

Name: _____ Date: _____

Rulers and Buildings

Q1. List the two technological and stylistic developments noticeable from the twelfth century.

Ans. _____

Q2. How were the policies of Rajendra I and Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni different?

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i. The weight of the superstructure above the doors and windows was sometimes carried by arches. This architectural form was called "arcuate".

ii. Limestone cement was increasingly used in construction. This was very high-quality cement, which, when mixed with stone chips hardened into concrete. This made construction of large structures easier and faster.

Q2. How were the policies of Rajendra I and Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni different?

Ans. In the early eleventh century, when the Chola king Rajendra I built a Shiva temple in his capital he filled it with prized statues seized from defeated rulers.

Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni was a contemporary of Rajendra I. During his campaigns in the subcontinent he also attacked the temples of defeated kings and looted their wealth and idols. Sultan Mahmud was not a very important ruler at that time. But by destroying temples – especially the one at Somnath – he tried to win credit as a great hero of Islam.

Thus, Rajendra I constructed the temple whereas Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni destroyed it. In this way their policies were different.