Daily subject quiz – History (09-11-2026)

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Questions

1. The Urdu weekly 'Al-Hilal', started in Calcutta in 1912, was founded by:

A. Muhammad Ali Jinnah
B. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad
C. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan
D. Maulana Mohammad Ali

2. Consider the following statements about the inscriptions of Ashoka:
1. Most of them are in Prakrit and written in the Brahmi script.
2. The rock edicts at Shahbazgarhi and Mansehra in the north-west are in the Kharosthi script.
3. Major Rock Edict XIII describes the Kalinga war and Ashoka's remorse over it.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 only
B. 1 and 2 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

3. Match the dynasties of the Delhi Sultanate (List I) with their founders (List II):
(a) Khalji dynasty – 1. Bahlul Lodi
(b) Tughlaq dynasty – 2. Jalal-ud-din Firuz Khalji
(c) Sayyid dynasty – 3. Khizr Khan
(d) Lodi dynasty – 4. Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq
Codes: (a) (b) (c) (d)

A. 4 2 3 1
B. 2 3 4 1
C. 2 4 3 1
D. 3 4 2 1

4. Assertion (A): The Revolt of 1857 broke out among the sepoys at Meerut on 10 May 1857.
Reason (R): The Doctrine of Lapse was introduced by Lord Canning.

A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
C. A is true, but R is false
D. A is false, but R is true

5. The Royal Indian Navy (RIN) revolt of February 1946 began among the ratings of which shore establishment in Bombay?

A. HMIS Talwar
B. HMIS Hindustan
C. HMIS Bahadur
D. HMIS Narbada

6. Consider the following statements:
1. On 8 April 1929 Bhagat Singh and Batukeshwar Dutt threw bombs in the Central Legislative Assembly in Delhi.
2. Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru were hanged in Lahore on 23 March 1931.
3. They were sentenced to death for killing the police officer J.A. Scott.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 only
B. 1 and 2 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

7. Match the Governors-General / Viceroys (List I) with the measures of their time (List II):
(a) Lord William Bentinck – 1. Partition of Bengal (1905)
(b) Lord Lytton – 2. Vernacular Press Act (1878)
(c) Lord Ripon – 3. Abolition of sati (1829)
(d) Lord Curzon – 4. Resolution on local self-government (1882)
Codes: (a) (b) (c) (d)

A. 3 2 4 1
B. 3 4 2 1
C. 2 3 1 4
D. 4 2 3 1

8. Assertion (A): Akbar abolished the jizya in 1564.
Reason (R): Akbar followed a policy of sulh-i-kul, or 'peace with all', towards people of every faith.

A. Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A
B. Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A
C. A is true, but R is false
D. A is false, but R is true

9. Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, who arrived at Tranquebar (Tharangambadi) in 1706 and printed the New Testament in Tamil, was a missionary of the:

A. Society of Jesus (Jesuits)
B. Baptist Missionary Society (Serampore)
C. London Missionary Society
D. Danish-Halle Mission

10. Consider the following statements about the Jallianwala Bagh massacre:
1. It took place at Amritsar on 13 April 1919.
2. In protest, Rabindranath Tagore returned his Kaisar-i-Hind medal.
3. The Hunter Committee that inquired into it was appointed by the Government of India.
Which of the above are correct?

A. 1 only
B. 1 and 3 only
C. 2 and 3 only
D. 1, 2 and 3

Answers with explanations

1. **B) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad** – Maulana Abul Kalam Azad started Al-Hilal in 1912 to rouse nationalist feeling; after the British authorities shut it down in 1914 he brought out Al-Balagh. Azad later became independent India's first Education Minister, and his birthday, 11 November, is observed as National Education Day.

2. **D) 1, 2 and 3** – All three are correct. Most Ashokan inscriptions use Prakrit in the Brahmi script (deciphered by James Prinsep in 1837); in the north-west (Shahbazgarhi, Mansehra – now in Pakistan) Kharosthi was used, and near Kandahar (Afghanistan) Greek and Aramaic. Major Rock Edict XIII records the suffering caused by the Kalinga war and Ashoka's turn to dhamma.

3. **C) 2 4 3 1** – Khalji – Jalal-ud-din Firuz Khalji (1290); Tughlaq – Ghiyas-ud-din Tughlaq (1320); Sayyid – Khizr Khan (1414); Lodi – Bahlul Lodi (1451). The Lodi dynasty ended when Babur defeated Ibrahim Lodi at the first battle of Panipat (1526).

4. **C) A is true, but R is false** – A is true: the sepoys at Meerut rose on 10 May 1857 and marched to Delhi, where they proclaimed Bahadur Shah Zafar their leader. R is false: the Doctrine of Lapse was applied by Lord Dalhousie (Governor-General 1848–56) to annex Satara, Jhansi, Nagpur and other states. Canning was Governor-General during the revolt and became the first Viceroy in 1858.

5. **A) HMIS Talwar** – On 18 February 1946 ratings of HMIS Talwar, a signals training establishment in Bombay, went on strike against poor food, racial discrimination and the treatment of Indian sailors. The revolt spread to ships and shore establishments in Karachi, Madras, Calcutta and other ports, and ended within days after leaders including Sardar Patel advised the ratings to surrender.

6. **B) 1 and 2 only** – Statement 3 is wrong: in the Lahore Conspiracy Case they were sentenced for the killing of Assistant Superintendent of Police J.P. Saunders in Lahore (December 1928). Scott, who had ordered the lathi-charge in which Lala Lajpat Rai was injured, was the intended target. The Assembly bombs (8 April 1929) were meant to make 'the deaf hear', not to kill. 23 March is observed as Shaheed Diwas.

7. **A) 3 2 4 1** – Bentinck – Bengal Sati Regulation (Regulation XVII) of 1829; Lytton – Vernacular Press Act, 1878 (repealed under Ripon in 1882); Ripon – Resolution of 18 May 1882 on local self-government; Curzon – Partition of Bengal, effective 16 October 1905 (annulled in 1911).

8. **A) Both A and R are true, and R is the correct explanation of A** – Both are true and R explains A. Under sulh-i-kul, as described by Abul Fazl, the state was not to discriminate between subjects on the basis of religion; in keeping with it Akbar abolished the tax on pilgrimage (1563) and the jizya, a tax on non-Muslims (1564). Aurangzeb reimposed the jizya in 1679.

9. **D) Danish-Halle Mission** – Ziegenbalg, a German Lutheran, was sent by King Frederick IV of Denmark to the Danish settlement of Tranquebar under what became the Danish-Halle Mission. He learnt Tamil, set up a printing press there and printed the New Testament in Tamil – among the earliest printing in an Indian language.

10. **B) 1 and 3 only** – Statement 2 is wrong: Tagore renounced his knighthood (letter to the Viceroy, May 1919); it was Gandhi who returned his Kaisar-i-Hind medal in 1920, during the Non-Cooperation Movement. The Government of India appointed the Disorders Inquiry Committee under Lord Hunter in October 1919; the Congress set up its own non-official inquiry.

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