

10. Political Situation in the 18th Century

Worksheet 1

A Fill in the blanks:

1. Bahadur Shah I tried to undo the _____ of Aurangzeb.
2. Farrukhsiyar appointed _____ as the Governor of Bengal in 1717.
3. Under Safdarjang, Awadh extended up to _____ and _____.
4. Nizam-ul-Mulk founded the _____ dynasty.
5. The small groups of Sikhs, called _____, were united by Maharaja _____.
6. Hyder Ali took control of Mysore from the _____ rulers.
7. Sawai Raja Jai Singh built observatories at _____, _____, _____, _____ and _____.
8. The famous leader of the Jats was _____.
9. Shivaji took the title of _____ and laid the foundation of the Maratha kingdom at _____.
10. The rule of Peshwas was established by _____.

B Answer the following questions:

1. Who were the Ashta Pradhan who advised Shivaji?

2. What was the Maratha confederacy?

3. What were the reasons for the decline of the Marathas?

ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET I



- A. 1. reactionary policies 2. Murshid Quli Khan 3. Rohilkhand; Lucknow
4. Nizam Shahi 5. Mils; Ranjit Singh 6. Wodeyar
7. Jaipur; Delhi; Ujjain; Mathura; Banaras 8. Suraj Mal
9. Chhatrapati; Raigarh 10. Balaji Vishwanath
- B. 1. The king's council of eight ministers was called Ashta Pradhans and consisted of Peshwa [Mukhya mantri]; Senapati [Commander-in-Chief]; Panditrao [Minister for Religion]; Sachiva [Minister for Royal Correspondence]; Nyayadhish [Chief Justice]; Mazumdar [Minister of Finance and Revenue]; Dabir [Minister of Foreign Affairs]; and Mantri [Home Minister], under whom were Prants, Tarafs, Mawas and villages.
2. The Maratha confederacy was formed with the Peshwa at its head and consisted of the Gaekwads of Baroda, Bhonsles of Nagpur, Holkars of Indore and Scindhias of Gwalior.
3. The reasons Marathas declined was because they fought for personal gain and failed to unite; they did not have proper control over their vast kingdom; the taxes Chauth and Sardeshmukhi caused dissatisfaction; guerrilla warfare was suitable only for hilly regions; the Rajputs, Jats and Sikhs did not like surprise attacks and looting; and the Marathas did not concentrate on agriculture and trade.

Worksheet 2

- A On a map of India, mark the following places: Raigarh, Indore, Nagpur, Gwalior, Baroda, Panipat, Murshidabad, Hyderabad, Awadh, Jaipur, Ujjain, Banaras, Delhi, Mathura and Mysore.



ANSWERS TO WORKSHEET 2

- A. Students may refer to an atlas to locate and mark the places.