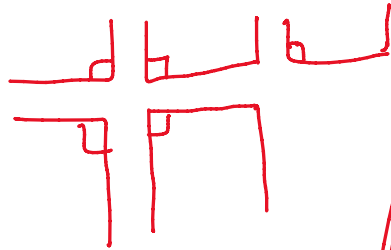
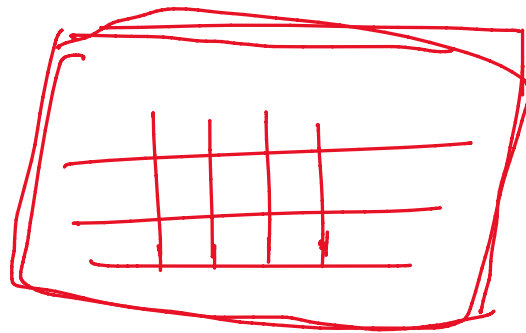


General Studies

- What features of architecture indicate that Mohenjodaro was a planned urban centre?



grid system



- (b) Why is the Mauya rule important in history of India?

322 to 185 BCE.
BCE

- centralized bureaucratic
- Economic Prosperity

↳ Grand Trunk Road

- Military
- Great Stupa at Sanchi

• Evaluate the contributions of Kabir and Guru Nanak Dev to the promotion of unity among the people:

Ik Onkar [1 God]

15th century.

Who provided leadership to the Revolt of 1857?

Discuss the role of any 3 of them.

↓

Indian Rebellion.

Kumwar Singh.

Why did Mahatma Gandhi consider Salt Tax more oppressive than other taxes? what is the outcome of his Dandi March?



1930

240 miles to the Arabian Sea.

"Heat waves expected to become longer and more intense and frequent over the Indian subcontinent." Examine the statement

urban heat island effect.

Why are millets said to be climate friendly?

[in context of International Year of Millets 2023]

↳ declared by UN

• n 11 Resistance

1. Drought Resistance

Sorghum Pearl.

What features of architecture indicate that Mohenjo-daro was a planned urban centre?

Mohenjo-daro's features suggest it was a planned city because of its organized layout. The city had well-designed streets that were straight and crossed each other at right angles, forming a grid pattern. This grid system made it easy for people to navigate the city.

Additionally, the houses in Mohenjo-daro were quite similar in size and layout, indicating a planned approach to urban living. There were also well-defined areas for residential and commercial purposes, showing careful city planning.

The presence of advanced drainage systems with well-laid-out sewerage networks indicates that the city planners considered the need for sanitation. This thoughtful organization suggests that Mohenjo-daro was not just a random settlement but a carefully planned urban center.

Mohenjo-daro, an ancient city of the Indus Valley Civilization, stands as a testament to incredible urban planning and sophisticated engineering. Several architectural features highlight this, showcasing the remarkable foresight and skill of its inhabitants. Here are some key points, along with visuals:

1. **Grid Layout:** Mohenjo-daro exhibits a well-planned grid layout with its streets intersecting at right angles, forming a well-organized pattern. This indicates a meticulous planning and execution of the city's layout.
2. **Uniform Building Construction:** The structures in Mohenjo-daro are remarkably uniform in terms of construction materials and design. This uniformity suggests a centralized authority overseeing construction and enforcing specific architectural standards.
3. **Advanced Drainage System:** The city boasts an advanced and intricate system of underground drainage channels. These channels were strategically placed to ensure the efficient disposal of wastewater, highlighting the planners' understanding of sanitation and public health.
4. **Public Buildings and Spaces:** Mohenjo-daro features large public buildings and open spaces, such as the Great Bath and the Granary. The deliberate inclusion of these structures suggests a thoughtful approach to urban planning, considering both functional and communal aspects.
5. **Residential Planning:** Residential areas are divided into standardized blocks, with houses exhibiting a similar layout. This uniformity indicates a systematic approach to housing, possibly for social or administrative purposes.
6. **Defensive Fortifications:** The presence of defensive structures like a massive outer wall suggests a concern for the city's security. The careful planning of these fortifications implies a strategic consideration of potential threats.
7. **Centralized Authority:** The overall symmetry and organization of Mohenjo-daro's architecture suggest a centralized authority responsible for the city's planning and construction, reinforcing the idea of a well-organized urban center.

(b) **Why is the Maurya Rule important in history of India?**

The Maurya Rule is important in the history of India because it marked a significant period of unity and strong governance. The Maurya Empire, led by Emperor Chandragupta Maurya and later by his grandson Ashoka, existed around 322 to 185 BCE.

During the Maurya Rule, the empire expanded to cover a large part of the Indian subcontinent, bringing together diverse regions under a single rule. Emperor Ashoka, in particular, is known for promoting Buddhism and adopting policies of non-violence and tolerance.

The Maurya Empire is significant because it laid the foundation for a centralized and organized form of governance in ancient India. It also played a crucial role in the spread of Buddhism across the Indian subcontinent. The period left a lasting impact on the political and cultural landscape of India, making the Maurya Rule an important chapter in the country's history.

The Maurya Rule, established by Chandragupta Maurya in 322 BCE, marked the first time a large portion of the Indian subcontinent was politically unified, bringing together diverse regions under a single rule.

1. Political Innovation: Chandragupta's administration introduced a centralized bureaucratic system, creating an organized and efficient government. This administrative model influenced future dynasties, laying the groundwork for imperial governance.

2. Economic Prosperity: Under the Mauryas, trade flourished, connecting India with the Hellenistic world. The Grand Trunk Road facilitated commerce, contributing to economic prosperity and cultural exchange.

3. Military Prowess: Chandragupta's military achievements, especially under the renowned Ashoka, expanded the empire to its zenith. This military strength secured borders and enhanced the empire's influence in South Asia.

4. Cultural Contributions: The Mauryan era witnessed cultural advancements, with Ashoka embracing Buddhism. His rock edicts, promoting moral principles and tolerance, remain pivotal in understanding ancient Indian philosophy.

5. Architectural Marvels: The Mauryan period saw the construction of significant architectural marvels, including the Great Stupa at Sanchi, reflecting advanced engineering and artistic skills.

6. Legacy of Ashoka: Ashoka's conversion to Buddhism and advocacy of non-violence left an enduring impact on Indian culture and philosophy, shaping the moral fabric of the society for centuries.

7. Historical Documentation: Mauryan rule is extensively documented in various ancient texts, providing valuable insights into early Indian history and governance structures.

In summary, the Maurya Rule is crucial in Indian history for its political unification, administrative innovations, economic prosperity, military prowess, cultural contributions, architectural achievements, the legacy of Ashoka, and its role in historical documentation

Evaluate the contributions of Kabir and Guru Nanak Dev to the promotion of unity among the people.

Kabir and Guru Nanak Dev made important contributions to promoting unity among people through their teachings.

Kabir, a 15th-century poet and philosopher, emphasized the oneness of God and rejected religious divisions. His teachings focused on the idea that all humans are equal, regardless of their religious or social background. Kabir's poetry, often written in simple language, appealed to people from different communities, fostering a sense of unity.

Guru Nanak Dev, the founder of Sikhism, also played a crucial role in promoting unity. He preached the concept of "Ik Onkar" (There is only one God), emphasizing the unity of all humankind. Guru Nanak rejected caste-based discrimination and promoted equality, social justice, and service to humanity. The Sikh community, under his guidance, became a symbol of unity, transcending caste and religious barriers.

Both Kabir and Guru Nanak Dev's teachings encouraged people to focus on common values, love, and understanding, fostering a sense of unity and harmony among diverse communities in India. Their

messages continue to inspire people towards unity and inclusivity.

Kabir and Guru Nanak Dev, both revered figures in the history of Indian spirituality, made significant contributions to promoting unity among the people. Their teachings, although rooted in different religious traditions, shared common threads that emphasized inclusivity, harmony, and the oneness of humanity.

1. Religious Syncretism:

- Kabir: Kabir, a 15th-century mystic poet, emphasized the oneness of God and the unity of all religions. His verses, found in the Guru Granth Sahib, integrate elements from Hinduism and Islam, promoting a syncretic approach to spirituality.
- Guru Nanak Dev: Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism, advocated for the oneness of God and the equality of all humans, irrespective of their caste or creed. His teachings laid the foundation for a harmonious coexistence among diverse communities.

2. Social Harmony:

- Kabir: Kabir critiqued societal divisions, including caste discrimination, and urged people to look beyond superficial differences. His message aimed at fostering social harmony and unity by transcending barriers created by society.
- Guru Nanak Dev: Guru Nanak challenged the prevailing caste system and established langar (community kitchens) in Sikhism, where people from all walks of life could sit together and share a meal, breaking down social hierarchies.

3. Language and Communication:

- Kabir: Kabir wrote his verses in a simple, accessible language that could be understood by people from various linguistic backgrounds. This contributed to a broader dissemination of his message and facilitated cross-cultural understanding.
- Guru Nanak Dev: Guru Nanak traveled extensively, engaging with people from different regions and cultures. His emphasis on communication in the vernacular languages helped bridge linguistic gaps and promote a shared understanding.

4. Legacy of Unity:

- Kabir: Kabir's legacy endures through his poems and hymns, which continue to be sung across India. His inclusive philosophy continues to inspire people to seek unity beyond religious boundaries.
- Guru Nanak Dev: Guru Nanak's teachings laid the groundwork for Sikhism, a faith that emphasizes equality and unity. The Sikh community actively contributes to social harmony through its principles of selfless service and community engagement.

In summary, both Kabir and Guru Nanak Dev significantly contributed to promoting unity by advocating for religious syncretism, social harmony, effective communication, and leaving a lasting legacy that transcends divisive boundaries.

(d) Who provided leadership to the Revolt of 1857? Discuss the role of any three of them.

The leadership of the Revolt of 1857, also known as the Indian Rebellion or the First War of Independence, involved several leaders from different regions and backgrounds. Three notable figures who played significant roles are:

Rani Lakshmibai:

Role: Rani Lakshmibai, the Queen of Jhansi, was a prominent leader in the uprising. She displayed exceptional courage and leadership during the battles. Rani Lakshmibai led her troops in the defense of Jhansi against British forces. Her determination and bravery made her a symbol of resistance.

Bahadur Shah II:

Role: Bahadur Shah II, the last Mughal emperor, became a symbolic figurehead of the rebellion. Though he was reluctant to lead the uprising initially, he eventually assumed the title of the leader of the uprising. His association with the revolt gave it a broader legitimacy in the eyes of many Indians who were dissatisfied with British rule.

Mangal Pandey:

Role: Mangal Pandey was a sepoy (Indian soldier) in the British East India Company's army. He is often considered a catalyst for the revolt as he openly rebelled against the use of the new Enfield rifles, rumored to be greased with cow and pig fat. Mangal Pandey's act of defiance inspired other sepoys to join the rebellion, leading to widespread discontent and rebellion.

These leaders, among others, played crucial roles in the Revolt of 1857. Their efforts were rooted in a desire to resist British dominance and regain Indian autonomy. While the revolt did not achieve its ultimate goal of independence, it had a profound impact on the subsequent Indian independence movement.

The Revolt of 1857, also known as the First War of Indian Independence, was a watershed moment in India's struggle against British colonial rule. The leadership during this uprising was multifaceted, comprising both civilian and military figures who played pivotal roles in shaping the course of the rebellion.

Leadership in the Revolt of 1857:

1. Rani Lakshmibai:

- The Queen of Jhansi, Rani Lakshmibai, emerged as a symbol of resistance. Known for her indomitable spirit, she led her troops in battle, displaying remarkable strategic acumen.
- Rani Lakshmibai's defiance against the Doctrine of Lapse and her role in the Siege of Jhansi showcased her commitment to the cause of Indian independence.

2. Bahadur Shah II:

- The last Mughal emperor, Bahadur Shah II, became the reluctant figurehead of the revolt. Despite being elderly, he symbolized the unity of diverse Indian communities against British oppression.
- His endorsement of the revolt gave it a legitimacy that resonated across the subcontinent, rallying diverse groups under a common banner.

3. Kunwar Singh:

- Kunwar Singh, a prominent leader from Bihar, played a crucial role in the rebellion. His military prowess and guerrilla warfare tactics made him a formidable adversary for the British.
- Singh's ability to mobilize local support and sustain resistance for an extended period highlighted the resilience of the Indian forces.

The Revolt of 1857 was a collective effort led by a diverse group of leaders, each contributing uniquely to the cause. Rani Lakshmibai, Bahadur Shah II, and Kunwar Singh, among others, remain immortalized for their valiant efforts in challenging the colonial hegemony during this historic event.

(e) Why did Mahatma Gandhi consider Salt Tax more oppressive than other taxes? What is the outcome of his Dandi March?

Mahatma Gandhi considered the Salt Tax more oppressive than other taxes because it directly affected the common people, especially the poor. The British government imposed a tax on salt, which was an essential commodity for everyone. The tax made salt more expensive, impacting the daily lives of ordinary Indians who needed it for cooking and preserving food.

Gandhi saw the Salt Tax as a symbol of British economic exploitation and an unfair burden on the poor. He believed that by protesting against this tax, he could rally the masses and demonstrate the power of nonviolent resistance against unjust laws.

In response to the Salt Tax, Gandhi organized the Dandi March in 1930. During this march, he and a group of followers walked about 240 miles to the Arabian Sea, where they made their own salt by evaporating seawater. This act of civil disobedience aimed to challenge the government's monopoly on salt production and sales.

The outcome of the Dandi March was significant. It drew widespread attention to the unjust Salt Tax and the larger issues of British colonial rule. The march sparked a wave of civil disobedience across India, and people began boycotting British goods and participating in acts of nonviolent protest. While the Salt

March itself did not immediately end the Salt Tax, it played a crucial role in building momentum for the larger independence movement, eventually contributing to India's struggle for freedom from British rule.

: Mahatma Gandhi considered the Salt Tax more oppressive than other taxes due to its widespread impact on the common Indian population. The Salt Tax was a symbol of British colonial exploitation and represented economic injustice, affecting every stratum of society.

Reasons for considering Salt Tax oppressive:

1. Universal Necessity: Salt was a basic necessity for all, regardless of socio-economic status. Taxing it directly burdened even the poorest.
2. Monopoly and Monopoly Profits: The British had a monopoly on salt production and trade, allowing them to impose exorbitant taxes and control prices, leading to substantial profits at the expense of the people.
3. Symbol of Resistance: Gandhi saw salt as a potent symbol for his nonviolent resistance. By challenging the Salt Tax, he aimed to unite Indians against an unjust law and British dominance.

Outcome of the Dandi March:

1. Mass Civil Disobedience: The Dandi March, a 240-mile journey to the Arabian Sea to produce salt, sparked widespread civil disobedience across India.
2. International Attention: The march garnered global attention, bringing the Indian independence movement into the spotlight.
3. Strengthened Independence Movement: The Dandi March marked a turning point, galvanizing public support and strengthening the resolve of the Indian National Congress in its quest for independence.

In summary, Gandhi considered the Salt Tax oppressive due to its universal impact, and the Dandi March became a pivotal moment in India's fight for freedom, showcasing the power of nonviolent resistance.

(a) "Heat waves expected to become longer and more intense and frequent over the Indian subcontinent." Examine the statement.

The statement "Heat waves expected to become longer and more intense and frequent over the Indian subcontinent" suggests that climate scientists anticipate an increase in the duration, intensity, and frequency of heat waves in the region. Let's examine the factors supporting this statement:

Global Climate Change: The Earth's climate is undergoing changes due to global warming, primarily caused by the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The Indian subcontinent is not immune to these changes, and rising global temperatures contribute to more extreme weather events, including heat waves.

Regional Climate Patterns: The Indian subcontinent is influenced by various climatic factors, such as the monsoon system. Changes in these patterns, combined with global warming, can lead to alterations in temperature extremes. Warmer temperatures can result in prolonged and more intense heat waves.

Urbanization and Land Use Changes: Rapid urbanization and changes in land use patterns can contribute to the urban heat island effect. As cities expand and more concrete surfaces replace natural ones, localized temperatures can rise, exacerbating heat wave conditions in urban areas.

Heat-Related Impacts: Increased heat waves can have various impacts on the environment, agriculture, and human health. These include stress on ecosystems, reduced crop yields, and a higher risk of heat-related illnesses and fatalities among the population.

Scientific Projections: Climate models and scientific studies often project future climate scenarios. If these projections indicate a trend towards more prolonged, intense, and frequent heat waves over the Indian subcontinent, it implies that climate scientists have observed patterns and factors pointing in that direction.

In summary, the statement aligns with the broader understanding of climate change and its potential

impacts on regional climates. It underscores the importance of proactive measures to address and adapt to the changing climate, particularly in vulnerable regions like the Indian subcontinent.

1. **Rising Temperatures:** Global warming, attributed to increased greenhouse gas emissions, is a key contributor to the escalating temperatures over the Indian subcontinent.
2. **Changing Weather Patterns:** Altered atmospheric circulation patterns can lead to prolonged periods of extreme heat, impacting vulnerable populations and ecosystems.
3. **Urban Heat Islands:** Rapid urbanization and land-use changes contribute to the formation of heat islands, exacerbating temperatures in urban areas and aggravating heat wave conditions.
4. **Monsoon Variability:** Changes in the Indian monsoon, a crucial climate component, can result in extended dry periods, intensifying heat waves and posing challenges for agriculture and water resources.
5. **Human Health Impact:** Longer and more intense heat waves raise concerns for public health, increasing the risk of heat-related illnesses and straining healthcare systems.
6. **Agricultural Implications:** Prolonged heat waves can adversely affect crop yields, potentially leading to food shortages and economic repercussions.
7. **Adaptation Strategies:** Policymakers must prioritize effective adaptation strategies, including urban planning, sustainable agriculture, and public health measures, to mitigate the impact of escalating heat waves.

Why are millets said to be climate friendly? Explain it in the context of International Year of Millets (2023) declared by the United Nations

Millets are considered climate-friendly grains, and their recognition as such is underscored by the United Nations' declaration of 2023 as the International Year of Millets. This acknowledgment reflects the growing global understanding of the positive environmental impact of millet cultivation.

1. **Drought Resistance:** Millets, such as sorghum and pearl millet, exhibit high resilience to drought conditions. Their deep root systems enable them to access water from lower soil layers, making them suitable for regions with erratic rainfall patterns.
2. **Low Water Footprint:** Millets generally require less water compared to major cereals like rice and wheat. This low water footprint is crucial in a world facing increasing water scarcity and erratic climatic patterns.
3. **Adaptability to Climate Variability:** Millets are well-suited to diverse agro-climatic conditions. They thrive in arid and semi-arid regions where other crops may struggle, contributing to food security in areas vulnerable to climate change.
4. **Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health:** Millet farming promotes biodiversity by sustaining diverse ecosystems. The cultivation of various millet varieties contributes to a more resilient agricultural landscape, reducing the risk of monoculture-related environmental issues.
5. **Carbon Sequestration:** Millets are relatively low-input crops, requiring fewer synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. This leads to lower carbon emissions and supports sustainable farming practices.

The designation of the International Year of Millets by the United Nations emphasizes the importance of millets in mitigating the impact of climate change. Millets' climate-friendly attributes, including drought resistance, low water footprint, adaptability, biodiversity support, and carbon sequestration, position them as a key component in building a sustainable and resilient global food system.

What the consequences of rapidly ageing population in India?

India is currently grappling with the consequences of a rapidly aging population, a phenomenon characterized by a significant increase in the proportion of elderly individuals. This demographic shift is a result of declining birth rates, improved healthcare, and increased life expectancy. The implications of this trend are far-reaching, impacting various aspects of society, economy, and healthcare.

1. **Economic Strain:** A rapidly aging population poses a burden on the economy as the workingage population diminishes, leading to a potential decline in productivity and an increased dependency ratio.
2. **Healthcare Challenges:** The aging population necessitates a greater focus on healthcare

infrastructure to address age-related ailments and provide adequate elderly care services, putting a strain on the healthcare system.

3. Pension and Social Security Pressures: There is an increased demand for pension and social security programs, challenging the sustainability of existing systems and requiring policy adjustments to ensure financial security for the elderly.

4. Altered Family Dynamics: Traditional family structures are evolving with smaller families and increased nuclear families, impacting the support system for the elderly, who may face loneliness and inadequate care.

5. Skewed Workforce Dynamics: With a significant portion of the population entering retirement, there could be shortages in skilled labor, potentially affecting certain industries.

6. Housing and Infrastructure: The need for age-friendly housing and infrastructure becomes crucial to accommodate the changing requirements of the elderly population.

In conclusion, addressing the consequences of a rapidly aging population in India necessitates a comprehensive approach involving economic policies, healthcare reforms, and social support systems to ensure a sustainable and inclusive future

(d)"Human activity seems to be primarily responsible for Joshimath's crisis." Comment.

The crisis in Joshimath appears to be predominantly attributed to human activities, raising concerns about the delicate balance between development and environmental sustainability. Several factors contribute to this assertion.

1. Infrastructure Development:

- Rapid infrastructure development, including roads and hydropower projects, has disrupted the natural terrain and river systems, leading to increased vulnerability to disasters like landslides and floods.

2. Deforestation:

- Unregulated deforestation, driven by urbanization and resource extraction, has weakened the region's ecological resilience. Loss of vegetation contributes to soil erosion, further exacerbating the risk of landslides.

3. Climate Change Impact:

- Human-induced climate change is altering weather patterns, contributing to extreme events such as heavy rainfall and glacial melting. These changes amplify the region's susceptibility to disasters.

4. Poor Land Use Planning:

- Inadequate land use planning and zoning regulations have allowed settlements to encroach upon high-risk areas, amplifying the human toll when disasters occur.

5. Lack of Disaster Preparedness:

- Insufficient awareness and preparedness for natural disasters among the local population and authorities compound the crisis, hindering effective response and recovery efforts.

In conclusion, while natural factors play a role, the overwhelming evidence suggests that human activities, driven by development pressures, have significantly contributed to the current crisis in Joshimath. Addressing these root causes requires a holistic approach that combines sustainable development practices, environmental conservation, and robust disaster preparedness measures.