

CH 3 REGIONAL POWERS

F. Give reason.

1. Trade routes, learning centres, and shared religious traditions kept India culturally connected.
2. It lay in the fertile Ganga valley and on important trade routes.
3. They supported Mahayana Buddhism and promoted learning and monasteries.
4. They defended India from Arab invasions from the north-west.
5. They handled irrigation, land revenue, and justice locally.
6. Art, literature, education, and culture flourished widely.

G. Short answers.

1. Due to weak rulers, internal problems, and foreign invasions
2. Court poet of Harsha and author of Harshacharita
3. It was a great centre of learning with thousands of students
4. Palas, Gurjara-Pratiharas, Rashtrakutas
5. Expanded his kingdom; patronised learning and culture
6. They governed local areas and supplied soldiers and resources
7. It increased wealth and economic growth
8. They were centres of faith, learning, and social life
9. Pandyas and Cheras
10. Philosophy, medicine, logic, grammar, mathematics, astronomy, and religion

H. Long answers.

1. Harsha ruled from Kannauj and expanded his kingdom across north India. He was a capable administrator and military leader. He supported scholars, wrote Sanskrit plays, encouraged religious tolerance, and promoted art and culture. His reign saw peace, prosperity, and learning.
2. The Palas, Pratiharas, and Rashtrakutas fought for Kannauj due to its strategic and economic importance. Continuous wars weakened them and increased political fragmentation.
3. They promoted Mahayana Buddhism, supported universities like Nalanda, encouraged trade, and made Bengal a centre of education, art, and culture.
4. They ruled the Deccan with a strong army and took part in northern politics. They showed religious tolerance and promoted art and literature. They built the Kailasa Temple.
5. Bhakti emphasised devotion and equality. Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism flourished. Religion united people and encouraged temple and monastery activities.
6. Trade and education connected India with China, Southeast Asia, and the Arab world. Ideas, goods, and knowledge spread widely.
7. Chalukyas built temples at Badami, Aihole, Pattadakal. Pallavas built rock-cut temples and rathas at Mahabalipuram, influencing Dravidian architecture.
8. Village assemblies managed irrigation, land revenue, and justice, giving villages self-governance.
9. Universities flourished. Subjects like mathematics, astronomy, medicine, logic, and literature were taught. Scholars came from foreign lands.
10. Despite political division, art, architecture, religion, literature, and education developed greatly.
11. Trade routes increased wealth, supported ports, improved economy, and strengthened kingdoms.