



THE VILLAGE
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
"We Nurture Dreams"

Glimpses of India Part 1: A Baker from Goa Summary

This story is written by Lucio Rodrigues, who talked about Goa, which was once ruled by the Portuguese. Due to this reason, the people of the region are swayed by the Portuguese culture. Baking was the conventional profession of the Goan people, and the bakers were known as 'paders' there. This story particularly revolves around the bakers living in a Goan village. The author mentioned how people in old times ate loaves of bread which were baked in large furnaces. The paders would come to sell those loaves in the street and would make a jingling sound with the bamboo whenever they arrived. He further added how the villagers enjoyed eating the loaves and bread-bangles brought in baskets for children by these bakers during his childhood.

The author also described the special attire of the bakers called Kabai, which was a single-piece frock that would reach up to their knees. Besides, he also mentioned how baking became the most profitable profession among people in Goa, and many bakers led a prosperous life, and their jackfruit-like physical appearance was a valid testimony of their well-being.

Glimpses of India Part 2: Coorg Summary

Coorg is a story written by Lokesh Abrol. He described Coorg as the smallest district of Karnataka. The author said Coorg, or Kodagu is a beautiful place that is located midway between Mangalore and Mysore. The heavenly city has evergreen forests, spices and coffee plantations and many tourists throng to this destination from September to March every year. The air of this region is filled with coffee scents. The people of this region are very independent and have some Greek or Arabic connection since the time a part of Alexander's army had settled here permanently. They settled here and married the local people and the tradition continues to exist.

The people of Coorg wear Kuppia, which is a long black coat that is quite similar to the ones worn by Arabs.

Besides, the Coorgi people are very brave. One of the most significant regiments in the Indian Army is the Coorg Regiment. Notably, the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army was General Cariappa, who hailed from this beautiful place. The hilly regions and forests of Coorg are a major source of water for the Cauvery River. Visitors who are interested in high-adventure sports can have fun and frolic in this place and also explore the different types of animals particularly found in this region.

Glimpses of India Part 3: Tea from Assam Summary

Tea from Assam is a story written by Arup Kumar Datta. This is the last story of the prose, Glimpses of India. The story began with two friends, Rajvir and Pranjol, who were travelling to Assam. On their way, they bought fresh tea from a roadside vendor and discussed the special tea of this region. As they sipped the hot steaming tea, Rajvir told Pranjol that over eighty crore cups of tea are being consumed every day throughout the world. Rajvir thoroughly enjoyed the scenic beauty of Assam, consisting of tea plantations and bushes, while Pranjol was engrossed in a detective book.

Rajvir further explained to Pranjol about Assam as a place that is famous for having the largest tea plantations. However, no one knows the origin of tea in the region. According to a Chinese legend, a few leaves of tea accidentally fell into a pot of boiling hot water. The Emperor enjoyed the delicious flavour of the liquid, and that's how tea came into being. Further, Rajvir mentioned how an Indian legend, Bodhidharma, who was a Buddhist monk, cut off his eyelids because he fell asleep during meditation. In no time, ten tea plants grew out of his eyelids and when these leaves were put in hot water, it helped in banishing sleep.

Soon, both of them arrived at Mariani Junction, picked up their luggage and made their way towards Dhekiabari Tea Estate. On their way, they saw batches of tea-pluckers who draped plastic aprons with bamboo baskets hung on their backs as they plucked the newly sprouted leaves. Pranjol's father had come to receive both of them. Pranjol's father was amazed at Rajvir's knowledge about tea plantations when

he heard the young boy mention the second flush or sprouting period of tea that yields the best tea. Rajvir further said that he was keen to learn more about the place from Pranjal's father.

A Baker from Goa - Questions and Answers

Very Short Answer Questions

1. What do the elders of Goa remember nostalgically?

Answer: They remember nostalgically the old Portuguese days and the loaves of bread.

2. What are the time tested things which still exist in Goa?

Answer: The furnaces of the bakers of Goa are time tested things which still exist there.

3. When did the baker come daily?

Answer: He came daily twice. Once in the morning when he set out for his selling and the other time after selling the bread.

4. What was the baker's place in Goa in the author's childhood days?

Answer: In those days the baker was the friend, companion and guide.

5. How is the entry of the baker described?

Answer: The entry of the baker is described as musical.

6. What did the author and the other children do to look into the baker's basket?

Answer: They would climb a bench or the parapet to look into the baker's basket.

7. What is the name of the dress worn by the baker in olden days?

Answer: It was known with the name of kabai.

8. What is the baker called in Goa?

Answer: Baker is called 'pader' in Goa.

9. What is the financial status of a baker of Goa?

Answer: A baker of Goa is mostly in a sound financial position.

10. What is a kabai?

Answer: A kabai is a type of frock made out of a single piece of cloth.

[Short Answer Type Questions](#)

1. What did the baker mean to the narrator during his childhood? How many times did he pay a visit?

Answer: The baker or pader was an important person in the author's life. He was treated like a friend. He used to come twice a day, once in the morning to sell bread and then while returning after emptying his basket. The author used to run to meet him in order to take the bread-bangles. He chatted and gossiped with him.

2. What were the bakers called? Describe their peculiar dress.

Answer: The bakers were known as *pader*. These bakers wore a peculiar dress known as the '*kabai*'. It was a single piece long frock reaching down to the knees.

3. What was *Kabai* ? Give a brief description.

Or

What did the bakers wear – (i) in the Portuguese days? (ii) When the author was young?

Answer: *Kabai* was a particular dress – a single-piece long frock reaching down the knees which the bakers used to wear in the old days. Later it was replaced by a shirt and trousers which were longer than the shorts and shorter than the full length.

4. What are the elders in Goa nostalgic about?

Answer: In Goa, the elders are nostalgic about the good Old Portuguese days as well as the Portuguese and their famous loaves of bread.

5. How can you say, 'bread-baking is still popular in Goa'?

Answer: Bread making is still very popular in Goa. Still, we can see the mixers, molders and those who bake the loaves. Most of their festivals and other occasions are meaningless without the loaves of bread.

6. "Even today any person with a jackfruit-like physical appearance is easily compared to a baker." Explain.

Answer: Bakers had a plump physique which meant they were happy and prosperous and hence, even today, any person with a jackfruit like physical appearance is compared to a baker.

7. 'Baking was, indeed, a profitable profession'. Justify the statement with reference to the extract 'A Baker from Goa'.

Or

Explain with examples that baking used to be a profitable profession.

Answer: Baking was indeed a profitable profession in the old days. The baker and his family never starved. He, his family and his servants always looked happy and prosperous. Their plump physique was an open testimony to this.

8. How did the baker attract the children?

Or

How does the writer know about the arrival of the baker? Why are they anxiously waiting for him?

Or

What role did the baker play in the childhood of the narrator?

Answer: The children would know about his arrival from the 'jhang, jhang' sound of his bamboo stick. They would run to meet and greet him. They tried to surround the basket but were pushed aside until the bread was

delivered to the maid. Then they were allowed to choose their bread-bangles.

9. How did the baker make his entry?

Answer: The baker made his musical entry with the 'jhang, jhang' sound of his specially made bamboo staff. One hand supported the basket on his head and the other banged the bamboo on the ground. He would greet the lady of the house and then place the basket on the bamboos.

10. How were the baker's accounts maintained?

Answer: The monthly records/accounts of the baker were maintained on some wall in pencil.

11. Is bread an important part of Goan life? How do you know this?

Answer: Bread is still an important part of Goan life. Marriage gifts are meaningless and a party or a feast loses its charm without bread. Sandwiches are important for a daughter's engagement. That is what that explains the fact that the bread makers are still there.

12. What marks of the Portuguese way of life can still be seen in Goa?

Answer: Goa was once occupied by the Portuguese. They were famous for preparing the loaves of bread. They left Goa long ago. But the traditional work of the bakers can still be seen in Goa. The furnaces in which the bread was baked still exist there.

13. What does the author recall about the visit of the baker to his village?

Answer: The author recalls that a baker used to visit the village twice a day. He used to be the author's friend and guide. He used to carry a bamboo stick. The sound of this stick used to wake up the author and others from sleep.

14. How was the village baker very important for special occasions in the village?

Answer: The village baker was especially important for festive occasions. The villagers were much fond of the sweet bread known as 'bol'. Marriage gifts were meaningless without these sweetbreads. Sandwiches, cakes, and Bolin has been a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. These were made with the bread.

15. Describe the bread-sellers dress.

Answer: The baker or the bread-seller wore a special, peculiar dress. It was known as the 'kabai'. It was a single-piece long frock. It reached down to his knees. During the narrator's childhood, Bakers wore trousers which were shorter than full-length and longer than half pants.

16. When did the baker collect his bills? What showed that the bakers were prosperous?

Answer: The baker usually collected his bills at the end of the month. In the household, the baker's monthly accounts used to be recorded on some wall in pencil. Baking was a profitable business in those days. Their families never starved. Their plump bodies showed that they were prosperous.

17. When would the baker come every day? Why did the children run to the baker?

Answer: The baker would come twice a day. Once in the morning when he set out on his selling round, and then again after emptying his basket. In the morning the children ran to him to have bread-bangles.

18. How did the baker make his entry in the morning?

Answer: In the morning the baker made his musical entry on the scene with the 'jhang-jhang' sound of his specially made staff. One hand supported the basket on his head and the other hanged the bamboo on the ground.

19. What are the childhood memories described by the author in this extract?

Answer: The author passed his childhood days in Goa. In this extract, he remembers his old days in Goa when the village baker occupied an important place in life. Although, with the passage of time, people do not eat so much bread, yet the sillage bakers are still there.

20. What do the elders reminisce about and why?

Answer: The elders reminisce nostalgically about the good old Portuguese days and the Portuguese loaves of bread. The loaves of bread were an integral part of Goan's life. Marriages were meaningless without sweet bread. The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on her daughter's engagement. Christmas and other festivals must have cakes and bolinhas. They still remember the jingling thud of the baker in the morning.

21. How can you say that the makers of the famous Goan loaves are still there?

Answer: Many of those eaters of loaves might have died but their makers still exist. The mixers, moulders and those who bake the loaves are still there in Goa. The fire in the furnace has not yet been extinguished and the thud and jingle of the baker's bamboo can still be heard in the morning in some places. These bakers, known as padres, exist in Goa even today. The family profession is still carried on.

22. How did the baker make his musical entry on the scene in the morning?

Answer: The baker made his musical entry in the morning. The jingling thud of his bamboo woke up the people in the morning. He used to come at

least twice a day. The children ran to meet and greet him. For children, it was not just for the love of the loaf but for the love of the jingling music.

23. Why was the baker, the friend, companion and guide of the children?

Answer: For children, the very sight of the baker was quite exciting. He was their friend, companion and guide. The jingling thud of his bamboo put them in rapture. They ran to meet and greet him. It was not so much for the love of the loaf What they longed for were the bread-bangles. Sometimes they liked the sweet bread of special make.

24. What importance did the baker's furnace have in the village in Goa?

Answer: The loaves of bread had become an important and integral part of the lives of the people in Goa. Marriages were meaningless without the sweet bread or the bol. No party or feast was possible without bread. The lady of the house would prepare sandwiches on the engagement ceremony of her daughter. Cakes and sweetbreads were a must for Christmas and other festivals. The presence of the baker's furnace was absolutely essential in the village.

25. Describe the changes in the dress of the baker or the pader with the passage of the time?

Answer: In good old days during the Portuguese rule, the baker or bread seller had a peculiar dress. It was known as `Isobar. It was a single piece long frock reaching down to the knees. These days a pader wears a shirt and trousers which are shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants.

26. What was the attitude of the baker towards

(i) the lady of the house

(ii) the children

(iii) the maidservant?

Answer: (i) First of all, the baker would greet the lady of the house with "Good morning" and then place his basket on the vertical bamboo before her.

(ii) He would push aside the children with a mild rebuke.

(iii) The loaves were delivered to the maid-servant.

27. How did the children behave when they have pushed aside with a mild rebuke by the pader?

Answer: The baker would push aside the children with a mild rebuke. But the kids would not give up. They would climb a bench or the parapet and peep into the basket. They longed for the bread-bangles. Actually, the jingling thud of the baker or the pader fascinated them.

28. Why would the children didn't even care to brush their teeth or wash their mouths properly?

Answer: The jingling thud of the pader and his musical entry in the morning would wake up the children from their sleep.

They would run to greet and meet him. They didn't even care to brush their teeth or wash their mouths. The tiger never brushed their teeth. There was no need of doing any such thing. Hot tea could wash and clean up everything so nicely, after all.

29. When did the baker collect his bills and how did he record his monthly accounts?

Answer: The pader usually collected his bills from his customers at the end of the month. He didn't have a notebook to record his monthly accounts. Monthly accounts used to be recorded on some wall in pencil.

30. How would you prove that baking was a profitable profession in the old days in Goa?

Answer: Baking was quite a profitable profession in Goa in the old days. The baker and his family never starved. Even his servants could meet both

the ends easily. He and his family always looked happy and prosperous. Their plump physique was an open testimony of their happiness and prosperity.

Long Answer Type Questions

1. Why was it absolutely essential to have a “baker’s furnace” in a Goan village?

Answer: The Portuguese and their famous loaves of bread had made a permanent impact on Goan soil. The eaters of those loaves might have vanished but the makers of the loaves – the bakers still have an important place in the society. The Goan village still has the mixers, moulders and those who bake the loaves. There are also the age-old time-tested furnaces which exist till date. The bakers are still important in the village. The lady of the house must Prepare sandwiches on the occasion of her daughter’s engagement. *Cakes* and *bolinhas* are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. Thus, the presence of the baker’s furnace in the village is still essential.

2. Give a pen-portrait of a baker in Goa.

Answer: A baker had an important place in the village life of Goa. Marriage gifts were meaningless without bol or sweet bread, cakes and bolinhas at Christmas and other festivals. In the old days, the bakers used to wear a peculiar dress – kabai – a single-piece long frock reaching down the knees. Later they started wearing a shirt and trousers which were longer than the shorts and shorter than the full-length pants. They used to be prosperous. They, their family and servants never starved. Their plump physique was a testimony of their prosperity and good income.

The baker used to be a good friend, companion and guide for the author. He would come twice a day and then, the children of the house would crowd around his basket to choose the bread-bangles. Even today, baking and bakers are famous in Goa. They still use traditional furnaces to bake bread and cakes. These bakers are known as paders in Goa.

3. Describe the childhood memories of the author's life in Goa and his fondness for bread and cakes.

Answer: The author's childhood memories are full of fun. He remembers them and gets nostalgic. The pader or baker was an important person in the Goan village as well as in the author's life. He used to mix, mold and bake loaves of bread in age-old, tested furnaces. He used to come twice a day, once in the morning to sell bread and then while returning after emptying his basket. He made his musical entry with the 'jhang, jhang' sound of his bamboo staff. The author with other children used to run to meet him in order to take the bread-bangles or sometimes the sweet bread of special make. He chatted and gossiped with him.

4. How is the effect of the traditional bread bakers can still be seen in Goa of today?

Answer: The author remembers his old days in Goa when the village baker occupied an important place in life. Bread eating was very common in those days. Apart from eating bread daily, bread held an important place at the time of Christmas, marriages and other functions. Although, with the passage of time, people do not eat so much bread today, yet the village bakers are still there. The Portuguese were famous for earns the loaves of bread. They left Goa long ago. But the traditional work of the bakers can still be seen in Goa. The furnaces in which the bread was baked still exist there. The sound of the traditional bakers' bamboo can still be heard. These bakers are known as Pader in Goa even today.

5. What was the importance of the baker in the village? What kind of dress did wear?

Answer: The village baker was especially important for all occasions. The villagers were much fond of the sweet bread known as 'Bor. Marriage gifts were meaningless without these sweetbreads. Sandwiches, cakes and bolinhas were a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. These were made with the bread. Thus the presence of a baker's furnace was very essential in each village. The baker or the bread-seller wore a special,

peculiar dress. It was known as the 'kabai'. It was a single-piece long frock. It reached -down to his knees. During the narrator's childhood bakers wore trousers which were shorter than full-length and longer than half pants. Even today if someone wears a half pant, he is said to be dressed like a pader.

6. Give a pen-portrait of a Goan village baker.

Answer: A Goan village baker used to sell all kinds of bread loaves. He used to come in the morning with a basket of bread loaves on his head. He made a musical entry on the scene with the 'jhang-jhang' of his bamboo stick. He used to wear a peculiar dress known as the 'kabai'. It was a single-piece long frock reaching down to the knees. The baker usually collected his bills at the end of the month. Baking was indeed a profitable profession in the old days. The baker always looked happy and prosperous. He had a plump physique.

7. What do our elders are often heard reminiscing nostalgically about in Goa? Did the old profession of making the famous loaves of bread end with the Portuguese?

Answer: Our elders in Goa are often heard reminiscing nostalgically about the good old Portuguese days. They are often heard saying nostalgically about their famous loaves of bread. Many eaters of loaves might have vanished but the makers are still alive. The profession of baking loaves of bread has not died with the end of the Portuguese rule. Goa still has the mixers, molders and the bakers of those loaves. The furnaces still bake those unique loaves of bread. Even today one can hear the thud and jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo in the morning. Marriages, feasts, Christmas and other festivals are meaningless without the sweet bread known as bol. The baker's presence in even Goan village is absolutely essential. Baking was indeed a profitable profession in good old days. However, the tradition hasn't died completely yet.

8. Describe the author's experience during his childhood in Goa? Why was the baker or the pader the guide of children in Goa?

Answer: The author remembers fondly his childhood days in Goa. He recalls how the baker used to be the friend, companion and guide of the children. The thud and jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo woke them from their sleep. It heralded the arrival of the baker or the pader in the morning. He used to come at least twice a day. Once, he used to set out in the morning on his selling round. Then he returned after emptying his huge basket.

The children ran to meet and greet him. It was not for the love of the loaf. They longed for the bread-bangles. Sometimes it was sweet bread of special make. The children especially liked the musical entry on the scene with the 'jhang, jhang' sound of his specially made bamboo staff. He would greet the lady of the house with good morning but put the children with a mild rebuke. The children would not give up. They would climb a bench and peep into the basket. The author still recalls the fragrance of those loaves. The children would become crazy at the sight of the pader. They would forget even to brush their teeth.

9. Baking was a profitable profession in the old days in Goa. Prove it by giving examples from the text.

Answer: Baking was indeed a profitable profession in the old days in Goa. The people of Goa were used to the refreshing fragrance of loaves of bread. On all occasions and ceremonies, they needed them. Marriage gifts were meaningless without the sweet bread or the bol. No party was complete if bread was not served in it. The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on the engagement ceremony of her daughter. Christmas and other festivals must have bolinhas during their celebrations. The presence of the baker's furnace was absolutely necessary for every, GNP village. The baker usually collected his bills at the end of the month. The baker and his family never starved. They always looked happy and prosperous. Their plump physique was an open testimony to their happiness and prosperity.

10. Give a pen-portrait of the baker or the pader highlighting the changes that came in his fortune and dress with the passage of the time?

Answer: The baker or the pader used to be an essential part of the Goans' life. The baker or bread seller had a peculiar dress during the Portuguese days. It was known as the kabai. It was a single piece long frock reaching down the knees. With the passage of time, he started wearing a shirt and trousers which were just longer than the short pants.

The baker and his family always looked happy and prosperous in the good old days. Their plump physique was an open testimony of their happiness and prosperity. However, as the time changed, the bakers continued their profession but with their reduced fortune and importance. The thud and jingle of the traditional bamboo of the baker are still heard in the streets of Goa even now. Sweetbread or the boys are still the part of feasts, marriages and Christmas in Goa. However, the old charm and craze have become rather dim in recent days.

Coorg - Questions and Answers

Very Short Answer Questions

1. Where is Coorg situated?

Answer: Coorg is situated midway between Mysore and the coastal town of Mangalore.

2. What are the people of Coorg a descent of?

Answer: The people of Coorg are a descent of Greek and Arab people.

3. Which crops grow in Coorg in plenty?

Answer: Coffee and spices grow in Coorg in plenty.

4. What is the best time of the year to visit Coorg?

Answer: The best time of the year to visit Coorg is between September and March.

5. Why did a part of Alexander's army settle here?

Answer: A part of Alexander's army settled here because their return had become impractical.

6. What is so similar between the Kodavus and the Arabs?

Answer: The long black coat with an embroidered waist belt is so similar to the one worn by the Arabs.

7. What kind of tales do the Coorg people tell their children?

Answer: They tell them the stories of bravery of their sons and fathers.

8. Who was the first chief of Indian Army?

Answer: The first chief of Indian Army was General Cariappa.

9. Which river flows through Coorg?

Answer: The river Kaveri flows through Coorg.

10. Which hills are found therein Coorg?

Answer: The Brahmagiri hills are found therein Coorg.

11. What is the district headquarters of Coorg?

Answer: Madikeri is the district headquarters of Coorg.

12. Why is Coorg called the land of rolling hills?

Answer: Coorg is called the land of rolling hills because it has a lot of hills and is itself a hill station. The hills seem to roll down in a panoramic view.

13. What do you know about Bylakuppe' as mentioned in the lesson, 'Coorg'?

Answer: `Bylakuppe' in Coorg has India's largest Tibetan settlement.

14. Coorgis are hospitable by nature. Explain.

Answer: Coorgis are a proud race of martial men and beautiful women. They are very hospitable and entertain their guests by relating stories of bravery of their sons and fathers.

Short Answer Type Questions

1. Why are the people of Coorg known as descendants of the Arabs?

Answer: The theory of the people of Coorg as descendants of the Arabs draws support from the long, black coat with an embroidered waist-belt worn by the Kodavus known as *kuppia*. It resembles the kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds.

2. Describe the natural beauty of Coorg.

Answer: Coorg is situated midway between Mysore and the coastal town of Mangalore in Karnataka state. It is a beautiful region of 'rolling hills and lush green rainforests. It is famous for coffee, spices and wildlife.

3. Describe the wildlife of Coorg.

Answer: A large freshwater fish abound in these waters. Kingfishers dive for their catch. Squirrels and langurs drop partially eaten fruit W enjoy the splash and ripple effect. Elephants enjoy bathing in the river.

4. The people of Coorg have a tradition of courage and bravery. How has it been recognized in modern India?

Answer: Coorgis are a proud race of martial men and beautiful women. They are very hospitable and entertain their guests by relating stories of bravery of their sons and fathers. Coorg soldiers are brave. Coorg regiment is one of the most decorated ones in the Indian army. Corgis are the only people who are permitted to carry firearms without a licence.

5. What idea of Coorg do you form? What opportunities does Coorg offer to a tourist?

Or

Coorg is a tourist's paradise. Discuss with reference to the extract from 'Glimpses of India'.

Answer: Coorg is the smallest district of Karnataka, situated midway between Mysore and the coastal town of Mangalore. It is a beautiful region of 'rolling hills and lush green rainforests. It is famous for coffee, spices, and rain forests. It is also famous for hospitality, valour, wildlife and adventure sports.

6. What does the writer say about Coorg?

Answer: The writer says that Coorg is the smallest district of Karnataka. It is known as Kodagu also. Coorg lies between the coastal town of Mangalore and Mysore. It is a very beautiful place. The writer says that it must have come from the kingdom of God.

7. What is Coorg famous for? What is the best season to visit Coorg?

Answer: Coorg is famous for its coffee plantations, evergreen rainforests and spices. Thirty percent of its area is covered with the evergreen rainforests. The best season to visit this place is from September to March. The air is full of coffee flavor.

8. What does the writer say about the people of Coorg?

Answer: The writer says that the people of Coorg are independent and brave. They are of Greek or Arabic descent. According to a story, a part of Alexander's army did not return and was settled here. They married the locals. This culture can be seen in the martial *traditions, marriage and religious customs*.

9. What supports the theory that the people of Coorg originated from the Arabs?

Answer: According to one theory, the people of Coorg originated from the Arabs. It is evident from the long, black coat worn by the people. It is like the kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds.

10. What does the writer say about the bravery of the Coorgi people?

Answer: The writer says that the Coorgi people are brave people. Their tales of bravery are famous. The Coorg regiment is one of the most decorated in the Indian Army. The first Chief of the Indian Army, General Cariappa, was a Coorgi. Even today, the Kodavus are the only people in India who are allowed to carry firearms without a license.

11. Describe the geographical location of Coorg.

Answer: Coorg or Kodagu is the smallest district in Karnataka. It lies between Mysore and the coastal town of Mangalore. This piece of heaven may also be called the land of rolling hills. It is the home of evergreen rainforests, spices and coffee plantations. During the monsoons, Coorg has a lot of rains.

12. Describe the people and culture of Coorg.

Answer: Coorg is inhabited by a proud race of martial men, beautiful women and wild creatures. Coorgi homes have a tradition of hospitality. There are many tales of valour related to the people of Coorg. The Coorg Regiment is one of the most decorated in the Indian Army. General Cariappa, the first Chief of the Indian Army, was a Coorgi. Kodavas are the only people in India permitted to carry firearms without a license.

13. Describe the climate, birds and animals of Coorg.

Answer: During the monsoons, Coorg has a lot of rains. It pours enough to keep many tourists away. The best tourist season starts from September and continues till March. The very air of Coorg smells of Coffee. Kingfishers, squirrels, langurs, wild elephants, bees and butterflies abound in the rainforests of Coorg.

14. Describe the possible descent of the people of Coorg.

Answer: The people of Coorg, their rituals and traditions are quite different from the Hindu mainstream. According to one story, a part of Alexander's army traveling the coast, settled here as their return became impractical. So, they are believed to be of Greek origin. The Coorgi dress, a long, black coat with an embroidered waist-belt resembles the Kuffia worn by the Arabs: So, some think that they are of Arabic origin.

15. How has the tradition of courage and bravery been recognised in modern India? Give examples from the text.

Answer: The people of Coorg are known for being fiercely independent, brave and courageous. There are numerous tales of valor connected with the people of Coorg. The Coorg Regiment is one of the most decorated regiments in the Indian Army. The first Chief of the Indian Army, General Cariappa, was a Coorgi. The Coorgis are the only people in India who are permitted to carry firearms without a license.

16. Describe the origin of Kaveri and the area around it.

Answer: The river Kaveri originates from the hills and forests of Coorg. Mahaseer, a large freshwater fish, abounds in these waters. Kingfishers dive for their catch. The squirrels and langurs drop half-eaten fruit for the mischief of enjoying the splash and ripples in the clear water. A walk across the bridge leads to the sixty-four-acre island of Nisargadatta.

17. How do the most laidback individuals become the life of high-energy adventures in Coorg?

Answer: Coorg offers many outdoor high-energy adventures. Even the most laidback individuals become converts to the life of high-energy adventures. They enjoy river rafting, canoeing, rappelling, rock climbing and mountain biking. Numerous walking trails in Coorg are a favorite with trekkers.

18. Where and how can we have a panoramic view of the misty landscape of Coorg from?

Answer: The tourists are advised not to miss a climb to the Brahmagiri hills. The climb to the Brahmagiri hills gives you a panoramic view of the entire misty landscape of Coorg. Then you can walk across the rope bridge. It will lead you to the sixty-four-acre island of Nisargadhama.

19. Describe the largest Buddhist settlement in Coorg.

Answer: Below the rolling hills lie the largest Tibetan settlement in India in Coorg. The Buddhist temple at Bylakuppe is famous for its grandeur and beauty. The monks in their red, ochre and yellow robes represent the heart and soul of India, right here in Coorg.

[Long Answer Type Questions](#)

1. Where is Coorg situated? What is it famous for?

Answer: Coorg is the smallest district of Karnataka. It is known as Kodagu also. Coorg lies between the coastal town of Mangalore and Mysore. It is a very beautiful place. The writer says that it must have come from the kingdom of God. Coorg is famous for its coffee plantations, evergreen rainforests and spices. Thirty percent of its area is covered with the evergreen rainforests. The best season to visit this place is from September to March. The air is full of coffee flavour.

2. What does the author say about the people of Coorg?

Answer: The writer says that the people of Coorg are independent and brave. They are of Greek or Arabic descent. According to a story, a part of Alexander's army did not return and was settled here. They married among the locals. This culture can be seen in the martial traditions, marriage and religious customs.

According to another theory Coorg people originated from the Arabs. It is evident from the long, black coat worn by the people. It is like the kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds. Coorgi homes have tradition of hospitality. They are brave people. Their tales of bravery are famous. The

Coorg Regiment is one of the most decorated in the Indian Army. The first Chief of the Indian Army, General Cariappa, was a Coorgi. Even today, the Kodavus are the only people in India who are allowed to carry firearms without a licence.

3. What does the writer say about the natural beauty of Coorg?

Answer: Coorg is situated in Karnataka midway between Mysore and the coastal town of Mangalore. It looks like a piece of heaven that must have drifted from the kingdom of God. This is a land of rolling hills. It is a home of evergreen rainforests, spices and coffee plantations. Evergreen forests cover thirty percent of Coorg district. The river Kaveri flows through Coorg. Big elephants are also found here. Birds, bees and butterflies are there to give the visitors company. The climb to the Brahmagiri hills brings (the visitors) into a panoramic view of the entire misty landscape of Coorg. It is said that the people searching for the heart and soul of India visit Coorg.

4. Describe the physical and geographical features of Coorg.

Answer: Coorg is a piece of heaven that must have drifted from the Kingdom of God. This is a land of rolling hills inhabited by a proud race of martial men, beautiful women, coffee and wild elephants. Coorg or Kodagu is the smallest district of Karnataka. It is home to evergreen forests, spices and coffee plantation. This beautiful region of rolling hills, rainforests and mist lies between Mysore and the coastal town of Mangalore.

Rainforests dominate the physical feature of Coorg. They cover more than thirty percent of this district. It rains heavily during the monsoons. The most ideal season for tourists starts in September and ends in March. The river Kaveri obtains its water from the hills and rainforests of Coorg. The region abounds in wild elephants and langurs besides a lot of birds, bees and butterflies. The Brahmagiri hills provide a panoramic view of the entire misty landscape of Coorg. The sixty-four-acre island of Nisargadhama is a little paradise for the tourists.

5. What are popular theories regarding the descent of the people of Coorg?

Answer: Coorgi people are distinct people. Their religious practices, marriages and traditions are distinct from the Hindu mainstream. There are two theories regarding the descent of the Coorgi people. It is believed that perhaps they are of Greek or Arabic descent. According to one theory, a part of Alexander's army moved south along the coast. Their return became impractical. These people settled down there. They married amongst the locals. Another theory gives their descent to the Arabs. The theory of Arab origin draws support from their dress which resembles the traditional Arabic dress. Their long, black coat with an embroidered waist-belt worn by the Kodavus, known as Kuppia, resembles the kuffia worn by the Arabs and the Kurds.

6. Describe the rainforests, the river Kaveri and coffee plantations in Coorg.

Answer: Coorg is a land of rolling hills and rainforests. The rainforests dominate the landscape of Coorg. They cover over thirty percent of Coorg. The rainforests have a lot of rains during the monsoons. The ideal tourists season starts from September and ends in March. The hills and rainforests are the sources of the river Kaveri. Mahaseer, a large freshwater fish, abound in Kaveri waters. The forests of Coorg have a rich flora and fauna. Birds, bees, butterflies, Malabar squirrels, langurs and wild elephants find their shelter in the rainforests of Coorg. The very air of Coorg smells of fresh coffee. Coffee estates and colonial buildings are scattered all around amid the rolling hills.

7. Why does the author call Coorg a piece of heaven' that must have drifted from the kingdom of God?

Answer: Coorg is among the most beautiful regions of India. The author rightly calls it 'a piece of heaven' that must have drifted from the kingdom of God. This land of rolling hills it is also the home of beautiful rain-forests. The rainforests cover more than thirty percent of Coorg. The evergreen rain

forests have a rich flora and fauna. The very air of Coorg breathes of fresh coffee. The beautiful sprawling coffee estates are dotted with colonial bungalows.

The river Kaveri obtains its water from the hills and rainforests of Coorg. Kingfishers dive for Mahseer, a large freshwater fish in these waters. Squirrels and langurs drop partially eaten fruit into the clear water. Elephants enjoy being bathed and scrubbed in the Kaveri by their mahouts. The climb to the Brahmagiri hills gives you a panoramic view of the entire misty landscape of Coorg. The sixty-four-acre island of Nisargadhama is a little paradise for tourists. So are the temples and Buddhist monks wearing red, ochre and yellow robes? All of them represent the heart and soul of India.

Tea from Assam - Questions and Answers

Very Short Answer Questions

1. Which state did Pranjol belong to?

Answer: Pranjol belonged to Assam a North-Eastern State of India.

2. What was Pranjors father?

Answer: Pranjol's father was the manager of a tea garden in upper Assam.

3. Where were Pranjol and Rajvir going?

Answer: They were going to Assam to visit Pranjol's home on summer vacation.

4. What could Rajvir see as far as his eyes could see?

Answer: There was tea hushes as far as his eyes could see.

5. According to Rajvir how many cups of tea are drunk daily throughout the world?

Answer: According to Rajvir, over eighty crore cups of tea are drunk daily throughout the world.

6. When was tea drunk first in China?

Answer: Tea was first drunk in China 2700 B.C.

7. Where was Pranjol's father Tea Estate situated?

Answer: It was situated at Dhulabari.

8. When was tea first drunk?

Answer: Tea was first drunk in China.

9. Why did Bodhidharma cut off his eyelids?

Answer: He cut off his eyelids because he felt sleepy during meditation.

10. When did tea come to Europe?

Answer: Tea came to Europe in the sixteenth century.

11. Who cut off his eyelids?

Answer: Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist ascetic, cut off his eyelids.

12. Why did Rajvir visit Assam?

Answer: Rajvir had been invited by his classmate Pranjol, who was from Assam, to visit his home during the summer vacation.

13. How long does the second flush or sprouting period last?

Answer: There are two flushes or sprouting periods. The second sprouting period lasts from May to July.

14. Describe the magnificent views of the tea estate with reference to the lesson, 'Tea from Assam'.

Or

Draw a pen picture of tea gardens in Assam.

Answer: The tea bushes were spread like a sea against the backdrop of densely wooded hills. Amidst the orderly rows of tea, bushes were doll-like figures plucking tea leaves.

Short Answer Type Questions

1. How does Rajvir describe the tea-garden at Dhekiajuli?

Answer: On both sides of the gravel road were acres and acres of neatly pruned tea bushes. It was the second sprouting period. Women wearing plastic aprons were plucking new tea leaves and putting them in the bamboo baskets.

2. Describe the scenery that Rajvir saw as soon as the train pulled out of the station.

Answer: When the train moved ahead, there were huge fields full of green plantations. Rajvir had never seen so much greenery. He called it a 'magnificent view'. The bushes were spread like a sea against the backdrop of densely wooded hills.

3. How are tea pluckers different from other farm labourers?

Answer: The tea pluckers are different from other farm labourers. The women plucking tea leaves in the tea gardens look like dolls. They wear plastic aprons and carry baskets on their backs to put tea leaves in them.

4. How can you say that tea was first drunk in China?

Answer: There is an ancient legend about the discovery of tea. A Chinese emperor had the habit of drinking boiling water. One day a twig from the fire fell into the pot in which water was being boiled. It gave a delicious flavour to the water. It is said that those were tea leaves and that was the first tea. It is thus thought that tea was first taken in China.

5. What information was given by Pranjol's father to Rajvir about Assam Tea Estate?

Answer: He was the manager of a tea garden in upper Assam. He showed Pranjol and Rajvir the acres of tea bushes, all neatly pruned to the same

height. Groups of women pluckers with bamboo baskets were plucking the newly sprouted leaves.

6. What happened to the Chinese emperor in “Tea from Assam” who always boiled water before drinking it?

Or

What is the Chinese legend regarding tea?

Or

What is the Chinese story about the discovery of tea?

Or

What is the history of tea in China?

Answer: A Chinese emperor had the habit of drinking boiled water. One day a twig fell into the pot in which water was being boiled. It gave a delicious flavour to the water. It is said that those were tea leaves.

7. What was the Indian legend about the discovery of tea?

Or

Write down the Buddhist legend about tea.

Answer: An Indian legend goes like this. Once there was a Buddhist, ascetic Bodhidharma who used to feel sleepy during meditations. So he cut off his eyelids. Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. When the leaves of these plants were put in hot water and drunk, they banished sleep.

8. What did Rajvir see when he entered the Tea Estate?

Or

What made Rajvir amazed on the way?

Answer: Rajvir was amazed to see huge fields full of green plantations. There were vast green tea gardens on both sides of the road. The tall trees at the back of the gardens, in the forest on the rolling hills, looked beautiful.

9. Which tea is considered the best tea? Why?

Answer: Assam tea is considered to be the best tea as it has the largest concentration of tea plantations in the world. The weather and environmental conditions are perfect here to grow tea plants.

10. Who were Pranjol and Rajvir? Where were they going?

Answer: Pranjol and Rajvir were friends. Pranjol belonged to Assam. He was studying in a school in Delhi. Rajvir was his classmate. Pranjol's father was the manager of a tea-garden in Upper Assam. Pranjol invited Rajvir to visit his home during the summer vacation. Both of them travelled to Assam on a train.

11. What did Rajvir and Pranjol do after the train pulled out of the station?

Answer: When the train pulled out of the station. Pranjol became busy reading a detective book. Rajvir was looking out of the train. It was green, green everywhere. He had never seen so much greenery before.

12. Which story of a Chinese emperor is associated with the discovery of tea?

Answer: According to one legend, a Chinese emperor discovered tea by chance. He always boiled water before drinking it. One day a few leaves off the twigs burning under the pot fell into the water. As a result, the boiled water got a delicious flavour. It is said they were tea leaves.

13. What is the Indian legend about the discovery of tea?

Answer: According to an Indian legend, Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist monk, fell asleep during meditation. So he cut off his eyelids. Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drank banished sleep.

14. Where was tea first drunk? When did tea come to Europe?

Answer: It is believed that tea was first drunk in China in 2700 B.C. Words like 'chai and 'chini' are Chinese. Tea came to Europe in the sixteenth century. At first, it was used more as a medicine than as a beverage.

15. What is the best season for tea Production?

Answer: Rajvir and Pranjol reached Assam in the sprouting season. This season lasts from May to July. The best tea is produced during this season.

16. How has tea become a popular beverage?

Answer: Tea is decidedly a very popular beverage in the world. More than eighty crore cups of tea are drunk every day throughout the world. At every platform in India, you can hear vendors crying "Chai-garam". The people can't resist buying the steaming hot cups of tea.

17. Why was Rajvir so much excitement?

Answer: Rajvir had never seen so much greenery before. He was looking at the beautiful scenery. The soft green paddy fields gave way to tea bushes. Against the backdrop of densely wooded hills, a sea of tea bushes stretched as far as the eyes could see. The orderly rows of bushes were pruned to the same height. Rajvir was really excited to see the magnificent view.

18. Why didn't Pranjol share Rajvir's excitement?

Answer: Pranjol had been born and brought up on a tea plantation. He was familiar with tea gardens. On the other hand, Rajvir had never visited any tea plantation ever before. A sea of bushes stretching as far as the eyes could see fascinated him. The magnificent view, orderly rows of tea bushes really excited him. But Pranjol was used to such sights.

19. Describe the Chinese legend regarding the discovery of tea leaves.

Answer: There is a Chinese legend regarding the discovery of tea leaves. One Chinese emperor always boiled water before drinking it. One day a few leaves of the burning twigs under the pot fell into the water. The result was wonderful. The water gave a delicious flavour. Those leaves that gave the water a delicious flavour were tea leaves.

20. What is the Indian legend regarding the discovery of tea?

Answer: We have an Indian legend regarding the discovery of tea. Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist ascetic, cut off his eyelids because he fell sleepy during meditation. It is said that ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of those plants, when put in hot water and drunk, banished sleep.

21. Where and when did the drinking of tea start and how did it come to Europe?

Answer: The drinking of tea first started in China. Tea was drunk in China as far as 2700 B.C. Words like tea, `char and `chin? are from Chinese. Tea came to Europe in the 16th century. In Europe, tea was dining as medicine than a beverage in the early period.

22. What did Rajvir see in the Dhekiaban tea estate managed by Pranjol's father?

Answer: The tea estate at Dhekiabari was managed by Pranjol's father. Rajvir saw acre upon acre of tea bushes on both sides of the gravel road. They were all pruned to the same height. Groups of tea-pluckers, wearing plastic aprons were plucking the newly sprouted leaves. It was the second sprouting period.

23. Where was Rajvir and why?

Answer: Rajvir and Pranjol were two youngsters. Actually, they were classmates at school in Delhi. Pranjol's father is the manager of a tea garden in Upper Assam. Pranjol was born and brought up on the tea estate.

He invited Rajvir to visit his home and the Dhekiabari Tea Estate during the summer vacation.

24. Why did Pranjol's father say in surprise that Rajvir had done his homework before coming there?

Answer: A tractor was pulling a trailer-load of tea leaves at the Dhekiabari Tea Estate. Rajvir asked Pranjol's father if that was the second flush or sprouting period. Rajvir told that the second sprouting period lasts from May to July and yields the best tea. Such detailed information about tea leaves surprised Pranjol's father. He told Rajvir that he seemed to have done his homework before coming here.

25. How and where are tea leaves collected in Assam?

Answer: Assam has the largest number of tea estates in India. Acre upon acre of tea bushes is stretching as far as the eyes can go. All the bushes are pruned to the same height. Groups of tea pluckers carry bamboo basket on their backs to collect tea-leaves. They wear plastic aprons. They pluck the newly-sprouted tea leaves from the bushes. Then the leaves are dried and processed in factories.

[Long Answer Type Questions](#)

1. What are the legends related to the discovery of tea?

Answer: There are many popular legends about the discovery of tea. Two of them are as follows –

A Chinese emperor was used to drinking boiled water. One day a twig from the fire fell into the pot in which water was being boiled. It gave a delicious flavour to the drink. It is said that those were tea leaves. An Indian legend goes like this. Once there was a Buddhist ascetic who used to feel sleepy during meditations. So he cut off his eyelids. Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. When the leaves from these plants were put in hot water and drunk they banished sleep.

2. What details do you gather about tea from the lesson, 'Tea from Assam'?

Or

What information do you gather about the history of tea after reading the lesson, 'Tea from Assam'?

Answer: Tea was first drunk in China. Even the words 'chai' and 'chini' are from Chinese. It goes back to 2700 B.C. In the 16th century, tea came to Europe and was drunk more as a medicine than as a beverage. Assam has the largest concentration of tea plantations in the world. There are large groups of women with bamboo baskets on their backs. They pluck the newly sprouted tea leaves from the plants and store them in the baskets.

3. What landscape did Rajvir notice while sitting in the train?

Answer: Rajvir was fascinated by the scenic beauty of the place. There were vast green tea gardens on both sides of the road. The tall trees at the back of the gardens in the forest on the rolling hills looked beautiful. The women plucking tea leaves looked like dolls. On the way, he saw people drinking tea. He also saw an ugly building with smoke coming out of its chimneys. Rajvir was received by Mrs and Mr Barua and was taken towards Dhekiabari Tea Estate. On both sides of the gravel road were acres and acres of neatly pruned tea bushes. It was the second sprouting period. Women were wearing plastic aprons and plucking new tea leaves and putting them in the bamboo baskets on their backs.

4. Where were Pranjol and Rajvir going? What did Rajvir see when he looked out of the train on the way?

Answer: Pranjol belonged to Assam. He was studying in a school in Delhi. Rajvir was his classmate. Pranjol's father was the manager of a tea-garden in Upper Assam. Pranjol invited Rajvir to visit his home during the summer vacation. Both of them travelled to Assam on a train. When the train stopped at a station, a vendor called, 'chai-garam garam-chaff', they took tea and started sipping it. Rajvir told Pranjol that Over eighty crore cups of tea are drunk every day throughout the world. Pranjol started reading his

detective book again. But Rajvir looked out of the window of a moving train. There was beautiful scenery outside. Soon the soft green paddy fields were left behind and there were tea bushes everywhere. Rajvir was fascinated by the magnificent view of tea gardens.

5. What did Rajvir tell Pranjol about the discovery of tea?

Answer: Rajvir said that no one really knows who discovered tea. He told Pranjol that there were many legends attached to the discovery of tea. According to one story, a Chinese emperor discovered tea by chance. He always boiled water before drinking it. One day a few leaves off the twigs burning under the pot fell into the water. As a result, the boiled water got a delicious flavour. It is said they were tea leaves.

According to another Indian legend, Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist monk, fell asleep during meditations. So he cut off his eyelids. Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drank banished sleep. It is believed that tea was first drunk in China in 2700 B.C. Words like 'chaff' and 'chini' are Chinese. Tea came to Europe in the sixteenth century. At first, it was used more as a medicine than as a beverage.

6. What did Rajvir see during his train journey.' by was he more excited than his friend Pranjol?

Answer: Rajvir, a classmate of Pranjol, is visiting Dhekiaban Tea Estate in Assam, for the first time. Actually, he is enjoying the train journey to Assam with his friend Pranjol whose father manages Diabari Tea Estate. The beautiful scenery fascinates Rajvir. It is green, green everywhere. He sees so much greenery for the first time in his life. Now the landscape changes. The paddy fields give way to tea bushes. A sea of tea bushes is stretching as far as eyes can go. The orderly rows of bushes are pruned to the same height. Groups of tea pickers are carrying bamboo baskets on their backs. They are plucking the newly sprouted leaves. The magnificent view fascinates Rajvir. However, Pranjol is not so much excited. These views are not new to him. He was born and brought up on a tea plantation.

7. What are different legends related to tea leaves?

Answer: Tea was first drunk in China as far back as 2700 B.C. In fact, words like 'Thai' and 'Chilli' came from Chinese. According to one Chinese legend, there was a Chinese emperor. He always boiled water before drinking it. One day, some leaves from the twigs burning under the pot fell into the boiling water. The leaves gave a delicious flavour. It is said that they were tea leaves. We have an Indian legend about the discovery of tea leaves. Bodhidharma was an ancient Buddhist ascetic. It is said that he cut off his eyelids because he fell sleepy during meditation. It is said that ten tea plants grew out of his eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk banished sleep. In Europe, tea came as late as the sixteenth century. It was drunk more like medicine than a beverage.

8. It seems that Rajvir had done a lot of homework regarding tea and its history. Do you support Pranjol's father's statement that he gave about Rajvir's knowledge in this regard?

Answer: It is true that Rajvir had never visited a tea estate ever before in his life. His visit to Dhekiabari Tea Estate was at the invitation of his classmate Pranjol whose father managed the estate. But Rajvir seemed to have done a lot of homework and reading about tea and tea plantations before coming to Assam. He told Pranjol that tea is one of the most popular beverages in the world. More than eighty crores of cups of tea are drunk every day throughout the world.

When he saw an ugly building with smoke billowing out of its tall buildings, he at once cried "Hey, a tea garden!". Actually, he had been reading as much about tea as he could. He narrated different legends regarding the discovery of tea leaves. It was Rajvir who narrated the legends describing how tea leaves were discovered in India and China. Rajvir impressed and surprised Pranjol's father about his deep knowledge of tea-leaves. When he saw a tractor pulling a trailer load of tea leaves he recognised that it was the second-flush or sprouting period. He also knew that it continues from May and to July and yields the best tea.

9. Pranjol was born and brought up on a tea estate in Assam but he was Rajvir who knew much about tea leaves and the legends associated with tea. Base your answer on their visit to Dhekiabari Tea Estate in Assam.

Answer: It is true that Pranjol was born and brought up on a tea plantation. His father managed Dhekiabari Tea Estate in Assam. However, his friend Rajvir's knowledge about tea and its history was more profound than him. The reason was simple. Rajvir had done a lot of reading about tea and its history. He even surprised Pranjol's father with his in-depth knowledge of the subject.

Rajvir's visit to Dhekiabari was an opportunity for him to connect his reading and knowledge to the real existing tea plantation. He was fascinated by the magnificent sea of tea bushes stretching as far as his eyes could go. He saw with his own eyes the groups of tea pluckers, with bamboo baskets on their backs, plucking the newly-sprouted leaves. His studies helped him to recognise that the trailer-load of tea leaves were the second-flush or the sprouting period that gave the best tea.