

In the Bazaars of Hyderabad

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A.1. What do the merchants sell?

Ans- The merchants sell all kinds of expensive clothing and artefacts: turbans and tunics of vibrant colours, mirrors with panels of amber and daggers with handles of jade.

2. What are the vendors weighing? Why are they weighing them?

Ans- The vendors are weighing saffron, lentils and rice. They are weighing them because these items are sold by weight.

3. Who are pedlars? What are they selling?

Ans- Pedlars are people who go from place to place selling things. In the poem, they are selling chessmen and ivory dice.

4. What fruits are the fruitmen selling?

Ans- The fruit men are selling citrons (lemons), pomegranates and plums.

5. Who are the flower-girls wearing the garlands for?

Ans- The flower-girls are wearing the garlands for the bridegroom, and also for the dead.

B. 1. Why does the speaker say that the wares of the ~~merchants~~ merchant are richly displayed?

Ans- The phrase 'richly ~~displ~~ displayed' describes the wares themselves rather than the way they are displayed. The wares look grand and exotic and thus, the poet says that they are ~~re~~ richly displayed.

2. Why are the goldsmiths making bells for the feet of blue pigeons?

Ans- In the older days, pigeons were used as messengers. The bells tied to their

foot scared other animals away and also alerted the receiver of the message. The usage blue pigeons signify that these pigeons belonged to the royal. The goldsmiths are making gold bells for these royal pigeons.

3. In the bazaars of Hyderabad there are sellers of all kinds of kinds. What does this tell you about the bazaar?

Ans- The bazaars of Hyderabad are ~~crip~~bed in the poem are very different from the present-day markets. In these bazaars, people from all sections of the society gathered to sell their wares, be it the rich merchants and goldsmiths or the fruit sellers and flower girls.