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Q52

In medieval India, the term "Fanam" referred to: (a) Clothing (b) Coins (c) Ornaments (d) Weapons Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2022 · General Studies · 2 marks · History (Ancient, Medieval, Modern)

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

Explanation**(a)**

Clothing. Not the meaning of fanam.

(b) Official key

Coins. **Fanam / panam** - a small gold (later silver/copper) coin of south India.

(c)

Ornaments. Unrelated.

(d)

Weapons. Unrelated.

Summary

Official key is (b) coins. Fanam (panam) was a widely used south-Indian coin, especially under Vijayanagara and later the Company on the Coromandel.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Fanam / panam

Tiny gold coin; later billon and copper issues.

Pagoda

Larger south-Indian gold unit; fanams made up a pagoda.

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