

**Asian History Examination
NHBB Nationals 2021**

Name _____

School _____

Grade _____

**Instructions – Mark your answers on the scantron provided.
Correct answers are worth 2 points. Incorrect answers are
worth –1 point. Questions left blank are worth 0 points.**

All levels

1. Which of the following best describes the time period of the Gupta Empire?

- A. the 500s to 200s BCE
- B. the 200s to the 500s CE
- C. roughly 1000 CE to 1200 CE
- D. the 1500s to 1800s CE

2. Rajasinghe II, who allied with the Dutch to end Portuguese colonial rule in Sri Lanka, ruled which of the following kingdoms?

- A. Kandy
- B. Chola
- C. Colombo
- D. Kalinga

3. All of these are true of the Treaty of Turkmenchay EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it ended the Russo-Persian War in 1828
- B. it was signed by the Qajar Dynasty and the Russian Empire
- C. the war was a resounding victory for Qajar Persia
- D. the Persians ceded territory in what is now Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia to the Russian Empire in the treaty

4. Which of the following Chinese dynasties was established by ethnic Manchurians?

- A. Qing
- B. Han
- C. Ming
- D. Yuan

5. The Elamite language, the spoken and written language of the early Achaemenid Empire, was written in what script?

- A. hieroglyphs
- B. Paleo-Hebrew
- C. Arabic
- D. cuneiform

6. The Marco Polo Bridge Incident led most directly to which of the following effects?

- A. massive investment into internal improvements in the Self-Strengthening movement
- B. the establishment of the state of Manchukuo
- C. the death of Sun Yat-Sen
- D. full-scale war between Japan and China

7. Which of the following archaeological finds provides the name for the Kofun period of Japanese history?

- A. keyhole shaped burial mounds

- B. ancient bronze weaponry
- C. jade jewelry and death masks
- D. terracotta cookware

8. Vietnamese, Khmer, and Mon all belong to which of the following language families?

- A. Sino-Tibetan
- B. Austroasiatic
- C. Dravidian
- D. Austronesian

9. Juche is the official state ideology for which of the following?

- A. Vietnam
- B. South Korea
- C. North Korea
- D. Mongolia

10. Which of the following technologies was NOT originally developed in China?

- A. astrolabe
- B. woodblock printing
- C. compass
- D. gunpowder

11. All of these are thought to date to the Vedic period of Indian history EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the Rigveda
- B. the Upanishads
- C. the Mahabharata
- D. the Brahmanas

12. Akira Kurosawa's classic film Seven Samurai is set in 1586 during which of the following periods of Japanese history?

- A. Nara
- B. Heian
- C. Kamakura
- D. Sengoku

13. King Jigme Singye Wangchuck of Bhutan formulated which of the following indices in 1972 to measure the well-being of his nation?

- A. the Human Development Index
- B. Gross National Happiness
- C. the World Values Survey
- D. Subjective Life Satisfaction

14. Which of these was an investigation into establishing relations between the United States and a potential Communist government of China undertaken in the mid-1940s?

- A. Operation Paul Bunyan
- B. Operation Flying Tiger
- C. the Dixie Mission
- D. Air America

15. All of these are true of the Hasmonean Dynasty EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it gained independence from the Seleucid Empire in the second century BCE
- B. at its height it controlled not only Judea but most of the former Seleucid and Antigonid territories in the region
- C. it was conquered by the Roman Republic and forced to become a client state during the first century BCE

D. the dynasty was ended by Herod the Great in 37 BCE

16. Which of the following factors could most credibly be used to argue that the status of Chinese women declined during the Song Dynasty?

- A. the rise of Neo-Confucianism
- B. the wives and mothers of Song emperors were not able to wield power
- C. women did not perform any important economic tasks
- D. the spread of Buddhism into China

17. Which of the following Indian political was assassinated by their own bodyguards in 1984?

- A. Mahatma Gandhi
- B. Jawaharlal Nehru
- C. Indira Gandhi
- D. Rajiv Gandhi

18. The Sino-Indian War took place during which of the following decades?

- A. 1930s
- B. 1940s
- C. 1950s
- D. 1960s

19. All of these are among the 'Four Asian Tiger' economies of the period from the 1960s to the 1990s EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. South Korea
- B. Taiwan
- C. Singapore
- D. Japan

20. The second of Mao Zedong's Five-Year plans is better known by what name?

- A. the Cultural Revolution
- B. Great Leap Forward
- C. the New Economic Plan
- D. the Hundred Flowers Campaign

21. Pondicherry, Karikal, and Yanaon were territorial possessions of which of the following in India until the post-World War II era?

- A. Belgium
- B. the Netherlands
- C. Portugal
- D. France

22. The Taiping Heavenly Kingdom was most clearly influenced by which of the following foreign religious traditions?

- A. Christianity
- B. Hinduism
- C. Islam
- D. Zen Buddhism

23. Which of the following was the prime minister of Singapore from 1959 to 1990?

- A. Sir Stamford Raffles
- B. Lee Kuan Yew
- C. Goh Chok Tong
- D. Lee Hsien Loong

24. The 'Dancing Girl' sculpture and 'Great Bath' are associated with which of the following ancient sites?

- A. Ruar
- B. Dholavira
- C. Mohenjo-Daro
- D. Harappa

25. Which of these is NOT among the largest ethnic groups in the Middle East?

- A. Arabs
- B. Persians
- C. Turks
- D. Samaritans

26. All of these are true of the historical region of Balochistan (Baluchistan) EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it is a part of the Iranian Cultural Continent or 'Greater Persia'
- B. it is contained primarily within India
- C. it includes the provinces of Helmand and Kandahar in Afghanistan
- D. it includes around 4 million speakers of the Balochi language, as well as Pashto, Farsi and Urdu speakers

27. Which of the following regions was successfully invaded by Kublai Khan and incorporated into the Yuan Empire?

- A. Korea
- B. Java
- C. Japan
- D. Myanmar

28. Which of these was the immediate consequence of the Battle of Sekigahara?

- A. the rapid modernization of the Japanese military
- B. the opening of Japan to western influence and trade
- C. Japan was briefly colonized by Korea
- D. beginning of the Edo period

29. All of these are constituents of the United Arab Emirates EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Abu Dhabi
- B. Ras Al Khaimah
- C. Oman
- D. Dubai

30. During which of the following periods did Confucius live?

- A. 6th-5th century BCE
- B. 9th-8th century BCE
- C. 1st-2nd century CE
- D. 4th-5th century CE

31. Babur was able to defeat which leader of the Delhi Sultanate at the Battle of Panipat in 1526?

- A. Shah Jahan
- B. Ibrahim Lodi
- C. Aurangzeb
- D. Akbar

32. Which of the following presents the correct order of these men's mostly uncontested rule over Japan?

- A. Oda Nobunaga, Hideyoshi Toyotomi, Tokugawa Ieyasu
- B. Hideyoshi Toyotomi, Oda Nobunaga, Tokugawa Ieyasu
- C. Oda Nobunaga, Tokugawa Ieyasu, Hideyoshi Toyotomi

D. Hideyoshi Toyotomi, Tokugawa Ieyasu, Oda Nobunaga

33. The Mamluks defeated the Mongols at what key 1260 battle?

- A. Battle of Megiddo
- B. Battle of the Kalka River
- C. Battle of Ain Jalut
- D. Battle of the Sit River

34. Which of the following powerful economic organizations was co-founded in 1960 by Middle Eastern nations including Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia?

- A. the Arab League
- B. the United Arab Republic
- C. the GATT
- D. OPEC

35. Both Lady Triệu and Trưng Trắc are regarded as national heroines for taking which of the following actions?

- A. resisting imperial control
- B. fighting for equal gender rights
- C. bringing Buddhism to Vietnam
- D. becoming the matriarchs of long-lasting dynasties

36. All of these are true of the unification of Nepal EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it was completed in the late eighteenth century
- B. it was led by the Gorkha Kingdom
- C. King Prithvi Narayan Shah became the first ruler of a unified Nepal
- D. the Nepalese Gorkhas defeated both the Chinese and British to complete unification

37. Emperor Sejong the Great is best known for which of the following accomplishments?

- A. development of the Hangul script
- B. unifying the Korean peninsula for the first time in history
- C. repelling the Japanese invasion of Korea
- D. creation of the 'Three Offices' system

38. Jayavarman VII ruled over which of the following empires?

- A. Champa Empire
- B. Chola Empire
- C. Khmer Empire
- D. Pagan Empire

39. All of these are among the 'first civilizations' of the world EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Sumerian
- B. Indus River Valley
- C. Mycenaean Greece
- D. Ancient Egypt

40. Which of the following best describes Japan's experience of industrialization in the 19th century?

- A. Japan retained its traditional way of life throughout the 19th century and did not begin industrializing until the period immediately before World War II
- B. Japan was mostly isolated from industrial powers at the beginning of the century, then industrialized rapidly in its second half
- C. Japan deemphasized industrialization towards the end of the 1800s, once its environmental toll became clear

D. Japan was briefly colonized by the United States and forced to develop industrial capacity

41. Which of the following was the name given to India's first successful nuclear test in 1974?

- A. Operation Blue Star
- B. the Trinity Test
- C. Ivy Mike
- D. Operation Smiling Buddha

42. Which of the following best describes the Chinese government's policy towards African states between 1980 and the present?

- A. China has engaged in massive economic investment in Africa, including the establishment of military bases
- B. China has levied sanctions on capitalist nations with the hope of encouraging communist revolutions
- C. China has engaged in a series of proxy wars against the United States in Africa
- D. China has pulled back from Africa, diverting most of its attention to investments in the United States and Europe

43. Which of the following is currently a major tourist attraction in Pyongyang?

- A. USS Maddox
- B. USS Pueblo
- C. USS Turner Joy
- D. USS Cole

44. The Gateless Gate and The Blue Cliff Record are important texts in which of the following traditions?

- A. Zen Buddhism
- B. Bushido
- C. Shinto
- D. Daoism

45. The 2000 election in Taiwan ended the previously uninterrupted 50-year reign of what political party?

- A. Democratic Progressive
- B. People First
- C. New Power
- D. Kuomintang

46. The Grand Canal links together which two rivers?

- A. Indus and Ganges
- B. Yellow and Yangtze
- C. Mekong and Irrawaddy
- D. Red and Yenisey

47. All of these are true of the Ba'ath Party EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. it had branches in several Arab countries including Syria, Libya, Iraq and Lebanon
- B. it originally espoused an ideology of anti-imperialism, socialism and pan-Arabism
- C. it has periodically controlled parliament and the office of prime minister in Jordan since the 1960s
- D. a branch of the party ruled Iraq until 2003

48. Which of these is the major religion in Bhutan?

- A. Vajrayana Buddhism
- B. Hinduism

- C. Islam
- D. Bon

49. Which of the following best describes the Non-Aligned Movement?

- A. a supranational political and economic union of 27 member states
- B. a group of 120 states that are not formally aligned with or against any major power bloc
- C. a legal agreement between many countries, whose overall purpose was to promote international trade by reducing or eliminating trade barriers
- D. a system of monetary management that established the rules for commercial and financial relations among most Western industrialized nations

50. All of these are true of the partition of India in 1947 EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the partition resulted in three independent states in 1947 – India, Pakistan and Bangladesh
- B. an estimated 3.5 million Hindus and Sikhs living in West Punjab, North-West Frontier Province, Baluchistan, East Bengal and Sind migrated to India
- C. communal violence killed an estimated one million Hindus, Muslims, and Sikhs
- D. following the partition over 500 princely states had to be integrated into India

HS only

51. Which of the following took over as the ruling dynasty of Iran in 1925?

- A. the Qajar Dynasty
- B. the Pahlavi Dynasty
- C. the Hashemites
- D. the Saud Dynasty

52. Which of the following short-lived Afghan empires issued the first rupee coin in the mid-sixteenth century CE?

- A. the Sur Empire
- B. the Khalji Dynasty
- C. the Pandyan Dynasty
- D. the Pala Empire

53. Which of the following was the precipitating incident in the Iran-Iraq War?

- A. the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait
- B. the sinking of the USS Stark
- C. the capture of Khuzestan Province by Iran
- D. Iraq's invasion of Iran in September 1980

54. Which of the following best describes the Silk Road?

- A. the first global trade route, encompassing land and maritime routes including trans-Atlantic and trans-Pacific shipping
- B. the sea-level waterway connecting the Mediterranean and Red Seas
- C. a network of trade routes connecting the East and West, and central to the economic, cultural, political, and religious interactions between these regions from the 2nd century BCE to the 18th century
- D. a network of ancient land and sea routes for importing spices, gold and exotic wood from the "Land of Punt" and from Arabia

55. Which of the following describes the most notable reform of Deng Xiaoping?

- A. transitioning to a more market-based economy
- B. ending the one-child policy
- C. making foot binding illegal along with other traditional practices
- D. encouraging democratic elections

56. From the 1970s to the 1990s Japan's rapid growth in which of the following industries put significant strain on its relationship with the United States?

- A. video games
- B. agriculture
- C. automobiles
- D. defense

57. All of these are among the 'Three Kingdoms' that competed for control over the Korean peninsula between the 1st century BCE and the 7th century CE EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Silla
- B. Joseon
- C. Goryeo
- D. Baekje

58. Which of the following best describes Burma's political administration in the year 1900?

- A. it was component of the British Raj

B. it was local puppet government controlled by the British East India Company

C. it was part of French Indochina

D. it was an independent kingdom that successfully resisted imperialism

59. The merchant Lu Buwei was a minister who served which of the following Chinese dynasties?

- A. Qin
- B. Han
- C. Zhou
- D. Shang

60. China performed its first successful nuclear test in which of the following decades?

- A. 1940s
- B. 1960s
- C. 1980s
- D. 2000s

61. Which of Genghis Khan's sons was selected to succeed him in the kurultai following his death?

- A. Tolui
- B. Chagatai
- C. Jochi
- D. Ogedei

62. All of these are true of the Battle of Plassey in 1757 EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the French lost most of their influence in Bengal in its aftermath
- B. the East India Company became the de facto ruler of Bengal and much of the rest of the Indian subcontinent
- C. the Company deposed Mir Jafar as Nawab of Bengal
- D. the Company defeated a combined force of the Nawab of Bengal and the French

63. The SS Mayaguez was seized by the government of which of the following nations in 1975?

- A. North Vietnam
- B. North Korea
- C. Laos
- D. Cambodia

64. Which of the following cash crops was the most profitable produced by the Dutch East India Company (VOC) in Indonesia during the 17th century?

- A. nutmeg
- B. sugar
- C. rice
- D. indigo

65. Which of the following is referred to as the 'Father of the Nation' in Bangladesh?

- A. Lord Louis Mountbatten
- B. Muhammad Ali Jinnah
- C. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
- D. B. R. Ambedkar

66. Time Magazine named the protester who blocked the path of a group of tanks during the Tiananmen Square Protests one of the

100 most influential people of the 20th century despite which of the following inconvenient facts?

- A. the protester's identity is unknown
- B. immediately after the iconic photograph of him was taken, the protester was killed
- C. the protester was later found to be an undercover military officer
- D. the protester renounced his pro-democracy views while in prison

67. The Potala Palace and Norbulingka are UNESCO World Heritage Sites in which of the following areas?

- A. Kashmir
- B. Tibet
- C. Nepal
- D. Bhutan

68. All of these are true of the Radcliffe Line EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. its western side has been heavily modified due to decades of political and military conflict between India and Pakistan
- B. its eastern side currently serves as the border between India and Bangladesh
- C. it divided the provinces of Punjab and Bengal between Indian and Pakistani control
- D. it was published in 1947 during the partition of India

69. The biwa, an important element of traditional Japanese music, belongs to what class of instruments?

- A. percussion
- B. woodwind
- C. strings
- D. brass

70. Which of the following members of the CCCP died in a plane crash in 1971 and was posthumously accused of treason and "counter-revolutionary" behavior?

- A. Zhou Enlai
- B. Jiang Qing
- C. Hu Yaobang
- D. Lin Biao

71. Which of the following rebellions was defeated by an alliance between a Chinese imperial dynasty and the Uyghur Khaganate?

- A. Yellow Turban Rebellion
- B. An Lushan Rebellion
- C. Red Turban Rebellion
- D. Five Pecks of Rice Rebellion

72. All of these are true of the Green Revolution in India EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. the Green Revolution resulted in much less control of India's agricultural sector by multi-national corporations like Monsanto
- B. the U.S. shipped roughly a fifth of its wheat production to India in the years immediately preceding the Green Revolution
- C. high yielding variety seeds including dwarf wheat played a key role
- D. Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh were among the leading producers of grains following the Green Revolution

73. All of these leaders were involved in the negotiation of the Camp David Accords in 1978 EXCEPT which of the following?

- A. Menachem Begin
- B. Jimmy Carter
- C. Anwar Sadat
- D. Yasser Arafat

74. The Terracotta Army of Qin Shi Huang's tomb was discovered in which of the following Chinese provinces?

- A. Hebei
- B. Shaanxi
- C. Guangxi
- D. Qinghai

75. Now or Never; Are We to Live or Perish Forever?, also known as the 'Pakistan Declaration' was written and published in 1933 by which of the following, considered the originator of the Pakistan movement?

- A. Muhammad Ali Jinnah
- B. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto
- C. Choudhry Rahmat Ali
- D. V.D. Savarkar

MS only

51. Which of the following was the title given to the rulers of Iran until 1979?

- A. Crown Prince
- B. Shah
- C. Pharaoh
- D. Nawab

52. The short-lived Sur Empire in what is now northern India and Afghanistan issued the first of what type of coin in the mid-sixteenth century?

- A. rupee
- B. dirham
- C. dinar
- D. rial

53. Iraq's 1980 invasion of Iran resulted in which of the following?

- A. the Islamic Revolution in Iran
- B. the overthrow of Saddam Hussein's government
- C. the Persian Gulf War
- D. the Iran-Iraq War

54. The overland trade route which allowed goods from China to make it into the Roman Empire is most commonly known by what name?

- A. the Jade Road
- B. the Spice Road
- C. the Silk Road
- D. the Porcelain Road

55. Which of the following describes the most notable reform of Deng Xiaoping?

- A. transitioning to a more market-based economy
- B. encouraging a 'new baby boom' in China
- C. making foot binding illegal along with other traditional practices
- D. restoring democracy and free speech to China

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- B. the United States
- C. forces of the British East India Company
- D. the Sikh Empire

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- C. Nepal
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- B. Kerala and Tamil Nadu
- C. Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka
- D. Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra

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- B. woodwind
- C. strings
- D. brass

70. Lin Biao and the 'Gang of Four' were accused of which of the following crimes against China in 1976 immediately following Mao's death?

- A. murder
- B. kidnapping
- C. theft
- D. 'counter-revolutionary activities'

71. Which of the following rebellions was defeated by an alliance between a Chinese imperial dynasty and the Uyghur Khaganate?

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- C. Red Turban Rebellion
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72. Which of the following is considered the father of the 'Green Revolution' which helped alleviate famine conditions in India in the mid and late 1960s?

- A. Norman Borlaug
- B. Mahatma Gandhi
- C. Jawaharlal Nehru
- D. Rajiv Gandhi

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- B. Sri Lanka
- C. Pakistan
- D. India