

Worksheet – 12

Subject: - Social Science

Class: - VII

Teacher: - Mrs. Harmeet Kaur

Name: _____ Class & Sec: _____ Roll No. _____ Date: 27.05.2020

ACTIVITIES**A. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:**

The history of Chandragupta and his empire was mentioned in the book, *Indika*, written by Megasthenes, Nicator's ambassador to Chandragupta. He came to Chandragupta's court in 302 BC and stayed with him for several years. Kautilya's *Arthashastra* also provides valuable information about the rule of Chandragupta. The *Puranas*, Jain and Buddhist literature, also throw light on Chandragupta's life and empire. The drama *Mudrarakshasa*, written by Vishakhadutta, describes how Chandragupta came to power. Besides texts, several punch-marked coins and objects from the period have been found which shed light on the Maurya rule.

1. What is *Indika*?

2. What are the various sources of information of the Mauryan period?

3. Who was Vishakhadutta?

Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

Epics are grand compositions which usually describe the lives of heroes or gods. The *Mahabharata* and *Ramayana* were important Sanskrit epics which were finally written down in the form we know them today during the Gupta period. The story of *Mahabharata* had been known for years, but was written down only 1500 years ago. The epic, said to have been compiled by Vyasa, describes the war between Kauravas and Pandavas. The story of the *Bhagavad Gita*, which formed the basis of the Bhakti movement, was made a part of *Mahabharata*. The *Ramayana* tells the story of King Rama of Ayodhya. It was compiled in Sanskrit by Valmiki.

1. What are epics?

2. What are the subject matters of *Mahabharata* and *Ramayana*?

3. Who compiled *Mahabharata* and *Ramayana*?

Pictures paint history:

ACTIVITIES**A. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:**

Unlike the Mauryas, who paid salaries to officials, the Guptas seem to have followed the system of giving grants of land or villages to officials. Many times, the officials were even given administration rights over such lands. This further weakened the Guptas' control over the empire as some officials became quite powerful and asserted their authority over their lands. The system of land grants also gave rise to a new system, where peasants were often required to remain on their land as tenants even if it was granted to others. This eventually led to their exploitation.

1. What system did the Guptas follow?

2. Why did it weaken the Guptas' control over the empire?

3. How did it give rise to a new system?
