

CURRENT AFFAIRS



MCQ PRACTICE



Week 112

THE TUTORS ACADEMY



QUESTION 1

Consider the following statements about the *Kumbakonam vetrilai*:

1. It was recently granted a Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the Government of India, recognising its regional uniqueness and cultural significance.
2. It is staple in South Asian households and is central to preparing *paan*, a popular South Asian post-meal chew.
3. Kumbakonam, situated in Tamil Nadu, is home to *vethalai* or *vetrilai*, predominantly grown in Thanjavur's fertile Cauvery river basin, giving it a unique taste and aroma.

Which of the above given statements is/are true?

- (a) I and II only
- (b) I and III only
- (c) II and III only
- (d) I, II and III



QUESTION 2

1. After renouncing family life to pursue asceticism, Guru Nanak rejected both caste distinctions and Hindu idolatry, choosing a low-caste Hindu and a Muslim musician as companions to spread his spiritual message to the masses.
2. Guru Angad Dev built a gurdwara in Amritsar known as Sri Harmandir Sahib.
3. By the first quarter of the nineteenth century, a Sikh empire with an efficient army was formed under the leadership of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Which of the above given statements is/are true?

- (a) I and III only
- (b) II only
- (c) III only
- (d) I, II and III



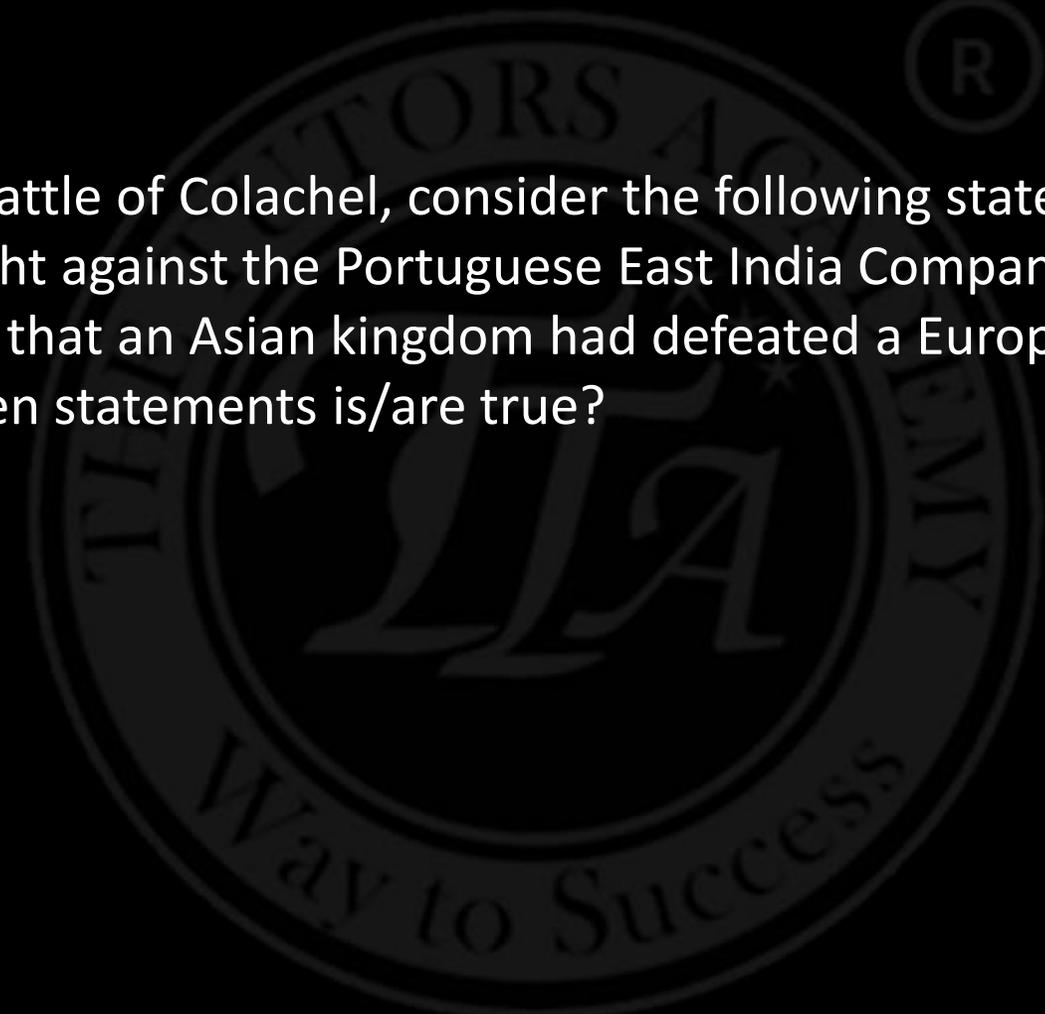
QUESTION 3

With reference to the Battle of Colachel, consider the following statement:

1. The battle was fought against the Portuguese East India Company.
2. It was the first time that an Asian kingdom had defeated a European power.

Which of the above given statements is/are true?

- (a) I only
- (b) II only
- (c) Both I and II
- (d) Neither I nor II





QUESTION 4

Which of the following temples is associated with King Lalitaditya Muktapida?

- (a) Parashurameshvara Temple
- (b) Martand Temple
- (c) Lingaraja Temple
- (d) Kandarya Mahadeva Temple





QUESTION 5

With which of the following events in the history of Modern India is Kanaklata Barua associated?

- (a) 1857 Revolt
- (b) Swadeshi Movement
- (c) Foundation of Indian National Congress
- (d) Quit India Movement





Week 112

Answers and Explanations



QUESTION 1

Consider the following statements about the *Kumbakonam vetrilai*:

1. It was recently granted a Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the Government of India, recognising its regional uniqueness and cultural significance.
2. It is staple in South Asian households and is central to preparing *paan*, a popular South Asian post-meal chew.
3. Kumbakonam, situated in Tamil Nadu, is home to *vethalai* or *vetrilai*, predominantly grown in Thanjavur's fertile Cauvery river basin, giving it a unique taste and aroma.

Which of the above given statements is/are true?

- (a) I and II only
- (b) I and III only
- (c) II and III only
- (d) I, II and III



1.Explanation

- ✓ The *Kumbakonam vetrilai* or betel leaf or paan leaf was recently granted a Geographical Indication (GI) tag by the Government of India, recognising its regional uniqueness and cultural significance. A staple in South Asian households, the betel leaf is central to preparing *paan*, a popular South Asian post-meal chew. The GI tag, announced in April 2025, and published in the Government Gazette in November 2024, took Tamil Nadu's total GI products to 62. Yet, many cultivators, marginal farmers and sellers remain unaware of this recognition and the benefits that come with it.
- ✓ Kumbakonam, six hours from Chennai, is home to *vethalai* or *vetrilai*, predominantly grown in Thanjavur's fertile Cauvery river basin, giving it a unique taste and aroma. The dark to light green, oblong heart-shaped leaves with a pungent taste are cultivated, washed and then bundled in places like Thiruvaiyaru, Papanasam, Thiruvaidaimarudur, Kumbakonam, and Rajagiri.
- ✓ Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.



QUESTION 2

1. After renouncing family life to pursue asceticism, Guru Nanak rejected both caste distinctions and Hindu idolatry, choosing a low-caste Hindu and a Muslim musician as companions to spread his spiritual message to the masses.
2. Guru Angad Dev built a gurdwara in Amritsar known as Sri Harmandir Sahib.
3. By the first quarter of the nineteenth century, a Sikh empire with an efficient army was formed under the leadership of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

Which of the above given statements is/are true?

- (a) I and III only
- (b) II only
- (c) III only
- (d) I, II and III



2.Explanation

- ✓ Sikhism, founded by Guru Nanak in the fifteenth century, is often considered one of the youngest religions in the world.
- ✓ After renouncing family life and pursuing asceticism, Guru Nanak took a low-caste Hindu and a Muslim musician as his companions to preach his experience to the masses.
- ✓ Guru Nanak's successors propagated his message. The fifth Guru, Guru Arjan Dev, built a gurdwara in Amritsar, Sri Harmandir Sahib, also known as Sri Darbar Sahib or Golden Temple.
- ✓ The Sikhs emerged as a powerful political and military force by the late eighteenth century. By the first quarter of the nineteenth century, a Sikh empire with an efficient army was formed under the leadership of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
- ✓ Therefore, option (a) is the correct answer.



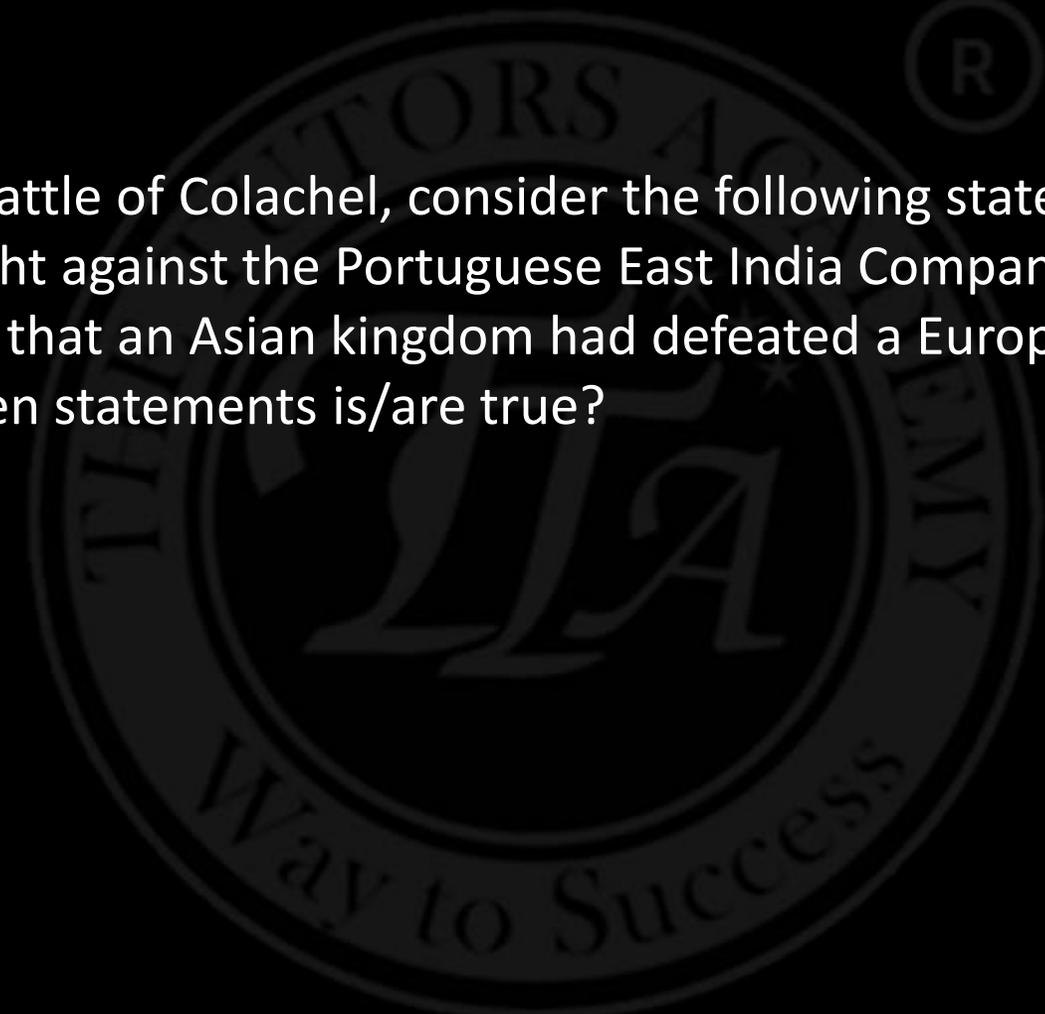
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- (b) II only
- (c) Both I and II
- (d) Neither I nor II





3.Explanation

- ✓ In 1741 King Marthanda Varma fought the Dutch East India Company commanded by the famous Admiral Eustachius De Lannoy. The Battle of Colachel is of huge significance in the history of India and Asia. It was the first time that an Asian kingdom had defeated a European power. Not only were the Dutch forces decimated, but also their colonial ambitions in India stalled.
- ✓ Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.



QUESTION 4

Which of the following temples is associated with King Lalitaditya Muktapida?

- (a) Parashurameshvara Temple
- (b) Martand Temple
- (c) Lingaraja Temple
- (d) Kandarya Mahadeva Temple





4.Explanation

- ✓ The Martand Temple was built by the Karkota dynasty king Lalitaditya Muktapida, who ruled Kashmir from 725 AD to 753 AD. Although some historians believe that an earlier temple existed here and was incorporated into Lalitaditya's grander structure, others credit Lalitaditya entirely for it. Lalitaditya built his capital at Parihaspora, the ruins of which also survive to this day.
- ✓ Therefore, option (b) is the correct answer.



QUESTION 5

With which of the following events in the history of Modern India is Kanaklata Barua associated?

- (a) 1857 Revolt
- (b) Swadeshi Movement
- (c) Foundation of Indian National Congress
- (d) Quit India Movement



5.Explanation

- ✓ One of the youngest martyrs of the Quit India Movement, Kanaklata Barua has an iconic status in Assam. Barua, then 17, led the Mrityu Bahini, a procession of freedom fighters, to unfurl the Tricolour at Gohpur police station on September 20, 1942. When police did not let them move forward, an altercation led to firing, killing Barua at the head of the procession.
- ✓ Therefore, option (d) is the correct answer.