

## **NEW KINGDOMS**

**E. Answer the following questions in one or two sentences:**

**1. Who were the Rajputs?**

**Ans:** The Rajputs were the warrior group of the Kshatriya caste. They were the descendants of the central Asian groups such as Sakas, Huns and the Kushanas.

**2. Why did the struggle for Kannauj take place? What happened in the end?**

**Ans:** The Palas, the Pratiharas and the Rashtrakutas struggled to gain control over the city of Kanauj because it was located near the river Ganga and its conquest meant control of rich resources of the upper Ganga valley, trade and agriculture would flourish. This tripartite struggle finally weakened all the three kingdoms.

**3. What was the main achievement of the Pratihara king , Mihir Bhoja?**

**Ans:** The main achievement of the Pratihara king , Mihir Bhoja are as follows:

- i. Establishment of his capital at Kanauj.
- ii. Expand the kingdom of Pratiharas to the east, making conquests in Punjab, Awadh, Malwa and Gujarat.
- iii. Trade with Central Asia

**4. Who was Mahmud Ghazni?**

**Ans:** Mahmud was the son and successor of Sabuktigin , the Turkish king, who was the ruler of Ghazni. Mahmud Ghazni was interested in building a large empire in Central Asia.

**5. Who assumed the title of 'Gangaikonda'?**

**Ans:** Rajendra Chola assumed the title of 'Gangaikonda'. It means 'Conqueror of Ganga'.

**5. Explain why Mahmud of Ghazni had no intention of staying and ruling over India?**

**Ans:** Mahmud did not want to rule over India because:

- i. His invasions were undertaken purely to capture India's wealth.

ii. He was attracted by the immense wealth found in the temples of India, with this wealth he beautified the city of Ghazni.

**F. Give reasons for the following:**

**1. Why did the rulers adopt elaborate titles?**

**Ans:** The rulers adopted elaborate titles to show their importance and power in the kingdom.

**2. Why did Mahmud of Ghazni attack India?**

**Ans:** Mahmud of Ghazni attacked India to plunder wealth. He attacked wealthy temples and took the booty to Ghazni to beautify his kingdom with palaces, mosques and tombs.

**G. Answer the following questions in four or five sentences:**

**1. Who was Muhammad Ghori? What is his significance in the history of India?**

**Ans:** i. Muhammad Ghori was the ruler who ascended the throne of Ghazni after the death of his brother Ghiyasudin.

ii. He defeated Prithvi Raj Chauhan in 1192 c.e in the second battle of Tarrain.

His significance in the Indian History lies in the fact that he laid the foundation of Turkish rule in India.

**2. Discuss the main achievements of Rajaraja I and Rajendra Chola.**

**Ans:** The main achievement of Rajaraja I was that

i. he defeated the Cheras, the Pandyas and the Chalukyas and expanded his empire.

ii. He captured most of Sri Lanka and many small islands in the bay of Bengal with help of a strong navy.

The main achievement of Rajendra Chola was that

i. He completed the conquest of Sri Lanka.

ii. He also crossed over Ganga and defeated the Pala ruler, Mahipala of Bengal.

**iii. He laid the foundation of a new city Gangaikondacholapuram to celebrate his victory.**

**3. What were the measures taken to develop agriculture during the Chola period?**

**Ans:i. The Cholas laid special emphasis on the construction of irrigation works and the use of advance irrigation technology.**

**ii. The brahmana assembly or the sabha were responsible for the construction of irrigation canals.**

**iii. In some areas, wells were also dug. Tanks were built to collect rainwater.**

**iv. A great dam was built across the Kaveri River.**

**v. This made Tanjavur , the capital of the Cholas, the granary of the South.**