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Q1

With reference to Mughal India, what is/are the difference/differences between Jagirdar and Zamindar? 1. Jagirdars were holders of land assignments in lieu of judicial and police duties, whereas Zamindars were holders of revenue rights without obligation to perform any duty other than revenue collection. 2. Land assignments to Jagirdars were hereditary and revenue rights of Zamindars were not hereditary. Select the correct answer using the code given below (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2 Official key: D.

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)**

(a) 1 only. Statement 1 claims jagirdars held land for judicial and police duties while zamindars only collected revenue. In Mughal practice a **jagir** was a transferable revenue assignment in lieu of military (**mansab**) service, and zamindars were hereditary intermediaries who also owed local order; the duty-split in statement 1 is therefore not the official distinction, so 1 only is not the key.

(b)

(b) 2 only. Statement 2 says **jagir** assignments were hereditary and zamindari rights were not. The reverse is nearer the record: jagirs were generally transferable and not hereditary, while zamindari rights commonly passed in the family. Statement 2 therefore fails, and 2 only is not the key.

(c)

(c) Both 1 and 2. That code needs both statements true. Statement 1 misstates jagirdar duties, and statement 2 reverses heredity, so both-true is not the key.

(d) Official key

(d) Neither 1 nor 2. Jagirdars held temporary revenue assignments against **mansab**/military obligation, not a judicial-police land grant as statement 1 puts it. Zamindars were hereditary landed intermediaries, so statement 2's heredity swap is false. With both statements out, neither 1 nor 2 is the official key.

Summary

Official key is (d) neither 1 nor 2. In Mughal India a **jagir** was a transferable revenue assignment tied to a **mansab**, not a hereditary estate given for police and judicial work.

Zamindars were local hereditary intermediaries with a claim on a share of produce and customary local duties, not revenue-only collectors without any other obligation. Statement 1 therefore draws the wrong duty line, and statement 2 reverses which right was hereditary. Honour the stored letter (d).

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Jagir

Transferable revenue assignment, not usually hereditary

Mansab

Rank that justified the jagir

Zamindar

Hereditary intermediary in the locality

Watan jagir

Rare hereditary exception, not the general rule

Askable twin

Iqta of the **Delhi Sultanate** versus Mughal jagir

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