

The Making of Regional Cultures

Q1. Match the following:

Anantavarman	Kerala
Jagannatha	Bengal
Mahodayapuram	Orissa
Lilatilakam	Kangra
Mangalakavya	Puri
Miniature	Kerala

Answer:

Anantavarman	Orissa
Jagannatha	Puri
Mahodayapuram	Kerala
Lilatilakam	Kerala
Mangalakavya	Bengal
Miniature	Kangra

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

Answer: Manipravalam means “diamonds and corals” referring to the two languages, Sanskrit and the regional language. A book written in Manipravalam is Lilatilakam which deals with grammar and poetics.

Q3. Who were the major patrons of Kathak?

Answer: 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?

Answer: Important architectural features of the temples of Bengal are:

- Temples began to copy the double-roofed or four-roofed structure of the thatched huts.
- 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 interior was relatively plain but the outer walls of many temples were decorated with paintings, ornamental tiles or terracotta tablets.

Q5. Why did minstrels proclaim the achievements of heroes?

Answer:

- Minstrels preserved the memories of the heroes.
- Their poems and songs inspired others to follow the examples of the heroes.
- Ordinary people were also attracted by these stories, songs and poems.
- These stories have great emotions, loyalties, friendship, love, valour, anger etc.

Q6. Why did conquerors try to control the temple of Jagannatha at Puri?

Answer: Anantavarman, one of the most important rulers of the Ganga dynasty, decided to build a temple for Purushottam Jagannath in Puri during the twelfth century. Subsequently, in 1230, King Anangabhimha III dedicated his kingdom to the deity and proclaimed himself to be the "Deputy" of God. As the temple gained importance as a center of pilgrimage, its authority in social and political matters also increased. The Mughals, Marathas and the English East India Company conquered Orissa and tried to gain control of the temple as they felt this would make their rule acceptable to the local people.

Q7. Why were temples built in Bengal?

Answer: The arrival of European trading companies created new economic opportunities. Bengal The social and economic reform led to the construction of temples. Many minor brick and terracotta temples in Bengal were built in collaboration with several "lower" social groups, such as Kolu (oil presser) and Kansari (bell metal worker). When local deities once worshiped in thatched huts in villages, Brahmins were recognized, their images began to be kept in temples.