

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

New Kings and Kingdoms

Q1. Who was Kalhana? What was he famous for?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Q2. How did the Rashtrakutas become powerful?

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Q3. When they attacked one another's kingdoms, they often chose to target temples. Give reason.

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_  
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## New Kings and Kingdoms

Q1. Who was Kalhana? What was he famous for?

Ans. Kalhana was a great poet who composed a long Sanskrit poem containing the history of kings who ruled over Kashmir. He used a variety of sources, including inscriptions, documents, eyewitness accounts and earlier histories, to write his account. Unlike the writers of prashastis, he was often critical about rulers and their policies.

Q2. How did the Rashtrakutas become powerful?

Ans. Initially Rashtrakutas were subordinate to the Chalukyas of Karnataka. In the mid-eighth century, Dantidurga, a Rashtrakuta chief, overthrew his Chalukya overlord and performed a ritual called hiranya-garbha (literally, the golden womb). When this ritual was performed with the help of Brahmanas, it was thought to lead to the "rebirth" of the sacrificer as a Kshatriya, even if he was not one by birth.

Q3. When they attacked one another's kingdoms, they often chose to target temples. Give reason.

Ans. Rulers also tried to demonstrate their power and resources by building large temples. So, when they attacked one another's kingdoms, they often chose to target temples, which were sometimes extremely rich. One of the best known of such rulers is Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni, Afghanistan. He raided the subcontinent almost every year – his targets were wealthy temples, including that of Somnath, Gujarat.