha as a powerful kingdom.
3. Describe the foreign invasions by Darius I and Alexander and their impact on Indian society.
4. Evaluate the administrative and military achievements of the Nanda dynasty.

Unit-III

Short Answer Questions

1. Name two archaeological and two literary sources for the Mauryan Empire.
2. What were the achievements of Chandragupta Maurya?
3. Who was Bindusara, and what were his contributions to the Mauryan Empire?
4. What is Ashoka's Dhamma? Mention its key principles.
5. How did Ashoka spread his Dhamma across the empire?

Long Answer Questions

1. Discuss the sources of information about the Mauryan Empire and their significance.
2. Describe the administration and governance under Chandragupta Maurya.
3. Analyze Ashoka’s Dhamma policy and its impact on Indian society and politics.
4. Evaluate the role of Bindusara in consolidating the Mauryan Empire.

Unit-IV

Short Answer Questions

1. What were the key features of the Mauryan administration?
2. Mention two examples of Mauryan art and architecture.
3. What role did the Arthashastra play in Mauryan administration?
4. What were the main reasons for the decline of the Mauryan Empire?
5. Briefly describe the Sangam literature and its significance.

Long Answer Questions

1. Explain the administrative structure of the Mauryan Empire with examples.
2. Discuss the contributions of the Mauryan period to Indian art and architecture.
3. Analyze the economic system under the Mauryan Empire.
4. What were the socio-political and economic causes behind the decline of the Mauryan Empire?

Unit-V

Short Answer Questions

1. Who were the Indo-Greeks, and what was their impact on Indian culture?
2. What were the contributions of the Sakas and Parthians to Indian society?
3. Briefly describe the Gandhara art style.
4. What was the role of coins and guilds in the post-Mauryan economy?
5. Mention the key features of Mathura art.

Long Answer Questions

1. Discuss the impact of Central Asian invasions on Indian society and culture.
2. Explain the role of trade and urban centers during the post-Mauryan period.
3. Compare the Gandhara and Mathura schools of art.
4. Analyze the significance of coins and guilds in the post-Mauryan economic system.