

CBSE Class –VII Social Science
NCERT Solutions
History Chapter 9
The Making of Regional Cultures

Q1: Match the following:

Anantavarman	Kerala
Jagannatha	Bengal
Mahodayapuram	Orissa
<i>Lilatilakam</i>	Kangra
Mangalakavya	Puri
Miniature	Kerala

Ans:

Anantavarman	Orissa
Jagannatha	Puri
Mahodayapuram	Kerala
<i>Lilatilakam</i>	Kerala
Mangalakavya	Bengal
Miniature	Kangra

Q2: What is Manipravalam? Name a book written in that language.

Ans: Manipravalam - literally meaning, “diamonds and corals” refers to the two languages, Sanskrit and the regional language. *Lilatilakam* is a text in Manipravalam.

Q3: Who were the major patrons of Kathak?

Ans: The major patrons of Kathak were the Mughal emperors and the Nawabs of Lucknow,

especially Wajid Ali Shah.

Q4: What are the important architectural features of the temples of Bengal?

Ans:

- The important architectural features of the temples in Bengal were the double-roof (dochala) and the four-roof (chauchala).
 - In the comparatively more complex four-roofed structure, four triangular roofs placed on the four walls move up to converge on a curved line or a point.
 - Temples were usually built on a square platform. The outer walls of many temples were decorated with paintings, ornamental tiles or terracotta tablets.
 - In some temples, particularly in Vishnupur in the Bankura district of West Bengal, such decorations reached a high degree of excellence.
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Q5: Why did minstrels proclaim the achievements of heroes?

Ans: Stories about Rajput heroes were recorded in poems and songs, which were recited by specially trained minstrels.

These poems and songs preserved the memories of heroes and were expected to inspire others to follow their examples. Ordinary people were also attracted by these stories – which often depicted dramatic situations, and a range of strong emotions – loyalty, friendship, love, valour, anger, etc.

Q6: Why do we know much more about the cultural practices of rulers than about those of ordinary people?

Ans: We know more about the cultural practices of rulers than about those of ordinary people because:

- Only rulers could afford minstrels and historians for records and documentation. They could preserve their records at their palaces.
 - Ordinary people used to struggle to earn their livelihood.
 - Ordinary people did not have resources or wealth to preserve their memories and cultural practices.
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Q7: Why did conquerors try to control the temple of Jagannatha at Puri?

Ans: Conquerors tried to gain control over the Jagannatha temple at Puri because:

- it would make their rule acceptable to the local people since the temple was important as a place of pilgrimage.
 - the temple was also a centre of authority in social and political matters.
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Q8: Why were temples built in Bengal?

Ans: Bengal also witnessed a temple-building spree from the late fifteenth century, which culminated in the nineteenth century.

- Temples were built in Bengal to house the local deities who had gained the recognition of the Brahmanas.
- Many of the modest brick and terracotta temples in Bengal were built with the support of several “low” social groups, such as the Kolu (oil pressers) and the Kansari (bell metal workers).
- The coming of the European trading companies created new economic opportunities; many families belonging to these social groups availed of these. As their social and economic position improved, they proclaimed their status by constructing temples.