

D.A.V PUBLIC SCHOOL
BERHAMPUR
STD- VI SOCIAL SCIENCE

LESSON-8

THE STUDYING OF PAST

PRESENTED BY –

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Studying the past

KEY WORDS-----History-Systematic description of the past events.

Pre History- It refers to that period when the art of writing was unknown.

Archaeology- The study of prehistory and history through excavation of sites.

Inscriptions- Writing which are engraved on rocks, pillars, clay tablets , caves

Epigraphy- The study of inscription is called epigraphy .

Monuments- The remains of temples, stupa , Palaces and forts.

Manuscripts-Books that were written long ago by hand on palm leaves or barks of trees.

Artefact- An object made by a human being.

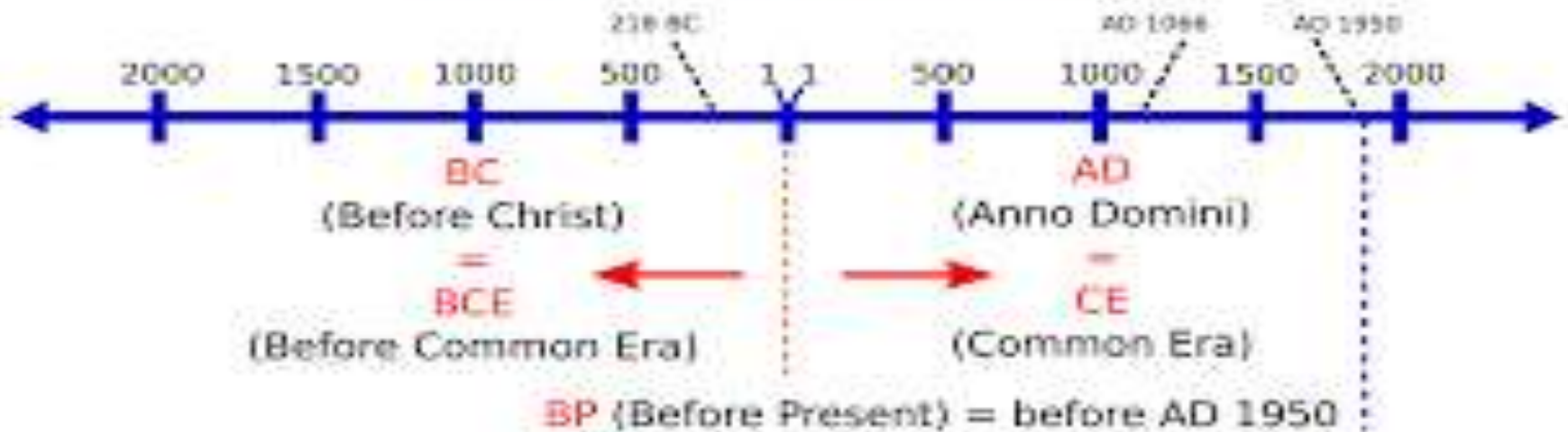
Numismatics-The study of coins.



Time and Date in the History :

BC-BEFORE CHRIST,
AD- ANNO DOMINI (in the year of lord) The period before the birth of Christ, you count the years backward. So 500 BC comes after 2500 BC.
However in the period after the birth of Christ. AD can be count forward , so AD 500 comes before AD 2500. Nowadays some historians prefer to use the terms BCE and CE in the place of BC and AD. BCE-before common era.
CE-Common era .The term circa(or in ca in short)is used when the date of an event is not for sure.

BC - BCE and AD - CE Terms



Pre history and History

[Prehistory | Educational Video for Kids - YouTube](#)

Open the video with -open with hyperlink

Q. What is history and why we need to study history ?

Ans -History is the study of change over time and progress from the past to the present world . It is based on the fact not on the imagination. It helps us to learn about the great people, culture art and architecture of the earlier times . History motivates us to make the present world a better place to live in.

Q. Define prehistory and History.

Ans -Prehistory- refers to that period when art of writing was unknown. Our information about prehistory depends upon the remains of tools, bones, pottery and weapons that have been excavated.

History- refers to the period after the invention of writing. The written records, dates, names of places and people may be on Bhojapatras, {people write on dried palm leaves} or pillar are the source of information. History is generally categorised into three periods Ancient, Medieval and Modern.

Q. The study of history help us to make the present world a better place to live in .
How ?

Ans- Because it help us to learn about the people, culture ,art , architecture of the earlier times.History motivates us to make the present world a better place tolive in.

Distinguish between Archaeological and Literary Source

[Secular Literary Sources](#) | [Ancient History - 2](#) | [History Optional](#) | [History Optional](#)

Open the video -Open hyperlink

Archaeological sources—Inscriptions, coin, monuments, skeletons

Literary sources- Religious literature, Non-religious literature, Secular literature, Historical literature

Q. How does the study of **coins** help the historians ?

Ans-Coins were made of different materials like lead, copper, bronze, iron, gold and even leather. They give information about the art of religion, rulers, use of different metals and level of development of technology.



Q. How does the study of the **monuments** help the historians ?

Ans-The study of monuments helps the historians to know about the social and economic life, the religious beliefs, dress, art forms and architecture of the time.

Q. How do **skeletal** studies help us to identify gender difference ?

Ans- The skeleton of a woman generally has a broader hip or pelvic area for child bearing. Jewellers found on the skeletons also helps in determining whether the skeleton belongs to a woman or a man.

Q. How does the **Inscriptions** help the historians ?

Ans-Writing which is engraved on rocks, pillars, clay tablets, the walls of temples and caves. They tell us about the kings, their empires, achievements as well as the society and the language of that period. The inscriptions of Ashoka's period tell us about his achievements in the field of administration.



Distinguish between Archaeological and Literary source

[Secular Literary Sources | Ancient History - 2 | History Optional](#)

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Q. What are **the Literary sources** of Indian history ?

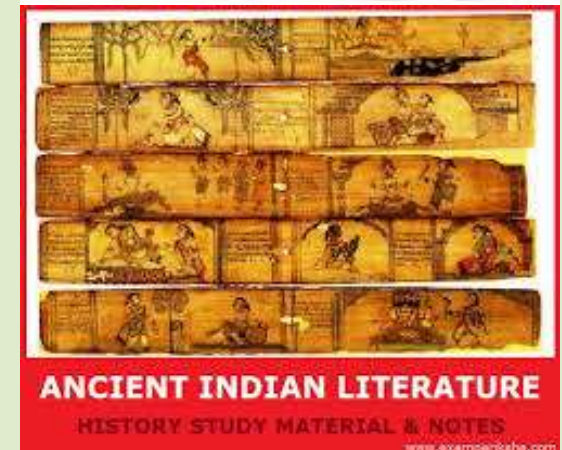
Ans -Religious Literature, Non Religious Literature,
The Secular Literature, Historical literature.

Q. Explain historical literature with example.

Ans-Consists of autobiographies of the ancient rulers and biographical sketches like Harashacharita.

Q. How do secular literary sources throw light on the life of people in any period of History?

Ans- The accounts of events by foreign travellers like Fa-hien {Chinese } and ambassadors like Megasthenes {Greek} who visited India in earlier times , are also important sources of a information about ancient Indian history and culture.



Answers

Q. Distinguish between archaeological and literary sources.

Ans- Archaeological source- i) Inscriptions- These are the writing engraved on rocks, pillars, clay tablets, the wall of the temples and caves. They tell us about the kings their empires, achievements as well as the society and language of their period. ii) coins- were made of different materials like lead, copper, bronze, iron, silver, gold even leather. Coins give us useful information about the art, religion, rulers, the use of different metals and development of technology. iii) monuments- are the remains of temples, stupas, palaces and forts about the social and economic life, the religious belief, dress, art forms and architecture of that time. iv) skeletons- the skeleton of a woman generally has broader hip or pelvic area for child bearing. Jewellery found on the skeleton also helps in determining whether the skeleton belongs to a woman or a man.

Literary source : i) Religious literature consists of the Vedas of the Hindus in Sanskrit, Pitakas of Buddhists in Pali, Angas of Jains in Prakrit. They tell us about the religious beliefs, society, customs and traditions of that time. ii) Non-religious literature- Consist of prose, plays, poetry, grammar as well as the writing of Kautilya (Arthashastra)

Kalidasa (Abhigyan Shakuntalam) iii) Secular literature- The account and events by foreign pilgrims and travellers like Fa-hien (Chinese) and ambassadors like Megasthenes (Greek) who visited India in earlier times are important source. iv) Historical literature- consists of autobiographies of the ancient rulers and biographical sketches like Harishchandra.

Answers

Q. How do archaeological source materials help us to learn about our past ?

Ans- i) The archaeological source materials are mainly inscriptions, coins, monuments Sculptures, paintings, articles of daily use and skeletons. ii)for example building excavated from Mohen-jo-daro provide us useful information about the Indus valley civilisation.

Q .What is more important in history –events, persons, places or dates ?give reasons to justify your Answer.

Ans- All are equal important they help us to understand what people did and when and where and how they lived in the past they tell us about their economy ,occupation, rulers administration and the battles they fought, we need to know our past to be able to understand our present.

for example; thousand of people fought and gave up their lifes to make India independent.

Value based Answer: Q1.Why did kautilya decide to light another lamp ?

Ans-Kautilya decided to light up another lamp because he did not want to waste the national treasury.

Q2. What message does the story convey to the present day public servants and elected representatives of the people ?

Ans- The story tells that we should not use public money for personal benefit.

One Mark Questions

1. What is a period refers to when the art of writing was unknown ?

Ans – Pre history

2. Who study the objects made and used in the past?

Ans –Archaeologist

3. What is the book that were written long ago by hand on the palm leaves

Or barks of trees ?

Ans – Manuscripts

4.What is called the study of coins ?

Ans – Numismatics

5. What is called the study of inscriptions?

Ans-Epigraphy

6. Historians divide history into which two parts ?

Ans- Pre- history , history

7. Who was the Chinese travellers visited India ?

Ans – Fa-hien

8. Which Greek ambassadors visited ?

Ans- Megasthenes

9. What is the the writing which are engraved on pillars, Clay tablets,The walls of the temples?

Ans – Inscriptions

10. Who the author of Abhigyan Shakuntalam ?

Ans- Kalidas

Test your Wisdom

1. History is the study of -(the human body , the environment ,the human past)
2. Jain literature was written in which language ? (Sanskrit, Tamil , Prakrit)
3. Literature consists of prose, plays, poetry etc belongs to-(Religious,Secular, non-religious)
4. The study of Inscriptions is called- (numismatics, history, epigraphy)
5. Before the invention of paper, people wrote on-(notebook, cloth, Bhojpatra)
6. The study of coins is known as-(Architecture, Calligraphy, numismatics)
7. Kautilya write the book- (Meghdoot, Ramayana, Arthshastra)
8. Who was the Author of Abhigyan Shakuntalam ? (Kautilya, Tulsidas, Kalidas)
9. The process of digging under the surface of the earth in order to find old objects- (Artifact, History, Excavation)
10. Books that were written long ago by hand on palm leaves or barks of trees- (monuments , Epigraphy, monuments)

ANSWERS- All 3rd Options