

THEME D - GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY

5 - UNIVERSAL FRANCHISE AND INDIA'S ELECTORAL SYSTEM

I ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. What is meant by the Universal adult franchise?
Why is it important in a democracy?

Ans: Universal adult franchise is the right to vote without discrimination. It ensures equality and democratic participation.

2. What is the model code of conduct? Mention any two key rules under it.

Ans: During elections, all political parties, leaders, and candidates must follow certain rules to ensure that elections are free, fair and peaceful. These rules are known as Model code of Conduct.

Key rules:

- Prohibiting the ruling party from using government resources for campaigning.
- And strictly forbidding candidates from offering bribes or gifts to voters.

3. How does giving the right to vote to every adult promote the value of equality in India?

Ans: Each person gets one vote, and every vote has equal value regardless of their background.

- Universal franchise gives everyone, including disadvantaged groups, the chance to influence decisions, leading to fairer policies.



Theme B - Tapestry of the Past

3 - The Rise of the Marathas

Q Answer the following:

1. Which deadly weapon did Shivaji use to kill Afzal Khan?

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Ans: Shivaji used the wagh nakh (tiger's claw), a small but deadly iron weapon fitted with curved blades to kill Afzal Khan.

2. Name two famous Peshwas who expanded Maratha influence.

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Ans: Peshwa Bajirao I and later his son, Nanasaheb Peshwa played a decisive role in expanding Maratha influence across large parts of India.

3. Mention any two major temples rebuilt by Ahilyabai Holkar.

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Ans: Kashi Vishwanath temple in Varanasi and the Somnath temple in Gujarat.

4. Describe Shivaji's strategy of guerrilla warfare.

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Ans: Shivaji adopted the strategy of guerrilla warfare. This form of fighting relied on small groups of soldiers who moved quickly, sprung



surprise attacks on their unaware enemies, and used their knowledge of the local terrain to overcome much larger armies.