

# NCERT SOLUTIONS

CLASS - 7TH



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Class : 7th

Subject : History

Chapter : 6

Chapter Name : Towns, Traders And Craftspersons

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Q1 Fill in the blanks:

- (a) The Rajarajeshvara temple was built in ----.
- (b) Ajmer is associated with the Sufi saint ----.
- (c) Hampi was the capital of the ---- Empire.
- (d) The Dutch established a settlement at ---- in Andhra Pradesh.

Answer. (a) The Rajarajeshvara temple was built in 1010 A.D.

- (b) Ajmer is associated with the Sufi saint Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti.
- (c) Hampi was the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire.
- (d) The Dutch established a settlement at Masulipatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

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Q2 State whether true or false:

- (a) We know the name of the architect of the Rajarajeshvara temple from an inscription.
- (b) Merchants preferred to travel individually rather than in caravans.
- (c) Kabul was a major centre for trade in elephants.
- (d) Surat was an important trading port on the Bay of Bengal.

Answer. (a) True

- (b) False
- (c) False
- (d) False

Page : 89 , Block Name : Let's Recall

Q3 How was water supplied to the city of Thanjavur?

Answer. Water was supplied to the city of Thanjavur from tanks and wells.

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Q4 Who lived in the "Black Towns" in cities such as Madras?

Answer. Merchants and artisans lived in "Black Towns" in cities such as Madras.

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Q5 Why do you think towns grew around temples?

Answer. Towns grew around temples because temples were central to economy and society. Temple authorities used their wealth to finance trade and banking. Also, the large number of pilgrims provided ample opportunities for traders and artisans to conduct business.

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Q6 How important were craftspersons for the building and maintenance of temples?

Answer. Craftspersons played a crucial role in the building and adorning of temples with gold, silver, alloy-work, and textile and wood products. They also catered to the needs of pilgrims, thereby forming an important part of the ongoing trade.

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Q7 Why did people from distant lands visit Surat?

Answer. People from distant lands visited Surat because it was the gateway of trade with west Asia. It was also famous for its Zari textiles which had a huge market in west Asia, Africa and Europe.

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Q8 In what ways was craft production in cities like Calcutta different from that in cities like Thanjavur?

Answer. Craft production in cities like Calcutta was formally organized and planned by the European companies. In Thanjavur, the production focused on the needs of the temple and the pilgrims.

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Q9 Compare any one of the cities described in this chapter with a town or a village with which you are familiar. Do you notice any similarities or differences?

Answer. We can compare New Delhi, the capital of India—with Thanjavur, the capital city of Cholas. Some of the similarities that we notice are as follows:

- (i) Parliament House from where the whole country is governed, is situated here.
- (ii) Supreme Court, the place of justice, is also located here.
- (iii) It is a commercial place. Business flourishes here.
- (iv) People from all over India visit this place.
- (v) Job opportunities are in plenty.

Hence sometimes people come here to settle down. Some of the differences that we notice are as follows:

- (i) Unlike Thanjavur, the size of the city of Delhi is much larger.
- (ii) It is expanding very fast.
- (iii) Law and order situation is not proper. Hence illegal activities are on increase.
- (iv) Delhi is becoming overcrowded day by day. The reason behind it is that people from distant places come here in pursuit of job and finally they settle down.

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Q10 What were the problems encountered by merchants? Do you think some of these problems persist today?

Answer. The merchants had to pass through many kingdoms and forests. They had fear of being robbed while passing through forests. Hence they usually travelled in caravans and formed guilds to protect their interests. Great Indian traders like Mulla Abdul Ghafur and Virji Vora who owned a large number of ships competed with them. But the European Companies ' used their naval power to gain control of the sea trade and forced Indian traders to work as their agents. These were the problems encountered by the then merchants. There is no exaggeration if we say that some of these problems still exist today.

Page : 90 , Block Name : Let's Discuss

Q11 Find out more about the architecture of either Thanjavur or Hampi, and prepare a scrap book illustrating temples and other buildings from these cities.

Answer. DIY

Page : 90 , Block Name : Let's Do

Q12 Find out about any present-day pilgrimage centre. Why do you think people go there? What do they do there? Are there any shops in the area? If so, what is bought and

sold there?

Answer. DIY

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