

THE RISE OF THE MARATHAS

HISTORY CHAPTER – 3

Very Short Answer Type Questions

1. What was Shahji Bhonsle's profession?

Answer: Shahji Bhonsle was an administrative officer and military commander in the Deccan Sultanates.

2. What was the revenue collection system introduced by Shivaji called?

Answer: Shivaji introduced the Chauth and Sardeshmukhi system of revenue collection.

3. What was the naval base of the Marathas called?

Answer: Sindhudurg Fort served as an important naval base of the Marathas.

4. Name the treaty signed between Shivaji and the Mughals in 1665.

Answer: The treaty signed in 1665 was the Treaty of Purandar.

Short Answer Type Questions

1. Why did Shivaji build a strong navy?

Answer: Shivaji built a strong navy because of the following reasons: to protect the western coastline, prevent foreign invasions, safeguard maritime trade, and strengthen Maratha power over the Arabian Sea.

2. Compare Shivaji's military system with the Mughal system.

Answer: Shivaji's military system was based on speed, discipline, and guerrilla warfare, whereas the Mughal system relied on large armies, heavy cavalry, and conventional battle strategies.

3. Explain the Ashta Pradhana Mandala in Maratha rule.

Answer: The Ashta Pradhana Mandala was Shivaji's council of eight ministers formed to assist in administration, finance, justice, foreign affairs, military affairs, and religious matters.

4. What was the significance of the Battle of Panipat (1761)?

Answer: The Battle of Panipat weakened Maratha power, ended their northern expansion, and created political instability in India, benefiting the British.

Long Answer Type Questions

1. How did Thanjavur emerge as an important centre of Maratha power in South India?

Answer: Thanjavur emerged as a Maratha centre because:

1. It was conquered by Ekoji, Shivaji's half-brother.
2. A stable Maratha kingdom was established there.
3. It promoted art and literature.
4. It strengthened Maratha influence in South India.
5. It became a centre of administration and culture.

2. Explain how the Maratha Empire expanded and later declined.

Answer: The Maratha Empire expanded because:

1. Shivaji's leadership strengthened the state.
2. Efficient administration improved governance.
3. Strong military campaigns increased territories.
4. Internal rivalries weakened unity later.
5. The Third Battle of Panipat accelerated Maratha decline.

3. How would you describe Shivaji's coronation as an example of cultural revival?

Answer: Shivaji's coronation reflected cultural revival because:

1. Ancient Hindu traditions were followed.
2. Sanskrit rituals were performed.
3. Indigenous kingship was promoted.
4. Regional pride was strengthened.
5. It inspired political and cultural self-confidence.

4. Do you think Shivaji was a successful administrator? Justify your answer.

Answer: Yes, Shivaji was a successful administrator because:

1. He established efficient governance.
2. The Ashta Pradhana assisted administration.
3. Revenue collection was well organized.
4. He maintained a disciplined army and navy.
5. He ensured justice and public welfare.