

CHAPTER-9 | From the Rulers to the Ruled: Types of Governments

QUIZ PART-04

1. What is a republic?

- A. A government led by a hereditary monarch
- B. A government where the head of state is elected and not a hereditary monarch
- C. A government ruled by military generals
- D. A government where the people have no say in decisions (B)

Explanation: A republic is a form of government where the head of state is elected, not inherited through monarchy.

2. In the Vajji (Vrijji) mahājanapada, how were leaders chosen?

- A. Through royal family succession
- B. Based on merit through elections
- C. By military strength
- D. By the priests and religious leaders (B)

Explanation: In the Vajji mahājanapada, the leaders were chosen based on merit, and elections were held to fill key positions.

3. What were the Uttaramerur inscriptions a remarkable example of?

- A. The first democracy in the world
- B. The election process in ancient India
- C. The expansion of the Chola empire
- D. The rights of the king's advisors (B)

Explanation: The Uttaramerur inscriptions from the Chola period describe the election process for village sabhā members, showing early democratic practices in India.

4. In a monarchy, how is the government typically formed?

- A. Through elections
- B. By the head teacher's appointment
- C. Through royal family succession
- D. By military rule (C)

Explanation: In a monarchy, the government is typically formed through royal family succession, where a king or queen continues to rule.

5. What is the role of the sabhā or samiti in Indian mahājanapadas?

- A. To enforce laws
- B. To help kings make decisions
- C. To provide economic support to the rulers
- D. To control the military (B)

Explanation: The sabhā or samiti in Indian mahājanapadas helped kings make decisions and provided advice on governance.

6. What did the king's role in ancient India often depend on?

- A. Absolute power over all matters
- B. Religious guidance from priests
- C. The confidence of the people
- D. Rājadharmā, the duty to rule according to justice and the welfare of people (D)

Explanation: The king's role was often bound by rājadharmā, meaning he was expected to rule justly and ensure the welfare of his people.

7. What does the concept of 'rājadharmā' mean?

- A. The duty of the king to maintain control through force
- B. The moral and legal duties of a king to rule justly
- C. The divine right of kings to rule as they please
- D. The responsibility of the king to only govern military affairs (B)

Explanation: Rājadharmā refers to the moral and legal duties of a king to rule according to justice, ensuring the welfare of the people.

8. What can happen if a king considers himself to have divine powers?

- A. He will focus on his people's needs
- B. He may rule with unchecked authority and disregard the welfare of his people
- C. He will always be benevolent
- D. He will consult his advisors more regularly (B)

Explanation: If a king considers himself to have divine powers, he may rule with unchecked authority, disregarding the welfare of his people and ruling arbitrarily.

9. In the story of King Chandrāpīḍa and the cobbler, what was the king's response to the cobbler's concern?

- A. He ignored the cobbler's plea
- B. He forcibly took the cobbler's hut
- C. He respectfully asked for the cobbler's permission and gave compensation
- D. He built a palace instead of a temple (C)

Explanation: King Chandrāpīḍa respected the cobbler's request, asked for his permission, and compensated him fairly, showing his commitment to dharma.

10. What is a key feature of a monarchy, as described in the text?

- A. The ruler is chosen through elections
- B. The king or queen has absolute power
- C. The ruler's power is limited by laws written in a constitution
- D. The monarch rules with the help of a council of elected representatives (B)

Explanation: In a monarchy, the king or queen typically holds absolute power and makes decisions without a constitution or elected representatives.