

C. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words each :

Q. 1. What kind of trees and animals were found in the desert of Marwar?

मारवाड़ के रेगिस्तान में किस तरह के वृक्ष तथा जानवर पाये जाते थे?

Ans. In the desert of Marwar the land was covered by thousands upon the thousands of Khejdi trees, and there was plenty of ber, ker and sangri. These plains were home to thousands of antelopes, blackbucks, chinkara and nilgai.

Q. 2. Who were the original residents of Marwar?

मारवाड़ के मूल निवासी कौन थे?

Ans. The original residents of Marwar were Bhils. About 3000 years ago foreign invaders attacked Marwar. The Bhils resisted their encroachment. Some of the invaders spread into Marwar. In 13 century the Rathore of Kannauj conquered Bhils.

Q. 3. How was the vegetation of Marwar affected?

मारवाड़ की वनस्पति कैसे प्रभावित हुई थी?

Ans. The large herds of cattle began to affect the vegetation of Marwar. The seedlings and saplings were grazed down and had little chance to grow. Trees were hacked for fuel, fodder etc.

Q. 4. Who conquered the Bhils finally and became the ruler of the whole Marwar?

किन्होंने भीलों को आखिरकार जीत लिया तथा सम्पूर्ण मारवाड़ के शासक बन गये?

Ans. The Rathores of Kannauj finally conquered the Bhils in the thirteenth century A.D. They became the ruler of the whole Marwar. The Bhils did not have horses and superior war weapons.

Q. 5. What were the names of the parents of Jambaji?

जाम्बाजी के माता-पिता के नाम क्या थे?

Ans. Jambaji's father was the headman Thakur Lohat and his mother's name was Hamsadevi. He was an extraordinary child. He was born in the village Pipasar of Marwar in the reign of Rao Jodhaji.

Q. 6. What was the most fascinating and enthralling thing for Jambaji?

जाम्बाजी के लिए सर्वाधिक आकर्षक तथा मन्त्रमुग्धकारी चीज क्या थी?

Ans. To take the animals out for grazing, lie in the shade of a khejdi tree, watch the herds of black buck and the lithe grace of handsome antelopes and see the fight between two well-grown stages was most fascinating and enthralling thing for him.

Q. 7. What were the two major commandments of Jambaji's message?

जाम्बाजी के सन्देश के दो मुख्य ईश्वरीय आदेश क्या थे?

Ans. Jambaji's message included twenty nine basic tenets. His two major commandments were a prohibition against the cutting down of any green tree and the killing of any animal. Humanity and respect for all living things were eagerly accepted.

Q. 8. Why were Bishnois called by this name?

बिश्नोइयों को इस नाम से क्यों पुकारा जाने लगा?

Ans. The Bishnois were called by this name because they adhered to Jambaji's twenty nine precepts. Bishnoi means twenty-niners. Bis means twenty and noi means nine.

Q. 9. What is the use of lime kilns?

चूने के भट्टों का क्या प्रयोग होता है?

Ans. Lime stones are cured in lime kilns. Cured lime stones are used to prepare mortar to construct stone walls. Lime stones are heated in lime kilns with tree-wood. Trees have to be hacked for this purpose.

Q. 10. Why did Diwan send his men to Khejadali?

दीवान ने अपने आदमियों को खेजड़ली क्यों भेजा?

Ans. Diwan sent his men to Khejadali because the construction of a beautiful palace for the king needed a lot of lime. For which plenty of lime stones and wood were needed. These were available in Khejadali.

Q. 11. What promise did Abhay Singh make to Bishnois?

अभय सिंह ने बिश्नोइयों से क्या वादा किया?

Ans. Abhay Singh promised neither to cut any green trees near Khejadali nor to hunt any animal in the vicinity of the village. Bishnois religious principles would be fully respected.

Q. 12. What was written on the inscription presented to Bishnois?

बिश्नोइयों को सौंपे गये उत्कीर्णन पर क्या लिखा था?

Ans. Henceforth, the inscription said, no green tree would ever be cut near Bishnoi village nor would any animals be hunted in their vicinity. This was written on the inscription presented to Bishnois.

D. Answer the following questions in 60 words each :

Q. 1. What disaster did Marwar face when Jambaji was twenty five years old?

जब जाम्बाजी 25 वर्ष के थे तब मारवाड़ ने किस विपत्ति का सामना किया था?

Ans. When Jambaji was twenty-five years old, rainfall, that used to be already scarce, stopped completely. The drought continued for eight consecutive years. The cattle and people both suffered greatly. People ate Khejdi pods and flour of dried ber seeds when grain stocks were exhausted. The starving cattle died and people hunted the last of the blackbucks.

Q. 2. How did Jambaji's teachings affect the villagers?

जाम्बाजी की शिक्षाओं ने ग्रामीणों पर कैसे प्रभाव डाला?

Ans. His teachings prompted the inhabitants of hundreds of villages to reclothe the earth with its green cover. They preserved the trees around their villages. They protected black bucks, chinkara, peafowl and all other birds and animals. Gradually their territory became covered by trees. Their cattle had abundant browse. Their land recovered its fertility. The Bishnois became prosperous people. Amritadevi and others sacrificed their lives for trees.

Q. 3. What did Bishnois sacrifice their lives for?

बिश्नोइयों ने किस उद्देश्य के लिए अपने जीवन का बलिदान कर दिया?

Ans. Bishnois sacrificed their lives to save khejadi trees from being cut down in Khejadli village. The Dewan of the king of Marwar with his men was adamant to cut down khejadis. Amritadevi and other Bishnoi followers of Jambaji clung to the khejadis. The fumed Dewan ordered to cut down the Bishnois with the trees. Initially Amritadevi and her three daughters were cut down. Then more Bishnois clung to the trees. Total 363 Bishnois sacrificed their lives for protecting khejadis.

Q. 4. How did Bishnois save the trees?

बिश्नोइयों ने वृक्षों को कैसे बचाया?

Ans. Bishnois saved the trees by clinging to them. Amritadevi and her three daughters clung to the trees to stop the Dewan's men to cut them down. But the cruel Dewan's men cut them down with the trees. More Bishnois clung to the trees. They were also cut down. Altogether 363 Bishnois sacrificed their lives to guard their sacred heritage. Thousands of Bishnois came there to help their brave brothers and sisters. The king and his men felt sorry.

Q. 5. Why were Abhay Singh's men frightened?

अभय सिंह के आदमी क्यों डर गये थे?

Ans. Abhay Singh's men were frightened because they had never imagined that the situation could take such an ugly turn. They rushed back to the king to report about the

incident. The king was worried. He personally went to Khejadli on horseback to mend matters. He assured the weeping, agonised mass of thousands of Bishnois to respect their religious principles fully. He inscribed his promise on a copper plate.

Q. 6. What made Abhay Singh visit Khejadali?

किस परिस्थिति ने अभयसिंह को खेजड़ली का दौरा कराया?

Ans. Abhay Singh saw clearly that the might which had successfully challenged the power of Aurangzeb could do nothing in the face of such moral courage. The moral courage to sacrifice lives to guard sacred heritage made Abhay Singh visit Khejadali. He wanted to mend matters with Bishnois. He wanted to assuage the agonised mass of thousands of Bishnois. He wanted to convey that all their religious principles would be respected.

Q. 7. What do you learn from this tale?

आप इस कहानी से क्या सीखते हैं?

Ans. We learn many things from this tale. The followers of Jambaji are called Bishnois. The Bishnois are brave and true to their religion. The Bhils are the original inhabitants of Marwar. Bishnois sacrificed their lives to save green trees, birds and animals of their area. We should maintain ecology of our area. We should resist the invaders. A king should be kind-hearted.

Q. 8. What impressions do you get from the action of Diwan? What would you have done if you had been in place of Diwan?

दीवान के कार्य करने के तरीके से आपके क्या विचार बनते हैं? यदि आप दीवान के स्थान पर होते तो आप क्या करते?

Ans. I do not like the action of the Diwan. His order to cut down green trees was indiscreet. His further order to cut down the protectors with trees is a crime against humanity. If I had been in his place, I would have acted prudently and logically. I wouldn't disturb the ecology of that place. I would respect the religious feelings of the people. I would make alternate arrangement.

Q. 9. How did Abhay Singh console the enraged Bishnois?

अभयसिंह ने क्रुद्ध बिश्नोइयों को कैसे सांत्वना दी?

Ans. Abhay Singh personally rode to Khejadali to console the enraged Bishnois. He assured the agonised Bishnois to respect their religious principles fully. A copper plate inscribed with this promise was presented to the Bishnois. Neither any green tree would ever be cut near Bishnoi village nor would any animals be hunted in their vicinity. He was impressed with their moral courage.

Q. 10. What message was inscribed on the copper plate?

ताम्र-पत्र पर क्या सन्देश उत्कीर्ण किया गया था?

Ans. The message inscribed on the copper plate was this that henceforth, no green tree would ever be cut near Bishnoi village, nor would any animals be hunted in their vicinity. A copper plate with this inscription was presented to the Bishnois. He personally took interest in this matter to console the agonised Bishnois. His message is still useful even today.