

SOLUTIONS

1. (d) When Humayun was wandering in Bikaner, he was gallantly offered shelter and help by the Rana of Amarkot. It was at Amarkot in 1542, that Akbar, the greatest of the Mughal rulers, was born. Akbar was the son of Humayun and his mother name was Hamida Banu Begum. Humayun went to war leaving his wife in Amarkot and that's when Akbar was born.

Educational objective: To know about great Mughal rulers.

2. (b) Bairam Khan was an important military commander, and later commander-in-chief of the Mughal army, Humayun honoured him as Khan-i-Khanan, which means "King of Kings". Bairam was originally called Bairam "Beg", but later became honoured as 'Kha' or Khan. He was the father of the celebrated Abdul Rahim Khan-i-khana, the popular Rahim, a poet of the Bhakti Era, one of the 9 jewels of Akbar and translator of Baburnama. He was a centrepiece of the Akbar's conquests till the second Battle of Panipat.

Educational objective: To have important information about Akbar.

3. (a) Statement 1 is correct: During Bairam Khan's rebellion, groups and individuals in the nobility had become politically active. They included Akbar's foster mother, Maham Anaga, and her relations.

Statement 2 is correct: Though Maham Anaga soon withdrew from politics, her son, Adham Khan was an impetuous young man who assumed independent airs when sent to command an expedition against Malwa.

Statement 3 is not correct: Akbar killed Adham Khan, son of Maham Anaga, in whose disconnection Maham Anaga died. This group led by Maham Anaga was also known as the petikot rule or puppet rule. They were against the wellbeing and welfare of both Akbar and the people.

Educational objective: To know about important circumstances during Akbar's life.

4. (b) Statement 1 is not correct: At the same time after abolishing Jizyah, Akbar also abolished the pilgrim tax on bathing at holy places such as Prayag, Banaras, etc. He also abolished the practice of forcibly converting prisoners of war to Islam. This laid the essential foundation of an empire based on equal rights to all citizens, irrespective of their religious beliefs.

Statement 2 is correct: Akbar was deeply interested in religion and philosophy. At the outset, Akbar was an orthodox Muslim. But by the time Akbar reached adulthood, mysticism which was being preached in the length and breadth of the country, began to influence

him. Gradually, he turned away from the path of a narrow orthodoxy.

Educational objective: To have an understanding of religious policies brought by Akbar.

5. (c) Statement 1 is correct: In 1575, Akbar built a hall called Ibadat Khana where he called selected theologians. The proceedings, at first, were confined to the Muslims. At this stage, Akbar opened the Ibadat Khana to people of all religions — Christians, Hindus, Jains, Zoroastrians, even atheists.

Statement 2 is not correct: Some of the scholars who visited the Ibadat were –

- Pursottam Das – Hindu
- Dastur Maharji Rana – Parsi (of Navsari)
- Hira Vijaya Suri – Jain saint of Kathiawar
- Aquaviva and Monserrate – Christian (sent by the Portuguese at Akbar's request).

Statement 3 is correct: The kind of debates that started to question Islam and its existence horrified the theologians, and all kinds of rumours began to circulate about Akbar's desire to forsake Islam.

Educational objective: To have an understanding of the religious policy of Akbar.

6. (b) One of the first actions which Akbar took after he had taken power

in his own hands, was to abolish the poll tax or jizyah which the non-Muslims were required to pay in a Muslim state. Although it was not a heavy tax, it was disliked because it made a distinction between subject and subject. At the same time, Akbar abolished the pilgrim tax on bathing at holy places such as Prayag, Banaras, etc.

Educational objective: To know about the policy changes by Akbar.

7. (d) Persian language became widespread in the Mughal Empire by the time of Akbar's reign. Abul Fazl was a great scholar and historian of his period. He set a style of prose writing and it was followed by many generations. Many historical works were written during this period. They include Ain-i-Akbari and Akbarnama authored by Abul Fazl. The leading poet of that period was his brother Abul Faizi. The translation of Mahabharata into the Persian language was done under his supervision. Utbi and Naziri were the two other leading Persian poets.

Educational objective: To have an understanding of scholars and their creations.

8. (a) Statement 1 is correct: The Second Battle of Panipat was fought between the forces of Samrat Hem Chandra Vikramaditya, popularly called Hemu, the Hindu king who was ruling North India from Delhi, and the army of Akbar, on

November 5, 1556. It was a decisive victory for Akbar's generals Khan Zaman I and Bairam Khan.

Statement 2 is incorrect: General Bairam Khan was desirous that Akbar should slay the Hindu king Hemu himself and should establish his right to the title of "Ghazi" (Champion of Faith or war veteran). But Akbar refused to strike a blood-soaked and dead enemy but smote the dead body, just to be called a Ghazi. Bairam Khan irritated by Akbar's scruples beheaded the king himself.

Educational objective: To know about important battles of medieval Indian history.

9. (c) In 1574 Akbar began a Maktab Khana or department of interpretation and translation. The Mahabharat was translated into the Persian language named 'Razmnama'. Besides Badauni translated 'Ramayana' and Faizi translated 'Leelavati'.

Educational objective: To have an understanding of departments established by Akbar.

- 10.(b) Statement 1 is not correct: The first Englishman to visit the Akbar's court was Ralph Fitch and not John Hawkins. He was an English merchant who visited Agra and Fatehpur Sikri.

Statement 2 is correct: The Indian ruler contemporary to Queen Elizabeth-I of England was Akbar.

On the occasion of the establishment of the East India Company in 1600, Elizabeth was the empress of England.

Educational objective: To know about important contemporary personalities of Akbar.