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Q82

Consider the following pairs : Site Well known for 1.Besnagar : Shaivite cave shrine 2.Bhaja : Buddhist cave shrine 3.Sittanavasal : Jain cave shrine How many of the above pairs are correctly matched? (a) Only one (b) Only two (c) All three (d) None Official key: B.

UPSC Civil Services Prelims 2023 · General Studies · 2 marks · Art and Culture

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

Explanation

(a)

Only one. Two of the three site tags hold.

(b) Official key

Only two. **Bhaja** is a Buddhist cave complex; Sittanavasal is Jain. Besnagar is the Heliodorus Garuda pillar (Vaishnava), not a Shaivite cave shrine.

(c)

All three. Besnagar is the mismatch.

(d)

None. Two matches stand.

Summary

Official key is (b) only two. **Bhaja** (Pune) is a Buddhist rock-cut complex. Sittanavasal (Tamil Nadu) is a Jain cave. Besnagar / Vidisha is famous for the **Heliodorus pillar** to Vasudeva, not a Shaivite cave.

Related possible facts

These can be asked in a future Prelims paper.

Heliodorus pillar

Besnagar; 2nd century BCE; Garuda dhvaja of Vasudeva.

Bhaja

Hinayana rock-cut chaitya-vihara on the Western Ghats route.