

Q.1 Identify the factors responsible for chaos, confusion and uncertainty in Kashmir during the Afghan period?

Ans. Afghan Period is known as the darkest period of Kashmir history chaos, confusion, anarchy and tyranny ruled the roost. Common masses were oppressed and suppressed by afghan rulers. The long distance between Kabul and Kashmir gave an upper hand to Afghan governors who asserted their independence from time to time. People were over burdened due to heavy taxation, natural calamities like famines, earthquakes also added to the miseries of the common people.

Q.2 Why did the people complain against the taxation structure under Afghan?

Ans. Afghans had imposed an oppressive taxation policy over Kashmiri people. Every Commodity from salt to food grains was taxed. Land tax was almost half the produce. Due to political instability, every afghan governor seemed to full fill his own pocket irrespective of people's welfare. The natural outcome of such a policy was extreme poverty, ridden people, famines, diseases etc taking a heavy toll of life.

Q.3 Describe the relations between the Afghan Kings and their governors in Kashmir?

Ans. The relations between Afghan kings and their governors were not cordial. One of the important reasons was the distance which gave Afghan governors free hand to rule without any checks. They taxed people at their will, waged

continuous wars against their rivals which led to political instability and strained relations with their patrons.

Q.4 State in brief the administration setup under the Sikh rule?

Ans. In order to administer Kashmir, the province was divided into parganas. The parganas were further divided into Zilas. A Zila constituted of several villages. There were different officials assigned with different jobs. Qunango looked after revenue collection in parganas while as Shiqdar, Saza Wul, Muqqdam and Patwari functioned at the village level.

Q.5 How were Galwans suppressed?

Ans. Galwans were the professional who took care of ponies and horses of the villagers in grazing season. However to earn easy money. They turned to horse stealing and created an atmosphere of terror. Sikh governors took strict measures against this grave law and order problem, and initiated the suppression of Galwans with a mighty hand. Troops were sent to many parts of Kaneraz and Maraz. Some Galwans were killed in a fight, some hanged while some others freed after cutting their hands.

Q.6 Define Traki.

Ans. Sikh rulers imposed a number of taxes over peasants if Kashmir. Traki was an additional tax that a peasant had to pay along with hand revenue. This tax was equal to 2 – 4 traks per Khawr. The unit of trak was equal to 5 kgs while as Khawr was taken as 80 kgs.

Q.7 Why do you think Ranjit dev maintained diplomatic relation with contemporary powers?

Ans. Ranjit Dev who ruled Jammu was surrounded by strong powers of Mughals in India and Afghans of Kashmir. In order to have peace and tranquility in his region. He maintained diplomatic relations with his contemporary powers. By virtue of his wise policy, he wanted off danger during his reign.

Q.8 When was wam – he – yig concluded? What were its main terms?

Ans. Wam – hi – yig was a peace agreement between the heirs of Namgyal Dynasty of Ladakh. It was concluded in July 1752. Its main terms were:

- The region of purik was given to Tashi. Uncle of Namgyal King.
- The eldest son was to become King while the younger son would become Lama.
- No party would interfere in trade routes connecting Ladakh with Kashmir and Ballistan.