

## FAQ's

### **1. Define the terms a) Urban History b) Urban Biography.**

#### **Urban history**

**Urban history** is a field of history that examines the historical nature of cities and towns, and the process of urbanization.

The approach is often multidisciplinary, crossing boundaries into fields like social history, architectural history, urban sociology, urban geography business history, and archaeology.

#### **Urban biography**

Urban biography is the narrative history of a city, and often reaches a general audience. Urban biographies cover the interrelationships among various dimensions, such as politics, demography, business, high culture, popular culture, housing, neighbourhoods, and ethnic groups. It covers municipal government as well as physical expansion, growth and decline. Historians often focus on the largest and most dominant city—usually the national capital—which geographers call a "primate city."

### **2. Discuss the three phases of urban process in Medieval Tamil Nadu.**

- a) The first, during the Sangam period,
- b) The second with the period of the Cholas from the ninth to thirteenth centuries and the third from fourteenth to nineteenth centuries
- c) The third phase also includes the Muslims, Nayakas, Marathas and the European settlements, providing a fairly large scale agrarian expansion, trade and commercial activities, industrial developments, craft and institutional organisations to serve as the basis for the growth of urban centres in various districts across Tamil Nadu.

### **3.Name any two international planners who have contributed to urban conservation.**

Urban conservation was born out of disorientation and dismay. The irreversible loss of treasured monuments led **Victor Hugo** (1802–1885) to argue passionately against the destruction of France's medieval monuments.

**Camillo Sitte** (1843–1903), an Austrian architect and planner, pioneered such studies with a re- evaluation of ancient and medieval urban heritage.

Sitte's work is the beginning of an analytical appreciation of the historic city as the repository of a method that can provide continuity in city building. He was also the first to understand the danger of urban renewal and to foresee the damage it would inflict.

### **4.What are the issues faced by a historic city?**

It is advised that demolitions and reconfiguring and sanitizing neighbourhoods are not good, advocating instead for "conservative surgery" to improve housing conditions with minimal interventions and expense.

A giant step toward full appreciation of the historic city and its special planning requirements is important.

It is important to have a notion of vernacular architecture, which is considered not only an integral part of the urban fabric but worthy of conservation. It is important to recognize that clearly the historic city's incompatibility with modern urban developments. It is therefore advocated that city expansions away from the urban core and the removal of motorized traffic from historic areas.