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Q80

In the context of the history of India, consider the following pairs: Term - Description 1. Eripatti : Land, revenue from which was set apart for the maintenance of the village tank 2. Taniyurs : Villages donated to a single Brahmin or a group of Brahmins 3. Ghatikas : Colleges generally attached to the temples Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched? (a) 1 and 2 (b) 3 only (c) 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 3 Official key: D.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2016 · General Studies · 2 marks · Art and Culture

Indian art, architecture, culture - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation

(a)

• **Pair 1 (Eripatti:** tank-maintenance land) is correctly matched, but pair 2 (Taniyurs : villages donated to Brahmins) is not: taniyurs were large, separately administered villages in the Chola country, whereas **brahmadeya/devadana** language covers Brahmin and temple grants. 1 and 2 is therefore not the key.

(b)

• **Pair 3 (Ghatikas:** colleges attached to temples) is correct, but pair 1 is also correct, so 3 only is incomplete.

(c)

Pair 2 is wrongly matched, so 2 and 3 cannot be the key even though ghatikas are right.

(d) Official key

Eripatti (or eripatti land) was land whose revenue maintained the village tank in South Indian records. Ghatikas were temple-centred centres of higher learning in the early medieval South. Taniyurs were not simply Brahmin gift-villages. Pairs 1 and 3 are correctly matched, so (d) is the official key.

Summary

Official key is (d) 1 and 3. The stem's three South Indian terms must be read as listed: eripatti with tank upkeep, taniyurs as a Chola administrative category of large villages, ghatikas as temple colleges (for example Kanchi). **Brahmadeya** is the usual label for Brahmin settlements, which is why pair 2 fails. Matching questions on Chola local bodies often test tank, temple and grant vocabulary together.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Brahmadeya

Tax-free village granted to Brahmins

Devadana

Village granted to a temple

Sabha / ur

Brahmin assembly and non-Brahmin village assembly in Chola records

Ghatika at Kanchipuram

Famous centre of Vedic and Sastra learning

Eri

Tamil for tank; eripatti linked to irrigation maintenance

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