



**NCERT**  
**SOLUTION'S**  
**(HISTORY)**

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# Chapter – 1<sup>st</sup>

## WHAT, WHERE, WHEN AND

### HOW

**Que 1. Match the following:**

Narmada Valley	The first big kingdom
Magadha	Hunting and gathering
Garro hills	Cities about 2500 years ago
Indus and its tributaries	Early agriculture
Ganga Valley	The first cities

**Ans: -**

Narmada Valley	Hunting and gathering
Magadha	The first big kingdom
Garro hills	Early agriculture

Indus and its tributaries	The first cities
Ganga Valley	Cities about 2500 years ago

**Ques 2. List one major difference between manuscripts and inscriptions.**

**Ans:**

**Inscriptions:** These are records engraved on pillars, stone walls and clay tablets.

**Manuscripts:** Piece of work written by hand are called manuscript. These were usually written on palm leaf, or on the specially prepared bark of a tree known as the birch,

### **LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que 3. Return to Rasheeda's question. Can you think of some answers to it?**

**Ans:**

Rasheeda's question was how could anyone know what had happened so many years ago. There are various ways by which people can know about the past.

**Literary Source:** Literary sources refers to any written accounts. Earlier, before paper was used, books were written on barks of trees.

**Archaeological sources:** Archaeological sources are objects from the past which have survived till now. These could be ruins of buildings, pieces of pottery, tools, coins, jewellery or pieces of stone.

**Que 4. Make a list of all the objects that archaeologists may find. Which of these could be made of stone?**

**Answer:**

Tools, weapons, pots, pans, ornaments, and coins.

**Que 5. Why do you think ordinary men and women did not generally keep records of what they did?**

**Ans:**

The ordinary men did not keep a record for what they did because may be they did not know how to read and write.

**Que 6. Describe at least two ways in which you think the lives of kings would have been different from those of farmers.**

**Ans:**

The king led a luxurious life. He made all the decisions for society and looked after their welfare. They led the armies in war.

Farmers: They led a miserable life. They used to grow crops, for the people and for themselves. They hardly fulfil their basic needs.

# Chapter 2

## From Hunting –

## Gathering to

## Growing Food

**Que 1. Complete the sentences:**

**(a) Hunter-gatherers chose to live in caves and rock shelters because \_\_\_\_\_.**

**(b) Grasslands developed around \_\_\_\_\_ years ago.**

**Ans:**

**(a) Hunter-gatherers chose to live in caves and rock shelters because they protect them from wild animals, Bad weather condition.**

(b) Grasslands developed around 12000 years ago.

**Que 2. Why do people who grow crops have to stay in the same place for a long time?**

**Ans:**

People who grow crops have to stay in the same place for a long time so that they can take care of their crop, watering them time to time till the crop become ready for consumption.

**Que 3. Why do archaeologists think that many people who lived in Mehrgarh were hunters to start with and that herding became more important later?**

**Ans:**

At this site many animal bones were found. Bones of wild animals such as the deer and pig and also bones of sheep and goat were found.

### **LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que 4. Why did the hunter-gatherers travel from place to place? In what ways are these similar to/different from the reasons for which we travel today?**

**Ans:**

The hunter-gatherers travel from place to place in search of food. If they had eaten up all the available plant and animal resources of that place. They move elsewhere in search of food. Now a day's people don't travel for food but to explore new places, to meet their relatives and friends.

**Que5. List three ways in which hunter-gatherers used fire. Would you use fire for any of these purposes today?**

**Ans:**

Hunter-gatherers used fire for following purpose:

1. It helped man to scare away wild animals.
2. It helped man to keep warm in winters.
3. It helped in cooking of food.

We also use fire for these same purpose today.

**Que6. List three ways in which the lives of farmers and herders would have been different from that of hunter-gatherers?**

**Ans:**

(i) Hunter gatherers generally hunted wild animals, caught fish and birds, gathered fruits, roots, nuts, seeds, leaves, stalks and eggs. Farmer and herders grows crops for their livelihood and domesticate animals.



(ii) Farmer and herder stayed at one place for a long time, Hunter-gatherers moved from place to place.

(iii) Farmer and herder lives in hut, but Hunter gatherer lives in cave.

# Chapter 3

## In the Earliest

### Cities

**Que1. How do archaeologists know that cloth was used in the Harappan civilisation?**

**Ans:**

Cotton was probably grown at Mehrgarh from about 7000 years ago.

Actual pieces of cloth were found attached to the lid of a silver vase and some copper objects at Mohenjodaro.

Archaeologists have also found spindle whorls, made of terracotta and faience. These were used to spin thread.

**Que 2. Match the columns**

<b>Copper</b>	<b>Gujarat</b>
<b>Gold</b>	<b>Afghanistan</b>
<b>Tin</b>	<b>Rajasthan</b>
<b>Precious stones</b>	<b>Karnataka</b>

**Ans:**

Copper	Rajasthan
Gold	Karnataka
Tin	Afghanistan
Precious stones	Gujarat

**Que 3: Why were metals, writing, the wheel, and the plough important for the Harappans?**

**Ans:**

**Metals:** - They may have kept the most valuable objects, such as ornaments of gold and silver, or beautiful beads, for themselves.

**Writing:** - There were scribes, people who knew how to write, who helped prepare the seals, and perhaps wrote on other materials that have not survived.

**Wheel:** - Wheel is used in cart. It is also used in spinning.

**Plough:** - The plough, was used to dig the earth for turning the soil and planting seeds.

### **LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que 4. Make a list of all the terracotta toys shown in the lesson.**

**Ans:**

Terracotta Toys, Toy plough and Toy Cart are the list of terracotta toys shown in lesson.

**Que 5. Make a list of what the Harappans ate.**

**Ans:**

The Harappans people grew wheat, barley, pulses, peas, rice, sesame, linseed and mustard.

**Que 6. Do you think that the life of farmers and herders who supplied food to the Harappan cities was different from that of the farmers and herders you read about in Chapter 2?**

**Ans:**

1. In the beginning wheat, barley and rice grew naturally in different parts of the subcontinent. However, Harappans grew wheat, barley, pulses, peas, rice, sesame, linseed and mustard.
2. A new tool, the plough, was used to dig the earth for turning the soil and planting seeds. While real ploughs, which were probably made of wood, have not survived, toy models have been found.
3. Harappan region does not receive heavy rainfall, some form of irrigation may have been used. This means that water was stored and supplied to the fields when the plants were growing.
4. The Harappans reared cattle, sheep, goat and buffalo. Water and pastures were available around settlements. However, in the dry summer months large herds of animals were probably taken to greater distances in search of grass and water.

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## Chapter 4

# What Books and Burials Tell Us?

**Que 1. Match the columns**

<b>Sukta</b>	<b>Stone boulder</b>
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<b>Chariots</b>	<b>Sacrifice</b>
<b>Yajna</b>	<b>Well-said</b>
<b>Dasa</b>	<b>Used in battles</b>
<b>Megalith</b>	<b>Slave</b>

**Ans:**

<b>Sukta</b>	<b>Well-said</b>
<b>Chariots</b>	<b>Used in battles</b>
<b>Yajna</b>	<b>Sacrifice</b>
<b>Dasa</b>	<b>Slave</b>
<b>Megalith</b>	<b>Stone boulder</b>

**Que 2. Complete the sentences:**

**(a) Slaves were used for \_\_\_\_\_**

**(b) Megaliths are found in \_\_\_\_\_**

**(c) Stone circles or boulders on the surface were used to —  
\_\_\_\_\_**

**(d) Port-holes were used for \_\_\_\_\_**

**(e) People at Inamgaon ate \_\_\_\_\_**

**Ans:**

(a) Slaves were used for Work

(b) Megaliths are found in South India, North East and Kashmir.

(c) Stone circles or boulders on the surface were used to indicate the exact place for burials.

(d) Port-holes were used for burying the other member of the same family at the same place.

(e) People at Inamgaon ate Wheat, rice, peas, barley etc.

### **LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que 3. In what ways are the books we read today different from the Rigveda?**

**Ans:**

The books we use are written and printed. The Rigveda was recited and heard rather than read. It was written down several centuries after it was first composed, and printed less than 200 years ago.

**Que 4. What kind of evidence from burials do archaeologists use to find out whether there were social differences amongst those who were buried?**

**Ans:**

Archaeologists think that objects found with a skeleton probably belonged to the dead person. Sometimes, more objects are found in

one grave than in another. These finds suggest that there was some difference in status amongst the people who were buried. Some were rich, others poor, some chiefs, others followers.

**Que 5. In what ways do you think that the life of a raja was different from that of a dasa or dasi?**

**Ans:**

Raja holds highest authority in his kingdom. He called as king of his kingdom. Raja lives a luxurious life. They lives in places. They had big army.

The term dasa (and the feminine dasi) came to mean slave. Slaves were women and men who were often captured in war. They were treated as the property of their owners, who could make them do whatever work they wanted.

## Chapter 5

# Kingdoms, Kings and an Early Republic

**Que1. State whether true or false:**

**(a) Rajas who let the ashvamedha horse pass through their lands were invited to the sacrifice.**

**(b) The charioteer sprinkled sacred water on the king.**

**(c) Archaeologists have found palaces in the settlements of the janapadas.**

**(d) Pots to store grain were made out of Painted Grey Ware.**

**(e) Many cities in mahajanapadas were fortified.**

**Ans:**

**(a) Rajas who let the ashvamedha horse pass through their lands were invited to the sacrifice. True**

**(b) The charioteer sprinkled sacred water on the king. False**

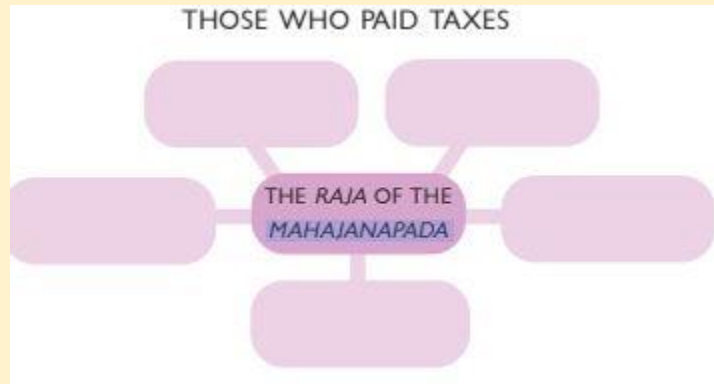
**(c) Archaeologists have found palaces in the settlements of the janapadas. False**

**(d) Pots to store grain were made out of Painted Grey Ware. True**

**(e) Many cities in mahajanapadas were fortified. False**

**2. Fill in the chart given below with the terms: hunter-gatherers, farmers, traders, crafts persons, herders.**





**Ans:**

- Farmer: 1/6th of what was produced.
- crafts persons: In the form of labour.
- Herder: In the form of animals and animal produce.
- Trader: On goods that were bought and sold, through trade.
- Hunters and gatherers also had to provide tax on forest produce to the raja.

**Que 3. Who were the groups who could not participate in the assemblies of the ganas?**

**Ans:**

Women, dasas and kammakaras could not participate in the assemblies of ganas.

### **LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que 4. Why did the rajas of mahajanapadas build forts?**

**Ans:**

- Forts were probably built because people were afraid of attacks from other kings and needed protection.
- It is also likely that some rulers wanted to show how rich and powerful they were by building really large, tall and impressive walls around their cities.
- Also in this way, the land and the people living inside the fortified area could be controlled more easily by the king.

**Que 5. In what ways are present-day elections different from the ways in which rulers were chosen in janapadas?**

**Ans:**

Today leaders or rulers chosen by voting is something that has become common during the last fifty years or so.

Earlier some men became recognized as rajas by performing very big sacrifices. The ashvamedha or horse sacrifice was one such ritual. Raja who wanted to perform the sacrifice was stronger than them.

Today all citizen above 18 years had right to vote and elect their representative. Earlier dassa and women's was not allowed can't participate in elections.

# Chapter 6

## New Questions

### and Ideas

**Que 1. Describe the ways in which the Buddha tried to spread his message to the people.**

**Ans:**

(i) The Buddha taught in the language of the ordinary people, Prakrit, so that everybody could understand his message.

(ii) He also encouraged people to think for themselves rather than to simply accept what he said.

**Que 2. Write whether true or false:**

**(a) The Buddha encouraged animal sacrifices.**

**(b) Sarnath is important because it was the place where the Buddha taught for the first time.**

**(c) The Buddha taught that karma has no effect on our lives.**

**(d) The Buddha attained enlightenment at Bodh Gaya.**

**(e) Upanishadic thinkers believed that the atman and brahman were ultimately one.**

**Ans:**

(a) The Buddha encouraged animal sacrifices. False

(b) Sarnath is important because it was the place where the Buddha taught for the first time. True

(c) The Buddha taught that karma has no effect on our lives. False

(d) The Buddha attained enlightenment at Bodh Gaya. True

(e) Upanishadic thinkers believed that the atman and Brahman were ultimately one. True

**Que 3. What were the questions that Upanishadic thinkers wanted to answer?**

**Ans.**

Earlier, other thinkers tried to find answers to difficult questions. Some of them wanted to know about life after death, others wanted to know why sacrifices should be performed. Many of these thinkers felt that there was something permanent in the universe that would last even after death.

**Que 4. What were the main teachings of the Mahavira?**

**Ans:**

(i) He taught men and women who wished to know the truth must leave their homes.

(ii) They must follow very strictly the rules of ahimsa, which means not hurting or killing living beings.

(iii) Followers of Mahavira, had to lead very simple lives, begging for food.

(iv) Follower of Mahavira should be honest, and were especially asked not to steal.

### **LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que 5. Why do you think Anagha's mother wanted her to know the story of the Buddha?**

**Ans:**

Gautama Buddha was the founder of Buddhism. Buddha was a true inspiration for everyone. That's why Anagha's mother wanted her to know the story of the Buddha.

**Que 6. Do you think it would have been easy for slaves to join the sangha? Give reasons for your answer.**

**Ans:**

Yes, Slaves can also join sangha. Slaves had to take permission from their master before joining sangha.

**Que 7. Discuss the reasons why the Chinese pilgrims came to India.**

**Ans:**

The Chinese pilgrims came to visit places associated with the life of the Buddha as well as famous monasteries.

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# Chapter 7

## From The

# Kingdom To An

# Empire

**Que 1. Make a list of the occupations of the people who lived within the Mauryan Empire.**

**Ans:**

Farmers, herders, crafts persons and traders, Forest gathering and Hunting of animal.

**Que 2. Complete the following sentences:**

**(a) Officials collected \_\_\_\_\_ from the area under the direct control of the ruler.**

**(b) Royal princes often went to the provinces as \_\_\_\_\_**

**(c) The Mauryan rulers tried to control \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ which were important for transport.**

**(d) People in forested regions provided the Mauryan officials with \_\_\_\_\_**

**Ans:**

**(a) Officials collected Taxes from the area under the direct control of the ruler.**

**(b) Royal princes often went to the provinces as Governors.**

**(c) The Mauryan rulers tried to control Roads and Rivers which were important for transport.**

**(d) People in forested regions provided the Mauryan officials with elephants, timber, honey and wax to Mauryan officials.**

**Que3. State whether true or false:**

**(a) Ujjain was the gateway to the north-west.**

**(b) Chandragupta's ideas were written down in the Arthashastra.**

**(c) Kalinga was the ancient name of Bengal.**

**(d) Most Ashokan inscriptions are in the Brahmi script.**

**Ans.**

(a) Ujjain was the gateway to the north-west. False

(b) Chandragupta's ideas were written down in the Arthashastra. True

(c) Kalinga was the ancient name of Bengal. False

(d) Most Ashokan inscriptions are in the Brahmi script. True

### **LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que 4. What were the problems that Ashoka wanted to solve by introducing dhamma?**

**Ans.**

There were a number of problems that troubled him.

- People in the empire followed different religions, and this sometimes led to conflict.
- Animals were sacrificed.
- Slaves and servants were ill-treated.
- Besides, there were quarrels in families and amongst neighbours.
- Ashoka felt it was his duty to solve these problems.

**Que 5. What were the means adopted by Ashoka to spread the message of dhamma?**

**Ans.**

- He appointed officials, known as the dhamma mahamatta who went from place to place teaching people about dhamma.
- Besides, Ashoka got his messages inscribed on rocks and pillars, instructing his officials to read his message to those who could not read it themselves.
- Ashoka also sent messengers to spread ideas about dhamma to other lands, such as Syria, Egypt, Greece and Sri Lanka.

**Que 6. Why do you think slaves and servants were ill-treated? Do you think the orders of the emperor would have improved their condition?**

**Ans.** Yes, slaves and servants were ill-treated. The orders of the emperor would have improved their condition.

# Chapter 8

## Villages, Towns

### And Trades



**Que 1. Fill in the blanks:**

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ was a word used for large landowners in Tamil.

(b) The gramabhojaka often got his land cultivated by the —  
\_\_\_\_\_

(c) Ploughmen were known as \_\_\_\_\_ in Tamil.

(d) Most grihapatis were \_\_\_\_\_ landowners.

**Ans:**

(a) Vellalar was a word used for large landowners in Tamil.

(b) The gramabhojaka often got his land cultivated by the slaves and hired workers.

(c) Ploughmen were known as uzhavar in Tamil.

(d) Most grihapatis were small landowners.

**Que 2. Describe the functions of the gramabhojaka. Why do you think he was powerful?**

**Ans.**

The grama bhojaka was often the largest landowner. Generally, he had slaves and hired workers to cultivate the land. Besides, as he was powerful, the king often used him to collect taxes from the village. He also functioned as a judge, and sometimes as a policeman.

Grama bhojaka is very powerful person. In the northern part of the country, the village headman was known as the grama bhojaka. Usually, men from the same family held the position for generations.

**Que 3. List the crafts persons who would have been present in both villages and cities.**

**Ans.**

Goldsmiths, blacksmiths, weavers, basket makers, garland makers, perfumers etc.

**4. Choose the correct answer:**

**(a) Punch marked coins were made of:**

- 1. silver**
- 2. gold**
- 3. tin**
- 4. ivory**

**(b) Mathura was an important:**

- 1. village**
- 2. port**
- 3. Religious centre**
- 4. Forested area**

**(c) Shrenis were associations of:**

- 1. Rulers**
- 2. Crafts persons**
- 3. Farmers**
- 4. Herders**

**Ans.**

**(a) Punch marked coins were made of:**

- 1. Silver**
- 2. gold**

3. Tin
  4. Ivory
- Ans. 1. Silver

(b) Mathura was an important:

1. Village
2. Port
3. Religious centre
4. Forested area

Ans. 3. Religious Centre

(c) Shrenis were associations of:

1. Rulers
  2. Crafts persons
  3. Farmers
  4. Herders
- Ans. 2. Craft persons

**Que 5. What kinds of evidence do historians use to find out about trade and trade routes?**

**Ans.**

- This fine pottery, especially bowls and plates, were found from several archaeological sites throughout the subcontinent.
- There must have been quite a lot of trade as many Roman gold coins have been found in south India.
- Historian look at an account of various pilgrims left after their journey.

### **LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que5. Which of the iron tools shown on page 79 would have been important for agriculture? What would the other tools have been used for?**

**Ans.**

Iron tools which are shown on page 79 are Sickle, tongs, and axe. Iron tool which are used for agriculture are Sickle and axe.

**Que6. Compare the drainage system in your locality with that of the cities mentioned in the lesson. What similarities and differences do you notice?**

**Ans.**

In many cities, archaeologists have found rows of pots, or ceramic rings arranged one on top of the other. These are known as ring wells. These seem to have been used as toilets in some cases, and as drains and garbage dumps.

**Difference**

Today, drainage system is made up of pipe. It is durable enough to survive for a long time. It is made up of good quality raw material. Earlier drainage system is made up of mud and brick which can't survive for a long time.

**Similarities**

Like today, earlier also there was a well-developed drainage system.

## Chapter 9

# New Empires and Kingdoms

**Que 1. State whether true or false:**

- (a) Harishena composed a prashasti in praise of Gautamiputra Shri Satakarni.**
- (b) The rulers of Aryavarta brought tribute for Samudragupta.**
- (c) There were twelve rulers in Dakshinapatha.**
- (d) Taxila and Madurai were important centres under the control of the Gupta rulers.**
- (e) Aihole was the capital of the Pallavas.**
- (f) Local assemblies functioned for several centuries in south India.**

**Ans.**

- (a) Harishena composed a prashasti in praise of Gautamiputra Shri Satakarni. False**
- (b) The rulers of Aryavarta brought tribute for Samudragupta. True**
- (c) There were twelve rulers in Dakshinapatha. True**

(d) Taxila and Madurai were important centres under the control of the Gupta rulers. False

(e) Aihole was the capital of the Pallavas. False

(f) Local assemblies functioned for several centuries in south India. True

**Que 2. Mention three authors who wrote about Harshavardhana.**

**Ans.**

(i) Banabhatta, wrote his biography, the Harshacharita, in Sanskrit.

(ii) Xuan Zang, also spent a lot of time at Harsha's court and left a detailed account of what he saw.

(iii) Ravikirti.

**Que 3. What changes do you find in the army at this time?**

**Ans.**

Like earlier rulers, some of these kings maintained a well-organised army, with elephants, chariots, cavalry and foot soldiers. Besides, there were military leaders who provided the king with troops whenever he needed them. They collected revenue from the land and used this to maintain soldiers and horses, and provide equipment for warfare. These men were known as samantas. Whenever the ruler was weak, samantas tried to become independent.

**Que 4. What were the new administrative arrangements during this period?**

**Ans.**

- Some important administrative posts were now hereditary.

- Sometimes, one person held many offices.
- Besides, important men probably had a say in local administration. These included the nagara- shreshthi or chief banker or merchant of the city, the sarthavaha or leader of the merchant caravans, the prathama-kulika or the chief craftsman, and the head of the kayasthas or scribes.

### **LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que 5. What do you think Arvind would have to do if he was acting as Samudragupta?**

**Ans.**

If Arvind have to act like a Samudragupta, he would have to sit on throne and had to fight many battles. To act like a Samudragupt he had to take care of this kingdom and form policy for the benefit of his people.

**Que 6. Do you think ordinary people would have read and understood the prashastis? Give reasons for your answer.**

**Ans.**

No, ordinary people would not read and understood the prashastis as it was written in Sanskrit.

## **Chapter 10**

# Buildings, Paintings and Books

**Que 1. Match the following**

<b>Stupa</b>	<b>Place where the image of the deity is installed</b>
<b>Shikhara</b>	<b>Mound</b>
<b>Mandapa</b>	<b>Circular path around the stupa</b>
<b>Garbhagriha</b>	<b>Place in temples where people could assemble</b>
<b>Pradakshina</b>	<b>patha Tower</b>

**Ans.**

<b>Stupa</b>	<b>Mound</b>
<b>Shikhara</b>	<b>Tower</b>
<b>Mandapa</b>	<b>Place in temples where</b>



	people could assemble
Garbhagriha	Place where the image of the deity is installed
Pradakshina patha	Circular path around the stupa

**Que 2. Fill in the blanks:**

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ was a great astronomer.

(b) Stories about gods and goddesses are found in the \_\_\_\_\_

(c) \_\_\_\_\_ is recognised as the author of the Sanskrit Ramayana.

(d) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are two Tamil epics.

**Ans.**

(a) Aryabhatta was a great astronomer.

(b) Stories about gods and goddesses are found in the Puranas

(c) Valmiki is recognised as the author of the Sanskrit Ramayana.

(d) Silappadikaram and Manimekalai are two Tamil epics.

**LET'S DISCUSS**

**Que 3. Make a list of the chapters in which you find mention of metal working. What are the metals objects mentioned or shown in those chapters?**

**Ans.**

Chapter 4, 7 and 8 had mentioned metal working. Metal object mentioned in those chapters are sickle, ploughshare, sword and axe etc.

**4. Read the story on page 104. In what ways is the monkey king similar to or different from the kings you read about in Chapters 5 and 9?**

**Ans.**

**Similarities**

The king of the monkeys worked out a plan to save his followers. In a same way human king also work for the welfare of his kingdom's people.

**Difference**

Money King don't try to expand his empire. But human king do wars to expand his empire.

**Que 5. Find out more and tell a story from one of the epics.**

**Ans.**

Ramayana is one such epic. Like the Mahabharata, this was an old story that was now written down. Valmiki is recognised as the author of the Sanskrit Ramayana.

The Ramayana is about Rama, a prince of Kosala, who was sent into exile. His wife Sita was abducted by the king of Lanka, named Ravana, and Rama had to fight a battle to get her back. He won and returned to Ayodhya, the capital of Kosala, after his victory.