

<b>AREA OF META DATA</b>	<b>CONTENT</b>
<b>THEME</b>	Our Clues to the Past
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>History</b>
<b>LINKAGE OF THEME WITH CHAPTERS(NAME)</b>	Importance of Sources (Chapter I- What, Where, How and When)
<b>Target Audience</b>	<b>Students</b>
<b>CLASS/LEVEL</b>	<b>Class VII</b>
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To develop an understanding of variety of sources in understanding the past</b></li> <li>• <b>To realise the importance of sources in history</b></li> </ul>
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<p>Studying about the past is like playing a game of a treasure hunt. There are clues hidden in different places and when you find one clue, it leads you to the next and slowly you discover at the treasure. In History the hidden treasure is trying to understand what happened in the past, how it happened and when it happened, long before we were born. How do we know about the life and times people who lived in those times? We learn about them from the evidence left behind by them at different points of time. These remains of the past are known as sources and historians use a variety of sources to decipher what happened in the past. It is thus a challenging task to rediscover India's rich past.</p> <p>Today we are surrounded by printed material in terms of books, magazines and newspapers. But do you know there was a time when printing was not known and records were written by hand on paper? Yet earlier still, paper was not known, records were written on dried palm leaves, the bark of birch tree and on plates of copper and, in some cases they were inscribed on large</p>

	<p>rocks, pillars or clay/stone tablets. There was a time still when even writing was unknown. Our knowledge of the life of people in those ancient times comes from objects which they have left behind such as their utensils, ornaments, pottery and weapons. Sources can be divided into two main groups: Archaeological and Literary.</p>
<b>KEY WORDS</b>	Sources, Clues, Archaeological Remains, Inscriptions, Coins, Literature, Travellers Accounts
<b>CONTENT DEVELOPER</b>	<b>Mily Roy Anand</b>
<b>SUBJECT COORDINATOR</b>	<b>Mily Roy Anand</b>
<b>CIET COORDINATOR</b>	<b>Indu Kumar</b>

## **SOURCES CAN BE CATEGORISED INTO:**

### **(1) Archaeological Remains and Monuments, Inscriptions and Coins**



*The bathroom-toilet structure of houses in Loth*



*A variety of tools belonging to the Stone Age*



*Brihadeshwara Temple dedicated to Shiva located in Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu is an example of Dravidian architecture during the Chola period.*



Badami Chalukya pillar inscription in Old Kannada, Virupaksha Temple, 745 CE, Pattadakal



Silver coins of Chandragupta II, minted in his Western territories

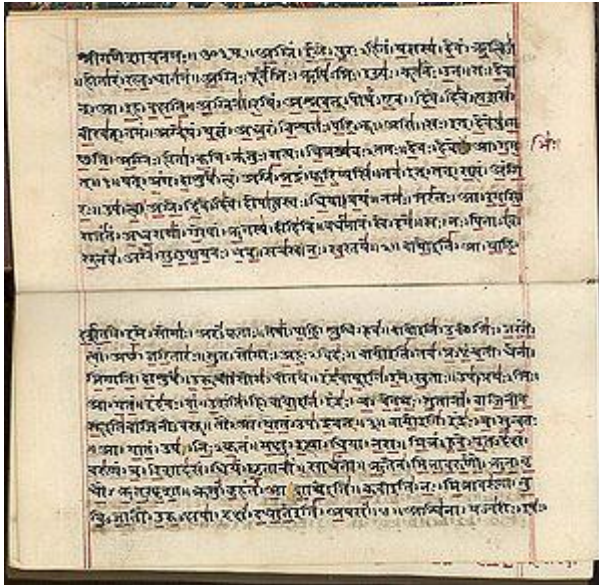


Gold coins of Chandragupta II.  
Rajasthan.



A Jain palm leaf manuscript from

## (2) Literary Sources: Religious Literature, Non-Religious Literature and Travellers Accounts



*Rigveda manuscript in Devanagari*

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The root of happiness is Dharma (ethics, righteousness), the root of *Dharma* is Artha (economy, polity), the root of *Artha* is right governance, the root of right governance is victorious inner-restraint, the root of victorious inner-restraint is humility, the root of humility is wisdom.

— *Kautilya, Chanakya Sutra 1-6<sup>38</sup>*

— *Arthashastra 3.1<sup>[58][59]</sup>*

Extract from *Arthasastra* of Kautilya



A portrait of Xuanzang

Xuan Zang was a Chinese Buddhist monk, scholar, traveller, and translator who described the interaction between China and India in the early Tang dynasty. He came to India about 1400 years ago and visited places associated with the life of Buddha. He left an account of his journey in India.

## ACTIVITY 1

**Given Below Are Images. Indicate the nature of source by ticking on the correct option.**

**CIET: Correct answer should be flashed in Green.**

**Correct answer highlighted in Green**

### 1. Konark Sun temple





Options : **Monument**/ Inscription/ Manuscript/Coin/ Travellers account

## 2. Jama Masjid, Delhi



Options : **Monument**/ Inscription/ Manuscript/Coin/ Travellers account

## 3. Silver coin of Akbar with inscriptions



Options : Monument/ Inscription/ Manuscript/**Coin**/ Travellers account

## 4. A Palm Leaf Manuscript In Nandinagari Script.



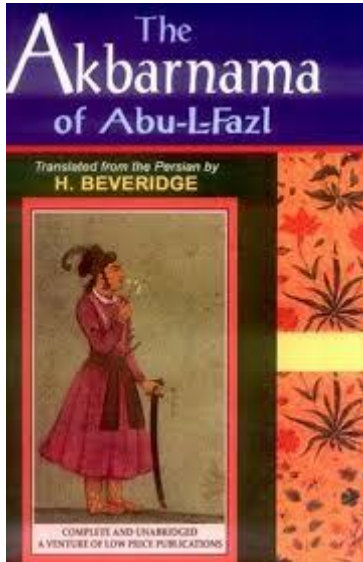
Options : Monument/ Inscription/ **Manuscript**/ Coin/ Travellers account

## 5. Ruins of Nalanda University



Options : **Monument**/ Inscription/ Manuscript/Coin/ Travellers account

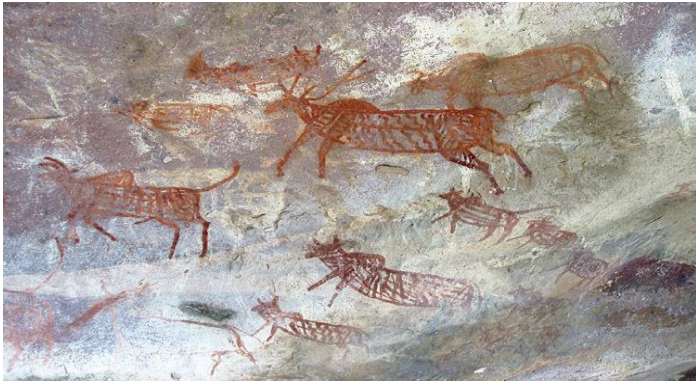
## 6. Akbar Nama



Options : Monument/ Inscription/ **Manuscript**/Coin/ Travellers account



## 7. Bhimbetka Cave Paintings



Options : **Monument** / Inscription/ Manuscript/ Coin/ Travellers account

## 8. Coins of Cholas



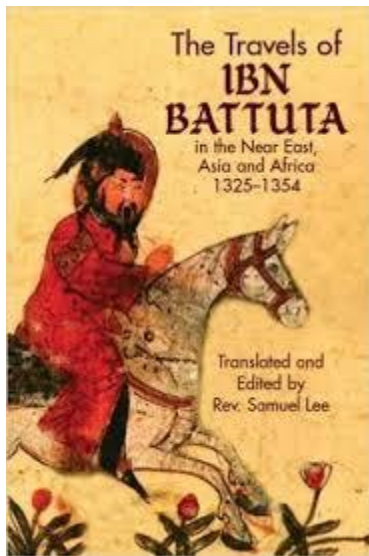
Options : Monument/ Inscription/ Manuscript/ **Coin** / Travellers account

## 9. Edict of Ashoka



Options : Monument/ **Inscription** / Manuscript/ Coin/ Travellers account

## 10. Travels of Ibn Batuta



Options : Monument/ Inscription/ Manuscript/Coin/ **Travellers account**