

Unit: 1- Society and culture in Ancient Tamizhagam: The Sangam Age

CLASS: VI

SUBJECT: Social (History)

I. Choose the correct answer

- Pattini cult in Tamil Nadu was introduced by _____.
a. PandyanNedunchelivan **b. CheranSenguttuvan**
c. IlangoAdigal d. Mudathirumaran
- Which dynasty was not in power during the Sangam Age?
a. Pandyas b. Cholas **c. Pallavas** d. Cheras
- The rule of Pandyas was followed by _____.
a. Satavahanas b. Cholas **c. Kalabhras** d. Pallavas
- The lowest unit of administration during the Sangam Age was _____.
a. Mandalam b. Nadu **c. Ur** d. Pattinam
- What was the occupation of the inhabitants of the Kurinji region?
a. Plundering b. Cattle rearing **c. Hunting and gathering** d. Agriculture

II. Read the Statement and tick the appropriate answer

1 Assertion (A): The assembly of the poets was known as Sangam.

Reason (R): Tamil was the language of Sangam literature.

- a. Both A and R are true. R is the correct explanation of A.
b. Both A and R are true. R is not the correct explanation of A.
c. A is true but R is false. d. Both A and R is not true.
- Which of the following statements are not true?
a. Karikala won the battle of Talayalanganam.
b. The Pathitrupathu provides information about Chera Kings.
c. The earliest literature of the Sangam age was written mostly in the form of prose.
a. 1 only **b. 1 and 3 only** c. 2 only
- The ascending order of the administrative division in the ancient Tamizhagam was
a. Ur < Nadu < Kurram < Mandalam **b. Ur < Kurram < Nadu < Mandalam**
c. Ur < Mandalam < Kurram < Nadu d. Nadu < Kurram < Mandalam < Ur
- Match the following dynasties with the Royal Insignia
a. Chera - 1. Fish
b. Chola - 2. Tiger
c. Pandya - 3. Bow and arrow
A. 3 2 1 B. 1 2 3 C. 3 1 2 D. 2 1 3

III. Fill in the blanks

1. The battle of Venni was won by Karikala Cholan.
2. The earliest Tamil grammar work of the Sangam period was Tholkappiyam.
3. Karikalan built Kallanai across the river Kaveri.
4. The chief of the army was known as Thanithalaivan
5. Land revenue was called Irai

IV. True or False

1. The singing bards of the Sangam age were called Irular. **False**
2. Caste system developed during the Sangam period. **False**
3. Kizhar was the village chief. **True**
4. Puhar was the general term for city. **False**
5. Coastal region was called Marudham. **False**

V. Match

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---------|
| a. Thennar | - | Pandyas |
| b. Vanavar | - | Cheras |
| c. Senni | - | Cholas |
| d. Adiyaman | - | Velir |

VI. Answer in one or two sentences

1. Name any two literary sources to reconstruct the history of ancient Tamizhagam.

Tholkappiyam, Ettuthogai and Patthupattu are some of the literary sources to reconstruct the history of ancient Tamizhagam.

2. What was Natukkal or Virakkal?

In ancient Tamizhagam, the stones erected to commemorate the heroes who died in the battle field are called Natukal (Veerakkal)

3. Name five thinais mentioned in the Sangam literature.

- Kurinji.
- Mullai.
- Marutham.
- Neithal.
- Palai.

4. Name any two archaeological sites related to Sangam period.

- Adichanallur
- Arikamedu

5. Name the seven patrons (KadaiyeluVallalgal).

- Pari
- Kari
- Ori
- Pegan
- Ay
- Adiyaman
- Nalli

6. Name any three Tamil poetic works of Kalabhra period.

- Tamil Navalar Charithai
- Yaperunkalam
- Periapuranam

VII. Answer the following

1. Discuss the status of women in the Sangam Society.

- There was no restriction for women in social life.
- There were learned and wise women.
- Forty women poets had lived and left behind their valuable works.
- Marriage was a matter of self-choice.
- However, Chastity (Karpu) was considered the highest virtue of women.
- Sons and daughters had equal shares in their parent's property.
- Women poets of Sangam Age were Arraiyar, Velliveethiyar, Kakkaiadinayar, AathiManthiyar, Ponmudiyar

VIII. HOTs

1. KarikalValavan or Karikalan was the most famous of the Chola kings.

- ❖ He defeated the combined army of the Cheras, Pandyas and the eleven Velir Chieftains who supported them at Venni, a small village in the Thanjavur region.
- ❖ He converted forests into cultivable lands.
- ❖ He built Kallanai across the river Kaveri to develop agriculture.
- ❖ Their port Puhar attracted merchants from various regions of the Indian Ocean.
- ❖ The Pattinapaalai a poetic work in the pathinenkeezhkanakku gives elaborate information of the trading activity during the rule of Karikalan.
- ❖ KarikalValavan is regarded as the greatest Chola king. Justify.

2. The period of Kalabhra is not a dark age. Give reasons.

- ❖ The literary sources include Tamil Navalar Charithai, Yapernkalam and Periapuranam for the period of Kalabhra.
 - ❖ Seevaka Chinthamani and Kundalakesi were also written during this period. Many works under pathinenkeezh kanakku were composed.
 - ❖ During this period Jainism and Buddhism became prominent.
 - ❖ The - introduction of Sanskrit and Prakrit developed Vattezhuththu script.
 - ❖ Trade and commerce flourished.
- So the Kalabhra Period is not a dark age.

XI Answer Grid

Mention two epics of the Sangam period. Ans: Silapathigaram Manimegalai	Name the two groups of officials who assisted the king. Ans: Aimperuguzhuru Enberayaan	Name any two women poets of the Sangam period. Ans: Avviyar Ponmudiyar
Name any three major ports of Sangam age. Ans: Musiri, Tondai, Korkai	What constituted Muthamizh? Ans: Iyal, Isai, Nadagam	Silapathikaram was written by Ilango Adigal
Talayalanganam is related to which Pandya king? Ans: Nedunchezhiyan	Which eco-region was called menpulam? Ans: Marutham	The light houses in the ports are called Ans: Kalangaraillangu sudar.