

Past-paper walk-through

Empires: Belief Systems ■ 3.3

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 1 Q3
- 2024 Set 1 Q1

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 3

2025 Set 1 ■ Q3

Respond to parts A, B, and C.

(a) Identify one technological or military factor that contributed to the expansion of Muslim empires such as the Ottoman, Safavid, or Mughal Empires during the period circa 1300 to 1600.

(b) Explain one way that Muslim rulers during the period circa 1300 to 1600 used economic policies to generate revenue for their states or empires.

(c) Explain one reason why some Muslim rulers during the period circa 1300 to 1600 adopted tolerant policies toward religious or ethnic minorities in their states or empires.

Solution 3

(a)

Mark scheme

- Identify one technological or military factor that contributed to the expansion of Muslim empires such as the Ottoman, Safavid, or Mughal Empires during the period circa 1300 to 1600. (1 point) — accept any: Gunpowder weapons (like cannons) contributed to the expansion of Muslim empires.; Increasing centralization of the military, including standing armies, helped Muslim empires expand during the period circa 1300 to 1600.; New military and bureaucratic recruitment methods, such as the Janissaries, helped Muslim empires like the Ottomans expand.

Solution 3

(b) Mark scheme

- Explain one way that Muslim rulers during the period circa 1300 to 1600 used economic policies to generate revenue for their states or empires. (1 point) — accept any: Many Muslim rulers addressed the financial needs of their expanding empires by adopting various policies of tax-farming to increase revenues and ensure that tax revenues were collected.; Some Muslim rulers used tribute collection as a means for both increasing revenue and controlling vassal states that had been defeated but not incorporated.; Many Muslim rulers used innovative tax policies, including appointing tax officials (Mughal zamindars) or allowing local community leaders to collect the taxes for their entire community or

Solution 3

locale. In other instances, Muslim rulers monetized taxes that had previously been collected in kind.

Solution 3

(c) Mark scheme

- Explain one reason why some Muslim rulers during the period circa 1300 to 1600 adopted tolerant policies toward religious or ethnic minorities in their states or empires. (1 point) — accept any: Some Muslim rulers adopted policies of tolerance towards religious minorities in their empires because it incited fewer revolts, which also helped establish the legitimacy of the rulers.; Muslim rulers wanted to utilize the economic contributions of their minority populations, for example the jiziya taxes paid by non-Muslims, or the luxury goods traded by Greek, Armenian, or Jewish merchants.; Muslim rulers wanted to utilize the military contributions of their minority populations, as seen, for example, in the Mughal use of Hindu Rajput warrior groups, or in the Ottoman use of Janissary

Solution 3

troops recruited from its Christian minority groups.; Muslim rulers wanted to utilize the political contributions of their minority groups, as seen in the Ottoman sultans' use of prominent members of the Greek community in the empire as provincial governors, or the Mughal emperors' use of Hindu political advisors and ministers.

Question 1

2024 Set 1 ■ Q1

“Under the Mughals, Hindus and Muslims interacted in economics, politics, social life, the arts, and culture. Through migration and conversion, the Muslim population of India grew from about 400,000 in 1200, . . . to 12.8 million in 1535, to perhaps 50 million by 1800. Muslim scholars and Sufi religious mystics and saints migrated to India from Iran, Turkey, and Central Asia. Some came in search of government jobs, others for new cultural opportunities, to study, or to spread their own beliefs. Some of the best poets immigrated from Persia. Similarly, imperial court painters, who produced masterpieces in the Persian and Mughal miniature styles, interacted with painters of the Rajput schools in local Hindu courts across north India, resulting in artistic innovations in both. On the level of mystical belief and experience, an astonishing syncretism emerged between Hindus and Muslims, especially in the poetry of Kabir [died circa 1520] and of Guru Nanak (1469–1538), the originator of the Sikh

Question 1

religion. Mystics in the two communities, Hindu bhakti (devotional) worshippers and Muslim Sufis, frequently had warm personal relations and often attracted followers from each others' communities." Howard Spodek and Michele Langford Louro, United States historians, article published in a scholarly journal, 2007

Using the excerpt, respond to parts a, b, and c.

- (a)** Identify ONE claim that the authors make in the first paragraph.
- (b)** Identify ONE piece of evidence that the authors use to support their claims about cultural interactions between Hindus and Muslims as described in the second paragraph.
- (c)** Explain ONE reason why Mughal rulers in the period circa 1450–1750 would have encouraged the interactions described in the passage.

Solution 1

(a)

Mark scheme

- Identify ONE claim that the authors make in the first paragraph. (1 point) — accept any: Hindus and Muslims interacted in many different ways, including economics, politics, social life, the arts, and culture.; The Muslim population of India grew substantially between 1200 and 1800.; Muslim scholars and Sufis migrated to India from Iran, Turkey, and Central Asia.; Some of the best poets migrated from Persia to India.

Solution 1

(b)

Mark scheme

- Identify ONE piece of evidence that the authors use to support their claims about cultural interactions between Hindus and Muslims as described in the second paragraph. (1 point) — accept any: Interactions between imperial court painters and Rajput painters resulted in artistic innovations.; The poetry of Kabir and Nanak contributed to Hindu, Muslim, and Sikh cultural syncretism.; Interactions between Muslim and Hindu mystics attracted followers from other religious communities.

Solution 1

(c)

Mark scheme

- Explain ONE reason why Mughal rulers in the period circa 1450–1750 would have encouraged the interactions described in the passage. (1 point) — accept any: Mughal rulers wanted to keep their non-Muslim subjects from rebelling.; Mughal rulers believed that encouraging close relations between Muslims and non-Muslims would likely lead Hindus to accept Mughal rule.; Mughal rulers believed that encouraging close relations between Muslims and non-Muslims could help expand Mughal power by utilizing the economic, political, and military contributions of their full population.