



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: SOCIAL SCIENCE	Subject: History
Chapter 3 Worksheet: 4	Topic: Rise of the Marathas	Year: 2026-27

I	Choose the correct answer: -														
Q 1	At what age did Shivaji begin his military campaigns? (A) 20 years (B) 16 years (C) 18 years (D) 21 years														
Q 2	What was the title Shivaji adopted during his coronation? (A) Maharaj Shivaji (B) Swatantra Veer Shivaji (C) Shri Raja Shiva Chhatrapati (D) Shivaji Maharana														
Q 3	Who is known for translating the Bhagavad Gita into Marathi? (A) Dnyaneshwar (B) Surdas (C) Kabir (D) Guru Nanak														
Q 4	Identify the Mughal general who insulted Shivaji at Aurangzeb's court? (A) Raja Jai Singh (B) Shaista Khan (C) Afzal Khan (D) Mirza Raja														
Q 5	Which of the following statements is true about Kanhoji Angre? (i) A Maratha saint who spread bhakti (ii) A Maratha naval commander who resisted European control (iii) A Mughal noble defeated by Shivaji (iv) A Peshwa who expanded Maratha power Options (A) (i) and (iii) (B) (i) and (ii) (C) (ii) and (iii) (D) (iii) and (iv)														
Q 6	Match the following conflicts with the corresponding consequences:														
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Conflicts</th><th></th><th>Consequences</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>i</td><td>Afzal Khan vs Shivaji</td><td>a</td><td>Treaty of Purandar signed</td></tr> <tr> <td>ii</td><td>Shaista Khan vs Shivaji</td><td>b</td><td>House arrest at Agra, escape in baskets</td></tr> </tbody> </table>				Conflicts		Consequences	i	Afzal Khan vs Shivaji	a	Treaty of Purandar signed	ii	Shaista Khan vs Shivaji	b	House arrest at Agra, escape in baskets
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	iii	Jai Singh vs Shivaji	c	Afzal Khan was killed, army was routed
	iv	Aurangzeb vs Shivaji	d	Shaista Khan was injured and fled Maharashtra
	A. i-d; ii-a; iii-c; iv-b B. i-c; ii-d; iii-a; iv-b C. i-a; ii-c; iii-b; iv-d D. i-b; ii-a; iii-d; iv-c			
Q 7	There are two statements in each question marked as Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Choose your answer as per the options given: (A) Both (A) and (R) are true and (R) is the correct explanation of (A). (B) Both (A) and (R) are true but (R) is not the correct explanation of (A). (C) (A) is true but (R) is false. (D) (A) is false but (R) is true.			
(i)	Assertion (A) Shivaji's administration had eight ministers with defined roles. Reason (R) This system helped in better and efficient governance. Answer: (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.			
(ii)	Assertion (A) Tarabai played a key role in the expansion of the Maratha Empire. Reason (R) She sent Maratha armies to attack the Southern Mughal territories. Answer: (C) A is true, but R is false.			
(iii)	Assertion (A) Shivaji used guerrilla warfare to defeat bigger armies. Reason (R) This method included surprise attacks and deep knowledge of local land. Answer: (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.			
II	Very short answers: -			
Q 8	Read the riddle given below and write the answer. (i) Widowed warrior queen, fierce and wise, I led the Marathas to Northern skies. When enemies thought the throne was free, I struck back fiercely – a force to see! Who am I? _____ Answer: Tarabai (ii) Finance minister with wisdom deep. My book 'Adnyapatra' all should keep. I helped Shivaji rule the land, With a careful mind and steady hand. Who am I? _____ Answer: Ramchandra Pant			
Q 9	Name two cultural contributions of the Marathas. Answer: Revival of Marathi and Sanskrit literature and rebuilding of Hindu temples.			
Q 10	When and where was Shivaji born? Answer: Shivaji was born on 19 February 1630 at Shivneri Fort, near Junnar in present-day Maharashtra.			
Q 11	What is the significance of the Wagh Nakh in Shivaji's encounter with Afzal Khan? Answer: The Wagh Nakh (tiger claws) helped Shivaji defend himself and defeat Afzal Khan during their meeting at Pratapgad in 1659			
Q 12	What was the importance of Raigad Fort for Shivaji? Answer: Raigad Fort was Shivaji's capital and the place where he was crowned as Chhatrapati in 1674.			
III	Short answers: -			
Q 13	What was the impact of Shivaji's raid on Surat? Answer:			

	• It brought great wealth to strengthen the Maratha kingdom. • It weakened Mughal authority and increased Shivaji's reputation.
Q 14	How did Shivaji ensure fairness and accountability in his administration? Answer: • He appointed honest and capable officers and clearly defined their duties and responsibilities. • He maintained strict control over officials, checked corruption and misuse of power, and ensured that justice was given fairly to his subjects
Q 15	How did the Marathas expand into North India after Shivaji's death? Answer: • Under the Peshwas, the Marathas expanded rapidly into North India through successful military campaigns. • They defeated major rivals and gained control over territories in Malwa, Gujarat, Delhi, and parts of the Punjab.
IV	Long Answers: -
Q 16	Analyse the causes and consequences of the Anglo-Maratha wars. Answer: <u>Causes of the Anglo-Maratha Wars</u> Internal Conflicts: Disputes among the Peshwa and other Maratha chiefs weakened the Maratha Confederacy. The British used these rivalries to interfere in Maratha politics. British Expansion: The British East India Company wanted to expand its territory and political influence in India, while the Marathas were a powerful obstacle to this expansion. Treaty of Bassein: In 1802, Peshwa Baji Rao II signed the Treaty of Bassein with the British for protection. This increased British influence and angered other Maratha chiefs. <u>Consequences of the Anglo-Maratha Wars</u> Decline of Maratha Power: The Marathas were defeated, and the authority of the Peshwa was abolished in 1818. The Maratha Confederacy lost its political importance. Rise of British Power: The British gained control over large areas of India and became the dominant political power in the Indian subcontinent.
Q 17	Explain how the Marathas challenged both Mughal and European powers in India. Answer: <u>Challenge to Mughal Authority:</u> The Marathas emerged as a strong regional power under Shivaji and challenged the authority of the Mughal Empire. Shivaji captured important forts and territories in the Deccan and successfully resisted Mughal attacks. Later, under the Peshwas, the Marathas expanded into Malwa, Gujarat, Delhi and parts of North India, weakening Mughal control. <u>Strong Military Organisation:</u> The Marathas developed an effective military system, especially guerrilla warfare, which helped them fight larger and better-equipped armies. Their knowledge of the hilly terrain and use of forts gave them an advantage against the Mughals and other opponents. <u>Expansion under the Peshwas:</u> After Shivaji's death, the Peshwas played an important role in expanding Maratha power. Maratha armies moved into northern and central India and collected Chauth and Sardeshmukhi from several territories, reducing the influence of the Mughal rulers. <u>Challenge to European Powers:</u> The Marathas also resisted the growing influence of European powers, particularly the British East India Company. They fought the British in the Anglo-Maratha Wars and prevented British expansion for a considerable period. <u>Impact on Indian Politics:</u> The Marathas became one of the most powerful political forces in 18th-century India. Their resistance weakened Mughal authority and created a major obstacle to European expansion.

	However, internal divisions among Maratha chiefs eventually weakened their power, allowing the British to establish greater control over India.
V	Case based Q & A: -
Q 18	Cultural contributions of the Marathas: Maratha rulers like Serfoji II and Ahilyabai Holkar supported temple buildings, Sanskrit revival and classical arts like Bharatnatyam and Carnatic music. (a) How did the Marathas help in preserving Indian cultural identity? Temple Building: Rulers like Ahilyabai Holkar actively funded and supported the reconstruction and maintenance of Hindu temples. Classical Arts: They provided vital patronage to traditional Indian classical dance forms like Bharatanatyam. Classical Music: They protected and promoted traditional musical systems, particularly Carnatic music. (b) Why is the cultural revival considered a significant part of Maratha history? Identity Protection: It actively defended and preserved indigenous traditions during a period of heavy foreign political influence. Legacy Beyond Warfare: It proved that the Maratha Empire was not only a military power, but also a center of civilization and arts. Enduring Impact: The institutions, music, and temples they supported continue to contribute to South Asian cultural heritage. (c) What does the patronage of art and literature reveal about their governance? Holistic Vision: It shows their governance extended beyond administration and taxes to the spiritual and social well-being of the people. Inclusivity: Supporting diverse arts forms, such as Bharatanatyam from the Tamil-region and Sanskrit learning reflected a broad, culturally inclusive mindset. Stability and Wealth: Financing large-scale cultural projects demonstrated economic prosperity and a stable and secure political administration.