



### **Through the eyes of Al-Biruni**

More than a thousand years ago, a traveller came to India. His name was Al-Biruni. The place that he came from is now called Uzbekistan. Al-Biruni carefully observed and noted down the details of all that he saw.

He wrote especially about those things that he found very different from his own country. Here is a part of what he wrote about the ponds of that time.

**The people here are very skilled at making ponds. My countrymen would be surprised to see them. They pile up huge rocks and join them with iron rods to build *chabutaras* (raised platforms) all around the lake. Between these, there are rows of long staircases, going up and down. The steps for going up and coming down are separate. So there is less crowding.**

Today when we study history, we can learn a lot about those days from the writings of Al-Biruni. (This stamp came out in 1973, one thousand years after his birth.)

Q.1 ) (a) What was the name of the traveller who came to India according to the above passage?

(b) How long ago, he had come?

(c) From where did he come?

Q.2) He especially wrote about the things, he found different from his own country. What were they?

Q.3) What were the special features of the pond that Al-Biruni mentioned?

Q.4) Who is known as the father of Indian postal stamps?

**SATISH CHANDRA MEMORIAL SCHOOL , CHAKDAHA**

**EVS**

**CLASS V**

**CASE STUDY**

ANS.1)

- (a) The name of the traveller who came to India according to the above passage was Al-Biruni.
- (b) He came to India more than thousand years ago.
- (c) The place that he came from is now called Uzbekistan.

ANS.2) He especially wrote about the ponds and the way people in India skillfully made them.

ANS.3) Al-Biruni mentioned the following features of the ponds :-

- (a) Huge rocks were piled and joined with iron rods to build platforms all around the lake.
- (b) There were rows of long staircases, going up and down.
- (c) The stairs for going up and coming down were separate. So, there was less crowding.

ANS.4) Mahatma Gandhi. More than 300 postage stamps on Gandhiji have been released by many other nations in this world.