

Name: _____ Date: _____

Towns, Traders and Craftspersons

Q1. Why do you think towns grew around temples?

Ans. _____

Q2. Pilgrimage centres also slowly developed into townships. Explain

Ans. _____

Towns, Traders and Craftspersons

Q1. Why do you think towns grew around temples?

Ans. Rulers built temples to demonstrate their devotion to various deities.

They also endowed temples with grants of land and money to carry out elaborate rituals, feed pilgrims and priests and celebrate festivals.

Pilgrims who flocked to the temples also made donations. Temple authorities used their wealth to finance trade and banking. Gradually a large number of priests, workers, artisans, traders, etc. settled near the temple to cater to its needs and those of the pilgrims. Thus grew temple towns.

Q2. Pilgrimage centres also slowly developed into townships. Explain

Ans. Pilgrimage centres also slowly developed into townships. Vrindavan

(Uttar Pradesh) and Tiruvannamalai (Tamil Nadu) are examples of two such towns. Ajmer (Rajasthan) was the capital of the Chauhan kings in the twelfth century and later became the suba headquarters under the Mughals. It provides an excellent example of religious coexistence.

Khwaja Muinuddin Chishti, the celebrated Sufi saint who settled there in the twelfth century, attracted devotees from all creeds. Near Ajmer is a lake, Pushkar, which has attracted pilgrims from ancient times.