



Class: VI

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Subject: SST (History)

L4: What Books and Burials Tell Us

1. Complete the sentences:

(a) Slaves were used for

Answer: work.

(b) Megaliths are found in

Answer: (b) the Deccan, South India, in the north-east and Kashmir.

(c) Stone circles or boulders on the surface were used to —

Answer: (c) indicate the burial sites.

(d) Port-holes were used for ———

Answer: (d) bringing dead bodies into the graves.

(e) People at Inamgaon ate————

Answer: (e) Fruits (ber, amla, jamun, etc.),cereals (seeds of wheat, barley, rice, etc) and meat.

Question 2. In what ways are the books we read today different from the Rigveda?

Answer. The books we use today are written, printed and read, whereas Rigveda (It is the oldest of all Vedas and is supposed to have been composed about 3,500 years ago) was recited and heard and passed on from one generation to another. It was written down several centuries after it was first composed and printed less than 200 years ago. It provides most of the information regarding the early Vedic period.

Question 3. What kind of evidence from burials do archaeologists use to find out whether there were social differences amongst those who were buried?

Answer: Archaeologists have found burial places which help them to reconstruct the past and tell about the society. At Brahmagiri, the archaeologists have found a skeleton buried with 33 gold beads, 2 stone beads, 4 copper bangles and one conch shell. Some skeletons were buried with more pots while, other skeletons have only a few pots. These findings suggest that there was some difference in status amongst the people who were buried.

Question 4. In what ways do you think that the life of a raja was different from that of a dasa or dasi?

Answer. ‘Raja’ was the king of the community having highest position, whereas the ‘dasa’/’dasi’ was the lowest position in society. The ‘dasas’/’dasis’ were slaves who were

used for work. They were captured in war. They were treated as the property of their owners.

Extra Questions-

Question 1. Name the four Vedas.

Answer: The four Vedas are:

1. Rigveda
2. Samaveda
3. Yajurveda
4. Atharvaveda.

Question 2. Why were battles fought in the Vedic period?

Answer: In the Vedic Period Battles were fought for various reasons-

- To capture cattle,
- They also fought for land, which was important for pasture and for growing crops.
- Some battles were fought for water and
- To capture people.

Question 3. Which gods are specifically given importance in the Rigveda?

Answer: Three gods are specifically important:

1. Agni: the god of fire
2. Indra: a warrior god and
3. Soma: a plant from which a special drink was prepared.