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Q16

With reference to Mian Tansen, which one of the following statements is not correct? (a) Tansen was the title given to him by Emperor Akbar. (b) Tansen composed Dhrupada on Hindu gods and goddesses. (c) Tansen composed songs on his patrons. (d) Tansen invented many Ragas. 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) Tansen was the title given to him by Emperor Akbar. This is the statement that is not correct. He was already known as Tansen (Ramtanu / Tanna Misra tradition) at the Gwalior court of Raja Ram / Vikramjit; Akbar later honoured him as Mian Tansen among the navaratnas. Because the title-giver in (a) is wrong, this is the official key to the 'not correct' question.

(b)

(b) Dhrupad on Hindu gods and goddesses. Tansen's dhrupad repertoire includes bandishes on Hindu deities; that claim is accepted as correct, so it is not the 'not correct' key.

(c)

(c) Songs on his patrons. Court dhrupad praised patrons, including Akbar; this is a correct statement, so it is not the key.

(d)

(d) Invented many ragas. Tradition credits him with ragas such as Miyan ki Todi, Miyan ki Malhar, Darbari Kanada; treated as correct, so not the key.

Summary

Official key is (a) - the statement that is not correct. Tansen's name/title predates Akbar; Akbar's honour is the prefix Mian and inclusion among the nine jewels. He composed dhrupad for gods and patrons and is credited with several ragas. Honour the stored letter (a).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Birth name tradition

Ramtanu Pandey / Tanna Misra

Earlier court

Gwalior (Raja Vikramjit / Ram)

Akbar honour

Mian; navaratna

Guru tradition

Swami Haridas; also Muhammad Ghaus association

Askable raga

Miyan ki Malhar, Darbari

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