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Q60

According to Kautilya's Arthashastra, which of the following are correct? 1. A person could be a slave as a result of a judicial punishment. 2. If a female slave bore her master a son, she was legally free. 3. If a son born to a female slave was fathered by her master, the son was entitled to the legal status of the master's son. Which of the statements given above are correct? (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3 Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2022 · General Studies · 2 marks · Art and Culture

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

Explanation

(a)

1 and 2 only. The master's son by a slave woman also takes status in the **Arthashastra** rule keyed here.

(b) Official key

2 and 3 only. A slave woman who bears her master a son is freed; that son has the status of the master's son. Judicial-punishment slavery is not the keyed first limb.

(c)

1 and 3 only. Statement 1 is out of this key.

(d)

All three. The paper stops at two.

Summary

• **Official key is (b) 2 and 3 only.** **Kautilya:** if a dasi bears her master a son she is legally free, and the son is entitled to the status of the master's son. Statement 1 is not counted as a correct **Arthashastra** rule in this item.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Arthashastra

Kautilya: dharma, artha, danda, and a detailed slave law.

Dasa / dasi

Forms of servitude in early Indian legal texts.

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