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Q12

Consider the following statements: 1. In the revenue administration of Delhi Sultanate, the in-charge of revenue collection was known as 'Amil'. 2. The Iqta system of Sultans of Delhi was an ancient indigenous institution. 3. The office of 'Mir Bakshi' came into existence during the reign of Khalji Sultans of Delhi. Which of the statements given above is/are correct? (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only (c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Official key: A.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2019 · General Studies · 2 marks · History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)

Ancient, medieval and modern Indian history - Prelims GS Paper I.

Explanation**(a) Official key**

(a) 1 only. In Delhi Sultanate revenue practice the **amil** (or **amil-i-kharaj** in related usage) was the official concerned with revenue collection in the locality. Statement 2 is false: **iqta** was a West Asian/Islamic assignment, not an ancient indigenous Indian institution. Statement 3 is false: **mir bakshi** is a Mughal military-pay office, not a **Khalji Sultanate** creation. So only statement 1 stands, and 1 only is the official key.

(b)

(b) 1 and 2 only. Statement 2 fails because **iqta** came in with the Sultanate from the Islamic world (Seljuk/Buyid practice), so this pair is not the key.

(c)

(c) 3 only. **Mir bakshi** belongs to the Mughal mir-manzil / mir bakhshi household, not to the Khaljis, so 3 only is not the key.

(d)

(d) 1, 2 and 3. Two of the three statements are false, so all-three is not the key.

Summary

Official key is (a) 1 only. **Amil** as revenue collector fits Sultanate administration. **Iqta** was imported, not a Vedic or ancient Indian survival. **Mir bakshi** is Mughal. Honour the stored letter (a).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Amil

Revenue collector under the Sultanate

Iqta

Land/revenue assignment to muqti or iqtadar

Mir bakshi

Mughal paymaster-general of the army

Askable twin

Diwan-i-wizarat versus diwan-i-arz

Khalji note

Alauddin's market and revenue experiments, not mir bakshi

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