

Subject- S.S.T Class- 7 Topic- Medieval India
Learn and Write

C. Long Answer Questions

1. What are travelogues? Name two travelogues and give reasons for them being important sources of history.
2. List the historical developments during the medieval period.
3. How do archaeological sources help in the study of history?
4. The name Hindustan has been used since medieval times. What does Hindustan stand for?

C. 1. Travelogues are the accounts written by travellers visiting different countries. They inform us about the places they visited, their observations and meetings with the royalty and the common people. The three travelogues are:

(a) *Tarikh Al-Hind* written by Al Beruni. It gave a detailed account of Indian philosophy and culture.

(b) *Rihla* written by Ibn Battuta. It gives a detailed account of his visit from his birth place Morocco to India during the rule of Tughluqs.

2. The historical developments during the medieval period are as follows.

- (a) The rise of Muslim dynasties during later medieval period gave rise to a culture that was truly 'Indian'.
 - (b) They provided political stability for many centuries. As a result, there was increase in trade and commerce. Towns and cities developed.
 - (c) Export and import were given impetus as the traders did business with other countries as well.
 - (d) Spread of Bhakti and Sufi movements were some of the highlights of the medieval period. These movements spread the message of love and universal brotherhood.
 - (e) The rulers during the different phases were great patrons of literature. Foreign travellers visited the courts of mighty Indian kings and wrote about their reigns.
3. Archaeological sources such as monuments like mosques, temples, tombs, forts, art objects like paintings, inscriptions and coins give valuable information of the period to which they belong.

Monuments : They showcase the style of architecture that highlights the religious or foreign influences.

Inscriptions : They provide an insight into the rule of a particular dynasty.

Coins : They help us identify the names and ruling periods of kings.

4. The name Hindustan used in the 13th century by Minhaj-i-Siraj, described the areas of Punjab, Haryana and the fertile land between the rivers Ganga and Yamuna. Babur stepped ahead to include the geography, culture and natural vegetation of the subcontinent to explain Hindustan. It was only in the 19th century during the British Raj that Hindustan with its territorial boundaries became identical with India.

