

## Chapter 7 Glimpses of India

### I. A BAKER FROM GOA

#### THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT

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**1. Which of these statements are correct?**

- (i) The pader was an important person in the village in old times.
  - (ii) Paders still exist in Goan villages.
  - (iii) The paders went away with the Portuguese.
  - (iv) The paders continue to wear a single-piece long frock.
  - (v) Bread and cakes were an integral part of Goan life in the old days.
  - (vi) Traditional bread-baking is still a very profitable business.
  - (vii) Paders and their families starve in the present times.
- A.
- (i) Correct
  - (ii) Correct
  - (iii) Incorrect. The paders still exist in Goan villages.
  - (iv) Incorrect. The paders wear shirts, and trousers that are shorter than full-length ones and longer than half pants.
  - (v) Incorrect. Bread and cakes are still an integral part of Goan life.
  - (vi) Correct
  - (vii) Incorrect. Baking is still a very profitable business in Goa.

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

- A. Bread is an important part of Goan life. Marriage gifts are meaningless without the sweet bread known as the bol. For a party, bread is a must, while for Christmas, cakes and bolinhas are a must. Sandwiches must be prepared by the lady of the house on her daughter's engagement. The author says that everybody loves the fragrance of loaves. The elders were given loaves and the children were given bread-bangles, which they longed for. Also, the fact that bakery is a profitable profession shows that the love for bread is enormous in Goa.

**3. Tick the right answer. What is the tone of the author when he says the following?**

- (i) The thud and the jingle of the traditional baker's bamboo can still be heard in some places. (nostalgic, hopeful, sad)
- (ii) Maybe the father is not alive but the son still carries on the family profession. (nostalgic, hopeful, sad)
- (iii) I still recall the typical fragrance of those loaves. (nostalgic, hopeful, naughty)
- (iv) The tiger never brushed his teeth. Hot tea could wash and clean up everything so nicely, after all. (naughty, angry, funny)
- (v) Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals. (sad, hopeful, matter-of- fact)
- (vi) The baker and his family never starved. They always looked happy and prosperous. (matter-of- fact, hopeful, sad)

- A. (i) Nostalgic (ii) Nostalgic (iii) Nostalgic (iv) Funny  
(v) Matter-of-fact (vi) Matter-of-fact

## II. COORG

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### THINKING ABOUT THE TEXT

#### 1. Where is Coorg?

- A. Coorg is the smallest district of Karnataka, located midway between Mysore and Mangalore.

#### 2. What is the story about the Kodavu people's descent?

- A. It is believed that Kodavu people are of Arabic origin. It is said that some of Alexander's army men moved to south and settled there. Their costume, martial practices and marriage rituals also point to the fact that they are from Arabic origin.

#### 3. What are some of the things you now know about?

- (i) the people of Coorg?
  - (ii) the main crop of Coorg?
  - (iii) the sports it offers to tourists?
  - (iv) the animals you are likely to see in Coorg?
  - (v) its distance from Bangalore, and how to get there?
- A. (i) The people of Coorg are fiercely independent. They are of Greek or Arabic descent. They have a tradition of hospitality. They enjoy recounting numerous tales of valour related to their sons and fathers. Kodavus are the only people in India permitted to carry firearms without a license. The author has described the people of Coorg as a proud race of martial men and beautiful women.
- (ii) Coffee is the main crop of Coorg. The coffee estates stand tucked under tree canopies in prime corners.
- (iii) The sports that Coorg offers to tourists are river rafting, canoeing, rappelling, rock climbing, mountain biking, and trekking.
- (iv) The animals that one is likely to see in Coorg are birds, bees, butterflies, macaques, Malabar squirrels, langurs, loris, and wild elephants.
- (v) The distance between Coorg and Bangalore is around 260 km. There are two routes to Coorg from Bangalore and both are of the same distance. The most frequented route is the one via Mysore. The other route is via Neelamangal, Kunigal, and Chanrayanapatna.

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#### 4. Here are six sentences with some words in italics. Find phrases from the text that have the same meaning. (Look in the paragraphs indicated)

- (i) During monsoons it rains so heavily *that tourists do not visit Coorg.* (para 2)
- (ii) *Some people say that* Alexander's army moved south along the coast and settled there. (para 3)

- (iii) The Coorg people *are always ready to tell* stories of their sons' and fathers' valour. (para 4)
  - (iv) *Even people who normally lead an easy and slow life get smitten* by the high-energy adventure sports of Coorg. (para 6)
  - (v) The theory of the Arab origin *is supported by* the long coat with embroidered waist-belt they wear. (para 3)
  - (vi) Macaques, Malabar squirrels *observe you carefully* from the tree canopy. (para 7)
- A
- (i) keep many visitors away
  - (ii) as one story goes
  - (iii) are more than willing to recount
  - (iv) the most laidback individuals become converts to
  - (v) draws support from
  - (vi) keep a watchful eye