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MCQ 1.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION****Statement 2 is incorrect**

Folk songs form an oral tradition passed down through generations, meaning they do not mainly depend on written records for transmission. They are deeply rooted in preserving cultural identity and often celebrate seasonal cycles, harvests, and nature.

MCQ 2.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

These prehistoric rock shelters are found in the Kaimur Range (a spur of the Vindhyan range) and are locally referred to as Dari (e.g., Likhaniya Dari).

Statement 3 is incorrect

Because multiple natural pigments—including red ochre (hematite), white, and yellow—were used, not just black.

MCQ 3.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

The Vindhyan rock system is globally renowned for its heavy deposits of high-

quality sedimentary rocks like sandstone, limestone, and shale, widely used for building materials and cement production.

MCQ 4.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION****Statement 1 is incorrect**

Thumri is light, romantic, and semi-classical, requiring a completely different vocal texture (flexible and emotional) compared to the loud, deeply resonant, and open-throated voice of Dhrupad.

Dhamar compositions are intricately tied to the spring festival of Holi, and the Rudra Veena has traditionally served as its primary accompanying instrument.

MCQ 5.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION****Statement 3 is incorrect:**

The prehistoric rock art site of Ghodmangar (located in the Mirzapur district) explicitly features a vivid scene depicting a group of hunters armed with spears attacking a rhinoceros.

MCQ 6.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

The Great Gangetic Plain is a geological foredeep formed during the upper Pleistocene and Holocene epochs when a massive depression between the Peninsula and the Himalayas was gradually filled with thick alluvial sediment layers.

MCQ 7.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Sonbhadra is a major coal-mining hub in Uttar Pradesh (part of the Singrauli coalfields).

Uranium is found in Lalitpur (not Banda), and Bauxite is primarily mined in Banda and Chandauli.

MCQ 8.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Average agricultural land holding is about 0.76 hectare. Explanation: Due to high population density and progressive land fragmentation over generations, the average size of operational land holdings per farmer in Uttar Pradesh has shrunk to a tiny 0.76 hectares.

MCQ 9.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

All four pairs are perfectly matched based on the major crop production zones of Uttar Pradesh:

Amla — Pratapgarh (The amla capital of India).

Orange — Saharanpur (The leading producer of citrus and oranges in UP).

Sugarcane — Meerut (The core of Western UP's sugarcane belt).

Mango — Malihabad (Globally famous for its Dasherri mangoes).

MCQ 10.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

According to Abu'l Fazl in the Ain-i-Akbari, while both Daswanth and Basawan were master painters, critics preferred Basawan. He excelled remarkably in backgrounding, the drawing of facial features, portrait painting, and color distribution.

MCQ 11.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

It was actually King Samprati (the grandson of Ashoka) who was a devout patron of Jainism and earned the title of the "Jain Ashoka" or "Ashoka of Jainism" for spreading the faith across India. Salishoka was his successor but is not known by this moniker.

MCQ 12.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

In Uttar Pradesh, Gondwana rock formations are narrowly confined to the southern and southeastern fringes, specifically in districts like Sonbhadra, Mirzapur, Chitrakoot, and Prayagraj. Lalitpur is predominantly known for Deccan Traps and Bundelkhand Gneiss, while Gazipur lies entirely in the alluvial plain.

MCQ 13.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

According to successive India State of Forest Reports (ISFR), Sonbhadra consistently holds the position for the largest total forest cover (both by area and percentage) in Uttar Pradesh.

MCQ 14.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

Dadra, Hori, Kajari, and Chaiti are all prominent semi-classical musical forms originating from the regional folk traditions of Uttar Pradesh. They are deeply intertwined with and broadly classified under the Thumri-ang (Thumri style) of singing.

MCQ 15.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

The Vindhyan Range serves as a classic geographical and geological dividing line separating the Indo-Gangetic plains from Peninsular India. They are heavily exposed across the southern uplands of UP, including the Bundelkhand and Vindhyachal plateaus. Vindhyan rocks are strictly sedimentary in nature (comprising limestone, sandstone, and shale), not metamorphic.

MCQ 16.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

Gorakhpur receives the highest average annual rainfall in the state (about 184.7 cm). Conversely, Mathura receives the lowest rainfall (around 54.4 cm).

MCQ 17.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

While Kajari originated as a rustic folk song of the Mirzapur region, its semi-classical modification (Thumri-ang Kajari) is most deeply linked with the Banaras Gharana, popularized by legendary vocalists like Girija Devi.

MCQ 18.**ANSWER: D**

EXPLANATION

The artwork commonly pulled themes from religious epics (Krishna Leela) and classical literature (Bihari Satsai), and local geographical features—like the flat-topped Vindhyan hills of Bundelkhand—were regularly depicted in the landscapes.

MCQ 19.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

Unlike Dhrupad or Khayal, which are strictly systematic, Thumri relies heavily on Bhava Pradarshan (the vivid dramatic expression of romantic or devotional emotions). It treats raga rules with flexibility to let the text's emotional nuance take center stage.

MCQ 20.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

In Uttar Pradesh, major deposits of China Clay (Kaolin) are exclusively mined in the southern tribal districts of Sonbhadra, Mirzapur, and Banda. Agra does not produce China Clay.

MCQ 21.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

The Bundelkhand Expressway runs from Chitrakoot and terminates at Kudrail (Etawah)

where it meets the Agra–Lucknow Expressway. The Ganga Expressway passes through 12 specific districts from Meerut to Prayagraj.

The Ganga Expressway and Agra–Lucknow Expressway, it intersects in Unnao/Hardoi.

MCQ 22.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

Banda is benefited and touched directly by only one major expressway—the Bundelkhand Expressway. It is completely bypassed by both the Purvanchal and Ganga Expressways.

MCQ 23.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

Amir Khusrow (the "Sufi Singer" and "Father of Qawwali") is historically credited with synthesizing traditional Persian musical structures with Indian classical music, which heavily shaped the unique divergence of the Hindustani music tradition in North India.

MCQ 24.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

Chaiti is a seasonal semi-classical song of Uttar Pradesh. It is explicitly sung during the Hindu month of Chaitra (March–April),

capturing themes of romance, longing, and the joyous arrival of the spring season.

MCQ 25.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Unnao is heavily specialized and globally recognized for its massive meat processing and export facilities. Gajraula is a chemical and industrial hub, Bareilly is famous for its cane/bamboo furniture (Zari-Zardozi) rather than carpets (which belong to Bhadohi).

MCQ 26.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

In 1465, the famous Jain manuscript 'Kalpsutra' was meticulously copied and beautifully illustrated in Jaunpur by the master scribe and painter Devidas Gaud Kayastha. The style captures the distinct Jaunpur school of medieval painting. Basawan and Dashawant were painters from Akbar's much later Mughal court.

MCQ 27.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

The Kaimoor Sanctuary (situated across Mirzapur and Sonbhadra) is the perfect habitat for large mammals like leopards, blackbucks, chinkaras, and blue bulls.

Ranipur is a prominent Tiger Reserve (not just for migratory birds), Nawabganj is in Unnao district, and Okhla Sanctuary borders Noida/Gautam Buddha Nagar.

MCQ 28.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Archaean rocks (like the oldest Bundelkhand Gneiss) are heavily exposed in Sonbhadra and Lalitpur. Archaean rocks are primary crystalline igneous and metamorphic structures (granite and schist) formed by early volcanic cooling. They pre-date Cuddapah and sedimentary rocks. It is the Vindhyan rocks that were formed by the denudation of Cuddapah rocks.

MCQ 29.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Assertion (A) is false:

In Hindustani classical music, Thaata Bilawal serves as the foundational scale where all seven musical notes (Swaras) are sung in their pure (Shuddha) forms, completely free of flat (Komal) or sharp (Tivra) alterations.

MCQ 30.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

To create a deep, continuous, and highly structural acoustic drone necessary for sustained microtonal accuracy, Dhrupad vocalists are traditionally and strictly accompanied by Two Tanpuras along with a rhythmic Pakhawaj drum.

MCQ 31.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Taj Mahotsav celebrated annually in Agra, Taj Mahotsav serves as a grand tourism and cultural platform specifically designed to revive, promote, and showcase the exquisite traditional handicrafts, classical arts, folk dances, and local cuisines of Uttar Pradesh and the Braj region.

MCQ 32.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Raga Bhairavi is universally regarded as the ultimate concluding raga in Hindustani classical music concerts. It evokes deep emotional layers of peace, devotion, and farewell melancholy, marking the serene end of a performance.

MCQ 33.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Ustad Mansur, honored with the title Nadir-al-Asr ("Wonder of the Age") by Emperor Jahangir, was unparalleled in his hyper-detailed, scientific depictions of rare flora and fauna, such as his globally legendary paintings of the now-extinct Dodo bird and the Siberian Crane

MCQ 34.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Koldihawa — Famous for yielding some of the world's earliest evidence of cultivated/wild rice.

Alamgirpur — Situated in Meerut, it marks the easternmost boundary of the Indus Valley Civilisation.

Sinauli — A pathbreaking excavation in Baghpat that uncovered solid-disk wheel bronze chariots, copper shields, and royal coffins.

Atranji-Khera — Located in Etah, it is a hallmark site that provided key evolutionary evidence of early Iron Age metallurgy and agriculture.

MCQ 35.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Varanasi (Benares) emerged as a premier epicentre of Hindustani classical music

through the Banaras Gharana. It nurtured legendary maestri across vocal styles (Thumri, Khayal), instruments (Shehnai, Sarangi, Tabla), and dance (Kathak).

MCQ 36.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Mathura proudly hosts the highest number of annual cultural and religious fairs in Uttar Pradesh (estimated at over 86 fairs per year), heavily driven by its association with the birthplace of Lord Krishna.

MCQ 37.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

While Humayun brought Persian artists to India and Jahangir took painting to its aesthetic zenith, it was Emperor Akbar who structurally institutionalised the art by establishing a formal imperial painting department (Taswir Khana) under his direct supervision.

MCQ 38.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

According to Census data, Jaunpur records the highest sex ratio in Uttar Pradesh (1024 females per 1000 males). To correct the other pairs: Gautam Buddha Nagar holds the

highest literacy rate, Shravasti holds the lowest literacy rate, and Lalitpur has the lowest population density.

MCQ 39.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Morhana Pahad (Mirzapur), Sarai Nahar Rai, and Mahadaha (both in Pratapgarh) are iconic Mesolithic sites defined by microlith tools and burials. Koldihawa is incorrect in this specific context because it is primarily celebrated as a Neolithic and Chalcolithic farming settlement.

MCQ 40.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

D.N. Wadia pioneeringly discovered Lower Paleolithic chopper-chopping tools in the Soan Valley (linked with broader Indian contexts), while the Belan Valley in UP remains an extraordinary repository showcasing the unbroken evolution of these early stone tools. H.D. Sankalia is credited with classifying the Middle Paleolithic 'Flake Culture' across major river basins.

MCQ 41.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Bharat Ratna Ustad Bismillah Khan, born in Bihar but deeply rooted in Varanasi, single-handedly elevated the Shehnai from a folk wedding instrument to a revered classical concert instrument on the global stage.

MCQ 42.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Excavations at the crucial Mesolithic site of Mahadaha (located in the Pratapgarh district of Uttar Pradesh) revealed an incredibly rich assembly of artifacts. This includes grinding stones locally termed Silbatta, 28 human burials (including unique double burials of men and women), circular/oval hearths termed trough chulhas, and significant faunal remains including the bones of cows (wild cattle), deer, and birds.

MCQ 43.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

According to Census data, Sitapur district has the highest total Scheduled Caste (SC) population in Uttar Pradesh. To correct the other options: Baghpat has the lowest Scheduled Tribe (ST) population (not highest), and Balrampur records the highest child sex ratio in the state.

MCQ 44.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Alamgirpur is situated in the Meerut district of UP along the Hindon River, serving as the eastern boundary of the Harappan civilization. Unlike core Harappan hubs, no seals have ever been discovered during excavations at Alamgirpur.

MCQ 45.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

While Udayana was indeed the legendary ruler of Vatsa, the capital of the Vatsa Mahajanapada was Kaushambi (near modern Prayagraj). Ahichchhatra (along with Kampilya) served as the capital of the Panchala kingdom.

MCQ 46.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Only Raga Yaman is correctly classified as an evening/night performance raga (traditionally sung during the first quarter of the night). To correct the others: Raga Bhairav is an iconic early-morning raga, and Raga Jaunpuri is traditionally performed during late morning.

MCQ 47.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

While the broader Kumbh Mela rotation cycle shifts across four sacred riverbanks in Prayagraj, Haridwar, Nashik, and Ujjain, the grand, ultimate Purna Kumbh Mela happens strictly once every 12 years at the holy Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj only

MCQ 48.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Assertion (A) is completely true as the Kuru-Panchala region is celebrated in later-Vedic texts as the absolute vanguard and heartland of Vedic culture. However, Reason (R) is false because the region's early fame and cultural dominance were explicitly rooted in Vedic Brahmanism and philosophy (as heavily detailed in the Upanishads), not Jainism.

MCQ 49.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

The capital of the Asmaka Mahajanapada was Potali (or Potana), located in south-central India along the Godavari River. Bairat (Viratnagar) was actually the capital of the Matsya Mahajanapada located in present-day Rajasthan.

MCQ 50.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

The alluvial plains of Uttar Pradesh were formed during the Quaternary period. The older, elevated alluvial deposits (Bangar) date back to the early and middle Pleistocene period, while the younger, newly renewed alluvial deposits (Khadar) belong to the late Pleistocene and Holocene epochs.

MCQ 51.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

In Uttar Pradesh, Tropical Moist Deciduous forests thrive in areas receiving 100 to 150 cm of annual rainfall. This explicitly matches the Terai and Bhabhar tracts at the foothills of the Himalayas. Conversely, the Bundelkhand and south-western regions are dominated by Dry Deciduous and Thorny forest varieties due to low rainfall.

MCQ 52.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Parua soil (commonly found in the Bundelkhand region) is a light sandy-loam or clay-loam soil that is highly receptive to irrigation and uniquely well-suited for cultivating crops like wheat, gram, and sorghum (jowar). To correct the others: Kabar and Mar are black soils rich in clay and organic content (not coarse-grained or highly permeable), and Rakar is a degraded, unfertile

soil that is highly deficient in organic matter and humus.

MCQ 53.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Assertion (A) is false because Bangar is the older alluvium found in elevated upland terraces safe from seasonal floods. Khadar is the new, younger alluvium deposited inside active floodplains.

MCQ 54.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

All three statements are correct. Historically, UP blended sacred temple traditions (like Haveli Sangeet) with royal court aesthetics. The Nawabs of Awadh (particularly Wajid Ali Shah) were legendary patrons who heavily nurtured semi-classical forms like Thumri, Dadra, and Ghazal. The unique Gharana system served as the primary intergenerational mechanism to strictly preserve and transmit these stylistic vocal and instrumental secrets.

MCQ 55.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Sohar is an extremely popular folk musical genre of Awadh and Bhojpur regions in Uttar

Pradesh. It is exclusively sung by women during celebrations marking childbirth and auspicious naming ceremonies to pray for the long life and prosperity of the newborn.

MCQ 56.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Statement 2 is incorrect:

Akbar appointed his master court artist, Dashawant, to lead the extensive illustration project of the Razmnama (the Persian translation of the Mahabharata). Ustad Mansur was a legendary natural-history painter honored with the title Nadir-al-Asr ("Wonder of the Age"). It was Abul Hasan who was bestowed with the title Nadir-uz-Zaman ("Wonder of the Time") by Emperor Jahangir. Abul Hasan was commissioned to paint the famous, sophisticated portrait of Jahangir holding a globe, which served as the front page/frontispiece for the emperor's memoirs, the Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri.

MCQ 57.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Carpet Weaving — Bhadohi (The undisputed hand-knotted carpet capital of India).

Terracotta Horse — Gorakhpur (Renowned worldwide for its uniquely styled, GI-tagged

Bhiti terracotta pottery and hollow clay horses).

Hand Block Printing — Farrukhabad (Famed for its traditional wooden block printing using natural dyes on cotton fabrics).

MCQ 58.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Chowkpurana is an ancestral ritualistic folk art of floor and wall decoration primarily made during festivals and weddings in Uttar Pradesh. It is traditionally referred to as Sonarakhna. Pichwai belongs to Rajasthan, Ragmala is a classical theme of miniature painting, and Rumi Kalam is an architectural/calligraphic style of Lucknow.

MCQ 59.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

The Chaukhandi Stupa is located in Sarnath and marks the precise holy spot where Lord Buddha famously reunited with his first five disciples (Pancha Vaggiya) after attaining enlightenment. Buddha's final physical passing (Mahaparinirvana) is strictly associated with the Mahaparinirvan Temple and Stupa complex in Kushinagar.

MCQ 60.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

According to canonical Buddhist texts, Sankisa (ancient Sankasya) is highly revered as the spot where Lord Buddha descended back to Earth from the Tushita (Trayastrimsa) Heaven after preaching the Abhidhamma to his mother. The historic Maurya-era Ashokan pillar standing at the location is uniquely topped by a beautifully carved stone elephant capital.

Administratively, the ruins of Sankisa are situated in the present-day Farrukhabad district of UP, not Etah. As stated previously, Buddha attained his Mahaparinirvana at Kushinagar.

MCQ 61.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Jetavana Vihara is historically located in Shravasti (the ancient capital of the Kosala kingdom), not Kushinagar. It was purchased and donated by the wealthy merchant Anathapindika. It housed the Gandhakuti which was Buddha's personal scented residential cell and Buddha spent the highest number of his seasonal rainy retreats (24 rainy seasons) at Shravasti.

MCQ 62.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

The famous Topra Pillar (originally standing in Yamunanagar, Haryana) was carefully uprooted and transported to Delhi via the Yamuna River in the 14th century by Sultan Firoz Shah Tughlaq, not Akbar. Firoz Shah Tughlaq also brought the Meerut pillar to Delhi at the same time. The Sohgaura artifact is famously a pre-Ashokan/early Mauryan copper-plate inscription detailing famine relief rather than a rock edict.

MCQ 63.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

According to Census data, Ghaziabad is the most densely populated district in Uttar Pradesh (3,971 people per sq. km), while Lalitpur records the absolute lowest population density (242 people per sq. km).

MCQ 64.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

The traditional craft of ornamenting malleable metal sheets by hammering them from the reverse side to create low-relief patterns is centered around Varanasi. Practiced extensively by the local Kasera artisan community, this metalwork technique is locally known as "Khal Ubharka Kaam".

MCQ 65.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Mukaish (or Muqaish) is an iconic metal-embroidery craft explicitly native to Lucknow, not Meerut. It is intrinsically paired and used alongside Chikankari work to embellish thin textiles, not Pacchikari (which refers to Mughal marble stone inlay work). Fardi ka Kaam (creating small metallic dots or dashes) and Kamdari (weaving the wire into intricate, larger floral patterns) are the two primary and traditional design styles of Mukaish.

MCQ 66.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Legendary classical vocalist Girija Devi of the Banaras Gharana is universally revered as the undisputed "Queen of Thumri." She played an instrumental role in elevating regional, rustic folk songs like Kajari and Chaiti into highly sophisticated, classical concert hall performances.

MCQ 67.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Emperor Kanishka I of the Kushan Empire ruled from his primary capital at Purushapura (modern Peshawar) and established Mathura as his crucial second seat of power. He had no administrative connection to Kannauj; it was

King Harshavardhana who much later made Kannauj his royal capital.

MCQ 68.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

Harsha was honored in historical inscriptions as Saklottarashpathnath (Lord of the Entire North). The grand Kannauj Assembly was explicitly convoked to glorify and propagate Mahayana Buddhism, not Hinayana.

The famous Chinese pilgrim monk Hiuen Tsang presided over the academic deliberations at the Kannauj Assembly. The narrow assassination attempt on Harsha's life by radical Brahmins took place at the Kannauj Assembly, not during the quinquennial distribution ceremony at Prayag.

MCQ 69.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

In arts and crafts, Repousse is a specialized metalworking method where a malleable sheet of metal (copper, brass, or silver) is shaped and ornamented into high or low relief by meticulously hammering it from the reverse side.

MCQ 70.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

Deep ravines formed by gully erosion are heavily concentrated along the Yamuna and Chambal river systems in Etawah, Agra, and Jalaun. Arid wind erosion intensely affects the dry, southwestern border districts of Agra, Mathura, and Etawah. Excessive, unlined canal irrigation coupled with natural topography creates major waterlogging crises in the Terai belt. Mismanaged agricultural techniques and saline groundwater tables have turned vast areas of Western UP into alkaline/saline stretches known locally as Reh or Usar soils.

MCQ 71.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

The Bhadohi-Mirzapur-Varanasi cluster in Uttar Pradesh forms the largest handmade carpet weaving hub in the world. It traditionally contributes around 75% to 80% of India's total carpet exports and production, though several state-level industrial reports highlight its share peaking up to 90% for specific hand-knotted varieties.

MCQ 72.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

Kannauj is globally recognized as the "Perfume Capital of India" and its largest natural attar manufacturer. The unique

distillation process relies on copper stills, and the concentrated perfume oils are traditionally stored and aged inside buffalo/goat skin bottles (Kuppis), which absorb moisture and concentrate the fragrance. Khus (vetiver) and Keora (screwpine) are foundational natural ingredients harvested for these perfumes.

MCQ 73.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

The Lucknow Gharana of Kathak dance was founded by Ishwari Prasad, a devotee from Handia (Prayagraj), who established the style after a spiritual vision of Lord Krishna. The tradition was later developed and perfected by his descendants, including Prakash Ji, Maharaj Thakur Prasad, Bindadin Maharaj, Acchan Maharaj, and eventually Birju Maharaj.

MCQ 74.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

Farrukhabad is famous for its wooden block printing industry.

Mahoba is famous for processing radiant, white pyrophyllite stone.

Firozabad is the "Glass City" or Suhag Nagari of India.

Agra is famous for marble stone carving.

MCQ 75.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

The famous Gola Gokarannath Mela is held annually during the auspicious month of Shravan at the Gola Gokarannath Temple (often called the Chhoti Kashi) located in the Lakhimpur Kheri district.

MCQ 76.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

Deva Mela is celebrated at the shrine of Sufi Saint Haji Waris Ali Shah Barabanki.

Garhmukteshwar Mela, a massive holy bathing fair held on Kartik Purnima at Hapur.

Kalinjar Mela is Banda organized at the historic Kalinjar Fort.

Nauchandi Mela, a historic, colorful annual fair promoting communal harmony is held in Meerut.

MCQ 77.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

The Dashavatara Temple of Deogarh (also generalized as the Deogarh Stone Temple in Lalitpur) is a classic, pioneering early 6th-century stone temple known for its ornate shikhara. The Bhitargaon Brick Temple

(Kanpur) is one of the oldest surviving terraced brick temples from the mid-Gupta period (5th century). The Dhamek Stupa (Sarnath) was built during the Mauryan era but was completely encased and elaborately stone-carved in its current grand form during the Gupta period (6th century). The Bull represents his birth under the astrological Zodiac sign of Taurus (Vrishabha).

MCQ 78.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

The Baghelkhand Plateau does not receive the highest rainfall in Uttar Pradesh. The region with the highest rainfall in UP is Gorakhpur (located in the Terai region of northeastern UP), whereas the southern plateau zone generally receives lower or scanty rainfall.

MCQ 79.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Kapilvastu is associated with Buddha's father (King Shuddhodana ruled over the Shakya kingdom from Kapilvastu). Deodah (Devadaha) is the maternal home and birthplace of Buddha's mother, Queen Maya. Sarnath is where Buddha delivered his first sermon after attaining enlightenment, an event closely linked to his post-enlightenment activities.

MCQ 80.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Nagabhata II shifted his capital to Kannauj from Bhinmal/Ujjain after defeating the Ayudha rulers. Kannauj became the main seat of power for the Gurjara-Pratihara empire during his reign.

MCQ 81.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Bhabar: A narrow pebble-studded belt directly at the foothills of the Shivalik Himalayas.

Terai: A marshy, damp zone running parallel to and south of the Bhabar belt.

Gangetic Plain: The vast alluvial plains stretching across central Uttar Pradesh south of the Terai.

Vindhya Plateau: The rugged hilly and plateau region located at the southernmost boundary of the state.

MCQ 82.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

While Dhruwad originally used Sanskrit lyrics, its transition to Brij Bhasha (Brij) between the 12th and 16th centuries vastly contributed to the lyrical elegance and

sweetness of modern Dhrupad compositions.
Most historical compositions performed today are preserved in Brij Bhasha.

MCQ 83.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Panchkora toys (a unique type of traditional wooden craft) are natively made and heavily associated with the Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh, which is highly famous for its wood-carving cottage industry.

MCQ 84.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Birha is a highly popular folk-singing tradition of eastern Uttar Pradesh (Purvanchal) and Bihar. Its core themes pivot around viraha (the pain of separation), heroic tales of bravery, and day-to-day social struggles or contemporary events.

MCQ 85.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Rajyapala fled from Kannauj without fighting when Mahmud of Ghazni attacked the city in 1018 AD. He completely failed to resist the invader, which led to the sacking of the city.

MCQ 86.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Statement 1 is incorrect:

The Nashik Kumbh Mela takes place on the banks of the Godavari River (often revered as the Dakshina Ganga). The Shipra River is associated with the Ujjain Simhastha Kumbh Mela.

MCQ 87.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

The sacred Mandakini River (also referred to as the Paisuni River locally) flows through the heart of Chitrakoot, making it a major spiritual and pilgrimage destination.

MCQ 88.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

In Uttar Pradesh, Sikta (along with Kariyal and Dhanka) is a local name for the heavy loamy/clayey Domat soil typically found in the Terai region. The Bhabar region is instead dominated by coarse, porous soils packed with gravel, pebbles, and stones.

MCQ 89.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Sankisa (ancient Sankasya) located in the Farrukhabad district of UP is highly revered in Buddhism because Gautama Buddha is believed to have descended to Earth here from the Trayastrimsa (or Tushita) heaven after teaching the Dhamma to his mother. Emperor Ashoka marked this holy site by erecting a pillar capped by a famous elephant capital.

MCQ 90.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Assertion (A) is true because the monsoon winds enter UP from the east (via the Bay of Bengal branch) and progressively lose moisture as they move westward toward Delhi. However, Reason (R) is completely false because the Bay of Bengal branch—not the Arabian Sea branch—is the principal source of monsoon rainfall in Uttar Pradesh.

MCQ 91.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Sravasti (or Savatthi) served as the capital of the ancient Mahajanapada kingdom of Kosala during the 6th century BCE and is profoundly associated with the life of Gautama Buddha.

MCQ 92.

ANSWER: A

Bithoor is a holy town located on the banks of the Ganga, just on the outskirts of Kanpur. Bithoor is renowned for being home to the Maharshi Valmiki Ashram (where the epic Ramayana was written), not Maharshi Vyas.

MCQ 93.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

In 1182 CE, it was Prithviraj Chauhan (Prithviraj III) who defeated the Chandella ruler Paramardideva during his campaigns to expand the Chahamana territory. Nannuka founded the dynasty, their kingdom was famously called Jejakabhukti, and the legendary warrior brothers Alha and Udal served under Paramardideva.

MCQ 94.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

While Naimisharanya (Sitapur district) is extremely holy, it is primarily renowned as the sacred forest where Sage Ved Vyas composed the Puranas and where 88,000 sages performed mass penance. The specific site famously associated with Lord Vishnu's Varaha (Boar) incarnation is Soraon (Soron Shukar Kshetra) in Kasganj district, UP.

MCQ 95.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Sultan Hussain Shah Sharqi was a legendary patron and innovator of classical music. He is credited with creating the hybrid raga "Zunglah" by beautifully blending indigenous Indian notes with Perso-Arab musical scales.

MCQ 96.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

Archaeological excavations at Piprahwa in the Siddharthnagar district of Uttar Pradesh uncovered ancient stupas and reliquaries containing bone fragments, confirming its identity as the historical location of Kapilvastu, the childhood home and capital of Gautama Buddha's Shakya clan.

MCQ 97.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

According to the official UP Tourism Board's Wildlife Eco-Tourism Circuit, all four locations—Patna Bird Sanctuary (Etah), National Chambal Sanctuary, Kaimoor Wildlife Sanctuary, and Samaspur Bird Sanctuary—are formally incorporated under this circuit to promote biodiversity tourism.

MCQ 98.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION****Assertion (A) is incorrect:**

The subtropical jet stream shifts south of the Himalayas, steering western disturbances into North India. Hot Weather: Intense solar heating generates a prominent thermal low-pressure area over the Northern Plains. The continuous heating leads to the intensification and stabilization of the low-pressure belt (ITCZ), pulling in moisture-laden winds. As the sun shifts southward towards winter, the low-pressure zone shifts south toward the Bay of Bengal.

MCQ 99.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

Jayachandra (Jaichand) of the Gahadavala dynasty had notoriously strained, hostile, and bitter relations with Prithviraj Chauhan, culminating in traditional accounts of Prithviraj eloping with Jayachandra's daughter, Samyukta.

MCQ 100.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

Following the defeat in the Battle of Buxar, the Treaty of Allahabad (1765) firmly brought Awadh under British diplomatic and military influence. Shuja-ud-Daula did not retain Kora and Allahabad; the British stripped these two

territories away from Awadh and handed them over to the Mughal Emperor, Shah Alam II.

MCQ 101.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

Brijghat, situated right on the banks of the river Ganga in the Hapur district, is widely referred to as the "Haridwar of Uttar Pradesh" due to its major spiritual significance, continuous stream of pilgrims, and religious bathing rituals.

Note: Garhmukteshwar is the broader ancient town, but the specific site officially labeled with this epithet is its riverbank ghat, Brijghat.

MCQ 102.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Safdar Jung did not found the independent state of Awadh. The state was founded by his maternal uncle and father-in-law, Saadat Khan (Burhan-ul-Mulk) in 1722. Safdar Jung was the second Nawab of Awadh. He became the imperial Wazir under Ahmad Shah Bahadur and held the governorship of Kashmir.

MCQ 103.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Statement 1 is incorrect:

The Ken-Betwa Link Project is India's first major inter-state river interlinking initiative. It transfers surplus water from the Ken basin to the water-stressed Betwa basin, requires a 221 to 230-km long link canal (including tunnels), and specifically benefits the drought-prone Bundelkhand region encompassing the districts of Jhansi, Banda, Mahoba, and Lalitpur, among others.

MCQ 104.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Assertion (A) is false because Jaunpur is an inland city located on the Gomti River, not a maritime (sea) trading hub. The title "Shiraz of India" (Shiraz-e-Hind) was given because of its academic prominence.

MCQ 105.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

The Ganga-Yamuna Doab refers to the highly fertile tract of land situated between the parallel courses of the Ganga and Yamuna rivers. Geographically, it starts at the foothills of the Himalayas in Saharanpur (where the rivers enter the plains) and extends all the way down to their holy confluence (Sangam) in Prayagraj.

MCQ 106.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Wajid Ali Shah did not shift the capital. It was Nawab Asaf-ud-Daula who shifted the capital of the Awadh kingdom from Faizabad to Lucknow in 1775. Asaf-ud-Daula built the Rumi Darwaza and promoted Lucknow's court culture, while Wajid Ali Shah used the pen-name "Akhtarpiya" for his thumri compositions.

MCQ 107.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

The Mahaparinirvana Temple is situated in Kushinagar, Uttar Pradesh. It houses a famous 6.10-metre-long recumbent statue of Gautama Buddha, marking the exact historical site where he attained Mahaparinirvana.

MCQ 108.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

Under the specific sub-schemes of the state's Spiritual Tourism Development projects (such as the Spiritual Circuit under Swadesh Darshan), target destinations are distinct from the Buddhist Circuit (which covers Kushinagar) or the Gorakhnath Circuit. Vindhyachal (Mirzapur) and Bithoor (Kanpur) are explicitly paired under spiritual revitalisation plans for non-Buddhist religious/heritage infrastructures.

MCQ 109.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

Bhabar is narrow belt at the Himalayan foothills consisting of porous pebble, gravel, and stone deposits where streams submerge underground.

Terai is located south of Bhabar, characterized by the re-emergence of rivers, creating a marshy, damp, and thickly forested zone.

Bhangar represents the older alluvium system deposited away from the floodplains, forming alluvial terraces.

MCQ 110.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

Assertion (A) is false because Uttar Pradesh does not rank second; it ranks first (1st) in India for the maximum total net area irrigated by canals. The net area under canal irrigation in Uttar Pradesh sits right around 2.166 to 2.48 million hectares (approx 17% of the state's gross irrigated territory).

MCQ 111.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION****Statement 2 is incorrect:**

Following the Treaty of Purandar (1665), Mirza Raja Jai Singh I of Amber convinced Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj to visit the Mughal imperial court at Agra to meet Emperor Aurangzeb, personally guaranteeing his safety.

MCQ 112.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

The Uttar Pradesh Tourism Policy explicitly identifies all four locations for targeted adventure sports infrastructure: Bundelkhand and Chitrakoot for trekking/rock climbing, Sonbhadra for eco-adventure excursions, and Ramgarh Tal (Gorakhpur) for advanced water sports and boating activities.

MCQ 113.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

The Battle of Dharmat (1658) was actually fought between Aurangzeb's combined forces and the Imperial Mughal Army led by Maharaja Jaswant Singh of Marwar and Kasim Khan (who were sent on behalf of Shah Jahan to stop Aurangzeb). Dara Shikoh did not personally fight at Dharmat; he commanded the forces later at the Battle of Samugarh.

MCQ 114.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Hasrat Mohani (Syed Fazl-ul-Hasan) was born in the town of Mohan in Unnao district.

Swami Sahajanand Saraswati (the iconic peasant leader) was born in Deva, Ghazipur district.

Lal Bahadur Shastri (the second Prime Minister of India) was born in Mughalsarai (now Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Nagar).

Rafi Ahmed Kidwai (prominent freedom fighter and politician) belonged to Masauli in Barabanki district.

MCQ 115.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

The Samaspur Bird Sanctuary (Lake) is located precisely in the Raebareli district of Uttar Pradesh. The Sarsai Nawar Jheel is located in Etawah, Saman Bird Sanctuary is located in Mainpuri, and Parvati Arga Lakes are located in Gonda.

MCQ 116.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

The prominent eco-tourism zones, national parks, and extensive biosphere habitats—such as the Dudhwa National Park and its adjacent wet swampy forest ecosystems—are entirely

situated in the Tarai (Terai) Region along the Indo-Nepal border of northern Uttar Pradesh.

MCQ 117.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Ramgarh Tal is a massive natural lake covering an area of around 1,700 acres, located right on the outskirts of Gorakhpur city. It has been systematically developed by the state government as a flagship hub for international water sports, boating, and lakeside tourism.

MCQ 118.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Vijay Singh Pathik (originally named Bhoop Singh, celebrated as the "Father of the Peasant Movement in India") was actually born in Guthawali village, Bulandshahr district, Uttar Pradesh.

MCQ 119.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Mahoba (the historical capital of the Chandela dynasty), rather than Banda, is universally famous across Bundelkhand for its magnificent series of ancient stone lakes (such as Kirat Sagar, Madan Sagar, and Rahila Sagar) constructed by the Chandela kings.

MCQ 120.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

According to local tradition and historical gazetteers, Sultanpur was originally founded by and named Kusapura or Kushabhavanpur after Kush, the son of Lord Rama. It is widely revered in text traditions as his birthplace and early capital.

MCQ 121.

ANSWER: D

EXPLANATION

Around 85% to 90% of UP's annual precipitation hits during the Southwest monsoon season. As the monsoonal winds head inland from east to west, rain volumes decrease and variability increases significantly. Gorakhpur (located in the eastern Terai margins) reliably charts the highest average annual rainfall (around 184 cm). Mathura (on the dry western fringes bordering Rajasthan) records the lowest average annual rainfall (around 54 cm).

MCQ 122.

ANSWER: B

EXPLANATION

The Son River Basin drops down through the rugged, rocky terrain of Sonbhadra and Mirzapur districts in the Southern Vindhyan

plateau. It is structurally characterized by hard red gravelly soils and forest land, rather than expansive "fertile plains".

MCQ 123.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

The famous annual Dewa Mela (fair) is held in Barabanki district, not Bijnor.

MCQ 124.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Assi Ghat is situated at the southernmost end, marking the confluence of the Assi River and the Ganga.

Dashashwamedh Ghat, main spiritual heartbeat, globally famous for its spectacular daily evening Ganga Aarti.

Manikarnika Ghat, highly sacred Hindu cremation and funeral pyre ghat.

Man Mandir Ghat is noted for its magnificent palace architecture built by Raja Man Singh, featuring an ancient astronomical stone observatory built later by Sawai Jai Singh II.

MCQ 125.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Maulvi Liaquat Ali reeled in as a prominent leader of the 1857 Uprising based out of Prayagraj (Allahabad).

Ashfaqullah Khan & Ram Prasad Bismil both legendary freedom fighters and Kakori train robbery masterminds hailed from Shahjahanpur.

Chittu Pandey famously called the "Tiger of Ballia", he declared a parallel independent government in Ballia during the Quit India Movement of 1942.

MCQ 126.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Naimisharanya (Sitapur) is heavily highlighted in the Uttar Pradesh Tourism Policy to undergo rapid development under the Spiritual Tourism Circuit (Vedic Heritage and Eco-Religious corridors) to upgrade pilgrim amenities and preserve the holy forest region.

MCQ 127.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

Under the state's initiative to boost regional eco-tourism and adventure water sports, the Chittorgarh Reservoir (Chittorgarh Tal) has been specifically developed for kayaking, boating, and aquatic recreation in the Balrampur district of eastern Uttar Pradesh.

MCQ 128.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

Durgawati Devi (fondly remembered as Durga Bhabhi) was actually born in Shahzadpur village, which historically fell under the Allahabad district layout but is now located in the modern-day Kaushambi district of Uttar Pradesh. She married to revolutionary Bhagwati Charan Vohra, and her pivotal role in helping Bhagat Singh escape Lahore.

MCQ 129.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION****Statement 3 is incorrect:**

Govind Ballabh Pant Sagar is a massive man-made reservoir located in the Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh and is officially recognized as the largest artificial lake in India by surface area. The reason is perfectly accurate and directly explains the assertion, as this massive body of water was created by impounding the Rihand River behind the Rihand Dam at Pipri.

MCQ 130.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

Darul Uloom Deoband was founded in 1866 by Islamic scholars Muhammad Qasim

Nanautavi and Rashid Ahmad Gangohi as part of the orthodox Deoband Movement. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, by contrast, championing modern Western scientific education, was the founder of the Aligarh Movement and the MAO College. He founded the Scientific Society in 1864–1865 and launched the famous Urdu journal Tehjib-ul-Akhlaq.

MCQ 131.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

The Agra Canal originates directly from the Okhla Barrage across the Yamuna River in Delhi. The Upper Ganga Canal originates at Haridwar (Bhimgoda Barrage), not Narora.

Lower Ganga Canal originates at Narora Barrage, not Bhimgoda.

Sharda Canal originates from the Sharda River at Banbasa (Uttarakhand/Nepal border), not Hathnikund on the Yamuna.

MCQ 132.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

Baba Ramchandra led the peasant movement in Awadh and established the Awadh Kisan Sabha in 1920.

Madari Pasi headed the militant peasant Eka Movement (Unity Movement) in northern districts of Awadh in 1921.



Sir Syed Ahmad Khan set up the Scientific Society to translate Western works into vernacular text.

Muhammad Qasim Nanautvi co-founded the Deoband Movement and its landmark seminary.

MCQ 133.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar explicitly stated that the DPSPs are like the 'Instrument of Instructions' issued to the Governor-General and Governors by the British Government under the GoI Act of 1935.

The framers borrowed DPSPs from the Irish Constitution of 1937, which had originally adapted them from the Spanish Constitution.

Constitutional experts like Granville Austin termed the Fundamental Rights and DPSPs as the "Conscience of the Constitution".

MCQ 134.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

Ramgarh Taal, located in the Gorakhpur district, is a large natural bowl-shaped lake that was geologically formed when the Rapti River shifted its natural course over time, creating a massive oxbow-like water retention zone.

MCQ 135.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

Bakht Khan was a prominent military commander of the Indian rebel forces during the Revolt of 1857, not the Governor-General of India (Warren Hastings was the first Governor-General of Bengal, and Lord William Bentinck was the first Governor-General of India). Bakht Khan was born in Bijnor, Begum Hazrat Mahal famously led the 1857 uprising from Lucknow, and Jhalkari Bai was a fierce warrior who served in Rani Lakshmibai's women's army (Durga Dal).

MCQ 136.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

Kajari is a legendary rainy season folk song originating from Mirzapur and popular across Varanasi, while Birha is a mainstream folk genre of eastern UP (Purvanchal).

Rasiya, however, is traditionally rooted in the love stories of Radha and Krishna from the Braj land.

MCQ 137.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit became the first woman President of the UN General Assembly.

Sucheta Kriplani was the first woman Chief Minister of an Indian state.

Sarojini Naidu served as Governor of Uttar Pradesh.

Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit was born in Allahabad.

MCQ 138.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

Acharya Narendra Dev taught at Kashi Vidyapith as its principal/vice-chancellor. He helped establish the Congress Socialist Party. He participated in the Quit India Movement. He was imprisoned during the movement. He was influenced by Sri Aurobindo and Bal Gangadhar Tilak.

MCQ 139.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

While the Lucknow Gharana (perfected by Nawab Wajid Ali Shah and artists like Pandit Birju Maharaj) is the most celebrated school of Kathak, the classical dance style itself did not originate in Lucknow. It grew out of the ancient community of nomadic storytellers

(Kathakars) performing in temples across the broader Indo-Gangetic plain.

MCQ 140.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

Mangal Pandey did not launch the revolt at Meerut. He initiated his famous mutinous act on 29 March 1857 at the Barrackpore cantonment (near Kolkata, West Bengal) by attacking British officers. The mutiny at Meerut broke out later on 10 May 1857. He belonged to Nagwa village in Ballia district, served in the 34th Bengal Native Infantry, and was hanged at Barrackpore on 8 April 1857.

MCQ 141.**ANSWER: D****EXPLANATION**

Dhan Singh Gurjar led the historic initial outbreak on 10 May 1857 at Meerut.

Rao Umrao Singh Bhati led the anti-colonial resistance in Dadri, Gautam Buddha Nagar.

Bandhu Singh, Guerrilla leader who fought British forces from Dumri Riyasat in Gorakhpur.

Rao Kadam Singh led the revolutionary charge at Parichhatgarh, Meerut.

MCQ 142.**ANSWER: D**

EXPLANATION

All four revolutionary freedom fighters—Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqullah Khan, Roshan Singh, and Rajendra Lahiri—were given the death sentence by the British government for their involvement in the historic Kakori Train Robbery (1925). They were hanged in December 1927 across different prisons in Uttar Pradesh.

MCQ 143.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

Lucknow – Begum Hazrat Mahal Kanpur – Nana Sahib Allahabad – Maulvi Liaquat Ali Bareilly – Khan Bahadur Khan

MCQ 144.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

The United Provinces (UP) Kisan Sabha was formed in February 1918 by Gauri Shankar Mishra and Indra Narayan Dwivedi. Baba Ramchandra was a prominent leader of the movement later on and founded the Awadh Kisan Sabha in October 1920. Prominent nationalist leader Madan Mohan Malaviya actively backed and supported the formation of the UP Kisan Sabha.

MCQ 145.**ANSWER: B****EXPLANATION**

Kapilvastu – Childhood home of Siddhartha (Gautama Buddha)

Shringverpur – The ancient capital of the Nishadraj Kingdom (associated with Lord Rama's exile)

Bithoor – Associated with the hermitage of Sage Valmiki where Lav and Kush were born

Hastinapur – Capital city of the Kuru Kingdom belonging to the Pandavas and Kauravas

MCQ 146.**ANSWER: C****EXPLANATION**

Naqaal (or Naqal) is a traditional folk theatre/art form (most popular in regions like Punjab and parts of Uttar Pradesh) derived from the Persian word for "imitation" or "mimicry". It is widely characterized by humorous, witty, and satirical storytelling based on daily realities, current events, and the lives of common people.

MCQ 147.**ANSWER: A****EXPLANATION**

Rani Lakshmibai's original childhood name was indeed Manikarnika (fondly called Manu). She successfully captured the Gwalior Fort alongside the famous general Tatya Tope,

her political accomplice during that specific final campaign was Nana Sahib's nephew, Rao Sahib, rather than Nana Sahib himself.

MCQ 148.

ANSWER: A

EXPLANATION

As the semi-arid, rocky Bundelkhand plateau actually struggles with a lack of extensive perennial canal systems, which are instead most dense in the flat alluvial plains of Western and Central UP.

MCQ 149.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Moti Masjid is located inside the Agra Fort.

Angoori Mahal is located inside the Agra Fort.

Anup Talao is located at Fatehpur Sikri.

Hiran Minar is located at Fatehpur Sikri.

MCQ 150.

ANSWER: C

EXPLANATION

Kajari is a beautifully soulful and rhythmic classical-folk genre of Uttar Pradesh (highly popular in Mirzapur and Varanasi) that is exclusively sung to welcome the arrival of the refreshing Monsoon season and rainy clouds.