

CHAPTER 4.8

RASHTRAKUTAS

I. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN A WORD OR A SENTENCE EACH.

1. What was the royal emblem of the Rashtrakutas?

A: Garuda.

2. Which was the capital of the Rashtrakutas?

A: Manyakheta.

3. Who was the first king of the Rashtrakutas?

A: Dantidurga.

4. Who was the greatest ruler of the Rashtrakutas?

5. Who was the foreign traveler who visited the court of Amoghavarsha?

A: Sulaiman.

6. Which was the first literary work in Kannada?

A: Kavirajamarga.

7. Who was called 'Ubhaya Kavichakravarthi'?

A: Ponna.

8. Who patronized Ponna?

A: Krishna III.

9. Who is called Adikavi of Kannada?

A: Pampa.

10. Who patronized Pampa?

A: Arikesari – II.

II. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN TWO WORDS OR TWO SENTENCES EACH.

1. Who built the Kailasanatha temple? Where was it built?

- A: a) Krishna I
b) Ellora.

2. Name any two titles of Dhruva.

- A: a) Sri Vallabha.
b) Kalivallabha.

3. Name any two titles of Govinda III.

- A: a) Jagattunga.
b) Sri Vallabha.

4. Name any two titles of Amoghavarsha.

- A: a) Sri Vallabha.
b) Nrupatunga.

5. Write any two works of Ponna.

- A: a) Shantinathapurana.
b) Bhuvanaikya Ramabhtudaya.

6. Name any two works of Pampa.

- A: a) Vikramarjuna Vijaya.
b) Adipurana.

III. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN 15 TO 20 SENTENCES EACH.

1. Describe the achievements of Govinda III.

A: Govinda III came to power after defeating his brother Sthamba. In the North, Nagabhata, the Pratihara ruler, Dharmapala of Bengal and Chakrayudha of Kanauj were trying to extend their supremacy. Govinda III marched upto North India and defeated all the three rulers. Then he marched to the Himalayas. The inscriptions tells that Govinda's horses drank the water of Himalayas and his elephants bathed in the Ganges. He defeated the Pandyas, and the Kerala rulers. He also defeated the Pallava ruler Dhantivarma and secured tribute from him. The Simhalan ruler surrendered to Govinda III. His empire extended from Himalayas in the North, to Kanyakumari in the South and Saurashtra in the West to Bengal in the East. the whole of India came under the Rashtrakutas. He had the titles Sri Vallabha, Jagattunga etc.

2. Describe the achievements of Amoghavarsha.

A: Amoghavarsha I was the greatest ruler of the Rashtrakutas. He defeated the Vengi Chalukyan ruler. He had control over the northern part of the Ganga empire, with the help of his commander Bankesha. Later, Amoghavarsha I gave up conflicts and developed matrimonial alliances.

The Neelagunda and Shirur inscriptions tell us that Amoghavarsha I was respected by the rulers of Anga, Vanga, Magadha, Malwa, Vengi etc. He was tolerant towards all religions, peace loving and a scholar himself. He wrote 'Prashnottara Ratnamala' in Sanskrit. He patronized many scholars. Kavirajamarga the first known Kannada work, written by Srivijaya was during his period. Manyakheta, their capital became very famous during his period. The Arab traveler, Sulaiman, visited his capital and called the empire as one of the four great empires in the world. He had the title Sri Vallabha, Nrupatunga etc.

IV. ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN 30 TO 40 SENTENCES EACH.

1. Describe the cultural contributions of Rashtrakutas.

A: Rashtrakuta rulers were the followers of Vedic religion. They also patronized Jainism and Buddhism. Brahmanas were engaged in performing Yagas and Yugas. The kings gave donations and respected them.

Literature:

Rashtrakuta kings were patrons of literature and some were writers themselves. King Amoghavarsha wrote 'Prashnottara Ratnamala' in Sanskrit. The number of Kannada inscriptions increased. Kavirajamarga is the first Kannada work. It was composed by Sri Vijaya. Ponna who lived in the court of Krishna III wrote Shantinathapurana and Bhuvanaihya Ramabhyudaya. Pampa who was in the court of Arikesari II wrote Pampa Bharata and Adipurana. He is called the Adikavi of Kannada. Shivakotyacharya wrote Vaddaradhane. Sanskrit literature also developed well. . The Arab traveler, Sulaiman, visited the capital and called the empire as one of the four great empires in the world.

Art and Architecture:

Rashtrakuta have made spectacular contributions to Art and Architecture. They built structural temples, cave temples and Basadis. Ellora, Ajantha and Elephanta are the centres of their art. Krishna I built the world famous monolithic stone temple of Kailasanatha at Ellora, Maharashtra. The sculptures in this temple is particularly beautiful. This is called as one of the greatest artistic works of the world. The Elephanta caves also contain a number of artistic marvels.

The paintings in the cave temples are a witness to the fact the rulers also patronized paintings.