



Date : 24th Nov 2023

General Knowledge – Mauryan Empire

English

**Q:1** The Mauryan Empire was founded by Chandragupta Maurya in ..... BCE.

1. 300
2. 322
3. 315
4. 318

**Q:2** As the Mauryan empire was so large, different parts were ruled differently. The area around \_\_\_\_\_ was under the direct control of the emperor.

1. Taxila
2. Ujjain
3. Pataliputra
4. Lumbini

**Q:3** What was the capital of the Mauryan Empire?

1. Pataliputra
2. Vaishali
3. Indraprastha
4. Kushinagar

**Q:4** Which of the following dynasties was ruling Magadha just before the establishment of the Mauryan empire?

1. Haryanka
2. Shunga
3. Kanva
4. Nanda

**Q:5** How many major rock edicts were found in the Mauryan Empire?

1. 14
2. 12
3. 8
4. None of the above

**Q:6** Name the first leader of the Mauryan Empire's who consolidating land as Alexander the Great's power began to wane.

1. Chanakya
2. Bindusara
3. Chandragupta Maurya
4. Kautilya

**Q:7** Who was the last ruler of the Mauryan Empire?

1. Chandragupta Maurya
2. Bindusara
3. Ashoka
4. Brihadratha

**Q:8** What does 'Sita' means in the Mauryan period?

1. Revenue from crown land
2. Goddess
3. Religious Sect
4. Barren land

**Q:9** Chandragupta Maurya took the help of which courtier to establish the Mauryan Empire?

1. Todar Mal
2. Kautilya
3. Seleucid
4. Alexander

**Q:10** Name the first leader of the Mauryan Empire's who consolidating land as Alexander the Great's power began to wane.

1. Chanakya
2. Bindusara
3. Chandragupta Maurya
4. Kautilya



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### Answer Key

1. (2)	2. (3)	3. (1)	4. (4)	5. (1)
6. (3)	7. (4)	8. (1)	9. (2)	10. (3)

### Answers and Solutions

**Q:1** The correct answer is **Option 2** i.e. **322**

The Maurya Empire was a geographically extensive Iron Age historical power in South Asia based in Magadha. Founded by Chandragupta Maurya in 322 BCE, it existed in loose-knit fashion until 185 BCE.

**Q:2** The correct answer is **option 3** i.e. **Pataliputra**

In the Mauryan Empire, the area around the capital city of Pataliputra (modern-day Patna) was under the direct control of the emperor.

Pataliputra served as the imperial capital of the Mauryan dynasty, and the emperor exercised direct authority over this central region.

The vast Mauryan Empire was administratively divided into provinces, each ruled by a governor or viceroy, but the core areas around Pataliputra were under the immediate governance of the emperor.

The Mauryan Empire, founded by Chandragupta Maurya, was one of the most significant empires in ancient India, and its administrative structure allowed for efficient control over its vast territories.

**Q:3** The correct answer is **Option 1** i.e. **Pataliputra**.

The capital of the Mauryan empire was Pataliputra. Modern name: Patna

Pataliputra is at the confluence of two rivers, the Son and the Ganges.

Chandragupta Maurya was the founder of the Mauryan Empire.

Brihadratha was the last ruler of the Mauryan Empire.

**Q:4** The correct answer is **Option 4** i.e. **Nanda**

The Nanda dynasty was ruling Magadha just before the establishment of the Mauryan empire. The Mauryan empire, founded by Chandragupta Maurya, emerged as a powerful dynasty after overthrowing the Nanda rulers in Magadha.

This marked the beginning of the Mauryan rule,

which became one of the most significant and expansive empires in ancient India.

**Q:5** The correct answer is **option 1** i.e. **14**.

Mauryan Dynasty is the oldest dynasty in India. Its timespan was 321 B.C. to 184 B.C.

It was established by Chandragupta Maurya.

The archaeological sources of the Mauryan Dynasty include inscriptions, coins, monuments, and other material remains like burnt bricks, iron implements, ring wells, etc.

**INSCRIPTIONS**– There are rock edicts, pillar edicts, and cave inscriptions at several places in the Indian subcontinent. Ashoka is identified as the author of these edicts. There were other inscriptions that were not believed to be those of Ashoka– Junagadh Rock Inscription, Sohgaury Copper Plate Inscription, and Mahasthan Inscription.

In his inscriptions, Brahmi, Kharoshthi, Prakrit, Aramaic, and Greek languages were used.

There are 14 major rock edicts, some minor rock edicts and 2 Kalinga edicts, 7 major pillar edicts and minor pillar edicts, cave edicts in Barabar Hills, and Nagarjuna Hills. The majority of them are in the nature of Ashok's proclamations to the public at large.

**Q:6** The correct answer is **Option 3** i.e. **Chandragupta Maurya**

When Alexander's great power began to wane Chandragupta Maurya, the first leader of the Mauryan Empire started consolidating land. Alexander's death in 323 B.C.E. left a large power vacuum.

The Mauryan Empire formed around 321 B.C.E. and ended in 185 B.C.E., was the first pan-Indian empire that covered most of the Indian region.

Central India, Northern India, and modern-day Iran were conquered by the Mauryan Empire.

Chandragupta Maurya started taking advantage of it by gathering an army and overthrowing the Nanda power in Magadha.

When the Mauryan Empire began to come in force Chandragupta Maurya declare himself as the king and took additional lands through force by forming alliances.

**Q:7** The correct option is **option 4** i.e. **Brihadratha**.



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**Brihadratha** The Mauryan Empire was divided into two parts after the death of Ashoka in 232 B.C.

These two parts were Eastern and Western.

Kunala, son of Ashoka ruled the western part whereas the eastern part was ruled by Dasaratha, one of the grandsons of Ashoka, and later by Samrat, Salisuka, Devaraman, Satadhanvan, and finally by Brihadratha.

**Brihadratha** the last Maurya ruler was assassinated by **Pushyamitra Sunga** in 184 B.C. Pushyamitra Sunga later established his own dynasty **Sunga dynasty**.

**Q:8** The correct answer is **option 1** i.e. **Revenue from crown land**.

a) In the Mauryan period, land revenues that were collected in the form of crown lands were known as 'Sita'.

b) The land revenue collected from cultivators was known as **Bhaga**.

**Q:9** The correct answer is **option 3** i.e. **Kautilya**.

**Mauryan empire** The last of the Nanda rulers, Dhana Nanda was highly unpopular due to his oppressive tax regime. Also, post-Alexander's invasion of North-Western India, that region faced a lot of unrest from foreign powers. **They were ruled by Indo-Greek rulers. Chandragupta, with the help of an intelligent and politically astute Brahmin, Kautilya usurped the throne by defeating Dhana Nanda in 321 BC.** Chandragupta's origins are shrouded in mystery. The Greek sources (which are the oldest) mention him to be of non-warrior lineage. The Hindu sources also say he was a student of Kautilya of humble birth (probably born to a Shudra woman). Most Buddhist sources say he was a Kshatriya. Greek accounts mention him as Sandrokottos. Kautilya provided the strategy while Chandragupta executed it. They had raised a mercenary army of their own.

**Q:10** The correct answer is **Option 3** i.e. **Chandragupta Maurya**

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