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Q75

**Which of the following is/are famous for Sun temples? 1. Arasavalli 2. Amarakantak 3. Omkareshwar Select the correct answer using the code given below: (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Official key: A.**

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2017 · General Studies · 2 marks · Art and Culture

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

**Explanation****(a) Official key**

**Arasavalli** in Srikakulam district, Andhra Pradesh, has a well-known Sun temple (Suryanarayana). **Amarakantak** is the Narmada-Son source pilgrimage with Shiva and Narmada shrines, not a famous Sun temple. **Omkareshwar** is a Jyotirlinga of Shiva on the Narmada. Hence 1 only is the official key.

**(b)**

Option (b) is 2 and 3 only. Neither **Amarakantak** nor **Omkareshwar** is famous as a Sun temple. This option is not the key.

**(c)**

Option (c) is 1 and 3 only. **Omkareshwar** is Shaiva, not a Sun temple. This option is therefore wrong.

**(d)**

Option (d) is all three. The two Narmada sites are not Sun temples. This option is not the key.

**Summary**

Official key is (a) 1 only. Among the stem places, only **Arasavalli** is famous for a Sun temple. **Amarakantak** is a river-origin and Shaiva centre; **Omkareshwar** is a Jyotirlinga. **Konark**, **Modhera** and Martand are other classic Sun temples not listed here. Only statement 1 holds.

**Related possible facts**

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

**Arasavalli**

Suryanarayana temple, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh

**Konark**

13th-century Sun temple, Odisha (UNESCO)

**Modhera**

Solanki Sun temple, Gujarat

**Omkareshwar**

One of the twelve Jyotirlingas, Madhya Pradesh

**Amarkantak**

Maikal Hills; origin of Narmada and Son

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