

Social Science

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(History)(Chapter – 8) (Ashoka, The Emperor who gave up War)
(Class – VI)

Exercises

Let's recall

Question 1:

Make a list of the occupations of the people who lived within the Mauryan empire.



Answer 1:

List of the occupations within Mauryan empire are:

- Farming
- Herding
- Hunting-gathering
- Trading
- Handicrafts

Question 2:

Complete the following sentences:

- (a) Officials collected _____ from the area under the direct control of the ruler.
- (b) Royal princes often went to the provinces as _____.
- (c) The Mauryan rulers tried to control _____ and _____ which were important for transport.
- (d) People in forested regions provided the Mauryan officials with _____.



Answer 2:

- (a) Officials collected *tax* from the area under the direct control of the ruler.
- (b) Royal princes often went to the provinces as *governor*.
- (c) The Mauryan rulers tried to control *roads* and *rivers* which were important for transport.
- (d) People in forested regions provided the Mauryan officials with *elephants, timber, honey and wax*.

Question 3:

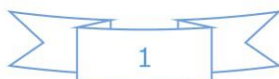
State whether true or false:

- (a) Ujjain was the gateway to the north-west.
- (b) Chandragupta's ideas were written down in the Arthashastra.
- (c) Kalinga was the ancient name of Bengal.
- (d) Most Ashokan inscriptions are in the Brahmi script.



Answer 3:

- (a) Ujjain was the gateway to the north-west. **False**
- (b) Chandragupta's ideas were written down in the Arthashastra. **False**
- (c) Kalinga was the ancient name of Bengal. **True**
- (d) Most Ashokan inscriptions are in the Brahmi script. **True**



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Let's discuss

Question 4:

What were the problems that Ashoka wanted to solve by introducing *dhamma*?

Answer 4:

There were a number of problems that troubled Ashoka and he wanted to solve those problems. These were:

- People in the empire followed different religions, and this sometimes led to conflict.
- Animals were sacrificed.
- Slaves and servants were ill-treated.
- There were quarrels in families and amongst neighbours.

Question 5:

What were the means adopted by Ashoka to spread the message of *dhamma*?

Answer 5:

The methods adopted to spread the message of *dhamma* were:

- Ashoka appointed officials, known as the *dhamma mahamatta* who went from place to place teaching people about *dhamma*.
- Ashoka got his messages inscribed on rocks and pillars, instructing his officials to read his message to those who could not read it themselves.
- Ashoka also sent messengers to spread ideas about *dhamma* to other lands, such as Syria, Egypt, Greece and Sri Lanka.

Question 6:

Why do you think slaves and servants were ill-treated? Do you think the orders of the emperor would have improved their condition? Give reasons for your answer.

Answer 6:

Mostly the slaves and servants were prisoners that is why they were ill-treated.

Yes, orders of emperor would have improved the condition as he was the head of the state. He could issue law of punishment regarding this.

