

**HISTORY – 1**  
**RESHAPING INDIA'S POLITICAL MAP**

**VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

**1. Who was the Maratha leader who established a strong kingdom in western India?**

**Answer:** Shivaji Maharaj.

**2. Which Mughal emperor is known for his policy of religious tolerance?**

**Answer:** Akbar.

**3. Name the present-day Indian state that was ruled by the Ahom's.**

**Answer:** Assam.

**4. What was the main occupation of people between the 13th and 17th centuries?**

**Answer:** Agriculture.

**SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

**5. Describe the achievements of Maharana Pratap.**

**Answer:** The achievements of Maharana Pratap are as follow:

- He fought the Battle of Haldighati against the Mughals to defend Mewar.
- He maintained independence of his kingdom despite heavy pressure from Akbar.
- He inspired Rajput resistance and became a symbol of valor in Indian history.

**6. Who was Maharaja Ranjit Singh? Mention his main contribution.**

**Answer:** Maharaja Ranjit Singh was the founder and ruler of the Sikh Empire in Punjab.

- He unified various Sikh misls into a powerful state with a modern army.
- His empire promoted economic prosperity and administrative reforms in the early 19th century.

**7. What role did Akbar play in strengthening the Mughal Empire?**

**Answer:** Akbar introduced religious tolerance (Din-i-Ilahi) to unify diverse subjects. He reformed administration with efficient revenue systems like the zabt system. He expanded the empire through strategic marriages and military conquests.

**8. Explain the significance of the Battle of Panipat (1526).**

**Answer:** The significance of the Battle of Panipat (1526)

- It marked the defeat of Ibrahim Lodi and the establishment of Mughal rule in India.
- It opened the way for Babur to consolidate power in northern India.
- It changed the political landscape, leading to the Mughal dynasty's long reign.

**LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS**

**9. Describe the role of the Rajput rulers in resisting foreign invasions.**

**Answer:** The role of the Rajput rulers in resisting foreign invasions are as follow:

- Rajput kingdoms formed alliances and fought fierce battles against invaders like the Turks and Mughals to protect their territories.
- They employed strategic defensive tactics, such as fortifications in places like Chittor and Jodhpur, to withstand attacks.
- Many Rajput rulers negotiated treaties with invaders while maintaining internal autonomy, balancing resistance and diplomacy.

- Their valor inspired other regional powers to resist foreign domination, shaping medieval Indian politics.
- The legacy of Rajput resistance influenced later nationalist narratives about Indian independence.

**10. Explain how the Mughal Empire expanded and later declined.**

**Answer:** The Mughal Empire expanded and later declined are mentioned in below points:

- Expansion began with Babur's victory at Panipat and continued through military conquests by Akbar, Jahangir, and Aurangzeb.
- Administrative reforms, efficient taxation, and alliances with local rulers helped consolidate the vast empire.
- Overextension, heavy taxation, and religious intolerance under Aurangzeb sparked revolts weakening central authority.
- Succession conflicts and weak later emperors led to loss of provincial control and invasions like Nadir Shah's.
- The empire finally fragmented, paving the way for British colonial influence in India.

**11. Discuss the main features of the Ahom administration and their contribution to Assam.**

**Answer:** The main features of the Ahom administration and their contribution to Assam are:

- The Ahom kingdom had a decentralized Paik system where every adult male provided labor or military service.
- Administration was organized into Moi (districts) governed by Borphukan and Barpatragohain for efficient rule.
- They developed advanced military tactics and fortifications that resisted Mughal invasions for centuries.
- Ahom's promoted agriculture, irrigation, and cultural synthesis, blending Assamese and Tai traditions.
- Their legacy shaped Assam's identity, language, and historical pride in self-governance.

**12. Elaborate the major changes in India's political map between the 13th and 17th centuries.**

**Answer:** The major changes in India's political map between the 13th and 17th centuries are as follow:

- The decline of regional dynasties like the Cholas and rise of Delhi Sultanate altered power centers in northern India.
- The Sultanate's fragmentation led to emergence of independent states such as the Bahmani and Vijayanagar empires.
- The Mughal invasion in the 16th century unified much of northern India under a centralized empire.
- Regional kingdoms like the Marathas and Ahom's asserted autonomy, creating a patchwork of political entities.
- These shifts set the stage for later colonial influence by changing administrative and cultural landscapes.