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Q30

**Who among the following rulers advised his subjects through this inscription? "Whosoever praises his religious sect or blames other sects out of excessive devotion to his own sect, with the view of glorifying his own sect, he rather injures his own sect very severely." (a) Ashoka (b) Samudragupta (c) Harshavardhana (d) Krishnadeva Raya Official key: A.**

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2020 · General Studies · 2 marks · History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)  
Ancient, medieval and modern Indian history - Prelims GS Paper I.

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

- **Ashoka. Rock Edict XII:** do not praise one's sect by blaming others; that injures one's own.

**(b)**

Samudragupta. Prayaga prasasti is conquest, not this tolerance line.

**(c)**

Harsha. Different corpus.

**(d)**

Krishnadeva Raya. Amuktamalyada, not this edict.

**Summary**

Official key is (a) **Ashoka**. The quoted warning against sectarian self-praise is Major Rock Edict XII - dhamma as restraint in speech about other sects.

**Related possible facts**

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

**RE XII**

Samavaya; restraint in praise and blame of sects.

**Dhamma mahamatras**

The officers of that policy.