

Name: _____ Date: _____

Colonialism and the City

Q1. How did the partition change the lives and occupation of the refugees?

Ans. _____

Q2. Discuss the historical background of Delhi before the development of New Delhi.

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Q1. How did the partition change the lives and occupation of the refugees?

Ans. The Partition of India in 1947 led to a massive transfer of populations on both sides of the new border. Muslims left Delhi for Pakistan, their place was taken by equally large numbers of Sikh and Hindu refugees from Pakistan. Many of the Muslims who went to Pakistan were artisans, petty traders and labourers. The new migrants coming to Delhi were rural landlords, lawyers, teachers, traders and small shopkeepers. Partition changed their lives, and their occupations. They had to take up new jobs as hawkers, vendors, carpenters and ironsmiths. Many, however, prospered in their new businesses.

Q2. Discuss the historical background of Delhi before the development of New Delhi.

Ans. Delhi has been a capital for more than 1,000 years, although with some gaps. As many as 14 capital cities were founded in a small area of about 60 square miles on the left bank of the river Jamuna. The remains of all other capitals may be seen on a visit to the modern city-state of Delhi. Of these, the most important are the capital cities built between the twelfth and seventeenth centuries. The most splendid capital of all was built by Shah Jahan. Shahjahanabad was begun in 1639 and consisted of a fort-palace complex and the city adjoining it. Lal Qila or the Red Fort, made of red sandstone, contained the palace complex.