

CLASS : 5

SUBJECT : GEOGRAPHY

TOPIC : SAUDI ARABIA – THE LAND OF HOT SAND

SYNOPSIS:

- Saudi Arabia occupies a large part of Arabian Peninsula to the west of India.
- The neighbours of Saudi Arabia are Kuwait, Israel, Iraq and Jordan in the north; the Persian Gulf, Bahrain and United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar in the east; Red Sea in the west and Yemen, Oman and Arabian Sea in the south.
- The hillocks of sand are called sand dunes.
- Saudi Arabia is mostly a hot tropical desert.
- There is a sharp difference between the day and night temperatures.
- It often records the world's hottest temperature at 52°C in summer.
- Sandstorms are very common here.
- The natural vegetation consists of cactus, thorny bushes and hardy grasses.
- A place in the desert where water rises to the surface is known as oasis.
- The people of Saudi Arabia are mostly nomads called the Bedouins.
- The camel is the chief means of transport called the 'ship of the desert'.
- Riyadh is the capital of Saudi Arabia.
- Jeddah is a commercial city and a busy seaport.
- Mecca is the holiest centre of pilgrimage for the Muslims.

I. Fill in the blanks:

- a) Kuwait lies to the _____ of Saudi Arabia.
- b) The _____ is the biggest desert in the world.
- c) The _____ passes through the middle of the country.
- d) The discovery of _____ in Saudi Arabia has changed the life of the people there.
- e) _____ is a commercial city and a busy seaport.
- f) Mineral oil is also known as _____.
- g) The long robe worn by the Saudi women is called the _____.
- h) The Bedouins mostly move in long rows of camels called _____.
- i) The most important tree of an oasis is _____.
- j) Hills of sand are called _____.

II. State whether the following statements are True or False:

- a) The Tropic of Capricorn passes through the middle of Saudi Arabia.
- b) The sheep is called the 'ship of the desert'.
- c) Most of the country is a hot, dry and barren desert.
- d) There is a shortage of fresh water in Saudi Arabia.
- e) Long cotton gown worn by Saudi men is called the thwab.

- f) Camel's hair and hides of animals are used to make carpets, ropes, clothes etc.
- g) Bedouins move in large groups.
- h) Food crops like wheat and barley are grown in Saudi Arabia.
- i) The Atacama Desert is the driest place in the world.
- j) UAE is the east of Saudi Arabia.

III. Complete the following exercises at the end of the chapter:

- a) Exercise A on Page No. 47.
- b) Exercise E on Page No. 48.
